

GOING DOWNHILL
Sunny this morning,
then increasing clouds this
afternoon; cool tonight.
Forecast, E10

The Providence Journal

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Killing in a NEIGHBORHOOD



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / STEVE SZYDLOWSKI

Cranston police officers and detectives walk along Daisy Court in Cranston yesterday, looking for evidence in the weekend shooting of Cranston firefighter James A. Pagano. His neighbor, Nicholas Gianquitti, 40, was charged in the shooting.

A Cranston firefighter is fatally shot during his son's birthday party; police charge his next-door neighbor

THE VICTIM



PAGANO FAMILY PHOTO

FIRE LT. JAMES A. PAGANO

His life was full with family and old friends

BY DAVID SCHARFENBERG
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

CRANSTON — There was a home-cooked meal in the works at Fire Station Three yesterday afternoon.

And the dispatcher's voice crackled over the intercom from time to time.

But it was not a typical day for the men of the third platoon.

Lt. James A. Pagano, who had worked at the station for about 15 years before a recent promotion and transfer, was gone — killed Sunday afternoon in an apparent shooting by a neighbor the police have identified as

SEE **PAGANO, A9**

BY TOM MOONEY, DAVID SCHARFENBERG and AMANDA MILKOVITS
JOURNAL STAFF WRITERS

CRANSTON — When Nicholas Gianquitti moved to Daisy Court in 2005, he entered a model of quiet suburbia, where all the split-levels came with backyard fences and neat yards and children played in the cul-de-sac.

One problem: Gianquitti seemed at odds with the neighborhood children.

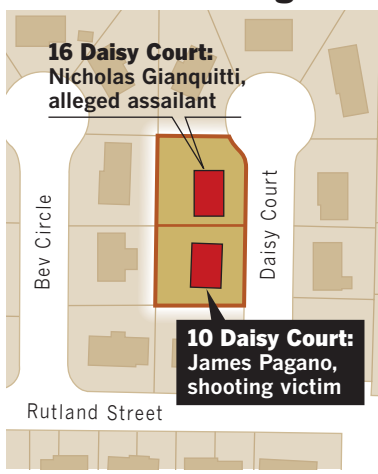
Their balls were always bouncing across his lush lawn or hitting his polished car.

Gianquitti complained about this last year to a friend from his old neighborhood, Oakwind Terrace.

The kids' balls "were always banging his cars," recalled Ron Silvestri of his conversation with Gianquitti. "They were brand new cars and he didn't like his cars being ruined."

Gianquitti, a slight man who drew a disability pension from the few months in the early 1990s

Cranston shooting



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GEORGE SYLVIA

when he served as a Providence police officer, complained to his neighbors on Daisy Court as well. And parents there and on the adjacent cul-de-sac, Lily Drive, warned their children to keep clear of the man with the tuft of orange hair sprouting from his chin.

On Sunday, Gianquitti's next-door neighbors, James and Adriana Pagano, hosted a birthday party for their young son. Some kids were playing in the street and, neighbors say, Gianquitti, who is 40, came out yelling and swearing at them when a ball struck his car.

Pagano, 44, a Cranston firefighter for 15 years who had been officially promoted to lieutenant just last week, rushed over to confront Gianquitti.

The confrontation led to punches and then, with children and others watching, the scene turned surreal.

SEE **KILLING, A9**



Nicholas Gianquitti, of Cranston, a former Providence police officer, is led away after his arraignment in District Court, Warwick, on a charge of murder yesterday. At left is Gianquitti's lawyer, William Devine.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL
BILL MURPHY



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / FRANK GERARDI

Former State Sen. John A. Celona, left, is questioned by prosecutor Stephen Dambruch, center. Former CVS executive John R. Kramer is below center; Judge Mary M. Lisi presides.

Celona: I 'took a walk' on choice bill

The ex-senator testifies to his change in attitude toward pharmacy-choice legislation after being hired as a CVS consultant.

BY W. ZACHARY MALINOWSKI and MIKE STANTON
JOURNAL STAFF WRITERS

PROVIDENCE — In January 2001, Sen. John A. Celona rose to a coveted position in the General Assembly: Senate Corporations Committee chairman. At the time of his appointment, the North Providence legislator was completing his first year as a \$1,000-a-month consultant for CVS, the Woonsocket-based drugstore giant.

OPERATION DOLLAR BILL Carlos Ortiz, a top CVS executive, met with Celona and they exchanged e-mails. Ortiz wanted to make sure that Celona had a job title — 11 months after Celona said that he came on board as a do-nothing consultant for CVS.

"If anyone asks what you do for CVS you should identify your title as Community Service Consultant," wrote Ortiz. "How does that sound to you?"

The discussion of a formal job title surfaced yesterday at the bribery, fraud and conspiracy trial of Ortiz and John R.

SEE **CELONA, A6**

THE WITNESSES

JOHN CELONA, the imprisoned ex-North Providence senator and the government's star witness, testified in his first day on the stand that John Kramer first suggested that Celona work as a consultant for CVS. Celona said that he didn't perform the duties that the agreement called for, and that he concealed the arrangement because he didn't want the public thinking he had switched sides in the debate over pharmacy choice because he was being paid — although that's, in fact, why he says he did.

ROBIN SEELEY, a CVS employee, testified that her former boss, Carlos Ortiz, was not thrilled that Celona was a consultant, saying that Celona was being paid for his rapport with senior citizens. She also processed Celona's invoices for payment.

CHRISTINE EGAN, a corporate lawyer for CVS, testified that Ortiz asked her for a blank consulting agreement, but that she didn't know it was for Celona. On cross-examination, she said that Ortiz wasn't required to show her the agreement, and that she never saw it until the current criminal case began.

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Extra: For our continuing report on Operation Dollar Bill and this trial, including some of yesterday's exhibits, go to projo.com

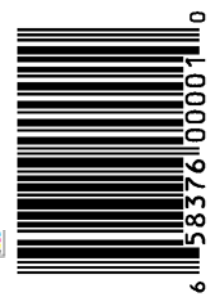
Kennedy breaks hand in martial arts mishap

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

PROVIDENCE — U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy broke a small bone in his right hand earlier this month during a charity event in Middletown. Kennedy was appearing at the "Relay for Life," an event sponsored by the American Cancer Society on May 10, said Robin Costello, Kennedy's spokeswoman.

The injury occurred while Kennedy was participating in a martial arts demonstration, said Costello.

"He broke a bone in his hand," said Costello. His arm has been in a splint because of the injury.



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LESTER PITCHES NO-HITTER

He has survived cancer. He was the winning pitcher in Game Four when the Red Sox swept the Colorado Rockies to win the 2007 World Series. And last night the 24-year-old became the first Boston left-hander to pitch a no-hitter in Fenway Park since 1956, giving up only two walks on his way to blanking the Kansas City Royals, 7-0. **C1**

