

# Island Opinion

## • EDITORIAL •

### Kids' Corner highlights island students' efforts

We are excited about a new feature that we are introducing in the Jamestown Press this week. The "Kids' Corner," which you will find on page 12 of this issue, is a showcase of student works from the Jamestown School.

The "Kids' Corner" will appear in the Press once a month during the school year. Teachers will determine what will be published. We'd like to make special mention of the advertisers who make the "Kids' Corner" possible through their sponsorship.

We think "Kids' Corner" is a great way to increase the community's awareness of what's happening at the Jamestown School.

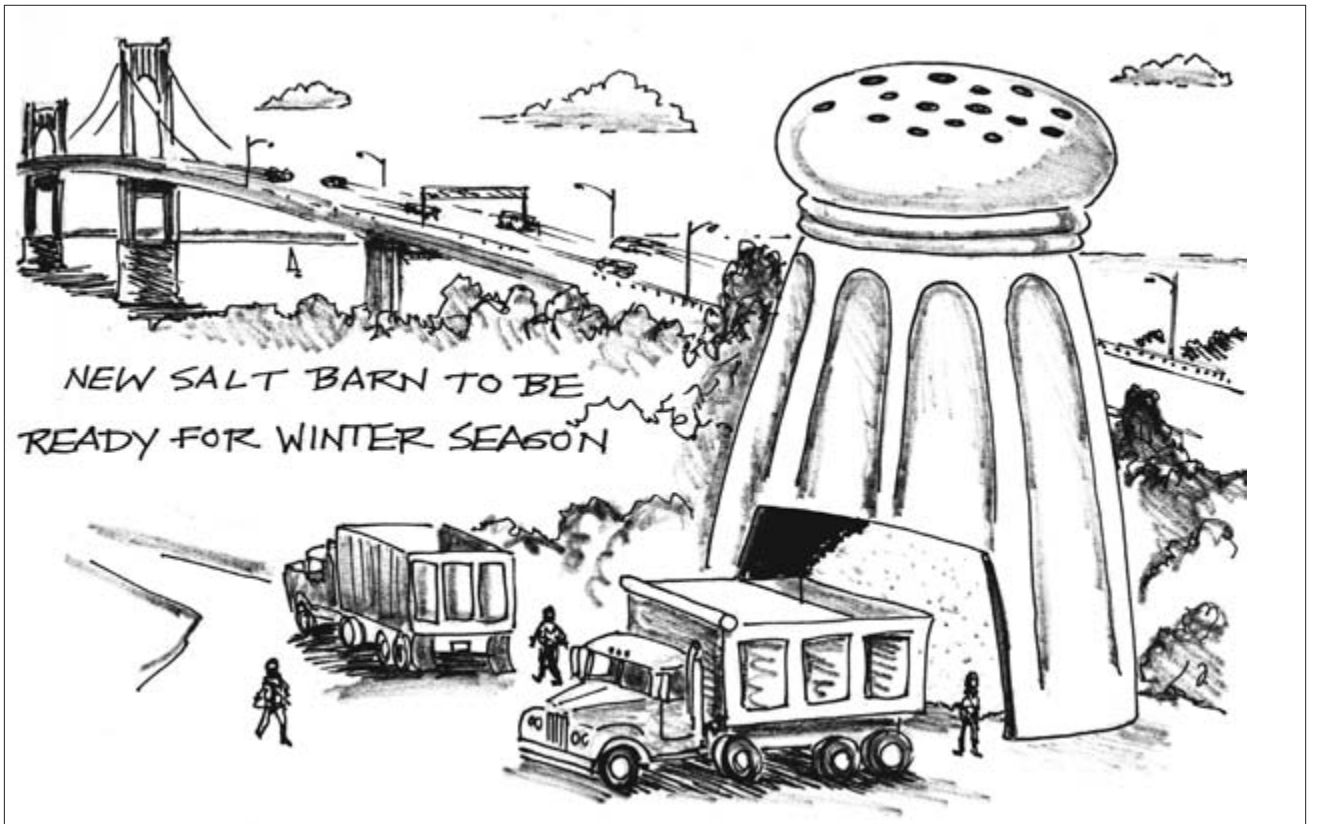
We are always looking for ways to improve the Press. If you have idea for what you would like to see in the newspaper, let me know by e-mailing [jeff@jamestownpress.com](mailto:jeff@jamestownpress.com). We look forward to hearing from our readers.

— Jeff McDonough



#### Harvest time

Johnny Perrotti helps harvest grapes at the Jamestown Community Farm.



### Annual bike race coming Monday

The 33rd Annual Jamestown Classic is just a few short days away and the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce want you to know that Narragansett Avenue is open for business.

Even though we are expecting about 500 riders this year, we hope that the planning we've done and the changes we made will make for a less stressful event for you and our local merchants.

With a little patience and caution, there should be little disruption in your travel to Narragansett Avenue and around the island. We should be wrapped up by 2 p.m. and life will return to normal.

