

The Walrus Says

By Jim Munro



It was the biggest KA-BOOM ever on Jamestown. The light and sound of 1,114 exploding shells over a period of 30 minutes reverberated off the walls of the canyon known as Mackerel Cove.

Islanders told us it was the best yet. That was because of the generosity of Jamestown residents, organizations, and businesses.

After two fog-outs in July, Saturday's shoot began shortly after 2 p.m., when the truck with the shells arrived from New Hampshire and the racks and pipes came in by truck from Barrington. The crew began nailing them together into cubes. The workers consisted of Ray Medley of Barrington, Telstar Display Fireworks' local representative; Rocket Dawgz Fred Brome, Tony Gutierrez and Ed Booth; Bill Fields of Fairhaven, Peter Butler of Newport and Ray and Jonathon Pezzullo of Barrington.

When we arrived at 6, Ray Medley told us everything was on schedule. Aside from a heat haze, it looked like a go for the evening. The crew was working on the last rack for the finale and beginning to load the shells into the tubes, well over a thousand, all by hand. There's a lot of heavy work, and on a hot day like Saturday, it becomes dirty, sweaty work.

This year's ground display consisted of 15 candles and 1,000

shells in cakes. The latter were the multitude of white displays that rose like rivers from the beach.

Rocket Dawg B.J. Whitehouse was on the radio bringing vital information and patriotic music to his fans throughout the island. At the same time, he was putting together the American flag later to be illuminated on the beach. We roamed the beach supervising the activities and asking stupid questions.

At 8:30 all was at the ready. Cars and trucks were moved to leeward, across the road. The crew got its fire-proof coats ready and discussed assignments. All of the shells, with the exception of the ground display which was fired electronically, are fired by hand with road flares.

Eddawg was going to light the shells in the reloadable steel banks that hold the big boys. Earlier, he had told me, "When these things go they have to be respected."

Freddawg and Tonydawg were to work the racks. "I'm going to be running the dance of death among the flowers of fire," said Tonydawg with tongue planted firmly in cheek. "Do you want to fire one this year Jimdawg?" he asked. We quickly demurred, pleading a shortage of guts.

At 9:03, with the road shut

down and a complete stillness and quiet in the air, the first shell went up. For the next 30 minutes, Jamestowners had their Independence Day celebration being observed on the eve of V.J. Day that 60 years ago saw the end of World War II. Two events hundreds of years apart, but both very significantly entwined in the formation and continuation of our nation's love of freedom.

Kudos to the police and fire departments for their great assistance. The police moved the traffic in and out smartly and the firefighters made sure the sparks did no damage in the dry conditions. The recreation department raked the beach for a level setup and the harbor master kept the boats in the cove at a safe distance.

Also many thanks to Bill Murphy for the loan of his generator that provided light in the beach restrooms that the town didn't want unlocked or lit.

Rocket Dawg thanks to Conanicut Marine Services Inc., Thomas Harris and Maureen Coleman of East Shore Road, and Bruce Sundlun of Seaside Drive for their donations. The money gives us a nice jump on next year's blast.

One final KA-BOOM!!!

To the Jamestown Moonbathers: All flags were at full staff last weekend.

Jim Pemantell plays his bluegrass mandolin even during Patriots games. He turns down the audio on the TV and strums away. Other times he practices along with a CD or while listening to a bluegrass show on WRIU.

On Sundays, he sometimes

Continued on next page



A fireworks explosion lights up Mackerel Cove's sky Saturday evening. Photo by Vic Richardson

Legal Notices

TOWN OF JAMESTOWN ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JAMESTOWN ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON AUGUST 23, 2005, AT THE JAMESTOWN LIBRARY, 26 NORTH ROAD, JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND AT 7:00 P.M. UPON THE FOLLOWING:

Application of Marsha Newsom Byrne, whose property is located at 43 Summit Ave., and further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 1, Lot 12 for a variance from Article 3, Table 3-2 (District Dimensional Regulations) to construct a front entrance overhang, landing and stairway which will be 14 ft. from the front property line instead of the required 40 ft. Said property is located in an RR80 zone and contains 40,353sq. ft.

Application of Bernd E. and Donna M. Pfeiffer, whose property is located at 44 Seaside Dr., and further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 14, Lot 136 for a variance from Article 3, Table 3-2 (District Dimensional Regulations) to construct an addition to an existing single family dwelling which will be 12 feet from the southerly lot line wherein 20 feet is required. Said Property is located in a R40 zone and contains 9450 +/- sq. ft.

Application of Lawrence J. et ux Janet C. Smith, whose property is located at 464 Beacon Ave., and further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 3, Lot 237 for a variance from Article 3, Section 3-2 (District Dimensional Regulations) to construct a new second floor and a covered front porch 10 ft. from the north side setback and 10 ft. from the south side setback wherein 20 ft. is required. Said property is located in a R40 zone and contains 21,600 sq. ft.

BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW THOMAS GINNERTY, CHAIRMAN Fred Brown, Zoning Officer

This meeting location is accessible to the physically challenged. Hearing or speech impaired individuals requiring the services of an interpreter should call 1-800-745-5555 not less than 3 business days prior to the meeting.

(8/4, 8/11, 8/18)

JAMESTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

August 25, 2005

6:30 PM Executive Session 42-46-5 Exception 8 Home Schooling Request

7:00 PM Business Meeting Melrose MultiPurpose Room AGENDA

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Call to Order and Roll Call
- III. Public Forum
- IV. Routine Items
- Correspondence
- Consent Agenda
- A. Approval of Minutes 7/07/05
- B. Payment of Bills 7/12/05;7/25/05;7/26/05
- C. Personnel
- Teaching Appointments: Gr. 3 LTS, Gr. 7 LTS ELA, Gr. 2 LTS Special Ed Co Teaching;
- Coaching Appointments: Cross Country and Socce; Teacher Assistant Appointments: Transfer to Gr. 7/8, Preschool;Gr. 5/6 Resource; Teacher Asistant Resignation; Teacher LOA

- V. Old Business
- Review and vote on North Kingstown Technology Agreement
- VI. New Business
- Election of Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk of School Committee

Selection of Committee Assignments 2005/2006

Adoption of School Committee Goals 2005/2006

VII. Information and Proposals Superintendent's Report on Enrollment

- VIII. Committee Reports
- a.) SITS
- b.) SELAC
- c.) Facilities
- d.) N.K. School Committee
- e.) SORICO
- f.) Legislative
- IX. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings:

September 8, 2005: Workshop Session @ 7PM in MMRP

September 22, 2005: Business Meeting @ 7PM in Lawn Library

Any agenda changes will be posted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must call 423-7020 forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting date.

Katherine E. Sipala, Superintendent

rake in the sales!

ADVERTISE IN THE FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



JAMESTOWN PRESS

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