

LETTERS

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end include the town's municipal wells and the two reservoirs.

The town wells supplement reservoir water with underground aquifer water. The aquifer and the reservoirs depend on the north end's wetlands and land recharge areas to filter water.

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 requires the U.S. government to protect Sole Source Aquifers. One hundred percent of Jamestowners rely on the aquifer in one way or another. Firstly, the municipal wells supplement the public water supply with aquifer water. Secondly, 57 percent of Jamestowners on private wells depend on the aquifer for their sole water supply. The EPA's definition of Sole Source Aquifer is if 50 percent of residents rely on the underlying aquifer as their sole or primary source of water.

Economic hurdles, defined by the USEPA, have been met. An important hurdle was: Can Jamestown obtain its drinking water elsewhere, and at an economically reasonable cost to the residents, if the aquifer were to be contaminated? We now know drinking water is not feasible to Jamestown at a reasonable economic cost based on the EPA's test criteria. Also, letters from the town manager of North Kingstown, the city manager of Newport and our town administrator describe the unavailability of off-island drinking water for our island.

The Sole Source Aquifer petition (i.e. report), with town and state documents backing the text, has been available since June 2007 at the Jamestown Philomenian Library. The Town Hall also has hard copy of the SSA text.

The Town's website has the "Sole Source Aquifer Petition" text posted on the homepage, <http://www.jamestownri.net/index.html>. It is the first entry under "News & Hot Topics in Jamestown." The SSA is also posted under "News" on the first website page: go di-

rectly to <http://www.jamestownri.net/new.html>. At all locations are the letters from Newport, North Kingstown and our town administrator Bruce Keiser.

Please also see the EPA's legal notice of the Public Hearing in this week's Jamestown Press. I have worked directly with the EPA's Doug Heath since the beginning of 2006 on our island's Sole Source Aquifer Petition. Feel free to call me at 423-2304.

Ellen Winsor
736 East Shore Road

Crime can still happen in Jamestown

Like many of you reading this letter, I was lucky enough to have been born and raised in Jamestown. I moved to Boston over 10 years ago, but I will always consider the island to be my true home and one day hope to return to raise a family of my own. For the time being, I am content with my status as a weekend warrior.

One of the best things about Jamestown is the fact that it is an island surrounded by the ocean. Many of my fondest memories took place on the coastlines of Jamestown, including places like Mackerel Cove, Green's Pier and right down at East Ferry. A memory that I particularly cherish is the times my mother and I would collect sea glass along the shore. It was always an exciting adventure and yet peaceful and serene at the same time. A few years ago I decided to revisit this hobby and it's something that I truly enjoy and look forward to sharing with my own children one day.

Over the holidays, I took some time off from work and spent a few weeks in Jamestown with my sister. One afternoon I stopped downtown and hopped out of my car to see what I could find on the beach. I was on my way somewhere, so it was going to be a quick stop, and as usual I left my car unlocked, keys in the ignition with my purse and other belongings right where they were. I never even thought twice about locking my car — af-

ter all this was Jamestown!

Within those five minutes, in broad daylight someone came along and swiped my purse, including my wallet, blackberry, gift cards and other personal belongings. I don't know if this has ever happened to you, and it might seem a little dramatic, but I felt violated. I was in utter disbelief that this could happen in my little hometown where everyone knows one another and people don't lock their doors.

While I was certainly upset and angry, the next day I realized that the only things taken from me were a bunch of material things. It really wasn't worth it to stay angry or upset. It's an inconvenience to cancel your credit cards and go to the DMV for a new license, but certainly not the end of the world. I quickly remembered that there are far more important things to worry about, like the environment, the war and the safety and health of those around us. I also realize that times have changed and the island, like everything else in life, is evolving.

I wanted to let you know that this sort of thing can happen in our wonderful little town. Like I said, not the end of the world, but I would want to know if this happened in my community.

When I began this letter, my point was simply to inform you of this incident so you could be more diligent. But once I wrote about the experience I realized that what I really wanted to say is that is my love for Jamestown is as strong as ever and both the people and the landscape are one of a kind. Life is about those moments on the beach with your mom where you discover the most beautiful piece of lavender sea glass. And nobody will ever take that away from me.

Kerry M. Clarke
Boston



Where in the World is the Jamestown Press?
Ray and Peggy Sisson took the Press with them on a recent trip to the Mayan pyramids in Cancun, Mexico.

Hospital offers several support groups

South County Hospital is offering several support groups beginning in February.

A postpartum support group to assist new mothers in the first few weeks of breastfeeding will meet Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Mothers are encouraged to share their ideas and concerns. The group is facilitated by a certified lactation consultant and is free to attend.

A cancer support group will meet the first Wednesday of the month, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., beginning Feb. 6. No registration is necessary. For questions, call 788-1294.

A diabetes management class and support group will meet beginning Feb. 18 at the South County

Hospital Potter Conference Center on the third Tuesday of the month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Call 788-1135 to register and be placed on the mailing list.

A pediatric diabetes support group will meet beginning Feb. 27 on the last Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. The class will offer general management and support services for children with diabetes and their families. Call 788-1135 to register and be placed on the mailing list.

A pregnancy loss support group will meet beginning Feb. 28 on the last Thursday of the month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This is a support group for those who have experienced miscarriage, fetal demise or stillbirth. Ask for directions at the main lobby visitors desk. Call 788-8020, ext. 3255 for additional information.

Seniors can apply for Cox Scholarships

Eligible high school seniors who excel academically, demonstrate a strong community involve-

ment and are interested in pursuing a degree in communications or a communications related field can

apply for a 2008 Cox Scholarship. Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each.

High school seniors can obtain an application at www.cox.com/newengland/inthecommunity/scholarshipform.asp. Applications are also available in high school guidance departments.

Completed applications must be received at Cox Communications by Feb. 29. A selection committee will review all applications and 10 students will be selected to each receive a scholarship.

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