



Meet the Week 5 Cape Cod and the Islands soccer Teams of the Week

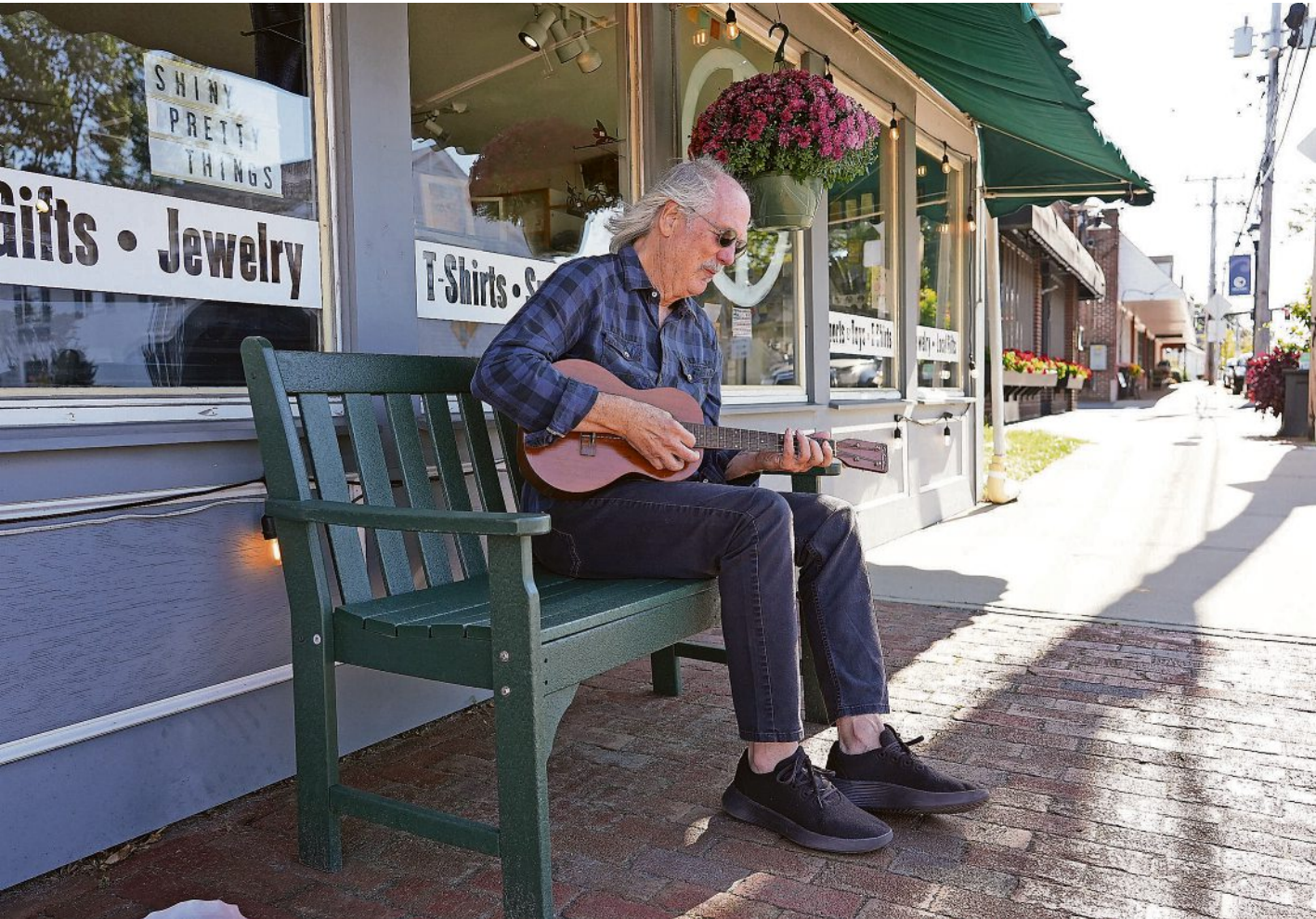
SPORTS, 1B

CAPE COD TIMES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026 | CAPECODTIMES.COM THE CAPE AND ISLANDS' DAILY NEWSPAPER | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

There is no print edition of the paper today, but you can find today's puzzles, comics, national news and sports here in the eNewspaper.

