

**About town**

# Community Chorus performs this weekend

The Jamestown Community Chorus will welcome the holiday season with its presentation of "Our Holiday Favorites" this Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3 p.m. at Central Baptist Church.

The chorus has produced many outstanding concerts since 1949. Rita Murray founded the original group in conjunction with the Exchange Topics and Crafts Club, and in 1953, she added the Men's Glee Club. It became known as the Jamestown Community Chorus in 1984.

In the spirit of the season, bell ringers will accompany Willcocks' arrangement of the English carol "I Saw Three Ships." Chorus soloists will add to the enjoyment of an early 20th-century carol "Lullay My Liking" by Gustav Holst.

The program not only explores seasonal music from the 15th-

20th-centuries, but in addition, will include an old English mummers play, with thespians from the chorus cast as John Finney, Father Christmas, Turkish Knight, King George, The Doctor, Beezelbub, and Clevrelegs.

One of the oldest carols the chorus will sing is the "Coventry Carol," which is from the 15th-century "Pageant of The Shearmen and Tailors." "A Child is Born in Bethlehem," with soloists, is a 17th-century piece edited by David Willcocks.

The joy experienced by children at holiday time is reflected in several pieces of music that have a childlike anticipation in them, namely, "The Sleigh," "Walking in the Air," and "O Joyful Children."

Some of the Christmas all-time favorites are "White Christmas," "Silent Night," "and "The Christmas Song" ("Chestnuts roasting on an open fire"). "Worthy is the

Lamb," from "The Messiah" is also on the program.

In addition to the choral works, the singers will join with the audience in a sing-along featuring "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and "I Wonder as I Wander."

Holiday refreshments follow the concert.

General admission tickets at \$10 and \$7 for seniors and children are available at Baker's Pharmacy, Jamestown Hardware, the Secret Garden, from chorus members, and at the door.

For additional information, contact 423-1574, or visit [www.jamestownri.com/chorus](http://www.jamestownri.com/chorus).

## Make a gingerbread house

The Jamestown library is holding a gingerbread house workshop for children ages 7 to 11 on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration is required for this free workshop, which is sponsored by the Friends of Jamestown Philomnian Library.

Registration is limited to 15 children. Visit the library at 26 North Main Rd. or call 423-7280 to register.

For more information about library programs, look at its calendar of events at

[www.jamestownri.com/library](http://www.jamestownri.com/library).

## Book group takes up classic 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn'

The Afternoon Book Discussion at the Jamestown library continues on Dec. 12, the second Tuesday of the month, from 1 to 2 p.m. with the book "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith.

A review in the New York Times said, "A profoundly moving novel, and an honest and true one. It cuts right to the heart of life. . . . If you miss A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, you will deny yourself a rich experience. . . . It is a poignant and deeply understanding story of childhood and family relationships. The Nolan's lived in the Williamsburg slums of Brooklyn from 1902 until 1919. . . . Their daughter Francie and their son Neely knew more than their fair share of the privations and sufferings that are the lot of a great city's poor. Primarily this is Francie's book. She is a superb feat of characterization, an imaginative, alert, resourceful child. And Francie's growing up and beginnings of wisdom are the substance of "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn.""

The last book discussion in this series will be on Soheir Khashoggi's "Mirage," Jan. 9. The group will also be choosing books for future discussions in both February and March.

Books for the discussions may be obtained through the Jamestown library by placing holds on one of the many copies in the state available through the Cooperating Libraries Automated Network or CLAN. These meetings are free and open to the public.

For more information, call the library at 423-7280.

## Open recreation season underway

Open recreation at the Community Center began this week and will continue each weekday until the end of March. This program runs from 3 to 5 p.m. with Monday, Wednesday, and Friday designated for the grades 3 to 5, and Tuesdays and Thursdays are for students in grades 6 to 8.

This program offers children a chance to unwind after school by

using the Community Center's basketball court and game tables. There is no transportation provided by the recreation department from the school to the Community Center. Open Rec. is monitored by recreation department staff and there is no fee to participate.

All that is needed to participate is a completed permission slip, which is available at the Community Center.

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