

Letters

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Casino article unbalanced

I was annoyed at reading Sam Bari's piece in last week's Press. Everything from the title "Islanders not betting on casino question," suggesting some kind of consensus, to the selective quotes, appeared to be an attempt to sway opinion. Surely no one can believe that the article represents balanced reporting; the last half contains unchallenged quotes from the governor, a staunch casino opponent. If Mr. Bari had wanted to, he certainly could have found countervailing opinions on the island.

Many of us who are going to vote for the amendment agree that it would be preferable to vote the concept before the proposal. Unfortunately, that vehicle was

Thank's kids

Thank you Eliza and Emily Kallfelz and their friends Brooke and Rachel Warner who ran a backyard summer fair for St. Mark's food closet. They collected over \$120

What great spirit these children displayed for people in need.

**Ginny Perry,
Jamestown**



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ruled unconstitutional, making a change in the constitution itself necessary if we are to move on the question. Given our history of hypocrisy with the gambling issue and our duplicity in dealing with the Narragansetts, many of us feel that we owe them this vote, despite our discomfort with Harrah's. Many corporate deals in this state have enjoyed constitutional purity and contractual transparency.

**Dave Pritchard
Jamestown**

Thanks to Bolles

Once again, here I am displaced in Kentucky and feeling the need to thank another member of our community. Thank you, Mr. Bolles, for 17 years of... Wait, 17 years...hmm I'm 36 and went to the Rec everyday since I was 6... only 17 years? Then the last time I was involved in Rec Sports was when I was 19? That's not right... Oh, I guess you worked for the town for 17 years. I find it funny that I keep reading about the Teen Center, and the rec department and the only name in all the articles that I can relate to the Rec is you! See, I remember you being there when I was a kid, I remember you joking with me about taking up soccer every time you saw me with a football. I remember people like you volunteering.

Thank you, Mr. Bolles for being a big brother, a father figure, a coach and having an interest in the children, teenagers, and adults of Jamestown. Anyone who wants to question your dedication to this island just needs to spend a few hours chasing Ping-Pong balls, sweeping the gym floor, and making sure for years that the game was on.

Christopher L. Smyth II

St. Matts' blessing of the animals

By Sam Bari

Last Sunday, Reverend Kevin Lloyd of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church held the blessing of the animals on the church lawn on Narragansett Avenue. The annual blessing is in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226, the patron saint of animals and the ecology. His feast falls on Oct. 6. The day couldn't have been more perfect. Blue skies, cool temperatures, and a nice turnout of Jamestown's pet lovers and their pets gathered for the event. The pets appeared to be very respectful of the occasion, offering infrequent, subdued barks and meows as they waited their turns.

Tucker, a three-and-a-half-year-old golden retriever wagged his tail as Reverend Lloyd gave him his first blessing. Tucker spends his spare time playing with tennis balls.

Melody, a six-month-old kitten, was a Potter League rescue cat shortly after birth. She purred quietly as she received her first blessing. Melody now has a full-time job as Haley Carlisle's pet and spends her free hours chasing a ball of string.

Doogie, Puppy, and Giraffe, three stuffed animals belonging to Harry Lloyd were well behaved as they were blessed by Harry's dad.

Jim Breakell, who has attended St. Matthew's for over 15 years, brought Sophie, a five-year-old beagle rescued by the Potter League and adopted two days before the annual event, sat quietly during her first blessing. She takes great pride in being well behaved.

Magnolia, a part Wheaton Terrier water dog, age 12, offered a friendly bark of thanks after her blessing. She is experienced in these affairs, having been blessed in Newport last year. Amanda Wright, Magnolia's owner, thought a hometown blessing in Jamestown would be especially good for her happy pet.

Suzanne and Gary Wheelock brought their four-year-old Yorkshire terrier, weighing in at three pounds, and Buddy, their



Suzanne Wheelock had her dog Pixie blessed as part of the Blessing of the Animals celebration held last weekend at St. Matthew's church. Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

five-year-old Cocker Spaniel, who offered a paw as he was blessed.

Reverend Lloyd came to St. Matthew's from North Carolina, where he was pastor at a church in a rural area. "I'm accustomed to blessing some fairly unusual pets," he said. "Every year, I blessed the same four horses in North Carolina. They arrived in a trailer and stood

quietly in front of the church as I blessed them. I also had the occasion to bless a number of reptiles, lizards, and other exotic pets," he added.

After the ceremonies, the animals socialized on the church lawn, all blessed, while their owners felt blessed for having them.

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