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PUBLIC NOTICE INVITING THE PUBLIC TO A RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2015 AT COURTYARD MARRIOT MIDDLETOWN NS
NEWPORT RI
05/08/2015
THE NEWPORT DAILY (R.I.) NEWS

NATION&WORLD

Senate OKs bill giving Congress review of Iran deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate muscled its way into President Barack Obama's talks to curb Iran's nuclear program, overwhelmingly backing legislation Thursday that would let Congress review and possibly reject any final deal with Tehran.

The vote was 98-1 for the bipartisan bill that would give Congress a say on what could be a historic accord that the United States and five other nations are trying to finalize with Iran. Under the agreement, Iran would roll back its nuclear program in exchange for relief from crippling economy penalties.

The lone "no" vote came from freshman Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., who wants the administration to submit any agreement to the Senate as a treaty. Under the Constitution, that would require approval of two-thirds of the Senate.

The House is expected to vote next week on the measure.

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said in a statement moments after the vote that the "goal is to stop a bad agreement that could pave the way to a nuclear-armed Iran, set off a regional nuclear arms race, and strengthen and legitimize the government of Iran."

White House spokesman Eric Shultz said Obama would sign the bill in its current form. But the spokesman added that Obama has made it clear that if amendments are added by the House "that would endanger a deal coming together that prevented Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, that we'd oppose it."

Even if Congress rejects his final nuclear deal with Tehran, however, Obama could use his executive pen to offer a hefty portion of sanctions relief on his own. He could take unilateral actions that — when coupled with European and U.N. sanctions relief — would allow a deal to be implemented.

The U.S. and other nations negotiating with Tehran have long suspected that Iran's nuclear program is secretly aimed at atomic weapons capability. Tehran insists the program is entirely devoted to civilian purposes.

The talks resume next week in Vienna, with a target date of June 30 for a final agreement.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said the bill "offers the best chance for our constituents through the Congress they elect to weigh in on the White House negotiations with Iran."

Indiana officials hopeful HIV outbreak may be subsiding

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — After months of mounting HIV cases, a rural county that's facing Indiana's worst-ever HIV outbreak is seeing a dwindling number of new infections, possibly signaling that the outbreak is winding down, a state health official said Thursday.

Deputy State Health Commissioner Jennifer Walthall said there have been 149 confirmed HIV cases and one preliminary positive case in Scott County and adjacent areas since December, but only about 15 new cases during the past two weeks.

She said health officials "are very relieved" by the recent drop in new HIV cases amid the outbreak fueled largely by needle-sharing among intravenous drug users.

"We feel that we've really started to get a handle on where we are in the outbreak and we might be seeing its conclusion," Walthall said during a weekly update on the outbreak.

Scott County, about 30 miles north of Louisville, Ky., normally sees only about five new HIV cases annually, but since the outbreak was detected in December it's seen 30 times that number.

Those cases in Scott County, as well as a handful in adjacent Jackson County and other parts of southeastern Indiana, are tied largely to needle sharing among people who injected a liquefied form of the painkiller Opana. But some of those cases have spread through unprotected sex, which is the primary way the virus that causes AIDS is transmitted in the U.S.

Activist doesn't regret cartoon contest

NEW YORK (AP) — Does Pamela Geller regret organizing the Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest that ended in gunfire?

No, she says confidently. In fact, she says, she probably saved lives by hosting the event and plans to have more just like it, with one difference: Next time, she'll be wearing a bulletproof vest.



Geller

"I will continue to speak in defense of freedom until the day I die," Geller said Thursday in an interview with The Associated Press, as a grim-looking personal security guard hovered nearby. "It's just that simple. It's not even a choice. It's a calling."

Geller has always hired armed security personnel to protect the scores of events she has spearheaded across the

nation in recent years to decry Islamic extremism. But furor over Sunday's shooting in Garland, Texas, has led to a specific threat against Geller, posted on a website related to the Islamic State group, and the New York Police Department is taking it seriously. Now she doesn't travel anywhere without protection.

Geller said she believes she saved lives by hosting the contest because the two Muslim gunmen shot to death by police would have picked another soft target and killed innocent civilians. "Would you regret saving lives?" she asked.

A master of rhetoric and clearly comfortable in the spotlight, the 56-year-old former media executive shifts easily from charming to combative. Her critics have called the cartoon contest needlessly provocative, practically an invitation for violence. But Geller argued that any blame should be focused on

extremists who can't be criticized or lampooned without resorting to violence.

