

OHIO JUDGE SHOT NEAR COURTHOUSE

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The man who shot and wounded a judge outside a county courthouse before being gunned down by a probation officer yesterday was the father of a Steubenville High School football player who was convicted of rape in 2013, authorities said.

Jefferson County Judge Joseph Bruzzese Jr. was shot at around 8 a.m. near the courthouse in Steubenville, just across the Ohio River from West Virginia's northern panhandle, roughly 30 miles west of Pittsburgh.

Authorities identified the gunman as 51-year-old Nathaniel "Nate" Richmond, the father of

Ma'Lik Richmond. Ma'Lik, then 17, served about 10 months in a juvenile lockup after being convicted with another Steubenville football player of raping a 16-year-old girl during an alcohol-fueled party in 2012.

The case brought international attention to the eastern Ohio city of 18,000 and led to allegations of a cover-up to protect the football team.

Investigators are still looking for a motive in the shooting and haven't found a connection to the rape case, said Jefferson County Prosecutor Jane Hanlin.

A visiting judge from Hamilton County, where Cincinnati is located, handled the vast majority of the rape case.

Bruzzese, 65, was talking after

being wounded, Steubenville City Manager James Mavromatis told WTOV-TV. The judge was flown to a Pittsburgh-area hospital. Republican Gov. John Kasich said he was told Bruzzese would survive.

The attack had to be intentional because people know about the reserved spots where judges park, said one of Bruzzese's judicial colleagues.

Judge Joseph Corabi said he and the county's two other judges park in reserved spots next to the courthouse in eastern Ohio. Judges then walk a few feet down what's known as "Courthouse Alley" to a side entrance to the building, said Corabi, the Jefferson County juvenile and probate court judge.

Ma'Lik Richmond, now 21, is currently on the Youngstown State football team but isn't allowed to play in any games, the school said earlier this month.

News of his participation drew a wave of criticism in the university community recently, and a petition was started to keep him from playing for the Penguins.

Bruzzese hears general and domestic relations cases as one of two judges serving in Jefferson County Common Pleas Court.

Bruzzese has served on that court since 1997, according to Ohio Supreme Court records. He was most recently re-elected in 2014 for another six-year term.

City weighs fine for texting while walking

BY ISABEL GOTTLIEB
Bloomberg News

This really shouldn't be a surprise to anyone who's done it: You are just no good at texting and walking.

While you might do OK at the reading and typing part, your preoccupied brain isn't paying enough attention to what's going on with your feet. It's such a hazard that Honolulu last month adopted an ordinance to outlaw smartphone use by pedestrians crossing streets. Now Stamford, Connecticut, may become the second U.S. city this year to combat the problem with fines.

"The point is, if you're on the street and not paying attention, it's dangerous," Stamford Mayor David Martin said.

That seems straightforward enough, and there's research showing texting can result in what's called distracted walking. John Zelinsky, a member of the Stamford Board of Representatives, said he's confident a proposed cellphone crosswalk ban will be adopted and that once text-happy citizens see cops issuing citations — right now the idea is for the fine to be \$30 per violation — "they will think twice."

Most U.S. states already ban texting by drivers. But there isn't unanimous support for dingling foot-travelers. The city council in Honolulu heard from residents who testified



CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES / RICHARD LEVINE

Most states, including New York, ban texting by drivers, but only Honolulu has fines for texting walkers.

about enforcement hurdles and the impact on tourists and complained about overreach.

Safety experts point to the numbers: U.S. pedestrian deaths have been on the rise, with 5,376 in 2015 and nearly 6,000 last year, the most in two decades and up 22 percent from 2014, according to data compiled by the Governors Highway Safety Association for a recent report. (The 2016 total is a projection based on numbers from the first half of that year.)

There are no statistics to show whether texting played a role in any of the fatalities, but "when you keep records for 40 years and see two consecutive years with the back-

U.S. pedestrian deaths

6,000

in 2016 (estimate)

5,376

in 2015

Source: Governors Highway Safety Association

to-back largest, that tells me there was a game changer," said Richard Retting, a former traffic safety commissioner for the New York City Department of Transportation who worked on the report. "I don't think it's a leap

of faith when you look at the increase in cellphone usage."

