

COMPLIMENTARY

DECEMBER 2023

The Smithfield Times



smithfieldtimesri.net

*Illuminating
the Season*



Pictured: Camila
Photo by: Mark Carrier
Story on page 4

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Letter from the Editor



Brittni Henderson
Editor

Happy holidays, Smithfield Times readers!

In the blink of an eye, we've switched out the pumpkins for pine trees. We've switched out the ghosts for garland. Twinkly lights are aglow and the town is pulsing with holiday cheer. The December issue of *The Smithfield Times* is no different.

This issue is bursting with merriment!

Before we completely shift away from the fall, Joe Siegel has the recap of one of the cutest events of the autumn. The town's dog park held a Halloween costume contest and there were *no bones* about it being a hit!

Back to the holiday cheer: Amanda Van Eps spoke with Paul Lonardo about her family's traditions – both new and old – and her plans to bring the magic to her daughter Camila this year. Camila is our cover star this month, beaming with excitement as she dreams of the moment she gets to wake up to Santa's blessings on Christmas morning.

We have a new contributing writer this month who spoke with one local business that hopes to bring the joy of Christmas to Smithfield residents through a Toys for Tots fundraiser. Isabella Santoro has the story for you in this month's issue.

Calling all baseball fans and history buffs! Gabrielle Finch connected with a Smithfield High School alum who published his first book with the help of one of his former classmates. His book might make the perfect gift for someone you love this season.

As you'll see, there is a little bit for everyone in this issue. We hope you enjoy your holiday season and that it shapes up to be the perfect time for you and your family.

Happy Holidays from the *Smithfield Times*! May you and your loved ones have a blessed New Year! We'll see you in 2024.

Warmest regards,

Brittni Henderson

*Happy Holidays
to you and your family*

from all of us at

**The
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Review Your Trust Annually To Protect Your Assets



Medicaid is a state administered program that is funded to a great extent by the Social Security trust fund. It provides for payment of medical services and long term nursing home care for those who qualify.

Because of the ever increasing cost of long term nursing home

care, both the federal and state governments periodically amend the Medicaid statutes and regulations in order to further limit eligibility for the program.

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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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Christmas Traditions Make the Holidays Special

Paul Lonardo

It's been said that Christmas is a holiday that we celebrate not as individuals nor as a nation, but as a family. For many, that rings true, including a family in Smithfield that falls back on Christmas traditions to make the season fun and memorable.

Amanda Van Eps was born and raised in Smithfield, and although she moved away, it was not very far. She lived in North Providence for several years, but she recently moved back to town, where her parents, George and Faith, still live. Besides her parents, she has a brother Nicholas, who lives nearby, and a sister Samantha, who lives in San Diego but will be home for the holidays. They are a remarkably close family, and one of the reasons for this closeness might very well be the family Christmas traditions they had growing up. Upholding such traditions has enormous benefits to families by creating memories and bonds that last a lifetime. They also shape a child's character and help them feel a sense of belonging, as well as giving them something to look forward to at the end of the year.

Amanda and her partner, Wellington, have been together for 11 years, and three years ago the couple welcomed their daughter, Camila, into the family, which has changed everything for them, including the way they celebrate the holidays.

Moving back to Smithfield with a daughter of her own has been like a homecoming for Amanda, particularly this time of the year as the holiday season gets underway. For them, the seasonal celebration kicks off early, on

Halloween, because that was the day Camila was born.

"My parents always made Christmas very special, and I hope to be able to do the same for my daughter," Amanda says.

When it was just the two of them, Amanda and Wellington split the holidays between their extended families, spending Christmas eve with Wellington's family and Christmas day with Amanda's.

"Having your own child makes everything more special and magical," Amanda says.

They still split up Christmas among the two families, but they also spend a lot of time doing various Christmas and holiday activities together, just the three of them.

"We will drive around neighborhoods looking at Christmas lights on houses or go to specific places that have a display set up," Amanda says. "We do a lot of holiday projects with Camila, like baking Christmas cookies."

Another family tradition that Amanda has already introduced her daughter to is opening just one gift on Christmas Eve and saving the rest for Christmas morning.

"We are continuing the Christmas Book tradition, and wear Christmas pajamas as a family," Amanda says.

They are a family that puts up their tree the day after Thanksgiving,



Camila

which is traditionally a great option because larger families are all still gathered in one house and can decorate together.

"It's just fun to get into the spirit right after Thanksgiving," Amanda says.

A new tradition that Amanda and her family want to include this year is tagging and putting up a real tree. Growing up, Amanda always had a real tree, but when she moved out on her own, the switch was made to an artificial tree. However, no matter how authentic an artificial tree looks, it is just not same as living tree in the house, with the piney aroma, the sticky sap, and shedding pine needles

See Christmas Traditions, page 5

Toys for Tots in Smithfield

By Isabella R. Santoro

The Loring Advisory Group has generously offered to be a drop off facility for the annual Toys for Tots program, run by the United States Marine Corps. Toys for Tots is an important drive that helps many families receive toys for their children for Christmas. It has been around since 1947. The Loring Group, located in Greenville next to the Citizen's Bank on Putnam Pike, is a second-generation veteran owned financial advising and investment group established in 1996 and in this Greenville location since 2005.

As one of their projects this year, they have decided to take on being a part of this life changing program and want to reach as many people in the community as possible. Passionate about this drive and ensuring a happy Christmas for kids in the community is Ellie Burns, a part of the Loring Group. Involved as well, and working for the Loring Advisory Group is Nick Loring, a Smithfield native and Smithfield High School alumni. Nick is a retired veteran and Captain in the military who left the line of duty and is now working at the Loring Advisory Group. He previously worked with

his father, Jeff, who founded the Loring Group, until he retired. Nick has worked at the Loring Group since January of 2013. He went to Byrant University for his undergraduate schooling here in Smithfield and served in the Army for six years after high school.

Having young kids himself, he feels especially called on to help out in his community for Toys for Tots and for this firm to be a part of its success. A dedicated and community driven person, Nick sees this drive as an opportunity to help his community and many others outside of Smithfield. With his own experience as a parent, he knows that it is very crucial for this drive to take place and to have as many donations as possible. This year especially has been a tough year, Nick says, so he expressed that he understands the vast need for donations and for children to have an enjoyable Christmas experience. There is nothing quite like seeing the immense joy on a child's face when they open up a gift that they may otherwise not have gotten if Toys for Tots did not exist.

The group especially feels that

being a financial advising group that helps with many different financial needs such as paying bills and buying a car, they want to reach out to their community and give back in any way that they can. Nick Loring expressed that this is not the only kind of community outreach that he has participated in. As a previous member of the Smithfield Rotary Club, Nick participated in something the club created called a birthday box that were essentially gifts for children in need for their birthday.

In previous years, they had not seen this as used as now but recently, as Nick pointed out, there has been a need for fifty of these generous birthday boxes. Nick points this out in reference to the Toys for Tots drive to reach the community. During this season, these donations are needed to ensure that a child can receive a gift for Christmas.

If you have any new toys unwrapped and ready to be donated, please feel free to drop them off at the Loring Group, located at 600 Putnam Pike, Ste 4 in Greenville.



Christmas Traditions, from page 4

that allows the tree to become a real part of the family and the Christmas celebration.

But it doesn't matter what traditions you and your family have during the holidays, or at any other time during

the year. Whether it is decorating the house, baking, watching Christmas movies, The Elf on the Shelf, leaving cookies out for Santa, or taking part in charitable toy donation drives, the main thing is that you do them together. They will be remembered

for a lifetime, and for many generations to come.

From Amanda, Wellington, and Camila to the town Smithfield and everyone, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Photos by Mark Carrier

Smithfield's Resident of the Month

Resident of the Month – Harry Anderson

Nominated by Residents of the Village at Waterman Lake

By Joe Siegel

Twice a month, residents at the Village at Waterman Lake gather for a book club moderated by Harry Anderson. The facility on Putnam Pike provides independent living for senior citizens.

Anderson has written three books and is working on a fourth. His memoir, entitled *Block Time* was published in 2021. He has also written for *The Smithfield Times*.

"I receive something wonderful that's beyond language and I'm always grateful," said Anderson, who has been running the book club for 30 years.

Anderson remembers attending a gathering which featured an appearance by author Sue Monk-Kidd, who wrote the best-seller *"The Secret Life of Bees."*

"I'll never forget what she said about book discussions. She said 'a book discussion is imperative because it's tantamount to a religious experience.' I feel when I'm here among these very fine people, something very transcendent is going on."

Anderson has had a lifelong passion for reading. He attended Brown University and taught literature for 40 years, including at Scituate High School and Mansfield High School. In selecting which books to read with the group, Anderson draws from his background and also goes online to see which books are being discussed around the country.



Harry Anderson

"I also have literate friends who make recommendations," he said. His favorite authors include Homer (*The Odyssey*), Dante (*The Divine Comedy*), and Thomas Wolfe (*Bonfire of the Vanities*).

Anderson said he is impressed by how they create "subtle, almost invisible dynamics that make up the human experience. They bring it forth so dramatically."

As for his own books, Anderson chooses to write by hand.

"I hate computers," he explains. Anderson notes a problem with the books that are being published today. In his opinion, they lack the qualities which make for classic literature.

"So many modern contemporary authors are after the money," he said. "You can tell they write with an eye on hoping Hollywood buys their manuscript to make a movie. The (classic authors) didn't worry about such things."

Anderson asks members of the group about the themes in the book, *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, which was November's selection.

"We all have to learn things," Anderson remarked. "We all have to be trained."

"You make me think," says one of the women in the group.

"You make me feel," Anderson replies. "It's reciprocal."

Michael, another group member, calls the book club "intellectual stimulation."

