

# CIAA artwork will cover Town Hall walls next week

By Sam Bari

The grand opening of a new art gallery in Jamestown is set for Thursday, Jan. 31, with a reception from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The first show is aptly named "Art in the Heart of Jamestown," because it is, in fact, at the heart of the community — in Town Hall.

Sponsored by the Conanicut Island Art Association, the show

is the first of an ongoing series that will feature works by CIAA members, said Chairman Don Miller and Vice-Chair Wendy Crooks. Miller, an internationally recognized photographer, and Crooks, a longtime member of the Portsmouth Art Guild, will use their collective experience to display the art at its best advantage in public areas of the new

Town Hall.

"This is just the first show," said Miller. "If we are successful, we plan to immediately follow it with another, and then another, so we put on a number of shows each year. Using Town Hall as a gallery gives local artists a wonderful venue to display their work, and should inspire island residents to become involved

with the CIAA."

"There is so much talent on the island that nobody knows about," said Crooks. "We want artists who are not familiar with the CIAA to get involved and participate in our efforts to support and promote Jamestown art and artists."

CIAA members will be allowed to put one of their favorite pieces on display for the first show. Some of the pieces will be for sale, and others will just be displayed for all to enjoy. The idea is for members to participate and to encourage support for the program and the association, Miller said. "The show will be primarily two-dimensional art," Miller added. Unfortunately, we have no way to display large sculptures or free-standing pieces."

He went on to say that "Art in the Heart of Jamestown" will run for two months until the end of March. During the last couple of weeks, "we hope to announce the details of the following show."

Crooks mentioned that the CIAA is considering sponsoring a few one-artist shows that will display a single artist's work exclu-

sively for thirty days. "To kick off the program we thought it would be best to display one piece by each artist," she said. "That will give visitors an idea of the impressive depth of talent that resides on the island," Miller added.

"The idea for using the Town Hall as a gallery was inspired by a conversation with Town Administrator Bruce Keiser," CIAA President Karen Krider said. "He told me about an offer he had from David Clancy, of Clancy Design on North Main Road. Apparently, Clancy offered to contribute an original piece of blown glass to the new Town Hall, and Keiser said that the conversation made him think about all the empty walls that could use some artwork. And that inspired him to call and involve the CIAA," Krider said.

According to Clancy, Keiser has yet to respond to his offer of contributing an original piece of blown glass, "but if our conversation was instrumental in initiating an effort to promote art in Jamestown, then that's a good thing," Clancy said.

## Council

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through a pretty good turmoil just to get to this point," Sutton said.

### EPA order addressed

Town Engineer Michael Gray also gave a status report on the town's progress in addressing an EPA order it received in August over high levels of wastewater discharge into the bay.

According to Gray, the EPA had required the town to complete a self-assessment within 180 days, or Feb. 1, that would identify improvements that can be made to the town's wastewater management practices. Gray said that his department has already identified several possible improvements, including moving toward a computerized record keeping system.

After 270 days, or May 1, the town must submit plans to perform corrective actions based on the mandated management assessment, and after 365 days it must file a report notifying the agency of the progress made.

According to Gray's report, "FOG," or fats oils and grease originating from the downtown area was identified as a considerable contributing factor to the town's inadequate rating.

Commissioner Julio DiGiando reiterated his surprise that Jamestown was cited in the first place. "It's surprising to see the EPA come knocking on your door when you look around at other communities, and you see that they're light years behind from where we are," he said.

Gray agreed. "I think it's important to note that the town has been implementing a successful plan since 2001," he said. "The town has been doing a lot of work and spending a lot of money."

### Jamestown exiting drought conditions

With above-average precipitation falling in December for the first time since April, Public Works Director Steve Goslee reported that the island was "exiting drought conditions."

In his regular report to the Water and Sewer Board on Tuesday, Goslee said that the reservoir was 39 inches below capacity, up from the nearly 48 inches below capacity reported over the last few months. The increased precipitation, in the form of both snow and rain, accounted for the best water quality in North Reservoir observed in "quite some time" according to Goslee.

### Island-wide water fee discussed

Commissioners continued their discussion over whether or not to institute an island-wide fee for contributing to the town's water infrastructure. Town Administrator Bruce Keiser reported that he expected to hear from the town's consultants within two months. Kesier also noted that water district rate payers' greatest burden right now is from the wastewater system as opposed to the water system. According to town fig-

ures, the average island rate-payer spends \$313 per year in water fees and over \$730 in average sewer costs.

In other business:

- In the open forum, Ellen Winsor, of 736 East Shore Rd. reminded residents that the date for the meeting sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the island's designation as a sole source aquifer has been pushed back to Feb. 13 in the Jamestown library's main meeting room.

- Commissioner Robert Sutton continued to push for a pull-off along North Main Road to provide public access to the trails behind the town's water treatment plant as well a space for a Great Creek osprey viewing platform. Town Engineer Michael Gray was in-

structed to sketch out a proposal that would ensure both public access and address security concerns for further consideration.

- Commissioners also discussed a proposed purchase and sale agreement the town has received from affordable housing developer Church Community Housing Corp., however held off approving any agreement until they had received legal comment from Town Solicitor Peter Rugeiro. The CCH proposal, which would relocate the former town office complex and add two new structures to the property, includes the development of nine residential units at the site in addition to six more at the Conanicut Avenue housing development. Legal comments are expected by the end of

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Mount Gay Rum 750ml	\$14.75
Seagrams VO Canadian 750ml	\$14.75
Ketel One Vodka 1.75ltr	\$34.75
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4 Boot Class 6:30 a.m.	5 Kettlebells 7 a.m. Sit to be FIT 2 p.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Judy	6 Yoga 3:30 p.m. Kathy	7 Yoga 8:30 a.m. Kim Functional Jason 6:30 p.m.	8 Boot Class 6:30 a.m. Kettlebells 10 a.m.	9 Work w/ Jason 10 a.m.	
11 Boot Class 6:30 a.m.	12 Kettlebells 7 a.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Judy	13 Yoga 3:30 p.m. Kathy Kettlebells 6 p.m.	14 Yoga 8:30 a.m. Kim Sit to be FIT 3 p.m. Functional Jason 6:30 p.m.	15 Boot Class 6:30 a.m.	16 Work w/ Jason 10 a.m.	
18 Boot Class 6:30 a.m.	19 Kettlebells 7 a.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Judy	20 Yoga 3:30 p.m. Kathy Kettlebells 6 p.m.	21 Yoga 8:30 a.m. Kim Kettlebells 10 a.m. Sit to be FIT 3 p.m. Functional Jason 6:30 p.m.	22 Boot Class 6:30 a.m.	23 Work w/ Jason 10 a.m.	
25 Boot Class 6:30 a.m.	26 Sit to be FIT 2 p.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Judy	27 Yoga 3:30 p.m. Kathy Kettlebells 6 p.m.	28 Yoga 8:30 a.m. Kim Kettlebells 10 a.m. Functional Jason 6:30 p.m.	29 Boot Class 6:30 a.m. Kettlebells 10 a.m.	T: (401) 560-0300 F: (401) 560-0301 36 Southwest Ave. Jamestown, RI	