

• VIEWPOINT •

## The highway barn belongs on lot 47

By William Kelly

The DPW facility, to be or not to be at Taylor Point that is the question? Obviously there was a dissenting vote by two council members not to locate the facility at Taylor Point. The fact that the new location is up the street and around the corner from the old location begs the question, isn't Taylor Point still a location that was soundly defeated in a previous referendum?

If the voters in Jamestown approve this site in the upcoming referendum on Aug. 28, I will support that decision. If it is rejected, then in the November election voters will have the opportunity to approve a bond to build the Highway Barn on lot 47, adjacent to the town's transfer station.

There is no question that this long, drawn out debate has been a disservice to the personnel that have been forced to work in conditions that would not have been permitted to continue if it had been an animal shelter. This should have been a simple issue resolved years ago. Lot 47 was bought for the purpose of building the highway barn on it. Does it make sense to buy another piece of property to accomplish what we already have

in inventory for that purpose? The effort, energy, delays and expense to this community have been a travesty/injustice perpetrated by a very small minority with a NIM-BY agenda. Not only because it has denied our DPW workers a healthy and operationally-sound facility to work from, but because it has been a major distraction for this council and a number of previous councils.

This should have been a simple decision made years ago. That would have allowed succeeding councils to focus on issues that have major long-term effects on the character of this community, such as procuring the development rights for the farms, affordable housing, comprehensive reviews of our zoning ordinances and improvements and protection of our water systems. It should also be noted that the ones with the most knowledge and expertise in the protection of the water systems in Jamestown are those people who live and work in the area and not bureaucrats from Washington.

If protection of the water is really the issue for the NECC, then for each square foot of concrete and or blacktop that is put at the north end it would in actuality further insure their water by controlling the leachate that filters through the area. In fact, if water protection was the real issue then

they should have been the ones that were demanding that we build this facility in their area as quickly as possible. My!!! Mr. Kelly how can you make such a statement? Because I have worked with landfill and landfill operators all up and down the East Coast and have been very active in Brownfield's programs and have worked very closely with the EPA on a number of projects. (Resume & references available upon request.)

In addition, however an individual feels about locating the DPW facility at Taylor Point pro or con they should take the time to vote. This is the opportunity to have your voice heard and your opinion counted.

## LETTERS

Continued from page 7

carefully. He has confronted bigger concerns in his life than public opinion about the highway barn. In any decision, a town councilor must assess the facts and, as David has noted, with this new site, the facts changed. David chose to put the rancor of the past several years aside in supporting what he called "the better choice," of Taylor Point. His vote was an act of leadership, like many he has cast these past eight years. Please consider joining him by voting to approve the highway barn on Aug. 28.

Mary Meagher  
Jamestown

The author is a former Town Council member.

## Of course hindsite is 20/20

The Town of Jamestown, 350 years old this year, will continue to exist long after we who live here now have gone. We should therefore try to avoid doing things on purpose that make us look silly. If we build the public works garage at Taylor Point, for the next 350 years people in Jamestown will say, "Why on earth did those people build a Public Works garage at Taylor Point."

Bob Sutton  
Jamestown

## We support Taylor Point

My wife and I support the proposed location of the Department of Public Works highway barn at Taylor Point.

We believe it is important to have public works facilities centrally located, and we believe this location does not pose a potential threat to the island's water supply.

Thomas and Roslyn Tinker  
Seafarer Court

## Other items you should consider

On Tuesday night I attended the Town Council meeting and listened carefully to the town manager's hour long presentation. In addition, he was kind enough to meet me at the proposed site to answer additional questions and do a walk through of the plans for the highway barn.

What I have learned is that this is not just a vote about a highway barn. It a decision about whether to make the area of Taylor Point an industrial park.

Why do I say this? Few people realize, and I was one of them until Tuesday night, that the question we have facing us is not just about the highway barn, but also three additional related sites. During the presentation, the town manager showed us renderings and satellite photos of the point that include sites that have not yet been discussed in the current debate. It turns out that we have four changes to the point under consideration, as well as a fifth which may come into play in the future:

1. The highway barn, the asphalt apron for parking and the drive into the site through the wastewater treatment facility.

2. Another site 20,000 to 25,000 square feet in lower Taylor's Point (closer to Potters Cove) for run-off from the highway barn.

3. A new salt barn  
4. A set of containers requiring space of 15- by 30- feet for which there is not yet a plan;

5. Finally, if the treatment plant ever needs to be shut down for repairs or expansion the land that has been reserved for that purpose will be cleared and developed.

If all of this is sited on the small Taylor Point area, the town will have decided that Taylor Point is the perfect location for a municipal industrial park. At the same time we are all fighting so hard to save the farms on the island, the town is seeking to make one of the most beautiful and valuable areas of waterfront and water view property on the island into an industrial park.

This highway barn has caused tremendous strife in Jamestown for many years. Some throw up their hands in frustration about

Letters continued on next page



**New Tapas-style Menu**  
Come Enjoy Our Outdoor Deck!

**Full Bar**

\$1.50 Draft Beer on Sunday

**Open 5:00pm for Dinner**

Tuesday through Sunday

We cater in-house and off-site private parties

1814 Boston Neck Road • Saunterstown, RI 02874  
www.valunari.com • 401.667.4999



Upholstery

Wallpaper

Wool Carpeting

Fabrics & Trims

**849.8641**

926 Aquidneck Ave.  
Middletown, RI 02842

Monday - Friday • 9am - 5pm



16 Narragansett Avenue  
Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835  
401 560 0091

Sunday 11am-4pm  
Monday 12noon-4pm  
Tuesday-Friday 10am-6pm  
Saturday 9:30am-6pm

Come see our new line of fun greeting cards.  
And, we now carry Farmaesthetics Body & Skin Care.  
Bring this ad in for a 10% discount.



www.toyotaofnewport.com

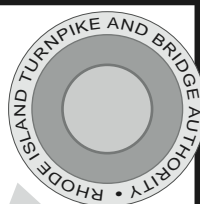
e-mail: sales@toyotaofnewport.com

Don't let these tokens keep you from the best deal on a new or used Toyota.

We supply the tokens every time you visit us!



If You Purchase Your Vehicle From Us You'll Receive LOANER CARS When In For Service NO CHARGE!



We'll Even Pick Up Your Vehicle For Service & Leave You A Loaner Vehicle NO CHARGE!



moving forward ▶

Phone 847-1144 • Fax 847-4559  
285 East Main Rd, Middletown

**LUBE, OIL & FILTER**  
For Toyota only \$24.95  
While you wait!  
Only at Toyota of Newport.

NEW & USED CAR SALES & SERVICE  
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 am-8 pm  
Fri. & Sat. 7:30 am-6 pm



**KRISTINE S. TROCKI**

RESOLVES DISPUTES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- PERSONAL INJURY
- AUTO ACCIDENTS
- PRODUCT LIABILITY
- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- WRONGFUL DEATH
- LANDLORD/TENANT
- EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION
- WRONGFUL DISCHARGE
- MINOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES
- DIVORCE MEDIATION
- BUSINESS & CONTRACT DISPUTES
- COLLECTIONS

38 Narragansett Avenue, Suite D, Jamestown, RI 02835  
tel 401.423.3390 | fax 401.423.3370 | kst@trockilaw.com