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## Gala opening for island's new Teen Center

Friday was a big night at the Jamestown Community Center, which is now home to the new Teen Center. Above, teens of all ages take part in the fun which followed the opening ceremonies. At right, teen center coordinator Melissa Minto talks about the hard work and volunteer efforts that made Friday's opening finally possible.

Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten



## Parking, trail access eyed at water plant

By Sam Bari

Sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners on Tuesday, the Town Council reviewed the plans for parking and public access to the trails and osprey viewing area across from the water treatment plant on North Main Road.

The plans, submitted by Public Works Director Steve Goslee and town engineer Michael Gray provide for two new parking spaces, bringing the total to three.

The council members discussed at length the location of the parking spaces to best serve visitors and not interfere with the Jamestown portion of the planned bike path connecting Jamestown to Saunterstown. Gray said the plans provide adequate width for the bike path and the parking places were designed so cars would not have to back out on to North Main Road to exit the area. The proposed bike path will be located on the west side of the road.

Gray suggested consulting with state Department of Transportation officials to get their input before proceeding. Town Council member Robert Sutton suggested that a call be made to the DOT to ask their requirements for site distances where the speed limit is 40 miles per hour and then design the plans accordingly.

Sutton said that submitting completed plans would get a much better and faster response than asking DOT to help design the project. "If you go in without a complete design and ask them what to do, they probably won't be much help. But if you submit completed plans, they'll have something tangible to evaluate," Sutton said.

Town Councilor Barbara Szepatowski suggested reducing the speed limit on North Main Road on the north and south approaches to the marsh area.

Goslee agreed that slowing the traffic was a good suggestion because cars constantly "fly by at 50 to 60 miles an hour."

The other council members agreed.

In other business, the review of rules and regulations of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners was given a continuance until the March 17 meeting when coun-

## Harbor improvements outlined by commission

By Sam Bari

Commissioners discussed at length the state of planned projects for the waterfronts at East Ferry and Fort Getty during the February Harbor Management Commission meeting last week.

Facilities sub-committee Chairman Robert Bowen said they decided that engineering studies needed to be completed at both East Ferry and Ft. Getty before the projects could begin. He reported that an engineering study for the town-owned woodpile pier was estimated at \$12,700, and for an additional \$3,500, the feasibility study for the woodpile pier extension could be completed at the same time.

Bowen said that combining the engineering projects made sense because divers were involved. He added that if the projects were engineered separately, the costs for

the extension would more than double.

In addition to the engineering costs for the woodpile pier repairs and extension, Bowen said the engineering for the touch-and-go addition to the woodpile pier would cost \$6,000 to \$7,000. The estimate for the curbs and rails project revision at East Ferry was \$2,000, Bowen said.

Bowen recommended that the \$3,500 in expenses for the woodpile pier extension should come from the town budget. He further recommended that the Ft. Getty boat ramp and dredging project, which was estimated at \$150,000 to \$200,000, should also be a town expense. He said "We do not have the resources for either project in our budget at this time, or in the near future. So if the town wants to pursue these projects, they should be willing to fund them."

Commission Chairman Michael de Angeli agreed with Bowen, as did the other commissioners. De Angeli said the town mandated that repairs to the woodpile pier and the touch-and-go dock addition be completed. "We have no choice but to finish those projects. We have the resources, so we must get them done," he said.

Commissioner Andrew Kallfelz questioned the repeated engineering expenses on projects that have been in the planning stages for years. "If you add up the expense of engineering and getting estimates, in some cases, the total costs of engineering, studies and estimates are as much as if the project were completed in the first place," he said.

Bowen agreed that the costs did reoccur. "But when the estimates are beyond our budget because additions to the projects as

recommended have driven the cost up and the projects are put off for several years because money is not available, the estimates are no longer valid," Bowen said. "We need to get current estimates and act on them before the prices change," he said.

"Then we shouldn't go to the Town Council and ask them to spend more than \$25,000 in engineering fees when we don't have the money to complete the projects," Kallfelz said. "We should prioritize the projects and have them approve one at a time as we can do them."

After further discussion, the commissioners agreed to vote on each project and recommend a prioritized list to the town administrator to present to the council. Chair-

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