

## A WIN FOR WAGNER

IN A HISTORIC FIRST, WAGNER COLLEGE THEATRE CLAIMS THE TOP SPOT IN THE PRINCETON REVIEW'S 2026 RANKINGS, CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE, INNOVATION, AND INDUSTRY-SHAPING TALENT. A3



**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 for the 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 head-stone 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 part: "Sgt. John W. Knox, Medal of Honor."



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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 Peace Cemetery in St. Cloud, Florida. Last year, VA's National Cemetery Administration shipped 112,459 headstones, plaques **SEE HEADSTONES, A2**  **BROOKLYN** 

## Shooting in crowded club leaves 3 dead, 9 wounded

Julie Walker and Leah Willingham Associated Press

A club shooting in the New York City borough of Brooklyn early Sunday left three people dead and nine others wounded in a year of record low gun violence in the city.

Investigators believe up to four shooters opened fire at Taste of the City Lounge in Crown Heights after a dispute just before 3:30 a.m. The violence appeared to be gang-related, Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch told reporters.

There were no immediate arrests. At a news briefing, Tisch called the killings "a tragic, senseless act of violence."

The crime is the second mass shooting within weeks in New York City during a year that has otherwise seen declining gun violence. On July 29, a man stalked through a Manhattan office tower with a rifle, wounding one person and killing four others. A New York City police officer was among those who died.

Mayor Eric Adams said both shootings reinforce "why we do this work of going after guns off our streets."

"This is the second within weeks, and we don't want this to turn into a normal course of doing business of violence in our city," he said.

Those wounded Sunday were being **SEE CLUB SHOOTING, A2** 

EXTREME WEATHER

## Hurricane Erin gains strength; here's where it's headed next

Ben Noll Washington Post

Erin remained a dangerous Category 3 storm with winds of 125 mph early Sunday, after rapidly intensifying into a Category 5 hurricane on Saturday - one of the five earliest Category 5 storms on record.

Erin passed about 150 miles north of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Saturday night, with a radar-estimated 1 to 3 inches of rain falling and several reports of downed trees and power poles across the territory, as well as in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Erin's intensity is forecast to fluctuate in the days ahead as the inner structure of the storm changes, with an expected move back up to Category 4 status at some point on Sunday or Monday. Erin's intensification into Saturday was unusually fast, though not record-breaking.

The storm will track northwestward from Sunday into Monday, passing well **SEE HURRICANE**, **A2** 

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