

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 451

Approved August 22, 1997

RESOLVED, That the Traffic Engineer is requested to cause the installation of a Memorial Plaque at the intersection of Sayles Street and Harriett Street, in the memory of Keith Eric Johnson.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
AUG 14 1997  
READ AND PASSED

*Evelyn V. Fargnoli*  
PRES.  
*Jean M. Chastaine*  
CLERK

APPROVED  
AUG 22 1997  
*Vincent A. Cianci*  
MAYOR

IN CITY COUNCIL  
JUN 19 1997  
FIRST READING  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON  
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT  
RENEWAL & PLANNING

*Michael K. Clement* CLERK

THE COMMITTEE ON  
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT  
RENEWAL & PLANNING  
Approves Passage of  
The Within Resolution

*Burlan A. Quinn*  
7/21/97 Clerk

*Councilman Quinn and Councilwoman Nolan*

ain St. died yesterday at Charlton orial Hospital.

rn in Fall River, she was a daugh- r of the late Antone Mello, and Pame- udet) Mello-Desmarais-Babcock.

rs. Cordeiro was a member of the national Ladies Garment Workers n, and was employed by the Need- ft Manufacturing Co. for 35 years e retiring in 1969.

e leaves a son, William Cordeiro ockbridge, Ga.; a twin sister, Ber- Roderick of Fall River; a grand- hter, and a great-grandson. She the sister of the late Antone Mello aymond Desmarais.

e funeral will be held Thursday at a.m. from the Auclair Funerat e, 690 S. Main St., with a funeral at 10 at St. Mary's Cathedral, g Street. Burial will be in Notre Cemetery.

**ALTER M. FERNANDES SR.**, 71, nset Hill, a breakfast cook at the er Union Hospital for 13 years, hen an employee of the Aluminum ssing Co. in Taunton for six years retiring due to illness, died Sunday me.

rn in Redlands, Calif., a son of the Marion C. and Mary (Rego) Fer- es, he lived in Fall River for many s.

r. Fernandes was a former vice ident of the Coalition for Disabled ons.

e leaves two sons, Walter M. Fer- les Jr., and Robert J. Fernandes, of Fall River; two sisters, Mar- a Souza of Fall River, Delores en of Attleboro, and two grand- hters. He was the companion of Cournoyer of Fall River.

ie funeral will be held tomorrow at n. from the "Cherry Place" Home aring-Ashton & Coughlin-D.D. van-Driscoll, 178 Winter St., with eral Mass at 9 at St. Anne's ch, South Main Street. Burial will t St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**ENA R. CHRETIEN**, 87, of 132 mond St., a cashier for the Pleasant gstore until retiring many years died Saturday at St. Anne's Hospi- She was the widow of Charles E. etien.

orn in Fall River, she was a daugh- of the late Olivier and Marie (Leves-) Longchamps.

rs. Chretien was a communicant of re Dame Church.

he leaves three sons, the Rev. Rich- Chretien of Our Lady of Grace urch, Westport, Marcel Chretien of Idleboro, Lucien Chretien of Acush- , and four grandchildren.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 5 a.m. from the L.O. Paradis Funeral me, 1555 Pleasant St., with a funeral ss at 11 at Notre Dame Church, stern Avenue. Entombment will be the Notre Dame Masoleum.

**STELLA HARENZA**, 79, formerly of

yesterday.

Brando, 25, had been distraught since the killing of her boyfriend, Dag Drollet, in 1990 by her half-brother, Christian Brando, and had tried to kill herself at least twice previously, according to her doctors.



Family associates, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said she hanged herself Sunday at her moth- er's home in Punaauia, 6 miles west of Papeete, the French Polynesian capital on the island of Tahiti.

Brando's body was moved to her aunt's home in the town of Faaa,

Marion Brando's agent, Ed Li- mato, said the actor wouldn't com- ment.

Cheyenne Brando was charged in July 1990 with complicity in the killing of Drollet, who was shot dead in May 1990 at the Los Angeles home of her father.

Christian Brando is serving a 10- year prison sentence after pleading guilty in a Los Angeles court to vol- untary manslaughter.

After trying to kill herself in No- vember 1990 with a large dose of anti-depressant drugs, she under- went treatment at a Papeete hospi- tal and later at a clinic near Paris.

