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PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING THE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2016 AT THE COURTYARD MARRIOTT NS NEWPORT RI
01/14/2016
THE NEWPORT (RI) DAILY NEWS

Legislators

Continued from A1

bridges need to be upgraded, Paiva Weed said. She credited Raimondo for placing the issue in the forefront, even if she took a lot of heat for proposing the tolls.

"We need to invest in our bridges. The question is, how do you finance it?" Paiva Weed said. "If we don't, we're never going to move the economy forward."

The state Department of Transportation also drew criticism for its handling — or mishandling — of local road projects, from the plan to build new ramps to the Pell Bridge in Newport to the proposed roundabout on Stafford Road in Tiverton. But the RhodeWorks plan — and its focus on tolls — is sucking all the wind out of the discussion for local projects, said Rep. Deborah Ruggiero, D-Jamestown.

"We need to move away from the truck toll proposal to free DOT up to look at other (projects)," Ruggiero said.

Sen. Walter S. Felag Jr., D-Warren, who also represents part of Tiverton, said he will include a provision in the legislation needed to place the Tiverton casino proposal on the November ballot that will require DOT to build the



Philip Sherman | Staff photographer

Rep. Daniel P. Reilly, R-Portsmouth, left, and Portsmouth Town Administrator Richard Rainer chat after the Newport County Legislative Forum on Wednesday at the Pell Center in Newport.

roundabout before the casino opens. If the referendum is approved by voters statewide and in Tiverton, the new casino could open by "mid-2018," according to a spokeswoman for casino developer Twin River Worldwide Holdings.

On an issue near and dear to the local economy — tourism — Paiva Weed said the governor's \$5 million plan to market the state should not detract from local tourism marketing efforts.

"Rhode Island is too small not to work together and make the most efficient use of our resources," she said. "The state

and the city need to be partners. If we work all together, I believe, truthfully, all ships will rise."

Rep. Lauren Carson, D-Newport, and Sen.-elect John A. Pagliarini Jr., R-Tiverton — who was sworn into office later Wednesday — also attended Wednesday's forum. Not in attendance were Reps. Raymond E. Gallison Jr., D-Bristol; Dennis Canario, D-Portsmouth; and John G. "Jay" Edwards, D-Tiverton.

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House votes to tighten oversight of Iran deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Less than 24 hours after Iran's detention and release of U.S. sailors, the House approved GOP-backed legislation that amplifies Republican distrust of Tehran and would give Congress greater oversight of the landmark nuclear agreement.

Lawmakers voted 191-106 Wednesday to approve the Iran Terror Finance Transparency Act, spurning a veto threat from President Barack Obama. However, the vote count fell well short of the number needed to override a veto: Speaker Paul Ryan, determined to keep the House on schedule, had the vote gavelled to a close even though 137 lawmakers hadn't voted.

Faced with frustrated members, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., later "vacated" the vote — essentially rendering it null and void — and scheduled another one for Jan. 26, when House Republican will almost certainly approve the legislation for a second time.

By that time, it may be too

late for the legislation to have the impact its backers envisioned. The House bill would bar the removal of certain individuals and foreign financial institutions on a restricted list kept by the Treasury Department until the president certifies to Congress that they weren't involved in Iran's ballistic missiles program or in terrorist activities.

Yet the United States is poised to begin lifting sanctions against Iran as Tehran fulfills its obligations under the July deal. Secretary of State John Kerry said Wednesday that Iran will likely be in compliance within days. The White House said the bill could cause "the collapse" of the agreement and that the president will reject the legislation if it ever reaches his desk.

The vote came as the potentially volatile incident in Iran's territorial waters was swiftly resolved. The 10 U.S. Navy sailors were freed unharmed early Wednesday as the White House cited new lines of communication with Iran established

during the nuclear negotiations as key to the speedy resolution.

The agreement, forged by the United States and Iran and signed by five other nations, commits Tehran to cutting back over more than a decade on nuclear technologies that could be used for weapons-making. In exchange, Iran will have access to about \$100 billion in previously frozen assets and fully return to the oil market.

Republicans have said sanctions relief will leave Iran flush with cash to fund terrorism.

For most Republicans, the dramatic, whirlwind incident in Iranian waters is another example of Iran's belligerence and why it can't be a trusted partner. Since the agreement was reached, Tehran has accelerated its missile program in violation of existing U.N. sanctions, continued to support terrorist groups and hold American hostages, they said. Iran also has remained a key ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad, who lawmakers accuse of killing more than 200,000 of his own people in Syria's civil war.

Bidding

Continued from A1

business," he said.

The resolution sponsored by council members Kathryn E. Leonard, John Florez and Vice Chairman Marco T. Camacho states: "Race promoters charge entry fees from \$100 to \$200 per person and often have 2,000 to 3,000 runners or more," but "the fee Newport charges is \$25 for the event license."

