

LETTERS

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Jamestown Planning Commission had the ability and responsibility to ensure developer compliance to the island zoning and building codes. It also had within its power the opportunity to ensure the development was compatible with and supported by the Clinton Avenue community. Rather than do its job honorable and well, the Planning Commission gave the Brittain site plan quick (and dishonorable) approval. Consequently, the issue is still not settled and likely never will be. To this day, the development continues to haunt the Planning Commission and cause growing concern within the Clinton Avenue community.

I am so disappointed in the planning leadership of our town. This is the time, more than ever, to show your mettle. All of the town's residential communities are experiencing development pressures. The Planning Commission's job is to ensure development changes protect and enhance the island's exceptional character and fragile resources. The Planning Commission's job is to sustain the island's residential communities, not suck the life out of them. These officials deserve this public spectacle caused by the Brittain site (as reported in the March 1, 2007 Jamestown Press) because they created it.

Driving by the Brittain site, it is obvious that its scale does not match the scale of the community. The building setback is marginal

at best and too close to the street. The structure is a barrier for local residents walking from Clinton Avenue to Holland Avenue. This was once an appreciated pedestrian path. Had the planning commissioners been attentive, they could have retained it. Still not resolved is the type and volume of traffic the site will generate. Clearly, large truck volumes through the Narragansett Avenue - Clinton Avenue intersection are undesirable and unsafe. Moreover, the Clinton Avenue community does not want Brittain's trucks running through it. This too is unacceptable and unsafe.

It is good that a certificate of occupancy has been withheld. The in-fighting and legal challenges surrounding the Brittain site will likely continue until all parties have the opportunity to communicate and settle their grievances in an open community forum. The Planning Commission should not mediate the forum. It is too crippled by bias to do an honorable job. A mediator should be assigned by the town to settle this growing rupture on Clinton Avenue. The "mediator - community forum" approach could serve as a model for the development problems that have stricken all of Jamestown's residential communities.

As for the Jamestown Planning Commission, its members should be asked to resign and a fresh crew installed. The current commissioners have done enough damage.

Valerie J. Souther
Issaquah, Washington

The writer owns property on Clinton Avenue.

Antenna placement study needed

Over the last year, my family has suffered very serious health issues connected to EMF's (electro magnetic frequencies) or electro pollution. We have become quite knowledgeable about this very dangerous pollutant and the ways to protect ourselves. Limiting exposure is key. We are extremely concerned about the new antennas that have been approved by our zoning board to be added to the two antennas already in place on the water tower.

A very pertinent fact to the dangers of electro pollution is that our Supreme Court passed the following law:

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 prohibits local governments from rejecting wireless facilities based on health concerns as long as the stations conform to Federal Communication standards.

Following is part of a correspondence that I received from a woman who is an expert in this area:

"The town must require that a thorough analysis of the RF radiation be done by an independent RF expert before any further antennas are added. This analysis should include both computer modeling and actual measurements of the current radiation patterns. There is usually a lot of metal in the structure of a water tank, i.e., the tank itself and the supports that hold it up. This metal acts as a reflective surface for the radiation, just as light reflects off a mirror. This can cause standing waves, also called "hot spots", where the intensity of the radiation is magnified by a factor of four. With the number of antennas already present, it may be that the allowed RF emission limits are being exceeded. The only way to know is to measure. Measurements should then be compared to the computer models of the radiation patterns, called RF propagation studies, that the wireless company has calculated would be emitted when they did the engineering for this site.

This can show a common problem with the FCC RF safety policy. Each wireless company is responsible only for its own RF radiation propagation characteristics. No wireless company is required by the FCC to analyze

how its RF radiation will interact with the radiation from other companies' antennas on the same site. There have been cases where the cumulative intensities of RF coming from several antenna arrays at one site have exceeded the allowed FCC limits. If there are other metal structures nearby, such as metal roofs or chain link fences, more "hot spots" can occur when the RF radiation hits those structures as well.

I'm attaching the CV of an excellent RF expert who does computer modeling studies for municipalities and for private citizens. I have also attached the CV of a man from Great Barrington, MA, who is an RF expert who has the instruments to do field measurements. Your town should require the wireless company to pay for this independent analysis as part of the application fees for a zoning permit."

According to my research, the RF radiation from the water tower can mushroom out, and homes at a distance can be more affected than homes that are actually closer to it. So the entire village is at risk. We must be sure that the TOTAL RF radiation from ALL of the antennas does not exceed the standards issued by the FCC.

I have a multitude of information including websites, if anyone would like to contact me. My favorite is www.safewireless.org. I also have information on the expert who was kind enough to share her vast knowledge of this subject to hopefully benefit our community.

I have forwarded the above correspondence to Bruce Keiser. My hope is that we can use our power as a community to halt the installation of the new antennas until the safety studies have been completed. It is imperative for the health of our community that our beautiful island not be polluted by prohibited levels of electro pollution.

Reenie Rubino
Jamestown

Let the Girl Scouts deliver those cookies

I'm a mother who has a daughter in Girl Scouts in Jamestown. The new school law states the Girl Scouts can't sell cookies in school to their friends or their teachers.

The school claims it can only do this if it's a fundraiser for the school.

Well, this so called "Jamestown school law" just started. The girls already sold cookies in school but now this so called "law" says we can't deliver our cookies in school.

This is called the Jamestown school law, but first someone from the school said it was a statewide law.

I asked a few teachers from the towns near us. They have never heard of this law. Girl scouts are selling and delivering their cookies.

Girl Scouts and their cookies have been around for years, and all you do-gooders out there will not stop them. Someone gave the orders to stop this. I wonder who? In the Jamestown school, this is unbelievable.

Gail Sylvia
Jamestown

Performance was perfectly executed

One of the most moving performances ever presented by the Jamestown Community Theatre occurred over the previous two weekends at Central Baptist Church. The musical setting of Yours Anne, based on the life of Anne Frank, was perfectly matched to the play and well executed by pianist, Janet Grant, and her assistants, Barbara Davis, flute, and Judy Boles, violin. Because the impact of the presentation was so profound, and its recognition of the horror of the Holocaust through the writing of a teenage girl, the audience was stunned for several minutes in silent tribute. While the cast was momentarily recognized and applauded, the profound moment, quiet understandably, was not broken for the usual tribute to the musicians.

The musical writing for the play was so perfectly matched to its mood, the main burden being given to the piano in a demanding role. The occasional musical "embroidery" of the instrumentalists added the finishing touch to a worthy score. Accolades to Mary Wright, for whom this was a long-sought venture, and to all who brought this play to life and enriched this community by their presentation.

Constance Andrews
Jamestown

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LEGAL TIP

A houseguest who was injured when a chair collapsed can't sue the chair's manufacturer for breach of implied contract, the Kentucky Supreme Court has ruled in reversing an appellate court.

The plaintiff was injured when the chair he was sitting in at his parents' home collapsed, causing him to fall to the ground. He sued the chair manufacturer for breach of implied warranty.

The manufacturer argued that the plaintiff couldn't sue because he lacked privity of contract. A trial court dismissed the claim, but the appellate court held that the implied warranty claim was valid under the state's consumer protection statute.

The state supreme court disagreed.
"[A] seller's warranty protections are only afforded to one with whom there is privity of contract."

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