

**MORE OF THE SAME**  
A sunny start followed by increasing clouds this afternoon; overcast tonight.  
**Forecast, E12**

# The Providence Journal

**WEDNESDAY**  
MAY 21, 2008

**75¢**  
Home Delivery 401.277.7600

projo.com

## Senator Kennedy diagnosed with brain cancer

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy sits in a family room at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, yesterday. His doctors say he is in "good spirits and full of energy."



AP / STEPHAN SAVOIA

He will remain hospitalized for two or three more days and then return home to Hyannisport. Treatment includes radiation and chemotherapy, doctors say.

**BY SCOTT MacKAY**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
and **JOHN E. MULLIGAN**  
JOURNAL WASHINGTON BUREAU

Massachusetts Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the Democratic Party warrior and the most resilient American political figure of his generation, was diagnosed yesterday with brain cancer — a gloomy prognosis that sent a wave of shock and sympathy through the American political community.

Kennedy, 76, was diagnosed with a tumor in his left parietal lobe after a series of tests at Massachusetts General Hospital, in Boston.

Preliminary results from a biopsy of his brain identified the source of a seizure he suffered Saturday on Cape Cod as malignant glioma.

Family members, including U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy of Rhode Island, have been camped out at Mass. General since the senator suffered a seizure and was airlifted on Saturday from Cape Cod, where the Kennedy clan has a summer home.

"Obviously he is concerned. This is tough news for any son to hear," said Robin Costello, Patrick Kennedy's spokeswoman. "He is uplifted by the fact that his father is such a fighter and if anyone can beat this he

projo.com

**Your turn:** Get the latest, see video reports and react to the news of Sen. Edward Kennedy's brain tumor, go to [projo.com](http://projo.com)

SEE **KENNEDY, A10**

## House votes to pay portion of its health insurance

But lawmakers say the issue is all but dead once it reaches the state Senate.

**BY KATHERINE GREGG**  
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — In a gesture aimed at showing they are willing to "share the pain" in a season of budget cuts, members of Rhode Island's House of Representatives yesterday overwhelmingly voted for a bill that would require them to pay 10 percent of the cost of their state-provided health, dental and eye-care insurance.

The machine vote was 66 to 2, but the number voting in favor grew by one when House Speaker William J. Murphy agreed, according to his spokesman, to count the vote of a lawmaker — Rep. Steven Smith, D-Providence — who was not in the chamber at the time of the official vote. The only nay votes came from Representatives William San Bento, D-Pawtucket, and Timothy Williamson, D-West Warwick.

SEE **INSURANCE, B2**

## Public art's price tag raises some questions

**BY CYNTHIA NEEDHAM**  
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — First there were the \$84,000 neon lights on the side of the Rhode Island Convention Center.

Then there was the \$100,000 recording of birds chirping outside the new Kent County Courthouse.

And who can forget the proposed \$500,000 cloud machine that would have floated into the terminal at T.F. Green Airport years back?

When it comes to using taxpayer dollars for public art installations, some lawmakers say it's time to cap the amount of money spent.

A state law enacted 20 years ago requires that at least 1 percent of the construction budget for any new or expanded state building be set aside

