

Election

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little-known opponents with 69 percent of the votes cast. Jamestown voters gave Kennedy 61.5 percent of their votes.

Both Jamestown's representatives to the state General Assembly, Sen. M. Teresa Paiva Weed and Rep. Bruce Long, who were running unopposed, received 100 percent of the local votes.

In other state races: Democrat Elizabeth Roberts took the most votes for lieutenant governor, with 53 percent to Republican Reginald Centracchio's 34 percent. Cool Moose party candidate Bob Healey received 13 percent statewide and just over 22 percent in Jamestown, where he was endorsed by this paper.

The new secretary of state will be Democrat Ralph Mollis, who won with 53 percent of the vote statewide. Jamestowners chose his opponent Republican Sue Stenhouse, who received 55 percent of the vote on the island.

The general treasurer race went to Democrat Frank Caprio who won with 73 percent of the vote over his opponent Andrew Lyon III.

The ballot question that caused the most concern to island voters was Question 1 on the West Warwick casino to be run by Harrah's for the Narragansett Indian Tribe, was defeated by a deafening 76 to 24 percent in Jamestown, and by a lesser margin of about 63 percent statewide.

Jamestown had no local questions on Tuesday's ballot. On the remaining statewide ballot questions, felons narrowly won the right to vote after they get out of prison, 51 to 49 percent. Putting more money in the state's "Rainy Day Fund," passed with 59 percent of the vote. A new pharmacy school at URI and other state college improvements passed with 62 percent of votes cast. The transportation bond referendum passed with about 75 percent of the vote. The Roger Williams Park Zoo will get a major facelift as the zoo bond passed with 68 percent. The Fort Adams improvement bond was the only referendum that voters did not support. The state Department of Environmental Management's bonds to expand recreational facilities passed with 61 percent of the vote.

Jamestown hunting rules issued by state DEM

Boundaries and specific rules for the first controlled bow hunting season for deer at Beavertail State Park were issued by the state Department of Environmental Management Monday when the Town Council adopted the hunting plan. (See separate story.)

The Beavertail park bow hunting season will start next Monday, Nov. 13, and end Jan. 31, 2007.

Regulations for hunting deer with guns were issued previously.

Boundaries

The northern hunting limits at Beavertail are on the west side of Beavertail Road from Pole 92 west to Narragansett Bay, and on the east side of the road from the pole with the DEM marker by the small path, north of the speed limit sign to the bay.

The southern boundaries are on the west side of the road at the northern edge of Parking Lot 2 west to the bay; and then north

of the path around to the northern edge of Parking Lot 4.

Also, a safety zone has been established around the residence and antenna tower; and climbing of any park tower is not permitted.

Rules

At the Beavertail bow hunting area, no hunting of other species of wildlife is permitted. All regulations for general deer hunting apply.

No firearms are allowed on the property at any time.

Construction or use of permanent tree stands is banned. Use of nails, spikes, bolts or devices that may damage trees is prohibited. Portable tree stands are permitted but they must be removed at the end of the season.

Proof of bow and arrow proficiency testing is required to get permits. Hunters at Beavertail are being asked to log in at the Jamestown Police Station.

A maximum of 10 hunters a day will be allowed in the area on first-come, first served basis. Each hunter may register for up to five slots per week. Bow hunters may take a maximum of three deer at Beavertail, and may apply for gun permits and take six additional deer elsewhere on the island, for a total of nine.

Other hunts here

Limited gun hunting for deer on private land took place here between Oct. 28 and Nov. 3. A second season of hunting with muzzleloaders or shotguns is set for Dec. 22 to Dec. 31. Deer hunters must purchase separate permits for each type of firearm, and only one firearm may be carried at a time. Annual written permission is required for all deer hunting on private land. Hunters must wear 500 square inches of fluorescent orange clothing during this combined season.

Regular deer hunting with muzzleloaders is open Nov. 4 through Nov. 26. Hunters are required to wear a minimum of 200 square inches of fluorescent orange during this portion of the muzzleloader season.

Shotgun hunting on private land is open Dec. 2 to Dec. 21.

Hunting hours

Deer hunting hours remain

one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. All deer taken must be tagged immediately, and checked within 24 hours at a vendor-operated or state-operated check station, or by a DEM authorized representative.

Hunters should check DEM regulations for specifics about where hunting is allowed, and they should also check with local authorities for additional hunting restrictions.

Other hunting data

For the fifth year, the DEM is part of a nationwide Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance program. Details are available from check stations or DEM in Wakefield at 789-0281.

Hunters are asked to call the DEM at 222-3070 to report sick or emaciated deer or any deer displaying abnormal behavior.

Hunters may donate surplus game, properly processed, packaged, and refrigerated, to food kitchens, including those in Newport, through the Hunters and Fishermen for the Hungry program, co-ordinated by the Division of Fish and Wildlife in cooperation with the Rhode Island Food Bank.

The DEM in Wakefield provides guidelines on handling game and fish for donations, as well as game and fish recipes.

Watch for deer when driving

The state Department of Environmental Management recently issued an advisory for motorists to be on alert for deer. Deer tend to move around more frequently during the fall, which is their mating season, and they tend to be more active at dawn and dusk.

Deer dart out suddenly and often travel together, according to the DEM, so motorists should watch for any other deer that may try to cross the road, following the first one. DEM cautions that motorists should drive more slowly at dawn and dusk, use high beams when possible, and always use seat belts because most injuries occur to unbelted drivers.

Lori Gibson, supervising wildlife biologist with the DEM's Division of Fish and Wildlife, said some people report success blowing their horn in one long blast. Other drivers swear by 'deer whistles', although studies have not proven their effectiveness, she noted.

Most drivers are simply not able to react in time to avoid hitting a darting deer, despite their best efforts, she said. While instinctual, swerving or braking suddenly can result in a more severe accident. Drivers can lose control and crash into oncoming traffic or into roadside trees, and some trucks jackknife, according to accident reports.

Anyone who hits a deer should be careful while approaching it, as it may only be stunned, Gibson

cautioned. Serious injury could result from flailing antlers or hooves, she added.

She also pointed out that state law requires any driving accidents involving deer must be reported to the DEM's 24-hour dispatch office at 222-3070. They must also be reported to local police and the driver's insurance company. "Though small consolation, the owner of the vehicle involved in the accident may choose to keep the deer with a permit from DEM," according to Gibson.

Last season's reported auto strikes totaled 1,261 in the state. The Jamestown count was 16 road kills. The state total so far this year, January through August, is 693, with the most so far in North Kingston, with 63.

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