

# Island Opinion

## • EDITORIAL •

### We're looking for your summer pictures

Do you have a great photograph from the summer that you would like to share? Here's your chance to see your picture in a local magazine.

The Jamestown Press will again publish our annual Summer Guide and we're looking for your best summer photographs.

You may send us pictures of just about anything related to Conanicut Island — the beach, sailing, fishing, roller-blading, or bicycling. They could also be pictures from one of the many summer events in Jamestown.

Basically, we're looking for pictures of people having fun in Jamestown. If the pictures are digital, they must be at least 200 dpi. We prefer original photographs that have not been changed.

The traditional print and slide photographs can also be used.

E-mail your images to news@jamestownpress.com or drop them off at the Press office. Be sure to include your name and a daytime phone number. We need all pictures no later than April 15.

— Jeff McDonough

## Write a Letter

The Jamestown Press welcomes letters to the editor about timely topics. Letters may be up to 700 words and will be published as space permits. The editor reserves the right to reject letters or edit for clarity, brevity, good taste, and accuracy. Letters must be exclusive to the Jamestown Press. No letter-writing campaigns, please. Writers are asked to limit submissions to one letter every three weeks. Include your name and address, and a phone number where you can be reached during the day. Send your letters to news@jamestownpress.com.



### Searching for a superintendent

Dr. James Halley, superintendent of North Kingstown Schools, has decided to retire in 2008. Dr. Halley has guided the system well and helped make North Kingstown High School arguably one of the best performing high schools in the state.

The North Kingstown school system is large and draws from a diverse community. A new superintendent will have a very important and difficult job to guide their community and

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continue to build on the excellent foundation that Dr. Halley has created.

Since our Jamestown students attend North Kingstown High School we have a vested interest in ensuring that the best candidate is selected for that position. As the Jamestown liaison to the North Kingstown School Committee, I have successfully negotiated to have one member of the Jamestown community be appointed as a member of the N.K. search committee for a new super-

intendent.

The Jamestown School Committee is requesting anyone interested in being on the North Kingstown Superintendent search committee to send a letter of interest either by e-mail at rbpower1@gmail.com, or regular mail to: Dr. Robert Power, Superintendent Jamestown Schools, 76 Melrose Ave, Jamestown, RI 02835.

Responses are required by Wednesday, March 28. Please be part of the team to help North Kingstown

maintain the quality of their schools.

**William C. "Bucky" Brennan**  
Jamestown School Committee

### Leadership is disappointing

I am writing in response to the latest finger pointing and acrimony over the Brittain development site at the end of Clinton Avenue. I have been writing my opposition to this development since 2004. Back then, the

See "Letters" on page 8

The news of 10 and 15 years ago is from the Jamestown Press. The news of 100 years ago from the Newport Daily News came from the collection of the Newport Historical Society.

#### 100 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 19, 1907

The Republican caucus last evening was a cut-and-dried affair and it required only 16 minutes to transact the entire business.

The earth roads on the island are almost impassable owing to the frost coming out. The macadam roads are nearly all in good shape, considering the severity of the winter.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 21, 1907

Several cottage seekers were in town today.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 22, 1907

A chicken thief or thieves visited the poultry house of Mr. E. N. Hammond Wednesday night and took away several of his finest pullets.

Yesterday was a good day for the real estate men, three cottages being practically rented to people who visited the island.

During the heavy gale, prevailing on the twentieth, a noticeable stream of migratory birds swept northwards over Conanicut Island. About Potter's Point large numbers of red-shouldered blackbirds in flocks of 40 or more appeared repeatedly, and robins came in little companies of two or three, with some larks in larger numbers. It was evidently part of the great spring migration from the South.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 23, 1907

The season of grass fires has arrived and yesterday afternoon and this morning there have been several on the island.

#### 75 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 18, 1932

Nelson Eddy, baritone of the Philadelphia Grand Opera Company, who is to give a concert at the Rogers High School auditorium in May, is the son of William D. Eddy



of High Street and counts many friends in Jamestown and Newport.

Steamer Governor Carr made a late trip last evening to accommodate basketball fans attending the game in Newport.

Cans of rat bait, furnished by the Farm Bureau, which is conducting a rat campaign, can be purchased at the town clerk's office after April 1.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 23, 1932

At an interesting game of basketball at the Holy Ghost hall Tuesday evening, the Jamestown All Stars defeated the Gallahads of Newport by a score of 17-11.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 25, 1932

(The town council approved a budget of \$113,745 which was to be acted on at the April 9 financial town meeting. Of this total, \$27,755 was for schools. The budget for 1931 was \$110,659). The budget, if passed will necessitate a tax rate of \$20 per thousand.

#### 50 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 19, 1957

(A full page was devoted to the oil refinery question in Jamestown. An article was reprinted from The Evening Bulletin of Feb. 20, 1956, entitled "Canadian City Tells What It's Like To Live With A Refinery," and an ad by the Citizens Progressive League of Jamestown, "We Welcome Prosperity! Do You?")

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 22, 1957

The Rhode Island Development Council's advisory commission has compiled a list of municipal bodies, organizations and individuals it will invite to submit arguments, in writing,

for and against a proposed \$45,000,000 oil refinery.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 23, 1957

The Keep Jamestown Beautiful committee met last night at the recreation center in Jamestown and planned to enter the 1957 National Cleanest Town Contest in the 5,000 and under population classification.

#### 25 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 22, 1982

Several 12-Meter syndicates in the 1983 America's Cup Races are interested in using the East Ferry area if the wood pier there can be extended.

##### From the Newport Daily News, March 23, 1982

The town recreation department's minibus will be used to take senior citizens grocery shopping in North Kingstown

#### 15 years ago

##### From the Jamestown Press, March 20, 1992

The Jamestown School Committee was asked last week to allow the town to park cars overnight at the Melrose Avenue school during the summer.

Sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners Monday night, the Town Council voted to adopt a municipal sewer-line extension policy that was recommended last month by the town's planning commission.

Supt. Phyllis Schmidt told the Jamestown School Committee Thursday night that a state report lists Jamestown "property value per pupil" at \$423,286.90. (Newport was \$290,147 and New Shoreham was \$1,513,125.)

#### 10 years ago

##### From the Jamestown Press, March 20, 1997

Landowners outside the town water district with frontage on a town water main will now have to prove they cannot locate a usable well on their property before they can hook into the municipal water supply.

Town officials have applied for \$5 million in federal and state money for upgrade projects on two state roads and the purchase of land for a downtown parking lot.