

AROUND TOWN



Kyle Lepley and Carol Lepley donors with Mike Slein from the Museum of Newport Irish History (Photo by Jennifer Carter)

New Historical Marker at Barney Street Cemetery

The Museum of Newport Irish History members and friends gathered Sept. 18 to celebrate the unveiling of a new historical informational sign at the Barney Street Cemetery, located at the corner of Barney and Mt. Vernon streets. The cemetery is the final resting place of many of Newport's earliest Irish immigrants. The setting was the site of Rhode Island's first Catholic church and oldest parish, established in 1828, the forerunner of today's St. Mary's Church on Spring Street, which was consecrated in 1849. The new informational sign was made possible by a generous gift from Carol Lepley and the Lepley family.

After the conclusion of the ceremony, the group reconvened at Ancient Order of Hibernian Hall on Wellington Avenue to continue the celebration and to honor Jack Curran and Peter Martin, two retiring members of the museum board of directors.



Mary Hastings and Daniel Fitzgerald (Photos by Andrea Hansen)



Betty Grauer and Dottie Berube

Newport Tartan Now Nonprofit

More than 100 community members gathered on Sept. 15 to celebrate the first anniversary of the inception of the Newport Tartan and announce that the Tartan Fund has established non-profit status.

In 2020, the Newport City Council approved the design by the Newport Tartan as the official tartan of the city. The design was then submitted to the Scottish National Registry and was formally approved. Following the registry, business partners Kelley Coen

and Elizabeth Brantingham began the process of having the custom tartan woven in Scotland.

The color and design are inspired by Newport's history, organizations and residents. Currently, the group is selling two styles of the lambswool scarves online. A cotton fabric is expected later this fall, which will be used to design various accessories and expand the product line.

The mission of the Newport Tartan is to donate all proceeds

from every weave back to the city through scholarships, donations to nonprofits and other civic causes. To date, it has supported the Newport Fireworks fund and is currently working with the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. A scholarship is planned for a Rogers High School senior with an entrepreneurial spirit and or enrolling in a trade school.

Follow the Newport Tartan on Facebook, Instagram and at the-newporttartan.com.



Jeanne-Marie Napolitano and Carmela Geer

A Big Thank You

On behalf of Newport and Middletown, Jeanne-Marie Napolitano, Newport's mayor, read a proclamation of thanks to Carmela Geer and the Aquidneck Island Emergency Volunteer Alliance for their assistance with the COVID vaccine clinics. The police and fire departments were also thanked for their participation. In all, nearly 150 volunteer stepped up in the community effort.



Missy Vario, Johanna Mancivalano and Jim Fowler of Salve Regina.



David Tutera and Joey Toth



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Salve Sophistication

On the last night of the David Tutera Experience, a three-day workshop in Newport for wedding and event planners, Salve Regina University was the host venue for the grand finale dinner.

Tutera is widely known throughout the hospitality industry as an expert event designer for celebrities and high-profile clients. He has hosted shows on the Discovery Channel, the Food Network and Wetv. He has also made appearances on other programs including the Today Show, Good Morning America, Oprah and The View.

Read more Tutera's Newport visit in NTW's Sept. 16 edition.