

SPORTS: Celtics star calls out NBA for handling of sports betting. C1



THE SUN CHRONICLE

Saturday – Sunday, October 25-26, 2025

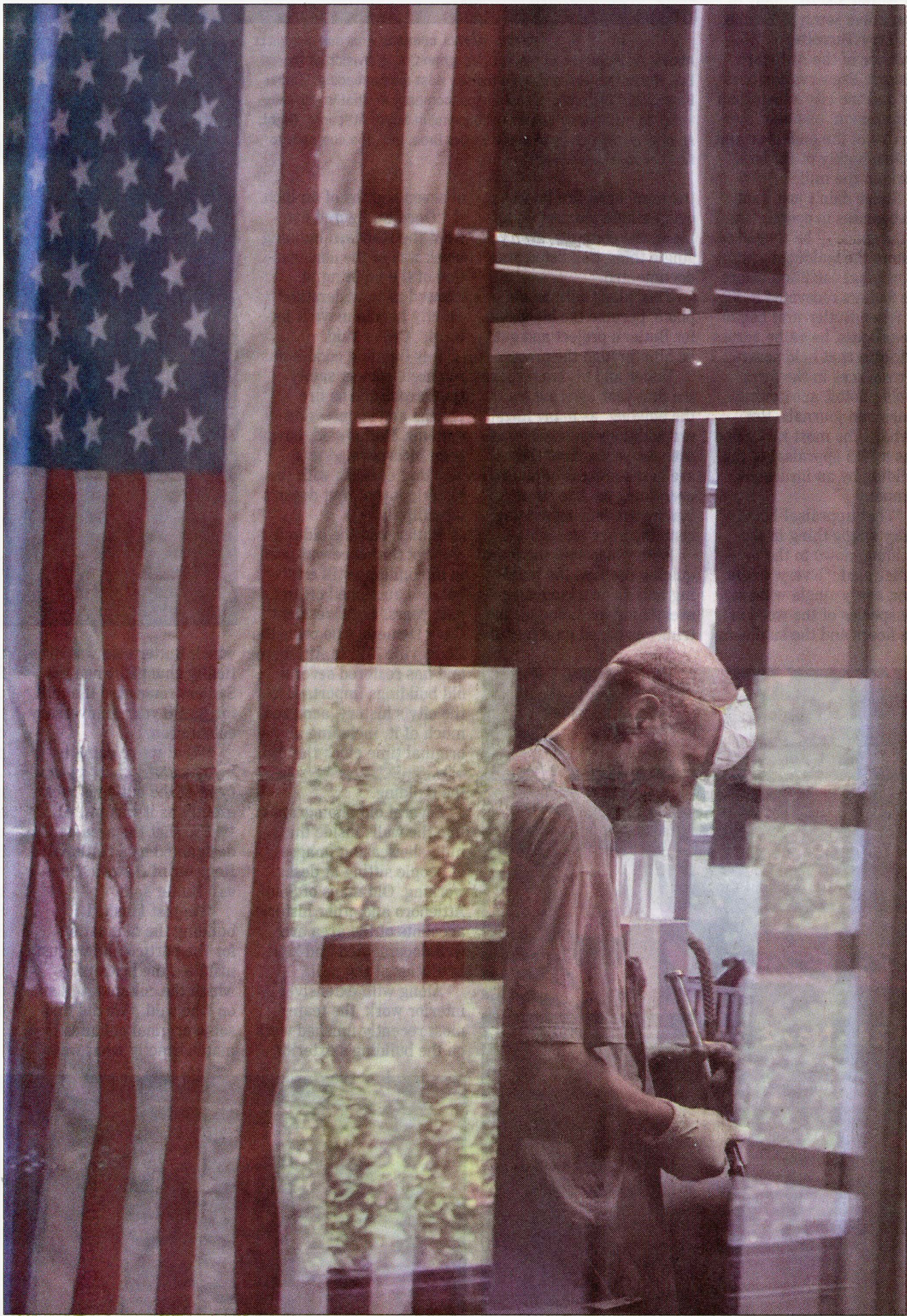
thesunchronicle.com

WEEKEND EDITION

\$5

A PIECE OF HISTORY

Attleboro mill restoration returns a company with city roots to a building that was an early part of area’s jewelry manufacturing past



PHOTOS BY PAUL CONNORS / THE SUN CHRONICLE

Luis Santos, an employee of the W.C. Vaughan Co., a division of the E.R. Butler Co., polishes a product made in the historic Sadler Mill building in South Attleboro. Herbert A. Sadler opened Sadler Bros., one of the earliest jewelry manufacturers in the area, in 1863, and built the mill on Newport Avenue to house it. More than a century later, the mill is in the process of being restored to its original state and is the home base of an architectural hardware company whose roots are in Attleboro.