During the debate, Camacho summarized the dispute between Eident and Gray Matter Marketing and said the competing race promoters came to the council like "going to the king and asking him to split the baby."

"If an event comes to the city, the race promoter gets \$300,000, \$400,000 or \$500,000, and the city gets \$25," Leonard said. "There is an imbalance there."

"You are completely off base," Gray told Leonard.

He said she had no idea of his business or what is involved in staging such an event. For one thing, he said no race charges an entry fee of \$200. He said the marathon entry fee is \$85 with advance registration, which covers almost everyone. He said it is rare for an entrant to pay the \$100 fee on the day of the race. He disputed her total revenue estimates.

"I don't see us holding a bidding process for events," said Councilwoman Naomi L. Neville.

"If we went out to bid, it would be like auctioning off a license," said Interim City Administrator Joseph J. Nicholson Jr.

"The city should not get into the business of putting on events," said Councilwoman Lynn Underwood Ceglie. "Should we be in the business of making money here?"

Florez argued that a report by the city's Finance Review Committee and the city's

Comprehensive Land Use Plan call on the city to recoup funding for city services that are provided for special events.

Councilman Justin S. McLaughlin said the city makes a lot of money off cruise ships by charging a per-head fee for ship passengers, and makes money through hotel, food and beverage taxes when visitors to special events stay in hotels here and eat and drink in the restaurants and bars.

Neville pointed out that most special events in the city are run by nonprofit organizations.

During the discussion, McLaughlin proposed a very narrowed amendment that called on the administration merely to review the fee structure for special events that take place on public land, and to drop the other elements of the originally proposed resolution. It passed unanimously.

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Pentagon lays out plan to take back cities from Islamic State

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — Defense Secretary Ash Carter laid out broad plans Wednesday to defeat Islamic State militants and retake the group's key power centers in Iraq and Syria. And he announced that a special commando force has now arrived in Iraq.

Speaking to troops from the 101st Airborne Division who will soon deploy to Iraq, Carter also said he would meet in Paris next week with his defense counterparts, mainly from Europe, and will challenge them to bring more capabilities to the fight.

He said he will be meeting with defense leaders from France, Australia, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, and "will not hesitate to engage and challenge" them to get them to do more.

"Each of these nations has a significant stake in completing the destruction of this evil organization, and we must include all of the capabilities they can bring to the field," he said.

Some contributions the U.S. has requested already are special operations forces, fighter jet and reconnaissance aircraft, weapons and munitions, training and other combat support.

Carter's broader message signaled the completion of a military plan to help Iraqi and Kurdish Peshmerga forces retake Mosul in northern Iraq and to assist the Syrian moderate forces oust Islamic State militants from their headquarters in Raqqa.

He described operations that would send Iraqi forces from the south and Peshmerga forces from the north to encircle and cut off Mosul. But he warned that taking it back will not be quick or easy, and he offered no timelines.

Carter announced in December that the U.S. would deploy about 200 special operations forces to Iraq to better capitalize on intelligence and put more pressure on the enemy.

"The specialized expeditionary targeting force I announced in December is

now in place and is preparing to work with the Iraqis to begin going after ISIL's fighters and commanders, killing or capturing them wherever we find them, along with other key targets," Carter said, using an acronym for Islamic State.

His speech offered an upbeat assessment of the anti-IS campaign, saying that coalition-backed forces, supported by the airstrikes, are taking back territory and going after the groups finances. This week airstrikes hit an Islamic State cash center in Mosul.

Military leaders have said that the militants have lost 40 percent of the territory they once held in Iraq, and 20 percent of their territory in Syria. The effort has been aided by strong support from Kurdish troops in northern Iraq, as the U.S. worked to build up Iraqi Army forces.

The Iraqi forces struggled for months to retake Ramadi, but backed by airstrikes and other logistical support they were finally able to drive IS from the city last month.



Associated Press

This picture, released by the Iranian state-run IRIB News Agency on Wednesday, shows the detention of U.S. Navy sailors by the Iranian Revolutionary Guards in the Persian Gulf, off the coast of Iran.

Sailors

Continued from A1

U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter thanked Kerry after the sailors' release and couched the incident in humanitarian terms, noting that "the U.S. Navy routinely provides assistance to foreign sailors in distress."

For Tehran, the Americans' swift release was a way to neutralize a potential new flashpoint days before it was expected to meet the terms of last summer's nuclear deal, which will give Iran significant relief from painful economic sanctions.

It is likely that Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has the final say on all matters of state, would have had to approve the release, given the immense political sensitivities.

But the rapid resolution also was a victory for moderate President Hassan Rouhani, who has promoted greater openness with the outside world despite strident opposition from deeply entrenched hard-liners at home.

