

• LETTERS •

Many helped with rabies clinic

On Saturday, April 1, the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association, in conjunction with the Humane Society of Jamestown and the town of Jamestown, sponsored a low-cost rabies clinic at the Jamestown Fire Station.

These clinics are held around the state during the spring to allow pet owners easy access to rabies inoculations for their animals. Veterinarians donate their time to these clinics in an effort to ensure the protection of as many animals as possible against rabies.

Our Jamestown clinic was successful in large part because of the volunteers from the Jamestown Humane Society who helped ensure smooth processing of paperwork and assisted pet owners at the clinic. The clinic provided nearly 100 rabies vaccinations to local animals.

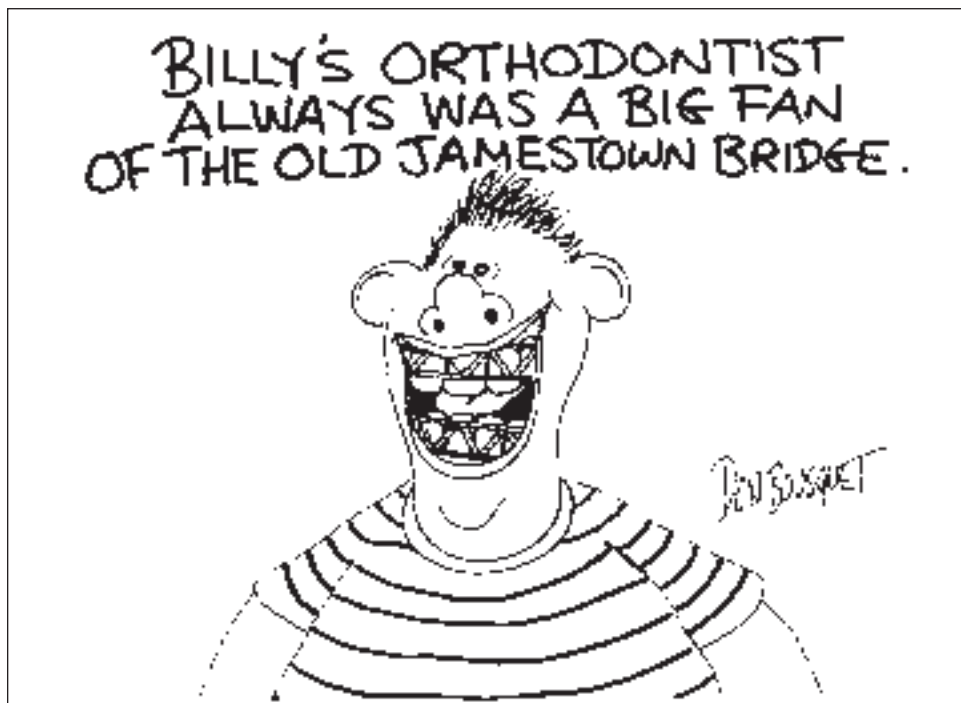
Thank-you to all the folks who attended the clinic so their pets would be protected against rabies, to Animal Control Officer Cathy Gregory, employees of the town of Jamestown, and the many volunteers from the Humane Society of Jamestown who helped on Saturday.

We hope to see you back next year!

**Dr. Jack Civic,
Jamestown Animal
Clinic**

Osprey lecture sponsors praised

I wish to acknowledge



the generosity of the Friends of the Jamestown Library for co-sponsoring Dr. Rob Bierregaard's lecture on osprey migration on Friday, April 1. Other sponsors were Jamestown Education Foundation and the Audubon Society of Rhode Island.

**Betsy Gooding,
Conanicut Island
Raptor Project**

Ancestry research made simpler

The Jamestown library and the Friends of the Library would like to thank Sue Maden for giving her time and effort to provide a wonderful, informative program on how to use AncestryPlus, the database purchased by the library for the Jamestown community.

Once again Sue kept a genealogy-minded audience enthralled as she showed them how to navigate some of the intricacies of the database, which is a

gold mine of genealogical information.

Many islanders subscribe to Ancestry.com, but access to the database is available for free in the Jamestown library building. Remote access is not available. Thanks to Sue, the database is being used to good effect by the Jamestown community.

Thanks also to Nancy Logan, who updated a listing of genealogical resources in Rhode Island and on the Web which Sue distributed at the meeting. Thanks Nancy! What would we do without our volunteers?

**Judith H. Bell,
library director**

Donations recognized

I would like to give a huge thank-you to the following people who emptied their pockets to help me raise money for the Nancy Williams Maloney fund:

Frank Rostier,

Amy Theroux, Susan Robertson, Susan Piccerelli, Ramon and Norma Ibarlucea, Mary Wright, Joseph Oliveira, Kevin Deacon, John Greco and Liz Byrne, and Dimitri's Salon.

Thank you again and to everyone who donated.

**Sherri Deacon,
Jamestown**

Write a Letter to the Editor

LETTERS: We invite readers to share their views. Letters should be limited to 700 words.

By mail: Send your letters to Editor, The Jamestown Press, 42 Narragansett Ave., Jamestown RI 02835.

Fax: Our fax number is (401) 423-1661.

