

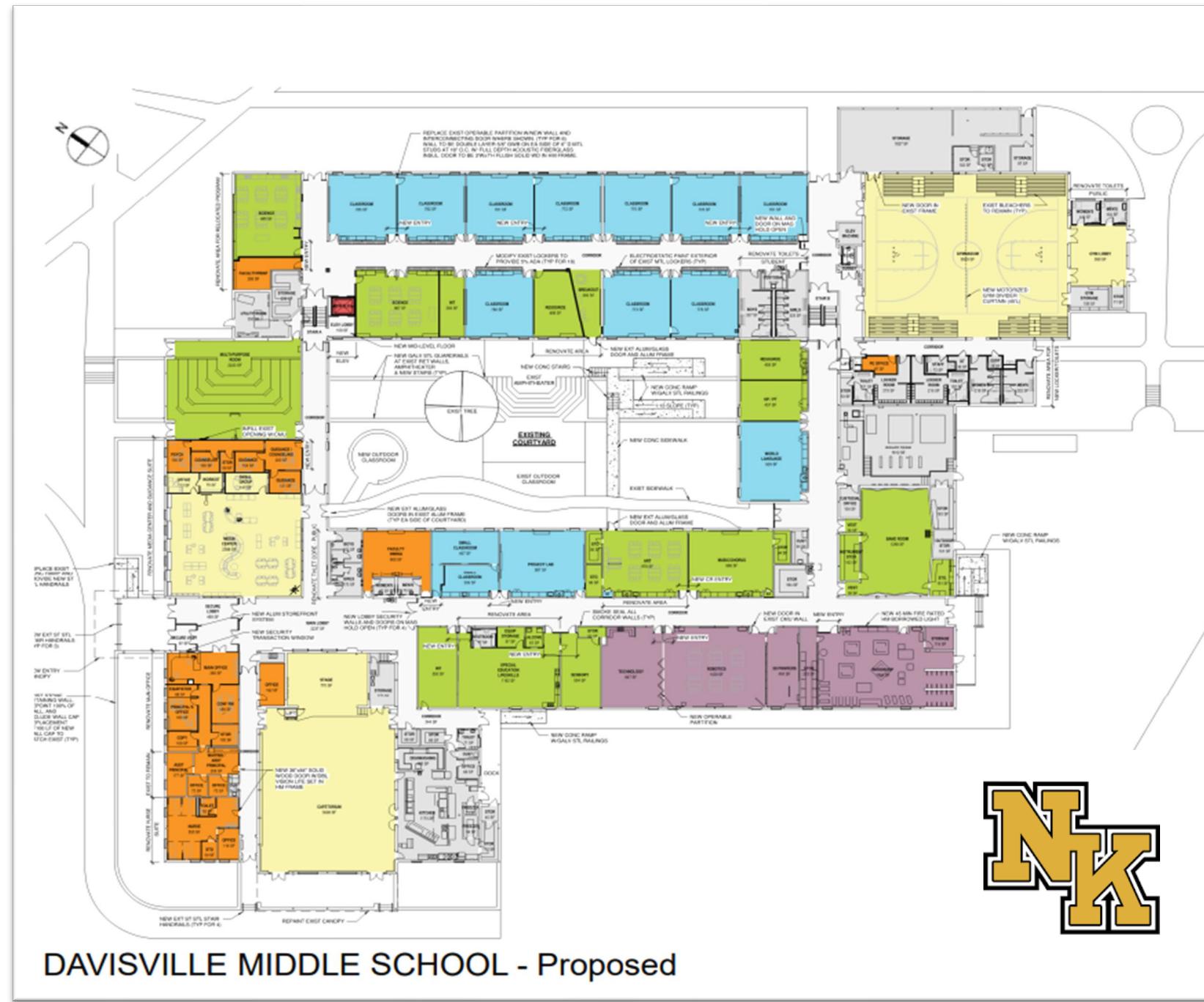


August 18, 2025

A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager

Manager's Report





School Department Capital Bond Projects & Public Safety Complex Bond Projects

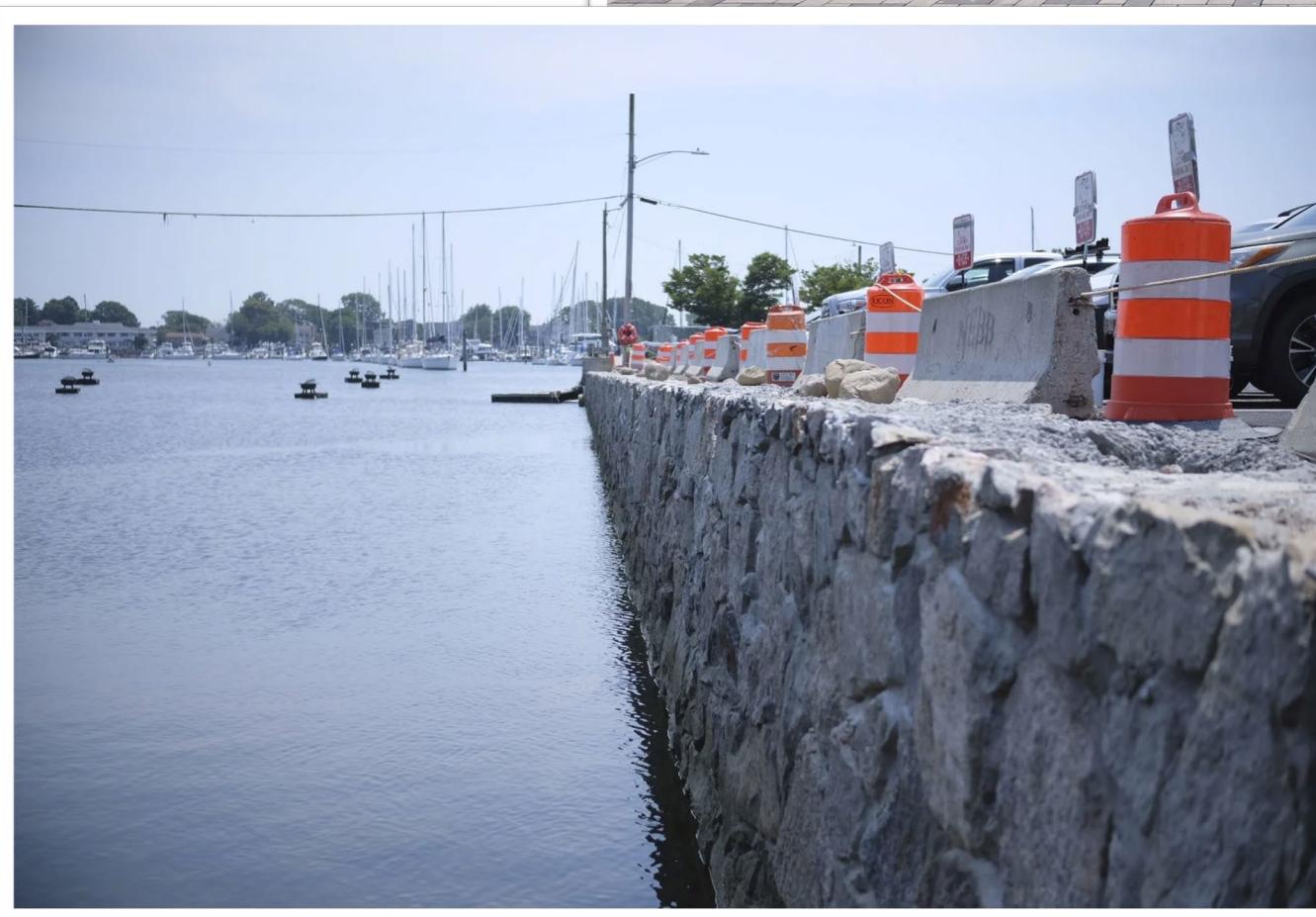
- A great deal has taken place with both items since the Council's last meeting on July 14. Following my Manager's Report, Council President Mancini will deliver an update on behalf of Council Person Kim Page, a member of the School Department Building Advisory Committee, regarding the **School Bond Projects**.
- Productive, internal meetings continue for the **Public Safety Complex Bond Projects**. We are finishing interior design and schematics, and exterior renderings for both buildings.
- We will be meeting with QDC on the Public Safety Complex on the site in Quonset, and are preparing initial plans for Planning, Zoning, and the Town's Technical Review Committee.
- An analysis of our current Fueling Station has determined that it can be retained with improvements to be funded by the Town, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings for the project overall.
- We are hoping to have cost estimates in by September 12; if they come back within the range of the bond amount, a public meeting will be scheduled for us to present the project and its timeline, to the public.