By RHIANWEN WATKINS
rwatkins@thesunchronicle.com

ATTLEBORO

It was 1863 when the Sadler family opened a jewelry mill on the former Old Post Road, now known as Newport Avenue. The company was known as Sadler Bros., one of the city’s oldest jewelry manufacturers founded by Herbert A. Sadler. It later became a manufacturer of eyewear and related supplies. The mill estate sits directly across from an old Victorian mansion where Sadler lived. Several other properties in the vicinity were built by other members of the Sadler family who inhabited them. The area as a whole was known as Sadler Village. Now, over a century later, the mill is in the process of being restored to its original state and is the home base of an architectural hardware company whose roots began in Attleboro even



An employee of the W.C. Vaughan Co., a division of the E.R. Butler Co., walks down a hallway past a Sadler Bros. Inc. sign, the name of the original company in what is known today as the historic Sadler Mill building.

SEE HISTORY, PAGE A2 ►

TODAY: H: 55 L: 37
Mainly sunny.
POP: 20%

A6



CITY & TOWN

Complaint filed against two city officials. B1

Advice	B4
Classified	D2
Comics	D5
Obituaries	B3
Puzzles	D3, D5
Real estate	D2

THE SUN CHRONICLE
To subscribe,
508-222-4091 or
thesunchronicle.com



HISTORY: Restoring South Attleboro mill

FROM **PAGE A1**

before the Sadlers.

The company, E.R. Butler Co., carries the legacy of the Robinsons, who were among the first families, well before the Sadlers, that made jewelry and hardware in Attleboro and started what would become the city's legacy as the "jewelry capital of the world."

The Robinson family business, which also produced metal and glass items, was passed down through several hands over the years, until it eventually merged with W.C. Vaughan Co., which merged with the E.R. Butler Co. and is now a division of the company. It preserves the Robinson family's products by creating historical copies of the original designs.

When Rhett Butler, CEO of the company, was looking for a new headquarters, Attleboro proved to be the perfect home base.

"We'd been renting in Braintree and then we also continued renting in Hingham, and then we needed to move," Butler said. "And so, I looked back at Attleboro, which is the beginning of the history for my company, just to sort of bring it home, so to speak. I looked around and found the building."

Butler said when he first saw the mill, he wasn't entirely impressed.

It had been renovated by the Sadlers in 1963 as a 100-year anniversary celebration of the mill.

"I was going to avoid even looking at the building until I saw a very early photograph, before they had done that work, and realized that there was something there to be saved, something to be renovated

back to its original character," Butler said.

The Arc of Bristol County owned the mill after the Sadlers, with hopes of turning the building into a senior living center. But, after the project lost necessary funding from the state, the building was put up for sale.

"That's when we bought it," Butler said. It was 2018.

"We really wanted to bring the company back to its roots, and have the ability to restore this factory," he said. "It's not a Robinson factory, it's a Sadler factory, but it's within the context of the history of the company, so it just felt right."

Additionally, it provided a more convenient location for Butler's staff, many of whom live south of Boston.

Jerry Turcotte, a member of the Attleboro Historic Preservation Society and the city's historical commission, has been supportive of the endeavor and spoken highly of Butler's work on the mill.

Butler didn't just want his business to operate out of the space — he wanted to restore the building back to its original condition before the Sadlers renovated it.

When Butler first began the process, he came across old safes that held several resources in the form of old photos, accounting books and journals. But, perhaps the most lucky find was a 1912 appraisal of the building by an insurance company.

