

The Walrus Says

By Jim Munro



With the Jamestown Community Chorus' 17th annual talent show rapidly approaching, there is some question whether or not one of its most popular acts from the past will be appearing this year.

The talent will take to the stage Thursday, Aug. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Violinist Emily Anthony is attempting to round up her group of 6- to 14-year-old charges who perform as the Jamestown Fiddlers. They last played at the show two years ago to resounding applause. "We hope to round up some half dozen or so to perform 'The Orange Blossom Special.' Playing the talent show every two years is a good warm-up for our Heyday performance in September. There the group comes out in full force with the full-fiddle repertoire," Emily said.

Whether the Jamestown Fiddlers perform or not, Emily will be on stage in a violin duet with new island resident Mary Spots. The couple make up two of the much heralded Amari String Quartet.

To date, others expected to perform are the Jamestown Community Band, the Kathy Brownell Follies, and Janet Grant.

Frank Darigan, the man of many quips and many hats, will once again keep it all together as master of ceremonies.

Janet Kirk is the producer and Pat Perry is assistant producer. Tom Pederson will be directing, assisted by Andrea von Hohenleiten.

Open auditions will be held at the Community Center Monday and Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Once again, the chorus has added a silent auction headed up by Sylvia Monti to the production.

In addition, raffle tickets will be sold outside McQuade's Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The tickets will also be available at East Ferry on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Chamber Bucks in denominations of \$100, \$75 and \$50 will be the prizes for the raffle.

Ticket prices are \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children. Tickets can be purchased at Baker's Pharmacy, Jamestown Hardware, the Secret Garden, from members of the chorus, and at the door.

Plan to be there to see if the Fiddlers show up, and cheer everyone on.

Break a leg!

You have to know our way of life on the island is changing when we now must pay in advance at Cumby's gas pumps.

Critters come in all sizes and shapes. And when you bring them home, they may require special treatment, says Dr. Joshua Hatch of the Jamestown Animal Clinic in his Pet Tip of the Week.

"Today there are many types of pets that people may bring home. Ferrets, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice or rats (the pet, not the pest), as well as animals like iguanas, snakes, turtles, or geckos, that may be better suited to your home or interests. Each of these pets has unique traits that you must consider to keep them healthy. Did you know that you require a permit to own ferrets in Rhode Island? Did you know that guinea pigs cannot synthesize vitamin C? Did you know that many tortoises will outlive their owners if kept healthy?"

"Most sick "exotic" animals that we see have some problem with their habitat, food, or environment that contributes to their illness. So please, if you own or want an unusual pet, do your homework and find out what needs your pet will have so it will be happy and healthy. You may even teach your veterinarian something he or she didn't know about your particular special pet."

Thanks, Doctor.

We note that the "experts" who for the past nine months have been predicting a catastrophic hurricane season this year have backed off and now say there will be fewer than they thought.

And then to cover their butts they add, "although anything can happen."

Retired U.S. Senator Claiborne Pell last week crossed the bridge bearing his name and was observed tending to his tonsorial needs at the Cathryn Jamieson Salon.

A little gem shines on the hill in Saunderstown in an eatery that used to be known as Heffie's.

Valuna is an American tavern named for a mountain in Greece known for its natural springs, pomegranates, bread and authentic Greek yogurt and feta cheese.

The restaurant fulfills its hope that dining there brings a taste of Valuna to your table. The food as experienced by us last weekend was excellent.

Enjoy Valuna.

"Love in Bloom" struck a cord with our music lovers last week.

Bob Kinder wrote, "Played on a sometimes sour violin, 'Love in Bloom' was the theme song for Jack Benny."

"Jack Benny's theme song was 'Love in Bloom.' I remember it so well..." e-mailed Charlie Masso.

"Wasn't it Jack Benny?" queried Barbara-Ann Mac Intosh.

Dan Donahue called in and said, "'Love in Bloom,' Jack Benny."

ROCHESTER!!!

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church will have its annual church picnic Sunday following the Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. at the Lt. Col. John C. Rembijas Memorial Pavilion at Ft. Getty.

There will be no 8 a.m. service that day.

The Parish Life Committee will provide the basics — hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. The rest is up to you.

Twenty-four members of Boy Scout Troop 1 are spending this week at Camp Yawgoog. They are camped at site Wetomuck in Medicine Bow. The scouts will return to the island Sunday.

What's going on with the deer committee and the DEM? We read that the deer tick-carried disease, babesiosis, is showing up during examinations for the possible fatal and better known Lyme disease.

Babesiosis is being found in South County, a short swim across the West Passage.

Congratulations to our new Superintendent of Schools Robert B. Power and welcome to our island.

Sherri Deacon reports more donations to the PTO Golf Tournament to take place Sept. 9 at the Jamestown Golf Course.

Additional tee sponsors are Slice of Heaven, Belmont Market Place, DB Builders (David Brayman) and in memory of Robert M. Buelow.

Putting green sponsors now include the Hirsch family.

An EMA-4 kayak rental for three days has been donated to the raffle as has a contribution from The 1661 Inn & Hotel.

Be True!

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