

Have you ever noticed the deep blood red that fills the sky as the sun sets on these crisp autumn days? The deep color is more noticeable and vivid than at other times of the year. Absolutely, there's a perfectly plausible and indisputable scientific explanation for the deepened color, and yet that deep red sky calls to mind the oceans of blood spilled by so many warriors, young and old alike, whose lives were sacrificed or altered forever the extreme cost of the freedoms we hold dear, hammering home the truth, that Freedom is not free.

Barely more than hours ago, we offered our annual tribute to all of our brave defenders on Veterans Day, with memorial services of gratitude. The ever-growing number of flags, waving briskly in the wind at the town's Veterans Memorial Square is a stark reminder of how much we owe to the men and women down through the ages, who have shouldered the burden of protecting and preserving the U.S.A. and its unequalled freedoms. Their sacrifice for country looms like an invisible archway through which we in the U.S.A. pass freely to rejoice in our Thanksgiving and Holiday Seasons. And it is fitting that we pause in our celebrations, to offer our deepest and most sincere prayers of gratitude for all of the men and women who are now standing resolutely between us and those who seek only to destroy us through their terrorist attacks.

As the holidays approach, we find much is afoot at the Senior Center these days, and we invite all to take part in our activities. Meals are served each weekday, at the center, and they get better and better as time goes by – plenty to eat, hot and delicious! No membership is required to come on down for lunch, but reservations need to be made, to assure that enough food is ordered for all. Monthly menus are available at the Senior Center and you can choose to eat with us everyday, or the days that you prefer. Reservations for any given week must be made by Thursday morning of the prior week. Meals consist of piping hot and delicious soup, an entrée, including balanced and nutritious choices, bread and butter, milk, coffee or tea, and a dessert. And if the meal doesn't tempt you, there is always a sandwich alternative. Those who must avoid the sweet stuff will be served fruit instead, and the suggested cost per meal is only \$2.50.

Also available for our senior neighbors who are confined to



The Senior Scene

By Charlotte Richardson

their homes, we participate in the Meals on Wheels program, which features meals that are nutritionally balanced and delivered by noontime each weekday by volunteers at the cost \$3 per meal. Call the Senior Center at 423-2658 or Charlotte at 423-1026 for more information about either program.

On Friday, Nov. 17, at 1 p.m., members of the URI Pharmaceutical Department will be at the Senior Center, to give their National Award winning presentation on the changes in Medicare and Prescription Plan D for 2007. There is no registration or fee required, so come on down and find out what's new for 2007. Folks already in the programs and new retirees will find the answers to their questions and will be ready to make informed decisions about what's coming up.

Wednesday, Dec. 6, the Jamestown Senior Citizens Association will conduct the annual Trim-A-Tree Party, complete with a special and festive dessert table. We hope that many senior citizens throughout Jamestown will to take part in the fun. All you need to do is make your reservation for luncheon by Thursday, Nov. 30. We know you're likely to be tired of Thanksgiving leftovers, so come on down, help to hang our beautiful ornaments, courtesy of the Quononoquott Garden Club, on the tree and enjoy lunch with all of us.

We'll be featuring a fund-raiser Holiday Turkey Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$8. per person (\$4 for children under 12) and are available at the Senior Center at 423-2658 or 423-1026. Public suppers are special – the food is great and home-cooked by our expert staff, and includes the extra bonus of seeing people you haven't seen in a long time. Call soon, make your reservations, pick up your tickets, come on down and join in the holiday merriment.

Hopefully, you'll decide to take part in our activities – and will become a part of our Senior Family. The welcome mat is always out, and we'll be looking for you!

Plans are in progress for a seminar on Protecting Your Nest Egg, which is scheduled for Jan. 20,

and we'll be letting you know a lot more about that in future columns. You can expect another fund-raiser dinner in February, this time a Heart Healthy Pasta Dinner with all the trimmings, and once again prepared by our Senior Center staff members. Tentative plans are in place for a series of sessions for those who have lost family members, and there will be more on that, as well, as the plan takes shape.

We have bowlers who for a cost of \$3 per person travel to North Kingstown each Friday morning through the courtesy of the Jamestown recreation department and the Jamestown Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. They thoroughly enjoy the exercise and fun of bowling together, and we have it on good authority that the group will welcome new participants. Give us a call if you would like to take part.

We enjoy a unique relationship with the Jamestown Housing Authority, which for many years has granted us use of its building, where we are welcome to enjoy Recreational Bingo games for Jamestown seniors only in the Community Room of Pemberton Apartments, 45 Pemberton Ave., on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, starting at 10 a.m. The Senior Center Watercolor Art group meets on Thursday mornings at Pemberton Apartments, to enjoy each other's company and to share their love of watercolor painting. The Community Room is bright and cheery and the sky-lighted windows provide the best light in town for indoor painting. Paintings are displayed on the walls of the entry hall and Community Room for all to enjoy. Bridge and Hi-Lo-Jack card players are eager to welcome new players, so give us a call and tell us what you would like to do in and through the Senior Center. We appreciate the two computers that have been donated by the Jamestown library to the Senior Center, and we anticipate making arrangements for beginner classes. If you don't see what you are interested in, call us and share your great ideas for things to do. Perhaps your idea is just what we've been looking for, and as always, we cordially invite you to come on down, and take part in all that is going on at the Senior Center.



Grange Master Charlotte Richardson presents grade 3 students with dictionaries as part of the granges' "Words for the Thirds" program. Photo by Vic Richardson

Grange gives dictionaries to island third-graders

On Nov. 8, 2006, Fran Mackabee, Victor and Charlotte Richardson, on behalf of all of the members of Conanicut Grange #21, Patrons of Husbandry enjoyed their third annual visit with the more than 50 children enrolled in grade 3 at Jamestown's Melrose Avenue School. The purpose of the visit was to present every third-grader with a personal student dictionary as part of the National Grange Program "Words for the Thirds."

The children listened intently, to the story of the "Dictionary Project," which originated in South Carolina, where its founder Mary French, more than 10 years ago was successful in distributing the first 6,000 dictionaries to third-graders in the county where she lived. Now she distributes thousands per year. The program quickly spread nationwide and is supported by Grangers across the nation, and by many other com-

munity service organizations. The number of dictionaries given to the third-graders has swelled to millions and as more and more organizations sign on each year to help with this very rewarding and worthwhile effort, they are coming closer and closer to the ultimate goal of providing every third-grader in the nation with a dictionary of his or her own.

After looking up the meaning of Patrons, Husbandry, and Grange and reading them aloud, the children were invited to choose any three words they wanted, and then write a story, poem, or letter using the selected three words. The letters will be sent to Conanicut Grange #21 to be cherished by all of us, and will also be added to those collected during prior years in a binder entitled "Words From The Thirds." The grange members plan to continue the tradition with a visit in 2007.

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LEGAL TIP

A golfer could sue a golf club for injuries suffered when he was struck by an errant ball — his claim wasn't barred by the assumption of the risk doctrine, the Hawaii Supreme Court has ruled.

The plaintiff was struck on the left eye by a golf ball while riding in a golf cart. He sued the golf club for breach of implied warranty and strict liability, alleging the design of the golf course exposed those traveling the paths to errant balls.

The court explained that the club "has an obligation to design a golf course to minimize the risk that players will be hit by golf balls, e.g., by the way the various tees, fairways and greens are aligned or separated."

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