



# JAMESTOWN PRESS

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## Moonlight glory

The moon glowed brightly over the Newport Bridge on Saturday night. Several cars had stopped along East Shore Road so people could take photos of the rising moon.

Photo by Andrea von Hohenleiten

## Town Council considers sale of public land in Shores area

### Debate over benefits to town

By Tyler Will

During a discussion about the Jamestown Shores tax lots and the difficulty of monitoring land-use covenants, the Jamestown Town Council, at its meeting Monday night, shared opinions on the benefits of public land sale, with many saying land sales should be decided on a case-by-case basis.

"I do not want to turn it into the Oklahoma land rush," said Councilor Bill Kelly.

cilor Bill Kelly.

The limited amount of potential funds that Jamestown would see from the tax sales is one reason councilors opposed the land sale.

Though Council President Julio DiGiando said little during the discussion, after the meeting, he said a land sale was "useless," because such a sale would offer little benefit to the town.

"We should not do it," he said.

But proponents said the land sale could bring in revenue, which

See "Public Land" on page 9

## New group raises concerns about local political issues

By Sam Emrich

A group of Jamestowners wants to organize so they can provide a new voice for residents who are concerned about local and national issues.

The group held its first meeting on June 10 at the Jamestown Senior Center. Formerly called the Republican and Independent Voters Coalition, the group discussed plans to change its name to avoid political party affiliation. As a coalition for concerned citizens and taxpayers of Jamestown, attendee Jill Meyer described the organization more "like a watchdog group."

The meeting was attended by about 20 Jamestowners, who shared ideas and brainstormed. They discussed local, state and national issues. They talked about taxes on the island and the passage of new White House policies. The nearly two-hour-long meeting consisted of open public discussion. Volunteer speakers voiced their concerns and offered solutions to the problems addressed.

Upcoming elections to the school committee, town council and renegotiation of the police contract were brought up. The group wants to build a strong organization.

See "Taxpayers" on page 10

## Harbor Commission moves forward with Fort Getty projects

By Erin Tiernan

The Harbor Management Commission voted to begin the permitting process for maintenance and expansion of the existing Fort Getty boat ramp at its meeting on June 10, which will make the ramp useable to boaters during a larger range of the tides.

Commissioners said it will be an arduous process to receive approval for all proposed improvements to the ramp since it is located in Type 1 conservation waters and requires approval from the Coastal Resources Management Council. They decided to split the project and approach the maintenance plans separately from new construction.

"In the next step (to gain approval), we need to limit the scope

of the project to what can legitimately be called maintenance and improvements (by CRMC standards)," said Chairman Michael de Angeli.

Since the existing ramp was built prior to the formation of CRMC, the commissioners expect the maintenance permitting process to be approved quickly by CRMC under an exception allowing repairs to preexisting structures.

Proposed improvements will fit into the present footprint, but will require a small amount of dredging to install the recast concrete replacements.

The second permit for the addition of a small 60-to 80-foot single

See "Harbor" on page 13



## Supreme Court nominee

Senator Jack Reed met last week with President Obama's Supreme Court nominee, Judge Sonia Sotomayor. "Judge Sotomayor is a very impressive nominee. She is a superb jurist with a great deal of experience and an amazing success story. I look forward to her confirmation hearings in July and to examining her record more closely," Sen Reed said.

Photo by Jeff McEvoy, U.S. Senate