



STATUS UNKNOWN

GIANCARLO STANTON SHRUGS OFF QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS LATEST INJURY AS THE YANKEES WEIGH HOW — AND WHEN — TO GET HIM BACK IN THE OUTFIELD. **B1**

U.S. MILITARY

New headstones honor forgotten Americans who did their duty



“Being a veteran, I wanted to do what I could to be sure all veterans get the recognition they deserve,” says Lyle Garitty, an administrator and historian at Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore who scours records. Photos by Jim Burger via Washington Post

The VA says a growing number of history buffs, Boy Scout troops and others are making sure long-dead warriors aren’t forgotten.

Jon Morgan Washington Post

The roots of John Knox’s despondence are lost to history. But his suicide made the newspaper: In 1895, he tied one end of a rope around his neck and the other around a stone block. Then he threw himself into Baltimore’s harbor. A document in Knox’s pocket identified him as an army pensioner but included no next of kin, according to a brief account in the Baltimore Sun. He was sent to a pauper’s grave and forgotten for more than 120 years. Then two workers at the city’s Green Mount Cemetery came across his story and applied for a grave marker through a little-known law passed in 1879. It requires the federal government to ship a headstone anywhere in the world for anyone who served in the U.S. military, not just those who died in combat or buried in military cemeteries. The result is a granite plaque on a leafy hillside of the historic graveyard. It reads, in



John Knox was sent to a pauper’s grave and forgotten for more than 120 years. Then two workers from Green Mount Cemetery came across his story and applied for a grave marker through a little-known law passed in 1879.

part: “Sgt. John W. Knox, Medal of Honor.” It’s one of more than 167 such markers, tombstones and medallions that the cemetery workers Shawn Ward and Lyle Garitty have installed in the graveyard to memorialize forgotten men and women who did their duty in conflicts as far back as the Revolutionary War. They are among the most active of what the Department of Veterans Affairs says is

a growing number of history buffs, Boy Scout troops and others who have taken up the cause of long-dead warriors. Pupils at a high school in Ohio installed more than 70 headstones in historic cemeteries near their school. An Orlando resident secured 61 headstones for veterans of the Spanish-American War and other conflicts at Mount **SEE U.S. MILITARY, A3**

ALBANY

State sues Zelle’s parent after feds drop similar case

It accuses the company of failing to protect users.

Associated Press

New York’s attorney general sued the parent company of the Zelle payment platform, months after the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau abandoned a similar case as the Trump administration was gutting the agency. Attorney General Letitia James, sued Early Warning Services in New York state court, alleging that the company, which is owned by a group of U.S. banks, had failed to protect users from fraud by not including critical safety features in Zelle’s design. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau earlier this year dropped a similar case after President Donald Trump fired the agency’s leader and his administration halted nearly all the bureau’s work. “No one should be left to fend for themselves after falling victim to a scam,” James said in a statement. “I look forward to getting justice for the New Yorkers who suffered because of Zelle’s security failures.” James’ case against Early Warning Services alleged that Zelle, which allows users to send and receive near-instant money transfers, failed to include adequate verification processes. Her office said scammers were able to access peoples’ accounts or trick users into sending money to bogus accounts that posed as official businesses. In one instance cited by the attorney general’s office, a Zelle user got a call from someone posing as an employee of the utility company Con Edison who told the user that his electricity was going to be shut off unless he sent them money through Zelle. The user then transferred about \$1,500 to a Zelle account named “Coned Billing” and then realized he had been scammed but was told by his bank that he could not get his money back, James’ office said. In a statement issued through a spokesperson, Zelle called James’ lawsuit “a political stunt to generate press, not progress.” “The Attorney General should focus on the hard facts, stopping criminal activity and adherence to the law, not overreach and meritless claims,” the statement said.

SYRACUSE

School supplies

More than 10,000 people attended Mary Nelson’s annual giveaway which has grown to provide produce, cleaning supplies, music and more. **A2**

NATION

Mayors drive change

As Trump paints Black-led cities as crime-ridden, their mayors highlight real, often dramatic drops in violence — and fight to reclaim the narrative. **A4**

N.Y cannabis shops sue state over store location error

The shops were allowed to open too close to schools.

Anthony Izaguirre Associated Press

A group of marijuana dispensaries in New York sued the state after cannabis regulators admitted they accidentally allowed pot shops to open too close to schools, putting the future of the businesses in jeopardy. The lawsuit asks a state Supreme Court judge in Albany to rule that the marijuana shops’ locations remain legal and to prevent the state from taking any enforcement action against them. The case came a few weeks after the state’s legal marijuana office told about 150 existing or proposed cannabis shops that regulators had been misreading a state law

that requires dispensaries to be a certain distance from schools. In the roughly three years since the state started licensing legal cannabis stores, officials have been meeting a requirement that dispensaries be 500 feet away from the nearest school by measuring the distance from the school’s door to the door of the business. The state now says the law actually requires them to measure from the school’s property line. About 60 shops were licensed and opened under the incorrect measurement system, state officials said, plus around another 40 that have licenses but haven’t yet opened for business. Then there

are almost 50 other businesses that have applied for licenses and are awaiting final approval from the state. The dispensaries that are open have been told they can continue to do business for now as long as they filed applications for renewal. The state has set up a fund where applicants can get up to \$250,000 to help relocate. The cannabis office said it is urging state lawmakers to craft a permanent fix. The state Legislature isn’t set to meet again until next year. A spokesperson with the state cannabis office declined to comment on the lawsuit, which was filed by a dozen businesses.