## Keith Johnson funeral rites set Thursday

PROVIDENCE — The funeral will be held Thursday morning for Keith E. Johnson, 16, who was shot in the back early Saturday while walking to a service in a South Providence church.



Police have made no arrests in the shooting, which occurred shortly after mid- night near Sayles and Harriet Streets, about five blocks from Mount Zion Church of God, where Keith planned to join his mother at a revival service.

Keith was a son of Marshall K.

Johnson III and Geneva (Singletary) Johnson of 201 Melrose St.

Keith enrolled this year in the city's Feinstein High School for Public Service. He was a member of the Hope High School wrestling and football teams.

Besides his parents, he leaves two brothers, Marshall K. Johnson IV and Jeffrey D. Johnson, both of Providence; two sisters, Stephanie J. Robinson of Newport and Amy E. Johnson of Providence, and his ma- ternal grandfather, Joseph Sherman of Decatur, Ga.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. in Mount Zion Church of God, Cahill Street. Burial will be in North Burial Ground.

## Glocester

**ANTHONY C. DAPONTE**, 82, formerly of the Laurel Crest Apartments, Chestnut Hill Road, a foreman for the Narragansett Electric Co. for 30 years before retiring in 1978, died Sunday at the Pine Grove Nursing Home in Pas- coag. He was the husband of the late Mary (Pacheco) Daponte.

Born in East Providence, a son of the late Anthony and Rose (Silva) Daponte, he moved to Chepachet in 1985.

Mr. Daponte was a member of the East Putnam Community Church. He was a former member of the East Provi- dence Special Police, the Police Chiefs Association, the Elks, and the Masons.

He leaves a son, Wallace Daponte of Charleston, S.C.; a daughter, Brenda Lopes of Chepachet; a sister, Helen Collins of Warwick; seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 11 a.m. at the Tucker-Quinn Funeral Home, 649 Putnam Ave., Route 44, Greenville. Burial will be in Acotes Hill Cemetery.

## Lincoln

**GLADYS BRIDEN**, 90, of Smith Street died yesterday at the Oak Hill

## Middletown

Sophie H. Brown, 97 (4)

## Narragansett

Hazel G. Crowther, 75 (4)

## Pawtucket

Nellie C. Raquier, 91 (4)

Additional inform

of her life.

She leaves two daugh- vieve LaPlante of Warwick Percy of Rochester, N.Y.; Buturla of Pawtucket; twa tha Janasiewicz of St. Au- and Genevieve Guliano two granddaughters, s grandchildren, and a granddaughter. She was the late Joseph Buturla, of the late Sophie Mal Walter Marhefka.

The funeral will be held 10 a.m. from the Karol A Sons Funeral Home, 342 tural Falls, with a Mass Burial at 11 at St. Edv Weeden Street. Burial w Dame Cemetery.

## EDWARD A. TAYLOR

Daniels Street, a lead p American Insulated Wir years before retiring in 1 day at Memorial Hospi- husband of Marcelle M. He was also the husband rie P. (Frechette) Taylor.

Born in North Provide the late Frank E. and Mal- nier) Taylor, he lived in 11 years. He previously Attleboro, Mass.

Mr. Taylor was an Ar World War II, and was American Legion Post 31 tleboro.

Besides his wife he lea- ward A. Taylor Jr.; a da- Presley, both of South brothers, Joseph and R both of Pawtucket, Gilb Swansea, Mass., Albert T- rington, Kenneth Taylor Springs, Colo., and Edm Providence; a sister, Loui Woonsocket; 12 step-chil- eral grandchildren and grandchildren. He was t the late Frank Taylor.