Internet: E-mail news@jamestownpress.com

Please include your name, address, and a daytime telephone number for verification.

The old Jamestown Bridge

(1940-2006)

Graced against a solemn sky
Slowly stripped of your pride.
Piece by piece placed on a barge,
Pulling off your very heart.
Marked for demolition
Your lifeblood all but gone.
Traveled now by workers,
Dismantling memories.

A newer version
Took your place,
Your next of kin
Built to the north.
No more cars
Thump your grates.
There'll be no more trucks
To test your strength.

Standing tall against the sky,
So much history, so much time,
Decades have streamed quickly by.

Strong arcs of steel and stone
Had ended days of ferryboats.
You'll join them soon in history,
Remembered in our books.
Saved for stories,
The days of old,
When one tall bridge
Connected towns.

Pictures, postcards bear your strength,
They'll tell your tales of vigilance.
Replaced but not forgotten,
Forever in our hearts.
You may not grace our travel plans,
But we will all remember when...

Steel towers kept a watchful eye,
Greeting all the passers-by,
The time has come to say goodbye.

— Jessie Dutra

The news of 10 and 15 years ago is from the Jamestown Press. The news of 25, 50, 75, and 100 years ago from the Newport Daily News comes from the collection of the Newport Historical Society.

100 years ago**From the Newport Daily News, April 12, 1906:**

Elijah Anthony was appointed a committee (by the Town Council) to advertise for bids for lighting the streets in the compact part of town and at Conanicut Park.

The salary of the town team was raised to \$60 a month.

From the Newport Daily News, April 16, 1906:

A quantity of Canadian wood ashes has arrived in Newport for Mr. Alton Head and Mr. T.H. Stork and is being carted across the ferry to their farms here.

75 years ago**From the Newport Daily News, April 15, 1931:**

At the Thomas H. Clarke school yesterday the assembly was in charge of Miss Rea Johnson and Miss Clara Lewis. The first number was a series of tableaux of old Greek and Roman myths. . . . The second part was a four-act health play in charge of Miss Clara Lewis, entitled "The Sleepy Boy's Comeback," and represented a boy, who disobeying health rules was unable to keep up with his classes.

From the Newport Daily News, April 17, 1931:

The request for a street light on Clinton avenue was granted (by the Town Council).

The following schedule of prices (were) adopted for sale of stone at the town's quarry: Crushed stone, size No. 1, \$2 per ton at the quarry; No. 2, \$3 per ton at the quarry; size No. 3, \$4 per ton at the quarry.

50 years ago**From the Newport Daily News, April 10, 1956:**

The Jamestown Town Council last night delayed



approval of the proposed 1956-57 budget of \$313,831. The figure is an increase of \$30,890 over last year.

From the Newport Daily News, April 11, 1956:

The Jamestown School Committee . . . will request state permission for the present school year to be 170 days, 10 days below normal requirement, due to eight omissions because of polio and two for inclement weather.

From the Newport Daily News, April 16, 1956:

Jamestown taxpayers at the financial town meeting, May 5, will be asked to vote on seven resolutions calling for an expenditure of more than \$21,000. This is in addition to the proposed budget of \$305,354 for 1956-57 approved by the budget committee earlier last week. The largest non-budget item will be \$12,000 to finance a revaluation of ratable property. . . . The taxpayers will also be asked to authorize the sale at public auction of the abandoned Thomas H. Clarke and Carr Schools, which have not been used since the new school was opened. Authority to sell five and one half acres south of the access road to Fort Getty, purchased from the federal government, will be requested.

25 years ago**From the Newport Daily News, April 14, 1981:**

A building permit for 13 condominium units in two buildings was granted by Building Inspector Charles J. Dowling Jr. .

. . . The condominiums will be built north of the Newport Bridge at this point and the house (at Taylor's Point) will probably be removed. The permit is for \$955,000.

Fees for building and electrical permits may increase by 50 percent under a plan given to the Town Council Monday. . . . Building permits would be increased from \$2 per cubic foot to \$3.

15 years ago**From the Jamestown Press, April 11, 1991:**

A decision on the fate of the controversial Helm Street overpass was expected to be announced sometime today by the state Department of Transportation. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has asked the DOT to choose among three options. All of them would, at least temporarily, eliminate the overpass at Helm Street from the cross-island connector road.

Cole Street neighbors, who objected to plans to convert a condemned house into affordable housing and relocate it in their neighborhood, can breathe a sigh of relief — at least for the moment.

The Fort Wetherill Advisory Committee decided that a public access boat ramp will not be a part of the final plan for the park's future.

10 years ago**From the Jamestown Press, April 11, 1996:**

This has been the winter that will not go away, as the snowfall keeps setting records. Jamestowners again awoke to an island that was covered with snow Wednesday. About 4 inches of the heavy, white stuff fell overnight.

A proposal to put a moratorium on new municipal water hookups and a prohibition on expanded water uses for existing customers got a cold reception from the Town Council this week.

Two Jamestown teams won first place in the Odyssey of the Mind state competition Saturday in Warwick. More than 70 teams from around the state participated in the competition. Six teams represented Jamestown.