"That appraisal listed every single thing in the building, down to the nails," Butler said. "Every single door, every single window, the species of the wood of the floors and the subfloors,

PHOTOS BY PAUL CONNORS / THE SUN CHRONICLE

Above: An employee of the W.C. Vaughan Co., a division of the E.R. Butler Co., walks down a hallway past a sign reading "Sadler Bros., Inc.," the name of the original company in what is known today as the historic Sadler Mill building in South Attleboro. **Right:** An original time clock from the Sadler Bros. Inc., the company to first occupy the building.

the number of fire buckets, every single piece of equipment, the columns. Every single thing was listed and documented."

This, along with an old photo, became the blueprint for Butler's project and guided him through the process.

Butler and his team spent the first year clearing out the building, as many modern additions had been made over the years. Now, they are in the process of putting everything back to its original layout, leaving out any contemporary pieces.

Butler also said the team quickly realized the building had its own language — everything including all the trim was based on a module

of seven-eighths of an inch.

"Once we figured out what the standard building block was of the construction of the building, it allowed us to understand exactly how to move it forward," Butler said.

Any building code items required to meet safety standards such as fire alarms and suppression systems, Butler said, have been incorporated in a way that coexists with the historic layout, but doesn't interrupt it.

Butler said the old machinery that once was used in the building still exists, but was auctioned off in past years. Local resident Gary Demers, who owns the Dodgeville Mill in Attleboro and has restored several old buildings important to the city's history, acquired much of it, including an original time clock that he allowed Butler to keep in the building.

Several old photographs line the walls inside the mill, showcasing images of people sitting at desks working. Old maps of South Attleboro and other historic accounts of the area are well documented and kept by Butler at the mill.

Along with extensive interior work, the team most recently finished work on the building's exterior,

A large, ornate wooden clock with a circular face. The clock face is white with black numerals and hands. The border of the clock face is decorated with a repeating geometric pattern of triangles in red, black, and white. The clock is mounted on a dark wooden stand. The overall style is traditional and decorative.

which Butler said was drastically changed when the Sadlers renovated the mill for its 100-year anniversary celebration.

"What we're doing is we are trying to bring that front of the building back exactly as it was in 1911, 1912 so that the area can be designated as a National Register of Historic Places," Butler said.

"We just finished building the foundation for the portico and we just installed the brick piers which the columns will sit on," he said. "We did find some original columns to match exactly what was

there from the 1911 era. So we're restoring those columns, and then once that's complete, then we can actually frame out the portico."

Aside from the mill itself, Butler has also acquired some surrounding buildings connected to Sadler Village.

Across the street from the mill is a house at 16 Park Place that one of the Sadlers used to live in. Butler bought the house in October 2023 with the goal of restoring it, since it's one of the only Sadler houses

SEE **HISTORY**, PAGE A3 ►

 Citizens
 Jack-O-Lantern
 & Spectacular
 at Roger Williams Park Zoo
 TRIVIA
 2nd Edition
 Sept 26 - Nov 2, 2025

-  Roger Williams Park Zoo's Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular: Trivia – 2nd Edition, presented by Citizens.
-  This year the Spectacular is back with brand new brain busters; look for the answers carved into the glowing pumpkins.
-  With questions about pop culture, movie magic, sports superstars and more, the trail is a playful path of puzzling fun for people of all ages.




Tickets at: rwpzoo.org/jols

[illegible]

A photograph of a two-story white building with a red brick base, decorated with patriotic bunting and flags. The building has multiple windows and a small entrance with stairs. A large brick chimney is visible on the left side of the building.

E.R. Butler Co. CEO Rhett Butler is restoring the Sadler Mill building in South Attleboro using historical copies of the original designs. The building once housed the manufacturing company Sadler Bros., and still houses the W.C. Vaughan Co., a division of the Butler Co.

The Sun Chronicle

34 South Main St., Attleboro, MA 02703
508-222-7000 thesunchronicle.com

Business hours:
Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Follow us

To place a display ad
508-236-0368
mfulcher@thesunchronicle.com

To place a classified ad
508-222-7018
class@thesunchronicle.com

Send us your news
Send news releases,
photos and videos to
news@thesunchronicle.com

Story and photo requests should
be sent to **Executive Editor/
General Manager Craig Borges**
at 508-236-0337 or cborges@
thesunchronicle.com

If you note an error
The Sun Chronicle wishes to
correct any errors in news or ad-
vertising. If you note an error or
omission and feel a correction
is in order, call the advertising
department or the editor.

