

Free compost bags available

With the help of two local businesses: Jamestown Hardware and the Secret Garden, the Jamestown Department of Public Works is kicking off its fall composting program with the free distribution of composting bags.

These bags can be filled with yard waste and delivered by residents to the transfer station. Residents should note that they do not need a dump sticker to leave the composting materials at the transfer station.

The bags, provided through a grant from the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation, are now available free of charge at both the Secret Garden and the Jamestown Hardware.

Public Works Director Steve Goslee asks residents to be conscious of the fact that the bags must only contain material that can be composted such as leaves, grass, small branches and shrub material. The residents can either dump the bags and reuse them, or just leave the filled bags on the compost pile.

Historic textiles on display at URI

The University of Rhode Island Department of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design is presenting an exhibition focused on the history of Chinese textiles and apparel.

The exhibit, free and open to the public, runs until Feb. 1, at Quinn Hall, first floor, 55 Lower College Road, Kingston. The exhibit is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



Steve Saracino, Jamestown Tree Warden, at left, Jim Rugh and Town Administrator Bruce Keiser, in center, receive a grant check from Rep. Bruce Long.

Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

Town receives funds for tree preservation

Last Thursday, State Representative Bruce Long presented a check to the Jamestown Tree Preservation and Protection Committee that will be used for signage at the town forest and for other tree-related projects.

The town maintains approximately six acres as an urban forest along Melrose Avenue. The land borders the Melrose and Lawn Avenue schools and provides an open classroom for the schools. It is being restored to a native forest which will allow the healthy growth of desired vegetation. The forest will include walking trails for passive community use and tree identification signs.

Brian Volpe constructed three

information kiosks for the Tree Preservation and Protection Committee in 2006 as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Signage to identify the town forest and to give visitors an overview of the project will soon be installed.

According to Steve Saracino, Jamestown tree warden, "In recent years the importance of forests to help offset global warming has become more widely known. Trees absorb carbon, keeping it out of the atmosphere and reducing the greenhouse effect. Trees also absorb nutrients keeping them from running into bodies of water where they can harm fish and other aquatic species."

The Jamestown Tree Preser-

vation and Protection Committee meets the third Tuesday of every month and is constantly looking for volunteers. To learn more about the committee, visit the town's web site: www.jamestownri.net.

MURPHY'S LAW

"Whatever became of the conservative suspicion of untrammelled power, the conservative insight that good intentions are not, are never, enough? Where is the conservative belief in limited government, in checks and balances? Burke spins in his grave. Madison and Hamilton torque it up, too."

- Hendrik Hertzberg

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It's a good thing that "Motty Me-in" (a.k.a. Marty Meehan) is retiring as a U.S. Congressman in Massachusetts. His name has been almost impossible for his constituents to pronounce correctly.

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