"We've been all over the world because of books," Anderson points out during the discussion. The reader learns much about the human experience, different cultures, and even themselves. Anderson wants others to discover the joy of reading the way he has and to open their minds to different points of view. Being with other avid readers has enriched his perspectives on life. He hopes others will discover the importance of books.

"If you want the answers, read," he added.



Spreading Kindness at LaPerche Elementary School

Paul Lonardo



Torie Caldarone is a special education teacher at Raymond C. LaPerche Elementary School. She is also the 2023-24 Teacher of the Year Award recipient, a particularly notable honor to receive among so many great teachers and educators that we are fortunate to have in our town. She recently spearheaded an effort to teach students about different ways of showing kindness to friends and others, and the positive impact it has on everyone.

Torie was inspired by Joanne Miller, a teacher from another state who she follows on social media. Joanne started a committee in her school that helps their young students to come up with different events and activities to promote being kind to others.

"We wanted to do something similar here; spreading kindness," Torie says.

Because the older grades were already involved in leadership activities, Torie reached out to the third-grade teachers at LaPerche to see about implementing something similar. The teachers absolutely loved the idea, and so the Kindness Squad was established, led by Torie,

Jaina Harrison, and Madeline Pizzuti. First, they began by talking with the children about what they would be doing so they fully understood the purpose behind it.

"We provided some lessons on what is 'kindness' and what makes us feel good during the day, brings a smile to our face," Torie says. "We talked about welcoming, and how we, as a school, feel better when people welcome us."

This sparked the idea of having the third graders stand out on the curbside to greet the buses and other students getting dropped off one Friday morning in October. The youngsters were waving their arms and holding up handmade signs, welcoming everyone arriving at the building.

The signs carried by The Kindness Squad displayed various words of encouragement, such as HAPPY FRIDAY, WE ARE SO HAPPY YOU ARE HERE, YOU ARE AWESOME, SMILE, YOU CAN DO IT, anything the students thought would brighten the day for their fellow students. There were also pom-poms being waved, streamers, and music playing.

"Our main goal was just to make someone's day happy," Torie says. "Every time someone got out of a car or got off the bus, they were sure to hear the third graders cheering them on."

The students brainstormed together as a class to come up with the slogans for the signs, then they made the signs on their own. Their favorite, however, was HONK FOR KINDNESS, with the end-goal of getting as many honks as possible.

"We got a lot of positive feedback," Torie says. "Our goal is to spread kindness, and to do that, you have to show it."

And show it, they did.

"We're starting small," Torie says. "It's student-led, so students can come up with other ways to spread kindness."

The Friday Welcome Crew, as the third-grade participants call themselves, is something they kids enjoyed a lot, and it was as much fun for the welcomees as it was for the

See Spreading Kindness, page 9



... Hosts Costume Contest



By Joe Siegel

The Smithfield Dog Park held its first Halloween Costume Contest on October 29 in order to raise funds to maintain the facility.

The first prize winner was The Princess and the Frog. Second prize was awarded to Cowgirl. Third prize went to Pennywise and Georgie.

"We have a huge following on our Facebook page," said committee member and former Town Council President Suzy Alba. "This is our first official event since we had our Grand Opening. We had a Dog Walk and people brought their dogs in costumes and it's very popular."

A second contest was held on November 4 due to the inclement weather on the 29th.

Beth Cerroni, President of the Dog Park Committee, began working to bring a dog park to Smithfield more than 10 years ago. The committee spent much time looking at properties and raising money for the park. It was an uphill battle at times due to a lack of understanding about what a dog park would be like.

"There were a lot of obstacles," Cerroni recalled.

Fortunately, the committee did find people who were willing to help make the park a reality.

"We finally found this beautiful piece of land," said Cerroni. "It took long enough but we finally did it. We tried to keep it as natural as we could."

We wanted a lot of trees for shade. Everybody loves it."

Bryant University agreed to lease the one-acre property at 353 Farnum Pike for a dollar per year. The park opened in October 2022 and has become a popular place for pet owners to bring their dogs.

Local businesses did their part to make the park a beautiful place for dogs. Stanley Tree cut down trees at no charge. Douglas Lumber made a generous financial contribution.

"The town helped a lot," Cerroni noted. "They keep it clean."

The park is divided into two sections. One is for small dogs under 30 pounds and the other is for larger dogs 30 pounds and more. There are water fountains for the dogs to quench their thirst after running around. The Smithfield Police Department monitors the park constantly for safety purposes.

"We haven't any incidents," said committee member Elaine Amoriggi. "It's been a very worthwhile fulfilling venture. We all contribute in one way or another."

For example, Amoriggi, who works as a graphic designer, created and donated all the signs for the park.

"I think it's the most beautiful park in the state," Alba added. "And we get feedback on that a lot."



For more information, visit the **Smithfield RI Dog Park** page on Facebook.

welcomers. The event is something the school plans to continue on a monthly basis, although if the kids had their way, it would be done on a more frequent basis. It becomes a logistical issue, with parents of the third graders having to get their children to school earlier so they are curbside at the school before the buses arrive.

But there are also other kindness activities in the work, and Torie and her fellow teachers are hopeful this Kindness Train, as it were, will continue to lay down tracks, not just at LaPerche Elementary, but other school in town, other state school districts, and elsewhere.

"We've started talking about establishing a National Kindness Day, and what we can do to bring it out more to the School Committee," Torie says. "In the classroom they're working on being kind and using kind words, but the question is, what can we do to bring it to the rest of our school community?"

The kids are very excited about what more they can do, and many of them are coming up with their own individual ideas, writing them down on post-its and giving them to their teachers.

These Kindness projects at LaPerche Elementary are still in the early stages, but take it from the kids, who know that it's easy to put a smile on someone's face. You don't need a sign. A kind word, a smile, courtesy, all have the same effect. But if you see a kid holding up a Kindness sign, be sure to give them a honk. It will put a smile on their faces. And yours.



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Haley's Story

By Joe Siegel

Haley Deberardis' life changed forever on a fateful night in 2005, when a drunk driver slammed head-on into the vehicle in which she was a passenger.

The 18-year-old was attending the University of Rhode Island as a freshman at the time. She had planned to study psychology.

Haley was treated at Rhode Island Hospital, where she spent three months recovering from her injuries.

She also spent several months at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston, and at Cortland Place, a skilled nursing facility in Greenville.

"She was out of the house for a year and a half," said Haley's mother Karen, who is divorced from Haley's father Rick. Haley's brother also lives in Greenville.

"She didn't come home until December of 2006. Basically, the way she got hit, it just kind of detached one side of the brain from the other, so she needs full care. (The doctors) told us, 'Don't even bother, don't even try to take her home' but we said 'no, we're taking her home.'"

The driver of the other vehicle spent four and a half years in prison. He suffered no major injuries in the crash.

"He had a cut on the head and that was it," Karen noted. "He got on the 6/10 connector the wrong way and he hit Haley and her friend who was driving head on."

Haley requires 24 hour a day care. "She can't physically move on

her own," Karen explained. "She can't talk. She stretches but she can't physically do anything for herself. She can't reposition herself; she's fed through a feeding tube. The injury that she has, she won't walk again, she won't talk again. She has all these breathing treatments we have to do to make sure her lungs are clear. If I didn't have home health care nurses, I would never leave the house."

Finding people to help Haley has been a never-ending challenge.

"We go through these roller coasters of 'everything is good' and then it's hard to find people," Karen said, noting Haley's current nurse Kristin was a former employee at Roger Williams Medical Center.

Haley suffers from seizures, which makes it difficult for the family to transport her to different places.

The care necessary to provide for Haley, which includes medical equipment, supplies, and nursing care, adds up to approximately \$300,000 annually. Medicaid pays a portion of the total.

The Deberardis family has lived in Smithfield for 35 years. Haley attended all the schools in the district and made many friends who come to



Haley and her mom, Karen Deberardis

visit her. The community raised money to help the family buy a van to transport Haley from place to place.

Karen is especially grateful to former State Rep. Tom Winfield for remembering Haley every year with the All Lit Up Smithfield Christmas Parade. Winfield is a member of the Parade Committee.

"He comes over, he comes with banners, he comes in with flowers for Haley, he makes her the Grand Marshal even though she can't be in the parade. Tom has just been amazing."

Karen and Rick have really gotten to know the home health care nurses who have treated Haley.

"We become like a family," Karen added. "They love Haley."

History of the Smith-Appleby House Museum

By Peg Brown

Overshadowed by the arches of Route 295 you can find the home to families, artifacts, and historical records that document much of Smithfield's place in the evolution of this state and country. The Smith-Appleby House, originally constructed in 1696 by Elisha Smith, grandson of John Smith who accompanied Roger Williams, was first occupied by Elisha and his wife, Experience.

The seven generations who expanded, decorated, and worked in this home would have collectively lived through the colonial era, the Revolutionary War, and both World Wars. As the family grew so did the one room stone-ender. Added over the centuries were a birthing room, buttery, parlors, rooms for children, and a 19th century kitchen. Myra Appleby, the last of these seven generations, lived in the house until 1959 when at 71, the home, which still did not have indoor plumbing or electricity, was vacated.

Today, the Smith-Appleby House Museum is owned and cared for by the Historical Society of Smithfield, staffed by volunteers who work to promote the museum and maintain its vital place in the community life of the town.

The current volunteers continue to face the challenges of maintaining the aging structure and have made concerted efforts over the years to secure grants. Volunteers work to find matching funds to maintain the home, historical cemetery, and the landscaped grounds. Building on the hard work of community leaders of the past, the current board, led by President Michelle Veader, seek to



expand the Museum's link to the community through continued services and new events.

And they need your support and participation to continue to enhance the vibrancy this resource offers to the town. The museum's exterior still needs repair, and all fundraising events support its maintenance.

