

# Island Opinion

## • EDITORIAL •

### A call to action from Save the Bay

Save the Bay Executive Director Jonathan Stone this week sounded the alarm over the proposed Hess LNG project.

In an e-mail this week, Stone reported that the U.S. District Court of Appeals in Boston has ruled that Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Management Council has no standing in the permitting of the proposed Hess LNG project.

Stone said this news follows the U.S. Coast Guard's approval of the Hess safety and navigation plan this past summer.

Save the Bay has argued that Hess should not be allowed to build a LNG terminal in Mt. Hope Bay for three reasons:

- The environmental impacts of the project are significant and destructive.
- The project will disrupt recreation, commerce and travel in Rhode Island, jeopardizing this state's struggling economy. Jamestown will be affected by the tanker traffic, which has been estimated at 140 ships per month.
- Alternative LNG facilities serving New England will soon be online.

Stone said Save the Bay is mounting a campaign to fight the LNG project. He asks that Rhode Islanders consider joining Save the Bay or making a donation to help with the battle, which will be costly.

"We cannot allow the final question of the Hess LNG saga to be 'Why didn't we stop this?'" Stone wrote.

Jamestown will bear the brunt of the LNG ship traffic. Each time a LNG tanker sails up East Passage, all activity on Narragansett Bay will come to a halt. Traffic will be stopped on the Newport Pell Bridge. Recreational boaters will have to clear the bay. Sailing regattas will be interrupted. This will happen 140 times a year.

There is no doubt that the proposed LNG terminal in Mount Hope Bay will have a serious impact on our daily lives here in Jamestown.

Is that what we want? The new Town Council should reaffirm its opposition to the proposed LNG project so that the upstate politicians are reminded that islanders do not support the idea.

— Jeff McDonough

OUR MUSIC IS LIKE...



### Anonymous letters have long history

Those who are so appalled by the recent anonymous Jamestown political letter should be reminded that this tactic dates back to the founding of the Republic. The first edition of Thomas Paine's political pamphlet, "Common Sense," was published anonymously. The Federalists and Anti-Federalists series of papers were published under assumed names.

From the time of the invention of the Gutenberg press up through the nineteenth century, publication of anonymous and heavily biased articles was quite common. Fortunately today, thanks to the Internet, the tyranny of the controlled media has ended and we can

all once again have access to all sides of the story.

Robert Gibbs  
Jamestown

### Wind turbines are a 'Trojan horse'

The Wind Turbine Committee's presentation of its study at their recent workshop was received in a respectful manner that was appropriate. However, the conclusion stated in your article of Nov. 12 that there is no opposition to installing a wind turbine in Jamestown should not be made. Few people in Jamestown knew that this presentation was to be made, thereby limiting at-

tendance. The meeting was largely informational and did not serve as a referendum on how Jamestown residents feel about the town installing wind turbines. Certainly, that question was not asked by the committee.

My primary concern about installing wind turbines in Jamestown is aesthetics. These wind turbines rise to a height of up to nearly 400 feet and have turbine blades with a diameter of nearly 300 feet. They have an enormous presence, with a riveting effect on those who view them, particularly on a small island like ours. Nevertheless, there are some who would love to

have many of these all over the island. Gone would be the tranquil views of nature that we have grown to love. These views will be replaced by giant windmills and, in the extreme, Jamestown could become a wind energy farm.

Jamestown is a place where property uses and structures that conflict with our harmonious existence with nature have consistently been rejected by the residents. No high cellular towers, refineries, townhouse clusters, etc. are in place. The result is that we have a town with an excellent quality of life that is well recognized, even on a global scale. High property values reflect this accomplishment. What would cause us to

See "Letters" on page 18

## • LETTERS •

#### 100 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 19, 1909

The stock and farming implements on the Gardner farm, occupied by Frank Corey, are being sold today at public auction. Quite a gathering of out-of-town farmers being attracted to the island by the sale.

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 22, 1909

There was a large gathering Sunday afternoon on the property on Narragansett Avenue, recently acquired by the St. Mark's Church Corporation to witness the consecration of the land and turning of the first sod for the new Catholic Church. The chapel on Clinton Avenue has been in charge of Rev. W. B. Meenan as a branch of St. Mary's parish, Newport. Recently, a separate parish has been formed under the name of St. Mark's and Rev. P. J. Sullivan has been put in charge.

#### 75 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 19, 1934

The Jamestown fire department is planning to sponsor a ping-pong tournament, open to all residents, the first of the series is to begin Thursday evening, Nov. 22, at the engine house.

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Clarke of Southwest avenue left today for St. Petersburg, Florida, where they will spend the winter.

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 20, 1934

Mr. and Mrs. A. Coleman Tefft have leased the Howard Ellis restaurant on Ferry wharf.

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 21, 1934

(At the Parent-Teachers' Association meeting) it was voted that dancing classes be held at the school assembly hall beginning next Tuesday, at 3:30, with Mrs. John Dugan of Newport as instructor.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jones of Jamestown and New



## This week in Island history

Compiled by Sue Maden

### Week of November 19

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.

York have presented the Jamestown Fire department with an electric clock. Edgar Arnold has given his services in installing the clock.

#### 50 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 19, 1959

Members of World War Veterans, Barracks 1557, Jamestown, met last night at Memorial Hall.

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 21, 1959

A total of \$132,000 in Jamestown Bridge bonds will have been retired by Dec. 31. ... The commission last night renewed seven retirement insurance policies for permanent employees. ... The Commission cancelled its insurance policies on 21 button-reflector type signs. ... Sand buckets for use in icy weather have been placed on the bridge, as has been done for the past five years.

#### 25 years ago

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 20, 1984

The Conanicut Island Art Association has canceled its Christmas Eve pageant this year. (The president said

CIAA cannot support the pageant held for the past 10 years on Shoreby Hill Green.)

##### From the Newport Daily News, Nov. 21, 1984

Thanksgiving was celebrated at Jamestown School Tuesday with a play, presented by 39 second graders, and a Thanksgiving feast prepared and cooked by a class of about 20 second graders.

#### 15 years ago

##### From the Jamestown Press, Nov. 17, 1994

Jamestowners can now travel east across the Newport Bridge without having to cross two lanes of traffic to get to a token lane. The new eastbound automatic lane — called lane two and marked "Tokens Only" — opened last Friday at about 4 p.m.

#### 10 years ago

##### From the Jamestown Press, Nov. 18, 1999

A Boston engineering firm that two years ago put the cost of rehabilitating the town's sewer treatment plant at \$3.5 million told the Council Monday night that the cost is now closer to \$4 million. While that is a big price tag, it is still \$1 million less than the \$5 million estimate town officials [got] last month from Weston & Sampson Engineering, Inc. of Warwick. John H. Hannigan, an engineer with Vollmer Associates LLP, who helped design the Taylor Point treatment plant when it was built 25 years ago, said that the plant is structurally sound, but needs some maintenance.

(photo captions) The rifle squad — Donald Richardson, Paul Robertson Sr. and Paul Robertson Jr. — fire off three rounds in memory of those lost in American Battles. Irene Newsham casts a spray of flowers into the bay to remember those veterans who were lost at sea.