SHOPFRONT SERENADE



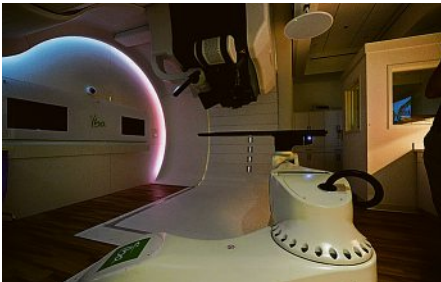
Tim Sweeney, owner of The Sparrow Store, plays his ukulele in front of the Main Street shop in Orleans on a warm fall Thursday. Photo taken Oct. 8. MERRILY/CAPE COD TIMES

Proton centers warn of cuts to Medicare

Beth Reese Cravey
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

JACKSONVILLE, FL – Proton therapy centers face the loss of millions of dollars in revenue and possible cut-backs in research, patient support service and operating hours if a proposed Medicare pricing change is finalized. Under the proposal, 17 freestanding centers across the country, including two in Jacksonville, Florida – the University of Florida Health Proton Therapy Institute and the Ackerman Cancer Center – would be paid nearly 30% less in 2027 than hospitals delivering the same treatment on the same equipment. In addition to the impact on existing centers, the change could deter development of similar facilities nationwide, limiting patient access to a lifesaving cancer treatment. “We don’t understand what’s going on. ... We can’t replicate the math,” said Bradlee Robbert, director of operations at the UF Health Proton Therapy

See MEDICARE, Page 2A



Proton therapy is a noninvasive form of radiation therapy that directs a dose of positively charged particles, or protons, at cancer cells. ANDREW WEST/NAPLES DAILY NEWS FILE

Sandwich Marina boardwalk will offer canal views and waterfront walks

Rachael Devaney
Cape Cod Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Sandwich is one step closer to a more walkable waterfront at the town marina after securing substantial state funding for the first phase of a long-planned Harborwalk project. Through the Commonwealth’s Sea-port Economic Council Grant Program,

the town has received a \$1.8 million grant, which will help the town launch Phase 1 of its Sandwich Marina Harborwalk Master Plan, a project that is slated to bring a 400-foot elevated timber boardwalk to the marina and along Ed Moffitt Drive. The award is part of the Commonwealth’s FY27 Community One Stop for Growth funding, announced by the Healey-Driscoll Administration, ac-

cording to a press release. The program awarded roughly \$330 million to support local economic development and housing projects. The project, which has been in development since 2024, is expected to improve pedestrian safety, accessibility and waterfront connections, said Assistant Town Manager Heather

See BOARDWALK, Page 6A

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. launches new push on vaccine injuries

Ahmed Aboulenein
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. last week launched an agencywide effort to study and document any health problems reported after vaccination, the Department of Health and Human Services said on Oct. 8. The initiative is the latest step by

Kennedy, who spent years questioning vaccine safety and founded an anti-vaccine group before taking office, to re-shape federal immunization policy. The American Academy of Pediatrics says childhood vaccines are studied in placebo-controlled and comparison-group trials and monitored for safety after approval. The federal Vaccine Injury Table lists 14 compensable injuries across 16 vac-

cine types under the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, a no-fault system in which claimants file against the government, not vaccine makers. Since 1988, it has awarded roughly \$5 billion across about 12,300 injury and death claims. The new moves, which appear to be part of Kennedy’s decadeslong efforts to sow skepticism about vaccines, come as he faces legal challenges to his attempts

to alter U.S. childhood vaccination schedules and growing concern among public health experts about falling immunization rates, particularly against measles, which has seen a resurgence in the United States since last year. The effort centers on a National Institutes of Health clinic opened on Oct. 5 to treat and study patients reporting

See KENNEDY, Page 6A

Reveal
by KOHLER

2026
Consumer Choice Awards

THIS MONTH ONLY

GET 50% OFF INSTALLATION

of Your KOHLER® Walk-In Bath + NO INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS*

150 YEARS

LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

Call today for your **FREE** in-home quote!
(774) 569-4115

*For as long as the original purchaser consumer owns his or her home. For complete warranty details, visit KOHLER.com/Warranty.
†Offer ends October 31, 2026. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK; HI; Nassau Cty., Suffolk Cty., Westchester Cty., or City of Buffalo, NY. 50% off installation labor applies to the installation of the KOHLER walk-in bath and may exclude costs associated with plumbing and electrical. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact Reveal by KOHLER Authorized Dealer for financing details.

