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Permit No. 5
Jamestown, RI

www.JamestownPress.com

Volume 20, Issue 47

A weekly newspaper serving Conanicut Island

Thursday, March 20, 2008



St. Patty's Spirit

Philip Yorkery, of Pemberton Avenue, was in the Irish spirit on St. Patrick's Day. His green shirt and matching beard caught everyone's attention as he strolled up Narragansett Avenue.

Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

Dock project is touch and go

By Sam Bari

Town Council President Julio DiGiando reported to the Harbor Management Commission at its March 12 meeting that although the Town Council approved engineering requests for East Ferry that included a design for a touch and go dock, Town Administrator Bruce Keiser asked if an alternate plan could be considered for the project.

DiGiando, who is also the Town Council liaison to the harbor commission, said that he was at the town administrator's office to discuss another matter and

happened to walk in when Keiser and Conanicut Marine owner Bill Munger were engaged in a conversation. He said the three of them discussed the design plans for the touch and go dock at East Ferry during an impromptu conversation. Munger leases the East Ferry Marina from the town through his company, Conanicut Marine.

DiGiando said that Keiser asked him to present a plan to the harbor commission for the new touch and go dock that would

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Commission votes in favor of SSA designation

By Michaela Kennedy

The Jamestown Conservation Commission has voted to support the sole source aquifer label, a classification offered to communities by special request from the Environmental Protection Agency. The vote at the commission's March 11 meeting followed a discussion, at times heated, about the history of the petition to protect the island's water supply with a government title.

The commission discussed the board's position regarding the aquifer proposal. Powell reminded board members that a stated position one way or another was

not required. He noted that many of the commissioners participated in the workshop, and asked each to shed ideas on the proposed designation.

Commissioner Kate Smith read a two-page prepared statement in support of the EPA designation. She stressed the focus on education that the designation would bring. "It appears to me to be a win-win situation," she said.

Commissioner Cathy Roheim said while she applauded the effort that went into the document, she was "definitely wary of bring-

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Council approves Church housing bid

Sale rests on the results of archeological study

By Sam Bari

Town Administrator Bruce Keiser announced at the Town Council, sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners meeting on Monday night, that Church Community Housing has agreed to purchase the old town offices at 44 Southwest Ave. CCH Executive Director Steve Ostiguy attended Monday night's meeting and explained the company's offer of \$540,000 for the property to the council.

Ostiguy said that CCH was willing to purchase the property on Southwest Avenue. The sale is contingent on the results of an archeological study to determine if the property could be developed without violating ordinances and agreements with the Narragan-

sett Tribe. He proposed that if the sale were completed, CCH would develop a three-unit affordable housing complex on the property.

One of the units would be the existing building that would be completely gutted and reconfigured as a single-family dwelling. Additionally, CCH would build two smaller units of 1,300 -square feet each in a townhouse design that would be suitable for families of four.

He said the stand-alone dwelling would sell for \$150,000 and the smaller units would be sold for \$140,000 each. However, the land would not be included in the sales. CCH would lease the land to the buyers for 99 years. Ostiguy went on to say that should someone purchase the property and decide to sell at a later date, the land lease would begin anew for 99 years to the new owners.

Originally, CCH had planned to build nine units on the property. However, due to wetland considerations and the possibility of archeological violations, the company has decided to develop the property as described. Ostiguy noted that the Planning Commission unanimously supported the project.

Council recommends SSA Designation

The council voted 3-1 to recommend a sole source aquifer designation for Conanicut Island to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Councilor William "Bill" Kelly cast the dissenting vote. Councilor Robert Sutton, who also opposed the issue, was absent. Council President Julio DiGiando, Vice President Michael White, and

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Learning about other cultures

Bailey Thrand, left, and Ashley Shaw, from Terry Boothman's third grade class at Melrose Avenue School, explain the Native American project they made. The girls researched their project for sometime, but were able to complete the project in one day. Students and parents were invited to view the completed villages at a show held last Thursday.

Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten