

IT'S GOOD TO KNOW GOOD DESIGN



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Were those your groupies who came to cheer you on at a previous talent show? "You mean my family," Oliver Allaux replied. The 18-year-old islander plays the fiddle and explained to us that the difference between a fiddle and a violin is in the way it's played, one is folk music and the other is classical.

The recent graduate of North Kingstown High School started to play the violin when he was 3 and going to school in Pennsylvania. He took classical lessons for 10 years. He also plays the guitar and saxophone that "I picked up over the years." Oliver now plays two sessions on Sundays at the Fastnet Pub on Broadway in Newport. All told he's been playing Irish sessions in Newport for eight years. You can hear Oliver's great fiddle sound at the Jamestown Community Chorus' annual Talent Show

Aug. 13 at the Community Center. He said he'll be playing some "funk jazz" and folk music.

This fall he'll move on to the Pratt Institute to study architecture. Why architecture when he has such a talent for music? "I picked it up in school and really like it."

It's all about creation, whether for the eye or the ear.

Questions about the talent show should be directed to chorus director B.J. Whitehouse, 423-1574.

We told you in an earlier column that grandson Tom had hooked and released a tagged blue shark while fishing with Robb Roach aboard his 26-foot Stella. The tag was turned in at Snug Harbor. In a letter from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Tom was thanked for participating in the Cooperative Shark Tagging Program.

He was informed that his shark had been tagged on June 15, 22 miles SE of Montauk Point, N.Y., and was caught by Tom on July 12, 45 miles SE of Pt. Judith. The 6-foot male blue had traveled 33 miles E in 27 days.

These are truly Dog Days, but they have nothing to do with our dogs, but rather about the dog planet, Sirius, being in a certain position to the sun. But they are nonetheless tough days for dogs, anyway. Our 12-year-old Vallund, Joshua, really feels it. His ancestors came from Sweden so he enjoys the snow.

To help him along a bit, I wish him down regularly, keep him combed out and have a fan going next to his bed.

But for a professional view on how to keep Joshua cooler, we asked for suggestion from Dr. Joshua Hatch of the Jamestown Animal Clinic. This is what he recommended:

"The old saying "It's not the heat, it's the humidity" is pretty



By Jim Munro

true when it comes to our pets. Many older pets (and a lot of fat ones) can have a hard time when the heat and humidity rise. Most importantly, make sure your pet has access to fresh water at all times. Nothing is more dangerous than the combination of heat and dehydration. Next, modify your schedule so that you take your pet for walks when it is cool in the early morning or late evening. Do not take your pet for a long walk in the high mid-day heat. Providing adequate shade and cover to let your pet get out of the sun if they are outside, as well as either keeping a fan going or running the AC when they are inside will reduce heat-related issues. Finally, be aware that pets can get sunburned especially if they have short hair, light skin, or were recently clipped. Avoid too much direct sunlight until their skin has had time to adjust."

WOOF!

Who was Mary Hartman?

Wouldn't you know that the day my column comes out saying it looks like it's going to be a dry summer I get 4 inches of rain on my deck.

A Snapple top moment: At birth, a Dalmatian is always pure white.

When you come off the Newport Bridge and turn right to come to the village, there's a hole in the road under the overpass that will swallow your vehicle. It's dark

under there and you can't see it. Beware! *****They fly so high, nearly reach the sky *****

Whole current video episodes of Kettlebottom Pursuits have been added to its website, www.kettlebottom.com. Islander Robb Roach said, "We have also been working on adding more how-to content and hope to be able to help you become more successful and knowledgeable in the outdoors." *****

Kudos to the highway department for getting the new drainpipe in at the entrance to the dump.

We hear it now plans to move the fence on the west side back so that large trucks can get in and out without having to swing by way of the West Passage.

Great job, guys! *****

We may be on to something. Having purchased a "squirrel-proof" bird feeder we gleefully watched the rodents scratching their heads in desperation. It didn't take long though before they learned how to lift the metal cap and chew away at the plastic tube. Finally, we gave up and put it in the back of the truck for a trip to the dump.

At work in Davisville we noticed that sparrows had discovered it and were feeding out of it. We also noted that while the truck sat in our driveway the feeder was getting attention. We have left it in the truck bed and are very pleased with our newly discovered mobile bird feeder. *****

Be true! *****

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