

Jamestowners veterans underway strive to honor vets at funerals

By Dotti Farrington

Several Jamestowners, plus off-island members of the Jamestown Community Band, are taking lead roles in a relatively new project to honor American veterans who have died.

They recently joined in the first Echo Taps Worldwide, evolved from a continental effort to provide buglers for veterans' funerals. The activity was part of Armed Forces Day on May 19.

Michael Jackson of Narragansett, a member of the community band here, led the Rhode Island observance, which attracted about 40 brass players, 30 volunteers, a contingent of the Naval Sea Cadets, representatives of Patriotic Guard Riders and an uncounted number of observers.

Jackson, only a few days ago, was invited to be permanent full-time bugler for the Veterans Af-

fairs (VA) Cemetery in Exeter, where Rhode Island's Echo Taps was performed. He joined the original Echo Taps project three years ago.

Fred Pease, on baritone trombone, was among local residents who took part Saturday, May 19. He joined with Jackson for the first mass "Taps" in New York State where more than 600 brass instrument players gathered in 2005 to play a cascading rendition of "Taps" over 42 miles.

Other participating Jamestowners last weekend were Leslie Kurtz, flag bearer and logistics coordination volunteer; Ed Kurtz and Kath O'Neil, on trumpets; and Martin Hellewell, on the euphonium. O'Neil also directed a unison rendition of "Taps" as part of the ceremonies; and Dee Hellewell served as a logistics volunteer.

Community Band members

who participated included Patrick Hentschell of Wakefield, as lead bugler; and Loren Palmer of Newport, on flugelhorn. Band members taking part as trumpeters were Navy Lt. Andrew Airasian of Middletown, Rick Alves of Cumberland, and Barbara Renner of Portsmouth, Pease's sister.

About Echo Taps

The island and local band members were among approximately 5,000 musicians, ages 10 to 101, performing at veterans' cemeteries here and overseas. The original effort was organized about six years ago by Bugles Across America to provide buglers at veteran funerals. That plan called for a bugler at each of the 125 VA cemeteries in America. It went global this year with participants at 190 sites where American service personnel are buried.

Each musician begins the 24-note "Taps" three notes after the one before. This year's Echo was started overseas and timed to begin in eastern America at 11 a.m., crossing the country and ending in Hawaii.

According to the VA, 688,000 veterans, most with World War II service, died last year but there have not been enough buglers to provide the funeral "Taps" for many. The Armed Forces Day project of Bugles Across America has provided at least one live rendition for the veterans, and is attracting musicians to register to perform at funerals.

The goals of Echo Taps are summarized as: to honor and remember the sacrifices and contributions of American military; foster a new generation of buglers; preserve the tradition of a live bugler to play 'Taps' for final military honors, and raise awareness of national cemeteries, battle monuments and VA benefits.



Lucille and Norman Lawrence

Couple celebrate diamond anniversary

Norman and Lucille Lawrence observe their 60th wedding anniversary on June 1. They will share their celebration with their six children, 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Lawrence and his wife have spent five of their six decades together raising a family on Jamestown. They moved to the island in 1958, when their oldest, Norman Jr., was 10 years old. The other children are George, William, Timothy, Patricia and Janice.

Lawrence remembered the first time he saw his wife-to-be as if it were yesterday. Lucille lived in Florida with her sister.

Lawrence went to Sunday service at a church near the base where he was stationed. Looking across the sanctuary, he caught a glimpse of the face that would steal his heart. Later, he purposefully bumped into her, and asked her if he could walk her home. The rest is history.

Time to put on sunscreen

Just in time for summer, new survey results show that the appeal of tanned skin may finally be waning.

Just 53 percent of people surveyed believe they look better with a tan and 63 percent say they are not more attracted to someone who is tanned. Sixty-nine percent do not think a tan makes them look slimmer. The survey was conducted by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Media for iVillage in partnership with the Skin Cancer Foundation.

"These findings are encouraging," said Dr. Perry Robins, president of the Skin Cancer Foundation. "Once people stop linking their self esteem to tanned skin, we will really begin making headway in the fight against skin cancer. For now, there is still a lot of work to be done since an alarming number of people never use sunscreen."

Forty percent of people revealed that they never use sunscreen and only 11 percent use an SPF 15 or higher daily. Forty-two percent of people are still getting sunburned at least once a year. A person's risk for melanoma (the most serious form of skin cancer) doubles if he or she has had five or more sunburns. The small percentage of people applying sunscreen daily is surprising given that 58 percent of people say they are concerned about skin cancer.

These findings demonstrate a lack of understanding that everyday incidental sun exposure, like intermittent, intense exposure (such as on beach vacations), seriously damages the skin over time. Women still do a much better job than men when it comes to using sunscreen. Forty-seven percent of men say they never wear sunscreen, compared to 34 percent of women. "We have always made a point to communicate the dangers of overexposure to the sun, especially within our health and beauty channels," said Deborah Fine, president of iVillage. "While these new results show that women are typically more responsible about using sunscreen, there are still 34 percent not wearing any at all. We feel a sense of obligation to push the sun safety message to our millions of users and Memorial Day – the official start of beach-going season – is the perfect time to do that."

For more sun safety information, visit www.health.ivillage.com or www.skincancer.org.

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**Notice of Public Meeting
 Planning Commission Workshop**
 in coordination with:
 Jamestown Town Council
 Jamestown Zoning Board
 Jamestown Chamber of Commerce

June 6, 2007, 5:00 pm – Jamestown Library meeting room
 With adjournment for Break between 6:30 and 7:00
 followed by a Downtown Stroll beginning at the new Town Hall

Please join the Planning Commission for an informational and educational workshop in preparation of the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance beginning this summer. Sandy Sorlien, National Coordinating Editor for the form-based and transect-based SmartCode and lifetime Jamestown summer resident will lead the workshop to assist our Boards and Commissions as well as residents in learning what form-based zoning can do for Jamestown. The Planning Commission is embarking on a comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Update that will utilize form-based Zoning. Form-based codes address the relationship between building facades and the public realm, the form and mass of buildings in relation to one another, and the scale and types of streets and blocks.

The workshop will include:

- The difference between Form Based Zoning and our current Zoning Ordinance and benefits to Form Based Zoning for Jamestown
- A visual introduction to Transect-based planning with the SmartCode, with specific images of Jamestown places all along the Transect
- Discussion of Jamestown's existing character, conflicting needs, and future built form
- Case studies of previous SmartCode and form-based code customizations and adoptions, specifically for small villages and rural lands
- Stroll through downtown area will provide an opportunity to view Jamestown's downtown with a keen eye on its future development potential and opportunity