

Letters

Continued from page 6

and the makeup and goals of the stewards to whom these national treasures are entrusted. I'm referring to the fact that all historic lighthouses are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

I can assure you that in the course of providing the requisite public access and education, any lighthouse that offers an overnight program can expect to net between \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year, depending on the number of rooms, and whether or not you pay your keepers or they pay you. This mission-based income goes a long way towards maintaining the light station property, which is the first obligation of its steward. While it remains to be seen whether it can also be used by the town to support low-income housing elsewhere in Jamestown, you can certainly run it up the flagpole as part of the business plan.

For more information on how the education program works at Rose Island, please visit our website at www.roseislandlighthouse.org.

Charlotte E. Johnson,
Executive Director, Rose Island
Lighthouse Foundation

Lighthouse meant for education

I am responding to your Feb. 15 editorial on proposing a B&B for Beavertail.

For your information, it is the U.S. National Park Service who act as administrators of the "US National Lighthouse Historic Preservation Act."

It is they who turn over excess

government-owned lighthouses and property to candidates, based on the new owner providing maximum use for public education and preserving the historic structures.

Your proposed use is exactly what the "Preservation Act" wants to prohibit. These properties are not to be used as "economic revenue generating engines." The act encourages the contrary. Historical preservation, education and maximum use by the public comes first.

The planned expansion of the present small museum into the first floor of the keeper's quarters meets this requirement to benefit the general public to better understand the historic aspects of the lighthouse, other lighthouses in Narragansett Bay, and the contribution Beavertail has made to our military defenses.

Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association's (BLMA) plan for the future does indeed consider a "Lighthouse Living Experience" program coupled with a work requirement in the second floor quarters of the keeper's house. The revenue generation from short-term rentals will all go back into site maintenance and defraying preservation and educational expenses. The present condition of structures at Beavertail are not as pristine as they may appear. Much has been neglected and much requires attention. Estimated restoration, preservation and stabilization expenses now approach \$500,000. Museum expansion may require even more.

Solving the affordable housing dilemma in Jamestown by converting the lighthouse to B&B's,

denying access to these public structures, and diverting preservation revenue is not smart thinking.

Varoujan Karentz,
2 Clarke Village

Affordable housing and our neighbors

I would like to respond to the recent letters to the editor regarding affordable-housing, almost an oxymoron here with the current lowest price on the island at \$385,000!

I believe there is a mentality that affordable housing translates to higher taxes, lower property values, and more problems. Those assumptions are incorrect.

Likely just as incorrect as the assumptions that the wealthy place new burdens on the town such as the need for more police to break up their unsupervised kid's parties, or demands that a recreation department have in place programs to act as surrogate parent so they might enjoy yet another night-out clubbing together or perhaps it's additional patrol cars to rid the neighborhoods of those pesky fishermen who's catch might be the one good meal the family has that week.

Likely though, it is the same mentality that led to the Baby Jesus being born in a Manger: "no room at the inn, pal."

The hard facts are on Jamestown, affordable housing leads to lower taxes, and more affordable conveniences for all.

And, clearly, to a lot more desirable neighbors.

Chris J. Crawford, member,
Affordable Housing Committee

Land agreement dates clarified

In the Feb. 15 issue of the Jamestown Press, a notice appeared about a celebration committee being formed for the 350th Anniversary of Jamestown. I would like to make a clarification of these dates and events, for consideration by this committee and any other interested persons.

The Land Agreement, recently purchased by the Jamestown Historical Society, was created to determine how the island would be divided among approximately 100 settlers. It was later ratified by these settlers, most of whom lived in Newport. A third date was the deed of sale of "Quononauquutt" island by Chief Sachem "Cashanaquont", to the Purchasers.

The handwritten dates signed in these agreements are:

- Creation of the Land Agreement: March 10, 1656.
- Ratification of the Land agreement: Feb. 12, 1657.
- Sale of Conanicut Island: April 17, 1657.

The above dates were based on the Julian calendar, which was in effect at that time in Great Britain and the colonies.

In 1752, the British govern-

ment adopted the Gregorian calendar and required it of the American colonies. New Year's Day was moved to Jan. 1 from March 25, and the day following Sept. 2, 1752 was called Sept. 14, 1752. Thus, George Washington's birthday, which had been Feb. 11, 1731, became Feb. 22, 1732)

So now we have three additional dates for Jamestown's anniversary, according to the Gregorian calendar.

- Creation of the Land Agreement: March 20, 1657
- Sale of Conanicut Island: April 27, 1657
- Ratification of the Land Agreement: Feb. 22, 1658

You will note that the ratification of the Land Agreement was actually after the sale of the island, not before, as previously believed.

For further understanding of the various calendars, you can check any World Almanac under "Calendar."

