



Jonathan Stone is the new executive director of Save the Bay.

## Stone

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ferent parties involved.”

“The ecology of the bay is multi-faceted,” Stone said. “The major problem is nutrient overload caused by excessive amounts of nitrogen. Clearly, the source of the excess nitrogen needs to be eliminated, but it is a very complicated issue.” There are a number of different sources involved in the excess amounts of nitrogen, Stone said. These include: antiquated septic systems, land use practices and personal behaviors.

“People don’t always know how their behavior affects the environment,” Stone said, emphasizing the importance of education. He pointed to the recent movement toward organic and locally grown food sources as an example of how effective education can be. “The recent trend toward buying more locally grown and organic foods has had a tremendous impact on agriculture in Rhode Island and in the nation,” Stone said. Personal behavior can and does have a major impact, he said.

Stone said his immediate goal for Save The Bay is to expand awareness and program participation throughout the region. He will focus on growing membership and expanding the organization. “There are many different ways

that people can get involved with Save The Bay,” Stone said, “anything from time contributions to advocacy (writing letters to state representatives and congressmen for instance) to participating in the swim.”

Stone said Save The Bay has enjoyed tremendous support from local politicians and emphasized the importance of such support. Stone also placed significant emphasis on the importance of community support. “The clout of the organization is really rooted in the community we serve,” he said.

Anyone who is interested in supporting Save The Bay should visit the website, Stone said. “There are lots of opportunities to support Save The Bay. If you visit the website, you’ll find a list of various ways to become involved. Or just write us a letter and tell us what you’re interested in doing,” Stone said.

Stone said that he is looking forward to getting to know more people who are supportive of the organization both here in Jamestown and throughout the state. “It is not lost on me that the people who live on the coast often have livelihoods that depend on the quality of this tremendous resource,” Stone said.

If you are interested in learning more about Save The Bay or in volunteering or supporting the organization, visit the website at [www.savebay.org](http://www.savebay.org).

The query about Westall’s brought replies from ice cream lovers and more stories about the telephone company.

Shirley Hull said that Westall’s was where Chopmist Charlie’s is today. She related that when you went to the barber shop in the Hunt Block to get your Dutch haircut, the barber, Pete, would give you a nickle to buy ice cream at Westall’s. She added that there was a small building where fireworks were sold between Westall’s and the old post office.

Lenore MacLeish, who now lives in Philadelphia and grew up on the island and still thinks of it as home, wrote, “In my childhood days in Jamestown, Westall’s Ice Cream Shop was on the north side of Narragansett Avenue between the telephone office and the post office. One day my mother picked up the phone and gave the operator the number of Wharton Shipyard. The operator said, ‘Mrs. MacLeish, are you trying to call Charlie Wharton?’ My mother said she was and the operator said, ‘He just drove up the street towards the post office. When I see him driving back, I’ll give him enough time to get to the shipyard and then I’ll put you through.’ The post office was where it is now located at what we used to call Four Corners back in the day, and it was, obviously, before dial phones.”

Patty Vandal remembers Westall’s and wrote, “Another telephone operator’s story. My mother called my father at his office at school. The operator said, ‘He’s not there, Mrs. Miller. I just saw him drive by.’ You’ve got to love a small town.”

Jim Pemantell wrote, “Westall’s was where Chopmist Charlie’s is and they also had a store in North Kingstown that was in the area of where the parking lot is south of Heffie’s. Both had the best ice cream around. And, next door to Westall’s in Jamestown there was a very small building that sold, believe it or not, fireworks.”

Laurie Sheehan said, “I can remember using the phone after school and the operator saying, ‘Does your mom know you’re on the phone, because I think she is



By Jim Munro

still at work.’ Not much you could get away with back then.”

And, from Mary Webster, “Westall’s ice cream was in the building now called Chopmist Charlie’s. It was a one-story building then. It also was the location of the Islander restaurant. When it was Westall’s, I remember that there was a large square grate in the floor in front of the counter with the cash register. The grate served two purposes: it dispersed hot air from the furnace, and, it caught change that people dropped, but could not retrieve. I suspect it was taken up once a year for cleaning at the end of the heating season and for collecting the loose change.

“The former location of Baker’s Pharmacy (now home of The Chemical Company) was a small grocery store owned by Mr. Pinto and his two sons. The Pinto store had previously been located on the corner of Green Lane and Narragansett across from the Narragansett Cafe. This store location was later occupied by Mr. Santos who moved his grocery store from Southwest Avenue. Mr. Pinto had tubs of penny candy by the door below the cash register. One would stock up on candy there and take it across the street to the Bomes Theater where admission to the Saturday matinee double feature was 25 cents.”

Thanks, guys!

There was also a Westall’s on The Point in Newport. They were all owned by Jamestown Charles Westall and going to one of his places was a special treat. My favorite was orange ice.

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Mary Webster asks, “Where was Mr. Barker’s homemade sausage sold?”

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.....I’ll tell the world I love you....

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Congratulations to islander John Stanford and former Jamestown Mark Munro on the discovery of the 125-foot sailing bark Trajan that sank outside Newport Harbor in 1867. The two wreck divers and maritime historians found the remains of the ship in 30 feet of water.

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Several Jamestowners were named to Southern Rhode Island Newspapers Fall Sports All-Area Teams: Ryan Morris and Brian McDevitt, football; Meghan Greene, Victoria Dolce and Hannah Farrelly, field hockey; and Julie Maguire who was named field hockey coach of the year, all at North Kingstown High School.

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Well, it was a long time coming, but the Ocean State is finally number one nationally. The New York Times reports that in a survey of state house reporters nationwide, Rhode Island was voted tops in government corruption followed by Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Delaware.

But, as the paper points out, there are other means of measuring wrong doing. In a Department of Justice tally covering the last decade, our state drops to 49th in the number of guilty officials. Leading the list is Florida but there is no adjustment in the study for population so the larger states will pile up the numbers.

In a survey of convictions per million residents per year, Rhode Island rates 34th. The District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands top this one.

So, after all is said and done, our number one ranking is pretty shaky. But, let’s enjoy the limelight, number one is number one and it’s better than always being compared in size to some other state’s county.

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A Snapple cap moment: The first sport to be filmed was boxing in 1894.

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Stay true!

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Call in your stuff for this column to 423-0383 or 829-2760 or e-mail us at [jtnwalrus@hotmail.com](mailto:jtnwalrus@hotmail.com).

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## “Joyeux Noel” is first in winter film series

The Friends of the Jamestown Library will launch this year’s 2009 Foreign Film Series on Thursday, Jan. 15, at 6:30 p.m. with a showing of the 2005 French film, “Joyeux Noel.”

Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the film will begin promptly at 7 p.m.

This film is based on the true stories of the 1914 World War I Christmas ceasefires along the Western front.

All films are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the library at 423-7280.

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