The Honolulu law will go into effect in October. Fines will start at \$15 and go as high as \$99 for multiple violations. There are a few details to work out before the Stamford Board of Representatives will take its vote, including what burdens enforcing the ordinance would put on the local police force.

Other cities have tried different approaches, with the Los Angeles Police Department launching a "look up, phone down" public information campaign and Augsburg, Germany, embedding traffic signals into sidewalks so people hunched over mobile devices can spot them.

Coffee shop reopens, but faces code violations

BY RACHELLE BUDNER
rachellebudner@newsday.com

A Sag Harbor coffee shop shuttered for months because of fire damage was cited for illegally expanding just two days after reopening this month, an official said.

SagTown Coffee combined space with a neighboring storefront without full approval from the village planning board when it opened Aug. 5, building inspector Thomas Preiato said yesterday.

The popular coffee shop had permission to convert the former space of Collette Luxury Consignment into a coffee shop, Preiato said. But its planning board application to merge the units is still pending.

Preato said he approved SagTown's certificate of occupancy on Aug. 3, when there was still a wall separating it from the consignment shop. But when SagTown reopened two days later, the wall was no longer there. Preiato said the coffee shop now sells merchandise, including T-shirts



JOHN ROCA

SagTown Coffee is one of few businesses on Main Street to reopen after damage from a fire in December.

and thermoses, in Collette's former retail space. Preiato said he cited SagTown on Aug. 7 for violating the certificate of occupancy and for not having site approval

from the planning board.

Tisha Collette, who co-owns both SagTown and Collette with her husband, Shane Dyckman, said they renegotiated their lease with landlord Sag

Harbor Venture LLC to allow the expansion.

Collette, who recently relocated the namesake store to a pop-up shop at Bridgehampton Commons, said she believes the

dispute will be resolved soon.

"Being in the Hamptons, there's a lot of requirements to keep things a certain way, and it's just a part of doing business," said Collette, who also owns shops in Manhattan and Southampton Town. A SagTown coffee shop also operates in Montauk.

The SagTown in Sag Harbor is one of the few businesses to reopen in the same spot after a Dec. 16 fire tore through the downtown and damaged or destroyed five buildings, including the Sag Harbor Cinema. Most affected businesses are either still closed or have moved elsewhere.

Collette said that while the coffee shop sat empty for months, construction to rebuild "happened very quickly" once a building permit was issued in April.

Collette and Dyckman could face fines of up to \$1,000 and up to 15 days in jail per violation, a 601 bedroom

They are scheduled to appear in Sag Harbor Village Court on Sep. 19. www.newsday.com

CRIME & courts

HEMPSTEAD

Attorney gets 60 days for attacking a woman

A Hempstead-based attorney was sentenced yesterday to 60 days in jail for attacking a woman two years ago in the lobby of his law office after a dispute, the Nassau District Attorney's office said.

Lawrence Etah, 54, of Central Islip had been convicted of third-degree assault by a jury in May over a July 7, 2015, attack that started when a woman slapped a phone out of his hand. In an incident captured on video, he then slapped her in the face, picked her up and slammed her head into a chair, threw her onto the ground and kicked her, authorities said.

The victim was treated at a hospital and released that day, officials said.

Etah's attorney was not available yesterday afternoon.

Etah was also given three years' probation at sentencing by Nassau District Court Judge Susan Kluewer.

He had been suspended as an attorney in February in an unrelated matter, in which he helped a client violate a court order, according to court records.

Nassau District Attorney Madeline Singas said Etah deserves jail for his "disgusting display of violence."

"This now-suspended law-

Newsday
Aug. 22, 2017

Newsday

OUR TOWNS August 22, 2012

Judge puts off Walsh imprisonment

BY ROBERT E. KESSLER
robert.kessler@newsday.com

A federal judge has delayed former Suffolk County Conservative Party leader Edward Walsh's imprisonment — which was to begin today — while he decides whether Walsh is entitled to a new trial.