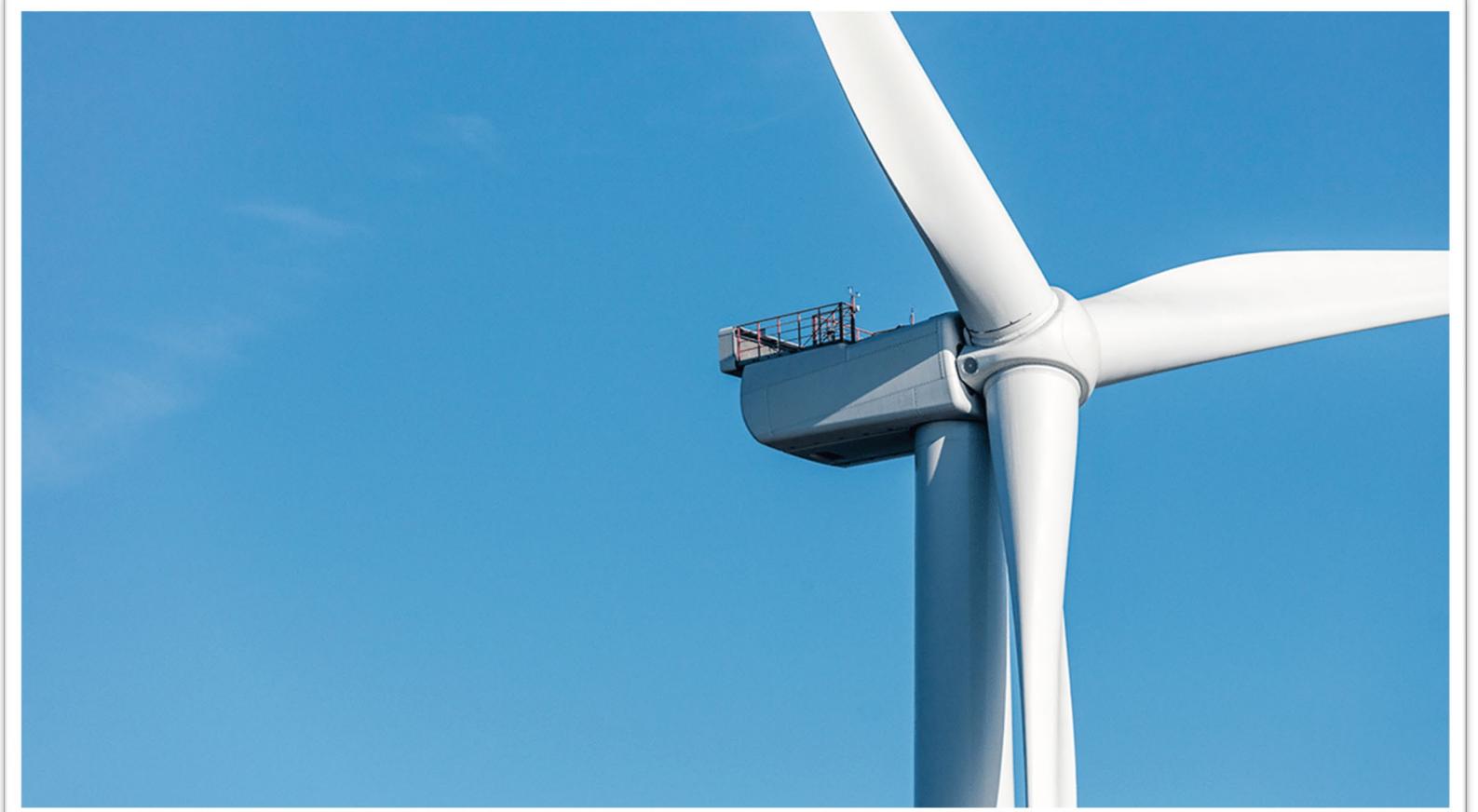
Wickford Waterfront Municipal Parking Lot Project

- This work continues to move forward on schedule.
- As mentioned in previous updates, RICON has combined Phases 2 & 3, which should ultimately put them ahead of schedule.
 - Paving took place this past weekend, and curbing, piping, and bioretention layout have taken place, or are taking place, alongside other significant aspects.
 - The parking lot remains open.
 - Wickford Harbor Fires have continued while construction is underway, and we've provided ongoing signage and instructions to additional parking elsewhere in the village.
- I will continue to keep you up to date on this initiative.



Updates:

- We continue with bi-weekly meetings with **Revolution Wind** regarding their Offshore Wind Farm Project. A good portion of their operation is beginning to wind down as we see fewer workers on site, and minor work taking place at the Onshore Substation; restoration is taking place at Circuit Drive.
- The Interconnection Facility's operation is now under the jurisdiction of Rhode Island Energy.
- There haven't been any additional abutter or outreach concerns. If you do have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Revolution Wind directly, at 401-251-2207 or via email: info@revolution-wind.com.



- As I reported last month, the **Wickford Elementary School Residential Project** received historic approval. We are now working with them to attempt to receive CRMC review and approval.
- This has been a challenging process for the developers.
- CRMC has received correspondence from concerned neighboring abutters which may be providing additional challenges. The Town is working with the developer in an attempt to notify CRMC on how important it is to get this reviewed, and hopefully approved.
- I will continue to stay on top of this, and provide updates.



Updates:

- The primary purpose of our meeting with **RIDOT** earlier this month was to discuss the Safe Streets for All Project, which is planned to provide an aesthetically-pleasing tree-lined pedestrian and bike route to serve as the missing link for Wickford Junction and Wickford Village, with the remainder of North Kingstown.
- It's a long-term project, to include public process and partnership.
- Bike lane striping is planned this fall for Boston Neck Road, as I've updated you on previously. Once complete, we will begin discussion on a long-term, larger bike project - similar to what they're envisioning for Ten Rod Road.
- Additionally, we discussed the paving of Phillips Street. While they have it scheduled for later years within their Transportation Improvement Plan, we asked that it be moved up considering the limited overall size of the project and given its current state. They will get back to us on this request.
- We also brought up the Route 4 traffic signal concerns: we asked for a response to our letter that was sent in follow-up to their original proposal and the public meeting that followed. RIDOT representatives were disappointed their proposal was not looked upon favorably, and expressed they are running out of options for viable solutions.
 - When a response is received, I will review with the Town Council to determine how we will proceed.



Updates:

- Their Frenchtown Road Bridge Replacement, South County Trail Bridge Replacement, and the Devils Foot Road Bridge projects continue.
 - Devils Foot Rd Bridge is expected to be closed through late fall 2025.
 - RIDOT will be reducing traffic to one lane in each direction for a new traffic pattern on Frenchtown Rd over Route 4 to accommodate construction, and remain in place until January 2026; there will be signed detours in place for the Rt-4 on-ramp. We will continue to assist RIDOT in keeping the public aware of the [project updates](#) they publish.
 - The work on the Frenchtown Road Bridge is a part of a larger, \$76.8 million multi-bridge project that includes Devil's Foot Road Bridge replacement, and is scheduled for completion in Spring 2027.
- In another RIDOT-related matter, this evening, Town Council approved our Agreement with the RhodeRestore 2026 Program, where we will once again fully participate in additional state funding for road repairs and paving. If other municipalities do not confirm their participation, we will have an opportunity to receive additional funding beyond the \$187,373.05 we can receive from the state through a match that is annually budgeted for in our paving budget.



