



JAMESTOWN PRESS

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U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 5
Jamestown, RI

www.JamestownPress.com

Volume 20, Issue 26

A weekly newspaper serving Conanicut Island

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Star struck Jamestowners attend city premiere

By Donna K. Drago

Some 300 island residents were complimentary guests at Tuesday night's premiere of "Dan In Real Life," a Touchstone film shot in Jamestown from October to December of last year. The event was held at the Providence Performing Arts Center.

Steven Feinberg of the RI Film and TV Office introduced special members of the audience including Town Administrator Bruce Keiser, who was announced to whoops and hollers from the heavy Jamestown audience.

The movie features Steve Carell, of television's "The Office," stand-up funnyman Dane Cook and the seductive French actress Juliette Binoche as members of a quirky love triangle.

Island settings for the film included a private property on West Bay View Drive, known as "Riven Rock," as well as the East Ferry area, where a wharf shop was converted into an old-fashioned bookseller's store.

The free tickets were offered to Town Administrator Bruce Keiser, who spent a couple of days this week trying to give them all away. Keiser, wearing a dapper navy blazer over a dark sweater, who attended the screening with his wife Mary Ellen, a blonde, wearing a sophisticated black turtleneck, said he tried to get tickets in the hands of people from the schools and the Chamber of Commerce. "I was given a fistful of tickets," Keiser said.

Among those taking Keiser up on the offer of a free movie night were members of the police department.

Sgt. Joel Pinocci was present in a well-fitted medium blue shirt and khaki pants. "I like movies," Pinocci said, noting that he was accompanied by his wife Brandy Pinocci.

Officer John Areson, who was accompanied by Jen Eagles, of Jamestown, said that he was assigned to details during the filming of the movie and that he was a movie buff. "I like action and love stories," Areson said.

Officer Mark Esposito and his wife Susie Esposito were happy to be at the premiere. "I love Steve Carell," said Susie.

Also present were Deb Homer, research librarian from the Jamestown library, along with her sister Suzanne, of Newport. "I came because of the free tickets," Homer said.

Police lieutenant Bill Donovan brought his whole family to the premiere. Warren and Wilson, twins, age 8, Spencer, 14, and wife Terry Donovan, the former Town Clerk of Jamestown, were all present for the screening.

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Police in real life

Police officers John Areson, with Jen Eagles, Susie and Mark Esposito, and Joel and Brandy Pinocci, were in the audience for the premiere of "Dan in Real Life," on Tuesday night.

Photo by Donna Drago

Life after charrette: the work has just begun

By Michaela Kennedy

The Jamestown Downtown charrette is over, but the planning team continues to keep their sleeves rolled up. Formal zoning recommendations from the consultants will reflect weeks of community input, collected as an integral element of the planning project.

"Part of preserving the island character is understanding what the character is," Donald Pow-

ers, lead planning advisor for the charrette said at the closing presentation last Friday. The Oct. 19 meeting drew about 100 residents to the recreation center to learn about conclusions drawn from the series of town meetings and possibilities for future preservation. "We are here to show or dis-show that development would help or hurt us," he added.

Powers noted that the advisory group came to the island to give

advice. He also noted that two members of the team, himself and Sandy Sorlien, the form code expert, are from the island. "We are largely one of the island's own," he said. "We were asked to come."

Concerns about why the charrette took place included worries about more municipal spending and a feared marketing scheme to increase development. Nevertheless, the coalition of consul-

tants held fast to their directive from residents to show ways of preserving the quirky character of the island. They addressed the main question coming from many tongues, "What do we have to do to make things stay the same?"

Powers pointed out that development pressures already loom on Narragansett Avenue. "If nobody does anything, others could

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Dutch Harbor Boatyard debt on council agenda

By Tom Shevlin

Town councilors took up several diverse issues at Monday night's town meeting.

Town Administrator Bruce Keiser reported that he and Town Solicitor Peter Ruggiero would begin negotiations with Dutch Harbor Boat Yard (DHBV) over outstanding debts owed to the town.

DHBV had accrued debts of \$27,009 in lease payments and other costs to the town. Since tak-

ing the matter up at recent council meetings, several payments have been made by DHBV as well as a proposal to remediate the rest of the debt.

In another matter, a joint School Committee and Town Council budget work session was set for Monday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m.

The work session will examine several items of interest to town officials and island residents alike, including a discussion regarding

the preliminary budget results for fiscal year 2006-2007, as well as projections for fiscal year 2008-2009. The impact of the state's recently adopted property tax levy limit will also be discussed.

Town Hall open house planned for Oct. 29

Jamestown residents are encouraged to visit the new town hall next Monday for a community open house reception beginning at 6 p.m.

Town Administrator Keiser announced the event at Monday's council meeting. The new facility, which consolidates Jamestown's various town offices under one roof after years of operating out of multiple offices, recently underwent a sophisticated multi-million dollar redesign courtesy of island resident and noted architect Bill Burgin.

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Harbormaster's boat problems still a mystery

By Sam Bari

Representatives of Ribcraft of Marblehead, Mass., met with town officials, and chemical engineer and consultant, Professor Otto Gregory of the University of Rhode Island at the police station on Tuesday afternoon to discuss the galvanic corrosion problems plaguing the harbormaster's boat.

Professor Gregory presented the results of his tests and explained the methodology of the

procedures used. He reported that the measurements of voltage and current tested in the area where the harbormaster's boat was docked were within acceptable ranges and should not have caused the extensive damage to the boat in such a short period.

Matt Provenzano, director of operations for Ribcraft, listened to Gregory's presentation and asked about the state of the tide when the tests were performed. Gregory

said the area was tested at peak high tide as well as two hours before peak high tide. He went on to explain that tests for both current and voltage were made using a copper grounding rod buried into the sediment as well as a silver-silver chloride electrode. He brought the multimeter device used to measure electrical current and voltage to the meeting and attested that the unit was calibrated before the tests were performed.

Provenzano said that he appreciated all that Gregory had done, but noted that the tests performed by marine surveyor Joe Lombardi, a consultant hired by Ribcraft, did not agree with the professor's findings. "When the tests were performed last July by Joe Lombardi, the voltage measurements he found in the water were dramatically different," Provenzano said. He said

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