



Opening day at the ball fields
Members of five military families currently living in Jamestown were asked to throw out the first pitches of the baseball season at last Saturday's opening ceremonies.
Photo by Vic Richardson

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Letters

our 13- to 15- year-old Babe Ruth team this year. The team is known as Jamestown Ali's Run and will make Jamestown proud in the Newport Babe Ruth League.

Finally, the annual Pitch, Hit, and Run Competition was another great success, and thanks to Keith Anderson for his hard work in directing and co-ordinating the event.

Here's to a safe and fun-filled season. Play ball!

**Tony Rafanelli, president,
Jamestown Baseball
Association**

Dear birders:

Thanks for your participation in the 22st annual Spring Bird Count on May 6. The total so far is 97 species. Since Chris and I are leaving on vacation for two weeks tomorrow, I have only included what I have received so far. More may be added later. Numbers were down, but we know the count is early this year. Weather was warm, sunny, in the 70s. By noon the count was 96, but Wayne Munns added a purple finch in the afternoon. There is some uncertainty as to the identification of a hawk nesting in the Conanicut Island

Sanctuary — goshawk or Cooper's. We will address this later, when we return. The complete list is attached to this letter.

Field observers were Jane Toll, Marci Lindsay, Rick and Suzanne Enser, Wayne Munns, B. J. Whitehouse, Mary Alice Smith, Sarah Young, Mark Baker, Carol Trocki, Sandra Trocki, Jim Myers, Ed Dettmann, Steve Moreau, Mark Baker, and Chris and Candy Powell. Reporting in from home was Karen Osenton.

Thanks again, and we look forward to seeing you for the Christmas count. Please report interesting sightings to me, 423-1492, or Evelyn Rhodes, 423-1254

**Candy Powell,
Jamestown**

Unsolicited advice

As a concerned parent, I felt the necessity to write this letter to you. It regards disturbing, unsolicited parenting advice directed at my son.

Today, I decided to take my 4-year-old son to East Ferry to enjoy the beautiful weather. On accident, I entered the parking area the wrong way (confusion with the construction going on, I suppose — as we are temporary residents here for the school year). It was at this time that my 4-year-old — who is still learning not to do this — took off his seat belt before the van was parked. While I appreciated the directive from a citizen that there was a police officer behind me that would ticket me for entering the wrong way, I was

not appreciative of what followed shortly thereafter. Upon passing this concerned citizen, heading to a much anticipated trip to Paws & Claws to see the animals with my son, she felt it necessary to tell my son that he should wear his seat belt or his mommy would get in trouble with the police. She then apparently felt it also necessary to tell him that they would put his mommy in jail.

Well, being raised with "if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all," I let the issue drop. Upon further stewing, I realized that I should try to turn this negative into a positive. Hence, this letter.

I would like to bring comments of this type to the attention of other parents, so they will please not do this. We should not be teaching our children to fear the police. I explained to my son, as I always do with all three of my children, that the police are always there to help you. What concerns me is that parents who use this type of "parenting technique" will indeed cause their children to fear the police. What then, God forbid, if something should happen to that child. Will they be afraid to ask a police officer for help? A very scary scenario, I'm sure you will agree.

Thank you for letting me share my views.

**Dee White,
Jamestown**

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