"Cartoons are political critique. It's a cartoon," she said. "Is that what we want to outlaw? We want to outlaw humor? We want to outlaw comedy? If you want to know who rules over you, find out who you cannot criticize."

Her activities have prompted the Southern Poverty Law Center to add her to its extremist files, calling her "the anti-Muslim movement's most visible and flamboyant figurehead."

In an editorial Thursday, The New York Times said Geller "has a long history of declarations and actions motivated purely by hatred for Muslims" and called the Garland event "an exercise in bigotry and hatred posing as a blow for freedom. ... To pretend it was motivated by anything other than hate is simply hogwash."

Geller was once part of the elite

media machine she professes to despise, working for the business operations of the Daily News and the New York Observer. Then, she was a self-described "apolitical" mother who paid little mind to world affairs.

"I loved my fashion. I loved my life. I loved my career," she said with a smile. "I assumed my freedom. I grew up free, you know? I grew up in the freest country in the world. And I loved it."

Then, she said, "9/11 happened. And it was shattering."

Ignorant of terrorism, Geller said she dived deeply into the Internet to learn more. She joined a burgeoning online community obsessed with jihad and terrorism. She began opining in the comments section. One day in 2004, a fellow commenter encouraged her to create her own blog.

"I'm like, 'What's a blog?'" Geller recalled. "And he said, 'Shut up and start writing.'"

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**PUBLIC MEETING
NAVAL STATION NEWPORT
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
MEETING**

Wednesday, May 20, 2015
Courtyard Marriott, Middletown
9 Commerce Drive
Middletown, RI
Meeting begins at 6:30 pm

You can meet fellow citizens and representatives from the Navy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, and you can help plan studies and restorations of cleanup sites. There will be a presentation and discussion of the Navy's Proposal to construct Photovoltaic Arrays at Tank Farms 4 and 5 and McAllister Point Landfill.

For additional information and our schedule, go to the RAB Internet Web Site at www.rabnewportri.org. Additional information is available at the Navy's Internet Web Site at <http://www.navfac.navy.mil>.

If you have any questions, please call 401.841.7671.

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
ON PROPOSED BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Middletown, Rhode Island, will conduct two (2) Public Hearings on the proposed budget for the Town of Middletown - General Fund, Sewer Fund, Parks & Recreation Fund and Refuse & Recycling Fund - for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016. The First Public Hearing will be held on **Wednesday, May 20, 2015**. The Second Public Hearing will be held on **Wednesday, May 27, 2015**.

Both hearings are scheduled for **6:00 P.M.** at the Middletown Town Hall, Council Chambers, 350 East Main Road, in said Middletown.

All persons interested are invited to be present. By order of the Town Council of the Town of Middletown.

Wendy J. W. Marshall, CMC
Town Clerk

This meeting location is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requiring interpreter services for the hearing-impaired should notify the Town Clerk's Office at 847-0009, not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

CARNIVAL

Celebrate Spring with the Newport
Lions Club and Rockwell Amusements

May 6 - 10

**Easton's Beach Parking Lot
Memorial Blvd., Newport**

RIDE SPECIALS

**Wednesday: Pay One Price of just \$25
and ride unlimited until close**

**Sunday: Pay One Price of just \$25
and ride unlimited from 1PM to 6PM,
(must purchase by 5PM)**

RIDES • GAMES • FOOD

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**\$20 pay-one-price wristbands
(\$25 without coupon)**

Present this coupon for \$5 off any pay one price wristband special.
One coupon per person. Not to be combined with any other offer.
Valid May 6-10 only. Weather permitting. No cash value.

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, RHODE ISLAND
NOTICE OF PROPOSED TAX RATE CHANGE**

The Town of Middletown proposes to increase its property tax levy to \$45,419,704 in the 2015-2016 budget year; the property tax levy this year is \$44,502,103. THIS IS A PROPOSED INCREASE OF \$917,601 or 2.06%.

The Town of Middletown is currently conducting a revaluation of property, which is mandated by the State of Rhode Island. Based on the anticipated increase in property values as a result of the revaluation, it is estimated that the proposed increase in property tax revenues will result in a property tax rate of \$14.60 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for residential real estate and tangible property, and \$19.38 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for commercial real estate as compared to the current property tax rate of \$16.07 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for residential real estate and tangible property, and \$21.34 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for commercial real estate. The property tax levy for the 2015-2016 budget year includes motor vehicles at an unchanged tax rate of \$16.05 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation and includes an exemption on the first \$3,000 of vehicle assessment, which is made up of the State motor vehicle phase-out exemption on the first \$500 of vehicle assessments and the next \$2,500 of vehicle assessment exempted by Middletown.