His attorneys assert in court papers a new trial is needed because the government did not hand over evidence favorable to Walsh's defense.

Walsh, 51, of East Islip, who also was a lieutenant in the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, was convicted in March 2016 of wire fraud and theft of government services and sentenced to



Edward Walsh

2 years in federal prison for pocketing hundreds of thousands of dollars from the Suffolk sheriff's department while

golfing, gambling and politicking on county time.

But yesterday, U.S. District Judge Arthur Spatt at the federal court in Central Islip ordered the date of Walsh's imprisonment to be delayed until at least Oct. 17 so that he can consider the motion for a new trial.

Spatt did not say in his ruling whether he would hold a hearing on the issues raised by Walsh, or decide based on the court papers filed by Walsh's attorneys, Leonard Lato of Hauppauge and William Wexler of North Babylon, and the opposition papers filed by Eastern District prosecutors Raymond Tierney and Catherine Mirabile. Spatt also did not say when

he might issue a ruling on the motion for a new trial.

Lato and Wexler argued that the government violated its obligation to turn over material that would have assisted Walsh in his defense at the trial, including statements made to FBI agents by jail officials which appeared to contradict the testimony of Sheriff Vincent DeMarco.

DeMarco, a key government witness, had testified that Walsh did not report to him, and he was unaware that Walsh, in effect, claimed that the sheriff gave him permission to set his own hours and regularly leave the jail grounds. The defense attorneys argued that they could

have used this information to undermine DeMarco's credibility as a government witness.

Tierney and Mirabile, while not conceding that required information had not been turned over for Walsh's defense, said the argument was beside the point. They said the evidence of Walsh's guilt was overwhelming, based on voluminous records of his locations from telephone and credit-card records, as well as contractual requirements calling for him to work a regular 7 1/2 hour shift.

At Walsh's sentencing in June, Spatt also ordered him to make \$202,000 in restitution, forfeit an additional \$245,000 and serve 3 years supervised release.

★ Mom of 3 seeks stay

Guatemalan with U.S.-born children fears deportation

BY LAURA FIGUEROA
laura.figueroa@newsday.com

A Guatemalan mother of three U.S. born children who has taken refuge in a Manhattan church to avoid deportation has filed a motion to remain temporarily in the United States.

On Monday, Geoff Kagan Trenchard, an immigration attorney representing Amanda Morales Guerra, 33, filed a petition with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials requesting the former Massapequa resident be allowed to stay in the U.S. for at least a year.

Kagan Trenchard is preparing an asylum bid on her Guerra's behalf and pursuing "other legal avenues" that would allow her to stay indefinitely with her three children, ages 9, 7 and 2.

The family lived previously in Massapequa, but moved into the Holy Rood Episcopal Church in Washington Heights on Thursday in an effort to avoid a deportation order against Morales.

Churches and schools are re-

garded as "sensitive locations" that ICE agents generally don't enter without a special order, according to the agency's website.

"To anyone that would try to accuse Amanda of being a fugitive or somehow breaking the law, or being a danger to society in any way I challenge you, if you are a parent to look within yourself and really see if you would not make the exact decisions that she has made," Kagan Trenchard at a news conference in lower Manhattan.

Kagan Trenchard said ICE officers at the agency's lower Manhattan office took the petition and said they would render a decision within 90 days.

An ICE spokesman said in an email the agency was "in receipt of the request and it's under review."

Morales has been living in the United States without legal status since 2004, when she left Guatemala amid growing gang violence.

Kagan Trenchard said Morales was a passenger in a car accident in 2012 and that she provided her only identification, her Guatemalan passport. Subsequently, she was required to check in regularly with ICE, and last month, she was told to check-in and bring a one-way ticket to Guatemala, Kagan Trenchard said.

NEWSDAY, TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2017 newsday.com



Amanda Morales with two of her children during a news conference at the Washington Heights church where she has taken refuge.