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drives out to Westport to jam with other musicians, and on the third Thursday of every month he hangs out and plays along with other instrumentalists at Main Street Music in East Greenwich.

"I play every day," he told us. His love for the bluegrass mandolin comes across in his conversations about the instrument. The bluegrass shaped mandolin came into use some 70 years ago and has a different sound to it," Jim said.

You'd think that the retired Jamestown Police Department chief has been playing the mandolin for a long time. Actually, the 67 year old's been with the instrument only five years. He said he's always liked the sound of the mandolin so he began taking lessons. "I took a few lessons from a guy in town. He moved away right after that. I hope it wasn't because of my playing," he said, laughing. From there he learned his strumming from books.

But Jim goes for professional guidance at least once a year. He just got back from his second trip to a bluegrass gettogether called Augusta Heritage at Davis and Elkins College in Elkins, W. V. Jim said it's in the middle of nowhere. Musicians come together for five days of lectures in the mornings and afternoons and jamming in the evenings. They stay in college dorms and eat cafeteria food, and Jim said there's nothing like it. If you want to take an elective and learn another instrument, you can. Families come along for square and contra dancing.

"I've made a lot of friends from all over the country. They all sing, and they asked me why I don't sing. I told them I don't think bluegrass and a Rhode Island accent go together." Jim brings home tapes from his daily lectures and studies them. "It's a great time," he added.

If you haven't heard Jim play, you'll be able to tonight. He'll join up with Cape Cod guitarist John Titmas to accompany him for an appearance at the Jamestown Community Chorus' Talent Show beginning this evening at 7:30 at the Community Center.

We asked Jim how he is doing with his other love, running. Over the years he's been in 39 marathons. "I'm getting in shape to get in shape," he replied. Jim plans to run in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 31 and in the Philadelphia Marathon Nov. 20.

You can bet he'll be looking for jams in both those cities.

\*\*\*

Kudos to the Newport Gulls for winning the New England Collegiate Baseball League championship. It was the Gulls third possession of the Fay Vincent Cup since coming to Newport in 2001.

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A letter from grandson Tom at

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the Yawgoog Boy Scout reservation last week:

"Dear Grandma and Grandpa, "I am having a great time at camp! I am working on 2 merit badges, First Aid and Citizenship in the Nation. How is it going back in Jamestown. It is really hot here and im (cq) swimming all the time, when I can. Today tuesday I went kayaking on the pond. Yesterday I went fishing. I got to go! "Love Tom

"P.S. send food and drink in package please!"

\*\*\*

For the past four years, Tammy Fasano has been perched on a platform at the rear of the Community Center's auditorium aiming her spotlight on the Jamestown Community Theatre's activities taking place on the stage.

Tammy's presence there has been pretty much dictated by her daughter Allie's very talented enthusiasm for the stage. Putting the spotlight on Allie must have brought much joy to Tammy.

When the CBC Players production of "Enchanted April" opens at the Central Baptist Church on the weekend of Sept. 9, Tammy will find herself on the other end of the spotlight.

For the first time ever, she will be on stage. We asked her why she tried out, and she replied, "I didn't audition. Someone else did but then couldn't take the part. Then someone said, 'Let's call Tammy' and I came in for a reading."

She was offered the part of Costanza, an outspoken older woman who for her entire life ran a large house named San Salvatore and took care of its family. Costanza ruled the house and that is true even when the family decides to rent it out.

As if being on stage for the first time weren't enough, all of Tammy's lines are in Italian. "I don't see any reason I can't do it, it's not me, not Tammy," she said. Actually, Italian is a familiar language to Tammy. Her husband Steve's family is in Italy and the Fasanos have traveled there frequently.

Is she enjoying her new role? "It's an honor working with the other actors. It's a small, very talented group. It's also a beautiful



**Farm kids**

North Meadow Farm welcomed students from Newport schools last Friday to learn about the animals at the farm. Each student also enjoyed grooming, tacking, and riding horses. They are shown here with Tex, a Shetland pony. Photo by Andrea vonHohenleiten

story."

"Enchanted April" will be staged the weekends of Sept. 9 and 16.

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Kudos to islander Scott Ferguson, winner in the Laser full-rig class in the Buzzards Bay Regatta at the New Bedford Yacht Club.

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Do you have a cat that insists on doing some indoor gardening? Here's what Dr. Joshua Hatch of the Jamestown Animal Clinic has to say about that in his Pet Tip of the Week.

"Do you have cats that insist on digging in your potted plants? A Jamestown resident, Mrs. S., passed on this trick for cats. Buy either some smelly potpourri (citrus seems to work) or those scented pine cones that are popular around the winter holidays and bury them around the edges of your plants.

"When you water the plants, the smell will permeate the soil, give the house a nice scent, and the cats absolutely hate the smell and will not go digging around in

there. Other less smelly options include using black or cayenne pepper and sprinkling it around the soil or getting more of a bark mulch layer on top of the soil because cats do not like to dig in either of those. Good luck and thanks Mrs. S.!"

A'CHOO!!

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Happy belated birthday to Diane Wright who celebrated "the big one" on Aug. 2. Hugs, please!

\*\*\*

Rose Fraley was the first to come in with the completed lyrics for the three songs scattered in last week's column.

"We joined the Navy to see the world, but what did we see? We saw the sea."

"A you're adorable, B you're so beautiful, C you're a cutie full of charms, D you're a darling and E you're exciting and F you're a feather in my arms..." We're not sure of the name of this song but we think we saw and heard Ray Bolger sing and dance it in "High Button Shoes" at the Shubert in NYC.

The last was a patriotic song

during WWII. "Buy a bond today, bonds for freedom that's what we're selling, buy a bond today..."

Sally Schott e-mailed all the lyrics for the alphabet song right through to WXYZ. "It's fun to wander through the alphabet with you to tell you what you mean to me!"

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Tomorrow's full moon is the Green Corn Moon or Grain Moon.

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We welcome your contributions to this page — items such as birthdays, anniversaries and other good stuff.

Call your news in to 423-0383 or 829-2760, e-mail us at [jtnwalrus@hotmail.com](mailto:jtnwalrus@hotmail.com), or drop the item off at the Jamestown Press, 42 Narragansett Ave.

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**Summer Music in Jamestown**  
 at East Ferry Memorial Square  
 ADMISSION FREE  
  
 The Jamestown Recreation Department presents  
**The Jamestown Community Band**  
 6:30 p.m. this Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>  
 In the event of rain, the concert will be in the Community Center