RI DOT
Driven to get you there

Devil's Foot Road Bridge Detour for Temporary Closure Starts May 2025

FRIDAY AUGUST 8, 2025

PROJECT UPDATES
BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSTITUENT SERVICES, RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

As part of an ongoing joint design build project, we are replacing the Frenchtown Road Bridge. It carries Frenchtown Road (Route 402) over Route 4 in East Greenwich. We are also replacing the South County Trail (Route 2) Bridge, carrying Route 2 over Route 4 in East Greenwich and rehabilitating the Devil's Foot Road Bridge. It carries Devil's Foot Road over Amtrak's Northeast Corridor. It closed back in May and should remain closed through late fall.

Next weekend, we will reduce traffic to one lane in each direction to set up a new traffic pattern at the Frenchtown Road Bridge. This will require alternating lane closures on Frenchtown Road over Route 4, from Friday night, Aug 15 at 7 p.m. to Saturday morning, Aug 16 at 5 a.m. The two travel lanes will be shifted to the side of the bridge normally carrying westbound traffic while we demolish and replace the eastbound portion. Left turns at the intersection of Frenchtown Road, Davisville Road and the on-ramp to Route 4 North will not be permitted. Please follow signed detours.

Next week, motorists can expect left lane closures for wall and shielding work on Route 4, between the Route 403 off- and on-ramps:

- Tuesday through Thursday (Aug 12 - Aug 14) nights from 7 p.m. until 5 a.m.
- On Frenchtown Road over Route 4 for daytime concrete median work, Tuesday through Friday (Aug 12 - Aug 15), from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- And a right lane closure for bridge demolition on Route 403 East at the Devil's Foot Road Bridge overpass, Tuesday-Friday (Aug 12 - Aug 15) nights from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m.