"Rouhani's policy of interaction is working," said Iranian political analyst Saeed Leilaz. "Iran and the U.S. have gone a long way in reducing tensions but still have a long way to go in improving their contacts. It was a big step forward."

The nine men and one woman were detained Tuesday after at least one of their boats suffered mechanical problems off of Farsi Island, an outpost

in the middle of the Persian Gulf that has been used as a base for Revolutionary Guard speedboats since the 1980s.

The Americans' small Riverine boats were sailing between Kuwait and Bahrain on a training mission when the U.S. lost contact.

The sailors left the island Wednesday at 3:43 a.m. aboard their boats, the Navy said. They were picked up by Navy aircraft, and other sailors took control of the vessels for the return voyage to Bahrain, where the U.S. 5th Fleet is based.

Cmdr. Kevin Stephens, a 5th Fleet spokesman, said the priority now would be determining "how exactly these sailors found themselves in Iran."

He declined to say where they were going or give details on their identities, but a senior defense official said they were heading to a U.S. military facility in Qatar. The official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly, said they are being debriefed and getting medical exams but were not harmed.

In Washington, a defense official said the Navy has ruled out engine or propulsion failure as the reason the boats entered Iranian waters. Navigation problems, attributed to human or mechanical failure, could not be ruled out, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Harry S Truman aircraft carrier strike group began a search, as did aircraft from the Truman. The officials also spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the incident publicly.

The Revolutionary Guard released images of the U.S. sailors before their release, showing them sitting on the floor of a room. They looked mostly bored or annoyed, although one appeared to be smiling. The woman had her hair covered by a brown cloth. The pictures also showed what appeared to be their two boats.

State TV later released more video and photos of the Americans apparently surrendering on their knees, their hands behind their head. It also showed machine guns and ammunition they had onboard. "After determining that their entry into Iran's territorial waters was not intentional, and their apology, the detained American sailors were released in international waters," the Guard said.

U.S. Navy Cmdr. Gary Ross, a Pentagon spokesman, said the incident remained under investigation.

"The video appears to be authentic but we cannot speak to the conditions of the situation or what the crew was experiencing at the time. The crew is currently undergoing the reintegration process and we will continue to investigate this incident. What matters most right now, however, is that our Sailors are back safely," Ross said.

WEATHER

COASTAL RHODE ISLAND

Today, partly sunny with a chance of flurries. High near 34. Tonight, mostly cloudy, breezy. Low around 32.

EXTENDED

Friday, partly sunny. High near 45. Friday night, cloudy with rain likely. Low around 40.

Saturday, rain. High near 44. Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Low around 32.

Sunday, partly sunny with a chance of afternoon showers. High near 37.

MARINE

Today, west wind 5-10 knots with gusts up to 20 knots. Waves around 2 feet. Tonight, west wind 5-10 knots with gusts up to 20 knots in the evening. Waves around 2 feet.

TIDES, ETC.

Today's high tides: 10:54 a.m., 11:21 p.m. Low tides: 3:51 a.m., 4:25 p.m.

Today's sunrise 7:10, sunset 4:39.

Wednesday's temperatures: high 32, low 24.

LOTTERIES

Wednesday's numbers

RHODE ISLAND
Numbers Midday: 2-5-0-8
Numbers Evening: 5-4-5-4

POWERBALL
4-8-19-27-34
Powerball 10

Blasts, Photo Galleries and more
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PUBLIC MEETING NAVAL STATION NEWPORT RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Wednesday, January 20, 2016
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.

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.

31st ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

"We Shall Not Be Moved"
"Remember! Celebrate! Act!"
"A Day On, Not A Day Off"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2016

6:30 pm EVENING SERVICE, TEMPLE SHALOM
223 Valley Rd. Middletown, RI

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2016

9:00 am Torch Run Ceremony
1st Rhode Island Regiment Monument
Portsmouth, RI (Rts. 21 & 114 Intersections)

9:30 am Annual Birthday Program
Thompson Middle School
39 Broadway, Newport, RI
Guest Speaker: Mrs. Chevette Jefferies

12:00 pm Annual Luncheon
"Celebrating The Dream"
The Mainstay Inn
151 Admiral Kalbfus Rd., Newport, RI
Guest speaker: Mr. James Gillis
Tickets \$25 Adult; \$15 Youth (18 & under)

3:00 pm Afternoon Program
Community History Bowl
Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Center
20 Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland Blvd., Newport, RI

5:00 pm Evening Worship Service
St. Joseph's Church
5 Mann ave., Newport, RI

For Luncheon Tickets or Questions
Contact Thelma Williams (401-338-1075) or Fern Lima (401-846-4785)

Sponsored by the Newport Country Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