If the Town presented a budget at the 4.00% levy cap in the 2015-2016 budget year, it is estimated that a residential property and tangible tax rate of \$14.88 and a commercial tax rate of \$19.76 would be needed to raise the maximum levy authorized under section 44-5-2 of the general laws.

The Town of Middletown's 2015-2016 budget will be considered at Public Hearings held at the Town Hall Council Chambers on May 20, 2015 at 6:00 PM and May 27, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

The above property tax estimates have been computed in a manner approved by the Rhode Island Department of Revenue.

REPORT TO TAXPAYERS ON CURRENT AND PROPOSED BUDGETS

General Fund	Current 2014 - 2015	Proposed 2015 - 2016
EXPENSES:		
Capital Expenditures (School Department)	\$2,013,982.00	\$ 721,054.00
Capital Expenditures (General Government)	\$2,919,934.00	\$2,474,184.00
Education	\$37,421,190.00	\$37,567,388.00
Debt Service	\$3,688,423.00	\$3,701,827.00
Finance / Administration	\$560,106.00	\$595,573.00
General Government	\$2,069,137.00	\$2,053,760.00
Building / Planning	\$560,898.00	\$740,473.00
Police Protection	\$5,142,426.00	\$5,045,625.00
Fire Protection	\$3,482,677.00	\$3,544,816.00
Public Works	\$1,689,213.00	\$1,783,747.00
Grant Expenditures	\$294,804.00	\$340,231.00
Other Associated Activities	\$7,107,865.00	\$7,399,139.00
Transfers Out To Other Funds	\$2,223,000.00	\$2,002,056.00
Total	\$69,173,655.00	\$67,969,873.00

REVENUES:		
Local Property	\$44,899,981.00	\$45,847,658.00
Local Non-Property	\$2,998,817.00	\$3,001,434.00
Restricted Grants	\$2,394,290.00	\$ 703,850.00
Federal	\$3,072,003.00	\$2,980,280.00
State	\$10,675,174.00	\$10,478,926.00
Proceeds from Financing	\$0.00	\$488,000.00
Transfers In From Other Funds	\$4,541,216.00	\$4,196,983.00
Use of Fund Balance	\$592,174.00	\$272,742.00
Total	\$69,173,655.00	\$67,969,873.00

Sewer Fund	Current 2014 - 2015	Proposed 2015 - 2016
EXPENSES:		
Operating Fund	\$2,688,638.00	\$2,695,052.00
Operating Fund - Capital Expenditures	\$1,575,000.00	\$1,605,000.00
Debt Service Fund	\$1,187,718.00	\$1,066,609.00
Total	\$5,451,356.00	\$5,366,661.00
REVENUES:		
Sewer Maintenance Charges	\$5,096,881.00	\$5,141,193.00
Other Revenues	\$29,475.00	\$25,468.00
Proceeds from Financing	\$0.00	\$0.00
Use of Fund Reserves	\$ 325,000.00	\$200,000.00
Total	\$5,451,356.00	\$5,366,661.00

Parks and Recreation Fund	Current 2014 - 2015	Proposed 2015 - 2016
EXPENSES:		
Operating Expenses	\$1,448,167.00	\$1,540,067.00
Capital Expenditures	\$564,700.00	\$279,500.00
Total	\$2,012,867.00	\$1,819,567.00
REVENUES:		
Operating Revenues	\$2,012,867.00	\$1,603,317.00
Transfers In From Other Funds	\$0.00	\$91,250.00
Use of Fund Reserves	\$0.00	\$125,000.00
Total	\$2,012,867.00	\$1,819,567.00

Refuse and Recycling Fund	Current 2014 - 2015	Proposed 2015 - 2016
EXPENSES:		
Operating Expenses	\$1,003,483.00	\$1,013,546.00
Debt Service	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$1,003,483.00	\$1,013,546.00
REVENUES:		
Operating Revenues	\$1,003,483.00	\$1,013,546.00
Transfers In From Other Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$1,003,483.00	\$1,013,546.00

Stormwater Fund	Current 2014 - 2015	Proposed 2015 - 2016
EXPENSES:		
Operating Expenses	\$0.00	\$150,000.00
Total	\$0.00	\$150,000.00
REVENUES:		
Grant Revenues	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Transfers In From Other Funds	\$0.00	\$140,000.00
Total	\$0.00	\$150,000.00

This is to certify that the data contained in this report is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Robert J. Sylvia, President
Middletown Town Council
Date: April 24, 2015