

No hits for Swampscott, no win for Peabody West



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Swampscott's Gavin Cerrutti lets out a yell as he celebrates with his team.

By Joey Barrett
ITEM SPORTS EDITOR

SALEM — Talk about a rarity. In a pitchers' duel for the ages – hence the 49-minute game – Peabody West threw the no-hitter, but Swampscott won the District 16 Little League Championship 1-0 Thursday evening. The stars on the mound were West's CJ York (no-hitter) and Swampscott's Michael Hall (1 hit allowed). Neither pitcher let an opponent reach first base across the second, third, and fourth innings. True to his name, Swampscott's Jett Nichols scored the lone run of the game on an error in the first inning. Jaden Oriakhi ended the game with a strikeout. Full game story, B1.

Nahant praying for kids to give peace a chance

By Charlie McKenna
ITEM STAFF

NAHANT — The Village Church is debuting a Peace Village for children in grades one through six later this summer, which aims to expose kids to “peaceful practices through fun, outdoor adventures, classes, music, and interfaith stories of peace and fellowship.” The program will be held Aug. 14 through Aug. 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day on the Flash Road Playground. The program is available to 30 students who must be rising first- through sixth-graders, with a \$25 donation to the church required for each child, though scholarships are available if the cost is a hardship. Applications for the program must be submitted to the church by July 17.

The program represents the first time a Peace Village will be held in Massachusetts, the church said in a statement. Rev. Scott Elliott, the church's pastor and the co-director of the program, served as a co-director of similar programs in Oregon and Ohio, and witnessed the effects of the Peace Village on children as a parent. “I got my kids involved before I was even involved in the church and they just loved it so much and it was so meaningful to them,” he said. “I... just saw the wonderful stuff that they were being taught and hearing about my kids' excitement when they came home.” The program teaches children peace within themselves, with others, and with the world around them, Elliott said, and

PEACE VILLAGE, A6

Newhall has (Ward) 1 goal in Lynn

By Emily Pauls
ITEM STAFF

LYNN — Lifelong Ward One resident and former School Committee member Jeff Newhall has pulled nomination papers for the Ward 1 city councilor seat. During his time on the School Committee from 2001 to 2009, he said he always thought about running for City Council.



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK
Jeff Newhall

“The Ward One council seat was always intriguing to me,” Newhall said. Besides serving on the School Committee, he has been the athletic director at St. Mary's for the past 16 years. He has also coached high-school basketball for 23 years. According to Newhall, during his time as athletic director he has had to solve problems and communicate effectively. Those traits and his experience as an elected official, he said, make him a qualified candidate for Ward One city councilor. “But I also feel like I probably have the best knowledge of our ward and the issues that really affect our ward, as someone who's lived there for all 46 years of my life,” Newhall said. Traffic and public safety are two of the

NEWHALL, A7

FIRED UP FOR FIRE TRUCK



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Natalie Helmar, of Saugus, hangs out on the back of Saugus Fire Department's Engine 2. More photos on LOOK!, page A8.

Elected town manager is unlikely in Saugus

By Charlie McKenna
ITEM STAFF

SAUGUS — Board of Selectmen Chair Anthony Cogliano's pitch for a charter commission is primarily based on the idea that residents should be able to elect their town manager, who is responsible for most of the town's executive functions. But, Michael Ward, the director of the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management (fittingly, named for a former Saugus town manager) at UMass Boston, said in his view and the view of other experts at the center, doing so while maintaining the other traditional structures of town governance, like a board of selectmen and town meeting, would be impossible. “Given current state law and established precedent, the attorney general and/or legislative counsel would likely find that a charter proposing the creation of a single elected chief executive official in a municipality that otherwise retained a town form of government would be in conflict with the general laws and possibly the constitution of the Commonwealth,” Ward wrote in an email. While it remains no sure thing that Cogliano will secure enough signatures to get a charter commission on the ballot this fall, if he is successful in doing so, the nine-member group would have to submit a preliminary report to the attorney general's office before putting any document before voters. The attorney general would then issue a written opinion on the report, which would “[set] forth any conflict between the proposed charter or charter revision and the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth,” Ward said, citing Massachusetts General Law Chapter 43B, Section 9. For his part, Cogliano appeared undeterred when asked about Ward's comments, telling *The Item* that “this story is putting the cart before the horse” considering no ideas have been presented by a commission. He said while he has lobbied for an elected town manager, he would not put anything forward without the support of residents. “Judging from the number of people I've conversed with over the past 45 days, changing the way we currently do business seems to be a very popular topic of conversation,” Cogliano said. “Giving the residents the power to select the top official and taking that authority away from the Board of Selectmen has sparked many conversations.”

TOWN MANAGER, A6

City to discuss unarmed response initiative in public forum

By James Bartlett
ITEM STAFF

LYNN — Leaders of the mayor's office's unarmed response initiative will host a public forum on Wednesday, July 19 to take questions from and update the public on their efforts. The event, which will be held at Marshall Middle School at 5:30 p.m., is hosted by Faustina Cuevas, Lynn's diversity, equity,

and inclusion officer. “We're going to speak on what the goals of the response team are and all the services available in Lynn,” Cuevas said. Cuevas has been the point person for the unarmed response initiative for around two years and said the initiative's leaders will be updating stakeholders and community members on their progress and future

INITIATIVE, A6

INSIDE

Opinion

The importance and value of composting. A4

LOOK!

Hollywood actors join screenwriters in historic industry-stopping strike. A8

Sports

Greater Lynn 15s advance to state finals. B1

After 131 years, Model Yacht Club is still a big deal in Marblehead

By Ryan Vermette
ITEM STAFF

MARBLEHEAD — At nearly 131 years old, one of the town's most historic clubs is still alive and well. Meeting on Saturdays and Sundays, members of the Marblehead Model Yacht Club gather at Redd's Pond to set sail, remotely. Standing at the edge of the pond, each of the captains place their model yachts in the water. The boats then drift toward the starting

line, and the race is off. Going at a speed of roughly 1 nautical mile per hour, the yachts have no motor, so with joysticks in hand, members can only control the boats by moving the sails with the remote control. MMYC Commodore Biff Martin, a native Marbleheader who grew up within arms reach of Redd's Pond, said that he has been involved with model yachts since he was old enough to play with them.

YACHT CLUB, A7

Biff Martin, commodore of the Marblehead Model Yacht Club, lowers his Marblehead Class 5800 model into Redd's Pond for a sailing session. ITEM PHOTO SPENSER HASAK



OBITUARIES	A2	LOOK!	A8	DIVERSIONS	B5
OPINION	A4	SPORTS	B1-3	CLASSIFIED	B6-7
POLICE LOG	A6	COMICS	B4	PHOTOS OF THE WEEK	B8



HIGH 79°
LOW 70°
PAGE A8

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OBITUARIES

Mark A. Firmani, 35
1988 - 2023

LYNN - Mark A. Firmani, age 35, of Lynn, passed away on Monday, July 10, 2023. He was the beloved partner of Kelley Warnock with whom he shared 11 years of unity and he was the dedicated Dad of golden retriever, Taz. Born in Lynn, Mark was the son of Alfred and Diane (LeBlanc) Firmani. He was predeceased by his grandparents Alcide and Mary LeBlanc, as well as Antonio Firmani. He leaves behind his grandmother Maria Firmani. Mark was the devoted brother of Michael Joseph Firmani and his wife Nichole, and he was the cherished uncle of nephew Rocco and niece Bella. He grew up in Lynn and graduated from Lynn English High School with the class of 2006. He worked as an HVAC Tech at TD Garden in Boston since September 2014. Mark was an avid sports fan and was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Service Information: Visiting Hours will be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Cuffe-McGinn Funeral Home,



157 Maple Street, Lynn. A Funeral Service will be held for Mark on Wednesday, July 19, 2023 in the Funeral Home at 10:00 a.m. Interment to follow at St. Joseph Cemetery. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.cuffemcginns.com for the Firmani family.



Frank T. Savchuk, 60
1963 - 2023

LYNN - Frank T. Savchuk of Lynn passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, July 9, 2023 of natural causes at his home at the age of 60. He was the loving brother of Sonya J. Savchuk Becton and Carla N. Savchuk and the beloved uncle of Marshall, Jason and Jaimee Savchuk and the great uncle of Izaiah Savchuk.

Son of the late Nicholi W. and Dorothy S. (Stratton) Savchuk, he spent his early years living in West Newbury before moving to Lynn. He graduated from Lynn Vocational Technical Institute where he was a proud member of their hockey team.

Frank was the Head Mechanic / Garage Supervisor for the Town of Lynnfield DPW. He was a huge fan of all New England Sports and horseracing, loved vacationing in Maine, and cherished his time spent with family and friends.

Service Information: Friends and family are invited to attend Frank's visitation on Monday, July 17, 2023 from 4:00 to 7:30 PM at Cuffe-McGinn Funeral



Home, 157 Maple Street, Lynn. His funeral service will follow at 7:30 PM. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in his/her memory to Childrens Make-A- Wish Massachusetts and Rhode Island, 133 Federal Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02001.



IN MEMORIAM
DANIEL J. CHAPUT
ON YOUR BIRTHDAY
JULY 14, 2023

Another birthday, another year,
Another day wishing
you were still here.
Love, Mom, Dad, and family

Jean Avery (Oakes) Appeltofft, 97
1925 - 2023

LYNN - Jean Avery (Oakes) Appeltofft, 97, died peacefully at home with family at her side. Born August 13, 1925, she was a direct descendant of William Haskell of Gloucester, and grew up in the historic Haskell-Herrick Tavern in West Gloucester. The maritime heroine Maria Herrick Bray was her great aunt.

At Gloucester High School, as a member of the Flash Staff, she had fun contributing articles to the column "M' Lady Dictates". After attending finishing school, she went on to work as a model for the Hart Agency in Boston. It was while skating at the Boston Street Skating Rink in Lynn that she met her husband, Bill, a well-known figure skating judge. After raising her children, she worked at Sears in Customer Service until she was 82 years young.

She was an extraordinary person with many interests. In her youth she played tennis, rode her beloved Raleigh bicycle, skied, and rode horses. In her high school yearbook, she wrote that her ambition was to be as good a sailor as her father. A girl scout leader, expert seamstress and knitter, crossword enthusiast, animal lover, avid gardener who loved her roses, and always ready for an adventure travelling to new places. And most of all, she was happiest just going down river.

Funny, witty, and fiercely independent, she will be remembered for her kind heart, selflessness, and acceptance of all people. To her family she



was better known as Nina, and together they made many happy and magical memories living in the cottage that her late husband built at Conomo Point, Essex. It was on her daily dog walks around the point that she loved engaging with her neighbors. She had an incredible joy for life, was dearly loved, and will be missed terribly.

She is survived by her 3 daughters, Susan Lehr of Lynn, Nancy Knowlton of Marblehead, and Cindy Cummings of Westport, her 6 beloved grandchildren, Jessica, Zackary, Jazmine, Abigail, Christina, and Alyce, and her baby great grandson, William. She is preceded in death by her husband, Wilhelm, and her son, William.

A heartfelt thanks to All Care VNA, Hospice & Home care in Lynn for your love and support. Our mom always looked forward to your visits.

Evelyn (Levine) Harmon, 98
1924 - 2023

MARBLEHEAD - Evelyn (Levine) Harmon (98) of Danvers and formerly of Marblehead and Chelsea, entered into rest peacefully on July 10, 2023. Evelyn was the beloved wife of the late Philip Harmon. She was the devoted mother of the late Edward and the late Marc Harmon, and dear sister of the late Charles and the late David Levine. She was the grandmother of Philip Harmon of Revere, and the daughter of the late Ida (Baer) and the late Morris Levine.

Evelyn was a member of Temple Israel in Swampscott and a member of the Dolphin Yacht Club in Marblehead where she and her husband enjoyed lots of boating and fishing. She belonged to a winter and summer bowling club with friends that she called "just friends". Evelyn marched in all of the parades twirling her baton for the Jewish War Veterans. Evelyn owned two bridal stores for many years.

Graveside funeral services will be held on Sunday, July 16, 2023, 11:00 AM at New Tifereth Israel of Everett Cemetery, 232 Fuller Street, Everett. Donations in Evelyn's memory may be made to Care Dimensions, 75 Sylvan Street, Suite B-102, Danvers, MA 01923 or the Jeffrey and Susan Brudnick Center for Living, 240 Lynnfield Street, Peabody, MA 01960. For online guestbook and directions, please visit the funeral home website, www.torffuneralservice.com.

Joshua Barry Thomson, 37
1986 - 2023

SAUGUS - Joshua Thomson, 37, died unexpectedly in his home on Friday. He is the son of Barry Thomson, who recently passed, and Jacqui (Burke) Solier, who resides in Saugus.

Joshua was born and raised in Brookline through his early years. He later attended Saugus schools, eventually taking residence there.

Josh always loved animals - learning about them and caring for them. He enjoyed being outside, riding his motorcycle. His dad was his best friend and they took on life together every step of the way. He loved his family and his friends. He was loyal, loving and trusting. His laugh and hugs were incomparable and will be very missed.

In addition to his mother, Joshua is survived by his brother Joie Thomson, his sister Nicollette McNelis, and their four children. He also has many aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, donations



in Joshua's memory may be made to the Northeast Animal Shelter, 347 Highland Ave, Salem, MA 01970 or at www.northeasternanimalshelter.org.

At the request of the family services are private.



Ronald D. Buckley, 76
1946 - 2023

NAHANT - Ronald D. Buckley, age 76, of Nahant, died unexpectedly at Salem Hospital on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. He was the loving husband of Jeannie Ellen (McDonald) Buckley with whom he celebrated 50 years of marriage last month. He was raised in Reading, the son of the late George and Katherine (Robbins) Buckley. He was a graduate of Reading High School, class of 1964, and had also attended Johnson State College in Vermont. He had lived in Guam, Spain and Pensacola, FL during his Navy years, later settling in Nahant 48 years ago.

Ron served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam Era. He had worked in IT for several area companies, retiring from Blue Cross Blue Shield. He had also worked as a nanny for three boys from the time they were infants. Ron enjoyed summers at his camp in Maine. His interests included sailing, model ship building, fly fishing, photography and astronomy. He was a wonderful husband and family man who will be greatly missed.

