

# Old Jamestown Bridge piers 9W and 10W fell on Tuesday morning

By Sam Bari

The old Jamestown Bridge piers 9W and 10W fell Tuesday, Aug. 8, in a minor detonation event, but not exactly as planned.

The first detonation dropped one of the piers, but the second charge did not explode and had to be reset. The intention was to drop both piers simultaneously. The problem, however, was handled and the second pier was successfully detonated at approximately 11 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., the entrance ramps to state Route 138 were closed to traffic. State troopers staged "a rolling closure." All vehicles were required to follow a patrol car from the Newport Bridge toll booths, across the island, and then over the new Jamestown bridge in a slow roll during the detonation.

The ramps were closed for 10 minutes from 10:30 a.m. to 10:40

a.m. for the first detonation and from 10:55 until slightly after 11 a.m. for the second.

"It was a minor problem that was easily corrected," said Project Engineer Patrick O'Malley of Cashman Equipment Company of Boston, the contractor the state Department of Transportation hired to demolish the bridge.

"Other than that little glitch, the demolition was successful and went very well. Now we have to deal with the remaining three piers on the west side. That will probably happen on Aug. 22 or during that week. We'll keep you informed," O'Malley said. "Then we'll take care of the piers on the east side in September. If everything goes as planned, we will probably not need another major closing. We can accomplish the next few blasting events with

rolling closures like we did today. That's a best case scenario, but nothing is set in stone. That's what we'd like to happen," O'Malley said.

## Bid online for auction items

The Jamestown Chamber of Commerce is hosting an "online" auction at [www.jamestownRIchamber.com](http://www.jamestownRIchamber.com) as part of a Night at the Windmill with proceeds benefiting the Jamestown Historical Society.

Bid on items such as a personal visit from Santa Claus, hand-rolled cigars, a birthday party at the Jamestown Fire Station, a bottle of 1998 Dom Perignon, and even a piece of steel from the Old Jamestown Bridge. There are also gift certificates for area shops, restaurants, and services.

Bidders do not have to attend Night at the Windmill to win an item. The highest on-line bid will be the opening bid at Night at the Windmill. If no one places a higher bid at the event on Saturday, Aug. 19, the online bidder is the winner. Online bidding is open through Thursday, Aug. 17, at 5 p.m. Phone bids will not be accepted.

For more information, visit [www.jamestownRIchamber.com](http://www.jamestownRIchamber.com).

## Register for fall soccer

Registration for the fall 2006 Recreational Soccer League is underway.

The process for registering a child is done online only, by accessing the Jamestown Soccer Association registration forms from the Jamestown Soccer Web site at

[www.jamestown-soccer.com](http://www.jamestown-soccer.com).

The Web Site will direct people to a link for Youth Leagues USA, which has the Jamestown soccer registration form. All soccer associations in Rhode Island are now required to register players.

Everyone is asked to register as soon as possible to help avoid any difficulties that may occur in a last minute rush to sign up players. The registration deadline is Aug. 21.

The registration cost for the first child is \$40. The cost to register a second child is \$35 and the cost for three or more children is \$100. Scholarships are available upon request.

Following online registration, the required payment, along with the printed application and photocopy of the child's birth certificate if applicable, should be sent to: Liz Perez, 27 Aquidneck Court, Jamestown, RI 02835. Players who played in last year's Jamestown fall soccer league do not need to send in a birth certificate.

The fall season begins on Sept. 9 and will run through Oct. 28. Players will be assigned to a co-ed team in their appropriate age group. Adult volunteers are need-

ed for coaching, concessions, and field maintenance. As always, there will be a need for coaches in all age groups.

For more information, contact Clayton Carlisle at 423-3353. For answers to questions about registration, contact Liz Perez at 423-2641.

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## Police Log

### Drunk driving charged

Linda J. Adams, 64, of North Kingstown was charged Aug. 4 with drunk driving after a traffic stop on Route 138.

Adams failed the Breathalyzer test and is scheduled to appear Aug. 11 in Newport District Court, police said.

### Suspended license charged

Adrian L. Henry, 35, of Middletown was charged Aug. 4 with driving with a suspended license after a traffic stop on Route 138.

Henry is scheduled to appear Aug. 11 in Newport District Court, police said.

### Juvenile charged

A 17-year-old male was picked up Aug. 6 on Broad Street and charged with disorderly conduct for yelling profanities.

The boy was taken to Family Court, Aug. 7, police said.

### Larcenies reported

- A user of the town's skate park told police Aug. 7 that his cell phone was stolen there.

- A patron of the library reported Aug. 7 that his briefcase, which contained small electronics, was stolen from the library.

- An employee of Jamestown Wine and Spirits on Southwest Avenue reported Aug. 3 that his front window had been smashed and 16 cases of beer were missing. The Miller Lite beer had a value of about \$240, police said.

- A woman from Clarke Village Road told police Aug. 3 that her wallet had been stolen from the house.

### Vandalism reported

An employee of the Secret Garden reported Aug. 3 that a window had been smashed and a wheeled nursery cart had a broken wheel.

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