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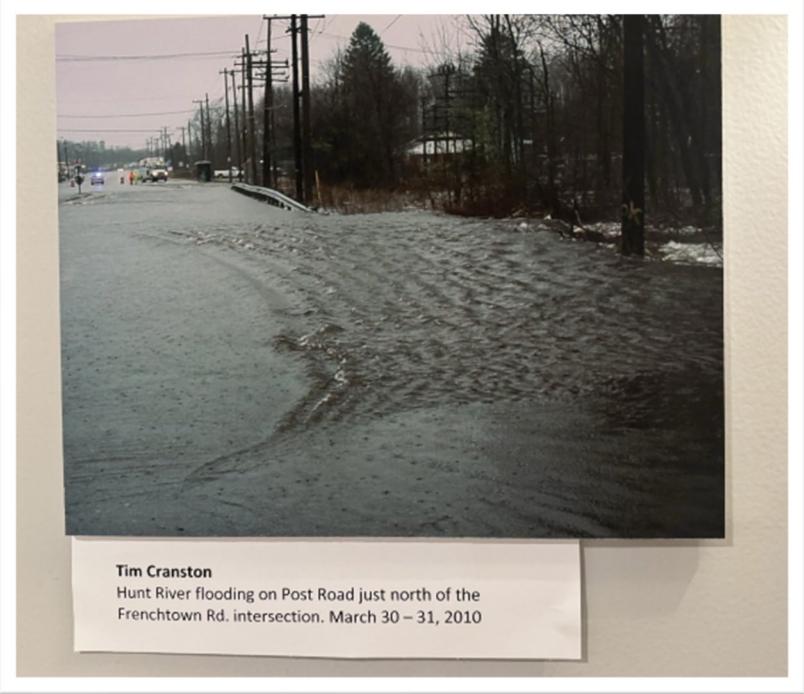
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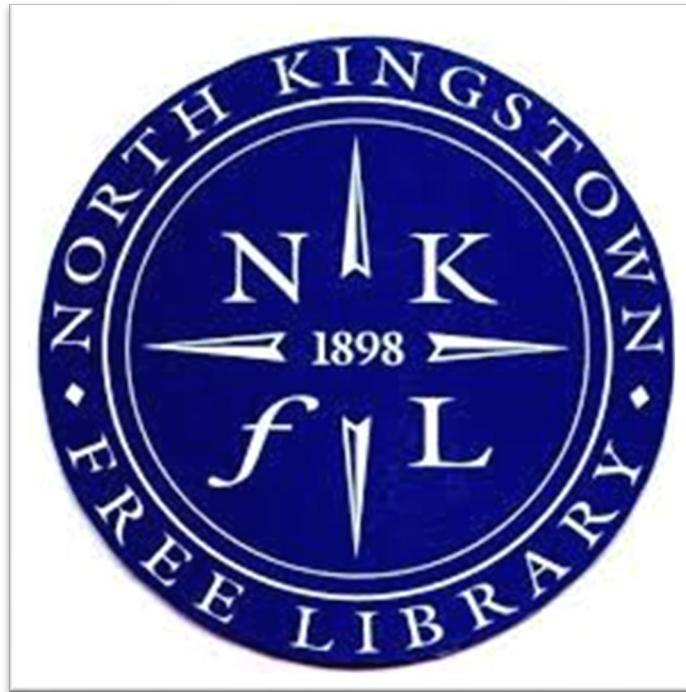
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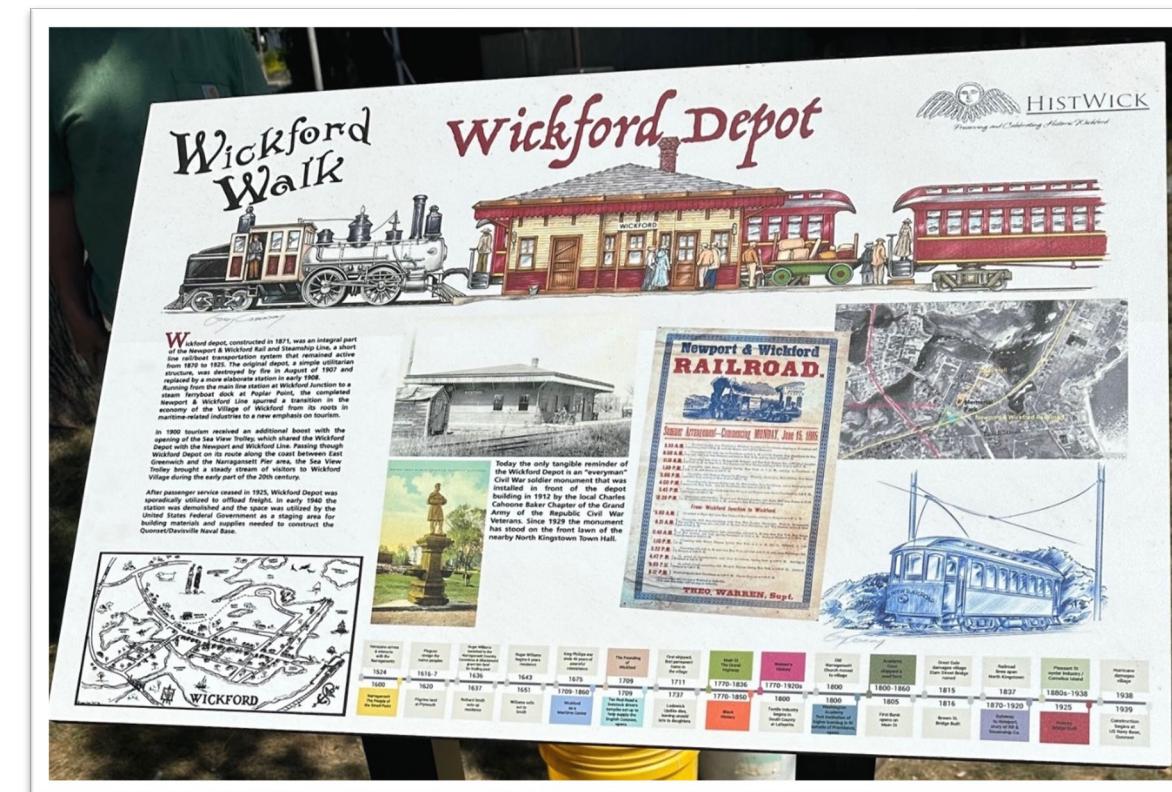
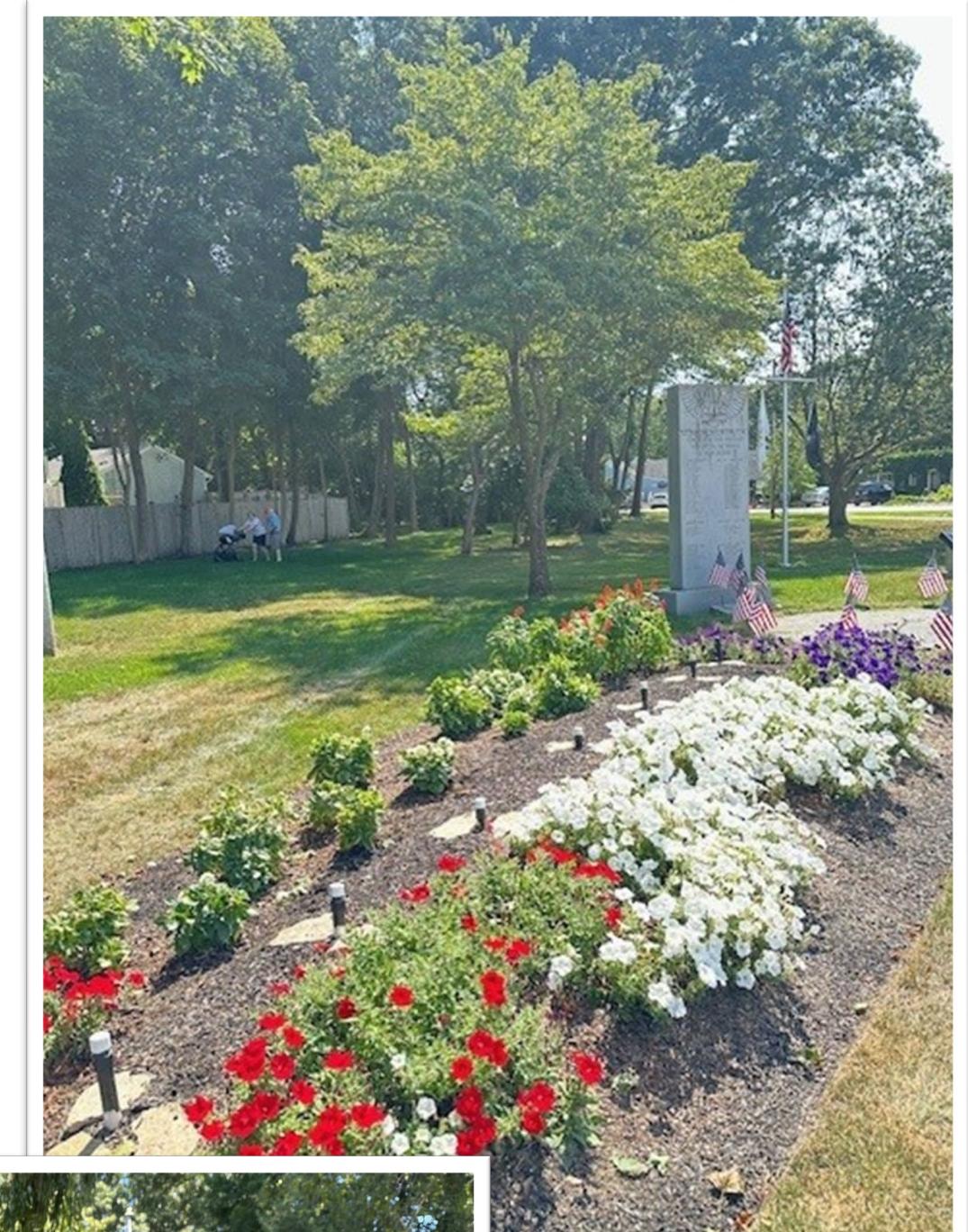
- As promised, we scheduled a meeting with the **Climate Conversations**. I thought it was very productive and look forward to future meetings and continued discussions with an organization that plays a vital role in bringing awareness to our staff, recognition of what we've already accomplished, as well as research and insight on projects and initiatives that should be considered.



