



By Barbara Szepatowski

Who wants to be the top dog?

"I'm number one." "No, I'm number one." "No, I want to be. My mommy and daddy wanted me to have the number one license." These are some of the rantings and ravings recently heard from our loving but bickering pets as they frolicked at Forts Getty and Wetherill. Just like most Rhode Islanders would trade their most valuable possessions for a low numbered automobile license plate, the same craze exists with Rhody's dogs. Who could figure?

All kidding aside, wouldn't it be cool for your best friend to have the honor of wearing Jamestown dog license number one for a year? Well, thanks to the help of our town manager, the deputy town clerk, and the public works director, Jamestown dog license No. 1 is available. All it takes, is to be the largest donor to the animal shelter during April 2006. All pledges must be received by Paws & Claws by April 28 so that your dog can be licensed by the end of April. And if your dog is already registered, license No. 1 will be transferred to you. So either drop off a pledge to Deputy Town Clerk Kim Turcone at the Town Hall, or at Paws & Claws, or e-mail RIPawsClaws@aol.com.

This prize sits atop the plate held by a "brass Egyptian-style dog." This dog will make his way to various locations in town for viewings, and "oohings" and "ahhings" by your dog. Presently, it sits amongst the cats in the window of Paws and Claws.

Shelter News

High hopes and wild dreams aside, the shelter building remains standing but with little progress to report due to rainy weekends. Hopefully, the Easter Bunny will bring good weather this weekend and the roof construction will start, although a carpenter is still needed to install the three skylights. On a positive note, most of the major items like plumbing, electricity, a hot-water heater, and flooring have been pledged. Donations are still needed for general construction materials.

Stranded porpoise

Last Friday, the Jamestown police received a report of a stranded dolphin on the beach at the Fort Getty boat ramp. Officer Thomas Balcom and Harbormaster Sam Patterson responded and found a small porpoise lying upright on the rocky beach area. By accident, we just happened to be checking on a report of a cat that was hit and left to die on Beacon Avenue, and were told of the report.

First the cat — why would anyone hit a cat with their car and continue on their way with no thought of making a report or stopping to pick up the injured animal? Don't tell me they didn't have a cell phone. Thanks to residents who did care, the cat was rescued by the Jamestown police and taken to the vet.

When we got to Fort Getty, we could see the dolphin on the rocky beach. Because porpoises are covered by the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act, no one except a licensed rehabilitator could assist the stranded animal. By the time we viewed the animal, the Mystic Aquarium had been called numerous times to make the rescue. We credit Officer Balcom for having an

immense amount of patience while enforcing the law and not arresting Town Councilor Michael Schnack and me, during the tense and emotional negotiations with the staff at the Mystic Aquarium. It was brought to our attention by many of the participants that we risked federal prosecution if we touched, moved, or in anyway interacted with the animal.

Because of cuts in federal funding, the porpoise program at Mystic had lost its rescue funding for this year. However, due to lots of perseverance, the male dolphin was picked up by Mystic's staffers, checked by Dr. Dunn of the Charlestown Animal Hospital, and transported to an aquarium in New York. Dr. Dunn used to be an oceanographer but switched careers to become a veterinarian.

We have made peace with the staff at Mystic Aquarium and highly commend them for their abilities to deal with the issues involving the public, upholding the law, and saving animals. In the next few months, we will meet with them to discuss training a group of Jamestown and Aquidneck Island residents to become "first responders" for stranded marine mammals. Of course, we will also investigate whether there is any chance for a rescue group to work out of the URI Oceanography School.

Legal Notices

JAMESTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 21, 2006

8:00 AM Workshop

Lawn School Conference Room

AGENDA

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Call to Order and Roll Call
- III. Public Forum
- IV. Information & Proposals
 - Discussion of Lawn Avenue Survey
- V. Move to Executive Session RIGL 42-46-5 Exception 1, Superintendent's contract; Exception 2, Collective Bargaining or Litigation
- VI. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings:

- April 27, 2006: Workshop Session @ 7PM in Lawn Library
- May 4, 2006: Business Meeting @ 7PM in Lawn Library
- May 10, 2006: School Report Night @ 7PM in MMRP
- May 18, 2006: Workshop Session @ 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

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 APRIL 25, 2006, AT THE JAMESTOWN LIBRARY, 26 NORTH ROAD, JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND AT 7:00 P.M. UPON THE FOLLOWING:

Application of Vilma Maccarone, whose property is located at Helm & Stern Streets, and further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 14, Lot 116 for a variance from Article 3, Section 302 (District Dimensional Regulations) to construct a 22' x 32' house with a front setback of 24' instead of the required 30' setback. Said property is located in a R40 zone and contains 7,200 sq. ft.

Application of Conanicut Yacht Club, whose property is located at 40

Bayview Dr., and further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 8, Lot 267 for a variance from Article 3, Section 82-302 (Side yard requirements) to allow the construction of an addition to an existing building, which will be 5' from the northerly property line instead of the required 20'. Said property is located in a R40 zone and contains 37,070+ sq. ft.

Application of Patrick Kilroy, whose property is located on Conanicus Ave., and further identified as Tax Assessor's Plat 9, Lot 352 for a variance from Article 82, Section 302 to build a single family residence and provide a front yard set back of 9' (30' required) and a rear yard set back of 9' from the coastal feature (30' required). Said property is located in a R40 zone and contains 6,370 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.

(3/30, 4/6, 4/13)

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