

The Walrus Says

By Jim Munro



That magnificent, mysterious, miracle meat that has sustained generations of Americans through wars, floods, earthquakes and was the unheralded mainstay of millions of lunch pails through the years will be the centerpiece of a fund-raiser Sunday, April 30, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Holy Ghost Hall of the Portuguese American Citizens Club.

Called the Spam Jam Benefit, the event will raise money for islander Laura Brown and former Jamestown Jim Rocha who has deep roots here. Both families

have medical expenses from dealing with cancer treatment.

All ages are welcome to come and enjoy music, dancing, a silent auction and food.

Live music will be provided by Jamestown's own Slackmasters, who will play their original compositions, the Acappella Trio of North Kingstown High School, and the 15-piece ROMPS (Retired Old Musicians Playing Swing). You remember swing.

Refreshments will include macaroni and cheese and Spam plus assorted Spam hors d'oeuvres prepared by island restaurants.

A highlight of the afternoon will be the Springfest Spam Sculptures Contest. Entrants can use from one to six cans of Spam for their works. There are two age groups, 14 and under and 15 and up. Contestants can decorate the miracle meat however they want. X-rated sculptures will not be tolerated. The contest registration fee is \$10 and entry forms can be obtained at the Cathryn Jamison Salon, 16 Narragansett Ave. There will be cash prizes.

Judges for the contest are Michael Rembijas, inventor of Spam Wellington, cancer survivor and Queen of Spam Mary Frances Byerly, and the Walrus, who was brought up on the delicacy and prefers it fried.

The benefit is being coordinated by the staff at Cathryn Jamison Salon headed by Cathryn herself. "We dare you to come," she said, "spend the afternoon, and enjoy the music and food."

Admission is \$20 each for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under.

Questions? Call the salon at 423-0905.

If you're unable to attend the Spam Jam and would like to donate to Laura and Jim, make your check out to Bank of America and send it to the salon at 16 Narragansett Ave. Spam for life!

This year's Fourth of July fireworks spectacular will be on, pause, more pause, still more pause — the Fourth of July.

This is the first year the Rocket Dawgz have had an opportunity to present the display on the actual holiday. With permission from the town, the event will take place on the beach at Mackerel Cove.

Contributions are running well behind last year. The Dawgz are down \$4,000 from where they were this time a year ago. We blew up \$15,000 of your money last year, and hopefully we can top that sum with the display being on the actual date in July. That means we have to go for \$15,000 between now and the Fourth.

Doing their bit to get us there with their donations last week are Bob and Betty Kinder of Ledge Road and Francele Boyer of Whale Rock Road. Francele has donated each of the last 11 years.

Send us your money so we can blow it up! Box 1776, Jamestown, 02835.

KABOOM!

You get a sense of Rhode Island news coverage and provincialism when for two days last week on radio news breaks Meredith Vieira was the lead story.

What's Easter without an

Easter egg hunt? The Jamestown Women's Club is loading up the Shoreby Hill Green with eggs and candy for your young ones to fight over Saturday, April 15, beginning at 10 a.m. exactly.

It will happen rain or shine. Bring your own containers to carry off the goodies.

A real treat is in store for music lovers this month and next when the Jamestown Community Piano group offers two free concerts at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on Narragansett Avenue.

On Friday evening, April 28, at 7:30, pianist Nancy Nicholson, and tenor Eric Bronner will perform and their theme will be By the Sea. Nicholson will include further impressions of the ocean in her program, and Bronner will feature settings of sea chanties. Both were part of the trio known as Music for a While that was active here for some 11 years.

Helen A. Richardson of the piano group said that the second concert will be given by Manabu Takasawa on Sunday, May 14, at 4 p.m. "The pianist's talent was greatly appreciated at his appearance here some three years ago. He is assistant professor of music at URI and will include selections by Chopin, Beethoven, Grieg, Rachmaninoff and Schubert in his program," Helen said.

She went on to explain that her piano group was instrumental in raising the funds to purchase the fine Schimmel piano that will be shown off during these concerts. "The instrument has already proven its worth to the community by being available for student recitals, and varied concerts," she added.

Let's try this one more time.

Only the president of the United States can order American flags to be placed at half staff. A governor can order only state flags to half staff.

Let's see now. Another 10-day long school vacation begins tomorrow. Are these perhaps the times when the child being left behind catches up?

When we opened our back door early one morning last week, we knew summer was around the corner. The odor of skunk greeted our Vallhund Joshua as he went about his early morning routine. Dr. Joshua Hatch of the Jamestown Animal Clinic tells us in his Pet Tip of the Week what we would have had to do had we had a closer encounter.

"If your precious pets get sprayed by a skunk, first make sure they are physically okay. If they have any wounds, contact your veterinarian and have them checked out and make sure they are current on their rabies vaccine.

"Then check Fluffy's nose and eyes and clean them with a wet cloth. If the eyes take a direct hit or are painful, then a visit to the vet is called for. Next, you will want the smell out of the fur. One way is to use tomato juice and work it into the coat. Let it stay on for five minutes and then rinse well. You may want to then shampoo Fluffy with normal pet shampoo.

"Another method is to mix equal parts three percent hydrogen peroxide, baking soda, and liquid dish soap and use it as a shampoo with water. Repeat as

Continued on next page

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LEGAL TIP

A state seatbelt law which allows the jury to mitigate damages for pain and suffering based on a plaintiff's failure to wear a seatbelt does not apply to limit other noneconomic damages, such as quality of life or emotional distress, the Colorado Court of Appeals has ruled. Under Colorado law the only damage that can be reduced for not wearing the seatbelt is pain and suffering. Other damages — such as lost wages cannot be reduced. In Massachusetts all the damages can be reduced for not wearing a seatbelt. In Rhode Island (although it is the law to wear a seatbelt) the damages cannot be reduced.

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