

# Jack's

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and has been a member ever since. Brittain has also been a strong supporter of youth athletic programs and has made many friends while being involved with adult softball.

He said that one of his greatest joys was watching so many young people in the community grow up. He also mentioned that he has learned a lot about local history from the seniors who have hired him over the years. "Some of their stories were truly remarkable," Brittain reminisced. "If I didn't work for them, I never would have had the opportunity to hear those stories. And hearing them talk about the old days, before bridges connected the island to the mainland - that has been a real privilege."

Brittain has been involved in the community in many more ways. He was active with the Li-

ons Club for eight years, and was the town electrical inspector from 1992 to 2000. "Being a Chamber of Commerce member and a volunteer firefighter has helped us maintain our involvement in community business and events," Brittain said.

"I also enjoyed constructing the community playground and helping with the lighting of the town recreation center. Those were opportunities for us to give back to the community that has given us so much," he continued. "For us, the involvement in the community helped our business grow both in Jamestown and throughout the state."

Brittain also said that not everyone who lives here has the opportunity to work here. He credits people in the community with helping his company earn its reputation outside of Jamestown. "The reputation we have worked so hard to build was done by word of mouth," he said. "We advertised

minimally over the years. Most of our promotional efforts involved sponsoring athletic events and local organizations. Being involved in the community has definitely helped to increase our business statewide."

In addition to Jack's Electric, Brittain owns a fire alarm business that services over 100 accounts in Jamestown, Newport, West Warwick, North Kingstown, and Middletown. The alarm company is on call around the clock, every day of the year.

When asked about how he got started, Brittain reflected on his years in the Navy. "I was in naval aviation from 1968 to '72," he said. "Before I got out, I was involved in a program called Project Transition.

It helped orient military personnel for civilian life. That's where I learned about electricity."

After he was honorably discharged from the Navy, he went to work for Bond's Electric, and he and Mary got married in 1973. Then he was hired by Electric Boat in Quonset, where he was a supervisor for eight years. He wired computerized industrial equipment, submarine control panels, and even designed welding equipment.

During his tenure at Electric Boat, his son Jay was born in 1976, and daughter Julie in 1978. He also acquired his Rhode Island electrical license. It was then that he decided to open an electrical contracting business of his own.

"By this time we were living

in Jamestown, and there was definitely a need for an electrician, so Mary and I established Jack's Electric, Inc. in 1982. I'll never forget, I went into business without much more than a bag of tools," Brittain said.

"Our motto back then was 'No job too big or too small,' and it hasn't changed since," he said. "If it wasn't for the small jobs, the big jobs would have never come our way. Back then, we were grateful for all of them."

Brittain's son, Jay, joined the business in 1997, and daughter Julie came on board in 2003. "They plan on continuing the business when we retire," Brittain said. But retiring isn't something he thinks about too much.

## Charette

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**Monday, Oct. 15**  
**Studio Open All Day.**

An Opening Presentation will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the community center.

**Tuesday, Oct. 16 -**  
**Studio Open All Day.**

8:30 a.m. - Stakeholder Meeting: Business Owners.

1:30 p.m. - Stakeholder Meeting: Realtors.

3 p.m. - Stakeholder Meeting: Young Residents.

7 p.m. - Stakeholder Meeting: Core Village Residents.

**Wednesday, Oct. 17 -**  
**Studio Open All Day.**

9 a.m. - Stakeholder Meeting: Developers / Builders.

11:30 a.m. - Stakeholder Meeting: Waterfront Interests.

Pin-Up Design Review, 7 to 9 p.m. at Town Hall.

**Thursday, Oct. 18**  
**Studio Open All Day.**

**Friday, Oct. 19,**  
Closing Presentation, 7 to 9 p.m. at the community center.

All studio and stakeholders meetings are at the Town Hall.

## Parent group to meet

The North Kingstown High School PTSO will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. in the high school's Media Center.

This month Kathy Yeager from Working Together for Wellness will speak about "Alcohol, Energy Drinks and Youth...A Dangerous

Mix." Principal Gerald Foley will also present his very informative Principal's Report and LINKS (Laymen in North Kingstown Schools) will present information regarding the high school's upcoming College and Career Center. Bring any questions or concerns regarding these important topics.

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**Bill Kelly has a reputation for not talking about what he is going to do.**

**He does it.**

Bill initiated a grant program that brought \$500,000 to help build the new water tower.

Bill worked with the police department on a successful grant program that added \$75,000 to the police budget.

Bill wrote two grants for the DPW that helped buy new equipment: roll off containers for the department, free composting bags for residents, free composting bins and a class on composting for residents.

Bill organized and implemented a town auction of surplus equipment that helped offset the cost of desperately needed new equipment by more than \$30,000 and got rid of junk laying around town facilities.

Bill has continually pushed for equitable disposal of the Town Offices at 44 Southwest Avenue. This could provide more than \$600,000 for the Water and Sewer Board and provide much needed affordable housing for the community.

**Re-elect Bill Kelly to the town council.**

**He gets things done.**

**Vote Democrat on Nov. 6**

Ad paid by the Committee to Elect Bill Kelly, Mary Kelly treasurer