This year has been particularly successful in engaging the community. In addition to regularly scheduled tours (**the next scheduled for December 2, between 11 am and 1 pm**), many community businesses and groups have stepped forward in collaboration for both maintenance, financial support, and co-sponsored events.

- Employees of Westminster Pet Products and AAA of Smithfield each volunteered a day to maintain and enhance the grounds.



- Make It Happen Nutrition ran a raffle and donated a portion of the proceeds to the museum.
- A partnership with Smithfield Parks and Recreation brought

See Smith-Appleby House, page 13

a series of seven Summer Concerts, sponsored by Navigant Credit Union, to the museum's grounds, featuring a variety of performances, all free of charge. Friends and neighbors spread their blankets and unfolded their lawn chairs, shared their picnics, and renewed old acquaintances in a beautiful and peaceful venue all coordinated by Laura Field-Swallow, Parks and Recreation's new program coordinator.

- Boy Scout troops regularly undertaken projects to enhance the grounds and the access to Georgiaville Pond.

Plans for the coming year include:

- A prize calendar, available for purchase between January and May, with prizes from local businesses and national brands awarded each day in June. Calendars will be available on the website once a PayPal account has been established.
- Smith-Appleby Brides' Teas tentatively planned for two consecutive Sundays in May. Brides are invited to contact the museum through the museum's email address.
- Continued tours for school children that include a folk craft or game.
- Continued rental of the venue for special occasions, including weddings.
- Outdoor yoga classes.
- Classes in traditional crafts, such as stenciling.

Smith-Appleby House Museum is at 220 Stillwater Road, Smithfield

For more information, please visit smithapplebyhouse.org



**Visit and Photos with Santa
at Smith-Appleby House
Monday, December 18
5:30-7:30 pm**

Santa is visiting Smith-Appleby House! He will greet everyone in the parlor of the museum. Children can tell him all their Christmas wishes and family members are welcome to take photos. This visit is FREE to children of all ages. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Come warm up by the fire and enjoy hot chocolate, cider, and a visit with Santa!

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Happily Ever After

By Gabrielle Finch

When 2012 Smithfield High School graduate Scott Bouchard met 2014 graduate Jessie Jendzejec through mutual friends, it was love at first sight. After the two graduated, they reconnected when their jobs caused them to cross paths – Jessie, a Senate page, and Scott, a Representative page at the Statehouse.

The rest is history.

On October 8th, 2023, the couple tied the knot at the beautiful Bolton Valley Resort in Richmond, Vermont. They were accompanied by family and friends, including 40 Smithfield High School graduates to witness their union. While they instantly fell in love with the venue, and the beauty of Vermont, something was missing. The town of Smithfield played such a huge role in not only their relationship, but also their lives, and they wanted to somehow bring a piece of home with them. Luckily, Dawn Bartz, Smithfield's School Superintendent was up for the challenge. After a little work, she was able to dig up one of the school banners from around the time Scott and Jessie graduated. It was perfect! Soon after that, the banner was packed up and on its way

to Vermont, where it hung in the reception hall. Their ceremony was finally complete, Scott and Jessie were so excited to be able to represent Smithfield and honor the memories and friendships that shaped who they are today.

The two wanted to extend a huge thank you to Smithfield for the memories and love over the years. It meant the world to be able to display their hometown pride at the wedding and to acknowledge where their love story began. The two now live on the border of Smithfield, and it continues to play a huge role in their lives. Visiting family and friends and spending time around town, the two are sure to always have a special place in their hearts for Smithfield.

Scott and Jessie also wanted to thank Superintendent Bartz for taking the time to dig around to find the banner. It made their special day extra special, celebrating alongside so many fellow alumni. They also showed much appreciation for their family and friends who made the trip to Vermont to celebrate their wedding. It was such a perfect day that they



will remember forever, and are so grateful for the outpouring of love and support.

Congratulations Scott and Jessie Bouchard. We wish you many years of happiness, health, and love, and just know, Smithfield always has your backs!

Photo credit: Shauna Lockwood Photography





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Murals of McCoy

By Gabrielle Finch

If you remember heading to McCoy on a sunny afternoon to attend a baseball game, you will certainly remember the murals decorating the walls, memorializing players who not only made it big playing for the PawSox, but then went on to play in the big leagues. When the Pawtucket Red Sox announced that they were officially leaving McCoy Stadium, it sparked a question in the mind of Andy Tuetken. A 2004 Smithfield High School Graduate, current History teacher, and a longtime Pawtucket Red Sox fan, he needed to know, what was going to happen to the murals once the stadium closed? Fueled by his love for history and baseball, he began to do what he does best: research. What began as research for the sole purpose of learning about the works of art quickly turned into so much more. After a while, Andy's wife pointed out the volume of research done and how he should continue to explore his findings in a book. Thus began Andy's incredible three year journey that resulted in, *Murals of McCoy* – a deep dive into the history that not only explores the origins and history of the murals, but the team we all know and love.

Described as a “50-year yearbook of the Paw Sox organization,” Andy takes readers through the chronological history of players over the decades, from the 1970s through 2010s. From the moment you open the book, you will learn incredible facts about the history of the stadium, mural, players, and baseball in Rhode Island. Some you may know, and others that will surprise you.

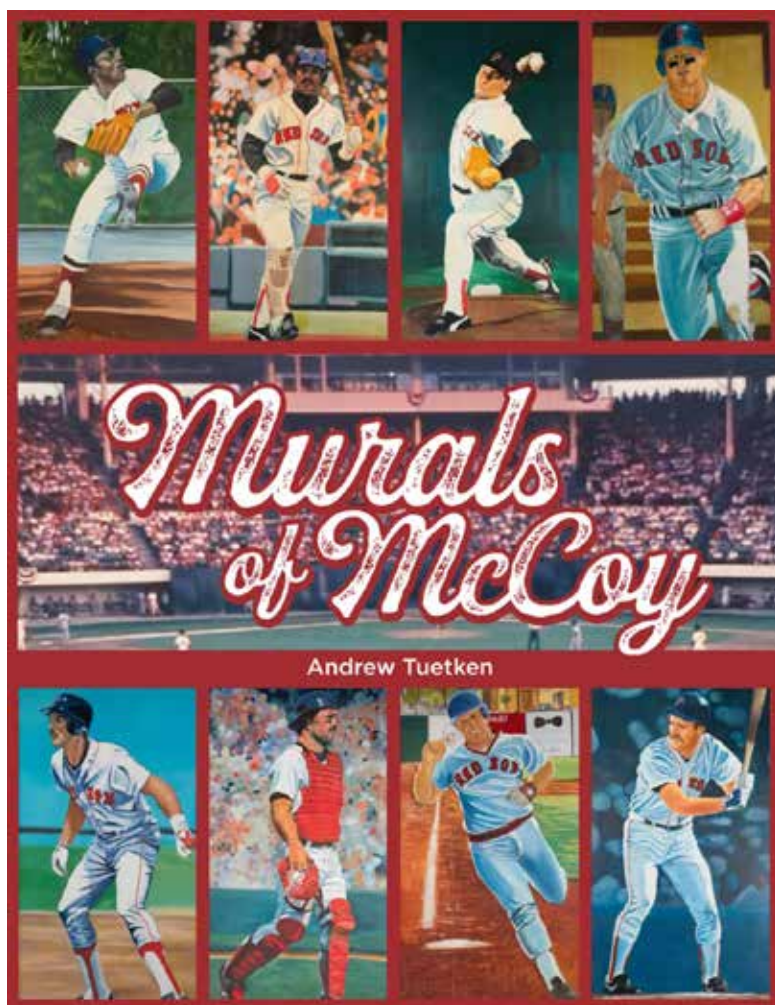
“The coffee table book provides beautiful images and details on all 90

player murals that were displayed around McCoy Stadium which fans admired every time they entered the grounds,” Andy says.

This book is filled to the brim with all things baseball, and all things PawSox.

With Christmas right around the corner, this book is the perfect gift for anyone who “was a fan of the Pawtucket Red Sox, McCoy Stadium, and baseball history in the great state of Rhode Island.”

Andy is very appreciative of all the support he has gotten over the last three years while he pieced together his project. He was able to connect with incredible sources that made the book possible. Including: the original mural artist, Tayo Heuser, longtime PawSox team photographer, Lourianne Mardo-Zayat, and original mural owners, Phil Zexter and Gary Sullivan. Andy also extended a thank you to Mike Tamburro and Bill Wanless, both PawSox, now Worcester Red Sox administration members. With their help, Andy was able to take his



research and book further than he ever thought. Finally, A special thank you was given to Courtney Coutu, a 2002 Smithfield High School graduate, and the graphic designer for the book. Andy and Courtney have known each other for over 20 years, and Andy expressed the joy and privilege of working alongside Courtney. At one point, he said that she “saved the project” with her talent and expertise in the design field.

It goes without saying, but Pawtucket's support within the baseball community was great and Andy wanted to give back and show his appreciation for all they have done. That being said, all profits from the sale of the book will be donated to Pawtucket Youth Baseball. *Murals of McCoy* is now available on Amazon.



Bryant TKE 5K Jingle Jog

Bryant University is eager to have members of the Smithfield Community join them for the first annual Bryant TKE 5K Jingle Jog to support St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

"There is no doubt Bryant and Smithfield are tied hand in hand and I think it would be just great if we could bring both communities together to get outside exercising while being able to support a great cause," says organizer Samuel Richardson.

The event will include music, food trucks, and more! Run or walk—all ages are welcome! The race will be held rain or shine.

Saturday, December 9th at 10:00 am

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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!



Egress Windows

Many folks daydream about the types of home improvements they would like to complete on their homes if they had the opportunity to do so.

At the top of the list, more times than not, is to “finish” the basement.

