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Scavenger hunt

Maddie Maddigan, left, and Roxane Robin work on a marine-related scavenger hunt at Save the Bay camp. The week-long camp is sponsored each summer by the Jamestown Education Foundation.

Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

Island businesses will feel impact from landfill rate hike

By Sam Bari

Substantial rate increases at the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Center in Johnston, the Central Landfill, will impact their bottom lines, local business owners say.

According to RIRR tipping scale house supervisor Steve Pietrantozzi, a 16.1-percent rate increase for regular trash and garbage pickup is being imposed on its contractors for commercial accounts. Construction and demolition material disposal rates will increase by 39 percent. These are the rate hikes being charged to contractors like Island Rubbish, which has an account with RIRR for both commercial and residential trash disposal. Pietrantozzi said the new rates are scheduled to go into effect on Saturday, Aug. 9.

RIRRC Director Michael O'Connell said the rate hikes were necessary so Rhode Island would be in line with the rest of the industry. "Our rates have been so low that we

are attracting out-of-state customers who want to dispose of their trash in our landfill because of the cheaper prices," O'Connell said. "And when rates are that low, people don't have an incentive to recycle, which is the ultimate goal of our programs, to get people to recycle."

O'Connell said that if customers checked the prices in surrounding areas, they would see that Rhode Island has been enjoying inordinately low rates for trash disposal for some time. "We want to encourage recycling and discourage out-of-town trash from coming to our landfill. When people make an effort to recycle, they quickly learn the benefits to the environment as well as their pocketbook," O'Connell said.

Cheryl Page of Island Rubbish said that the rate increases will only apply to commercial accounts, thereby affecting all island businesses. For the time being, residential rates will stay the same. Page

said the increase to their clients is necessary because of the rate hikes that have been imposed on Island Rubbish. However, the exact amount of the increase to commercial customers has been decided. She said they would keep the increase as low as possible.

John Recca, proprietor of the Narragansett Café said, "Even with the increase, it's still the best deal around. If you check the prices in Connecticut, they're a lot higher." Recca said that the increase will not make a difference on his prices to customers. "There are a lot of other things that would cause an increase before this," Recca said.

Jack Brittain, president and owner of Jack's Electric, said, "The prices will affect everybody to some degree. It won't hurt us as much as it will the general contractors because we don't have that much trash. They will be forced to

See "Landfill" on page 20

Jamestown real estate market stays healthy

By Eileen M. Daly

The doom and gloom real estate market portrayed in many recent news stories is not an accurate portrayal of the Jamestown housing market according to local Realtors.

Ask Melanie Delman of Lila Delman Real Estate, for instance, and she'll tell you business is booming. Delman, and her associate Robin Nicholson, were recently the selling agents for the Fowler's Rock property,

located at 340 East Shore Rd., for a record setting \$6.9 million. High-end buyers still recognize a good value here in Jamestown, Delman said. "We are fortunate to not see a lot of erosion and waterfront properties with amenities are still selling quite well here," Delman added.

John Hodnett, also with Lila Delman Real Estate, shares his optimistic appraisal of the market. "Realistic sellers with ap-

See "Real Estate" on page 10

SkateFest 2008 is tomorrow at the Jamestown Skate Park

By Stephanie Heelan Cotsonas

The Jamestown Skate Park will take center stage tomorrow, Aug. 8, at the second annual SkateFest. After last year's successful event, organizers are excited about making this year even bigger and better.

According to one of the event organizers, Robb Roach, the major difference this year is the official skate contest, which will include cash prizes. The contest

will include three age divisions and there will also be awards for the best trick. The entry fee for the contest is \$15 and all contestants under 18 must have a parent sign for them. All participants are required to wear a helmet.

SkateFest 2008 will be strictly skateboarding and will not include BMX. Roach said they expect to exceed the 275 attendees they had last year.

See "Skate Fest" on page 20

Jamestown Chamber hosts annual Sidewalk Sale on August 13th

Shoppers take note: the second annual Jamestown Chamber of Commerce Sidewalk Sale will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 13.

Deb Goyette of the Purple Door Bead Shop is the coordinator of the event. She said 17 businesses will participate in this year's Sidewalk Sale.

Jamestown merchants and restaurants staged their first village-wide Sidewalk Sale last year in conjunction with the island's 350th celebration, Goyette.

That event was a big success, she said.

For details about this year's Sidewalk Sale, see the back page of this issue of the Jamestown Press.

Victory Day newspaper deadlines

Rhode Islanders will celebrate Victory Day on Monday, Aug. 11. The Jamestown Press will be published on time next week, although the Press office will be closed on Monday.

Here are the deadlines for next week's newspaper which will be published on Thursday, Aug. 14:

Display Advertising: 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 8

Classified Advertising: Noon on Tuesday, Aug. 12

News Items: 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 12

For more information about advertising, call the Jamestown Press at 423-3200.