

About Town

'Osprey cam' waiting for birds to return

The Conanicut Island Raptor Project announced this week that their osprey cam is up and running at the nest at the Great Creek. The ospreys are expected to arrive at the nest within a week or so.

To access the Web cam, log on to www.conanicutraptors.com.

Contest underway to guess osprey arrival

Bird watchers and fans of the island's ospreys are encouraged to participate in a contest to guess the precise moment when the first osprey will land on the nest at Marsh Meadows.

Sponsored by the Conanicut Island Raptor Project, the Jamestown Press and the Jamestown Education Foundation, the contest asks participants to guess the month, day, hour, minute and second of arrival on an entry slip, which they can submit with a \$1 bill at several different locations.

The camera on the nest will record the exact time of arrival.

The winner will get to choose the location of a new osprey pole and platform and to have a plaque with their name attached to the new nest location. All proceeds from the contest will go to future nesting platforms.

Look for wooden birdhouses for contest entries at Slice of Heaven, McQuade's market, both

school offices, the library, and at Jamestown True Value Hardware. Each birdhouse receptacle has small manila envelopes and entry slips that can be filled out and put in the birdhouse slot.

The winner will be announced on the raptor project Web site at www.conanicutraptors.com and also in the Jamestown Press.

Entry deadline is tomorrow — Friday, March 24.

Girls' softball registration underway

The Jamestown Parks & Recreation Department is accepting Girl's Softball registrations for the upcoming season.

Forms are available at Baker's Pharmacy and will be distributed at the schools. Download forms at www.jamestownri.net/rec/rec.html.

The softball league is for girls in grades 1-9. The registration fee this year is \$30 for one child, \$15 for each additional child, and a family rate of \$50.

Teams in the older age groups will have the opportunity to play against teams from surrounding communities.

Those who want to help or coach should attend a meeting on Wednesday, March 29, at the Community Center. Coaches and volunteers are needed in all age groups.

Registration forms will also be accepted at the Recreation Office on West St. or at the Community Center. The deadline is Monday, April 17, at 3 p.m.

For more information, call 423-7211.

There's lots on tap for TV turn off week

TV Turn-Off Week is now underway through Tuesday, March 28, with events being held at Melrose school and the Jamestown library.

All events are funded by the Friends of the Jamestown Library, the Jamestown PTO, and the Jamestown Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force.

•Friday, March 24, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.: PTO Game Night will be held at the Melrose school multipurpose room. Participants who bring a game night coupon get their first slice of pizza and a drink free. There will be fun for the whole family and children must be accompanied by a supervising adult.

• On Saturday, March 25, from 11 a.m. to noon: Gardening for Children will be held in the library meeting hall. Kids can plant their own mini-garden. All participants, ages 5 and up should bring a clean, empty two-liter soda bottle. Registration is not required.

• Sunday, March 26, from 1 to 3 p.m.: Knitting for all Ages will take place in the children's room of the library. This class is open to all levels of expertise. Participants should bring their own needles and yarn. Registration is not required.

• Monday, March 27, from 3 to 4 p.m.: an Electricity Workshop will be in the library meeting hall. Insulators, conductors, light bulbs, and light-bulb sockets will be used to design circuits and an on-off switch. Participants will be using the award-winning Young Scientists Club kits designed by biologist Esther Novis of Jamestown.

The program is open to children ages 8 to 11. Registration is required. Call 423-7280.

• Tuesday, March 28, from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.: A Visit with Thomas Edison will take place in the library meeting hall. Children in grades 3 through 6 are invited to come meet Thomas Edison, the scientist and inventor, as portrayed by Todd McLeish. Time-travel back to the year 1889 and find out about Edison's many inventions, of which he patented some 1,093 during his lifetime. In 1847, when Edison was born, society still thought of electricity as a novelty, a fad. By the time he died, entire cities were lit by electricity. Registration is not required.

• Tuesday, March 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.: a panel discussion on underage drinking will be held at the Melrose school multipurpose room. The panel features members of the local police department, liquor store owners, other professionals, and teens. Refreshments will be provided. For additional information, call Laura Hosley 965-8167 of the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force.

CIAA offers local art scholarships

The Conanicut Island Art Association will offer a total of \$3,000 in scholarship grants to graduating high school seniors.

To be eligible, a student must be a resident of Jamestown and graduating from a Rhode Island high school. Students are asked to submit four pieces of two- and/or three- dimensional art along with a completed application and a personal statement describing their involvement in art and their plans for art in the future.

Art pieces — slides may be used where appropriate — application and personal statement should be dropped off between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 29, at the Jamestown library. The pickup date is Saturday, May 6, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Information and applications can be picked up at the library.

Call Maryann England at 423-2829 for more information.

It is during a time like this that we learn how important our local community can be. We couldn't of asked for a better place, with better people, especially at our time in need. Thank you to the entire Jamestown community. Your support, comfort and strength is sincerely appreciated.

Love, The Baker Family

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