Although pricey (as with seemingly everything else in life) when comparing the cost of finishing a basement to that of just a few years ago, for those with an unfinished basement, the benefits of incorporating one into the fabric of one's home is still enormously tempting.

For those brave enough and in the position to make it happen, there are many things to keep in mind. There are height requirements and other regulations and guidelines that may vary from one community to another.

Along with all the planning that comes with this type of project, one of the biggest items of focus tends to be egress direction that would be dictated by the local building official (remember, the more local the building code, the more it takes precedence!).

While varying in their design, bulkheads are one means of egress that is quite common. In addition

to a bulkhead, one option for egress is the “egress window. The egress window is a window that is installed in a home that creates an exit to the exterior. Though basements tend to be the most common area that they are used, they can be utilized in other areas as well.

An egress window looks like a large regular window, but it opens large enough to allow the inhabitants of the space to escape in the event of a fire. Local building officials should be consulted to double check how large the window space



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!

actually needs to be as you are planning the project.

There is MUCH involved when embarking on the project of installing an egress window.


While it can differ from project to project, here is an example of what we see usually involved when installing an egress window:

- Window needs to be ordered at the appropriate size
- Area outside window properly dug out
- Foundation needs to be cut and the hole prepped to receive window
- Window installed
- Finish trim installed around exterior of window
- Hole that was dug backfilled
- Window well installed in hole (we always custom make these with steel and depending on the situation may need to incorporate a ladder into the fabrication as well)
- Crushed stone placed in bottom of hole that was dug
- Interior finish work done around window with the intention of making the window appear as if it had always been there

When working through this procedure, it is important that a local building official is involved to make sure that what is done meets the egress code.

Finished basements are definitely fantastic features in the homes of many, ensuring proper egress though is not only prudent but an essential part of the process that should be well thought out and embedded into the overall game plan.

Merry Christmas from the Winfield Family



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SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones



Tim Jones
Cartoonist

The Xpress Jr. Pee Wee 8U Team



The Xpress Jr. Pee Wee 8U team had an almost perfect season, holding on to a 10-0 record until their loss in the Super Bowl against North Kingstown. Despite their loss, these boys played their hearts out until the final whistle. We are so proud of the team and their coaches. There are six Smithfield players on the team, all of whom attend Raymond C. LaPerche Elementary School. Smithfield residents noted by*:

*Niko Pagios (3)
Cody Tessier (5)
Madyx Bernard (6)
Luke Lister (9)
*Chace Mills (10)
William Hebert (15)
Oliver Morris (23)
*Richard Angell (24)
Luke Euglow (30)
Koda Keophakdy (32)
Cole Savaria (33)

Jackson Cummings (35)
JJ Zielinski (38)
Zachary Vachon (39)
Lucien Boisse (41)
Noah Cornell (42)
Alex Decastro (50)
Cameron Boylen (51)
Gino Olaes Jr. (52)
*Parker Sleboda (62)
Georgio Lima (64)
Sebastian Wall (66)

Landon O'Neill (68)
Antonio Lima (70)
Kolton Van Scyoc (71)
*Joseph Farrar (79)
Vincent Kelliher (81)
*Caleb Carr (85)
Kamden Amesbury (86)
JJ Marks (87)
Jaxson Roberts (88)



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Who are Donner and Blixem?

By Jim Ignasher

“Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer! Now, Vixen! On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner, on Blitzen! “

Virtually everyone’s familiar with the names of Santa’s reindeer, but how many are aware that his reindeer officially turn 200 this year? All except Rudolph, but more about him later.

Today we take it for granted that Santa travels the world in his open sleigh powered by eight reindeer. We don’t even question the fact that reindeer aren’t equipped for flight. Anyway, prior to the 1820s, Santa generally walked, or rode a donkey or white horse. It wasn’t until 1821 that ole St. Nick finally got around to using a sled pulled (then) by a single reindeer. A depiction of this appeared in a children’s poem titled, “Old Santeclaus with Much Delight,” published that year in New York.

The following year poet Clement C. Moore, (1779-1863), penned his classic poem “A Visit from Saint Nicholas” for his children. (Sometimes referred to in modern times as “The Night Before Christmas.”) The poem was first published in a New York newspaper in 1823 and has been a yuletide favorite ever since.

Moore was the first to infer that Santa’s sled was pulled by eight reindeer, and he gave them their names that we know today. However, as a point of fact, the original names of “Donner” and “Blitzen” were actually “Donder” and “Blixem,” which are Dutch words for thunder and lightning. Exactly when and how the names morphed is unclear. Perhaps it was an editor who took artistic license, or simply a typographic error. Some claim it was Moore himself who made the changes. In any case, The Green

Mountain Freeman, a defunct Vermont newspaper, published the poem on December 20, 1860, and Blixem had become Blixen. Six years later, a Staunton, Virginia, newspaper spelled the names “Dunder” and Blitzen. Eventually, “Donder” or “Dunder” became Donner.

Moore’s poem was so popular that it inspired spin-offs such as Edgar Fawcett’s 1880 poem of the same name, which told of Kris Kringle trudging through a snowstorm with his back “bent from the weight of his pack,” and his long beard blowing like “ocean spray” in the wind. Then there was Annie’s and Willie’s Prayer (1884) by Sophia P. Snow, a poem about two children who pray to Jesus after being told that Santa Claus doesn’t exist. Another was “’Twas the Day After Christmas” (1897), by Frank C. Stanton, which told of a man with a severe hangover who couldn’t seem to obtain enough ice. And there have been others who’ve been inspired by Moore’s format down to the present day.

While Clement C. Moore is generally credited by most historians with writing “A Visit from Saint Nicholas,” there are some who disagree. This is mainly because when Moore’s poem was originally published in December of 1823, his name was not credited because his friend had anonymously mailed the work to a newspaper in Troy, New York, without Moore’s knowledge. Despite not knowing who’d authored or sent the poem, the paper published it, and it was subsequently re-printed in other newspapers the following year.

Getting back to Santa’s reindeer, there’s the ninth reindeer we know as Rudolph, who is, relatively speaking,



the new kid on the block. Rudolph was the brainchild of Robert L. May who came up with the red-nosed reindeer as part of an advertising campaign for the now defunct department store chain known as Montgomery Ward. In December of 1939, free Rudolph coloring books were distributed to boys and girls who visited the stores to see Santa. The books were a success and were later followed by the popular song “Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer” written Johnny Marks, and recorded by Gene Autry in June of 1949. Rocker Chuck Berry later wrote and recorded “Run Rudolph Run” in 1958, and in 1964 the animated story of Rudolph was aired on television for the first time thus making Rudolph, “the most famous reindeer of all”.

Finally, by a show of hands, how many know that there was a children’s book published in 1902 that mentioned Santa’s reindeer, but instead of eight, there were ten, and they had different names than the ones we’ve come to know today? The book is titled, “The Life and Adventures of Santa Clause,” by L. Frank Baum. The story is nothing like Moore’s poem, but Baum gave the reindeer the following names: Glossie and Flossie; Racer and Pacer; Reckless and Speckless; Fearless and Peerless; and Ready and Steady. The book has since been adapted for television.

So, this Christmas Eve, as children everywhere lie nestled all snug in their beds, they can listen for reindeer – be it eight, nine, or ten.

“A happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!”



It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year. Really?

By Diane L. Marolla,
LICSW, CFRC

The holidays are a festive and joyous time of year for some people. For others, it is not. Some may put on a “fake it to you make it” face when it comes to the holidays, but inside they find the holidays a difficult time of year. It could be that they are alone. It could be that they are already saddled with debt and will only incur more debt buying holiday gifts. It also could be their families, who they truly don't enjoy being around. With all that said, here are my 10 tips to a more peaceful holiday season. (And yes, I do practice these myself.)

1. Limit your spending.

Everyone is feeling it financially right now because of the high cost of, well, everything. Does your loved one or friend really need another sweater or pair of pajamas? Probably not. With that said, set aside a certain amount of money that you are going to spend on each person, if you decide to buy gifts. Remember it truly is the thought that counts, not the gifts themselves. Consider eliminating giving gifts at all. Tell your family and friends that you will be eliminating gift giving.

2. You don't have to say yes to every invitation.

My favorite word around the holiday season is plain no, and I don't explain why it is no. You don't have to accept every invitation to a party or dinner. Make a plan that is right for you. If it is picking one place to go for dinner, or one party to go to, that is ok. You may say to yourself, “but Diane, I have to go.” The answer is you truly do not. Think of all the times that someone did not make it to an event that they were invited to. Were you mad at them? Chances are, you were not. As I always say, no is no.

3. Make it simple.

If you are going to have a holiday dinner at your home, make it simple for yourself. If you are going to have a large gathering at your home, ask people to bring a dish or a dessert. Use local caterers and bakeries to help you. In RI, we have the most wonderful caterers and bakeries who count on this time of year for a lot of their business. Years ago, when I used to have Christmas day at my home, I opted to have a Christmas buffet. I found doing a buffet much easier than having a sit-down dinner. People were allowed to come and go when they felt like it.

4. Make new traditions.

Remember you are not obligated to do your holidays the way your mother or grandmother did them. Sure, we may want to keep certain traditions, but we can also make new ones. I am a big fan of going to look at the holiday lights around the state. I did this over Halloween, and it was fun. There are some individuals around the state who decorate their homes. Put the kids in the car and take a nice ride on a cold winter's night to see the lights.

5. Don't overindulge in food or alcohol.

Alcohol and holidays never mix. Drinking and driving puts everyone in danger. Pace yourself and plan so that you are not binging on alcohol and food over the holidays.

6. Stay away from controversial discussions.

Plain and simple, stay away from controversial discussions during the holidays. We always have something going on either locally,

nationally, or internationally. Holiday gatherings are not the time for political discussions unless you enjoy arguments.

7. If you going to buy gifts, buy local.

If you do need to buy gifts, buy them from local stores versus the big box stores. We have 39 cities and towns in the state of RI where we have wonderful local shops. I find that the local shop will make a beautiful presentation for your gift so that you don't even have to wrap it yourself.

8. Donate your time and money to those in need.

There are so many causes in the state of RI that need your donation or your help. The holiday season should be about giving, and not receiving. With that said, pick a charity that instead of buying gifts for loved ones, you donate the money instead. Visit volunteermatch.org to find local agencies you can support.

9. Be mindful that the holidays are not the best time for others.

There are some folks who really struggle with depression around the holidays. It may be that they are missing a loved one who passed away. Respect those who may not be as festive as you are. Have compassion and understanding that some people struggle this time of year.

10. Have fun.

Do what you love. Make a list of what you want your holiday to look like and go from there. If your idea of a joyous holiday is staying in your pajamas all day watching holiday movies, then do it.

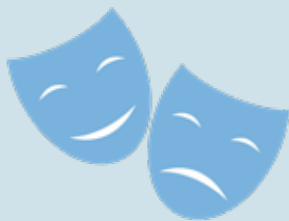
Get Merry! An Engaging Medieval Winter Solstice Celebration

Hear ye, hear ye! Let it be known that Swamp Meadow Community Theatre's *Get Merry!* is a spectacle not to be missed this winter!

Get Merry! An Engaging Medieval Winter Solstice Revel is adapted by Audrey Dubois from an original script by Bob Hollis and the late Liz Goulet Dubois. Originally staged in 2010, and with a successful sequel in 2011, this revival features many of the original cast members as well as new voices from an incredible local talent pool. Prince Melvin has fallen in love with the Royal Hairdresser, Merry, and plans to propose on the Winter Solstice. Huzzah! However, the Queen of Foster is less than thrilled with his choice of bride... so she employs one of the Royal Fools to foil the engagement.

An ensemble cast of town criers, shoemakers, cheesemongers, and barber-surgeons bring the village to life as the Royal Fools search for talents (and not-so-great "talents") for the Royal Engagement Party. Will the Queen get her way? Or will Melvin get Merry in the end?

Half variety show, half medieval rom-com, *Get Merry!* is a hilarious performance full of talent, heart, and many, many puns. Families of all ages will have a delightful time at the kingdom's Winter Solstice Ball.



Get Merry! runs from December 6-10 at the Assembly Theatre in Harrisville, RI. Find tickets and more information at www.swampmeadow.org.



(Left-Right) Phil (Played by Tyler H Vigeant) and Bud (Drake Lowe).
Photo by Eric Dubois



(Left to Right) Merry (Played by Sarina Resnick) and Prince Melvin(Played by Michael Wadsworth).
Photo by Eric Dubois



Red Ribbon Week: Honoring Enrique Camarena

In 1985, Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena was tragically killed while investigating a group of drug traffickers on the Mexican border. After his death, Enrique's family, friends, and community wanted to honor him, and the sacrifices he made.

Originally started in California in 1988, Red Ribbon Week helps spread awareness about the harms of drugs and alcohol in youth across the nation.

This year, Red Ribbon Week's theme was "Be Kind To Your Mind: Live Drug Free." Throughout the week, students participated in numerous activities to learn about the harms of drugs and alcohol on adolescent minds. Each day had a special theme and learning opportunity for all.

On Monday, students were able to sign red ribbon cutouts at lunch. These ribbons served as a pledge

to stay drug free, and were displayed along the windows of the courtyard.

On Tuesday, a trivia wheel was available at lunch for students to test their knowledge on facts about drugs and alcohol. If a student answered correctly, they were given a pack of Smarties. If they answered incorrectly, however, they received a DumDum lollipop.

On Wednesday, members of the ADL group handed out stickers with positive messages on them to students as a reminder to stay positive and drug free.

On Friday, SHS's photo booth was open to all students during lunch. The photobooth has appeared at numerous events over the years, and is always a hit!

Smithfield's Youth Driven organized the week long event

this year, just one of the many projects they organize throughout the year. Youth Driven is a traffic safety and youth leadership program who's goal is to inform students on the risks of driving distracted or impaired. Previously called MADD, Youth Driven is making it's way back into SHS slowly but surely.

Alongside Smithfield Youth Driven, SHS's new student assistant councilor, Mr.Croteau, helped organize, promote, and make this years Red Ribbon Week possible.

SHS sends thanks to the Smithfield Youth Driven and Mr.Croteau for a fun, informative, and overall successful Red Ribbon Week!





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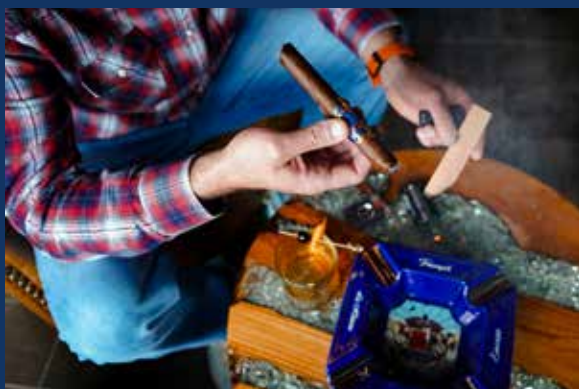
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Preparing Your Home for Winter

Winter is coming in just a few short weeks ... is your home ready?

As a homeowner, it is important to take these steps to prepare your home for the colder weather.

Following these few simple tips could save you money and headaches down the road:

1. Inspect your roof and gutters.

Make sure there are no holes or leaks in your roof and that your gutters are clean and free of debris. Try using a telescoping gutter wand to keep the job quick and easy.

2. Check your heating system. Have your HVAC system inspected and cleaned by a qualified professional ahead of winter temperatures.

3. Check your smoke detectors/ carbon monoxide detectors. Make sure that they are working properly and that the batteries are fresh.

4. Insulate your home. Make sure your attic and walls are properly insulated. This will help to keep your home warm and reduce your energy bills.



5. Seal air leaks. Use caulk or weather-stripping to seal any air leaks around your windows and doors.

6. Protect your pipes. Wrap exposed pipes with insulation to prevent them from freezing and bursting. Also, ensure every family member knows where the main water shutoff is to access it in an emergency.

7. Stock up on winter supplies. Have firewood, salt, shovels, and

snowblowers, if needed.

8. Winterize your deck and patio. Protect patio furniture with weatherproof covers, or if you can, store it away in a garage or shed. If you have a wooden deck, apply a fresh coat of sealant.

9. Plan for power outages. Make sure your emergency supplies are accessible and that you have a way to heat the house and prepare food without electricity.



Jessica Gemma is a realtor with the Slocum Home Team, a third-generation family company, based in Warwick, Rhode Island, however she services all of Rhode Island and Massachusetts. As a mom of two young children and a former teacher, she loves being able to still work with and serve families. Jessica is a resident of Smithfield and loves the close-knit community this town has to offer. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, dancing, playing tennis, reading, and writing children's books.

Breast Cancer Fundraiser

On Friday, October 26, Davies students greeted teachers and staff with positive signs of encouragement for chemotherapy patients. These signs were given to the cancer infusion centers of Mass General Hospital and Woman and Infants Hospital.

Mrs. Kristin Cassarino and Mrs. Amy Meyer shared their personal experiences and how their friendship grew by sharing this awful commonality. Mrs. Cassarino demonstrated how a Cold Cap works by bringing in her own. She showed how using the Cold Cap is complicated and requires assistance. She shared that patients wear this device for an hour before and after chemotherapy, and during the entirety of their chemo treatments. But this was the **ONLY** thing she had control of during a challenging time.

Bell Camelo, the assistant director of major gifts at Mass General hospital, spoke regarding the organization supporting access to Cold Caps, which were the object of fundraising efforts at this event. Faculty and staff were then treated to an excellent session of chair yoga and chair pilates thanks to Krista and Tessa at The Pilates Pointe Studio in Cumberland.

"I really enjoyed being able to stretch and ground myself after a busy day," says marketing and communications specialist Jax Ventura.

Both Mrs. Cassarino and Mrs. Meyer had family present, supporting them and engaging in the yoga/pilates session.



From left to right: Krista Perry of The Pilates Point Studio, Bell Camelo, the assistant director of major gifts at Mass General, Kristin Cassarino, Amy Meyer, and Tessa Gagnon of The Pilates Point Studio.





Diaries of a College Student

by Ellorie Corcoran

Holidays in Boston (Ellorie's Version)

In Boston, the holidays look a little different.

Halloween kicked off the holiday tour, and it was an experience like no other. My friends and I wandered to Beacon Hill, a beautiful neighborhood, notorious for holiday decorations. The streets were filled with children and adults alike, all trick or treating, or simply admiring the beautiful design work of the residents. Beacon Hill goes all out! One house created an entire Harry Potter themed exterior, including the flying car crashed into a tree. The attention to detail was perfect. Of course, this year there was a Barbie house, with a massive balloon arch filled with all things pink and Barbie. The real winner of this year's Beacon Hill Halloween was the collaboration of two side-by-side neighbors. One decorated the exterior inspired by Taylor Swift's *Reputation* album and played music from the album. The house next door was a Travis Kelce inspired house, including a cardboard cutout of him. Now, no Bostonian would ever outwardly express their interest for a football team other than the Patriots, so it was clearly for a "couple's costume" style house decoration, in honor of Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce recently

launching their relationship to the public.

Boston has recently introduced the open-air holiday market: "Snowport." Starting five years ago, the Boston Seaport has been transformed into a holiday wonderland. It includes small businesses and local restaurants at booths and includes activities such as outdoor iceless curling and tree lighting on December 1st. It is the epitome of holiday cheer and free if you don't buy a gift or a snack as you wander throughout the market. And, of course, Beacon Hill is all the talk again for Christmas, as the fall and Halloween decorations are transformed into beautiful displays of holiday cheer.

The best part? Wrapped up in a bow amongst all these holidays and wonderful activities: midterms and finals. I'd be remiss if I didn't discuss the true experience of the holidays for college students. On one hand, Thanksgiving provides a small vacation for students, and winter break signals the end of the semester, however: before Thanksgiving break? Midterms. Before winter break? Finals. Students appreciate these holidays as much as they can while

simultaneously being buried in test review, presentation preparation, or finalizing projects, all while eventually trudging through the snow and braving the (very cold and windy) Boston winters.

However, the opportunity to go to school in the city opens the opportunity that yes, you could spend eight hours at the library, but later, you can hop on the T to get some fresh air and a treat or two at the Snowport. Or let's go to Beacon Hill and marvel at the holiday decorations. Soon, holiday cheer will be oozing out of your pores! Even though academics are the reason we are here, that's not to say there aren't things for us to experience and appreciate, like how easy it is to get to Beacon Hill or the Snowport, and experience new things every day with friends and family.

**Editor's note: While editing this month's issue, we witnessed one of the most amazing Taylor Swift moments in history. On night two of the international leg of The Eras Tour in Argentina, she changed the lyrics to her song "Karma" to "Karma is the guy on the Chiefs." Travis was in the crowd with Taylor's dad, Scott Swift. WHAT A MOMENT! We are huge Taylor fans here at The Smithfield Times!*





Ask Our Attorney

Terrance N. Turner, Esq.



This legal column is only for purposes of general discussion of the law. It is not designed for purposes of legal advice for your own personal case, nor is any given. Discussion in this column should not be relied on without a consultation with your own personal attorney. No attorney-client relationship is established between the reader and Turner Law Offices.

Legal Magic and Legal “Hamburger Helper”

When students are asked what they think our most important “freedoms” are as American citizens, they often respond with: freedom of speech; freedom of religion; freedom of the press; presumption of innocence; and right to a jury trial. Rarely, if ever, do students opine about our freedom “of contract.” A bit disconcerting, I dare say that most students are not even aware of the fact that the Founding Fathers inserted language in the Constitution barring (at least in theory) the government from making any law that would infringe on our freedom to contract with someone or our contract obligations.

Every wheel is structured around a hub, around which the wheel spins or turns. To turn efficiently with reliable consistency, a wheel’s hub must be lubricated, both initially and then periodically. If we envision the worldwide economic system(s) as a metaphorical wheel, the lubricant of the wheel can be represented by the acronym CAN. C is for contract law; A is for agency law; and N is for the law of negotiable instruments (documents).

The concept of a legal contract (an agreement enforceable in court); along with the concept of agency (contracting with someone through the use of an intermediary); plus, the concept of negotiability (transferring legal rights just by transferring pieces of paper), are amazing concepts in and of themselves. Coupled together, the ‘marriage’ if you will, of CAN, is the lube around which the entire world economic systems run and function as dependably and effectively as they do.

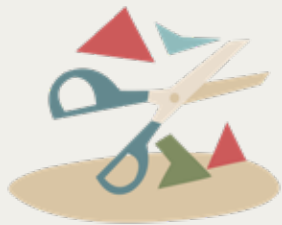
No one can know with certainty who the first two human beings were who entered into a binding agreement with each other. Nor can we know for sure who the first three human beings were who dealt with each other, with one of them acting as an intermediary. Same for the concept of negotiability. I dare say, however, that there’s little doubt that prehistoric humans must have been the first homo sapiens to have acted in a way that today can only be described as contracts and agency.

Whether we are consciously aware of it or not, contracts, agency, and negotiable documents are part of the fabric of everyday economic life.

They are as important to the local, state, national and international economy as air, water and food are to everyday biological existence. Students who study contracts, agency and negotiability for the first time are often surprised when they realize that on a daily basis, they are more often than not involved in these magical legal relationships.

Under our foundational American mindset dating back to the time of the American revolution, creating contracts for the purchase and sale of the necessities of everyday life is remarkably easy. It starts with an “offeror” making an offer (“I’ll buy that old car of yours for \$500, ok?”) and finishes when the “offeree” says “OK,” or “You’ve got yourself a deal.” Hence, our magical contract law equation: $O + A = C$ (offer plus acceptance creates contract).

What happens, however, when in their haste or carelessness the contracting parties fail to address important details about the deal? Here’s where “legal hamburger helper” comes to the rescue, the topic of our next column next month.



Let's Create Something!

By Lisa Gentile

The Holidays are here! Create this fun paper star to add to the holiday decor.

Paper Star Ornament

Supplies

holiday scrapbook paper printed on both sides

String or ribbon about 2 ½" long

Mod Podge Glue

Hole punch

Instructions:

Cut paper into ½" strips. Total of 12 strips. Working with six strips first.

Take two strips, put a dab of glue in the center of one, place the other on top to look like a cross.

Take two more strips, put a dab of glue in the center, place behind each side of the horizontal strip.

Take the last two strips, keep them vertical, weave through the top and bottom of the horizontal strips (under, over, under). Glue centers of each to keep in place.

Turn the finished weaved piece to look like an X. Take the two top strips, turn them in so you see the underside print, glue together. Do this for the remaining three sides.

Repeat with remaining six strips.

Take both halves, weave the straight strip through the turned strips, glue in place. Cut the tips of the straight pieces to match the points of the corners they are weaved in.

Punch a hole in one of the points and tie a string or ribbon.

Happy Holidays!





A View From the Cheap Seats

For Patriots Fans, It's a Season of Grieving.

Dan Pieroni

Perhaps the best example that illustrates how far the New England Patriots have fallen from their once lofty pedestal into the abyss of the NFL Standings was tweeted out on the morning of November 7th. On that day, Barstool Sports' Jerry Thornton told his Twitter/X followers that the tailgating scene around *Gillette Stadium* is so sparse that it is like "going to celebrate the birthday of a kid who has cooties."

Such is life as a fan of the 2023 New England Patriots.

The once proud franchise has hit a rough patch this season which has been characterized by inconsistent quarterbacking from Mac Jones, receivers that cannot create enough separation from their defenders to get open, and the lack of a pass rush that has enabled running quarterbacks to have their way with Patriots defensive front seven.

As I write this, the Patriots are 2-7, and have the worst record in the American Football Conference. While it can be said that the schedule is going to get easier, and the Patriots have a slim hope of turning things around towards a respectful finish, I am focusing this column on those of you who maintain a total and complete trust in Bill Belichick.

It's time to admit to yourselves that without Tom Brady, Belichick is at best an average coach and talent evaluator.

I'd also like to direct this column towards those of you who have taken for granted the Patriots stunning and abnormal run of success over most of the past 22 years and are finding it

difficult to cope with the mounting pile of losses this season.

Using the Kubler-Ross model, that is more commonly known as the Five Stages of Grief, I will now show you why it is completely okay to possess these feelings and prove that this season was in the making for a long time.

Stage one is the denial phase. Patriots fans have been spoiled by success within the last generation. Bill Belichick has been universally praised for being a coaching savant, and Robert Kraft has built a highly successful business enterprise that has been the envy of the rest of the National Football League. While the above statements were certainly true during the Brady era, the team's less than stellar play this season has cast lingering doubts about those assertions and has adversely affected the legacies of both Kraft and Belichick. Still, there are Patriots fans who continue to deny that it has gotten this bad and will praise Belichick and Kraft's efforts based on past performance no matter what's happening in the present moment.

The next stage of the grief model is anger. This is pretty self-explanatory. Patriots fans have a lot to be angry about this season. Aside from the team's poor record, Mac Jones' passes have the velocity of a falling feather, the receivers lack speed, and the defense continues to have an uncanny ability to be unable to get off the field on third and long. It is very un-Patriot like and nowhere near what generations of Patriot fans are used to.

The bargaining stage of the grief model is where the fan's desperation

for victory is taken to often ridiculous heights. This often involves the intervention of a higher power, as in, if the Football Gods allow Mac Jones to become the top ten quarterback he was projected to be, we'll never say another bad word about him again. This alas is easier said than done.

The next stage is depression. If the Patriots current season is causing you to exhibit any sign of true depression, it may be time to reassess your priorities in life. There are plenty of more important things to worry about in life than the fortunes of a professional football team.

Finally, there's acceptance. Nothing lasts forever, and Tom Brady was the greatest football player of all time. It was truly remarkable that he was able to maintain a high level of success as long as he did. In defying the odds for so long, Brady and the Patriots were able to prolong the inevitable return to mediocrity that has befallen other sports dynasties.

You simply cannot outrun the law of averages. Everything becomes normal or average sooner rather than later. Fans will always have their memories of the Brady era in the form of personal memories, programs, and season retrospective DVDs and Blu-Rays.

There's also one other thing that can't be taken away: hope.

Maybe someday the Patriots will once again be the class of the NFL, and the parking lot full will of tailgaters.

More importantly, no one will care if anyone else has cooties.

UNITY

As your friends and family come together for the holidays, this is the gift they'll all agree on.



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Tales from the Beyond

The Ghost Dog

By Thomas D'Agostino

www.tomdagostino.com

*This account comes from our upcoming book, **Ghosts of King Philip's War**.*

A rather unusual ghost haunts a certain section of Berkley, Massachusetts which was once a part of the city of Taunton. The ghost is not a tribal warrior, militiaman, in fact it is not even human, but rather, the ghost of a dog.

The dog belonged to an Englishman called Edward Bobet (later spelled Bobbett, but state records spell it Bobet) who lived in that section of town. When King Philip's War broke out in June of 1675, Bobet feared his family might become casualties of the violent skirmish. The war would prove to be the bloodiest struggle ever fought on American Soil. Whole villages from both sides were burned, and massacres of innocent women and children were among the casualties of the conflict. This caused many towns to build forts and heavily fortified garrisons where the towns people could shelter in place in case of a raid by the enemy.

