

Letters

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instances of inconsiderate behavior: a friend walking his dog to the beach was asked by an officer, who was passing in his cruiser, if he liked dogs. Upon replying, "Yes," the officer responded, "I hate dogs."

Two volunteer firemen have been stopped and ticketed while responding to calls and an acquaintance was stopped just for having a bent boat trailer license plate, thereby holding up a line of traffic on busy Narragansett Avenue. Has our well-paid police force no compassion for the law abiding populace that feeds them, or do they just lack judgment? I ask the people of Jamestown, is this who you want to serve and protect you?

Take a good look at our brave Fire Department and E.M.S. They make themselves available at all hours to help, and there are many, many other volunteers. Why? Because they care about this community. I salute you, and may God bless all of you.

And, to the people of this island, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all of your condolences. My beautiful Mako died doing what she loved, being with me in the water, chasing a ball. I can't bring Mako back, but I hope some changes will be made so no one has to go through; the callous and condescending treatment that the child, others, and I have experienced.

Pio Moretti
Jamestown

Share the responsibility on the road for safety

Sam Bari's article entitled "Cyclists or motorists: who rules the road?" in the Aug. 14 Jamestown Press presented numerous examples of the rules of the road which apply to motorists and bicyclists alike. As Officer Rui Silva said, "Share the road and display a little

common courtesy."

As both motorists and bicyclists, we urge both modes to use caution when approaching each other, signal intentions, and follow the established traffic rules. There need be no confrontation between Jamestown's bicyclists and the generally very courteous island motorists. Neither "rules the road"—they share it.

Mike and Phyllis Suber
West Ferry

Jamestown is a great place to raise a child

What I am going to say next is probably going to upset a few people. It is also a great place for teenagers to experiment with alcohol.

There are many great hiding places to share a twelve pack with your buddies. Getting alcohol is even easier, with all the fishermen, tourists, and unlocked refrigerators. Because of the nature of Jamestown businesses, a lot of teenagers work with older people. Hey, that's how we used to get it.

It took a good scare from a good police officer who is now involved in the rec department to set me on the straight and narrow.

Experimentation is a part of growing up—until someone gets hurt. I lost at least three friends in high school to drunk driving. I will never see them again because of alcohol.

Okay, there is the back-story... now let me say this.

Three people given the honor of having the safety of our loved ones placed in their hands rewarded the town of Jamestown by getting drunk on the job. This wasn't a couple kids throwing a house party while their parents were away. This wasn't a couple of kids sneaking beers on the beach. These were

lifeguards, who besides drinking, left their posts, left the beach all together and if risking the swimmers lives wasn't enough, these teens hit the trifecta by getting behind the wheel of a car.

So I have to disagree that there are not laws for what happened at the beach. I'm sure Bill Piva or Chief Tighe will correct me if I'm wrong here, but off the top of my head they are 1. public intoxication; 2. reckless endangerment; 3. driving under the influence and 4. outright stupidity.

Those kids drank. They drove. They have to deal with the ramifications of their actions. That's what Jamestown taught me anyway.

Christopher L. Smyth II
Louisville, KY

Community benefits from golf course input

I found the Aug. 14 edition of the Press to be characteristically cogent and informative. I also found that a number of the articles indirectly elucidated aspects of the recent contentiousness over the management of the Jamestown Golf Course.

The most salient theme of the Aug. 14 edition was community involvement and input, whether it be the Skatefest '08, village zoning, the rules of the road for cyclists and drivers, or ideas about how to address underage drinking.

The emphasis on and, really, celebration of community spirit reminded me of Mr. Plowden's main point: the golf course issue is not about trees and views, but community. Why shouldn't an island of involved residents have more of a say about the management of one of its most splendid features? The

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