

Shaded campground new at Fort Getty

By Michaela Kennedy

Fort Getty Road rambles along a narrow stretch of ground, beach to the left, Fox Hill Marsh to the right. Friends chat in cars pulled into the parking area beside the sand. A kite surfer jumps waves just off the shore.

A new camping area at the town-operated Fort Getty Park, about a minute walk from the above scene, is open for guests. Last Friday, tents were set up by 6 p.m. for the first time.

Each site offers a newly-painted picnic table and a campfire ring, with plenty of shade trees to keep the camps cool on a warm, sunny evening.

"People ask if we have trees," John Vasquez, gatekeeper, said about camping visitors. He noted that the new area was the first tent location at the park with shade. Vasquez had little time to chat last Sunday morning, as he attended to lines of visitors streaming through the gate. He mentioned that no complaints were heard about the new site.

Assistant Recreation Director Cyndee Reppe stopped at the new site in the morning after her walk. "So far so good," she report-

ed. Reppe noted the mid-summer heat, and guessed the new location would be the best site in the park. "It was really hot, but the site was all shaded," she said.

Reppe noted that no pesticides or repellants are sprayed by the recreation department, and every camper should be aware of their own protection, whenever they venture outside.

The latest reports on deer ticks, known to carry infection leading to health threats, say numbers have skyrocketed in Newport County, notably in Jamestown. "Lyme disease is debilitating, it really is," she added.

Reppe went on to suggest researching some simple household items, garlic as an example, to use as natural repellants against the critters. "With being so close to the ocean, we have to be aware of what we're putting in our environment," she advised.

Geraniol, an alcohol found in plant oils such as citronella, lemongrass and rose oil, is often used as a bug repellent, according to studies done at the University of Florida.

Found as a fragrance in personal care products and detergents, gera-

niol can be mixed with almond oil, another natural repellent, or water in a spray bottle.

Bill Piva, director of the Jamestown Parks and Recreation Department, gave credit to the maintenance crew that cleaned up the area. Ron Parfitt, who is in charge of grounds maintenance for parks and recreation, "transformed that area" in a short time frame.

Piva said they found telephone poles to section off parking, cut a path leading to the beach, and put up a wooden fence by the road. "I envisioned a 5-year old kid come flying around the corner into the road," Piva added, noting the fence was a safety precaution.

Piva also said that feedback about the new camping spot would be evaluated by the Fort Getty Master Plan Committee at the next meeting. "We, the master plan committee, are happy to see progress made," Piva noted.

For information about reserving a camp site, call the recreation department at 423-7211. When registering, the recreation office asks that campers pick up a form to give feedback about the new site.

Upcoming

Readers to enjoy trip to Pawsox game

Children who are completing their 20-minute-a-day reading requirements and keeping a journal or log of their reading in the summer reading program "Get a Clue @ Your Library!" at the Jamestown library are encouraged to enter a contest to win four free tickets to the PawSox game on Wednesday, Aug. 29, at 7:05 p.m. at McCoy Stadium. One child from each library in Rhode Island will win tickets to the game.

Of those children who win and attend the game, one will be ran-

domly selected to win a trip for four to Walt Disney World Resort in Florida. The trip includes airfare vouchers for four people, four nights in hotel accommodations and four, five-day passes to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

In order to enter, children must be Rhode Island residents between the ages of 6 and 12, and be participating in their library's summer reading program. They must also be able to attend the PawSox game on Aug. 29.

Fill out an All-Star Reading ap-

plication at the library by writing a paragraph, poem or drawing a picture that answers the question: "What was your favorite book this summer and why?" All-Star Reading Team applications must be turned in to the library no later than 2 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 20.

The All-Star Reading Team is sponsored by Citizens Bank, the PawSox and Coca-Cola.

Screen-writing class offered

Filmmaker, director and Marlboro College professor Jay Craven will conduct a screen-writing workshop for teens on Friday, Aug. 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Jamestown library.

Craven, the artistic director of Kingdom County Productions, has made award-winning feature films, including "Disappearances," "Where the Rivers Flow North," with Rip Torn, Tantoo Cardinal, and Michael J. Fox; "A Stranger in the Kingdom," with David Lansbury, Ernie Hudson, and Martin Sheen and "The Year that Trembled," with Marin Hinkle, Jonathan Brandis, Fred Willard, Martin

Mull and Henry Gibson.

Craven also directs KCP's Fledgling Films Program for teen filmmakers, and is the recipient of awards including The Producers Guild of America's 1995 NOVA Award for Most Promising New Producer of the Year. He most recently completed production on a Vermont PBS series Windy Acres, and just finished the KCP production of Disappearances, starring Kris Kristofferson.

This free program is funded by the Friends of Jamestown Philomenian Library. Visit the library at 26 North Main Rd. or call 423-7280 to register after Aug. 13.

Fine arts museum trip planned

The Newport Art Museum will sponsor a trip on Tuesday, Aug. 14, to view the Edward Hopper exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

This is a wonderful opportunity to view the first comprehensive exhibit of Hopper's work in fifty years. After the tour, participants can wander through the other galleries of the MFA, have lunch and then re-board the bus and travel on

to the Institute of Contemporary Art.

The air-conditioned coach leaves Newport Art Museum at 8 a.m., and will arrive back by 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$90 for museum members and \$115 for non-members.

For more information or to reserve a space, call 848-2787.

Church festival set for Aug. 25

The St. Mark Parish Family Festival will take place on Saturday, Aug. 25, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the church grounds.

There will be games for kids, including a basketball throw, fishing and face painting. There will be a white elephant table, garden shop and a chance to buy handmade gifts for adults.

Great food will be served throughout the day, including meatball sandwiches, burgers and doughboys.

The auction begins at 10 a.m. and all are welcome to join the fun.

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