SEE **ART, A10**

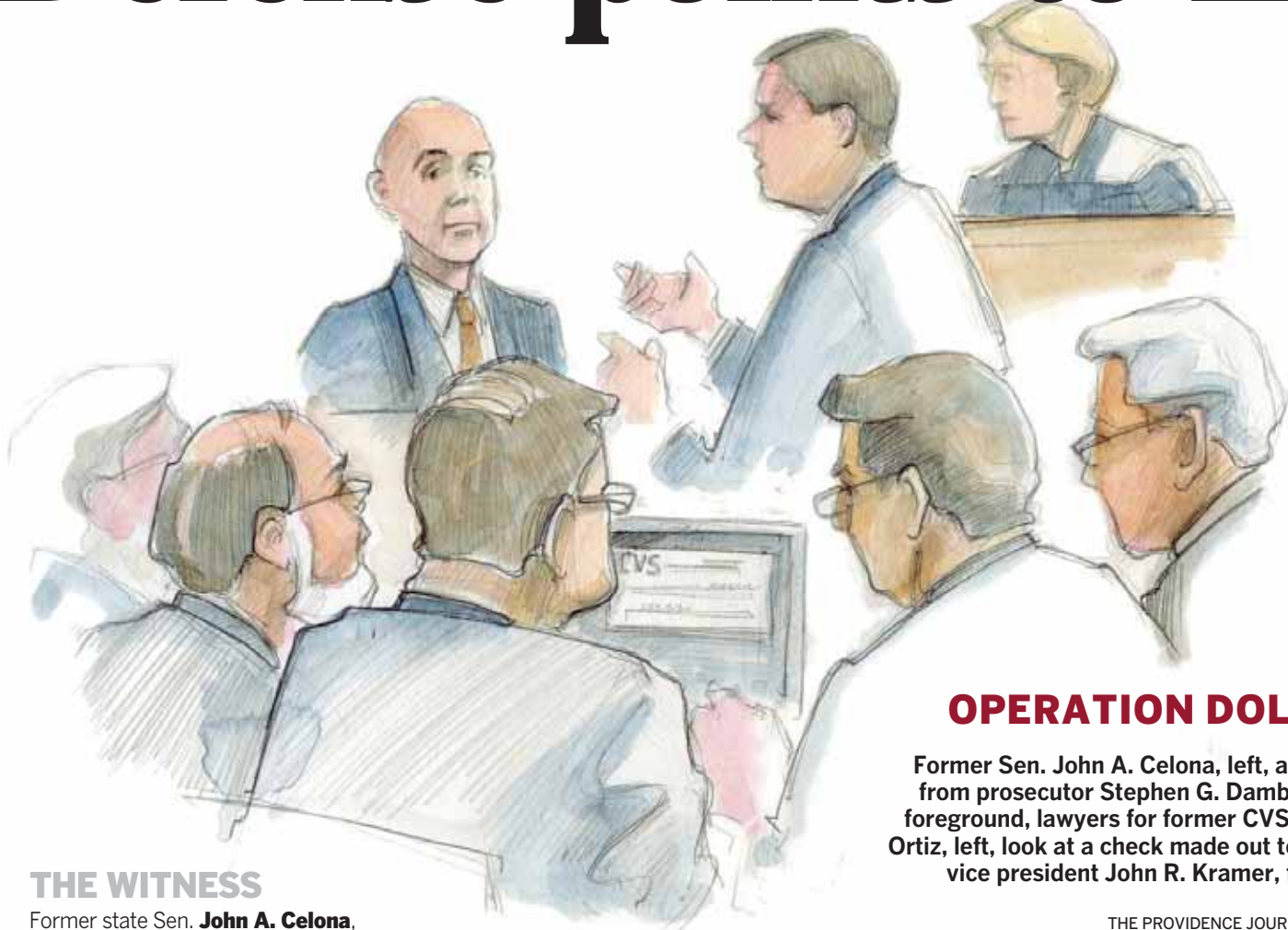
projo.com

**Your turn:** In a tight budget year, would you spend tax money for art in public buildings? To respond, go to [projo.com](http://projo.com)

## Defense points to Irons

\*\*\*FIRST OF ALL, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CORPORATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF ALL LEGISLATION MUST AND WILL BE CLEARED WITH YOU PRIOR TO PASSAGE. MY LOYALTY IS AND WILL BE TO YOU AS A MAJORITY LEADER THAT I BELIEVE IN. I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE THE ABILITY TO CAST A POSITIVE LIGHT BOTH ON YOU AND ON THIS NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM.

— Excerpt from a note from Sen. John Celona to Sen. William Irons



### OPERATION DOLLAR BILL

Former Sen. John A. Celona, left, answers questions from prosecutor Stephen G. Dambruch, right. In the foreground, lawyers for former CVS executive Carlos Ortiz, left, look at a check made out to Celona. Ex-CVS vice president John R. Kramer, far right looks on.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / FRANK GERARDI

### THE WITNESS

Former state Sen. **John A. Celona**, the government's star witness, was the only person to testify yesterday in the corruption trial of former CVS executives John R. "Jack" Kramer and Carlos R. Ortiz. One of Kramer's lawyers, Scott Corrigan, of New York City, spent more than two hours cross-examining Celona about his testimony on Monday, as well as asking him about his past grand jury testimony. Corrigan will continue questioning Celona today. Celona, who is serving a 2 1/2-year sentence in federal prison is expected to remain on the witness stand for several days.

