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WHEN YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, WE ARE THERE WITH YOU.

As the United States faces its worst public health crisis in a century, we want you to know we are here for you — and with you.

Whatever happens, whenever it happens, your newspaper will be there for you.

We'll be there to let you know how our community is managing through this crisis — from business to government to the health care system and schools to the

drastic impact on individuals and families.

And we'll be there to let you know about the good and extraordinary things happening in the midst of this crisis — the volunteers sewing masks for health care workers, the city workers keeping essential services rolling, the nonprofit workers attending to the homeless and less fortunate, the volunteers bringing food to elderly people who can't leave their homes, the doctors and nurses and first responders putting

themselves in harm's way to care for the sick and keep the public safe.

We are here to help you make sense of the situation and to help you navigate it. Having fact-based, reliable reporting that provides public scrutiny and oversight is more important than ever.

Together, for 126-plus years, our newspaper and its readers have navigated horrific events including natural disasters, terrorism, financial downturns, periods of ex-

treme political and societal division. This challenge is greater than any of those, but rest assured, we'll be here for you as a source of reliable information and determined reassurance.

In southern Rhode Island and southeastern Connecticut, we are resilient. We come together and do what it takes to build and rebuild. Witness the recovery after Superstorm Sandy as Exhibit A. Let's stick together, and we will come through this, too.

New chamber web page aims to assist businesses

One Fund had been in late stage of development before COVID-19 hit

By Dale P. Faulkner
Sun staff writer

WESTERLY — A new web page created by the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce Foundation is being used to assist business owners, workers, local nonprofits, and health care organizations as the effects of the COVID-19 crisis mount.

Launched about a week ago, the Ocean Community One Fund page is a clearinghouse of information on how to donate to chamber efforts that support businesses and residents in Westerly, Richmond, Hopkinton and Charlestown and Stonington as well as ways to donate financially to social service agencies and hospitals. The page also includes information about medical equipment and meals being sought by Westerly Hospital.

The chamber foundation, a philanthropy, was created in 2015. See One Fund, A5



Konicki

Rhode Island expands its visitor quarantine order

Connecticut gets federal help

By Lisa Rathke
Associated Press

A look at developments related to the coronavirus around New England:

PROVIDENCE — All out-of-state passenger vehicles entering Rhode Island at the southern border with Connecticut will be asked to stop at information centers and if they plan to stay for a while must provide contact information and self-quarantine for 14 days, Gov. Gina Raimondo and the head of the state police said during her daily press conference on the coronavirus on Sunday.

On Saturday she expanded an order beyond New Yorkers to anyone coming to Rhode Island for a non-work related reason to self-quarantine and further explained that and other orders on Sunday.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo had threatened to sue the state for targeting New Yorkers. Raimondo said she expanded the order due to a spike in cases in other states.

"The procedure we have in place does not violate anyone's constitutional rights," Colonel James Manni, superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police, said Sunday.

See COVID-19, A3

Construction begins on new Ninigret Park information kiosk

By Cynthia Drummond
Sun staff writer

CHARLESTOWN — Work began Tuesday on a new kiosk at Ninigret Park. The new structure will provide more information on the park's layout, history, and activities.

After receiving several bids, the Town Council awarded the contract in December 2019 to the lowest bidder, Shalvey Brothers Landscape Inc., of Warwick, for \$174,046.

Funding for the project is from two sources: \$72,843 from the Ninigret Park Fund and the remaining \$101,203 of a \$1 million bond approved by Charlestown voters in 2015.

Town Council President Virginia Lee said the new kiosk, which replaces a smaller structure near the park entrance, will feature a display on the history of the park. A portion of Ninigret Park served as the Charlestown Naval Auxiliary Field, an important pilot training facility during World War II. The naval station continued

to operate until 1974.

"The history of the park with some pictures. That's what the kiosk will be, and then there'll be a space on it for posting current notices — what's coming up, what's going on — which there really isn't now," Lee said.

In addition to the kiosk, new signs will help visitors navigate the 227-acre park.

"This is the finale of the initiative to

See Kiosk, A2



Charlestown Parks and Recreation Director Vickie Hilton, left, watches as workers break ground Tuesday on the new information kiosk at Ninigret Park.

Cynthia Drummond, The Westerly Sun

SPORTS



Coaches group honors Westerly's Lauzon. **B1**

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