- The **North Kingstown Free Library** has started their strategic planning process, and have appointed a team, including Council Person Matt McCoy, that will play an essential role in this endeavor. They will put together a community survey to receive public input through this process and help direct the future of our Library.

Thank you!

- I would like to recognize and thank the many groups, individuals, and volunteers for their incredible work and dedication to the transformation of Veterans Memorial Park – including Randy Wietman, VFW Post -152, Plum Beach Garden Club, Mike Donohue and the 350th Anniversary Heritage Tree Program, George Silva, municipal staff members led by members of our Department of Public Works and our Tree Warden, Brynn McNamee, and many others
- Their efforts have made the park across from Town Hall on Boston Neck Road a beautiful and permanent tribute to late local servicemembers from many generations. Our sincere thanks go to each person and organization that played a role in this transformation.
- We now wait for RIDOT for the finishing touch – a crosswalk from Town Hall to Memorial Park.



Updates:

- Work has begun for North Kingstown's Ryan Park to take its place on the world-famous Thomas Dambo Troll Map (<https://trollmap.com/>)
- This larger-than-life recycle art project is being completed by Thomas Dambo, a world-famous Dutch recycle artist, that has produced popular tourist attractions in cities and countries across the globe with the help of volunteers. Our troll will complete the **Rhode Island Troll Trail**, connecting our troll on the map with those already in place in Charlestown, RI, and also currently being built in Blackstone Valley and Richmond.
- Thomas Dambo's vision is to design and install 1,000 giant Trolls all over the world, using only recycled materials, to bring attention to his concerns that we will run out of natural resources in a world overrun with discarded materials.
- Thanks to **Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs**, our Recreation Director, we are a part of this incredible public art project.



Reminder:

