



# JAMESTOWN PRESS

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## Town workshop focuses on old highway barn use

Three options discussed for Ft. Wetherill site

By Sam Bari

The Town Council held a special work session on Monday night to consider the fate of the deteriorating highway barn at Fort Wetherill. The meeting was open to the public and recommendations and suggestions for the future of the building and waterfront property were heard and considered by the council.

The fundamental choices were to:

- Subdivide the property and sell the highway barn portion to the

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management whose offices are in three buildings at the south end of the town-owned parcel. That would leave the north end available for development.

- Renovate the 5,400-square-foot building and use it as a revenue generating facility for the town and keep the entire property as a town asset.

- Subdivide the property and sell the parcel north of the highway barn as a prime piece of waterfront real estate, and sell or lease the building

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## Mary Wright receives outstanding teacher award

By Eileen M. Daly

Longtime Jamestown resident Mary Schachtel Wright has been selected to receive this year's New England Conference on Gifted and Talented (NECGT) 2008 Award, which goes to an outstanding teacher for the gifted from Rhode Island.

Wright has been teaching for 38 years and has dedicated her career to recognizing and educating talented and gifted children wherever they may be. "Recognizing and educating talented children is a passion of mine," Wright said. "These are the children who someday might find a cure for cancer or mental illness, but may do poorly in science class. They are the Monets, the Van Goghs, the Leon-

ard Bernsteins, the Yo Yo Mas, the Albert Einsteins of the future, but sadly enough their gifts often are unrecognized. If we are to enable these children to soar, we must encourage them, listen to them, let them express themselves, and not discourage them by over-structuring their learning and forcing them to sit through classes where the work is not commensurate with their abilities."

Wright currently teaches Language Arts and History to fifth grade students at Rocky Hill School in East Greenwich. She is careful to point out that she teaches in a regular classroom and that gifted and talented children can

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### Gone fishing

Tom Munro, 16, had a little help from Robb Roach's dog Rocky while fishing at East Ferry. There is no word on whether the dog helped or hindered the effort.

Photo by Robb Roach



### Heavy lifting

Victor Bell of Environmental Packaging International recently gave away the house behind his Narragansett Avenue office. Here, workers from Aquidneck Building Movers and Riggers put the house on rails to prepare for its Nov. 14 move date. The house will be relocated just nine houses away on Clinton Avenue.

Photo by Adrienne Downing

## School Committee questions the drop in school lunch sales

By Eileen M. Daly

The School Committee considered the possible reasons behind a significant drop in the meal sales at the Lawn and Melrose Avenue Schools during their Oct. 16 meeting.

One of the potential reasons considered by the committee concerned the appeal of the food choices for the students. Everyone agreed that the fruit and produce are of very high quality, but the new emphasis on healthy entrées seems not to be resonating with the students. A representative from Lawn Avenue School reported that fewer kids are buying lunch and that the children have been complaining about

the food choices. Melrose Avenue School Principal Carole Melucci reported that children are not complaining at Melrose Avenue, but they are not buying as much as they had been previously. School panel Vice-chairwoman Julie Kallfelz suggested that a discussion be held with the food vendor and also suggested that students should express their concerns directly to the chef whenever possible.

B.J. Whitehouse, of the school board, strongly recommended that the principals of the two schools encourage the children to put their concerns into writing, as he felt that

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