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Council shoots down 'coyote ordinance'

By Phil Zahodiakin

The final meeting of the current Town Council featured decisive votes on two front-burner issues: An ordinance to curb wild-animal feeding and a proposal to park the Jamestown school bus fleet at a north end site.

The Nov. 2 meeting also included a "public comment" from a sitting council member.

The remarks were delivered by Bob Sutton, who stepped from the council stage to use the public microphone to address an anonymous election-eve flyer which, like those placed in mailboxes before previous elections, contained "inaccurate and sometimes slanderous statements," he said.

In this case, the flyer – with the title, "Tax Hike Warning" – asserts

that council candidates "Bob Sutton and Mike Smith have both publicly disclosed they want to have all non users pay for the water and sewer system fiasco."

"There's no return address or time for response," Sutton said, adding that the community should reject this as an unacceptable way to run an election. "I think that, before the next election, we have to agree that this is unproductive. There may be people out there who won't try to run for council because they don't want to put themselves through this sort of thing."

In other business, numerous public comments offered in response to the proposed "coyote ordinance" were generally just as unequivocal. The draft ordinance was intended to dissuade residents from

feeding wild animals through the imposition of \$200 to \$500 fines. Comments in opposition included, among others:

- "I have a totally fenced-in yard and I want the opportunity to throw handfuls of bread and peanuts."

- "Will I be fined if raccoons eat the beans I grow in my garden?"

- "There are coyotes where I live in West Reach and neither my cat, nor I, like them, but a better path forward would be education."

- "The ordinance is draconian and would be cumbersome to enforce."

- "I have a neighbor who refers to her backyard as a 'raccoon day-care center,' but I don't want to be the one who 'drops a dime' on her."

See "Council" on page 10

Swine flu confirmed in both Jamestown schools

By Dara Chadwick

It's official: The H1N1 virus has arrived in Jamestown.

Parents were alerted last week via telephone and email that three cases of H1N1 virus have been confirmed in Melrose School students, while two cases of H1N1 virus have been confirmed in Lawn Avenue School students.

On Monday, School Nurse Renie Sullivan said that 19 percent of Lawn students were absent, as were 20 percent of Melrose students.

"The percentages are actually down today," said Sullivan, adding that the figure did not take into account students who were absent because of vacation — or those whose parents were simply keeping them home.

A voluntary vaccination clinic was scheduled for Melrose School students last Tuesday evening. Students under the age of 10 will receive a second booster shot in January, according to the school's "Warrior" newsletter.

A H1N1 vaccination clinic has been scheduled for Lawn students on Monday, Nov. 16, during the school day. Consent forms should be turned in to the front office by Friday, Nov. 13.

Although the school vaccination clinics are completely voluntary, Sullivan warned that students who do not get the vaccine at school may have to wait until the vaccine becomes available at their doctor's office, most likely in January.

"If you don't get it here in

school, they're probably not going to have it in the pediatrician's office," she said.

But H1N1 isn't the only threat to student and staff health that the schools are dealing with right now, according to Sullivan.

"We're also seeing strep, bronchitis, pneumonia and stomach virus," she said.

Hand-washing remains a vital component in stopping the spread of germs, and rest and fluids are a major part of the treatment, Sullivan said. She asked parents to call in with symptoms when their child is going to be absent so that she can better monitor the spread of illness.

For more information about H1N1 and seasonal flu, visit www.flu.gov.

Island veteran still grateful for opportunity to serve

By Stacy Jones

At the age of 17, just six months before graduating from high school, Bruce Livingston joined the Marines. It was 1944, WWII was winding down and Livingston had decided to give four years of his life to the military and to his country.

But, he wasn't going to do it halfway.

Livingston's four-year stint stretched to 30 years of active duty.

A snapshot of his military career includes scouting out Japanese soldiers and searching for American POWs in Chi-Chi Jima. He also provided security for the coal mines and railroads in Peking, China, cleaned up an ammonia nitrate explosion at the Naval Ammunition Depot in Earl, N.J. and taught marksmanship at Parris Island, S.C. Livingston also



Col. Bruce Livingston

studied at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. and at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He served as an advisor to the South Korean military during the Korean War commanded Marines aboard a cruiser in the Mediterranean and

studied at the Naval War College in Newport. He served as executive officer of the command center for the third Marine Amphibian Force during the Vietnam War, served as contingency plans officer for the Allied Forces Northern Europe in Oslo, Norway, served as deputy director of training and education at Marine headquarters in Washington, D.C. and rose from private to colonel.

But another important milestone in Livingston's military journey is left unsaid: He was wounded in combat in Korea.

Livingston, a 30-year Jamestown resident, brushes the incident aside, acknowledging the injury, but unwilling to have his military career defined by it. In his eyes, and in his heart, his military career was a gift and an honor — an

See "Livingston" on page 9

Winning Candidates



Robert D. Bowen



William H. Murphy



Michael F. Schnack



Michael G. White



Ellen Winsor



Julia Held



Catherine L. Kaiser



Dana K. Long

Election brings major change to Town Council

By Phil Zahodiakin

The Nov. 3 election brought about a major change in Jamestown government: Four new Town Council members who will serve three years rather than the usual two. One of the incumbent candidates, Democrat Michael White, drew the most votes among the seven hopefuls; the other incumbent seeking re-election, Democrat Bob Sutton, was defeated in a sixth-place finish.

"I wish everyone the best of luck," Sutton said. "It's a tough job."

The other winners in the council race were Democrat Michael Schnack, Democrat William Murphy, Democrat Robert Bowen and Independ-

dent Ellen Winsor.

The other losing candidate was Independent Michael Smith.

Among the School Committee candidates, Democrat Catherine Kaiser, the incumbent School Committee chair, led a pack of four candidates running for three seats. Incumbent Democrat Julia Held was second and newcomer Democrat Dana Long was third.

Independent Sav Rebecchi, coming in fourth, was defeated.

A total of 1,595 of Jamestown's 4,642 registered voters turned out to vote.

Ballot Question 1, which proposed to amend the Town

See "Votes" on page 12

How Jamestown Voted

Straight ticket

Democrat 71

Town Moderator

James A. Donnelly – D 1,069

School Committee

Catherine L. Kaiser – D 1,150

Julie Held – D 1,033

Dana Long – D 979

Sav Rebecchi – I 707

Town Council

Michael G. White – D 1,078

Michael F. Schnack – D 1,042

William H. Murphy – D 1,010

Robert Bowen – D 1,003

Ellen Winsor – I 945

Robert W. Sutton Jr. – D 812

Michael F. Smith – I 656