

SEASON OPENS



Chargers, Bulldogs both win big. p.9

WESTERLY  
**THE SUN**  
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WESTERLY, R.I. SATURDAY, September 10, 2011

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**Grandparents by the numbers**

In 1970, Marian McQuade began a campaign to set aside a special day for grandparents. President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation in 1978 designating the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day. The first official observance was Sept. 9, 1979.

**6.7 million**

The number of grandparents whose children younger than 18 lived with them in 2009.

**2.7 million**

The number of grandparents responsible for most of the basic needs (food, shelter, clothing) of one or more grandchildren who lived with them in 2009. These grandparents represented about 40 percent of all grandparents whose children lived with them. Of these caregivers, 1.7 million were grandmothers and 1 million were grandfathers.

**8%**

Percentage of grandparents living with grandchildren who were caring for their grandchildren and whose income was below the poverty level. This represents half a million grandparents.

**\$45,007**

Median income for families with grandparent-caregiver householders and/or spouses. If a parent of the grandchildren was not present, the median dropped to \$33,417.

**1 million**

Number of grandparents responsible for caring for their grandchildren for at least the past five years.

**1.9 million**

The number of grandparent-caregivers who were married.

**1.6 million**

The number of grandparents who were in the labor force and also responsible for most of the basic needs of their grandchildren.

**700,000**

Number of grandparents with a disability who were caring for their grandchildren.

**70%**

Among grandparents who were responsible for their grandchildren, the percentage who lived in an owner-occupied home.

**7.5 million**

The number of children living with a grandparent in 2010; these children comprised 10 percent of all children in the United States. Of these children, 4.9 million lived in the grandparent's home.

**3.2 million**

The number of children who lived with both a grandmother and a grandfather in 2010.

**30%**

Among children younger than 5 whose mothers were employed, the percentage cared for on a regular basis by a grandparent during their mother's working hours in 2005.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau's Public Information Office

**Crescent Club hearing continues Monday**

■ Developer cites geohydrolic, archeological and traffic studies, but neighbors dispute each assertion.

By **LESLIE ROVETTI**  
Sun Staff Writer

STONINGTON — Battle lines have been drawn, and weapons — data, reports and petitions — have been chosen.

There is a skirmish taking place in the Pawcatuck neighborhood near the intersection of

Greenhaven and Mary Hall roads. A developer has proposed building the Crescent Club, a 68-unit condominium community, and many of the neighbors are now up in arms.

One of the battle lines has been drawn around blasting, an activity necessary for building on that lot. Neighbors fear the use of explosives could crack the foundations of their homes, or destroy the integrity of their wells.

"My worst nightmare is, these wells go down," said Peg Moran, of Mary Hall Road.

For Moran, her water is a necessity of both life and business. She grows cut flowers for resale, and a problem with her water supply could be devastating to her business.

She recalled a time in 1977, when she contends blasting for the Pawcatuck wastewater treatment plant nearby caused three wells in the neighborhood to dry up.

"The water for three wells disappeared, literally overnight," she recalled.

In response, the town had to ex-

tend public water lines down Mary Hall Road, at its own expense.

"If my well goes down, I become a public liability," she said. "I don't see this as a problem just for us. I see this as a problem for the whole town."

In response to those concerns, Cherenzia Excavation, the proposed developer, had a geohydrological report prepared by Paul B. Aldinger & Associates of East Providence. In the report, Aldinger notes that he believes

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**Swell ride**



DANIEL HYLAND / The Sun

A surfer off Misquamicut rides one of the swells caused by Hurricane Katia on Friday. Although the hurricane was expected to pass far to the east of Rhode Island, state officials warned residents about high surf and potentially dangerous rip currents.

**Whalerock lawsuits approach final discussions**

By **MICHAEL SOUZA**  
Sun Staff Writer

CHARLESTOWN — After months of lawsuits, counter suits and briefings, a meeting has finally been set to determine a date for final discussions on the Whalerock Renewable Energy LLC wind turbine project.

According to Whalerock's attorney, Nicholas Gorham, a status conference with Judge Judith Savage has been scheduled for Thursday. Lawyers for all parties

are expected to attend and a final date to hear the cases will be established. They include Gorham; Peter Ruggiero, representing Charlestown's Town Council; Robert Craven, representing the town's Zoning Board; and James Donnelly, representing a group of residents that live near the proposed turbines.

Whalerock plans to erect two, 262-foot wind turbine on 81 acres between King's Factory Road and East Quail Run. Blades on the turbines would spin as high as

410 feet. The proposal is one the town's most controversial and contested issues in recent memory.

The turbine project has been the subject of several legal actions over the past year, creating a complicated web of claims from multiple parties. While an ultimate legal decision may take some time and includes options such as trials and appeals, Gorham is happy the process is underway.

"These cases can move very

slowly, so it is nice to see that some progress is being made," he said. "The last briefs were filed in July, so it's just been a matter of finding a mutually agreeable date to meet."

In an April public hearing it was revealed that the attorneys would meet in Washington County Superior Court for a pre-hearing conference. Since then, the legal actions of the parties have been combined and all have filed briefs stating their position and

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**Brown tallying up costs of wars**

By **DAVID KLEPPER**  
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE — The U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have taken 225,000 lives and will ultimately cost more than \$3 trillion, according to a one-of-a-kind study by Brown University that aims to put a price tag on the U.S. response to 9/11.

The "Costs of War" study

brings together the work of more than 20 economists, political scientists, legal scholars and anthropologists in what its authors say is the most comprehensive accounting of the fiscal and human toll of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars and the nation's counterterrorism efforts.

"There has been a tremendous loss involved whether you're talking about lives or

money," said Catherine Lutz, professor of anthropology and international relations at Brown and a leader of the project. "The public needs to know these numbers, and sometimes they're difficult to find. These aren't the kinds of numbers that just pop up on Google."

The project, available at [costsofwar.org](http://costsofwar.org), is written not

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**Sunday's 9/11 events**

**Westerly**

A moment of silence will be observed followed by a blessing by local clergy on the steps of Town Hall at noon. The ceremony will also include ringing of the bells at Christ Church and other churches that choose to participate. All are welcome to attend. The town's first responders will be recognized and those in attendance will have the opportunity to sign a permanent card in recognition of the town's first responders.

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