

What do you have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving?

Trish O'Brien: Living in Oz.

Kellie Brown: Family and friends.

Andrea von Hohenleiten: All my boys are home.

Alice Dunn: Having made it to Nov. 16 and celebrating another birthday.

Suzanne Bickford: Family and job.

Sandra Paterson: Best opportunity to have turkey.

Eric Bieler: My lovely wife.

Katrina Westall: Family, job and a boyfriend.

Betsy Hamil: My family.

Grandson Tom: A great year of off-shore fishing aboard Stella.

Laura Brown: Just being here.

Paula Noll: My family and the good health of my students at school.

Kathy Brownell called to say last week's poser is "Send in the Clowns" from "A Little Night Music" by Stephen Sondheim



By Jim Munro

and sung by Judy Collins. "It is my very favorite song," she said.

Peter C. Pemantell e-mailed to say the song "just happens to be one of my favorites and is also sung by one of my favorite sing-

ers, Judy Collins." The song was also sung by others, including Frank Sinatra and Barbra Streisand.

"In some secluded rendezvous that overlooks the avenue..."

Kudos to islanders who purchased 499 tubs of Otis cookies from eighth graders raising money for their spring trip to Washington, D.C. Also, Maryann Toppa reported that as of last weekend, some 70 orders for Thanksgiving pies had been placed.

Next on the list of fundraising activities: The class will host an open house at the Teen Center during the tree lighting on Friday, Dec. 5. From 4 to 8 p.m., the students will offer Christmas cookies, brownies and cider for donations for their trip.

It will also be the time for parents to sign up for a special childcare program to be held at the Teen Center from noon to 4 p.m. on Dec. 20. Parents, a teacher and eighth graders will watch your children while you shop, wrap gifts, run errands or just goof off without the kids. Activities for the youngsters will include movies, arts and crafts, and gym time. Sign up early.

A tough one from John A. Murphy: What was the theme song of the radio program aired every evening in the '50s and '60s by DJ Joe Thomas? For die-hard fans: What was Joe's real last name?

We'd give our eye teeth for a big bowl of Westall's orange ice.

Our favorite drive-time radio station, LITE 105, went to all Christmas music on Nov. 16. Goodbye LITE 105, hello B101. HO, HO, HO!

Our mention of "Rat Patrol" in last week's column rang a bell with Matthew Clarke.

"I oddly have a few memories of the show "Rat Patrol." When it originally was on, being the youngest in my family, I was not allowed to watch this show, but my older brothers could. I guess that it was too violent, or perhaps it was on after my bedtime. The second memory involves when "Rat Patrol" was on as a re-run. When I first came to work at

Meredith & Clarke, I lived in North Kingstown. At lunchtime, I would go to my parents' house in Jamestown to have lunch, and I would turn on the TV. It ended up that "Rat Patrol" was on at lunchtime and soon, both me and my dad (Fred) got hooked. I eventually moved to the island, but I do not remember watching Rat Patrol after the move."

Bob Kinder called to say "Rat Patrol" was about American and British troops fighting the Germans in the African desert.

Peter C. Pemantell asks if anyone can tell him the name of the Jamestown highway superintendent who rode around in an old pickup truck during the '50s.

Former islander Phyllis Anderson tells of the sometimes perils of swimming near a ferry slip in the '40s.

"After the West Ferry was no longer in use, the beach there became a popular place. One day, and I don't remember if it was a dare, I climbed up to the 'monkey' of the ferry landing. It looked from there a long way down to the water! I held my nose and jumped into the water towards the beach. I thought I would never see daylight again. Thank goodness I did and when I came out of the water, everyone was talking at once. According to them, I had just missed being killed. The style of bathing suits in those days was one piece, with the skirt part flaring out. The story they gave me was the skirt part of my bathing suit had flared over a large thick wooden pole, which was just beneath the surface. Never again did I try any more dares!"

To think Phyllis, we might never have known you.

Give thanks tomorrow and every day.

If you're thinking of giving someone a rabbit for Christmas, check out this Snapple cap moment: In 1859, 24 rabbits were released in Australia. Within 6 years, the population grew to 2 million.

Be true!

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Early Bird Yard Sale, 7am to 10am, Saturday November 28, 2009. 222 Beacon Avenue, at the intersection of Frigate Street. Awesome holiday decorations, antique furniture and glassware, books, pet boutique items. Sale to benefit the Paws and Claws Pet Fund Animal Shelter, and the newly proposed Jamestown Animal Shelter. Questions or donation, please call Barbara at 354-9200.

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