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Thursday, July 10, 2008

New Teen Center director prepares to take charge

By Eileen Daly

Jamestown Teen Center Director Melissa Minto will leave her position in August to pursue a graduate degree in International Agriculture and Rural Development at Cornell University. She will be passing the torch to the newly appointed director, Debbie Tungett.

Tungett, who was born and raised on Aquidneck Island, is currently working side-by-side with Minto to insure the transition goes smoothly. The plan is to gradually decrease Minto's hours while Tungett accepts increasing responsibility for the position. This will allow

Tungett to become accustomed to the position while also providing the teens with a less jarring experience than would occur if she were to simply assume the position after Minto's departure.

Tungett received her bachelor's in social work and political science from Illinois State University. Upon graduating, she accepted a position at Rogers High School in Newport as director of the Student Activity Center. There, she worked collaboratively with the Martin Luther King Center, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Women's Resource Center.

See "Teen Center" on page 14

Incumbents talk of accomplishments, goals

By Michaela Kennedy

Bruce Long

Republican incumbent Bruce Long will defend his seat in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, District 74, in the November election. He looks forward to continuing his work on state legislation that affects his constituents in Jamestown.

As a senior member of the minority caucus, Long sees the budget

as the single most important issue of government. He criticizes previous techniques of using windfalls to balance the state's wallet and has supported recent structural changes. One way to ease local tax burdens is to require state mandates be funded by the state and not by the local community, Long said. "Anytime Jamestown is required to pay for a service, property taxes go up."

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Independence Day parade

Malia Hickey, left, of Kailua, Hawaii, and Grace Brackenhoff, of Portsmouth, took time from visiting their grandmother in Jamestown to participate in the North End Fourth of July parade.

Sisters Carolina Moretti, left, and Florence Moretti, right, were queens for a day as they showed their patriotic spirit.

Photos by Andrea von Hohenleiten



Fogged in

The Jamestown & Newport Ferry takes on passengers in the fog on Tuesday morning. The mist rolled in and out of the bay the entire day, but did not stop the ferry runs. Photo by Jeff McDonough

Mackerel Cove beach is now fully staffed with lifeguards

By Sam Bari

Recreation Director Bill Piva was happy to announce that the town has hired three good lifeguards for Mackerel Cove beach. They replaced the guards that were fired two weeks ago for drinking on duty.

Veteran lifeguards Samantha Alger and Mariah Vietri, along with Victor Lambert, a new staff member hired in April, took up the slack for five days until replacement guards were hired. By Thursday of last week, the beach was fully staffed and three guards were scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day.

"We were very fortunate to get such good, qualified guards this late in the season," Piva said. The three replacement lifeguards are Karina Carlson, Lory Marsocci, and Madeleine (Maddy) Suits.

Karina Carlson

Karina Carlson, 16, of North

Kingstown, is going into her senior year at NK High School. She is on the swim team at NK and worked at Narragansett Beach as an attendant.

"My mom was a competitive swimmer and a lifeguard," Carlson said. "She was my inspiration. She can still beat me at some events," she added.

Carlson said she loves the beach and that she always wanted to be a lifeguard. "It's a good opportunity to work with people and help those in need," she added. When she graduates, Carlson wants to go to college to study architecture.

Lory Marsocci

A recent graduate of North Kingstown High School, Lory Marsocci, 18, of North Kingstown, is a Rhode Island native. She is also a competitive swimmer. Marsocci swam for her high school

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