In addition to his devoted wife, he is survived by his loving sons; David R. Buckley and his wife Kate and Joseph D. Buckley and his wife Devin; his beloved grandson, Ronin Buckley; his three sisters; Phyllis Hotchkiss and her companion Ben, Gail Litchfield and her husband Bruce, and Debra



Buckley and her companion Aaron; as well as many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Service Information: A memorial Funeral Mass will be held on Monday 10AM in St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Nahant. Burial will follow in Greenlawn Cemetery. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Memorial visitation will be in the church on Monday from 9AM-10AM, prior to the mass. Arrangements by the SOLIMINE FUNERAL HOME, Lynn. Those who prefer may make donations to Disabled American Veterans. Directions and guestbook at www.solimine.com



New Jersey lawyer pleads not guilty to second series of sex assaults in Boston

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — A New Jersey lawyer already charged in connection with a series of sexual assaults in Boston's Charlestown neighborhood about 15 years ago pleaded not guilty on Thursday to new charges stemming from sexual assaults in another area of the city that occurred at roughly the same time.

Matthew Nilo, 35, was released on \$50,000 bail at his arraignment in Suffolk Superior Court after entering pleas to a total of seven new charges, including rape, aggravated rape and assault to rape.

The new charges stem from five attacks on four women — one woman was attacked twice — in Boston's North End between January 2007 and July 2008, prosecutors said. Nilo lived in the neighborhood at the time, Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden said, and the attacks followed a similar pattern to the Charlestown cases.

Nilo was previously freed on \$500,000 bail after pleading not guilty in June in connection with the Charlestown attacks. He worked for a New-York-based cybersecurity



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Matthew Nilo, in handcuffs, is escorted by court officers during an appearance at Suffolk Superior Court in Boston.

company, was hired in January after passing a background check, and was suspended following his arrest.

Advances in DNA testing and genealogical testing led to identifying Nilo, who now lives in Hawthorn, New Jersey, as a suspect, Hayden said.

"Nothing can eliminate the terror experienced by these survivors," Hayden said after the arraignment. "But at least now they have the knowledge that Mr. Nilo must answer

to the horrible charges he's alleged to have committed. We hope this provides some solace to survivors of these attacks."

Nilo's attorney, Joseph Cataldo, said his client denies the charges and the district attorney's office was "piling on."

"I think they're trying to solve some unresolved cases, and I'm afraid that the government might be piling on, just trying to claim that Mr. Nilo committed these crimes," Cataldo said outside the courtroom.

Nilo was tied to the Charlestown cases through DNA taken from a drinking glass he had used at a corporate event this year, and Cataldo has questioned the constitutionality of the way that evidence was collected without a warrant.

Hayden thinks it will stand up in court.

"We're confident in the legality of the evidence we have recovered," Hayden said.

Nilo is scheduled to be back in court on Sept. 14.

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By Peter Smith
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — The gunman who killed 11 people at a Pittsburgh synagogue in 2018 is eligible for the death penalty, a federal jury announced Thursday, setting the stage for further evidence and testimony on whether he should be sentenced to death or life in prison.

The government is seeking capital punishment for Robert Bowers, who raged against Jewish people online before storming the Tree of Life synagogue with an AR-15 rifle and other weapons in the nation's deadliest antisemitic attack. The jury agreed with prosecutors that Bowers — who spent six months planning the attack and has since expressed regret that he didn't kill more people — had formed the requisite legal intent to kill.

Bowers' lawyers argued that his ability to form intent was impaired by mental illness and a delusional belief that he could stop a genocide of white people by killing Jews who help immigrants.

Jurors reached the verdict after less than two hours of deliberation. As it was read, Bowers showed little reaction in keeping with his demeanor throughout the trial. In the courtroom gallery, survivors and victims' relatives heeded the judge's request to keep their emotions in check.

Testimony is now expected to shift to the impact of Bowers' crimes on survivors and the victims' loved ones.

"It has been nearly five years since 11 people were taken from us. They

The gunman who killed 11 people in a Pittsburgh synagogue is found eligible for the death penalty



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

A makeshift memorial stands outside the Tree of Life Synagogue in the aftermath of a deadly shooting in Pittsburgh.

were beloved and valued family members, friends and neighbors. They cannot speak for themselves, and so their family members will speak for them," Maggie Feinstein, director of 10.27 Healing Partnership, a program helping survivors of the rampage and others who were impacted, said in a statement after the verdict.

Jeffrey Finkelstein,

president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, said his organization doesn't have a position on the death penalty, and that survivors and victims' relatives disagree about whether it should be applied. But he dismissed the defense claim that Bowers' action resulted from a diseased mind.

"This was an act of an-

tisemitism, not an issue of mental illness," said Finkelstein, whose organization coordinates efforts by Jewish organizations and congregations to provide security and fight prejudice.

Bowers, 50, a truck driver from suburban Baldwin, killed members of three congregations who had gathered at the Tree of Life synagogue on Oct.

27, 2018. He also wounded two worshippers and five police officers.

Bowers was convicted last month on 63 criminal counts, including hate crimes resulting in death and obstruction of the free exercise of religion resulting in death. His attorneys offered a guilty plea in return for a life sentence, but prosecutors refused, opting instead to take the

case to trial and pursue the death penalty. Most of the victims' families supported that decision.

If jurors decide Bowers deserves to die, it would be the first federal death sentence imposed during Joe Biden's presidency. Biden campaigned on a pledge to end capital punishment, but federal prosecutors continue to pursue the death penalty in some cases.

The penalty phase of Bowers' trial began June 26. Jurors heard weeks of technical testimony about Bowers' psychological and neurological states, with mental health experts for both sides disagreeing on whether he has schizophrenia, delusions or brain disorders that played a role in the rampage.

Bowers ranted incessantly on social media about his hatred of Jewish people before the 2018 attack and told police at the scene that "all these Jews need to die." He told psychologists who examined him afterward, including as recently as May, that he was pleased with the attack.

The sentencing now shifts to a more emotional stage, with jurors expected to hear about the pain and trauma Bowers inflicted on worshippers in the heart of Pittsburgh's Jewish community.

The prosecution will also present evidence about other aggravating factors — including that Bowers' rampage was motivated by religious hatred — while the defense will present mitigating factors that might persuade jurors to spare his life. The defense case could include pleas from his relatives.

No fingerprints, DNA sample or leads from cocaine found at the White House, the Secret Service says

By Colleen Long and Michael Balsamo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — No fingerprints or DNA turned up on the baggie of cocaine found in a lobby at the White House last week despite a sophisticated FBI crime lab analysis, and surveillance footage of the area didn't identify a suspect, according to a summary of the Secret Service investigation obtained by *The Associated Press*. There are no leads on who brought the drugs into the building.

U.S. Secret Service agents found the white powder during a routine White House sweep on July 2, in a heavily trafficked West Wing lobby where staff go in and out, and tour groups gather to drop their phones and other belongings.

"Without physical evidence, the investigation will not be able to single out a person of interest from the hundreds of individuals who passed through the vestibule where the cocaine was discovered," Secret Service officials said in the summary.

It's most likely the bag was left behind by one of the hundreds of visitors who traveled in and out of the building over the weekend, according to a person familiar with the investigation who was not authorized to talk about an ongoing probe and spoke to *The Associated Press* on condition of anonymity.

The presence of cocaine at the White House prompted a flurry of criticism and

questions from Republicans, who requested a briefing Thursday on the probe. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said President Joe Biden believed it was "incredibly important" for the Secret Service to get to the bottom of how the drugs ended up in the White House. The Secret Service is responsible for securing the White House and led the investigation.

Biden wasn't there at the time of the discovery. He was at Camp David with members of his family for the holiday weekend.

The complex was briefly evacuated as a precaution when the white powder was found. The fire depart-

ment was called in to test the substance on the spot to determine whether it was hazardous, and the initial test came back negative for a biohazard but positive for cocaine.

The bag was sent for a secondary, more sensitive lab analysis. Homeland Security's National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center analyzed the item for any biotreatments. Tests conducted at the facility came back negative.

The cocaine and packaging underwent further forensics testing, including advanced fingerprint and DNA work at the FBI's crime laboratory, according to the summary.



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Proposed packaging for the company's birth control medication Opill. U.S. officials have approved the first over-the-counter birth control pill, a major change that will broaden access for women and teenagers.

First over-the-counter birth control pill gets FDA approval

By Matthew Perrone
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators on Thursday approved the nation's first over-the-counter birth control pill in a landmark decision that will soon allow American women and girls to obtain contraceptive medication as easily as they buy aspirin and eyedrops.

The Food and Drug Administration cleared once-a-day Opill to be sold without a prescription, making it the first such medication to be moved out from behind the pharmacy counter. The manufacturer, Ireland-based Perrigo, won't start shipping the pill until early next year, and there will be no age restrictions on sales.

Hormone-based pills have long been the most common form of birth control in the U.S., used by tens of millions of women since the 1960s. Until now, all of them required a prescription.

Medical societies and women's health groups have pushed for wider access for decades, noting that an estimated 45% of the 6 million annual pregnancies in the U.S.

are unintended. Teens and girls, women of color and those with low incomes report greater hurdles in getting prescriptions and picking them up.

The challenges can include paying for a doctor's visit, getting time off from work and finding child care.

"This is really a transformation in access to contraceptive care," said Kelly Blanchard, president of Ibis Reproductive Health, a nonprofit group that supported the approval. "Hopefully this will help people overcome those barriers that exist now."

Perrigo says Opill could be an important new option for the estimated 15 million U.S. women who currently use no birth control or less effective methods, such as condoms. They are a fifth of women who are child-bearing age.

But how many women will actually gain access depends on the medication's price, which Perrigo plans to announce later this year.

"The reason why so many of us worked tirelessly for years to get over-the-counter birth control pills is to improve access ... cost shouldn't

be one of those barriers," said Dr. Pratima Gupta of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Most older birth control pills cost \$15 to \$30 for a month's supply without insurance coverage.

Over-the-counter medicines are generally much cheaper than prescriptions, but they typically aren't covered by insurance.

Forcing insurers to cover over-the-counter birth control would require a regulatory change by the federal government, which women's advocates are urging the Biden administration to implement.

The FDA approval gives U.S. women another birth control option amid the legal and political battles over reproductive health, including last year's reversal of Roe v. Wade, which has upended abortion access across the U.S.

That said, Opill's approval is unrelated to the ongoing court battles over the abortion pill mifepristone. And anti-abortion groups have generally emphasized that they do not oppose contraceptives, which are used to prevent pregnancies, not end them.

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The Daily Item

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

LYNN VIOLATES EMINENT DOMAIN GUIDELINES

To the editor:

The City of Lynn has violated The Federal Aid Acquisition Guide established for takings by eminent domain.

On July 3, I received a letter from Howard S. Dono & Associates informing me that it has been hired by the City of Lynn to appraise neighborhood real estate for the purpose of the eminent domain takings that will be a result of the Broadway intersection construction project.

The letter stated in part, “You may have information you feel is important to the appraisal process and I very much welcome this input.”

Accompanying that letter was a signed appraiser’s affidavit on MassDOT letterhead certifying that on June 29, Mr. Dono afforded me the opportunity to accompany him on the inspection of my property. The certified letter was postmarked June 30.

The Federal Aid Acquisition Guide states, “The assigned appraiser must offer the property owner an opportunity to accompany them during the inspection of the impacted property.”

An accompanying Lynn Law Department letter stated, “The appraiser will notify you of the date and time of their inspection and you will be afforded the opportunity to attend said inspection. Upon completion of the appraisal you will be presented with an offer.”

On July 4, I acknowledged receiving the letter and asked to set up an appointment to meet.

On July 5, I received a reply stating that Mr. Dono would be out of the office for two weeks.

On July 6, I asked Mr. Dono for the eminent domain taking plans.

On July 10, Mr. Dono replied that he is on the West Coast vacationing until July 18.

On July 10, I received another certified letter from Mr. Dono informing me of the results of his appraisal.

As required by the federal guidelines and affirmed in a City of Lynn Law Department letter, I was not afforded the opportunity to attend the inspection prior to the completion of the appraisal.

This appraisal process is a true reflection of the ill-conceived Broadway Reconstruction Project.

Sincerely,

Salvy Migliaccio
Lynn

(Salvy Migliaccio is a former president of the Lynn City Council.)

DANIEL O. JAMISON

American ways of life are many

“Liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable!” so declared Sen. Daniel Webster in ending his famous 1830 reply in the U.S. Senate to South Carolina Sen. Robert Hayne’s angry defense of slavery and of a state’s right to nullify federal law.

Leading up to the Civil War in 1861, Southerners loved an America that they believed included a God-given right to enslave others. To question their way of life was to question everything about them. They hated it.

Not happy with the outcome of the 1860 presidential election of Abraham Lincoln, the South rejected the Constitution, rebelled, and seceded from the Union to protect their way of life. Lincoln and the North saw secession as dooming our democratic republic and its revolutionary ideals if states unhappy with an election outcome could simply leave the Union.

The South’s beliefs were pernicious. The

new vice-president of the Confederacy promptly announced: “Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite idea (from all are created equal); its foundations are laid, its corner-stone rests upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery, subordination to the superior race, is his natural and normal condition. This, our new government, is the first in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth.”

Earlier this year there was again talk of secession if its proponents cannot have their way. The Florida governor even essentially proposed to nullify the Constitution’s Article IV requirement to extradite the former president to New York.

Have they not learned that the South suffered a devastating military defeat?

Speaking in reply to President Biden’s State of the Union Address, Arkan-

sas Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders said: “Today, our freedom is under attack. The America we love is in danger.”

What America is she referring to?

No one, whether on the left or right, can claim that their way is the only American way of life. The Constitution and its Amendments reflect decisions of “We the People” that the ways of all Americans, whatever their color, religion, or culture, are American ways of life as long as they respect the rights of others under the Constitution and the law.

Something is desperately wrong with American education if large portions of the country, on the right or left, do not understand this.

Each generation holds a great trust for succeeding generations to preserve and build upon the nation’s evolving foundation. The decades-long neglect of American history and civics in our schools has violated that great trust and

led to political violence.

State universities can begin to correct this neglect by requiring for admission more history and civics courses in high school. High schools generally require only a few American history and civics courses because that is all that state universities require for admission.

Overemphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) has depleted history teachers at all levels. More high school civics and history courses should also cause universities to have and train more teachers of these subjects.

Sanders added: “Our children are taught to hate one another on account of their race, but not to love one another or our great country.” Where this statement may be true, the teaching is wrong, but nothing should be glossed over in the good and bad of our history and civics.

Fear that frank discussion of racism in America might cause hatred of

JOE RIESS
COMMENTARY

The importance and value of composting

Just as you can put plastic or glass aside for recycling, you can also put your food waste aside, and when combined with grass, leaves, and twigs the resulting product is called compost, which can be used as a garden fertilizer.

Regardless of whether you have a garden, or whether you even have room to do composting at your home, there is significant benefit to keeping food waste out of the trash.

Did you know that in the average home, as much as 25% to 30% of trash is composed of food waste? That means that for every four pounds of trash you throw out, one pound is likely compostable food scraps. Importantly, if food waste is not included in trash, there will be no food for rodents (e.g. rats, mice, squirrels, chipmunks) or even for birds such as pigeons and seagulls to scavenge. It also means one pound of food waste that is not going to the dump where it will end up producing methane gas, which is harmful to our atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

Taking 2.5 pounds of food scraps per week, out of an assumed average of 10 pounds of trash, results in 130 pounds less trash per year. Assuming 22,000 families live in Peabody (U.S. Census), that amounts to 2,860,000 pounds of garbage that could be recycled into compost and kept out of the trash per year. How many fewer rats do you think that translates to?

According to an NPR article, “A new law in California requires food waste to be composted ... restaurants, grocery stores and

people who eat will have to get on board. California’s goal is to compost 75% of organics by 2025. The state estimates that will reduce greenhouse gases as much as taking a million cars off the road each year.”

What is composting? Composting is a natural process that turns your food and yard waste into a soil-improver for the garden.

The Environmental Protection Agency provides the following definition: “Composting is a controlled, aerobic (oxygen-required) process that converts organic materials into a nutrient-rich soil amendment or mulch through natural decomposition. The end product is compost — a dark, crumbly, earthy-smelling material ... You can compost at home using food scraps from your kitchen and dry leaves and woody material from your yard.”

Yes, as explained above, you can do composting at home. Certainly it is beneficial to get garbage out of the trash since scavenging animals such as rodents, stray cats and dogs, and birds are always out looking for food. Plus, those animals can carry and spread diseases.

This article at www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home is a good place to find information and resources for getting started with do-it-yourself composting. It is not hard, and it is beneficial to the environment.

If you don’t have the time and space or inclination to do your own composting, there are other ways to recycle discarded food.

For example, many towns in Essex County

take advantage of the composting services of Black Earth Compost, which works with local communities and committees.

“The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection offers a grant through the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program to help pay for compost bins and implement programs. Black Earth is the preferred vendor in Lexington, Canton, Wakefield, Brookline, Newton, and Belmont due to (its) excellent track record, very low pricing, and best use of material,” according to the Black Earth Compost website.

The City of Salem has had a composting program for several years.

“In 2015 alone, Salem diverted about 495 tons of organic waste from landfill or the incinerator. Between 2014 when the program first started and 2017, Salem has diverted about 840 tons of organic waste from landfill or the incinerator,” according to the Salem Recycles website.

Also on the website are options and suggestions for countertop composting, bringing food waste to a central collection station, and vermicomposting (using worms), in addition to an opportunity to join its Black Earth Compost program.

Danvers, Wakefield, Swampscott, and Beverly all have composting programs as well.

“The City of Beverly’s Waste Reduction Committee launched an incentivized composting program for residents and businesses with Black Earth Compost in 2015. Today, over 1,350 community members participate in this opt-in program,” according to the city’s website.

Even the state of Massachusetts promotes composting.

We hope you now know the value and importance of recycling your food waste, and we also hope that you will participate in a composting program to make both our city and the earth healthier and greener.

Joe Riess is a member of Friends of GreenPeabody.

HOW TO REACH US

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NATION

Vermont braces for more rain in wake of historic flooding

By Kathy McCormack
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vermont prepared for the next round of storms — and possibly a tornado — as people took advantage of calm weather Thursday to clean up from historic flooding that damaged thousands of homes, businesses and roads, and left some residents stranded.

As floodwaters receded, the good news was that there were no new rescue missions, dams were holding up and more roads reopened. The bad news was that strong thunderstorms were expected to move into parts of the state by Thursday night, which could cause more flash flooding, Gov. Phil Scott said at a news conference. Conditions could spawn a tornado, he said. And the state could get more heavy rain over the weekend.

“The period we are more concerned about is Sunday because that could be more widespread and heavier, but not nearly on the scale of what we saw earlier in the week,” National Weather Service meteorologist Seth Kutikoff said.

Scott said it’s important for Vermonters to be vigilant, and that includes not going into the water.

“We’ve seen many pictures on social media of



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Construction vehicles stand by as muck, mud, and floodwater block a section of Route 203 in Ludlow, Vt.

kids swimming in floodwaters. This is not typical rainwater — it’s filled with chemicals, oil, waste, and more. It’s simply not safe,” he said.

New Hampshire, where some roads, towns and campgrounds were flooded in several western counties, was also in the latest storm’s path.

“We strongly encourage residents and visitors, especially campers staying at sites along rivers and streams, and campgrounds in low-lying parts, to know what to do if evacuation is needed,” said Robert Bux-

ton, director of the state’s Homeland Security and Management agency.

Other New England states to the south were also drying out, including Connecticut, where officials warned boaters and others about dangerous debris in the Connecticut River, including large trees. A dock with several boats attached was washed away in Glastonbury, just south of Hartford, and was seen floating down the river a few towns away.

In Vermont, communities were cleaning up from

the floods that were more destructive in some places than 2011’s Tropical Storm Irene and regarded as the worst natural disaster since the 1927 floods, which killed dozens of people and caused widespread destruction. Unlike that event, no injuries or fatalities have been reported with this week’s flooding.

Transportation officials were moving equipment to areas that were considered more flood-prone to prepare for the storms as they continued to evaluate damage, including to rail

lines. Amtrak and other railroad service has been suspended.

One death in New York was blamed on the storm — a woman whose body was found after she was swept away in Fort Montgomery, a small Hudson River community about 45 miles (72 kilometers) north of New York City.

Scott said he planned to submit a request for a major disaster declaration to President Joe Biden. “It’s separate from, and in addition to, the federal emergency declaration the president already signed”

on Tuesday, he said. If approved, the declaration would provide federal support for recovering communities.

In Vermont’s small state capital of Montpelier, where the swollen Winooski River had flooded downtown, the elevator at City Hall was damaged, making the building inaccessible, spokesperson Evelyn Prim said.

“Cleanup from the hazardous floodwater damage in City Hall is expected to take several months. Because of this, City Hall will be closing until further notice,” she said.

Offers of help poured in, including free pet food from an animal shelter in Morrisville and a donation collection for water and nonperishable food items at the University of Vermont. A Vermont Main Street Flood Relief Fund was set up to help small businesses and the Vermont Community Foundation established a fund to help longer-term efforts for people and communities. An annual concert, the Do Good Fest in Montpelier, will be livestreamed and act as a fundraiser.

“One of the defining truths about Vermont is that Vermonters look out for one another,” said Dan Smith, the foundation’s CEO. “We saw it during the pandemic; we saw it during Tropical Storm Irene.”

Got Sriracha? The price for a bottle of Huy Fong’s iconic hot sauce gets spicy with supplies short

By Wyatte Grantham-Philips
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — It’s not just you. Sriracha is hard to come by these days — at least for one popular brand.

The shortage of Huy Fong Foods’ Sriracha, the beloved red hot sauce packaged in those green-capped bottles, isn’t new — with the company pointing to a scarcity of chile pepper supply for several years now. And as frustrated fans continue to face store shelves missing the Huy Fong name,

third-party resellers are punching up prices.

Huy Fong Sriracha, which used to go for under \$5 or \$10 a bottle, is now selling for shocking amounts in some listings posted to sites with vast third-party marketplaces — including Amazon, eBay and Walmart. Many are simply sold out.

For those still in stock, prices range depending where you look. As of Thursday morning, for example, ads for a single 17-ounce bottle on eBay stretched from around \$20 to a whopping \$150

— contrasting significantly from the price tags of other hot sauce brands, who don’t appear to have the same level of supply troubles.

Huy Fong told *The Associated Press* this week that it continues to be beset by shortages of raw materials, echoing a similar scarcity last year when the company temporarily suspended sales of Sriracha and other popular products like Chili Garlic and Sambal Oelek.

Huy Fong said Wednesday that “limited production” resumed recently,

although the California company didn’t specify by how much or provide an estimate of when it believes suppliers will be able to deliver an adequate number of peppers.

“Because we do not sell directly to retail/market levels, we cannot determine when the product will hit shelves again and/or who currently has the product in stock,” Huy Fong said in a prepared statement. “We are grateful for your continued patience and understanding during this unprecedented inventory shortage.”



FILE PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rep. David Schweikert, R-Ariz., holding his 1-year-old son Matthew, speaks at an Independence Day parade in Phoenix.

The US House majority is in play next year after a weak GOP midterm showing and recent court ruling

By Jonathan J. Cooper
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Republican Rep. David Schweikert used to win his wealthy, suburban Phoenix congressional district by nearly 30 points. Then Donald Trump was elected president, and his victories started shrinking.

Schweikert, who won his last election by just 3,200 votes, is now among the top 2024 targets for Democrats, who sense better-than-expected odds of retaking the House majority they lost last year.

After an anemic showing in the midterms, Republicans have virtually no cushion in their quest to retain control of the House, which was made all the more complicated by a surprise U.S. Supreme Court decision last month that will likely bring two new safely Democratic districts. Democrats need to pick up just five seats to control the House.

Republicans are counting on a strong showing from incumbents like

Schweikert, one of 18 GOP lawmakers representing districts that supported Democrat Joe Biden for president in 2020. Many are in upscale suburbs like Scottsdale that lean conservative but have rejected Trump and the party he now dominates.

In contrast, only five Democrats represent districts that Trump won.

“I’ve been Republican since JFK,” said Roy Ross, a 74-year-old retired oil company manager who registered as an independent when he moved to Schweikert’s district from Tennessee two years ago. “But the last two elections, I just said, ‘I can’t do that.’”

Still, he said, “I can’t say that I’m hearing a lot from Democrats, either.”

Schweikert’s fate in Arizona, and that of the GOP’s House majority, will come down to the decisions of voters like Ross.

Other factors make for a volatile 2024 House landscape and point to terrain much more favorable to Democrats than what they faced in last year’s midterms.

Dangerous heat wave baking US Southwest brings triple digit temperatures and fire risk to California

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — After a historically wet winter and a cloudy spring, California’s summer was in full swing Thursday as a heat wave that’s been scorching much of the U.S. Southwest brings triple digit temperatures and an increased risk of wildfires.

Blistering conditions will build Friday and throughout the weekend in the central and southern parts of California, where many residents should prepare for the hottest weather of the year, the National Weather Service warned.

Midday highs were mostly expected to be above 100 degrees (37.7 C), and desert areas could reach 120 (48.8 C), forecasters said. Little relief was expected overnight, when temperatures could remain in the 80s (above 26.6 C). An excessive heat watch was in effect through Sunday for interior Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.

“Please plan accordingly, this is not the time to be hiking or be outside for long durations,” the weather service’s LA office said on Twitter. “If you need to work outside, shift hours to the early



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

A homeless man sleeps under the sun in the Hollywood district of Los Angeles.

morning, take frequent breaks and hydrate!”

Employers were reminded to adhere to regulations that require outdoor workers are given water, shade and regular breaks to cool off. The state will be performing spot checks at work sites to make sure the rules are being followed, said Jeff Killip with the Division of Occupational Safety &

Health.

Across the U.S., more than 111 million people were under extreme heat advisories, watches and warnings, mostly in the Southwest, the National Weather Service reported Wednesday.

Forecasters said the long-duration heat wave is extremely dangerous, especially for elderly people, homeless residents

and other vulnerable populations. The heat could persist into next week as a high pressure dome moves west from Texas. In Arizona, temperatures have hit 110 degrees (43.3 C) for more than a dozen consecutive days.

Horse racing events were canceled at the California State Fair near the state capital over concerns for animal safety.

POLICE LOG

All address information, particularly arrests, reflect police records. In the event of a perceived inaccuracy, it is the sole responsibility of the concerned party to contact the relevant police department and have the department issue a notice of correction to The Daily Item. Corrections or clarifications will not be made without express notice of change from the arresting police department.

LYNN

Arrests

Melissa Carrasquillo, 36, of Mall Street was arrested as a courtesy booking at 1:40 p.m. Wednesday.

Jose Munoz, 26, of Sumner Street, East Boston was arrested for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle at 12:22 p.m. Wednesday.

Brett Rome, 34, was arrested for violation of city knife ordinance at 11:51 p.m. Wednesday.

Tran Samedi, 50, was arrested for trespassing and an open container ordinance violation at 6:26 p.m. Wednesday.

Accidents

A report of a motor vehicle accident at 5:17 a.m. Wednesday at South Street and Summer Street; at 8:23 a.m. Wednesday at 499 Boston St.; at 9:05 a.m. Wednesday Western Avenue and Whiting Street; at 9:23 a.m. Wednesday at Bond Street and Pleasant Street; at 8:48 p.m. Wednesday at 272 Essex St.

A report of a motor vehicle accident with injuries at 1:33 p.m. Wednesday at Federal Street and Marion Street.

Breaking and Entering

A report of breaking and entering into a motor vehicle at 4:32 p.m. Wednesday at 7 Ramsdell Pl.

A report of breaking and entering at 11:18 p.m. Wednesday at Broad Street and Newhall Street.

Disturbances

A report of a disturbance at 11:13 a.m. Wednesday at Fleming Towing, 234 Chestnut St.; at 3:01 p.m. Wednesday at Little Caesars, 24 Union St.; at 3:25 p.m. Wednesday at 365 Chestnut St.; at 5:54 p.m. Wednesday at 58 Dearborn Ave.; at 5:58 p.m. Wednesday at 91 Harwood St.; at 6:50 p.m. Wednesday at 22 Warren St.

Hazardous

A report of hazardous conditions at 9:27 a.m. Wednesday at Lynnfield Street and Regina Road;

A report of hazardous materials at 11:46 a.m. Wednesday at 112 Market St.; at 1:38 p.m. Wednesday at 45 Story Ave.

Overdose

A report of an overdose at 2:45 p.m. Wednesday at Lynn Shore Dr.

Suspicious Activity

A report of suspicious activity at 11:08 p.m. Wednesday at 98 Lynnway.

Thefts

A report of a motor vehicle theft at 1:36 p.m. Wednesday at Wyoma Square.

A report of larceny at 1:41 p.m. Wednesday at 39 Newhall St.; at 4:10 p.m. Wednesday at 394 Summer St.

A report of shoplifting at 5:18 p.m. Wednesday at CVS Pharmacy, 509 Eastern Ave.

Trespassing

A report of trespassing at 6:10 a.m. Wednesday at 106 Newhall St.; at 7:45 a.m. Wednesday at 49 Munroe St.; at 4:11 p.m. Wednesday at Market Basket, 40 Federal St.

Vandalism

A report of motor vehicle vandalism at 1:22 p.m. Wednesday at 54 Jefferson St.

A report of vandalism at 3:45 p.m. Wednesday Brotherhood Credit Union, 75 Market St.

PEABODY

Arrest

Tahj Andre Purter, 20, of 31 E. Park Ave, Lynn, was arrested and charged with assault, after a call for assault and battery at 6:54 a.m. at 37 Bartholomew St.

Summons

Grejtis Osmanaj, 33, of Carpenter Street will be summonsed to court for a marked lanes violation and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license after a motor vehicle collision at 11:53 a.m. Wednesday at 571 Lowell St.

Accidents

A report of a minor motor vehicle collision at 9:38 a.m. Wednesday at 3 Central St.

A report of a past hit and run crash at 1:57 p.m. Wednesday at Audi Peabody, 252 Andover St.

A report of a hit and run crash at 3:40 p.m. Wednesday at Dunkin', 3 Central St.

A woman walked into the station to report her car was hit in the parking lot at 4:46 p.m. Wednesday at Lahey Medical Center, 1 Essex Center Drive.

A report of a motor vehicle collision at 5:14 p.m. Wednesday at 114 Lake St. at 0 Huntington Drive.

A report of a hit and run collision at 5:41 p.m. Wednesday at Stop & Shop Supermarket, 19 Howley St.

Animals

A dog owner reported their dog returned home after hiding under a walkway at 10:39 a.m. Wednesday at 24 Squanto Road. Officers issued a verbal warning to license the dog "right away"

A caller left a voicemail reporting finding a stray dog without a harness at 1:09 p.m. Wednesday at 12 Felton St.

A resident emailed police complaining that a man was riding his bike with his dog trailing behind him off leash at 1:50 p.m. Wednesday in the area of 20 Aberdeen Ave. On callback, officers told the complaining party that the dog was not required to be muzzled. A \$75 citation was issued and mailed to Robert Melanson, the man riding the bike.

Disturbance

A report of a group of kids that have been "ding dong ditching" at 8:18 p.m. Wednesday at Avalon at Cranebrook, 1000 Crane Brook Way.

Road Rage

A report of a road rage incident at 11:40 a.m. Wednesday on Johnson Avenue. The incident was verbal in nature and all parties were sent on their way.

Suspicious

A report of a vehicle left with its door open and no driver at 10:08 a.m. Wednesday at Grecian Diner, 136 Newbury St. The vehicle was parked behind the building with a wallet, ID and property left in it. Officers spoke to the owner of the vehicle and determined the operator was the owner's girlfriend and the property was left with the owner.

A resident reported receiving suspicious emails at 12:26 p.m. Wednesday at Oxford Graphics, 10 Centennial Drive.

A caller reported an unknown woman was inside her vehicle at 4:29 p.m. Wednesday at 11 Veterans Memorial Drive. The caller stated the woman was leaving and hung up. Nothing was missing from the vehicle and the woman entered the vehicle because it was the same vehicle she has as a rental.

A resident reported a tackle box was left at their front door at 6:35 p.m. Wednesday at 5 Blueberry Way. An officer took possession of the box and will secure it at the station.

Theft

A report of a past shoplifting at 8:57 a.m. Wednesday at CVS Pharmacy, 174 Main St.

SAUGUS

Accidents

A report of a single car motor vehicle collision with injuries at 11:08 p.m. at Broadway and Walnut Street. One person was taken to the hospital.

A report of a motor vehicle collision at 6:11 p.m. Wednesday at the intersection of Vine and Main streets.

Animals

A call for a dog inside a silver Kia at 12:46 p.m. Wednesday at Salvation Army, 209-33 Broadway. The Animal Control Officer took the dog and gave it to a friend on scene.

A caller reported a small black dog walking in the area of Vine Street at 6:06 p.m. at the intersection of Vine and Main streets. An officer conducted an area check and reported seeing nothing.

Complaint

A caller reported loud music coming from his neighbor's home at 11:55 p.m. Wednesday at 8 Maraia Lane. An officer reported the music was turned down for the evening.

Disturbance

A taxi driver reported his passenger didn't have the money to pay for his fare at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday at Mobile Mart, 368 Broadway. Dispatched officers reported the customer made restitution and peace was restored.

Hazard

A report of a truck that lost its load at 11:44 a.m. Wednesday at Lynn Fells Parkway at Forest Street. An officer issued a verbal warning.

Road Rage

A caller reported getting in a heated verbal discussion with another driver at 3:43 p.m. Wednesday on Lincoln Avenue. A dispatched officer reported no crime was committed.

Vandalism

A report of a car that was damaged while inside the building at 1:02 p.m. Wednesday at Avalon Bay Communities, 863 Broadway, Apt. #210. A dispatched officer reported the car was keyed overnight.

SWAMPSCOTT

Accident

A report of a hit-and-run at 4:45 p.m. Wednesday at 138 Puritan Rd.

Scam

A report of a con/scam at 6:46 p.m. Wednesday at 3 Hillcrest Cir.

Conservation Commission dives in the bushes in Peabody

By James Bartlett
ITEM STAFF

PEABODY — The Conservation Commission held a special meeting Wednesday to discuss Salem Country Club's ongoing efforts to plant trees and shrubs as part of a restoration plan laid out last year after the club illegally removed 233 trees.

Mike DeRosa, who works as a third-party peer-review consultant at DeRosa Environmental Consulting, said he believed the efforts of the club to restore more than nine acres of canopy that were lost in 2022 were progressing nicely.

"I think the club has gotten everything together. I think we're in a good position," DeRosa said. "The plan addresses the things in the enforcement order."

According to Salem Country Club Attorney Barry Fogel, the club has completed most of the work for the project that was required by the Conservation Commission's enforcement order.

He stressed that the club would meet the November deadline to submit an as-built report to mark the completion of restoration efforts before the project transitions to a monitoring stage with an expected return to compliance by 2028.

"Our expectation is that there will be 100% tree [and shrub] replacement at the end of the five years," Fogel said. "I think we've seen good growth... We're in pretty good shape."

One of the major points of contention during the meet-

ing was the issue of tracking growth in areas where the club had planted trees and shrubs, specifically on a pond bank at the second hole.

Fogel said the club took issue with the requirement that shrubs in the area must be tracked, pointing out that the bank had experienced large amounts of growth after the 100 shrubs that were planted.

He pointed out that the tracking requirement to make sure 75% of shrubs planted survived was unnecessary in that area due to the overgrowth already taking place, adding that any efforts to tag the plants would be disruptive given the exponential growth that had already taken place.

"The idea was to restore that habitat from what it became," Fogel said. "I think we're making a lot out of something that's quite unnecessary given the broader context here."

Fogel went back and forth with Conservation Commission Chairman Stewart Lazares, who said he believed geotagging would allow for evaluation of the plants' long-term health.

"How do we tell which ones are doing well and which ones aren't?" Lazares said.

Conservation Commission member Bruce Comak chimed in on the matter, pointing out that a simple solution to tracking would be to place tags when the plants die out in the fall.

"This whole conversation is crazy," Comak said. "If you walk in in November, you'll be able to see every plant."

DeRosa said that he be-

lieved documenting the status of the shrubs was important to make sure more than 75% of them will survive and are not being affected by invasive species. However, he agreed with Comak and Fogel that it is right to approach the issue in a sensible way.

"I agree, it's not a big deal," DeRosa said. "We can make those observations without making a mess of everything."

Fogel requested the committee vote to accept the updated as-built plan he presented to the council. He said the club's board and members were hoping to get some verification that the plan going forward was acceptable to the commission.

He also explained that the commission accepting the plan would discourage Salem Country Club from pursuing legal appeals against the enforcement order.

"We have an audience of the membership of the board that are asking 'Where do we stand?'" Fogel said. "I could advise them that there's no need to appeal it because we're completing the implementation and no new requirements are being imposed."

The commission ultimately accepted the proposal with a 5-1 vote, with Commissioner Amanda Green casting the lone nay vote.

The committee voted to meet once again in September to review updates about the project.

James Bartlett
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Man hurt after 15-foot fall in Peabody

By Charlie McKenna
ITEM STAFF

PEABODY — A man was taken to an area hospital by helicopter after a 15-foot fall Thursday morning, police said.

The man was "working on" the parking garage at 2 Essex Center Drive at Harvard Vanguard when he fell around 8:46 a.m. Thursday, according to Lt. David Bonfanti, a spokesman for the Peabody Police Department.

The man was taken to 75 Central St. via ambulance before being helicoptered to the hospital.

Atlantic Ambulance, Peabody Police, Peabody Fire, and a representative from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration responded to the scene, Bonfanti said.

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Nahant praying for kids to give peace a chance

PEACE VILLAGE
From A1

includes teachings from Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity.

"This gives the kids the tools, or at least begins to teach them that there are ways to have differences that can be respectful and understanding and thoughtful," Rev. Elliott said. "And so just because you think X and I think Y doesn't mean we have to pummel with each other. It means we can have conversations about it, we can listen, and we can be critical thinking at the same time."

Rev. Elliott said the outdoor setting provides an important opportunity for students to connect with

nature in the age of social media and the internet.

While no plans have been finalized, Rev. Elliott said he has already begun thinking about ways to expand the Peace Village and the ideas and skills it teaches.

"I love this program. I've often talked to the founder of it about how you could do this once a week on Sundays as your Sunday-school program. You could do this in prisons and jails, you could do this for adults," he said. "The idea is... everybody could use learning tools to deal peacefully with one another."

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City to discuss unarmed response initiative in public forum

INITIATIVE
From A1

plans for the program.

According to Cuevas, some of the future plans discussed will be the program's branding, potential team members, and what the program's structure will look like.

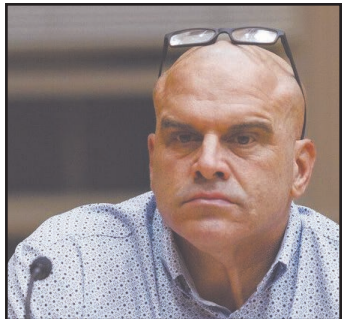
"We want the community to have input on a few things," Cuevas said. "We want them to understand what we're trying to do and to provide any answers they may have and present any thoughts or comments."

Intended partnerships

with Eliot Community Human Service's Community Behavioral Health Center and the Lynn Police Behavioral Health Intervention Program, which will each have representatives present, will be discussed at the forum.

The unarmed response initiative was previously known as the ALERT program, which was created out of efforts of the Lynn Racial Justice Coalition in 2020.

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ITEM FILE PHOTO

Anthony Cogliano Elected town manager unlikely in Saugus

TOWN MANAGER
From A1

"As I always state, and true to my word, I will always put forth an agenda that puts Saugus first," he continued.

The inability of a municipality to push forward with an elected town manager or town administrator while maintaining its other traditional forms of government represents a clear setback for Cogliano in his ongoing campaign to amend the town charter. And, Cogliano is awaiting a final decision from the secretary of state's office to determine if he can run for both Board of Selectmen and a potential charter commission, despite the fact that the charter clearly lays out restrictions on selectmen running for or holding more than one town-wide office.

Despite telling *The Item* in December he would like to see Saugus amend its charter to become a city, he has walked back that proposal, instead pushing forward with the elected town manager idea — an idea that has gained him the support of Selectman Corinne Riley and a number of residents. Cogliano has repeatedly indicated he would run for town manager — or mayor — if able to do so.

And, Cogliano faces the additional complication of the fact that charter commissions have twice been elected and twice failed to push through sweeping changes to the town charter and government.

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ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Jeff Newhall has announced his candidacy for the Ward One city councilor position in Lynn.

Jeff Newhall has a (Ward) 1 goal

NEWHALL
From A1

issues that Newhall said he will focus on if he is elected. Traffic congestion in the ward due to the construction project on Lynnfield Street and upcoming construction on Broadway is an issue that needs to be addressed, he said. Not having a hospital in the city is also deeply concerning to him, and Newhall said that making sure Ward One has proper emergency services is a top priority. He said that while there are important issues such as these to work on, many people tend to talk only

about the negative aspects of Ward One. This is something that he wants to see change. “I think we sometimes lose sight of the fact that Ward One is one of the best places in the state to live,” Newhall said. “There’s a lot of positive things going on as well, and we need to focus on those as much as the issues. Sometimes we get bogged down by all the ‘bad stuff.’” Newhall said that maintaining those positive aspects, like Lynn Woods and other public parks, is essential. The other candidates running for Ward One city councilor are Peter

Meaney, Todd Bacon, Paul Gouthro, Michael Satterwhite, and Jennifer Long. Nomination papers can be pulled until today at 5 p.m., and they can be filed until July 18 at 5 p.m. Those looking to run for ward-specific City Council seats are required to obtain 100 signatures from that ward. Those looking to run for a councilor-at-large seat need to obtain 350 signatures, with no more than 100 signatures coming from any one of the city’s seven wards. *Emily Pauls can be reached at emily@itemlive.com*



ITEM PHOTOS | SPENSER HASAK

Biff Martin, commodore of the Marblehead Model Yacht Club, uses a remote control to sail his Marblehead Class 5800 model sailboat (below) around Redd’s Pond.

After 131 years, Model Yacht Club is still a big deal in Marblehead

YACHT CLUB
From A1

“I love doing it,” Martin said. “To me it’s a great hobby, there’s a number of thousands of people in the country that think it’s a great hobby and probably tens of thousands in the world that do it.” The club’s history dates back to 1892, when some form of what is now the Marblehead Model Yacht Club began racing yachts at Redd’s Pond. Thirty-eight years later, MMYC member Roy Clough created the Marblehead Class, which is now used in model-yacht pond racing across the globe and was at one point the most used model in the world. Martin said that today, it is still in the top three most used globally. The MMYC today actively races the International Marblehead Class, the CR 914, the Vintage Marblehead Class, the DF95 and DF65, and the American Marblehead Class, which Martin invented with the help of a friend. The American Marblehead Class includes all Marblehead Class boats from 1931 to present day. The club notes on its website, however, that all classes are welcome and if there is great interest in a class, races will be arranged for it. Martin said that he has built many models himself and is close to finishing a number of others. He said that building a CR 914 kit will take about 30 hours. When he builds a Marblehead Class from scratch, it can take up to 75 hours because of the attention to detail that Martin gives his yachts. “If you build it the way I do, they’re carved, rather than plank-on-plank,” Martin said. The club begins racing in March and race days take place on Saturdays at 1 p.m. and Sundays at 10 p.m. until early November. Afterward, racing continues through the cold weather until the pond freezes over. Though the model yachts are powered by sails, Martin said the pond is a tough place to catch wind because of the tree cover around it. “It makes it swirly,” he said. “Everybody that did free-sail sailing here realized that if you could sail here, you could sail anywhere in the country.”



The club currently has around 40 members who participate in racing. Though numbers have been declining throughout the years, Martin said that three newcomers have joined recently. Model yacht racing, like many other hobbies, takes time and practice, but Martin said that you can catch on quickly if you take the time to watch others. “A lot of people are hesitant to try something like this. It’s not a long (learning) curve and if you watch what other people do and steal what they’re doing, you can be very successful in a short period of time,” Martin joked. *Ryan Vermette can be reached at ryan@itemlive.com*

YOUR VOTES ARE IN! GREATER LYNN’S 28th ANNUAL BEST BUSINESSES FOR 2023

28	VOTED BEST DRY CLEANERS TOOMEY CLEANERS	43 BOSTON ST. LYNN (781-593-3416)
26	VOTED BEST AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE R & R AMERICAN	109 LYNNFIELD ST. LYNN (781-595-9415)
26	VOTED BEST PIZZA IN THE AREA MANDEE’S PIZZA & SUBS	65 GOODRIDGE ST., LYNN (ACROSS FROM LYNN ENGLISH H.S.) (781-599-6000)
25	VOTED BEST PLACE TO BUY TIRES BENNETT STREET TIRE & GLASS	60 BENNETT ST. LYNN (781-598-1613)
24	VOTED BEST DANCE STUDIO LEANNE LESLIE’S SCHOOL OF THEATRICAL DANCE	10 ALDEN ST. LYNN (781- 592-4920)
24	VOTED #1 REAL ESTATE OFFICE CENTURY 21 TRADITION	319 BROADWAY LYNN (781-599-1776)
22	VOTED BEST PLACE TO BUY AN AUTOMOBILE AJ’S AUTO SALES	232-234 WESTERN AVE. LYNN (781-593-5739)
14	VOTED BEST NURSING CARE FACILITY ABBOTT SKILLED NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER	28 ESSEX ST. LYNN (781-595-5500)
10	VOTED BEST ATTORNEY MICHAEL F. MAHONEY LAW OFFICES	152 LYNNWAY LYNN (781-599-5001)
10	VOTED BEST APPLIANCE SALES & SERVICE GREG ROGERS APPLIANCE CENTER	101 WESTERN AVE. LYNN (781-598-0320)
9	VOTED BEST AUTO BODY SHOP OLYMPIC AUTO BODY	174 BROAD ST. LYNN (781-598-8959)
6	VOTED BEST CHIROPRACTOR DR. KRISTIAN MCCOY @ FLAX POND CHIROPRACTIC	9 BOSTON ST. #1 LYNN (781-592-8089)
6	VOTED BEST INSURANCE AGENCY DUFFY INSURANCE AGENCY	317 BROADWAY LYNN (781-593-1200)
5	VOTED BEST PLUMBER MICHAEL RUSSO PLUMBING & HEATING CO., INC.	190 LOCUST ST. LYNN (781-595-2732)
3	VOTED #1 ROAST BEEF AND SUB SHOP MINO’S ROAST BEEF & SUBS	244 BROADWAY ST. LYNN (781- 581-7577)
2	VOTED THE #1 TAKE-OUT RESTAURANT MANDEE’S PIZZA & SUBS	65 GOODRIDGE ST. LYNN (781-599-6000)
1	VOTED LYNN’S #1 CUSTOMER SERVICE COMPANY MICHAEL RUSSO PLUMBING & HEATING CO. INC.	190 LOCUST ST. LYNN (781-595-2732)
#	INDICATES NUMBER OF YEARS AS WINNER	

VOTE ONLINE AT: BESTOFSURVEYS.COM

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The Daily Item
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Saugus Fire Department shows out at Iron Works



ITEM PHOTOS | SPENSER HASAK

Saugus firefighter Robert Roberto walks around and gives kids high-fives while in full gear during a demonstration at Saugus Iron Works.



Saugus firefighter Anthony Arone lets Michaela Muralles, of Saugus, hold an axe.



Charlie Griffin is dressed for the part as he stands on the back of Saugus Fire Department's Engine 2.



Kona Greene, of Saugus, sits in the passenger seat of Saugus Fire Department's Engine 2.

Hollywood actors join screenwriters in historic industry-stopping strike

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Leaders of a Hollywood’s actors union voted Thursday to join screenwriters in the first joint strike in more than six decades, shutting down production across the entertainment industry after talks for a new contract with studios and streaming services broke down.

It’s the first time two major Hollywood unions have been on strike at the same time since 1960, when **Ronald Reagan** was the actors’ guild president.

In an impassioned speech as the strike, which begins at midnight, was announced, actors’ union president and

former “The Nanny Star” **Fran Drescher** chastised industry executives.

“Employers make Wall Street and greed their priority and they forget about the essential contributors that make the machine run,” Drescher said. “It is disgusting. Shame on them. They stand on the wrong side of history.”

Hours earlier, a three-year contract had expired and talks broke off between the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers representing employers including Disney, Netflix, Amazon and others.

Outside Netflix’s Hollywood offices, picketing screenwriters chanted “Pay Your Actors!” immediately after the strike was declared. Actors will begin picketing alongside writers outside studio headquarters in New York and Los Angeles on Friday.

“It looks like it’s time to take down the MASKS. And pick up the SIGNS,” Oscar-winner **Jamie Lee Curtis** said in an Instagram post with a photo of the tragic and comic masks that represent acting.

The premiere of **Christopher Nolan**’s film “Oppenheimer” in London was moved up an hour so that the cast could walk the red carpet before the

SAG board’s announcement. Stars including **Cillian Murphy**, **Emily Blunt** and **Matt Damon** left the event once the strike was announced.

The strike — the first for film and television actors since 1980 — casts a shadow over the upcoming 75th Emmy Awards, whose nominations were announced a day earlier. Union rules prevent actors from doing any interviews or promotions around the awards, and they may not appear at the ceremony.

The strike rules also prevent actors from making personal appearances or promoting their work on podcasts or at premieres. And they are barred

from do any production work including auditions, readings, rehearsals or voiceovers along with actual shooting.

While international shoots technically can continue, the stoppage among U.S.-based writers and performers is likely to have a drag on those too.

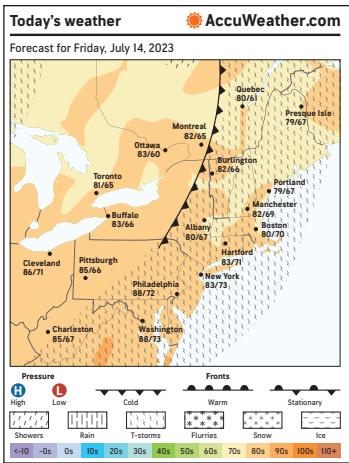
Disney chief **Bob Iger** warned the strike would have a “very damaging effect on the whole industry.”

“This is the worst time in the world to add to that disruption,” Iger said on CNBC. “There’s a level of expectation that they have that is just not realistic.”

WEATHER

SUN, MOON, TIDES

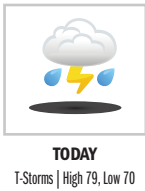
Sunrise today 5:19 a.m.
Sunset today 8:19 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 5:20 a.m.
High tide today 9:56 p.m.
Low tide today 3:36 p.m.
High tide tomorrow 10:46 p.m.



TODAY'S FORECAST

Scattered thunderstorms in the morning becoming more widespread in the afternoon. High 79F. Winds SSE at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 80%.

Tonight: Variable clouds with scattered thunderstorms. Low around 70F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

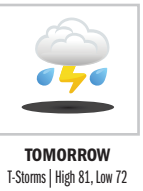


TODAY
T-Storms | High 79, Low 70

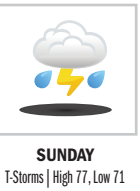
MARINE FORECAST

SE winds around 5 kt. Waves 1 foot or less. Showers likely with a chance of tsrms. Some tsrms may produce heavy rainfall.

Tonight: S winds 5 to 10 kt. Waves 1 foot or less. Some tsrms may produce heavy rainfall. Vsbty 1 to 3 nm.



TOMORROW
T-Storms | High 81, Low 72



SUNDAY
T-Storms | High 77, Low 71

LOTTERY

MASS. EVENING:
Thursday 1714
Wednesday 9871
Tuesday..... 0554
Yesterday's payoff:

EXACT ORDER
All 4 \$4,001
First or last 3 \$560
Any 2 \$48
Any 1 \$5

ANY ORDER
All 4 \$333
First 3 \$187
Last 3 \$93

MASS. MID-DAY:
Thursday 9402
Wednesday 8337
Tuesday..... 1725
Yesterday's payoff:

EXACT ORDER
All 4 \$6,496
First or last 3 \$909
Any 2 \$78
Any 1 \$8

ANY ORDER
All 4 \$271
First 3 \$151
Last 3 \$151

No hits for Swampscott, no win for West Peabody

By Joey Barrett
ITEM SPORTS EDITOR

SALEM — You won't find a Little League game — or, frankly, any game — stranger than the one at Forest River Park in Salem on Thursday. That said, that doesn't mean it was bad.

In a game for the ages, the Peabody West 12s threw the no-hitter, but Swampscott won the District 16 Little League Championship 1-0.

"Very peculiar," Swampscott Coach Dave Paster said. "We got the District 16 Championship and the boys are very excited. There's not many chances where we get no-hit and win 1-0."

Yes, there was the traditional victory lap with the championship banner in-hand as the Big Blue

faithful watched from the bleachers and tailgated cars.

"They were having a great time, the fans were having a great time, and Swampscott had a great turnout today," Paster said. "The whole community was out supporting us tonight."

The players of the hour — almost literally, as the game took just 49 minutes — were Swampscott pitcher Michael Hall (1 hit allowed) and West pitcher CJ York (no-hitter).

Paster said he "can't stress enough" how strong Hall was, while West Coach Keith Slattery praised his own.

"He's (York) just amazing. The kid is amazing, he's a gamer, and it's in his blood," Slattery said.

SWAMPSCOTT, B2



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

The Swampscott 12s take a victory lap around the field after defeating Peabody West in the District 16 Championship game on Thursday.

A FEW OF THEIR FAVORITE THINGS

Nolan Raimo

Title: Marblehead track and field coach

Meal: Salmon tacos with rice, guacamole, greek yogurt, and cheese

Musician: John Williams and Drake

Song: "All along the watchtower" by Jimi Hendrix

Movie: "The Sound of Music"

TV show: Steve Buscemi masterclass "Boardwalk Empire"

Emoji: 😊 😊 😊

Hobby: Golf, cycling, and chess

Quote: "I am, somehow, less interested in the weight and convolutions of Einstein's brain than in the near certainty that people of equal talent have lived and died in cotton fields and sweatshops" - Stephen Jay Gould

Athlete: Duncan Robinson "It's pretty cool to see a fellow Eph make it to the NBA!"

Fashion Icon: "I am fairly distant from pop culture and fashion trends, but I love birddog and lululemon apparel"

Sumpter predicts fight vs. Lynn's James Perkins won't go distance

By Bob Trieger
FOR THE ITEM

QUINCY — Undefeated super middleweight prospect Steve "The Savage" Sumpter (8-0, 7 KOs) has never turned down a fight. Neither has his next opponent, James "Pitbull" Perkins of Lynn (12-0-1, 9 KOs), and that's why the two undefeated fighters will throw-down August 19th.

Sumpter vs. Perkins headlines the "Pandemonium at The Palladium", presented by Granite Chin Promotions (GCP), in an eight-round showdown for the vacant International Boxing Association (IBA) Americas Super Middleweight Championship.

"Pandemonium at The Palladium" will be streamed live on www.bx-ngtv.com from the famed Palladium in Worcester, Massachusetts.

"This fight is one of the best main events Massachusetts has seen this year," GCP President Chris Traietti said. "What more can you ask for? Two undefeated guys with knockout power going for it all for a chance to elevate their careers to the next level. The spectators better take their bathroom and concession breaks before this one starts. It could end at any moment."

More than a belt is at stake, more like Bay State bragging rights for the winner of this potentially "lights-out" fight between these Western (Sumpter, Pittsfield) and Eastern (Perkins, Lynn) Mass. rival fighters.

Sumpter, 29, leaped at the opportunity to fight another undefeated fighter because of the upside for his career that an impressive victory will make within New England boxing circles.

"I'll be better known after this fight," Sumpter said. "I don't care about my opponent's record or anything else. This is the type of fight

PERKINS, B2

Tom Coughlin, Mike Shanahan are among the semifinalists for the Pro Football Hall of Fame

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANTON, Ohio — Two-time winning Super Bowl coaches Tom Coughlin and Mike Shanahan and team owners Robert Kraft and Virginia McCaskey were among the 60 semifinalists announced Wednesday for the 2024 class of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

The Hall's 12-person Seniors Committee trimmed a list of eligible player nominees to 31. Each semifinalist played his last game in professional football no later than 1998.

Separately, the Hall's 12-person Coach/Contributor Committee reduced the list of nominated

HOF, B2



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Denver Broncos head coach Mike Shanahan greets fans at halftime during an NFL football game.



PHOTO | JOE BROWN

Greater Lynn's Jayson Avery hauls one in at first base.

WALKOFF AT FRASER Greater Lynn 15s advance to state finals

By Mark Aboyou
ITEM SPORTS STAFF

LYNN — The Greater Lynn Babe Ruth 15s are on their way to the state championship game on Saturday after a 3-2 win Thursday, which ended with a walk-off hit from Michael Demaino in the seventh inning.

Coach Leon Elwell praised his side for the tough win.

"They feel good. That's a good win," Elwell said. "Newton played a great game. That was a great 15-year-old Babe Ruth All-Star Game, battling back and forth."

Newton tied the game in the top of the seventh after a passed ball allowed a runner to score from third base (2-2).

Lynn's Jonas Auguste led

off in the seventh, showing his speed as he raced down the first-base line after hitting a ground ball to short. He safely reached first, just beating the throw.

"That's one of the things we talk about. Two hits equal one run," Elwell said. "It doesn't matter how you get on base, you just need

LYNN, B2



LeBron James says at ESPYS he will play for Lakers in upcoming season

FIND OUT MORE ON B3



The Swampscott 12s celebrate defeating Peabody West 1-0 Thursday in Salem.

ITEM PHOTOS | SPENSER HASAK

No hits for Swampscott, no win for West Peabody



Swampscott pitcher Michael Hall (1 hit allowed) takes a breath as teammate Jett Nichols (game-winning run) hypes him up after a strong inning.

SWAMPSCOTT

From B1

His first name says it all. Swampscott's Jett Nichols scored the lone run of the game in the first inning, speeding around the bases for a 1-0 cushion.

"Jett Nichols walked, I think he got to second on a passed ball, and then Michael (Hall) hit a grounder to the pitcher, so Jett was running," Paster said. "The throw [to third] just went a little wild and, like I said, we just manufactured the run – a true Little League run."

It was an honest misthrow, according to Slattery.

"One of our best players threw an overthrow trying to make a good play," Slattery said. "Who would've known it would be 1-0?"

After Nichols tapped home in the first, the second, third, and

fourth innings belonged to Hall and York. Neither pitcher allowed a batter on first base across the stretch.

"He's (Hall) got some pitches [and] he's a good player," Slattery said. "We ran into a hot pitcher. We made contact all year... They have an uncanny nose for the ball on defense, they just do. The players get it and they execute."

Other highlight plays included West shortstop Ben Ouellette scooping up a tough ball before firing to first in the third inning, and Hall collecting a dribbler near home plate before feeding his first baseman an inning later.

After York racked up 1-2-3 strikeouts in the fifth – the third was a looker – it presented West with one more chance in the top of the sixth.

"Peabody West played their butts off. They had a great game and their pitcher, CJ York, pitched phenomenal," Paster said.

After Hall struck out the first two batters, he reached the maximum pitch count of 85 in Little League, and in came Jaden Oriakhi with one batter to take care of.

He did just that with a strikeout, and the title belonged to Swampscott.

"We had Jaden warm up the previous inning, so he was ready to go," Paster said.

Sports are more than a final score, however. Slattery said his team learned "hard work and sportsmanship" this summer.

"You've got to hold your heads high. They had a heck of a run," Slattery said. "This is not an easy tournament. One of my coaches once said, 'Only one

team is going to win their last game. The rest of them don't."

Slattery added he was happy for "class act" Swampscott, and the respect was reciprocated from Paster.

"We didn't get any easy games in the district. We started with Peabody – a close game, it was here (Salem) – and then we played Lynnfield and Peabody West, then Peabody West again. There were no cakewalks."

Now, it's on to sectionals.

"It was a great tournament [with] lots of competition," Paster said. "I don't know what the next step is. I don't think Swampscott has been to sectionals in a while."

Joey Barrett can be reached at joseph@itemlive.com

Greater Lynn 15s advance to state finals

LYNN

From B1

to get there and then we'll find a way to get you in and that's what we did."

Auguste stole second to put himself in scoring position with zero outs and Devin Duval at the plate. Duval hit a ground ball to third and once Newton's infielder threw to first, Auguste darted towards third and reached

safely.

With one out and a man on third, it was time for Demaino to step up to the plate – literally and figuratively. Demaino waited for the right pitch and hit a single to right field, bringing Auguste home for the game-winning run (3-2).

"I'm always confident any time he steps in the box," Elwell said. "He's a great hitter and a great player. I had all the confidence in the world that he was at least going to put the ball in play and bring that runner home."

Elwell said his team hasn't faced a lot of adversity since most games have been won by multiple runs, but believed it was the perfect time to play a game that went down to the wire.

"Winning in the bottom of the seventh inning is something we can take into Saturday," Elwell said. "We haven't had many close games this season, so this is the perfect time for us to play in this type of game going into the state final."

Despite the win, Elwell feels his team left too many runners on base.

"I don't think we needed to make it as hard as it was. We left a ton of guys on base," Elwell said. "We left too many guys on base and we can't afford to do that on Saturday."

On defense, Lynn was sound, making the right

plays – and critical ones – when it mattered most.

"Defensively, I was happy. We played really good defense throughout," Elwell said. "We made the plays when we needed to make them... That's what good teams do."

Elwell praised his starting pitcher, Jayson Avery (3 strikeouts in 5 innings), for keeping Lynn in the game.

"[He] struggled with control a little bit, but he hung in there and battled. He kept us in the game and gave us a chance to win, and that's all you can ask from your starting pitcher," Elwell said.

Greater Lynn now travels to Libby Field in Weymouth this Saturday to play the winner of Taunton/Braintree. First pitch is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Mark Aboyou can be reached at mark@itemlive.com

that will establish me as one of the better boxers around. This fight will open up a lot of doors for me when I come out on top. More people will start taking notice of me and I'll be getting calls for bigger fights.

"We are both explosive fighters. I don't think he's going the full distance. It'll come down to skills. I've seen some things from him I'll exploit. Nobody studies me better than me. I'm sure he has watched me, too."

Pittsfield is 100 miles west of Worcester, but Sumpter, who is the reigning Massachusetts Light Heavyweight Champion, is confident his fans will travel in force.

"I'll feel good traveling," Sumpter added. "This will be the second card I've headlined. I have a solid fanbase and it's growing with each win. And, like I said, he's



PHOTO | BOB TRIEGER

From left, Lynn boxer James Perkins and head coach Joe Ricciardi.

Sumpter predicts fight vs. Lynn's James Perkins won't go distance

PERKINS

From B1

not going the distance."

In the co-featured event, undefeated Massachusetts Welterweight Champion Denzel "Double Impact" Whitley (11-0, 6 KOs) takes Hector "El Gatito" Ednar Bobadilla (9-14-1, 4 KOs) in an eight-round bout for the vacant United States Boxing Federation (USBF) Atlantic welterweight title.

Other fighters expected to be in action on the "Pandemonium at The Palladium" undercard include another Holyoke boxer, super welterweight Carlos Castillo (7-0, 4 KOs), unbeaten Springfield super featherweight Isaiah "Baby Warrior" Cruz (6-0, 4 KOs), and New Haven (CT) featherweight Felix Parrilla (7-0, 6 KOs).

Card subject to change. Tickets are on sale and available for purchase online at www.ThePalladium.net.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the first bell set for 7:30 p.m.

Tom Coughlin, Mike Shanahan are among the semifinalists for the Pro Football Hall of Fame

HOF

From B1

candidates to 29 semifinalists.

Unlike in February when cornerback Darrelle Revis and offensive lineman Joe Thomas were selected for enshrinement in their first year of eligibility for the Hall of Fame, none of the 31 players appears to be a lock for induction.

Coughlin coached the New York Giants from 2004-15, leading them to Super Bowl victories

over the New England Patriots after the 2007 and '11 seasons.

Shanahan led the Denver Broncos to Super Bowl titles after the 1997 and '98 seasons. He went 178-144 overall with three teams, including a 46-10 mark from 1996-1998, an NFL record for wins in a three-year span.

McCaskey, who turned 100 on Jan. 5, became principal owner of the Chicago Bears in 1983 upon the death of her

father, Hall of Famer George Halas.

Kraft has owned the New England Patriots since 1994. His teams have won six Super Bowls, all of them with coach Bill Belichick and quarterback Tom Brady.

The respective selection committees now will consider the candidates and will vote to determine 12 finalists from each group. The results of those votes will be announced July 27.

Coach/Contributor

Committee members will meet Aug. 15 to select one candidate for final consideration for the next year's Hall of Fame class.

The Seniors Committee will meet Aug. 22 and may select up to three candidates for final consideration.

Revis, Thomas, Ronde Barber, Chuck Howley, Joe Klecko, Ken Riley, Zach Thomas, DeMarcus Ware and Don Coryell will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Aug. 3.



PHOTOS | ASSOCIATED PRESS
Chris Paul, from left, LeBron James, and Dwyane Wade do a tribute to Carmelo Anthony at the ESPY awards.

LeBron James says at ESPYS he will play for Lakers in upcoming season

By Beth Harris
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — LeBron James will play another season for the Los Angeles Lakers.

The 38-year-old superstar announced his intentions on stage at The ESPYS on Wednesday night after accepting the record-breaking performance award for becoming the NBA's career scoring leader.

At the end of last season, in which he surpassed Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's mark, James had said he wasn't sure if he would be back.

"In that moment I'm asking myself if I can still play without cheating the game. Can I give everything to the game still? The truth is I've been asking myself this question at the end of the season for a couple years now. I just never openly talked about it," James said.

"I don't care how many more points I score or what I can and cannot do on the floor. The real question for me is can I play without cheating this game? The day I can't give the game everything on the floor is the day I'll be done. Lucky for you guys that day is not today."

The crowd at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood let out a huge cheer.

"So yeah, I still got something left," James said. "A lot left."

He was presented his trophy by wife Savannah, sons Bronny and Bryce and daughter Zhuri. In her introductory remarks, Savannah said, "I think LeBron James is the baddest ..."

She began to say an expletive but cut herself off as Zhuri exclaimed, "Mom!"

James later returned and was joined by Chris Paul and Dwyane Wade to honor Carmelo Anthony, who recently retired after a 19-year career.

Earlier, Chicago White Sox reliever Liam Hendriks told the audience that he pitched much of the 2022 season with non-Hodgkin lymphoma before being diagnosed with an advanced stage of the disease.

He accepted the Jimmy

V Award for Perseverance. The 34-year-old Australian was declared cancer-free in late April and returned to the mound a month later.

"That was an eye-opener. I didn't feel too many symptoms but I had some lumps around. It just shows you the power of the mind. When you don't think anything's wrong and you believe that you can do anything, you can do anything," Hendriks said.

"I was throwing 100 miles per hour while going through Stage 4 lymphoma and then coming back after doing eight rounds of chemotherapy and four rounds of immunotherapy and was able to get out there and throw 96 miles per hour. That isn't physically who I am. That's all this, that's all mental."

The U.S. women's soccer team was honored with the Arthur Ashe Award for Courage for its fight to receive equal pay. The players sued U.S. Soccer in 2019 and last year reached agreement on a deal that splits men's and women's pay equally.

Briana Scurry, goalkeeper for the national team from 1994-2008, saluted the 1985 team.

"They are the foundation of this entire community of giants," she said.

The Buffalo Bills training staff received the Pat Tillman Award for Service, honored for saving the life of safety Damar Hamlin, who went into cardiac arrest at a game in Cincinnati in January.

The staff was greeted by a standing ovation. They huddled around Hamlin on stage, hugging him and patting his back. With his back to the audience, Hamlin bent his head and appeared to break down. He has since recovered and plans to play this fall.

"Damar, first and foremost, thank you for staying alive, brother," said Nate Breske, head trainer for the Bills.

"We're not used to having the spotlight on us. We were just doing our job, but the idea of service is definitely something that is engrained in our profession and that we take great pride in," he told the audience.

Breske urged support for funding for automated external defibrillators and CPR training, especially in underserved communities, as well as for athletic trainers in youth sports.

"Learn CPR and how to use an AED because they save lives," he said.

Patrick Mahomes was honored as best men's sports athlete, while skier Mikaela Shiffrin received the women's sports honor.

The Kansas City Chiefs quarterback has won two Super Bowls in his five seasons and was named MVP of the game each time, including this past February. He turns 28 in September.

"It was an incredible season. There was many ups, many downs," Mahomes said. "I appreciate my teammates, my coaches, the guys that are here. I go back to camp next Tuesday, so this is a great award. But we're going to do this thing again, we're going to keep this thing rolling."

Shiffrin won her 87th World Cup race in March, breaking the mark set by Ingemar Stenmark for the most such wins by any skier. She went on to win an 88th Cup race, as well as the overall season title.

"This season was absolutely incredible and there was a lot of talk about records and it got me thinking, why is a record actually important?" Shiffrin said. "I just feel like it's not important to break records or re-set records. It's important to set the tone for the next generation, to inspire them."

Sports talk host Pat McAfee handled the opening monologue in his first major public appearance since joining ESPN in May.

The show didn't have its usual celebrity host as a result of the Hollywood writers strike. McAfee offered a series of hints that comedian Kevin Hart had been set for the gig but that Hart instead chose to support the Writers Guild of America.

An ESPN spokeswoman said a production team worked with presenters on their introductory remarks. The usual pre-taped comedy sketches were absent.



Bronny James, from left, Bryce James, Savannah James, and Zhuri James presents the award for best record-breaking performance at the ESPY awards.

TV/RADIO	
Baseball	
7:05 p.m.	San Francisco at Pittsburgh.....Apple TV+
7:10 p.m.	LA Dodgers at NY Mets.....Apple TV+
8:05 p.m.	Boston at Chi. Cubs.....NESN; WEEI-FM 93.7
9:38 p.m.	Houston at LA Angels.....MLB Network
10:10 p.m.	Detroit at Seattle.....MLB Network
Pro basketball	
4 p.m.	WNBA All-Star Skills Challenge.....ESPN
7 p.m.	Summer League: Boston vs. New York.....ESPN2
9 p.m.	Summer League: Miami vs. Denver.....ESPN2
11 p.m.	Summer League: Utah vs. Phoenix.....ESPN2
Cycling	
7:30 a.m.	Tour de France (Stage 13).....Peacock
Golf	
4 p.m.	PGA Tour: Barbasol Championship.....Golf
7:30 p.m.	LPGA Tour: Dana Open (tape).....Golf
Tennis	
8 a.m.	Wimbledon.....ESPN
11 a.m.	Wimbledon.....ESPN

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	58	35	.624	
Baltimore	54	35	.607	2
Toronto	50	41	.549	7
New York	49	42	.538	8
Boston	48	43	.527	9
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	45	45	.500	
Minnesota	45	46	.495	½
Detroit	39	50	.438	5½
Chicago	38	54	.413	8
Kansas City	26	65	.286	19½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	52	39	.571	
Houston	50	41	.549	2
Seattle	45	44	.506	6
Los Angeles	45	46	.495	7
Oakland	25	67	.272	27½
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	60	29	.674	
Miami	53	39	.576	8½
Philadelphia	48	41	.539	12
New York	42	48	.467	18½
Washington	36	54	.400	24½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	50	41	.549	
Milwaukee	49	42	.538	1
Chicago	42	47	.472	7
Pittsburgh	41	49	.456	8½
St. Louis	38	52	.422	11½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	51	38	.573	
Arizona	52	39	.571	
San Francisco	49	41	.544	2½
San Diego	43	47	.478	8½
Colorado	34	57	.374	18

AMERICAN LEAGUE		NATIONAL LEAGUE	
Friday's Games		Friday's Games	
Miami (Alcantara 3-7) at Baltimore (Kremer 9-4), 7:05 p.m.		San Diego (Darvish 5-6) at Philadelphia (Sánchez 0-2), 6:05 p.m.	
Arizona (TBD) at Toronto (TBD), 7:07 p.m.		Miami (Alcantara 3-7) at Baltimore (Kremer 9-4), 7:05 p.m.	
Chicago White Sox (Kopech 3-7) at Atlanta (Morton 9-6), 7:20 p.m.		San Francisco (Stripling 0-2) at Pittsburgh (Hill 7-9), 7:05 p.m.	
Boston (Bello 6-5) at Chicago Cubs (TBD), 8:05 p.m.		Arizona (TBD) at Toronto (TBD), 7:07 p.m.	
Cleveland (Civale 3-2) at Texas (TBD), 8:05 p.m.		L.A. Dodgers (Urias 6-5) at N.Y. Mets (Verlander 3-4), 7:10 p.m.	
Tampa Bay (Glasnow 2-3) at Kansas City (Marsh 0-2), 8:10 p.m.		Milwaukee (Burnes 7-5) at Cincinnati (Ashcraft 4-6), 7:10 p.m.	
N.Y. Yankees (Rodón 0-1) at Colorado (Gomber 7-7), 8:40 p.m.		Chicago White Sox (Kopech 3-7) at Atlanta (Morton 9-6), 7:20 p.m.	
Houston (France 4-3) at L.A. Angels (Ohtani 7-4), 9:38 p.m.		Boston (Bello 6-5) at Chicago Cubs (TBD), 8:05 p.m.	
Minnesota (TBD) at Oakland (TBD), 9:40 p.m.		Washington (TBD) at St. Louis (TBD), 8:15 p.m.	
Detroit (Rodriguez 4-5) at Seattle (TBD), 10:10 p.m.		N.Y. Yankees (Rodón 0-1) at Colorado (Gomber 7-7), 8:40 p.m.	

SIXTY SECOND SPORTS



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York Jets' Quinnen Williams speaks to reporters after a practice at the NFL football team's training facility in Florham Park, N.J.

NBA rule changes
The NBA's Board of Governors approved two rule changes for the coming season Tuesday. One change gives coaches a second challenge if their first one is successful. The other will mean a technical foul will be called against players who flop.

Williams gets the bag
A person with knowledge of the deal says All-Pro defensive tackle Quinnen Williams and the New York Jets have agreed to a four-year contract extension worth \$96 million. Williams is now the second-highest paid defensive tackle in the NFL at \$24 million per year behind only the Rams' Aaron Donald who is making \$31.7 million per year.

Roberts passes away
C.R. Roberts helped Southern California beat Texas with a record-setting performance in a 1956 road game played in segregated Austin.

He has died at 87. USC says Roberts died of natural causes in the Los Angeles suburb of Norwalk. Roberts set a single-game rushing record with 251 yards on 12 carries in the Trojans' 44-20 victory.

Shining in Summer League
Memphis Grizzlies forward Kenneth Lofton Jr. is among several undrafted players making an impact in the Las Vegas summer league. The former Louisiana Tech standout who was not selected in 2022 is averaging 20.7 points and 6.7 rebounds in three games while shooting 58% from the field.

Liberty top Fever
Sabrina Ionescu scored eight of her 34 points in overtime and the New York Liberty clinched a berth in the Commissioner's Cup championship with a 95-87 win over the Indiana Fever on Wednesday, despite blowing an 18-point fourth-quarter lead.



COMICS

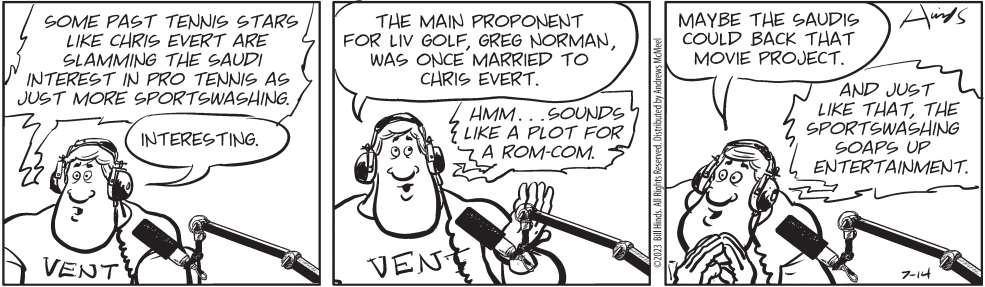
OFF THE MARK / MARK PARISI



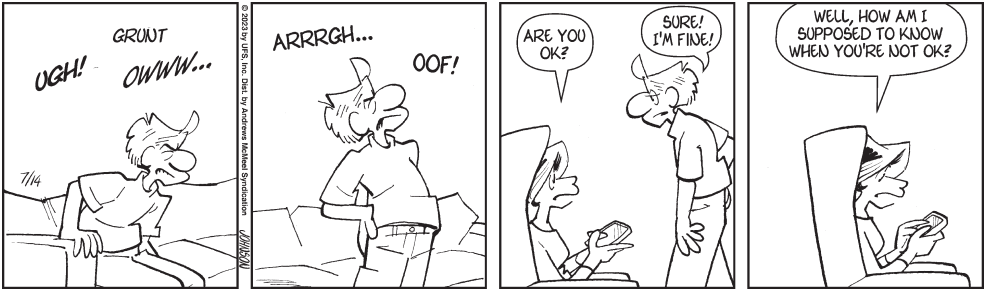
MODERATELY CONFUSED / JEFF STAHLER



TANK MCNAMARA / BILL HINDS



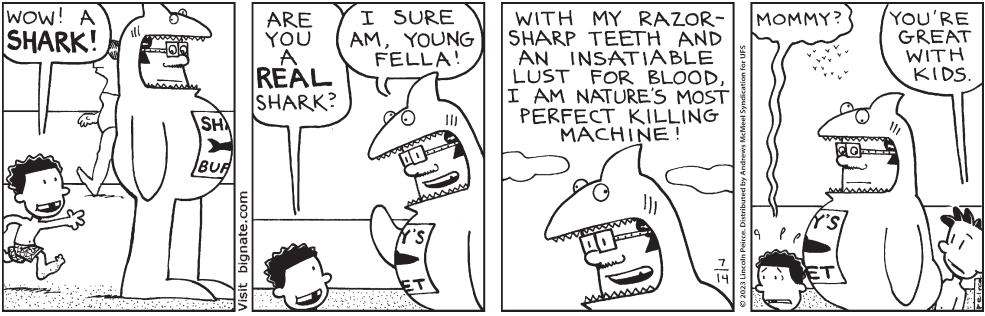
ARLO AND JANIS / JIMMY JOHNSON



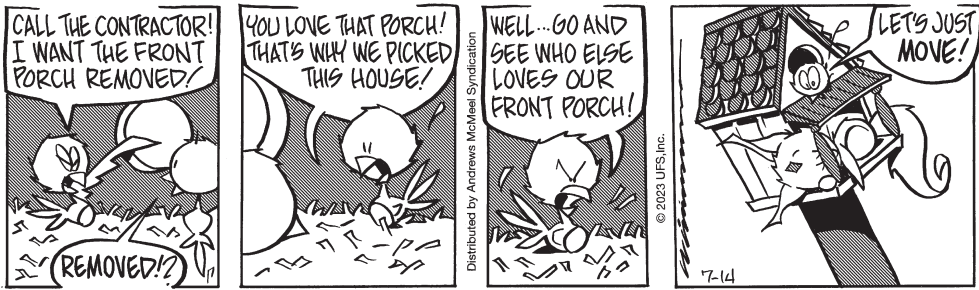
GARFIELD / JIM DAVIS



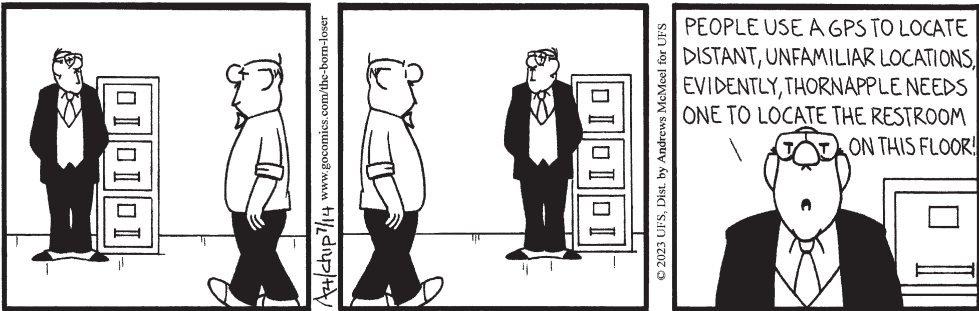
BIG NATE / LINCOLN PEIRCE



ROSE IS ROSE / PAT BRADY



THE BORN LOSER / ART AND CHIP SANSOM



HERMAN / JIM UNGER



ZIGGY / TOM WILSON



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Barge

5 Singing group

10 Harsh

14 Superman's mom

15 Shelf

16 — -de-camp

17 Sharif of film

18 Ice-skating jumps

19 Dots in the Seine

20 — oldie

22 Acidity

24 Large deer

26 Norwegian monarch

27 Surveyor's instrument

30 Hitches a ride

34 Big clumsy guy

35 Battery's "+" end

38 Eat soup impolitely

39 Colony member

40 Cranky person

42 Evergreen tree

43 Public tiff

46 Op art pattern

48 Mai —

49 Filament

51 Melodious

53 Miscalculates

55 Actress — Watson

DOWN

1 Tramp

2 Hunter's garb

3 Type of exam

4 Keeper

5 Rattling

6 Witch's curse

7 Verse forms

8 Ice hut

9 Consequence

10 Profitable

11 Miff

12 Dangerous

13 March date

14 Muddle

21 Lanchester of "Bride of Frankenstein"

23 Team cheers

25 Attack, as a castle

27 Crunchy bread

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

JABBA RAIL CITE

OCEAN EURO ONYX

GLENN CLAW MELT

SUNDERED LIMPER

ARES SINATRA

TURNIPS PENN

ISAAC PCS DEEM

EEK EMULATE ADO

DREW AMY VIRGO

HELP SCANNED

CASITAS ARCS

OSPREY SHOUTERS

DIAL ANKA EASEL

EDIE NOIR ELATE

SEND SRTA SLUED

7-14-23

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28 Cowboy's home

29 In the wake of

31 Civilian clothes

32 Musician — Eno

33 Fresh growth

36 Laurel and Hardy

37 Rousseau opus

41 Most prudish

44 Harassed amiably

45 Countess's spouse

47 St. —'s fire

50 Dental equipment

52 Filled highway cracks

54 Muzzle

56 Use solder

57 Qom's country

58 "Soft Watches" artist

59 Meditation guide

61 Inca Empire, once

62 Deli meats

63 Wooden strip

66 Desk item

In-law appoints herself master of all ceremonies



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

ing psychotherapy. I'm just tired of it. I can't stand the negativity or their hypochondria. I feel guilty, but I now dread any phone call, text or invitation to get together. Please help. I don't want to hurt anyone, but I'm worn out.

POSITIVE PERSON IN THE SOUTH

DEAR POSITIVE PERSON: There comes a time, usually around the age of 50, when some folks begin pruning their friend list. Bluntly put, this means weeding out sources of constant negativity. Because your former peers drag you down with their family dysfunction and "organ recitals," when they try to make contact, remind them that while they are retired and have free time, you still work and are strapped for it — which is why you can't be involved as often as they want you to be. Being unavailable isn't rude. Sometimes, it's self-defense.

for everyone else a nightmare.

The control doesn't end there. It also includes the venue, menu and guest list. She even puts place cards on the table designating the seating arrangements. As with everything else, these are NOT negotiable. If not complied with, the "offender" is subjected to a minimum of six months of silent treatment and ghosting. How does one deal with this?

CONTROLLED IN FLORIDA

DEAR CONTROLLED: One deals with this by discussing it with other family members to see if they feel the same as you do and are willing to face the consequences of Hel-

en's extended silences, which, from my perspective, might be a relief. (Then pray she doesn't plan your funeral.)

DEAR ABBY: I'm a nurse who still works full time. Most of my peers are retired. Several of them I've started to avoid at all costs. Each time I talk to them, all they want to talk about are their aches and pains, how sick they are and how mad they are at their kids, siblings or spouse. They aren't just annoyed. They're furious about any real or perceived slight.

I have thought about introducing them all to each other so they could have a group pity party. I have suggested consulting their doctors or try-

BRIDGE

Keep the winners that you began with

One quote sometimes attributed to Albert Einstein goes, "One should guard against preaching to young people success in the customary form as the main aim in life. The most important motive for work in school and in life is pleasure in work, pleasure in its result, and the knowledge of the value of the result to the community." Or, in bridge, the value of the result to your partnership.

In this deal, South must guard against losing one of his winners. How should he play in four hearts after West leads the club two to East's ace and East returns the club queen?

When South described a balanced 22-24 points, North pushed optimistically into four hearts via a Texas transfer bid.

South can see 10 tricks: two spades, five hearts, two diamonds and one club. So, at trick two, he cov-

ers East's club queen with his king. When West ruffs, though, that is a bad blow. Now South has to take the diamond finesse to try for a 10th trick, but that fails also, and he goes down one.

In an unbid suit, the lead of a two is either fourth-highest from a suit headed by at least one honor or a singleton. Maybe West started with 10-fourth, but a singleton is more likely.

To guard his club king, declarer should play a low club from his hand at trick two. East will continue with a third club, but South plays low again, ruffs or overruffs on the board and plays on trumps. Since West has the heart ace, declarer takes the 10 tricks he saw at the start.

Finally, note that this duck is also successful when West has three or four clubs.

North 07-14-23			
♥ 9 6 4			
♠ J 10 9 8 5 2			
♦ 7 3			
♣ J 6			
West			
♠ Q 10 5 2		♠ J 8 7	
♥ A 6 4		♥ 3	
♦ Q 10 8 5 4		♦ 9 6 2	
♣ 2		♣ A Q 10 9 7 4	
South			
♥ A K 3		♥ K Q 7	
♠ A K J		♠ A K J	
♦ K 8 5 3		♦ K 8 5 3	
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South West North East			
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♣ 2			

Kevin Spacey fights back tears as he testifies how sex abuse allegations ‘exploded’ his career

By Brian Melley
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Kevin Spacey fought back tears and dabbed his eyes with a tissue Thursday as he told jurors in a London court how sexual misconduct allegations six years ago had destroyed his career.

“My world exploded,” Spacey said at his sexual assault trial. “There was a rush to judgment and before the first question was asked or answered I lost my job, I lost my reputation, I lost everything in a matter of days.”

The emotional testimony came toward the end of his nearly three hours in the witness box, in what could be the most consequential speaking part of his life. He denied sexually assaulting three men and chalked up crotch-grabbing allegations by a fourth as having been a “clumsy pass.”

The allegations that sent Spacey’s stellar film and stage career into a spiral came in 2017 as the #metoo movement gained momentum in the U.S. and a fel-

low actor accused him of sexually inappropriate behavior three decades earlier.

News of those accusations led others to come forward, including four men in England who said the two-time Oscar winner sexually assaulted them between 2001 and 2013.

Prosecutor Christine Agnew has called Spacey a “sexual bully” who “delights in making others feel powerless and uncomfortable.”

The four alleged victims, who didn’t know each other, independently described disturbing encounters that escalated from unwanted touching to aggressive fondling. One man who called Spacey a “vile sexual predator” said he passed out or fell asleep on the actor’s London sofa and woke up to find him performing oral sex.

Spacey spoke in a calm tone and earnest demeanor, raising his voice in contempt only briefly to address some of the allegations.

At times he was humorous, humble and self-deprecating as

he breezed over a career in acting that began, he joked, when he emerged from his mother’s womb. He repeatedly dropped names of some of the stars in his universe, including high school classmate Val Kilmer and Judi Dench — whom he said he taught to play ping-pong.

Spacey seemed more than content to reflect on happier times in his career but was repeatedly drawn back to the reason he was addressing a jury of nine men and three women at Southwark Crown Court.

He could face a prison term if convicted of charges that include sexual and indecent assault counts and one count of causing a person to engage in penetrative sexual activity without consent. Spacey, 63, has pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Defense lawyer Patrick Gibbs went through the allegations chronologically with Spacey, dating to the early 2000s when he came to work at the Old Vic Theatre in London and later became its artistic director.



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS
Actor Kevin Spacey leaves Southwark Crown Court, London.

CLASSIFIED

LEGALS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Docket No. ES23P2049EA

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Essex Division

Estate of: **Mary Therese Landergan**

Also Known As: **Mary T. Landergan**

Date of Death: **October 11, 2022**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner: **William J. Landergan, III** of **Marblehead, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

William J. Landergan, III of **Marblehead, MA**

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Item: July 14, 2023

LEGALS

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304
Docket No. ES23P2138GD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Essex Probate and Family Court
36 Federal Street
Salem MA, 01970

In the matter of: **Robert Arustamyan** of **Saugus, MA**

RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **William A Moore** of **Tewksbury, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Robert Arustamyan** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety on the bond.**

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of **08/14/2023**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Frances M. Giordano, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 12, 2023
Pamela Casey O'Brien, Register of Probate

Item: July 14, 2023

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GENERAL HELP WANTED

Required Minimum Qualifications: Two years' experience in a housing, community development, public administration or a closely related field. Knowledge of the principles and practices of housing management, finances and maintenance systems in public or private housing. Written and verbal communication skills required. Willingness to work with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from a HUD approved organization desired and may be substituted by certification as a property manager or similar classification by a nationally recognized housing or real estate organization, or by certification as a MPHA of a DHCD-approved Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator Certification Program. Two-year full time post-secondary education in a related field may substitute for up to one year of experience.

Description & Details: The Swampscott Housing Authority seeks an experienced executive director to direct a full-time staff of three (3) managing a budget of 500 thousand dollars. The SHA manages a total of 121 units of State family and elderly/handicapped housing, 8 units of Chapter 689, and 7 Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program. This position requires two (2) years' experience in housing management, community development, public administration or a related field.

Must have working knowledge of fiscal management, maintenance systems, personnel and administrative management systems in public or private housing. One year's supervisory experience is desired. Written and Verbal skills required. Considerable knowledge of local and state governmental procedures and regulations as they relate to housing development, construction, and the management of the local housing authority operations. Experience working with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Must be bondable.

A work week of a minimum of 32 hours is required. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from a HUD approved organization is required but may be substituted by certification as a property manager or similar classification by a national recognized housing or real estate organization or by certification as a MPHA of a DHCD-approved Massachusetts Public Housing Administrator Certification Program. Experience with Word, PHA-Web and Excel is desirable.

Position is open until filled and salary is based upon experience and education and DHCD. Executive Director Salary and qualifications schedule currently in effect. The salary range is \$63,173 to \$78,967.

How to Apply / Contact

To Apply

Submit a resume detailing your qualifications to Swampscott.authority@verizon.net. No phone calls or letters.

Compensation depends upon qualifications and is in accordance with a Collective Bargaining Agreement. The SHA offers a strong comprehensive and competitive benefits package, including state GIC health insurance and a defined-benefit pension.

The SHA is an equal opportunity employer. Females, LGBTQ individuals, minorities, veterans and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

GENERAL HELP WANTED

JOB POSTING - NAHANT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Position Title: Skilled Laborer
Bargaining Unit: AFSCME
Pay Scale: \$24.39-\$27.09 - 40 hours/week
Reports To: DPW Superintendent and General Foreman
Benefits: Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Paid Time Off (personal, sick, vacation, bereavement), Clothing and Equipment Allowance, License Stipends, Education Reimbursement, Scheduled Stand By, Paid Holidays.
GENERAL SUMMARY: Under the supervision of the General Foreman and DPW Superintendent, performs a broad range of manual work and operates manual equipment in support of construction, maintenance and repair operations for the Department. Candidate must have or obtain all required license within one (1) year of start date (see full list of requirements at nahant.org). Existing CDL and hoisting licenses preferred. *External and internal applicants, as well as position incumbents, with a disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, must be able to perform the essential job functions (as listed) either with or without a reasonable accommodation. Please submit a resume and letter of interest by July 31, 2023 to the Town of Nahant, ATTN: Kristin Taylor, 334 Nahant Road, Nahant, MA 01908; or emailed to: ktaylor@nahant.org This position will remain open until filled. Full description of Job requirements can be found at nahant.org

Item: July 14, 2023

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, please call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-595-5308. The toll-free number for the hearing-impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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INTERNATIONAL



PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kazuya Nakamura, a former singer and dancer for Japanese entertainment company Johnny & Associates, speaks during an interview in Tokyo.

Former teen performers in Japan accuse agent of sexual assault

By Yuri Kageyama
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO — Kazuya Nakamura says he was 15 when one of the most powerful men in Japanese entertainment history forced him to have sex while he was part of a troupe of backup dancers managed by the legendary talent agent.

At least a dozen other men have come forward this year to say they were sexually assaulted as teenagers by boy band impresario Johnny Kitagawa, who died in 2019, beginning with three who spoke anonymously to the BBC for a documentary broadcast in March.

The story has all the elements of a major #MeToo reckoning, but in Japan, response has been muted.

While opposition politicians set up a committee in parliament to investigate, and the talent agency Kitagawa founded promised to do the same and offered a brief apology, the news still rarely makes the front pages

or lead television news broadcasts.

Kitagawa shrugged off similar allegations for decades. National media almost completely ignored the story, and Kitagawa's business continued to thrive, even when a Tokyo appeals court found several accusers to be credible in a libel case in 2003. When Kitagawa died, he was honored with a massive funeral that filled a stadium.

Nakamura hopes that this time, Japanese society will acknowledge what happened to him.

"I just want to speak the truth," Nakamura said. "It happened."

The Associated Press does not usually identify people who say they were sexually assaulted, but Nakamura has chosen to identify himself in the media.

Kitagawa's agency, Johnny and Associates said in response to the AP's request for comment that all matters had been placed under investigation, and that it will also help with the "mental

care" of those who come forward.

In 1999, Japanese weekly magazine Shukan Bunshun wrote in a series of articles based on anonymous interviews with former performers that Kitagawa forced boys to have sex.

Kitagawa sued the magazine for libel in 2000, beginning a four-year legal battle that ended with an appeals court finding that "it was demonstrated that the sexual harassment was factual," and the testimony of the accusers, who appeared in court anonymously, was reliable.

In Japan, the imported phrase "sekuhara," short for "sexual harassment," is used to refer to all kinds of sexual misconduct.

However, the magazine was ordered to pay damages over assertions that Kitagawa gave minors cigarettes and alcohol.

Mainstream Japanese media almost completely ignored the story. No criminal charges were filed, and Kitagawa and his agency remained popular and powerful.



FILE PHOTO | ASSOCIATED PRESS

A gay-rights activist stands with a rainbow flag, in front of journalists, during a protesting picket at Dvortsovaya Square in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Russian lawmakers move to further restrict transgender rights in new legislation

By Dasha Litvinova
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALLINN, Estonia — Russian lawmakers on Thursday approved a toughened version of a bill that outlaws gender transitioning procedures, with added clauses that annul marriages in which one person has "changed gender" and bar transgender people from becoming foster or adoptive parents.

The bill received swift, unanimous approval of Russia's lower house of parliament, the State Duma, in its key second reading, and lawmakers scheduled the third and final reading for Friday. There is little doubt that the bill, a crippling blow to Russia's oppressed LGBTQ+ community, will be adopted amid the Kremlin's crusade to protect what it views as the country's "traditional values."

The bill bans any "medical interventions aimed at changing the sex of a person," as well as changing one's gender in official

documents and public records.

New clauses added to the bill also amend Russia's Family Code by listing gender change as a reason to annul a marriage and adding those "who had changed gender" to a list of people who can't become foster or adoptive parents.

Lawmakers portray the measure as protecting Russia from "the Western anti-family ideology," with some describing gender transitioning as "pure satanism."

It has rattled the country's transgender community and has drawn criticism not only from LGBTQ+ rights advocates but from the medical community as well.

Lyubov Vinogradova, executive director of Russia's Independent Psychiatric Association, called the bill "misanthropic" in an interview with *The Associated Press*. Gender transitioning procedures "shouldn't be banned entirely, because there are people for whom it is the

only way to ... to exist normally and find peace with themselves," Vinogradova said in a phone interview.

The crackdown on LGBTQ+ people started a decade ago, when President Vladimir Putin first proclaimed a focus on "traditional family values," a move ardently supported — and fueled, to a certain extent — by the Russian Orthodox Church.

In 2013, the Kremlin adopted the first legislation restricting LGBTQ+ rights, known as the "gay propaganda" law that banned any public endorsement of "nontraditional sexual relations" among minors. In 2020, Putin pushed through a constitutional reform that outlawed same-sex marriage.

But the authorities ramped up their rhetoric about protecting the country from what it called the West's "degrading" influence after sending troops into Ukraine last year, in what rights advocates saw as an attempt to legitimize the war.

Influencer arrested for satirical TikTok exposing Dubai's restrictions on freedom

By Nick El Hajj
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — An online influencer has been arrested in Dubai over a satirical TikTok video in which he portrays a brash Emirati on a spending spree inside a luxury car showroom.

The comedic sketch, in which he tosses stacks of bills at bewildered employees and offers to buy the most expensive car — a \$600,000 Ferrari SF90 — poked fun at the lavish lifestyles on display in the city, known for its gleaming skyscrapers and over-the-top tourism attractions.

Dubai is more socially lenient than much of the Middle East, with a relaxed dress code, bars and clubs serving alcohol — and even a local comedy scene. But vaguely worded laws forbid any speech, including journalism and satire, that is deemed critical of authorities or insulting to the United Arab Emirates, the federation of sheikhdoms that includes Dubai.

The influencer, Hamdan Al Rind, who refers to himself as the "Car Expert" online, is a UAE resident of Asian nationality. He boasts over 2.5 million

followers on the popular video-sharing site TikTok. His latest video attracted millions of views and was widely shared before being taken down following his arrest.

In the video, he is wearing a kandura, the long white robe typically worn by Emirati men, sunglasses and a surgical mask. He speaks in English with a heavy Arabic accent, shouting clipped sentences at the dealership's employees while his assistants haul around a stretcher filled with stacks of cash.

The Federal Prosecution for Combating Rumors and Cybercrimes says he is accused of "abusing the internet" by posting "propaganda that stirs up the public opinion and harms the public interest." It said the video "promotes a wrong and offensive mental image of Emirati citizens and ridicules them," the state-run WAM news agency reported on Sunday.

The WAM report described the video but did not identify the influencer or specify his nationality. It's unclear when exactly Al Rind was arrested or what penalties he could face. It's not known whether he has hired an attorney.

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THIS WEEK IN PHOTOS



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Peabody's Van Bowler leaps into the air to catch the throw down from home.



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Savannah Mwangi, left, and Ruby Pullo enjoy popsicle time during the Lynnfield Rec summer program.



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Ashton Chan, of Lynn, plays at the Kiley Playground splash pad as temperatures climb into the upper 80s on Thursday.



PHOTO | LIBBY O'NEILL

Peabody's Madalene Rodrigues dribbles a rainbow basketball during a water break.



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Devin Voong pitches for the Saugus 11s against Lynnfield on Saturday.



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Abhinav Nair receives an award before the final match of the spring season for the North Shore Cricket Club.



ITEM PHOTO | SPENSER HASAK

Charlie and Pam Hickey, both of Saugus, show off the vintage jacket from the Corvette club they were in before joining the North Shore Corvette Club.