

# Audition for 'Yours, Anne' on Dec. 17

By Mary S. Wright,  
artistic director

The Jamestown Community Theatre is pleased to give some additional information about our next play, a small musical entitled "Yours, Anne." Based on "Anne Frank: The Diary Of A Young Girl" and the play by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, this musical has a libretto by Enid Futterman and music by Michael Cohen. I, Mary Wright, will direct this play with the assistance of Donna Gavin, Maria Liebhauser, and Iris Bohensky. Music director will be Becky Brazil, and the play will be produced by Joan McCauley.

This renowned account of two Jewish families hidden in a cramped attic over a warehouse in Amsterdam during the Nazi occupation is now a haunting and compelling musical, and while it remains loyal to the story, it now is enhanced by a most moving and lyrical score.

The eternal faith of a young girl is portrayed in her diary, and while the play stirs our deepest emotions, it also is a reminder of the strength of the human spirit.

"Yours, Anne" will be performed the weekends of March 2 and 9 at a location yet to be announced. Rehearsals will start on Sunday, Jan. 7, from 3 to 6 p.m. There will be another rehearsal time during a weekday evening. Later, as we get closer to the performance date, we will add an additional weekday rehearsal. As usual, the week before the play is production week, and we will rehearse every evening.

The cast includes Anne, a girl of about 13 years old in appearance; her sister Margot, who is a little older than Anne; their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Frank; Mr. and Mrs. Van Dan, another family sharing the attic space; their son Peter, who is a bit older than Anne; and Mr. Dussel, a dentist also living with them above the warehouse. In addition, a few children with an age appearance of 10 to 16 years old will be cast in small roles reciting poetry between some scenes and perhaps in flashbacks.

Auditions will be at the Community Center on Sunday, Dec. 17. Those trying for a leading

role must be very accomplished singers and performers, as the music is difficult and the roles are demanding to effectively portray. Past experience using harmony is imperative. If you wish to try out for one of these roles, please bring a song to sing for your audition that shows your vocal range and ability. Please bring the sheet music with you. You will be given a monologue to look over and then read at the audition. Please arrive at 4 p.m.

Those auditioning for peripheral children and/or teen roles should memorize a serious poem of at least 15 to 20 lines for the auditions. Please choose a poem that is dramatic, not frivolous. You must be able to deal with the seriousness, significance, and magnitude of this play, as it requires some mature understanding of the material. Please come

to the community center by 3 p.m. and you will be dismissed as you finish. Your parents should wait for you at the Community Center. Those who are cast in small roles will not begin rehearsals until early February, but they should not try out if they are going away for all of February school break. They must be available to rehearse for a short time Sunday afternoons, and one short time one evening a week until production week, when rehearsals will be held every night.

As usual, parents will be assigned jobs in order to help with the production. Please plan on committing some hours to this play.

If you live in Jamestown and feel this production is for you, and that you might fit the bill for the cast requirements listed above, you must call director,

me, Mary S. Wright, at 423-9993 or e-mail me at ms.wright@mac.com by Wednesday, Dec. 13. We will set up the final audition schedule on Dec. 17 based on the amount of people trying out.

Those who would like to assist in areas other than acting, please e-mail producer Joan McCauley at joanmccauley@cox.net.

I look forward to directing this small, tender, and worthy musical. It will be a challenge to effectively confront such difficult and sensitive material with the respect it deserves, but I feel it is important to try. Although a solemn story, it has been universally accepted as a powerful illustration of mankind's inhumanity as it shows the personal strength of an individual who existed during one of the world's most horrific times. It is a story, I feel, we must remember.

## Dr. Benedetto joins South County Hospital staff

South County Hospital has announced the appointment of Bernard Benedetto, M.D., General Surgery, to the medical staff. He is joining Drs. Andrew Dowd and David Coppe in Shoreline Surgical Associates, and he will also be working closely with general surgeons Drs. Umberto Capuano and Elizabeth Conklin.

Benedetto and his wife Dr. Jessica Outwater keep a boat in Jamestown and play in the Jamestown Community Band.

In addition to his duties in private practice and as a member of the medical staff at South County Hospital, he has been named director of Minimally Invasive Surgery at the Hospital. "I hope to develop more use of minimally invasive surgery here at South County and bring its benefits to the members of the community," Dr. Benedetto said recently. "The potential benefits of minimally invasive techniques are many: smaller incisions, less pain, less scarring, and a faster recovery. The use of laparoscopic technique allows for diagnoses in the chest and abdomen, without large incisions, that can direct further care. And in some cases, such as hernias, laparoscopic technique may lead to more durable repair. But it's not for every patient or every disease. Every patient should be individually assessed

as to whether or not they are a candidate for minimally invasive surgery," Benedetto said.

During his residency training, he participated in education and research on minimally invasive surgical techniques. He is a member of the Society of Laparoscopic Surgeons and has volunteered his time educating other surgeons in laparoscopic technique. In addition, he has published numerous articles in medical journals and presented at national meetings on this topic and others. As director of Minimally Invasive Surgery at the Hospital, he hopes to continue clinical research in this field.

## Teens invite community to winter party

The Jamestown Teen Center and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) are inviting the community to welcome the arrival of winter with a festive Holiday Party on Friday, Dec. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Portuguese American Citizens' Club.

Join the youth of Jamestown for an evening of music, food, mocktails, and fun!

A \$10 donation from adults will help benefit the Teen Center and SADD. All students in grades 6 through 12 can attend for free. Tickets will be available Dec. 1 at Baker's Pharmacy and House of Pizza, and raffle tickets

for local gifts and prizes will be on sale from Dec 11 to Dec. 15.

Students will also be collecting canned goods for the Rhode Island Food Bank. Anyone who brings items will receive one free raffle ticket at the door. This non-alcoholic event is sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force and the Jamestown Teen Center, with special thanks to the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce. Anyone who would like to donate to the raffle can contact jamestownteens@yahoo.com, ripawscaws@aol.com, or call 741-0562.

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