

Lawn Ave. School bids farewell to the Class of '06

By Donna K. Drago

Seventy-three students from grade 8 at the Lawn Avenue School received diplomas at the June 19 commencement ceremony.

Processing in to the venerable sounds of "Pomp and Circumstance," as performed by the Lawn Avenue Commencement Band, the soon-to-be-graduates looked poised and wise beyond their adolescence as they made their way through the aisles, giving high-fives and winks to parents, grandparents and teachers gathered to wish them well.

"They're ready to become more independent," Superintendent Kathy Sipala said in her opening remarks.

"And that's what we've been preparing them for," she added.

Kelly Scully, the Student Council president, gave an address to her graduating peers.

Scully said she came to the Jamestown School in second grade and noticed at once that "every child had a place." She said she quickly found her own place, and even when everyone was discovering their own interests, it was the early-developed friendships "that carried me through the years" at the Jamestown schools.

Scully told her classmates that no matter where they went to school beyond Jamestown, "We have our own talents and we'll find our place."

The top-ranking graduate from

North Kingstown High School, Erin Simmons, who was the salutatorian for her class on June 17, made a speech to the Lawn school graduates.

Simmons gave the newly-minted graduates some advice as they enter high school.

She said that high school is "much bigger, entirely different, and freshmen are unsure how to act."

"Get involved," Simmons said, adding, "It's fun and rewarding."

"Take classes you are actually interested in," she continued, adding do not sign up for the kind of classes "you sleep through."

"Do your homework," Simmons said, and "show up" when you are supposed to.

Finally, Simmons said freshmen are notorious for not knowing how to pass in the hallways.

"They travel in packs and block traffic," Simmons said, suggesting that they keep moving to avoid logjams.

School Committee member William "Bucky" Brennan handed out diplomas and the students ended the evening with a dance at the Portuguese American Citizens' Club, where Superintendent Sipala said they could do what they like to do best: "eat and dance, and be with each other."

Jamestown Class of 2006

Alexander Allaux, Madison Auch, Samuel Baines, Kevin



At Monday night's commencement ceremony, some 73 students received diplomas before a crowd of families and well-wishers at the Lawn Avenue School.

Photos by Andrea vonHohenleiten

Year-end

Continued from page one

Barrett, Kathryn Bednarczyk, Matthew Boyle, Lisa Brendlinger, Michael Brendlinger, Allison Bryer, Alexander Byrnes, and Elizabeth Chase.

Also, Sean Corey, Madelaine Crabtree, Christopher Crawford, Sarah Croak, Sarah Crowell, Dylan D'Alessandro, William Deffley, Victoria Dolce, Quinn Earley, Nicole Ethier, Hannah Farrelly, and Ethan Flynn.

Also, Carl Garbelotti, Lizzie Gooding, Alexander Gorelick, Megan Greene, Madison Hansen, Michael Harpool, Eloise Heath, Nathaniel Hopkins, Ramon Ibarlucea, Anthony Irwin, Rory Kirby, Kaan Kurt, and Kyle Lee-Medeiros.

Also graduating were Emily Lester, Erica Lush, Samuel Lutyens, Michael McDermott, Clay McKenna, Devon McMaster, Harrison Mielde, Jason Morse, Thomas Munro, Benjamin Normand, Joshua Page, Danielle Perez, Rachael Perry, John Rafanelli, Dylan Rezendes, Cory Rosa, Elizabeth Rounds, Hillary Schumacher, Kelly Scully, Allison Smith, and Matthew Smith.

Also, Michael Spahr, Thomas Stacom, Robert Stearns, James Stewart, Alexandra Still, Racquelle Tanguay, Alice Toll, Dylan Walsh, Graham Wheeler, Jacob Wigton, Amber Wise, Daniel Wolfe, Chad Woodward, Christopher Wright, Kyle Wright, and Marjorie Zwolinski.

Kellie Brown; and grade 8, Madelaine Crabtree and Cory Rosa. The Conanicut Island Art Association gave awards to a member of each grade: grade 5, Rainey Aberle; grade 6, Josh Nolan; grade 7, Jacqueline Tanguay; and grade 8, Allison Bryer.

The International Peace Poster Awards went to: first, Georgia Wright; second, Shay Reilly; and third, Ellen Bednarczyk. Honorable Mentions went to Donovan Dougherty and Ryan Rosa, Nicole Perez, Danny Bailey, Danielle Jennings, Daniel Gorelick, Zachary Henning, Carter Auch, and Taylor Krystkowiak.

The Matt Allen Memorial Visual Art Award was given to Dylan Walsh, in grade 5. Mathematics League Certificates went to: first, John Ragland; second, Talley Larkin; and third, Adam Southworth. The Velma Moore Memorial Award was given to Morgan Lopes.

Awards for Perfect Attendance went to: in grade 5, Rebecca Barchus, Alexa Geib, Alex Jordan, Nathan Lambert, Kevin McDermott, and Molly Sylvia; in grade 6, Daniel Bailey, Danielle Jennings, Michael Jordan, Joshua Nolan, Shay Reilly, and Caitlin Schnack; from grade 7, Carl DeVellis, Kevin Flanagan, Daniel Hansen, Julia Hansen, Chandler

Neale, and Nathaniel Pease; and in grade 8, Madison Auch, Lizzie Gooding, Anthony Irwin, Kaan Kurt, Harrison Mielde, Danielle Perez, and Jacob Wigton.

The Geography Bee Award was presented to Sydney Keen. The Friends of the Jamestown Philomenian Library Award was given to Sarah Croak and Kelly Scully.

The Jamestown Educational Support Personnel Award went to Kelly Scully.

The Band Achievement Award was presented to Michael Spahr. Sarah "Lizzie" Gooding received the Excellence in Solo Vocalist Award. The Band Director's Award was given to Erica Lush.

The Louis Armstrong Jazz Band Award went to Madelaine Crabtree.

The Physical Education/Good Award went to Victoria Dolce and Kyle Wright. The Best All Around Musician Award was presented to Madison Auch.

The Ali Dunn-Packer Memorial Scholarship Award was given to Kathryn Bednarczyk and John Rafanelli.

The Highest Academic Achievement Award went to Allison Smith and Carl "Jake" Garbelotti.

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