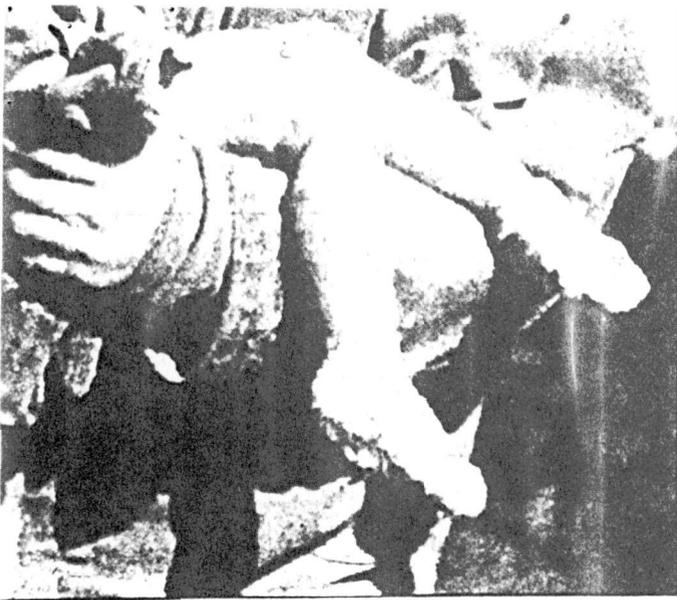
The funeral will be hel 8 a.m. from the V.J. M Funeral Home, 213 Gard Mass of Christian Buri- Mary Church, Pine Stree be in Notre Dame Cemet

## Providence

## JAMES E. MONTGOMERY

50 Prairie Ave., a molder Plastics Co. for the last ni Thursday at Roger Williams Hospital after being strick- en.

Born in Clevel-



AP/CHARLES H. PORTER IV

...es one of the children from the building's day-care center.

# Bodies passed hand to hand

By DOUG J. SWANSON and STEPHEN POWER  
Dallas Morning News

OKLAHOMA CITY — The first body dentist Myron Hilton touched was that of a child, impossibly small and wrapped in a blanket. He passed it to the man standing next to him.

Next came an adult, also shrouded. "We formed a line," he said, "and handed them to each other."

This slow, erratic procession of bodies continued all day yesterday through sun, then rain. Then, the night forced police to wheel in portable spotlights to pierce the darkness. The rubble of what used to be the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Build-

ing yielded its dead only fitfully.

Nine floors went down in seconds and settled in a huge pile. What remained of the 315,000-square-foot building looked like an angular sandcastle half-collapsed by a giant wave.

At its center, a pile of concrete, steel, plastic, insulation, phones and desks rose about 40 feet high. Some rescue workers talked of finding bodies buried in the debris, coloring books from the second-floor child care center.

The General Services Administration said as many as 500 federal government workers could have

Turn to **SCENE**, Page A-1

# A youth 'sadly and unjustly taken'

4-20-95 A-1



Journal-Bulletin/BOB THAYER

**BEREAVED PARENTS:** Geneva Johnson is comforted by her husband, Marshall Johnson, in their Elmwood home.

■ The parents of a 16-year-old shooting victim say there must be an answer to the violence in their neighborhood.

By KAREN LEE ZINER  
Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

PROVIDENCE — The phone rang incessantly yesterday as Geneva and Marshall Johnson, struck with the shocked, slow-motion grief of the newly bereaved, sat on a couch and hugged one another in their Elmwood home.

In a darkened parlor, cellophane-wrapped fruit baskets and floral bouquets dressed with orange and violet Birds of Paradise rested on tables.

Glittering sports trophies won by their son, 16-year-old Keith Eric Johnson — shot to death last Friday night while walking back to church to meet his mother at a revival meeting — lined a mantel.

In the kitchen, relatives from this religious, tight-knit family prepared for an expected huge gathering, from as close as Providence and as far

Turn to **STUDENT**, Page A-12

# Student

Continued from Page One

away as Georgia and North Carolina. They folded eggs into tidy omelets, set out coffee and doughnuts, icewater, tea and cake.

The mail came, and Geneva Singletary Johnson opened a pile of cards from friends, relatives, acquaintances and strangers alike, as Marshall Johnson put his arm

around her or held her hand. She read many aloud.

"While we don't know one another," one family wrote, "you can be assured we will pray not only for Keith, but for an end to all violence."

Violence by guns: an escalating scourge of the 1990s.

"As far as what happened to Keith, I really believe it was an act of random violence," said his mother. "He was not a street kid. . . . In my wildest imagination, I would not

expect that someone would gun him down in the streets."

"I guess his worst sin," she said, "was that he enjoyed walking."

But the violence, she said, the violence must stop.