Phone directory
To subscribe or discuss delivery

THE SUN CHRONICLE
(USPS 036-620)
34 South Main St.
Attleboro, MA 02703
Tel. (508) 222-7000

 **The
Audit
Bureau**

Periodicals postage paid at Attleboro, MA.
Published six days a week,
Monday-Saturday, except on federal
holidays.
34 South Main St., Attleboro, MA 02703,
The Sun Chronicle, Division of
TriboroMassachusetts News Media Inc.
By mail; \$117 for 3 months;
\$200 for 6 months; \$355 for 1 year.
All subscriptions must be paid in
advance. POSTMASTER: Send address
changes to The Sun Chronicle,
34 South Main St., Attleboro, MA 02703.
The North Attleboro Chronicle was
established Nov. 2, 1887.
The Attleboro Sun was established
Sept. 6, 1889 and The Sun Chronicle
was established March 1, 1971.

© THE SUN CHRONICLE 2019

FROM PAGE A1 — NATION



PHOTOS BY PAUL CONNORS / THE SUN CHRONICLE
Mason Emilio Cruz recently repairs brickwork on one of the storage buildings that's a part of the historic Sadler Mill complex in South Attleboro.

HISTORY: Restoring S. Attleboro mill

FROM PAGE A2

that is not inhabited.

“Once we really got in there, we saw that the electric was all knob and post, which is illegal, the plumbing was all cast iron that was cracking. There was a lot of leaking through the roof, and a lot of the original plaster in the house was rotted,” Butler said. “So we basically had to do a full demolition of the interior.”

Butler said the exterior is not being touched since it’s listed as a registered historic house in the state.

The city’s oldest firehouse, built in 1894, was also located on the mill’s property. After it was decommissioned, the Sadlers bought it and moved it closeby to Park Place. They turned it into a community hall where employees and neighbors would hold birthday parties and other events, Butler said.

“Our plan is to restore the firehouse back to its original structure with a hose tower and everything, and to also open it up to being a kind of community hall where our neighbors can use it if they want to have a birthday party or family moment,” Butler said.

This project, however, will come later, after the house and mill restorations are finished.

“When those projects are completed, then we’ll have our fun with the firehouse,” he said.

Butler called the entire restoration process a “labor of love” which he does when he is not running the business itself.

But, this passion project, Butler said, is one he works on an average of around 20 hours per week, and has been since 2019.

Butler said he is excited to have his company surrounded by so much Attleboro area history, including the First Congregational Church in North Attleboro, which to this day still displays one of George W. Robinson’s original locks on its door.

“That lock and key was patented in 1818, and that’s the very beginning of my manufacturing story — that



Historian Jerry Turcotte holds a photo of a house that was part of the original Sadler Mill complex. The house is now a storage building on the South Attleboro property.

“We really wanted to bring the company back to its roots, and have the ability to restore this factory. Its not a Robinson factory, it’s a Sadler factory, but it’s within the context of the history of the company, so it just felt right.”

Rhett Butler
CEO of the E.R. Butler Co.

lock — and it now exists a mile away from where we’re located,” Butler said.

Butler has done extensive research on the history of the Robinson family, and traced South Attleboro’s roots all the way back to when George Robinson Sr. arrived from England to the Plymouth Colony and later to Attleboro in the 1600s.

“It’s like bringing the story home for the company,” he said. “It’s about having a historic property, because the company really is a historic company, and concentrates on historic production of historic products. Most of what we make is not reproductions, but we are continuing to manufac-

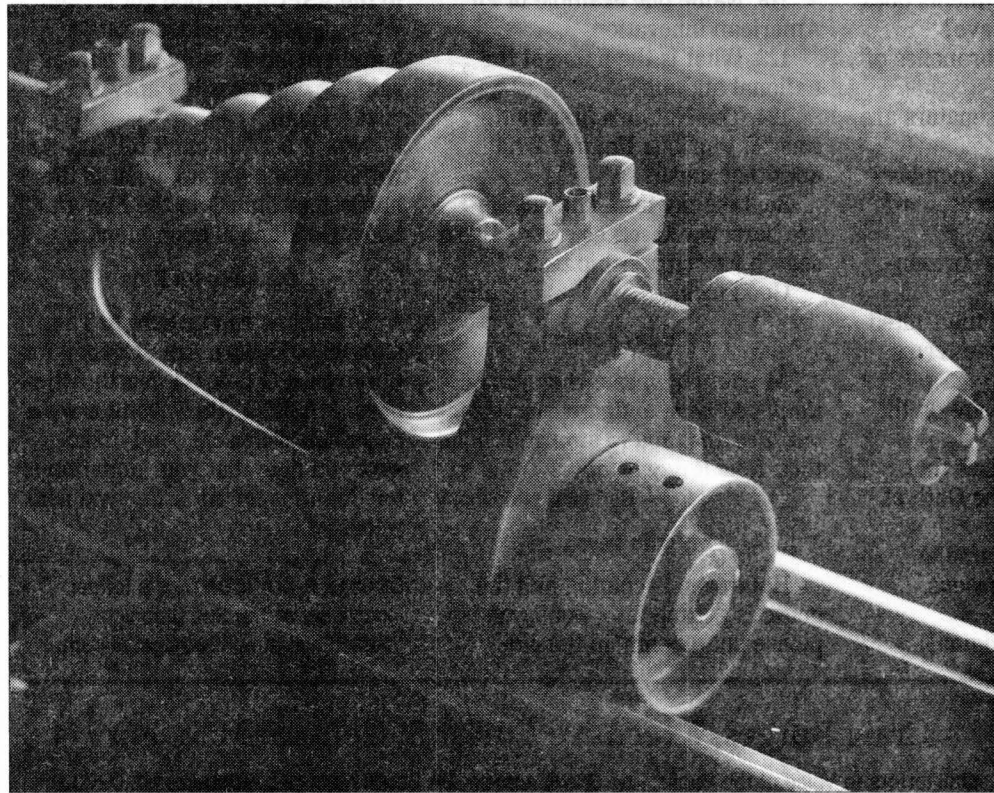
ture what was originally made.”

He also said the feedback from the community has been positive.

“The people that are surrounding us, owners of the houses, they’re starting to also get excited about restoring and retaining the historic character of this little moment in South Attleboro,” Butler said.

“It’s really been satisfying in so many ways. And I think we’re very lucky to have this opportunity to work on something that has this history and value that we can bring back to the community.”

RHIANWEN WATKINS can be reached at 603-531-9135.



An original lathe from the era when Sadler Bros. Inc., the original company that called the Sadler Mill building home, manufactured jewelry and other items in South Attleboro.

US sending aircraft carrier to Latin America

Move signals major escalation of military buildup

By **KONSTANTIN TOROPIN**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military is sending an aircraft carrier to the waters off South America, in the latest escalation and buildup of military forces in the region, the Pentagon announced Friday.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth ordered the USS Gerald R. Ford and its strike group to deploy to U.S. Southern Command to “bolster U.S. capacity to detect, monitor, and disrupt illicit actors and activities that compromise the safety and prosperity of the United States,” Pentagon spokesman Sean Parnell said in a social media post.

The USS Ford, which has five destroyers in its strike group, is currently deployed to the Mediterranean Sea. A person familiar with the operation told The Associated Press that one of those destroyers is in the Arabian Sea and another is in the Red Sea. At the time of the announcement, the USS Ford was in port in Croatia on the Adriatic Sea.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive military operations, would not say how long it would take for the strike group to arrive in the waters off South America or if all five destroyers would make the journey.

Deploying an aircraft carrier is a major escalation of military power in a region that has already seen an unusually large U.S. military buildup in the Caribbean Sea and the waters off Venezuela.

Hours before Parnell announced the news, Hegseth said the military had conducted the 10th strike on a suspected drug-running boat, leaving six people dead and bringing

ing the death count for the strikes that began in early September to at least 43 people.

The Pentagon told reporters it had nothing further to add beyond the statement.

Hegseth said the vessel struck overnight was operated by the Tren de Aragua gang. It was the second time the Trump administration has tied one of its operations to the gang that originated in a Venezuelan prison.

The pace of the strikes has quickened in recent days from one every few weeks when they first began to three this week, killing a total of at least 43 people since September. Two of the most recent strikes were carried out in the eastern Pacific Ocean, expanding the area where the military has launched attacks and shifting to where much of the cocaine from the world’s largest producers is smuggled.

In a 20-second black and white video of the strike posted to social media, a small boat can be seen apparently sitting motionless on the water when a long thin projectile descends, triggering an explosion. The video ends before the blast dies down enough for the remains of the boat to be seen again.

Hegseth said the strike happened in international waters and boasted that it was the first one conducted at night.

“If you are a narco-terrorist smuggling drugs in our hemisphere, we will treat you like we treat Al-Qaeda,” Hegseth said in the post. “Day or NIGHT, we will map your networks, track your people, hunt you down, and kill you.”

US focus on Venezuela and Tren de Aragua

The strike drew parallels to the first announced

by the U.S. last month by focusing on Tren de Aragua, which the Trump administration has designated a foreign terrorist organization and blamed for being at the root of the violence and drug dealing that plague some cities.

While not mentioning the origin of the latest boat, the Republican administration says at least four of the boats it has hit have come from Venezuela.

The attacks and an unusually large U.S. military buildup in the Caribbean Sea and the waters off Venezuela have raised speculation that the administration could try to topple Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, who faces charges of narcoterrorism in the U.S.

In the latest move, the U.S. military flew a pair of supersonic heavy bombers up to the coast of Venezuela on Thursday.

The Trump administration maintains that it’s combating drug trafficking into the United States, but Maduro argues that the operations are the latest effort to force him out of office.

Maduro on Thursday praised security forces and a civilian militia for defense exercises along some 1,200 miles of coastline to prepare for the possibility of a U.S. attack.

In the span of six hours, “100% of all the country’s coastline was covered in real time, with all the equipment and heavy weapons to defend all of Venezuela’s coasts if necessary,” Maduro said during a government event shown on state television.

The U.S. military’s presence is less about drugs than sending a message to countries in the region to align with U.S. interests, according to Elizabeth Dickinson, the International Crisis Group’s senior analyst for the Andes region.

Paid Advertisement

HEATING & COOLING	INSUL. & WINDOWS	INSURANCE
 Service & Installation BDL Heating & Cooling, Inc. Heat Pumps, Gas Furnaces Central Air Conditioning No. Attleboro • 508-643-5114 WWW.BDLHEATCOOL.COM	 WINDOWS • ROOFING • DOORS INSULATION • VINYL SIDING 800-44-BRUIN www.bruincorp.com	 INSURANCE AGENCY LTD. • Auto Insurance • Homeowners Insurance • Business/Commercial Insurance 508-543-3131 6 Railroad Ave., Foxboro

BUSINESS PROFILES

WINDOWS • ROOFING • DOORS
INSULATION • VINYL SIDING
800-44-BRUIN

Bruin Corporation
BY BETH LUCAS

Bruin Corporation has been in business for over 35 years and has serviced over 11,000 customers, specializing in windows, roofing, blown-in insulation, vinyl siding and sunrooms. With a “commitment to excellence”, this customer focused business delivers exceptional products coupled with professionalism and outstanding customer service.

Bruin is a proud participant of the Mass Save Program - request an energy audit for your home and receive up to \$2,000 in rebate incentives and insulate your attic and walls or replace your existing windows. “Air sealing is a big part of the work scope”, says owner Brian Olsen. It makes perfect sense, you cut down on drafts and lower your fuel bills and the utilities help you pay for it. Bruin offers a 0% heat loan with up to seven years to pay for your insulation and windows. They complete a safety and efficiency check on your furnace and hot water heater to ensure carbon monoxide levels are not too high and a correct draft is going up your chimney.

Bruin is a vinyl siding Five Star Contractor certified by CertainTeed, which insures that their factory trained installers install your vinyl siding with pride and craftsmanship down to the smallest detail, which makes their vinyl look like wood. As a master roofer certified by GAF, Bruin is able to offer a warranty that covers material and labor for a full 50 years, giving you peace of mind for a long time to come.

Give Bruin a call at 508-695-8222 for your energy audit or stop by the showroom at 479 Mount Hope Street in North Attleboro and see the latest in design and energy efficient products available. Visit their website at www.bruincorp.com and check them out on Angie’s List!

Our View

Thank you, E.R. Butler, for respecting our history

Manufacturing — in particular, making jewelry — runs deep in the roots of Attleboro and North Attleboro.

A man known as “the Frenchman” — his real name may have been Armand LaFrancois — introduced the trade by which thousands of people made their livings and which made the Attleboros the birthplace of the jewelry industry in America.

A soldier who was said to have come to Boston from France with General Lafayette, the Frenchman had also served as an apprentice in a jewelry shop in his native country. He set up shop at an abandoned forge at Chestnut and South Washington streets in what is now North Attleboro, making gold buttons for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.

Although he never came close to getting rich, the Frenchman was generous with his jewelry-making

skills. Many other craftsmen learned the trade from the young French soldier, and soon the jewelry industry took root in what was then the single town of Attleborough (Attleboro and North Attleboro became separate communities in 1887).

The Industrial Revolution, which had begun in Europe in 1760, had first crossed the Atlantic in neighboring Pawtucket, at the Slater Mill. It would soon cross the Massachusetts border into Attleborough.

The first jewelry factory in Attleborough was built in 1807. Many manufacturers prospered during the 19th century, even during war years, as the jewelry makers shifted their production to buttons and medals for the military.

In 1913, Lloyd G. Balfour founded the eponymous company that would make most of America’s high school and college class rings and stamp Attleboro as the nation’s leader in jew-

elry manufacturing. In fact, Life magazine visited the city in the 1950s and labeled it the “Jewelry Capital of the World.”

Jewelry production peaked in the 1970s when, of the 25,000 workers in Attleboro, 20,000 were employed in the jewelry business.

Attleboro’s rich industrial heritage is now, literally, coming to life in South Attleboro. As today’s front page story by reporter Rhianwen Watkins explains, the former Sadler Bros. mill is being restored to its early 20th century past by E.R. Butler Co., the current owners.

“We really wanted to bring the company back to its roots,” Rhett Butler, the company’s CEO, told Watkins. We think this is terrific.

Historic buildings are a tangible representation of our past, embodying cultural, architectural, and aesthetic heritage. Preserving these buildings is vital to maintaining our

communities’ unique character and fostering a sense of history, identity, and community.

Many historic buildings are architectural landmarks, representing unique styles, construction techniques, and materials that are now rarely used. These structures are a testament to the ingenuity and creativity of past architects and builders, and their preservation helps to ensure that future generations can appreciate their beauty and historical significance.

The preservation of historical buildings can also provide a range of economic benefits to communities, including creating jobs in the construction and restoration trades and revitalizing neighborhoods.

In short, Attleboro should be thankful for what Butler is doing. Preserving the city’s heritage is important, linking the past to the future.

It’s the small things that matter most

There are so many things to get upset about, to worry about; so many things that seem destined to stress us out. No sooner does the work week end and we let out a breath, than the weekend flies by and we wake up on Monday morning again. The news is worrisome; the internet is aggravating; traffic is infuriating. Everywhere you look, things are doing their best to add to your stress level.



Bill Zuck

If we’re not careful, too many days, months, and years can pass by with only stress to show for it. Since we can’t jet off to a remote island every weekend to recharge our batteries, we have to appreciate moments of peace whenever we can.

I had what ended up being kind of an amazing weekend recently, though I imagine if I hadn’t stopped to appreciate it, those couple of days would have zoomed by in an unremarkable fashion, overshadowed by routine worries. I didn’t have anything special planned (certainly not an island getaway), but it turned out to be pretty cool.

Later I took the kids to the library — so appreciative that they like to read — and helped my son find some good science fiction and my daughter some murder mysteries. We shared a laugh when my son pointed out that the first two sentences of his book contained expletives. Well, I said, I trust that you’ll know what’s appropriate and what’s not appropriate to say aloud.

Later that morning I coached my daughter’s soccer team to a 2-2 tie, which made me proud because that same opponent had handed us a lopsided loss earlier in the season. Even better, I’d brought Popsicles. Nothing makes the coach feel like a hero quite like post-game Popsicles.

Back at home, I mowed the lawn, then enjoyed a leftover Popsicle while sitting in a rocker on the porch. My son surprised me by asking to throw the football around. He’d never shown interest previously, but now he had to learn for seventh-grade gym class. My wife had been teaching him but he wanted to practice. Soon my daughter came out and joined our game of catch.