This should be an exciting day of racing and a great opportunity to show

## • LETTERS •

off our island. Come out and cheer on the riders! The Rotary Club extends a big "thank you" to the community for your support with this, our premier fundraising event.

**Mike Schnack &  
David Reardon**  
Jamestown Classic,  
Race Coordinators

### Adopted cat dies after shooting

Last summer, I noticed a young black cat in our yard every now and again. He was hanging around the chicken coop, and we developed a simple relationship in which I would yell, and he would bolt into the woods. As the weather turned cooler, we

lost several chickens to coyotes, raccoons, and a hawk, and I felt both angry and protective, but I didn't see the cat again.

Then, just after Thanksgiving, I found him curled up in a pile of straw in the chicken yard, sleeping. The chickens were undisturbed, but we baited a big Hav-a-hart trap with leftover turkey had soon had a captive cat on the dining room table, hissing vehemently whenever we came near. Inexplicably, we decided to open the trap and see what would happen... that was when the Cat Fairy must have waved her Wand of Transformation, because the freed feline jumped onto the floor, flipped upside down, and began batting the air

with his paws and purring. So much for our feral cat theory.

To our dog's utter disgust, we gave the cat a can of tuna and let him stay overnight; he thought it would be nice to sleep with the dog, but she begged to differ, so he settled into a basket with a pillow in it. The next morning, I let him out and assumed that was the end of it, but that evening a strange squeaking sound proved to be the cat scratching on the window to be let in. Apparently, it was time to buy cat food... as well as to put an ad in the paper, since this was clearly a superior-quality cat who belonged to someone. He was polite, never scratched the furniture, got along with our dog, and knew how to use a litter box, although he preferred to answer the call of nature outdoors.

See "Letters" on page 10

The news of 10 and 15 years ago is from the Jamestown Press. The news of 100 years ago came from the collection of the Newport Historical Society.

#### 100 years ago

**From the Newport Daily News, October 6, 1908**

The voting lists for the fall election, with 247 names thereon, have been posted for the fall election.

**From the Newport Daily News, October 7, 1908**

Mr. Glass Littlefield and Mr. George Peckham are making arrangements for the first dance of the winter season.

A heavy sea is running at Beavertail today, evidently coming from some storm off shore, as there has been no local disturbance with enough wind to cause it.

From the Newport Daily News, October 8, 1908

The telephone central in the Gardner House has closed for the season and local calls have to go through the Newport office. With the changing of the connection the telephone numbers are changed, and for a few days "information" will be kept busy straightening out the tangles.

#### 75 years ago

**From the Newport Daily News, October 9, 1933**

Plans for the \$1,500,000 bridge to connect Jamestown and Saunterstown were furthered Monday evening at a meeting of the Jamestown town council when a committee of three was appointed to examine the project carefully, and if feasible, to lay it before the Rhode Island advisory committee of the NRA.

**From the Newport Daily News, October 12, 1933**

A meeting was held at Maplewood Wednesday af-



## This week in Island history

Compiled by Sue Maden

### Week of October 9

ternoon for the purpose of forming a Current Events club, Mrs. William P. Bates was elected temporary chairman.

#### 50 years ago

**From the Newport Daily News, October 10, 1958**

The Jamestown Town Council last night accepted the bid of Lawson and Carr of Jamestown of \$1,934 for a new Town Hall heating system. This was the lowest bid received.

#### 25 years ago

**From the Newport Daily News, October 6, 1983**

About 300 acres of Jamestown land is set to be named as an archeological district on the National Register, but the impact for property owners should be minimal. About 40 Jamestown residents heard explanations concerning the property's proposed designation at an informational meeting.

**From the Newport Daily News, October 7, 1983**

State highway officials say they hope to commit more than \$150 million over the next fiscal year to highway and bridge improvements, including a \$68 million expenditure for a new Jamestown Bridge.

#### 15 years ago

**From the Jamestown Press, October 7, 1993**

The water level at North Pond reservoir has dropped two inches since last Thursday, and despite two-tenths of an inch of rain, the pond's surface area is noticeably reduced. "If the (National) Guard was not delivering water, we'd have only two weeks (supply) left," Town Administrator Frances Shocket said Tuesday.

Two attorneys fielded legal questions last week over offering school choice to the parents of the Jamestown high school students during a public workshop on the issue at Melrose School.

Opponents of the cross-island highway are set today to file a brief in the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals summarizing their arguments against a federal judge's August decision that gave the state's road project a go ahead.

#### 10 years ago

**From the Jamestown Press, October 8, 1998**

Before they even come up with a recommendation, the town appointed Highway Garage Committee is under attack, and a growing number of north end residents are stepping forward to protest two proposed locations, as well as the proposed size of the new public works "barn."

Members of the Quonset Point Davisville Liaison Committee presented the positive and negative aspects to the proposed container port to an audience made up of the Town Council and residents who clearly saw it as having only a negative impact on the quality of life in Jamestown.