## An alternative explanation for Celona's position

**BY MIKE STANTON**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE  
Prosecutors charge that John Celona killed legislation opposed by CVS because he was on the drugstore chain's payroll as a \$1,000-a-month consultant.

But yesterday, a defense lawyer presented jurors in the federal CVS corruption trial with another possible reason — that Celona was following orders from his boss, then-Senate Majority

Leader William V. Irons, when he refused to allow hearings from 2001 to 2003 on pharmacy-choice legislation that could have cost CVS millions of dollars in sales.

Irons also had financial ties to CVS. The former Senate leader is an insurance broker who used his friendship with CVS chief executive Tom Ryan to help reap several hundred thousand dollars in commissions on health-insurance policies

SEE **CELONA, A8**

## How mundane arguments can quickly escalate into deadly rage

Killings stemming from neighborhood disagreements — such as what the police allege happened in Cranston — are often traced to someone feeling disrespected, say experts.

**BY MARK ARSENAULT**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

They might not make for the plots of thriller books or movies, but killings that result from seemingly trivial disputes are sadly commonplace, accounting for the majority of homicides in this country, says a Northeastern University sociologist and author.

They're called "homicides over argument," and they often begin with angry words drawn

from a feeling of disrespect — and end in bloodshed.

"That is the typical homicide," said Prof. Jack Levin, author of numerous books on killers and crime, including *The Will to Kill: Making Sense of Senseless Murder*. "That is precisely the kind of homicide we see every day."

SEE **RAGE, A11**

projo.com

**Extra:** To read the complaints filed by Nicholas Gianquitti and Adriana Pagano in May 2006, and for the latest news on this story, go to [projo.com](http://projo.com)

## Autopsy: A single shot killed Cranston firefighter

**BY DAVID SCHARFENBERG**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The Cranston firefighter killed in a neighborhood dispute Sunday afternoon died from a single gunshot to the torso, according to autopsy results released yesterday.

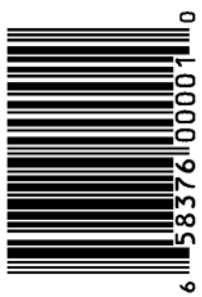
The state medical examiner's office reported that the bullet tore through Lt. James A. Pagano's aorta, pancreas and liver. News of the autopsy came as the family finalized funeral arrangements for later in the week.

The Paganos will hold a wake tomorrow from 4 to 8 p.m. at Nardolillo Funeral Home in Cranston, with a funeral Mass Friday at 10 a.m. at St. Mark Catholic Church, which the lieutenant attended as a boy.

A burial will follow at St. Ann's Cemetery.

"We'll have our firefighters in dress uniform," said Cranston Fire Chief James B.

SEE **SHOOTING, A11**



### INSIDE TODAY

© 2008 Published daily since 1829  
7 SECTIONS

Ask Amy	E10	Local News	D1
Bridge	E10	Lotteries	C4
Business	F1	Obituaries	D4
Classified	F6	People	E7
Comics	E11	projoCars	G1
Crossword	E10	Rhode Island	B1
Editorial	B4	Sports	C1
Food	E1	Television	E5
Legal ads	A11	What's	
Lifebeat	E7	Happening	E10

### A MATTER OF MONEY

A federal appeals court rules that U.S. paper money discriminates against the blind and must be redesigned to help them distinguish among different denominations. **A2**

### A WORLD OF FLAVOR

With meals provided by students from over 50 countries, Pawtucket's Charles E. Shea Senior High School is the perfect place to sample home cooking from around the world. **F1**

### CAMPAIGN 2008

## Obama moves closer to nomination



Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton cruises to an easy win in Kentucky's Democratic presidential primary but it's unlikely to be enough to stop Sen. Barack Obama, who, by winning in Oregon, can claim to have won a majority of all delegates chosen in primary elections and caucuses. **A4**