Like many others, Bobet decided to seek shelter with his wife and nine children in the fort at Taunton Green. On June 25, 1675, he and his family made haste to the shelter. Once safely secured, Bobet decided to return to

the family home to retrieve some clothing and other provisions that would see them through a possible lengthy stay in the garrison.

Armed with his rifle and his trusty canine companion, forty-eight year old Bobet set out to gather the necessary belongings. The journey to the homestead was met with no confrontation, but the trek back proved not so fortunate. While within sight of the fort, a band of Indians spotted him and gave chase. Knowing his lone flintlock was no match for the throng that sought his head, he quickly eluded them and scurried up a tree in the hopes they would pass right by.

Once the enemy was within reach, his dog began barking at them and circling the tree. Unfortunately for Bobet, his dog had barked up the right tree as the enemy, seeing him hiding among the branches, took aim and shot into it multiple times, killing him. When he failed to return to the fort, a search party set out and found his mutilated body under the tree. Bobet became the first casualty from Taunton in the new war. He was buried near the spot he fell with a crude headstone to mark it. The headstone was later uprooted and put into a stone wall. The marker

was later moved to the Old Colony Historical Society Museum where it is now on display.

His burial near Berkley Bridge, in a private yard, is presently marked with a bronze memorial tablet put there in 1911 by his descendants. His dog was also a casualty of the war, and perhaps never forgave himself for giving away his master's location during that fateful day. To this day, people in the area hear a frantic unearthly barking near the Berkley Bridge at the site where the horrific event took place centuries ago. No one is sure if the dog barks out of remorse or is eternally looking for his master. The echoes of the phantom bark permeate the expanse around the bridge and where the grave marker sits. When investigated, there is no living canine around to produce the eerie howls in the night.

This may make for a great legend trip. Take a camera and be careful, part of the area has plenty of traffic that may be even scarier than the ghosts.

Cross Berkley Bridge from Dighton and turn left onto Berkley Street. The stone is located in the front yard of a private residence. Please respect the owner's right to privacy.



The Smithfield Times *Recipe Swap!*

Peppermint Bark

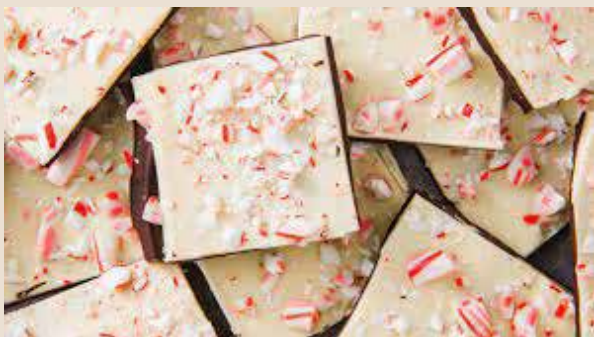
From delish.com

Ingredients:

- 12 oz. semisweet chocolate, chopped
- 12 oz. white chocolate, chopped
- 1/2 tsp. peppermint extract
- 8 candy canes, crushed

Directions:

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Fill the bottom of a large pot with 3" water and bring to simmer over medium heat. Reduce heat to low, then place a large heatproof bowl on top. Add semi-sweet chocolate and stir occasionally until chocolate has melted. Stir in extract. Pour into prepared baking sheet and spread into an even layer with an offset spatula. Refrigerate until set, about 20 minutes.
2. Over the same pot of barely simmering water, place another large heatproof bowl. Add white chocolate and stir until melted. Pour over set semi-sweet chocolate then top immediately with candy canes. Refrigerate until set, about 20 minutes.



PETS OF THE MONTH

Brady the bearded dragon has quite the friend group! He enjoys a day of sunning by the pool with his Great Dane pal Gemma and spends time with his Siamese cat bestie named Bella.





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:



BINX & BEAN: Introducing the dynamic duo! These rambunctious, smart, and extremely entertaining brothers are approximately 6 months old. Binx is a strikingly handsome brown and black tiger with snow white fur accenting his face, chest, and paws. His sibling, Bean, is a silky solid black mini panther! To say these boys, like to play is an understatement! Binx and Bean spent time in foster care where they had lots of interactive playtime and even slept on the family's bed. This bonded pair can be found constantly jumping, chasing, pouncing on their prey (mouse toys), eating, or sleeping together. Binx and Bean are sure to provide lots of laughter, entertainment, and amusement to your household. This lively pair enjoy being pet on their terms, however, they do not like to be picked up. Binx and Bean are searching for a special individual or family that are willing to be patient and go slow for these brothers to continue to adapt, acclimate and come into their own. We think they would probably do best in a household with no children. It would also be ideal for Binx and Bean to be in a home that has another cat or cats to show these little

cuties the ropes! Won't you consider giving these brothers the safe, forever home they deserve?

GIO: Meet our handsome guy Gio. This fellow has got it all including good looks and a fun personality wrapped up in one purr-fect package! Gio is a positive boy who is super playful, frisky, smart, and sociable. Gio is a little over two years old and he has a soft white coat with patches of black and a solid black tail. Gio is extremely food motivated and yummy cat treats are the way to his heart! Gio is also a cat that really enjoys and thrives in the company of his fellow cat buddies. Gio has been with us at the cat center for about 7 months now. During that time, Gio has watched many of his kitty playmates find their forever homes. Now it's his turn. Gio has been patiently waiting for the right person to make that happen for him. In addition, Gio likes to explore, sit inside his favorite tunnel toy, receive pets, and find a nice cozy, comfy spot to curl up for a cat nap. Gio would make an ideal companion and might be the right match for you.



VIENNA: Feast your eyes on magnificent Vienna! Words cannot do this kitty justice. Beautiful Vienna is a striking looking girl who is longing for the life she used to have. She previously lived as an indoor/outdoor cat when suddenly her people moved and left her behind. A little over two years old, Vienna is large in stature compared to an average cat. Her fur is a mix of tortie/tiger-striped markings with light golden brown and black. She has an "exotic cat" look that is quite unique and very impressive. Vienna has been with us at the cat center for over 6 months now and she has come such a long way. We have learned so much about her. Vienna is very smart and full of energy. She absolutely adores one-on-one interactive playtime with the volunteers her.

ALL CATS ADOPTED FROM THE COMMUNITY CAT CENTER HAVE BEEN SPAYED/NEUTERED, VACCINATED, TESTED FOR FELV/FIV 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.

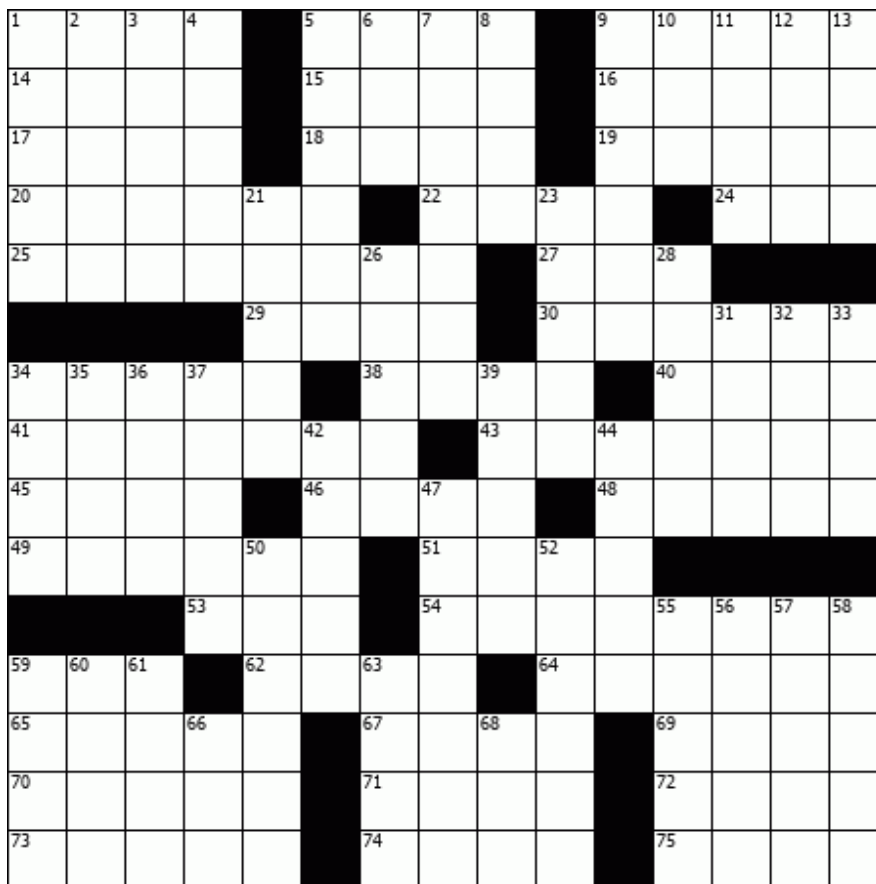
<https://pawswatch.org/adoptions/>

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.