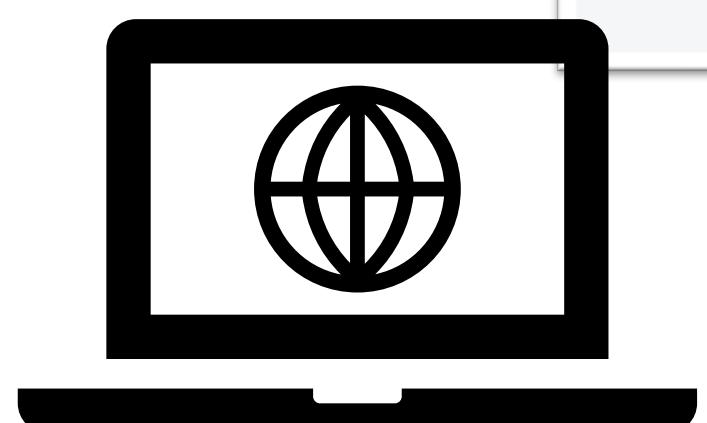
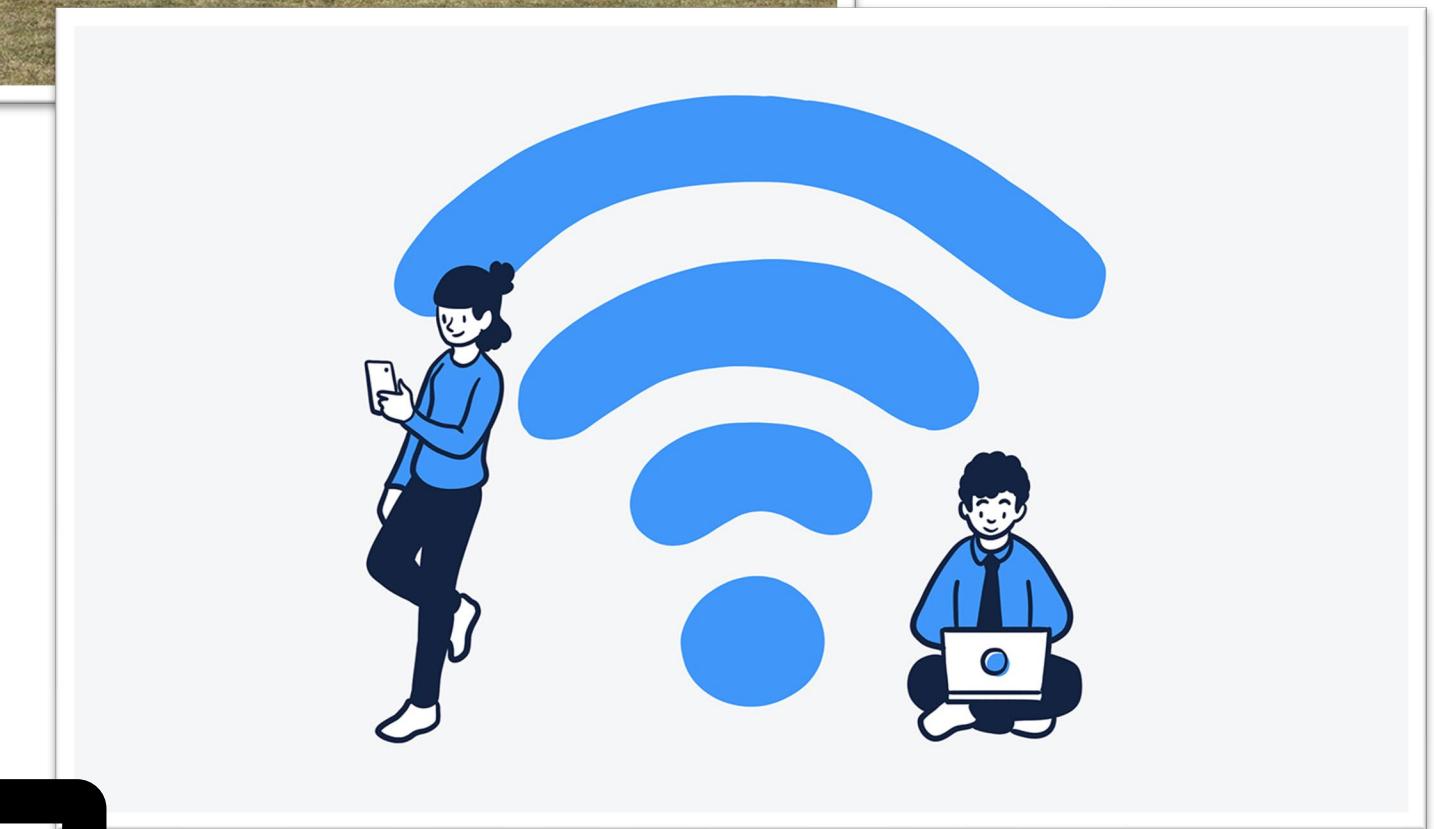
- Our **2nd Annual Family Day Celebration** in Wilson Park is coming up! Please put September 6th on your calendar, and join us for this day of family-friendly fun from Noon until 5:00 p.m.
- There will be live music by the Steve Anthony Band, food trucks, inflatables, community booths, demonstrations from our police and fire departments, and much more!
- Thank you to the community sponsors for their support in keeping admission to this event **FREE!**



Updates:

- Some unfortunate news – Senator Whitehouse's office recently notified me that our submission for a Congressionally-Directed Spending Appropriation for rehabilitation of the Old Town Meeting House did not advance in the subcommittee's bill.
- We do still have this request within Congressman Magaziner's office, so it is still possible.
- Our other project with Senator Whitehouse, the Broadband and Camera Project, for \$625,000, was included in the subcommittee's spending bill package, so it will continue as a possibility.

- State law requires all zoning and planning applications be electronic this fall; to comply, starting October 1, our application system will be the North Kingstown Online Permitting System on our website: <https://northkingstownri.portal.opengov.com/>
- Staff will be available to assist in this transition; please call the Planning Department for guidance (401-268-1574).

