An open letter from SK residents to Perry Raso

Dear Mr. Raso,

Being from the South County area, you must undoubtedly know the mindset of those of us living near the salt ponds as well as those that regularly visit them throughout the year. The people of this area have a long history of active dedication to the preservation of land and water from indiscriminate and misguided development.

If there was any doubt in your mind, the voices and attendance of so many at recent public meetings, the unanimous vote of the South Kingstown Town Council's Waterfront Advisory Commission in opposition to your proposal, the rare split vote by the RI Marine Fisheries Council (resulting in no recommendation being proffered to the Coastal Resources Management Council), as well as the volumes of thoughtful letters in opposition sent to state decisions-makers, should leave no doubt in your mind that the majority do not support your application to for an additional 3-acre lease in the small secluded cove adjoining the larger pond where your current 7.5-acre commercial operation is located. After much consternation and debate, many concluded that the proposed expansion of the current commercial operation is unnecessarily burdensome on this local community.

We hope that you will appreciate and acknowledge the collective voice of genuine and respectful disapproval of your neighbors and rescind your application for a lease in Segar Cove. Doing so will be taken as your good-faith effort to maintain the strong communal spirit that exists between all those living and prospering in the wonderful shoreline village known as South Kingstown.

Sincerely,
Sabrina Courville
Manny and Jill Fabian
Martin, Ryan, Christine and Brett Foley
Lou and Rosemary James
Pablo and Diane Rodriguez
John, Jen and Mike Salemi
Patricia Steere
Bob and Valerie Stockley
Robert Turgeon
Wayne Woodbury

Economic

By STEVEN E. KIN

Quonset Business Park continues to drive economic growth and job creation in Rhode Island, and the success of Quonset’s 270 commercial tenants is testament to that growth. J. Goodison Co., a service marine and industrial maintenance and repair company recently celebrated an exciting milestone at the growing shipyard on Quonset waterfront.

In 2017, U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration (MARAD) grantees J. Goodison with $63 million in federal funding through the Small Shipyard Program. With this funding, they were able to purchase a wastewater collection and treatment system for the shipyard at Quonset. This new system helps the shipyard to operate in an efficient and environmentally friendly way.

The initial development of the shipyard was the result of a team effort between several public, private and non-profit entities. The shipyard has created a demand for additional shipyard jobs and has benefited the surrounding community in the form of added demand for local services and goods.