Crossword Puzzle

Across

1. Top cards
5. Challenge
9. Perspire
14. Muffin type
15. Skating jump
16. 1492 and 1776
17. Phi ____ Kappa
18. Brunch, e.g.
19. Disrobe
20. Wagner works
22. Endure
24. "Leaving ____ Vegas"
25. Slum building
27. Tent stake
29. Toast spread
30. Become visible
34. Colder
38. OPEC member
40. Void's partner
41. Actor ____ Crowe
43. Part of the rib cage
45. Pub potables
46. PDQ's kin
48. Robins' homes
49. Pilfers
51. Coffee break
53. Okay!
54. Scoffing
59. Scatter seed
62. Bruised
64. Shudder
65. Locales
67. Platoon
69. Volcanic rock
70. Monte ____
71. Glen
72. Epochs
73. Designer Calvin ____
74. She, in Nice
75. Sharp bark



Down

1. Monastery head
2. French pancake
3. Dined
4. Kind of drum
5. ____ in distress
6. Logger's tool
7. Housing agent
8. She, in Valencia
9. Method
10. Moist
11. James ____ Jones
12. Diva's song
13. Chef's measures (abbr.)
21. Love, in Rome
23. Used money
26. Diamond and Armstrong
28. Category
31. Stocking mishaps
32. Oversupply
33. Shade trees
34. Levin and Gershwin
35. Religious sect
36. Words of understanding (2 wds.)
37. Writing assignment
39. Poplar type
42. Cowboy's tool
44. Go onstage
47. Arms depot
50. School assignment
52. Sofa
55. Pass along
56. Picture
57. New
58. Comprehend
59. Burlap bag
60. Aloud
61. "The Way We ____"
63. Impudent
66. Frazier's rival
68. Sick



Answers to puzzle on page 42



The Chief's Corner

By Robert W. Seltzer, BSEE, EFO, MPA
Smithfield Fire Department Chief

Winter Holiday Safety



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together, but that also means a greater risk of fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

FACTS

- More than one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- More than two of every five decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



*From the men and women of the Smithfield Fire Department,
Happy Holidays!*



Greenville Public Library

573 Putnam Pike, Greenville, RI 02828
Contact: Cassie Patterson • 401-949-3630 ext 117
greenvilleasstdirector@gmail.com • greenvillelibraryri.org



Featured Event

Friends of the Library Holiday Raffle and Festival
Tickets on sale November 20 – December 9

Children's Events

Please register for all of the following programs by calling 401-949-3630 or visit the children's room.

Crafternoon December 6 at 4:15 pm Ages 5-10
Create a fun craft with library friends.

Holiday Festival
December 9 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Free Play Fridays December 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

American Girl Book Club December 12 at 4:15 Grades 3-5

Magic Tree House Book Club December 13 at 4:15
Grades 2nd and 3rd

Sensory Story time December 16 from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Paws to Read December 18 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Graham Cracker Gingerbread House December 19 at 4:15 Ages 5 and up

Children's Matinee Movie December 21 at 4:15 Ages 5-10

Family Books and Bingo December 27 at 2:00 pm

Teen Events

Kits available on Monday, December 4

Magic: The Gathering (Grades 6-12)
Monday, December 4, 6:00-8:00 pm

Drop-in Volunteering: Caring Cards (Grades 6-12)
Thursday, December 7 & 28, 3:30-4:30 pm

Teen Advisory Board (Grades 6-12)
Monday, December 11, 6:00-7:00 pm

Cozy Craft: Paint a Mug (Grades 6-12)
Thursday, December 14, 3:30-4:30 pm

YA Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 6-12)
Wednesday, December 27, 6:00-7:00 pm

2024 Vision Boards (Grades 6-12)
Saturday, December 30, 10:00-11:00 am

Virtual Community Service Hours (Grades 6-12)

Adult Events

Please register online on our event calendar at greenvillelibraryri.org or by calling 401-949-3630.

Mystery Book Club
Tuesday, December 5 at 1:30 pm

Coffee & Books
Wednesday, December 13 at 10:30 am

Picnic Table Reads Book Club
Thursday, December 21 at 1:00 pm

Home Sweet Home Book Club
Monday, December 18 at 6:30 pm

Virtual Book Chat
Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 pm

Dungeons & Dragons for Adults
Thursday, December 14 at 6:00 pm

Monday Matinee
Monday, December 18 at 2:00 pm

Knitting Mavens
Every Tuesday at 6:00 pm

Exhibits:

John Chamberlain | Quilts | Main Gallery
Linda Sanfillipo | Watercolors | Friends Wall



East Smithfield Public Library

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



Juvenile Programming:

Bingo and Hot Chocolate – Wednesday, December 27th @ 1:00 p.m.
“Books Are Fun!” Book Group – Thursday, December 14th from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Bookworms Book Group – Thursday, December 7th from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Family Story Time – Saturday, December 16th @ 10:30 a.m.
“Grab and Go” Ornament Craft – Saturday, December 2nd at 10:00 a.m.
Kindergarten Countdown – Thursday, December 21st from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
Middle School Book Group – Wednesday, December 13th from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Pancakes and Pajamas Story Time – Thursday, December 28th @ 6:30 p.m.
Preschool Story Time (children ages 3 to 5 years old) – Wednesday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Tiny-Tots Story Time (children 18 months to 3 years) – Tuesday mornings from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. except December 26th.

Young Adult Programming:

Creative Writing Workshop – Wednesday, December 27th at 5:00 p.m.
Discover Maker Cart – Wednesday, December 6th, and 13th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Doodle Day – Monday, December 18th @ 5:00 p.m.
Gingerbread House – Monday, December 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Study and Snack – Tuesday, December 5th @ 4:30 p.m.
Teen Book Club – Tuesday, December 12th at 4:30 p.m.
TV Trivia – Monday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m.
2024 Vision – Wednesday, December 20th at 5:00 p.m.

Adult Programming:

Adult Craft – Monday, December 11th @ 5:30 p.m.
Card Club – Thursday, December 7th @ 5:30 p.m.
Cricut Club: Holiday Stockings – Friday, December 8th at 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 16th at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
Drop In Tech Help – Every Monday at 11:00 a.m. No tech help December 25th.
Fantasy Book Club – House of Earth and Blood by Sarah J. Maas – Monday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m.
Introduction to the Cricut Maker 3: Heat Transfer Vinyl – Friday, December 1st at 4:00 p.m.
Introduction to the Cricut Maker 3: Basic Vinyl – Thursday, December 28th from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Jewelry Making Open Studio – Saturday, December 9th @ 10:30 a.m.
Laser Stamp Making – Saturday, December 2nd at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
Learn in the Makerspace: Canva – Monday, December 11th from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Matinee Movie – Wednesday, December 6th at 1:00 p.m.
Meet Our Laser Machine – Friday, December 29th @ 4:00 p.m.
Reading from “Pearls from Carol” and Sing Along – Thursday, December 7th at 6:30 p.m.
Scrapbooking Club – Thursday, December 21st @ 8:00 p.m.
Tabletop Game Night – Thursday, December 21st @ 6:00 p.m.
Take & Make Craft: Ornaments – Pick up at library.
3Doodler: Learning How to Draw in 3D! – Wednesday, December 20th and 27th from 3:30-5:00 p.m.
3-D Print Studio – Monday, December 4th @ 6:30 p.m.
3Printing Design: 3D Printing: Creating 3D Models with Tinkercad – Monday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m.
Thursday Night Book Group – Thursday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m.
Tri-County Mobile Health Unit – Monday, December 18th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in parking lot.
Virtual Game Night – Every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
Walk & Talk Chat – Thursday mornings @ 11:00 a.m. No Walk & Talk on December 28th.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWS:

Holiday Bazaar Fundraiser – This year there will be a penny social raffle and silent auction, white elephant table, stocking stuffers, jewelry, handmade items, holiday decorations and more. Hours are Friday, December 1st from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. On Monday, December 4th, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, all remaining merchandise will be sold at ½ price.
Little Free Food Pantry – As we enter the colder months, many of our neighbors may struggle to pay both their heating bills and buy food. Your generosity may end up making a big difference in another person’s life. Donations of non-perishable food items are needed.
Coffee, Cake & Conversation Book Group – Every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. except December 26th. Come join us and hear what everyone else has been reading while enjoying a tasty snack. New members are always welcome.
The FOL can be reached via email at friends.east.smithfield.library@gmail.com or you can leave a message for Catherine Lynn at the Circulation desk. The annual meeting will take place at 1:00 p.m. on February 10, 2024.

Obituaries



Moriah J. Roy
10/26/23
www.thequinnfuneralhome.com



Meledy L. Harris
10/28/23
www.andersonwinfield.net



Joseph L. "Pete" Charron
11/13/23
www.andersonwinfield.net





Diane M. Pelletier
11/14/23
www.thequinnfuneralhome.com

Answers to Crossword Puzzle from page 38.

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

The Smithfield Times

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Obituaries



Joseph V. Mattera

11/5/23

TuckerQuinnFuneralChapel.com

Joseph V. Mattera, (Captain GPD Ret'd) 61, passed away surrounded by his loving family, Sunday, November 5, 2023. He was born in Providence, a son of the late Vincent and Carolyn (Iannazzi) Mattera. Joe retired from the Gloucester Police Department after attaining the rank of Captain in 2017. He has been a resident of Harrisville for 35 years, he was a member of the Gloucester Country Club, a hockey coach for the Smithfield Vikings and Burrillville High School. He was also a hockey referee for many years before hanging up his skates in 2018.

He is survived by his son Daniel J. Mattera and his wife Brittany of Franklin, MA and his daughter Corinne Mattera Gelinas and her husband Timothy of Harrisville. He was the brother of Roseann Mattera Mandarini of Greenville. He was the partner of Karen (Carberry) Beety. Joe's favorite title was Papa, survived by his grandchildren Gia Belle Gelinas and Roman J. Pagnozzi.

Relatives and friends gathered Friday, November 10, 2023 at 8:15am in the Tucker-Quinn Funeral Chapel, 643 Putnam Pike, Greenville, with The last patrol ride leaving at 9:15am. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10am in St. Philip Church, 622 Putnam Pike, Greenville. Burial will be private at a later date. Visitation was held Thursday, November 9, 2023 from 3-7pm. In honor of Joe's dedication to serving as a Police Officer, the family request that all attendees wear something blue to the Visitation.

For Online Condolences visit,
TuckerQuinnFuneralChapel.com

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