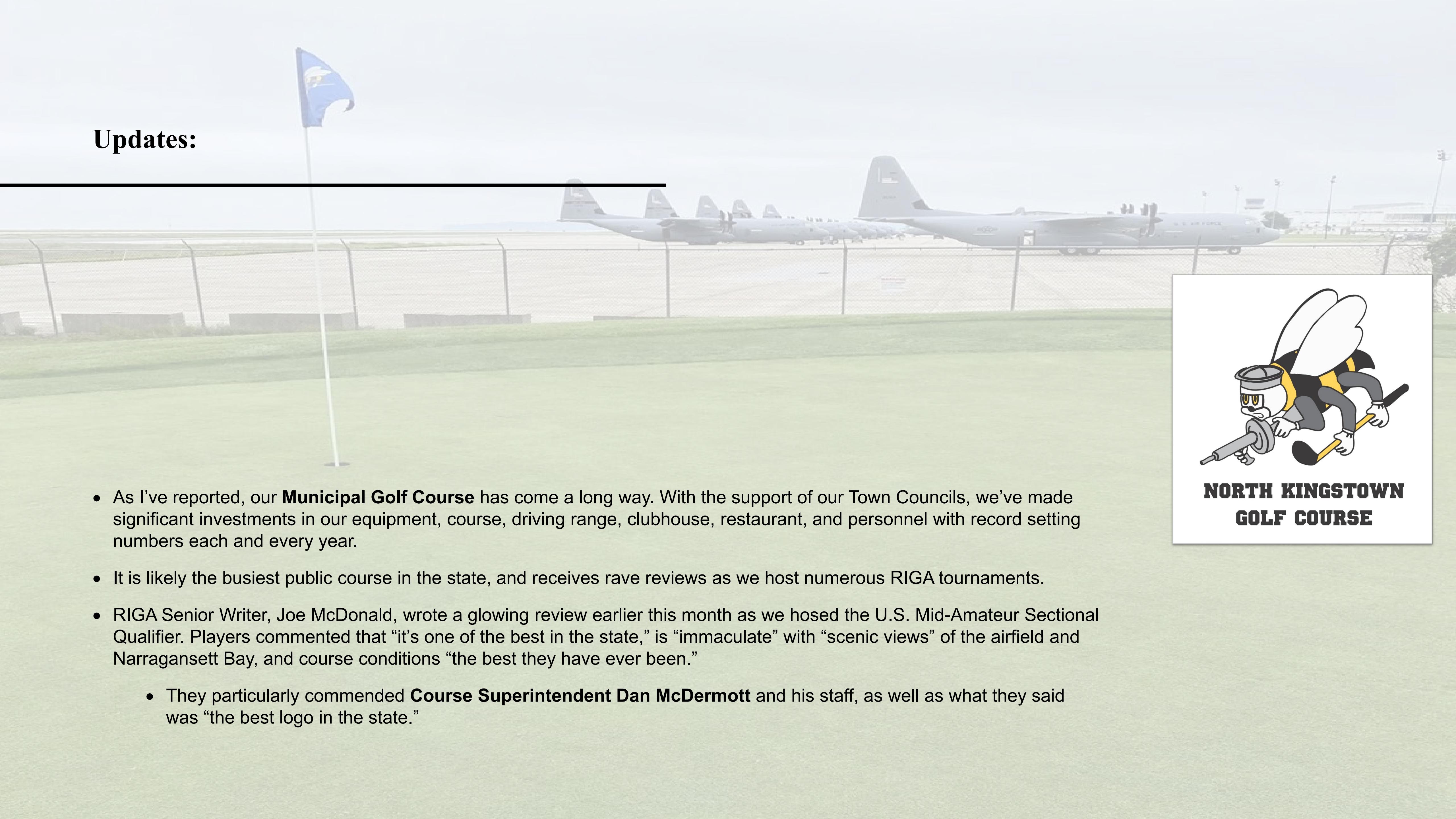


Updates:

- I'm happy to report that **Matt Souza**, our Building Official, was selected to participate in the upcoming Rhode Island League Municipal Leadership Academy, which begins September 5th.
 - Upon graduation, Matt will join fellow North Kingstown municipal employees and program graduates, Haley Wicker, Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs, and Kate Glass.
- I participated in a **Ribbon Cutting** last week for the new administrative offices, dining, and medical facilities at Quonset Point Air National Guard base. Council Persons Greg Mancini, Linnea Drew, Matt McCoy, and Beth Hill-Ross were there as well, accompanied by member of our State Delegation, Federal Delegation, and other dignitaries.
- I will also participate in the **Ribbon Cutting** for Anduril Manufacturing at Quonset Business Park, one week from today, and follow that with a lunch with Senator Whitehouse who will also be in attendance.



Updates:



- As I've reported, our **Municipal Golf Course** has come a long way. With the support of our Town Councils, we've made significant investments in our equipment, course, driving range, clubhouse, restaurant, and personnel with record setting numbers each and every year.
- It is likely the busiest public course in the state, and receives rave reviews as we host numerous RIGA tournaments.
- RIGA Senior Writer, Joe McDonald, wrote a glowing review earlier this month as we hosted the U.S. Mid-Amateur Sectional Qualifier. Players commented that "it's one of the best in the state," is "immaculate" with "scenic views" of the airfield and Narragansett Bay, and course conditions "the best they have ever been."
 - They particularly commended **Course Superintendent Dan McDermott** and his staff, as well as what they said was "the best logo in the state."



**NORTH KINGSTOWN
GOLF COURSE**

Updates:

- Lastly, at a recent meeting of the Town Council, Council members had requested a report on the **Rescue Billing Account** and the associated **Fire Department 5-year Capital Plan** which coincides with that account.
- As you know, I meet annually with the Fire Chief to discuss the Capital Plan and its relation to the Rescue Billing Account. Chief Linacre and I have an updated prepared for a presentation at your meeting on September 22nd.





Thank you.

A. Ralph Mollis,
Town Manager

August 18, 2025

Town of
North Kingstown

RHODE ISLAND'S ONLY & OFFICIAL
AMERICAN WWII HERITAGE CITY

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Kate Glass, Director of Communications & Executive Assistant
Office of the Town Manager