LIFEBEAT FOOD: Taste of the Neighborhood: Savoring the many flavors of Charles Street. **E1**

LOOKING GOOD
Sunny and less humid today with highs in the mid-80s; clear tonight.
Forecast, E12

The Providence Journal

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WEDNESDAY
JUNE 25, 2008
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For these recovered remains, finally a place to rest in peace

The bodies of former State Farm residents, exposed during a heavy rainstorm in 2006, are being reinterred, away from a busy highway.

BY BARBARA POLICHETTI
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Finally, a resting place.

The first concrete boxes holding the remains of long-forgotten residents from the former State Farm on Pontiac Avenue in Cranston were returned to the earth yesterday, two years after heavy spring rains freed them from land along the northern embankment of Route 37, where it runs close to Sockanosset Cross Road.

Officials from the state Department of Transportation say the reinterment, which is taking place at an old state cemetery at the juncture of Pontiac Avenue and Knight Street on the Warwick-Cranston line, will continue for at least two days and will be followed by a formal ceremony at summer's end.

DOT archaeologist Michael Hebert spent a good portion of yesterday morning standing in a four-foot-deep trench, the arm of a backhoe looming above him, so he could guide each concrete grave liner into place.

All told, 69 boxes of skeletal remains and meager personal belongings (mostly just buttons) will be buried in the slightly scruffy historical state cemetery on the banks of the Pawtuxet River. Sixty-one of the skeletons have been identified, Hebert said. Six could not be identified even though the skeletons are fairly complete and in their own boxes, he said, and the remaining two boxes contain the mixed remains of the first bones that tumbled free and landed on the fringe of the parking lot of the former Davol building, on Sockanosset Cross Road, in June 2006.

The building is now used as an operations center by Citizens Bank, and the discovery of the bones by two bank employees on a lunch-

SEE **GRAVES, A7**

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Extra: View a slideshow of the reinterments as well as artifacts and previous archaeological digs at the site at **projo.com**

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / **KATHY BORCHERS**

Department of Transportation archaeologist Michael Hebert guides concrete grave liners into place yesterday in the historical state cemetery on the Cranston-Warwick border.

Housing rescue bill passes test in Senate

Despite a presidential veto threat, the package receives overwhelming bipartisan support, clearing by 83-to-9 a crucial procedural vote.

JOURNAL WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — A massive foreclosure rescue bill cleared a key Senate test yesterday by an overwhelming margin, with Democrats and Republicans both eager to claim election-year credit for helping hard-pressed homeowners.

Lawmakers moved with increasing urgency after a closely watched housing index showed prices nationally had declined in April by more than 15 percent from a year earlier. Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, the majority leader, threatened to keep the Senate in session through the Fourth of July holiday to finish the housing measure, if needed. The House has already approved similar legislation.

The centerpiece of the Senate package is a rescue-refinancing plan aimed at stemming the tide of more than 8,000 new foreclosures a day that lenders are filing across the country. The plan would allow dis-

SEE **HOUSING, A7**

Impact of high fuel prices felt beyond the pump

BY YLAN Q. MUI
THE WASHINGTON POST

Two dollars for pizza delivery.

An extra $1.70 to ship a $20 package.

And a $10 surcharge for lawn-mowing service.

The rising cost of fuel is rippling far beyond what consumers pay at the pump. Companies across an array of industries are instituting fuel surcharges that are nibbling away at consumers' pocketbooks. Like the airline industry with its baggage fees, businesses say they are being squeezed by higher gas prices and must pass on the costs to survive.

Consumer confidence sinks to a 16-year low. **F1**

"We're going to be paying higher costs across the board whether you pay it in the form of a surcharge or you pay it in the form of higher prices," said No-

SEE **SURCHARGE, A7**

Lightning strike injures man as wild weather sweeps R.I.

BY AMANDA MILKOVITS
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER
and MICHAEL McKINNEY
PROJO.COM
STAFF WRITER

Stormy weather blew into Rhode Island twice yesterday, with cascading quarter-sized hail and flash-flooding, wind gusts that tore down trees and power lines and severe lightning strikes that critically injured a man and struck several houses. By evening, thousands of Rhode Islanders, from Chopmist to Warren, were still without electricity.

The storms were brief, lasting about 20 or 30 minutes, but they attracted attention as they moved through the region in early afternoon and later in the day.

The black thunder clouds roiled overhead in Rhode Island beginning around 12:30 p.m., as the National Weather Service issued warnings for people to take cover from the impending hail and lightning. Amateur radio operators in North Kingstown were already reporting hail between 1 and 1¾ inches in size.

The weather service's warning was too late for a 42-year-old man who was struck by lightning as he

SEE **STORM, A6**

AFTER NEARLY 50 YEARS, HE'S READY TO BUILD

The battle between Anthony Palazzolo and the state over his plans for his property in Misquamicut attracted attention across the nation.

BY PETER B. LORD
JOURNAL ENVIRONMENT WRITER

Anthony Palazzolo, 87, fought all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2001 for the right to build 74 cottages on 18 acres of salt marsh between Atlantic Avenue and Winnapaug Pond in Misquamicut.

He lost. But the Supreme Court and state courts all agreed he had enough dry ground for one house.

Now, nearly 50 years after he first bought his property, Palazzolo is finally building that one house.

"I love it down there," Palazzolo said in an interview last week from his home in Westerly. "There's nobody around. It's great for the kids. And you can see the pond."

In fact, he'll be able to see water in nearly every direction from the new house. The pond is to the north. Wetlands sprawl on both sides and to the south. A narrow dirt road runs from Palazzolo's several acres of dry ground to Atlantic Avenue, and the beach lies just beyond.

Grover Fugate, executive director of the Coastal Resources Management Council, signed an "assent," or CRMC permit, on March 31 for Palazzolo to build a three-

SEE **LAND, A6**

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL FILE / **ANDREW DICKERMAN**

Anthony Palazzolo is building a single-family home on the highest spot in the 18 acres of salt marsh he's owned for nearly 50 years. The home site is marked by an arrow.

INSIDE TODAY

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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	E9
Legal ads	F4	What's Happening	E10
Lifebeat	E7		

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LIBERALS NEED NOT APPLY

An internal Justice Department investigation discovers some of the top graduates from the nation's leading law schools were improperly and illegally rejected for jobs with the department because of their liberal politics or objections to Bush administration policies. **A2**

WORTH THE WAIT

After a four-hour weather delay, Camilo Villegas and Bubba Watson win the CVS Caremark Charity Classic after a three-hole playoff . **C1**

RECORD-SETTING ART

Water Lily Pond, a painting by Claude Monet, sells for more than $80 million, making it the most expensive work of art ever sold in Europe by the auction house, Christie's of London. **E7**