

Island Opinion

• EDITORIAL •

Vote on Tuesday for the candidates of your choice

Tuesday, Nov. 4, is election day. We will have the opportunity to vote for candidates who are running for federal and state offices. You should plan to get to the polls early on Tuesday as a large voter turnout is anticipated.

Unless you've been comatose for the past year, you have probably heard plenty about the race for president of the United States of America. In fact, presidential politics and the national economy dominate our news these days.

Barack Obama and Joe Biden are the Democratic nominees for president and vice president, respectively. On the Republican ticket, John McCain is running for president with Sarah Palin as vice president. There are also five sets of third-party candidates on the Rhode Island ballot, but I don't believe anyone is taking their candidacies seriously.

There does not appear to be any doubt that Obama and Biden will handily sweep Rhode Island and win the Ocean State's four electoral votes. Eight years of a GOP administration has left our country with two wars we cannot win, an economy in a downward spiral, rising unemployment and inflation, a broken healthcare system, and a social security program that will soon run out of money.

I know my Republican friends will disagree with me, but I believe our country needs a new direction and Obama appears to be the best choice for our national leadership in these troubled times.

Rhode Island voters will also elect a U.S. Senator on Tuesday. Jamestown resident Jack Reed, a Democratic incumbent, deserves our vote. Reed has assumed a strong leadership role in the Senate, where he has already served two terms. We've heard little from his opponent, Republican Robert Tingle.

Democratic incumbent Patrick Kennedy is the obvious selection for our Congressional representative from District 1. Kennedy has proven that he is able to deliver sound constituency service over the years. His opponents — Republican Jonathan Scott and Independent Kenneth Capalbo — have been quiet.

Two islanders are running for the Statehouse in this election. Republican Donna Perry of Jamestown is challenging incumbent Democrat Teresa Paiva Weed in the race for the Senate. Democrat Deb Ruggiero, also of Jamestown, is bidding to unseat incumbent Republican Bruce Long in District 74 of the House of Representatives.

Both races feature veteran politicians who have done a decent job for Jamestown residents over the years. They are facing stiff challenges from islanders who offer new ideas and a new approach. I believe Jamestown would be well served by any of the candidates running for either state General Assembly offices.

Do your part on Tuesday. Go to the polls and vote.

— Jeff McDonough

Local election results will be posted on-line Tuesday night. Visit www.JamestownPress.com after the polls close Tuesday evening for news about how Jamestown voted! Results from the Jamestown polling places should be posted by about 11 p.m.



MELROSE AVE. SCHOOL FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION
(M.A.S.F.T.A.)

Many helped with annual 'jog'

The 20th Annual Jamestown Jack O' Lantern Jog 5K Road Race was held this past Sunday. I would like to thank this year's sponsors: World Trophies, Crystal Springs Water Co., Runner's World Magazine, Spinnaker's Café, the Jamestown Police Benevolent Association, the Jamestown Fire Department, the Junior Women's Club of Jamestown and the Jamestown Press. I would also like to thank all the local businesses that made donations for our free raffle: Secret Garden, Central Garage, McQuade's Market, Chopmist Charlie's, Conanicut Marine Services, Ken's Barber Shop, Trattoria Simpatico, House of Pizza, East Ferry Deli, Cathryn Jamieson Sa-

lon, The Bay Voyage Inn, The Oyster Bar & Grille, Rum Runner Shipping Co., Tricia's Tropi-Grille, New England Runner Magazine and Slice of Heaven. Also, thank you to Harry Chase of Hodgkiss Farm for donating the pumpkins.

I would also like to thank everyone who helped out the day of the race, the Jamestown Police Department and Jamestown Emergency Medical Services, all of my fellow employees at the Recreation Department, Bill Piva, Andrea Master-son, Ronnie Parfitt, Andrew Rushton, Nate 'Nitro' Nordstrom, Rob Goode, Bonnie Jamison, Victoria Ryng, Phillip Ryng, Jack Romano,

and Morgan Lopes. Thanks again to everyone who helped make this year's Jog a huge success.

All proceeds from the Jack O'Lantern Jog will be used for the Jamestown Recreation Scholarship Fund.

Jill Goldstein
Program Supervisor
Jamestown Parks & Recreation.

Say thanks to island volunteers

We would like to thank each and every volunteer involved with the Jamestown Fire Department and the Jamestown Emergency Medical Service (JEMS).

Let no one take our volunteers for granted. These people go through rigorous training to qualify for their jobs. That training is required to be ongoing for many positions. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven a days a week to help Jamestown residents when there are fires, car accidents and other emergencies. They offer consistent, quality service to anyone who needs it. They serve because they are inspired and dedicated—nothing more.

Many of these volunteers assist each year with Jamestown events including holiday activities, the Penguin Plunge, the Rotary Bike Race, art fairs, Fools Rules Regatta and the Memorial Day Parade and educational programs at our local

See "Letters" on page 15

• LETTERS •



This week in Island history

Compiled by Sue Maden

Week of October 30

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 27, 1908

The ferryboats are making their trips to Newport round the south end of Goat island, the cause of the change being so as not to interfere with the laying of a pipe from Newport to the Torpedo Station, which is underway today.

From the Newport Daily News, October 28, 1908

Stray shots from the guns at Fort Adams came near doing serious damage at Beavertail yesterday, besides endangering the lives of the light keepers and fishermen about the shore. Three shots fired at the moving target towed by Steamer Robert Swartwout hit or passed close over the point.

From the Newport Daily News, October 29, 1908

Codfish are striking in great numbers and are being caught by tautog fishermen. The record catch for the fall was that yesterday by Mr. Ralph Hull, a 19-pounder, which he secured off James's ledge.

75 years ago

From the Newport Daily News, October 27, 1933

(At the town council meeting) a group of boys and girls, requesting a street to be closed to traffic, for the use of roller skating, were granted the use of Green lane from Union street to Brook street to be used from 3 to 10 p.m. ... Voted that Commissioner Chauncey Shackford be appointed a committee to confer with the town's attorney in regard to prohibiting the sale of indiscreet magazines.

50 years ago

From the Newport Daily News, October 27, 1958

The Jamestown Protective Assn. Inc., has sent members of the Jamestown Town Council a pamphlet it prepared entitled "Danger to Narragansett Bay Area from Refineries," Capt. Francis S. Craver, USN (ret), Assn. secretary, said today.

From the Newport Daily News, October 28, 1958

The (Town) Council was notified that the town dump rental had been increased from \$150 to \$200 a year. It was voted to pay Frank Pimental, owner, \$150 when the rental is due and to refer the extra \$50 to next year's budget committee ... The Council voted to keep a guard on duty at Beavertail through Sunday night. It will notify the Navy, that if it will keep Beavertail open, the town would police it and the highway department would keep it clean.

25 years ago

From the Newport Daily News, October 25, 1983

The Town Council Monday night adopted a resolution supporting the state Department of Transportation \$45 million bond issue set to go before the voters statewide Nov. 8. If approved, \$18 million of the

See "Island History" on page 10