

# The Walrus Says

By Jim Munro



If you wrote for information about enrollment in Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Fla., that request would be forwarded immediately to Fred Bartlett's desk on Columbia Avenue.

Fred is the New England Regional Director of Admissions for the college. He is one of some 20 area directors of admission from various schools living in the New England area. They are seasoned admission people hired to manage an entire area.

Fred's is a full-time position. He has been with Florida Southern College since 1997. Information from the school crosses his desk all day long. All the files from New England inquiries are sent to Fred, who sets up communications with families by phone and personal meetings to exchange information and establish a relationship between the families and the school. He is part sales, counselor, marketer, and higher education professional. He serves a diverse client base.

Well known in the admissions field, Fred has a bachelor's in psychology and a master's in student personnel administration from Springfield College. He worked in the college's admissions office for 24 years and spent 12 as its director.

He is routinely requested as a speaker or panelist on the topics of higher education, counseling, and admissions. He travels to meetings, schools, and receptions throughout New England.

He is currently working closely with high school seniors in the process of going to Florida Southern next fall. At the same time, he's talking with juniors who have expressed interest in the school.

"The nice part about my job is

that it brings me back to basic work with families. I'm the parent of two daughters who graduated from Springfield College, so I continue to relate to the students as they come through this process and work to build a nice transition as they enter this time in their lives," Fred explained.

He also becomes involved in the review process of an applicant recommending or opposing admission based on the candidate's strengths and credentials.

In the fall, Fred takes to the road, visiting schools and families and attending receptions from Stamford, Conn., to Orono, Maine, covering some 1,000 miles a week. He is also in the process of setting up "mini organizations" of parents and alumni who can arrange receptions for prospective students in their areas.

Four times a year Fred goes on campus in Florida for meetings and receptions. He said Florida Southern College is in the top 10 in the Southeast in comprehensive small bachelor-degree colleges.

It is also the site of the world's largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture. There are 12 of his buildings on campus.

In his nine years on the job, Fred has processed about 1,500 applicants. Each year, some 300 apply with 60 to 70 actually enrolling.

Fred and his wife, Joyce Hooley Bartlett, have been coming to the island part time since 1987 and living here full time since 1999. Joyce is a science teacher at Moses Brown.

In the summer, the Bartletts sail their Tartan 30, Entropy, and Fred works part time as a launch captain for Conanicut Marine Services, Inc.

The two have been busy for the

last few years restoring their 1905 home on Columbia Avenue.

In addition, Fred is an avid collector of American Indian basketry, and relaxes with his guitar, which he's played since his college undergraduate days.

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"There is no language like the Irish for soothing and quieting." — John Millington Synge 1871-1909

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Kudos to Jamestown fifth-grader John Ragland who finished in the top 15 out of 38 contestants in the 2006 Rhode Island Statewide Spelling Bee Saturday in Providence at the University of Rhode Island's Feinstein Campus.

John went to the second round but was tripped up by the word "Bolshevize."

"I spelled it with a U instead of an O," he told us Sunday, and then went on to spell it correctly for us. He said the word is "kind of tricky," a lot depending on how it's pronounced. We offered that he'd never misspell it again to which he replied "Hopefully not!"

He said he found the experience entertaining and maybe he'll be back next year.

The competition is open to students in grades 4 through 8 so John has three more cracks at it. He appeared on television and was in a photo in the ProJo's Sunday edition under Local News.

You did great, John.

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Dr. Joshua Hatch of the Jamestown Animal Clinic has put together an assortment of pet owners' tips for his Pet Tip of the Week.

"If your pets dislike having their ears cleaned, try warming up the ear cleaners by running the bottle under warm water first. Cold liquid in the ear canals must feel weird and the warmer fluid may be less alarming and your pet may let you clean more easily.

"As spring is around the corner, lots of pets will start to come home with little burrs stuck into their fur. An easy way to get those out is to crush them with pliers — making sure you don't pinch Fluffy's skin! — and then comb them out as the crushed burrs lose their sticking power.

And, finally, if you have to give Fluffy a bath, placing a rubber mat in the bottom of the tub for a more secure footing may help him relax and putting a tea strainer over the drain will help keep fur from clogging your pipes."

WOOF!

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KABOOM! P.O.Box 1776, Jamestown 02835.

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It was a horrible drive at 4 p.m. from Davisville to the island last



## Beavertail in the snow

Leigh, Allie, and Angus Gribble took a walk at the Beavertail Lighthouse last Thursday during the snowstorm.

Photo by Vic Richardson

Thursday during the snowfall, with cars slip sliding away. There were no plows on Routes 1 and 1A in North Kingstown and none on the bridge or North Road.

The only plow we saw was on Tashtassuc Road. He was doing a great job.

Winter isn't over until the 20th, and the towns might consider keeping the plows around for a couple of weeks after that.

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The ospreys' old nest is down. A new pole and platform is up. The camera is in place and ready as is the solar plate.

It's SHOWTIME!

\*\*\*

Erin Brown, who with her twin sister Danielle began "Operation Share Bear," told us on Sunday as of that day they had collected 801 stuffed animals to be sent to the children in Iraq.

She told of two kids showing up at her door last week with five bags of the animals they had collected

from their classmates at school.

On another occasion, while sending off two boxes to Iraq at the post office, Postmaster Charles Burns insisted upon paying for the heaviest box. A customer waiting in line paid for the other.

"All the shipping has been paid for by Jamestowners," Erin said, adding that they had even received a check in the mail for \$50 for mailing costs.

In addition to washing all the donations, Erin said they've been sewing up minor fabric tears, replacing broken noses, and purchasing new clothes for some.

Donations of the stuffed animals can be dropped off at the Jamestown Press office on Narragansett Avenue or taken to the Brown residence at 5 Buoy St. If necessary, call 560-0285 and someone will pick them up.

So, dig out those old stuffed animals that aren't getting any love and put a big smile on young Iraqi faces.

There's a lot of sharing going on.

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Jamestown's Deb Ruggiero, host of WPRO's radio and television shows "American Women," will moderate a panel on Women Running for Political Office at the

See "Walrus" on next page

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