"We can't just give up and say that's the way the world is. We've got to find a way to change some things . . . make homes homes again, and make parents parents again. Let children be children. I'm sure that there is a way."

## A tough area

As they scouted the neighborhood Tuesday where Keith Johnson died, walking door-to-door and talking to people, police came across what they thought might be a bullet fragment, wedged into a gritty corner of a manhole cover.

Ballistics can determine whether the silvery fragment is indeed a bullet. But even if it is — as one policeman put it — it could be a stray round from any given night.

It's a tough area.

Keith Johnson, a quiet young man who liked wrestling, football and playing the saxophone, was shot in the back just past midnight last Friday on his way from a friend's house to meet his mother at the Mount Zion Church of God in South Providence. She has worshipped there for 20 years.

The bullet struck him, police believe, as he walked at Prairie Avenue and Sayles Street. Witnesses saw him stagger for a block or so. Then he fell at the intersection of Sayles and Harriet Streets, and died.

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Exit 29, Right on Fountain,  
Next Right on Blackstone*



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In the four-block radius from where he died in South Providence, police data for one year reflects 36 incidents ranging from lost or stolen checks to domestic assault, breaking and entering, stabbings, shootings and a virtual dumping ground for stolen autos. Residents also cite prostitution, crack houses and other drug-dealing.

As police made their rounds on Prairie Avenue, resident Margaret Oliveiro leaned against a chain-link fence and spoke about the neighbor-

'We've got to find a way to change some things . . . make homes homes again, and make parents parents again. Let children be children.'

GENEVA JOHNSON

Keith's mother

hood.

"I call the police so much, they all know my name," she says. "I was never afraid. I used to walk all the time. Now, it's gotten worse in the eight years since I've been here."

Oliveiro spoke of repeated house-breaks. "Even the milkman's been robbed. The pizza man has been robbed," she said. "They stole my garage gate. They jumped a six-foot fence," she said, pointing to a sag in the rear barricade.

"It's people from the outside," said Oliveiro. "You can't put your clothes out on the line. People come and take them."

### A young life ended

Keith Eric Johnson was born on June 15, 1978, in Providence, one of five sons and daughters of Marshall and Geneva.

His mother is a customer service representative for Liberty Mutual Insurance. His father drives a truck for Scott Brass.

An obituary notice that will be handed out at his funeral today notes that "Keith's life was sadly and unjustly taken from him on Saturday, April 15, 1995, in the early morning hours."

Says his mother, "he was a very quiet, shy kid, especially with adults and people he didn't know very well." She smiled as she recalled that "with family and friends he could be the opposite."

He was on the wrestling team at Hope High School, before switching this year to the Alan Shawn Feinstein School for Public Service. "One of his proudest possessions was that wrestling coat he had on when he got shot," his mother said.

He studied the saxophone for three years, and his teacher, "who is pretty famous," his mother said, "thought Keith was the brightest, smartest student he ever had."

Keith hoped to attend the Berklee School of Music in Boston.

As one of those who sent cards yesterday put it, "It saddens me to think of all his dreams. Getting

# Security tight

With more than 8,000 federal facilities throughout the United States, potential targets far exceed the ability to defend against terrorism.

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — President Clinton declared yesterday that the United States could not be "intimidated by evil cowards" and ordered hundreds of federal personnel to deal with the Oklahoma City catastrophe.

But there is little the United States can do to forestall a committed terrorist, private and government security experts said, because there are too many targets and real security costs too much.

The President sent a team of what he called "the world's finest investigators," led by the FBI, to Oklahoma City to investigate the bombing.

"The United States will not tolerate it, and I will not allow the people of the United States to be intimidated by evil cowards," a stern-faced Mr. Clinton said.

Atty. Gen. Janet Reno said prosecutors would seek a penalty for those who she declined to disclose or leads that authorizing she feared the actions would impede the investigation.

Mr. Clinton and

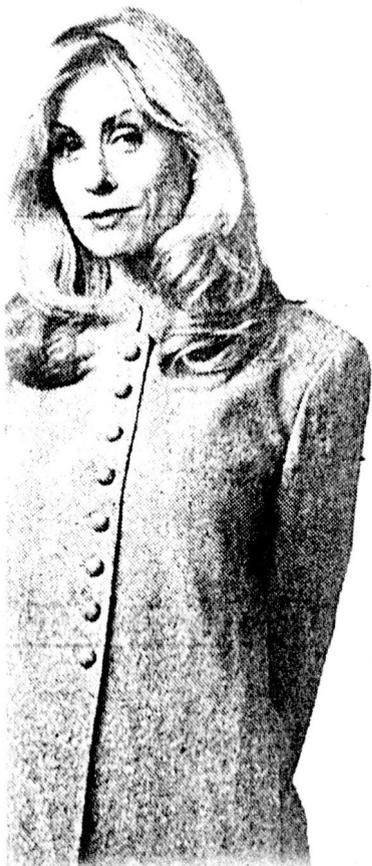
'Every building has something in common' CHAR

FBI-led investigation of the bombing. Special agents, explosives technicians and bomb technicians from the FBI, the Department of Justice, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Secret Service, the U.S. Army's 61st Signal Battalion from Fort Belvoir, Colo., the National Guard and local law enforcement are working with the

Mr. Clinton's approach was a grim call for step-by-step precautions at federal



Top: 95 North Exit 29  
 Middle Left: Spirit Left  
 Middle Right: Rte 95 So  
 Bottom: Fountain  
 Right on Backstone



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ETS** The Serious  
Shopper  
Finally Has  
An Outlet.

**2-SAVE-ALOT**  
11AM - 6PM

and people he didn't know very well." She smiled as she recalled that "with family and friends he could be the opposite."

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As one of those who sent cards yesterday put it, "It saddens me to think of all his dreams floating away."

#### Carrying on

A \$10,000 reward, sponsored equally by Cranston philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein and Cranston Crime Stoppers, remained unclaimed.

"I know somebody saw something. I know somebody heard something," Geneva Johnson said. "I know somebody knows who did this. It's a shame that fear keeps them from doing what is right, and what is just."

Intermittently, the Johnsons discuss plans to start some sort of anti-violence foundation in their son's name. Feinstein may assist. "I have to do something. If I don't do something, I will have failed my son," Geneva Johnson said, "and I can't do that."

Throughout the morning, people let themselves in the back door of the home on Melrose Street, with its handsome wooden floors and period wainscoting, to support a family bereft of a son.

As Pentacostalists, say the Johnsons, they believe in the power of Jesus to change people's lives.

But said Geneva Johnson, if there is anything to learn from this tragedy, "the one thing we're able to find out is that we are all the same and it doesn't matter what we are. We all still hurt the same. We share the same joys. I think the outpouring just proves that people are people."

#### A verse of hope

At the funeral today, someone will sing "You've Got to Realize," a song that Keith Eric Johnson wrote. In doing so, he noted that this was his "first real song inspired by God. Thank you Lord."

In part, Keith Johnson wrote:  
*You've got to realize that He's by your side to help*

*you through your dark and lonely night.*

*And I think that you should know that He died for*

*you and wouldn't leave you all alone.*

*Jesus died for you and He'll see you through.*

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RE



Savings valid only on Thursday thru Sunday, April 20 and 23 only. Applies to regular merchandise only and is limited to JCPenney in-store stock on hand. If a price is purchased in multiples of two or more, the customer will receive 25% off the regular price. Does not apply to sale price items reduced for a limited time. Not for use in Costco. Not for use on Star brand merchandise. Marquis by Waterford crystal. Fieldcrest Royal V. Starter brand apparel. Hanes hosiery. No Fear sportswear. Catalog or Catalog merchandise, watches by Gaea, Esquire, Swatch, Arizona Jean Co. and Hugo M. with any other coupon or offer. Credit purchases are subject to review.

City of Providence



Rhode Island

Department of City Clerk

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 24, 1997

TO: Irene Testa, Traffic Engineering

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTIONS FOR MEMORIAL PLAQUES**

CONSIDERED BY: Councilwoman Josephine DiRuzzo, Chairwoman,  
Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal &  
Planning

DISPOSITION: The enclosed resolutions are referred to you for  
study, report and recommendation and report back in  
writing to the above-named committee as soon as  
practical.

*Barbara A. Fairer*  
Second Deputy City Clerk