I have made transcriptions of the Land Agreement document and the Sale document and would be willing to send a copy to the celebration committee if they would like to have them.

Nancy Logan,
Jamestown

RYAN'S MARKET

Our 120th Year

www.ryansmarket.com

Specials good through 02/27/07

Hours: M-W 8:30-6,
Th-F 8:30-7, Sat 8:30-6, Sun 9-2

VOTED RHODE ISLAND'S BEST MEAT MARKET
IN 2006 BY R.I. MONTHLY.

Now serving Brickley's Ice Cream Quarts and Pints!

MEAT ALL BEEF USDA PRIME or Choice

New York Shell Sirloin Steaks.....\$4.25/lb

Ryan's Regular Hamburger (80-85% lean).....\$1.75/lb

Ryan's Chuck Hamburger (88-90% lean).....\$2.85/lb

Sirloin Tips.....\$4.95/lb

Boneless Pork Chop.....\$2.75/lb

Boneless Country Style Spare Ribs.....\$1.95/lb

Thin Sliced Chicken Cutlets.....\$3.25/lb

SEAFOOD

Narragansett Bay Little Necks.....\$2.95/lb

Ryan's Own Seafood Cakes.....\$6.45/lb

FRESH FROM OUR KITCHEN & DELI

Penne with Hearty Meat Sauce.....\$2.45/lb

Creole Shrimp with Angel Hair Pasta.....\$6.45/lb

Pulled Pork for Sandwiches.....\$2.95/lb

Imported Swiss Cheese.....\$4.95/lb

Marinated Mushrooms with Garlic.....\$3.95/lb

Ryan's Own Store Made Tuna Salad.....\$3.85/lb

PRODUCE

Crisp Asparagus.....2lbs/\$5.00

Romaine Hearts (3pack).....2/\$5.00

On the Vine Cluster Tomatoes.....2.5lbs/\$5.00

Red Grapefruit.....\$.50/ea.

Seedless Grapes.....\$1.79/lb.

70 Brown Street, Wickford
294-9571 or 667-7622

CHOPMIST CHARLIE'S

Home Made Soups Daily!

"Seaworthy Fare"

The 'Cheers' of Jamestown

Meet your friends here for lunch or dinner!

Blue Plate Specials! Sunday thru Thursday!

\$10⁹⁵ - \$12⁹⁵

Prime Rib Friday & Saturday after 5:30

40 Narragansett Avenue • 423-1020
Open 7 Days for Lunch & Dinner

Laser Jewelry Repair & Design

Custom Design & Fabrication

Impossible Jewelry Repairs

Antique Restorations

Filigree Work

Gold, Platinum, Silver & Gold Filled

State of the Art Laser Welding Machine

Open
Tuesday - Saturday
9:30-5:30

NOW OFFERING CUSTOM HAND-ENGRAVING ON YOUR ITEM OR OURS!!!

Service, selection, satisfaction since 1980

www.goldladyjewelers.com

One Brown St. • Wickford
401.294.4695

KARN'S
Law Group

LEGAL TIP

A painter working near a fairway injured by a golf ball may be able to sue the golfer, the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals has ruled.

The defendant was part of a threesome of golfers on the sixth tee. She saw the plaintiff next to the house where he was working. She yelled "fore" as her ball hooked toward the plaintiff. The ball struck him in the mouth. He claimed he never heard the warning.

The plaintiff sued.

The Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals held that golfers have a duty to warn anyone with a "zone of risk," which includes "persons who are within the flight path specifically intended by the golfer, or who are within the area in which a golfer has a propensity to shank shots."

PERSONAL INJURY LAW

- Automobile Accidents
- Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Product Liabilities
- Slip and Fall Injuries
- Maritime Injuries

No Fee Unless Successful

The Supreme Court licenses all lawyers in the general practice of law. The court does not license any lawyer as an expert or specialist in any field of practice.

6 VALLEY ROAD • MIDDLETOWN, R.I. 02842
401-841-5300 FAX 401-846-5999
www.karnslaw.com

"I had a Change of Heart!"

"I couldn't imagine giving up my home. Now I can't imagine a better life than I have at The Seasons. It's the perfect size home where everybody knows my name and people truly care about each other. A superb staff. New friends. Something different going on nearly every day. *I'm so glad I'm here!*" ~ Frances Armstrong

- Studio, one and two bedroom apartments, including meals
- Options for enhanced support
- Respite stays
- Program for Qualified Veterans
- Separate Alzheimer's residence
- Priority admission to quality nursing homes

The Seasons
ASSISTED LIVING

Five Saint Elizabeth Way
East Greenwich, RI 02818
401-884-9099
info@theseasons.org
www.theseasons.org