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## Candidates share views on island issues

By Tom Shevlin

More than 50 island residents turned out to hear Jamestown's candidates for Town Council, School Committee, and Town Moderator express their opinions on a wide range of topics, from affordable housing to water rates, in a forum sponsored by the Jamestown Shores Association.

Shores President Charlotte Zarlengo opened the forum by welcoming audience and forum members to what has become a fixture in electoral politics. Zarlengo acknowledged that though the forum was sponsored by "a group with several issues of unique concern to the shores area" audience members come from all areas of the island.

Former Shores President and Bryant University Mathematics Department Chairwoman Kristin Kennedy served as moderator.

David DeAngelis opened the evening in a congenial way. "Every candidate here is highly qualified," the first-time Republican candidate said. "And there's one single thing we have in common: we all love the island."

Council Vice President Julio DiGiando followed by emphasizing his personal commitment to the island. "I've tried to volunteer since coming to the island," DiGiando, a Democrat, said. Addressing members of the Shores association in the audience, he added that he "has tried to represent the Shores' interests as well as all of

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### Studying the bay

Capt. Steve Moreau of the R.V. Eastern Surveyor, center and Fred Pease, take a group of URI ocean engineering students for a research trip in Narragansett Bay.

Photo by Vic Richardson

## No leak at north reservoir

By Sam Bari

When Deputy Public Works Director Michael Gray was asked about an alleged leak in the town's reservoir on North Main Road, he sounded frustrated. "What leak?" he asked. "Why do people keep calling about a leak in the reservoir? Whoever started this rumor was misinformed," he said. "There is no leak in the proverbial dam. It is just not true," he emphasized.

Gray went on to explain that every dam, reservoir, lake or pond that sits above sea level has a certain amount of seepage on the downstream slope or slopes. "Whoever said the town was repairing the reservoir with a bandage when a splint was needed couldn't be more wrong," he said.

"They were probably referring to a 40- to 50- foot strip along North Main Road where we discovered some seepage that was causing the ground to soften and the tractor to sink slightly into the soil when maintenance personnel were cutting the grass," he added.

He said the town contracted Matt Bellisle, of Power Engineering in Lincoln, a professional engineering firm that specializes in dams and reservoirs to examine the situation and make recommendations. The engineer designed a sub-drain to absorb the seepage and return it to the groundwater. It will eventually work its way back into the aquifer, Gray said. He went on to say that a layer of soil was used to cover the sub-drain and firm up

## Tuesday is election day in Jamestown

By Dotti Farrington

Some 4,506 residents, most of them not affiliated with any political party, are eligible to vote for municipal leaders in next Tuesday's election that will complete the charter changes started five years ago.

Of the registered voters, 1,062 are Democrats and 716 are Republicans. Some 2,728 are registered as unaffiliated with any political party.

On Nov. 6, the registered voters will choose five Town Council members for two-year terms from among 10 candidates and two School Committee members for

four-year terms from among three hopefuls. They also will vote on the reelection of Democrat James A. Donnelly, who is running unopposed for town moderator for a two-year term.

The voters will cast their ballots between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. at three polling places, the community center and Lawn Avenue and Melrose schools.

### Council race

Four incumbents and six challengers are running for the five council seats. David Long, council president for two terms over four terms as a councilor, is the only incumbent not seeking reelection.

The council race roster consists of five Democrats, three Republicans and two independents.

Candidates have focused on protecting the island's water sources, managing development, providing affordable housing, improving infrastructure and containing costs as key concerns. Many talked about fears of overdevelopment on the island.

The Democrats are Julio DiGiando, a teacher and council vice president, going for a third term; one term incumbents William Kelly, a retired public works ad-

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Town clerk, Arlene Petit unveils the restored J.A.S. Monks painting in the new council chambers.

Photo by Michaela Kennedy

## Restored painting by local artist unveiled at Town Hall open house

By Michaela Kennedy

Islanders who showed up for pastries and punch at the town hall open house Monday evening witnessed the rededication of a painting that was donated to the town years ago.

Local relatives of late nineteenth century American artist John Austin Sands Monks were on hand Oct. 29 to see the classic landscape picture assume a prominent place in the new council chambers on Narragansett Avenue.

After being given a chance to roam the new building from top floor to basement, 25 or so residents congregated in the council chambers to view the spruced up painting that has become a historic accent in the annals of the town.

The bucolic depiction of grazing sheep was given to the town by the Hutchinson family in the 1970s, more than half a century after the renowned artist's death in 1917. "It hung in here for years," David Laurie, great-grandson of Monks, said. Laurie helped town clerk Arlene Petit unveil the picture.

J.A.S. Monks, a painter and etcher, devoted most of his art to animal depictions, especially sheep. He studied as an apprentice under George Inness, a well-respected American landscape painter of the day. From Medfield, Mass., Monks had a summer residence and studio on the north end of the island, and continued to return to Jamestown all his life. His paintings were exhibited at galleries in New York and Boston

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