

**LETTERS**

Continued from page 8

that anyone could offer so that we may continue to tweak this event to make it the best event that it can be. In fact, in response to suggestions from the community, this year we incorporated a new event on Sunday – Rides ‘N Strides for Humanity, followed by a pasta dinner and raffle. This event is a run/walk/ride charitable fundraiser that gives everyone in the community an opportunity to participate in the weekend festivities without the formality of a “race,” while simultaneously minimizing the strain on the town on Monday during the Classic.

I believe this was a fantastic improvement to the Jamestown Classic, and it was an improvement that is the direct result of comments and suggestions from you, the community. No matter how big or small the praise, criticism or suggestion you may possess, I would love to hear it, as it is my desire to improve this event so that everyone benefits – local citizens, local merchants, and the local Rotary club – because the Jamestown Classic really does allow us to make a significant difference in the lives of individuals across the world and it starts with you, the Jamestown Community. Thank you!

James E. Walker, III, Esq.

**Police Log**

**Drunk driving charged**

Katie S. Padula, 33, of North Kingstown, was charged Oct. 19 with first offense drunk driving after a motorist reported her vehicle swerving erratically on Route 138 West. Police stopped the vehicle on Beacon Street where Padula was charged after failing a field sobriety and Breathalyzer test, police said.

Padula was held overnight at the police station where she was arraigned. A pre-trial hearing was scheduled for Nov. 2 at Newport District Court, police said.

**Marijuana possession charged**

Dennis L. Melucci, 60, of North Kingstown was charged Oct. 20 with first offense possession of marijuana after a routine traffic stop on Route 138 East, police said. Melucci was held overnight at the police department where he was arraigned. A pre-trial hearing was scheduled for Nov. 2 at Newport District Court, police said.

**Jamestown Rotary Club**

**When did we cross the line?**

I was raised to believe that the spirit of the Creator lives in every human being and, as such, every human being is as deserving as any other. I was taught that I had basic rights and that those rights ceased to be my rights as soon as they intruded upon another’s rights. I was raised to be very proud of my country and the heroes who died to defend my rights. I was just becoming an adult during a time when civil rights for all (women, minorities, workers, etc.) were in the forefront of our lives. I came to believe, like many others, that it was important to stand up and be heard and that apathy led to the rights of all being diminished. It has become who I am and what I

stand for.

While I have seen great changes in my lifetime, I know that I still live in a world where mere tolerance of others is more acceptable than equality. Life has taught me that the best of human intentions can be impacted by bad choices and circumstance and that fear and greed are the enemies of integrity. My life has been worse than some and better than most.

Now as I enter the later part of my life, my eyes are opened once again to the inequality that exists around me. I find myself amongst the poor elderly and disabled. They are the most vulnerable members of our society and the most overlooked and unprotected. People who are too weak, too tired and too afraid to fight for the basic respect they have earned and are entitled to, surrounded by people who are more than

willing to take advantage of this particular frailty.

Shame on those who impose their will in order to intimidate. Shame on those who accept government funds meant to assist this population and then ignore their basic needs. Shame on those whose greed or ignorance has eroded their sense of respect and compassion. Shame on those lawmakers and politicians who have ignored the pleas for help.

When did we cross that line? Where is that magic line that separates those with rights and those without. Our population consists of all races, all religions and both sexes, so is it a particular age, a particular disability or a particular income that betrays us? When did the rich history of our lives become insignificant? Why do you want us to be victims?

Coffee Bell

**Making wishes come true**

Recently I was asked if I could help make a wish come true for a 10-year-old boy with cancer. Shane, who lives in Saundertown, wished for a table to set up his trains.

Scott and his very helpful employees at the Jamestown Hardware Store provided a very generous supply of materials.

Paul “Mike” Balzer took over the design and construction. He didn’t just create a table—it’s a masterpiece!

Mike Schipritt was in charge of delivery.

Thanks to everyone, today we have a 10-year-old with a smile that’s hard to describe.

I supervised.

Bill McCarthy

earn bonus rate  
**6.06%** APY\*  
**CHECKING**  
on balances up to \$100,000  
plus Free ATMs Nationwide\*\*



*go shopping*



banknewport.com • 845.BANK (2265)

To earn the bonus rate, perform these requirements each cycle:

1. 12 Debit Card Transactions
2. One Direct Deposit or One ACH Auto Debit
3. Receive Electronic Statement

\*6.06% Annual Percentage Yield (APY) paid on balances between one penny and \$100,000, and 1.01% APY paid on all amounts above \$100,000 each cycle the minimum requirements are met. If you do not meet the requirements per cycle, your account will still function as a free checking account earning 0.10% APY; however, it will not receive ATM refunds for that time period. Rates as of 10/10/07. We may change the interest rate and APY at any time after the account is opened. No minimum balance required. “Qualification cycle” means a period beginning one business day prior to the current statement through one business day prior to the close of the current statement. Deposit minimum of \$25 to open account. Available to personal accounts only. No monthly service charge. \*\* Unlimited ATM refunds if requirements are met.

 Equal Housing Lender

Member FDIC

**Autumn “Sail”**





Sailboat Models

**20% OFF**

now through 11/15/07 • with this ad

*Nautical Impressions*

 GIFTS FOR SAILORS AND LANDLUBBERS ALIKE 

16 West Main Street • Wickford  
(401) 295-5303