

## Gas prices expected to continue their climb

JOURNAL STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

The average price of gasoline in Rhode Island rose 8 cents from last week, setting another record high. The average price of regular, self-serve gas was \$4.099 a gallon yesterday, according to a survey of local stations by the state's Office of Energy Resources. It surpassed last week's average price of \$4.019 a gallon, to set another record.

The average price is now \$1.07 more than it was one year ago.

And energy experts are predicting that additional price increases are right around the corner.

Meanwhile, heating oil in Rhode Island jumped 13 cents a gallon to \$4.629, also a new record high, according to the Energy Office.

Nationally, the average price of regular gasoline reached a record \$4.005 a gallon yesterday, up 28 percent from \$3.119 a year earlier, AAA, the nation's largest motoring club, said yesterday. Gasoline futures traded at

SEE **GASOLINE, A2**

### AT THE PUMPS

Per gallon of regular, self-serve gas in Rhode Island



SOURCE: State Office of Energy Resources

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GEORGE SYLVIA

## Labor's voice is among loudest

BY STEVE PEOPLES  
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

The power of organized labor is on display in the marble State House hallways most afternoons.

While union membership is at its lowest level in 50 years, labor leaders' daily contact with lawmakers is as strong as ever.

### LAST OF THREE PARTS

Most days on Smith Hill, union lobbyists far outnumber those from other interest groups.

"In fairness to labor, they're up here every single day, talking to people," says Senate Finance Committee

Chairman Stephen D. Alves. "You don't see the Chamber [of Commerce] people here every single day. Do [unions] have more access? I suppose they do — only because they're here. They catch you in the corridor. If business people were up here and want to talk to us, they're more than welcome to."

SEE **LABOR, A10**

## R.I. immigration plan may face delay

BY KAREN LEE ZINER  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

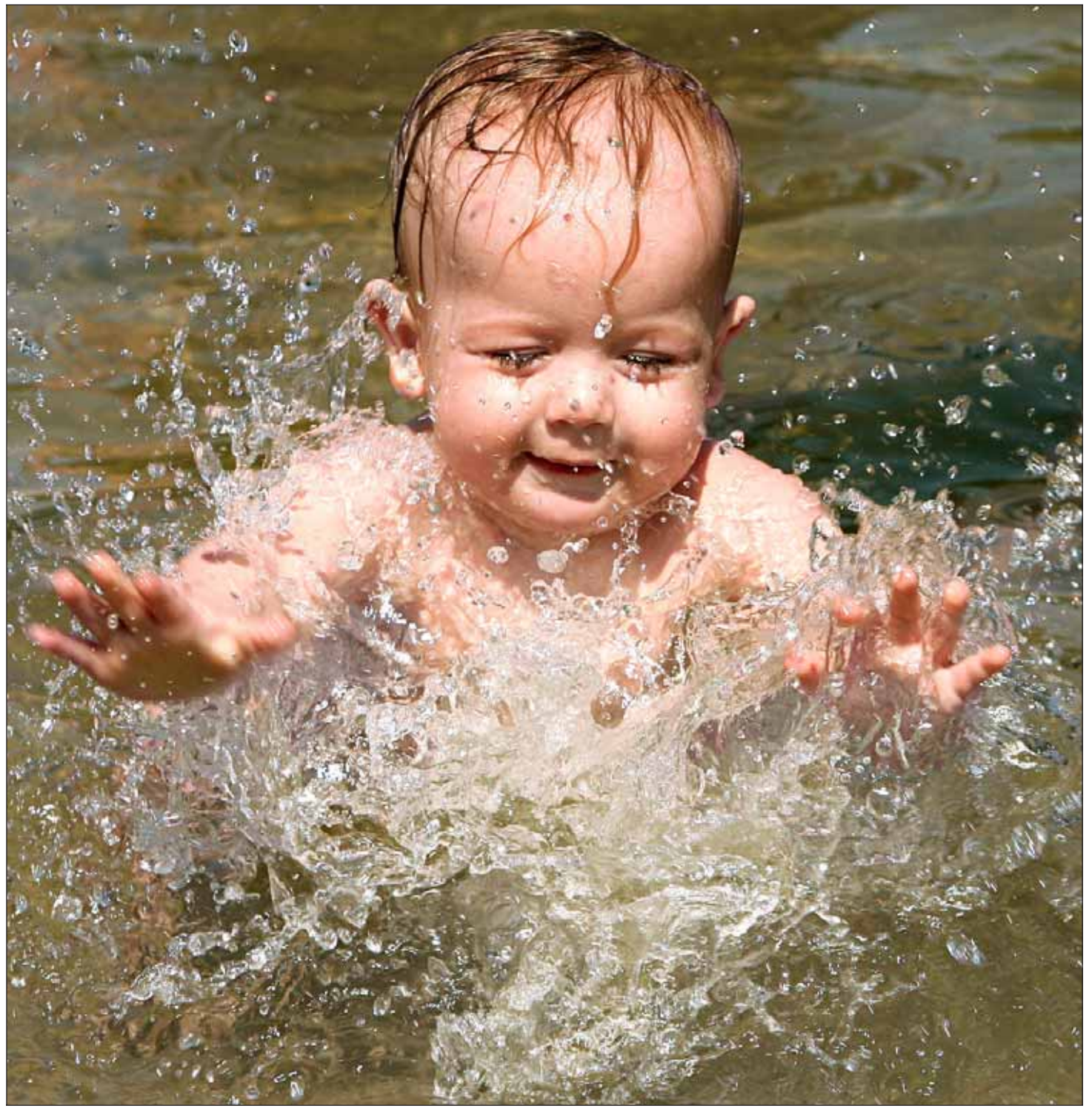
PROVIDENCE — A national backlog will probably delay one main element of Governor Carcieri's controversial executive order — deputizing state troopers and corrections officers with immigration enforcement powers — through at least next year, federal authorities say.

