

Bike race

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event that many of the racers claim to be one of the best organized in the country.

In the kids 3-mile event, Jamestowners Ian Andres, 7, and his brother Peter, 5, participated in their first race. They didn't win, but they were greeted at the finish line by their mom, Magdalena, who helped with their training by riding to school with them in the morning.

Also in the kids event, Jamestown sisters Eliza and Emily Kallfelz, age 7 and 9, won first and third places in their respective classes.

Jamestown architect Jim Estes, 61, crossed the line with the leading pack in the 19-mile 'round the island amateur event, coming in second in the men's age 55-69 class, but beat the time of the second-place winner of the age 20-34 class by a full three seconds. This was Estes second year in the annual race. He's been cycling for four years and rides year 'round, weather permitting. He tries to ride at least three or four days a week.

Jamestowners Arthur Spivack, 50, his wife, Emily Shapiro, and son, Isaac, 8 participated in the

amateur event. Spivack and son rode tandem, and came in with a respectable time of 1:10. "We did pretty good, but we can't keep up with two adults on the tandems," Spivack said. "My wife Emily is a real trooper. She's only been biking a year and still participated in the race with all those experienced riders. She wore a red helmet that she says is symbolic of the red shirt worn by the last place rider in the Tour de France a few years back. They don't do that any more, though. The red shirt was called the "red lantern" after the lantern seen on a caboose, the last car in a railroad train. She knew she'd come in last and decided to dress for the part," he said.

In the women's category, Jamestown Lisa Lawless, 43, who has been cycling seriously for only two years crashed and didn't complete the race. "The fellow riding behind me went down hard," she said. "Three of us were involved in the crash. I could have gotten up and finished the race because my bike wasn't damaged, and that's what you're supposed to do. But I stayed with him until help came because I felt that was the right thing to do. Other than

that, I was very impressed with the way the race organizers recognized the young pro riders and interviewed them on the podium. Their encouragement did a lot for racing in Jamestown. Also, I have to congratulate Jamestown racer Abigail Anthony for winning the women's pro cat 4 race. She's a great athlete and the town can be proud of her," Lawless said.

Two Jamestown riders who must get honorable mention in the men's amateur 55 to 69 category are Town Administrator Bruce Keiser and former Town Administrator Bob Sutton. Both completed the 19-mile course with respectable times.



Grandpa's great pumpkin

Dan Crawley of Beavertail Road shows off a giant pumpkin that he grew this summer with the able assistance of his grandsons Trevor and Ryan. Grandpa estimated that the pumpkin weighed 350 to 400 pounds. Photo by Jeff McDonough

Casino

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— with those initials. Amerigian said he did not know the exact source of the wording he presented. He said he presented it because it formed a basis for wording the opposition he wanted the council to express.

Amerigian was given permission by Long to address the council about the wording of a resolution, but was cut short by Long when he started detailing the reasons for opposing the Narragansett Indian Tribe's casino proposal instead of restricting his remarks to the definition of the resolution provisions.

The ballot question provides for an amendment to the state

Constitution to provide exclusive rights to the Narragansett Indian Tribe to build a privately owned resort casino in West Warwick. Debates have included whether or not amending the state Constitution in this case would be legal, basic issues about gambling, and arguments over the economic impacts of such a facility.

Some of this week's discussion, primarily by DiGiando and Amerigian, focused on disputes about claims that the Narragansetts needed the special rights because of past poor treatment of Native Americans, versus arguments of equality needed by all possible casino operators. No consensus

was reached on that aspect, or any aspect of the ballot question.

Variables

Long said last month that he was against gambling in general and that the Town Council went on record two or three years ago to protest any expansion of gambling in the state. He also emphasized that the question now is before every citizen via the ballot vote "and it is not for the Town Council to weigh in on the way people should vote." He questioned whether the council needs to take a position on every ballot item.

Schnack said last month the council's taking a position would be to send a message to the state General Assembly that the ballot proposal for a constitutional change to enable a casino "is a stupid idea." He specified "I can care less whether there is a casino or not. The issue for me is that this ballot is a reprehensible use of the constitution." Szeptowski originally agreed with Schnack, but voted against the resolution after a discussion about the constitutional aspects and about the non-binding nature of any resolution.

Schnack said this week that he was elected to represent voters here and he wanted to be on record against the constitutional approach for the casino and that he wanted any permission or denial of permission "to be done legislatively."

DiGiando last month said he was "uncomfortable with the assumptions others have made about where or why there should be a casino and those assumptions may not be true." He said this week he reviewed the constitutionality aspect and was convinced it would and should be decided by the courts.



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