The moments of peace and gratitude kept adding up.

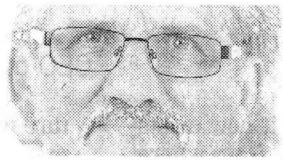
For dinner, my wife and I took the kids out to a favorite casual restaurant (with good ice cream). As we shared jokes and laughter and some french fries, I thought to myself, “remember this.”

The weekend hadn’t included any special plans. But these moments are indeed special.

BILL ZUCK may start eating popsicles more often. Reach him at wcz78@yahoo.com.



Could you pass this test?



Oreste D'Arconte

Last month the U.S. Citizen and Immigration services announced a somewhat tougher civics test that applicants must pass. Now, naturalization applicants must memorize 128 questions, and need to get 12 out of 20 correct in the test. Previously there were 100 questions to memorize and you needed to get six out of 10 questions right.

No problem, right? Every American citizen knows every important thing about our government and history. Like you. You haven’t been able to study the questions but, heck, you’ve lived here all your life and been to schools here, so — again — no problem.

Well, we’ll see. While a naturalization test can cost applicants anywhere from \$380 to \$760, I’m going to give you a test for free.

I looked at the 128 questions, selected 20 of them so you need 12 right to pass. Here are the questions:

7. How many amendments does the U.S. Constitution have?
15. There are three branches of government. Why?
21. How many U.S. senators are there?
24. How many voting members are in the House of Representatives?
29. Name your U.S. representative.
37. The President of the United States can serve only two terms. Why?
53. How many seats are on the Supreme Court?
67. Name two promises that new citizens make in the Oath of Allegiance.
73. The colonists came to America for many reasons. Name one.
81. There were 13 original

- states. Name five.
90. What territory did the United States buy from France in 1803?
91. Name one war fought by the United States in the 1800s.
97. What amendment says all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are U.S. citizens?
98. When did all men get the right to vote?
102. When did all women get the right to vote?
110. Why did the United States enter the Korean War?
116. Name one U.S. military conflict after the September 11, 2001 attacks.
118. Name one example of an American innovation.
123. What is the name of the national anthem?
124. The Nation’s first motto was “E Pluribus Unum.” What does that mean?
- So, take my test. The answers are here: www.uscis.gov. Once there, search for “citizenship test.” Good luck.

Saturday sermon

“Anxiety happens when you think you have to figure everything out. Breathe. You’re strong. You got this. Take it day by day.”

— Buddhist philosophy

My wife says ...

Halloween is coming and the goose is getting fat / won’t you please put a penny in the old

senior’s hat. / If you haven’t got a penny, a nickel will do. / If you haven’t got a nickel, may your God/Goddess bless you.

Word of the week

Dumbphone. A cellphone that does not include advanced software features typically found on smartphones.

Book report

I finished “The House on Buzzards Bay” by Dwyer Murphy (C+) (disappointing) and “One True Loves” by Taylor Jenkins Reid (C-) (too schmaltzy) and I am reading “Halloween Murder” by Leslie Meier and “The 13th Hour” by Richard Doetsch.

So you’re so smart ...

Last week I bet you couldn’t tell me approximately how many cats enter animal shelters each year in the United States. I gave you credit if you came within 100,000. My answer: About 3.2 million, according to the ASPCA. No one got it right. Wrong guesses included 450,000, 4 million and 22 million. One wag said the only possible answer was, “not enough.”

Now, I bet you can’t tell me, without looking it up, what is the hardest substance in the human body. Deadline is noon Monday.

Columns for Kids

Donations can be sent to The Greater Attleboro Area Council for Children, PO Box 424, North Attleboro, MA 02761. Its website is www.councilforchildren.org. And make sure you note that your donation is for Columns for Kids. See you next week.

ORESTE P. D'ARCONTE is a former publisher of The Sun Chronicle. Reach him at opd999@gmail.com.

Email your letters to: opinion@thesunchronicle.com. Letters should be fewer than 350 words. All letters are edited for grammar and accuracy and published Monday-Thursday at the discretion of The Sun Chronicle Editorial Board.