Rhode Island must first qualify for the so-called 287(g) initiative. Approval is not a certainty, but authorities say there are other federal options.

The directive in question, one of six in the executive order Carcieri issued in March, asks state police and the corrections department to join the 287(g) initiative with the federal Bureau

SEE **DELAY, A8**

# BABY, IT'S HOT



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BILL MURPHY

One-year-old Nathan Pereira, of East Providence, takes a refreshing dip in Olney Pond at Lincoln Woods State Park yesterday morning. The high of 97 degrees recorded in Providence was a new record for June 9.

## Record-melting heat closing schools early

BY W. ZACHARY MALINOWSKI  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

A rare early June heat wave gripped the state yesterday and the record-setting temperatures sent school officials scrambling for relief for thousands of children across the state and in Seekonk.

As of last night, Cranston was

projo.com

Your turn: Does the heat wave lift you to poetic heights? Post your hot-weather haiku, and get the latest on the heat, at [projo.com](http://projo.com)

the only school district in the state to call off classes today because of the heat. There will be early dismissals in Pawtucket, Warwick, Woonsocket, Bristol, Warren, Johnston, North Providence, North Smithfield, Smithfield and Seekonk. Two Catholic schools — St. Augustine's in Providence and St. Rocco's in Johnston — will also have a short school day.

The National Weather Service announced at 3:30 p.m. that a new record in Providence — 97 degrees — was set yesterday, breaking the

SEE **HEAT, A2**



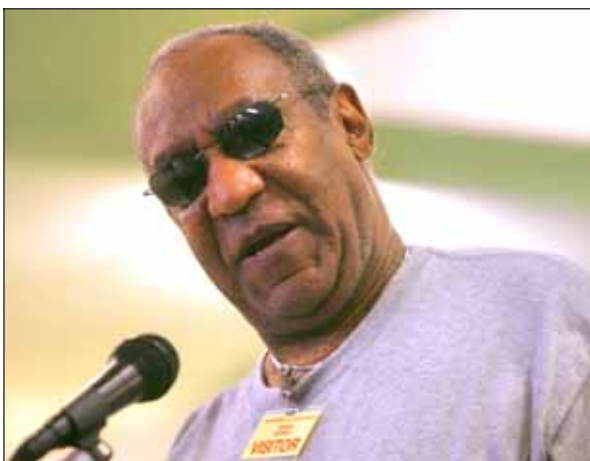
### Beat the heat

The Rhode Island Department of Health offers these precautions on how to cope with the heat wave:

- Stay out of the direct sun. Seek shaded or air-conditioned areas.
- Avoid strenuous physical activity.
- Schedule outside events early in the morning when it's cooler and air quality is better.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Avoid caffeine, soda and alcohol.
- Wear light-colored and lightweight clothing. Use hats with brims and put on a sunscreen.
- At the first sign of heat stroke — altered mental state, not sweating, nausea — seek medical attention.

## 'You have to believe in you!' Cosby tells ACI inmates

Bill Cosby speaks to inmates at the ACI's Medium Security Unit yesterday. "You did wrong, you got busted. But are you still dumb?" he asks.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / MARY MURPHY

The comedian speaks to more than 200 at the state prison, emphasizing accountability and education.

BY TOM MOONEY  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

CRANSTON — Bill Cosby, the comedian and, more recently, social critic, once took a film crew inside a prison to learn why so many felons waited until they were jailed before they picked up books and started educating themselves.

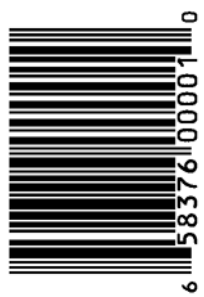
In the prison's barbershop, Cosby found nine men standing around. He asked each one why they were in, what crimes they had committed.

What he learned, Cosby told more

than 200 Rhode Island prison inmates yesterday, was that "Nobody did it!"

As the laughter subsided inside the Medium Security Unit visitors' room, Cosby delivered the point of his story: "Responsibility is what it's about. You can't go back [once you are released] and let people wait on you ... If you want more, you have to give more. You have to believe in you! And you have to get up! Get up!"

SEE **COSBY, A11**



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### PATIENT AWARDED \$2 MILLION

A jury has awarded \$2 million to a Warwick man who claimed he suffered brain damage because he didn't receive proper care after having open heart surgery at Rhode Island Hospital in 1998. **B1**

### FRIENDLY RIVALS

Growing up in Pawtucket in the 1950s, they were stickball rivals on Lafayette Street. Tonight, they'll be on opposite sides of the court — one as an owner of the Celtics, the other as the Lakers' team physician — as their teams face off in Game Three of the NBA Finals in Los Angeles. **C3**



### THE NEWEST AND COOLEST

The latest edition of Apple's iPhone comes with satellite navigation technology, faster Internet access and a host of new programs — and costs \$200 less than the original model. **E5**