

ABOUT TOWN

Lighthouse group offers scholarships

Applications for the 2008 Beavertail Lighthouse Museum Association Scholarship are available now in the Jamestown library.

The scholarship is open to graduating high school seniors, from Jamestown, who have been accepted to a college or university.

Two recipients will each receive \$1,000, which may be applied toward college tuition, books or fees related to a course of study.

Completed applications must be mailed to the BLMA, W. Craig Armington Scholarship, P.O. Box 83, Jamestown, RI 02853, and postmarked by April 7.

Application forms may be downloaded from the BLMA website at www.beavertailight.org.

Clothing drive benefits women's shelters

As part of her North Kingstown High School senior project, island resident Kyra Reppe will host a clothing drive on Thursday, March 20, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Jamestown Recreation Center.

All proceeds will be donated to various women's shelters of Rhode Island. For more information, contact Reppe by e-mail at kyrareppe5@gmail.com.

Knights plan 'Two Saints' dinner

The St. Mark Knights of Columbus Council #9197 will hold

its annual "Two Saints" parish dinner on Saturday, March 15, at St. Mark Catholic Church on Narragansett Avenue.

The dinner, held in the church hall, begins at 5 p.m. and honors the feast days of St. Patrick, on March 17, and St. Joseph, on March 19. The dinner will feature a traditional New England boiled dinner with corned beef, cabbage, carrots and potatoes, plus pasta and Italian bread. Also included will be beverages and dessert.

Tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$10 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6 to 11, with those under age 6 admitted free. A large family ticket for \$25 covers two parents plus several children ages 6 to 11. For more information, call Tony Trivisono at 423-0268.

Support given to first responder screenings

Deputy Minority Whip Bruce Long (R-Dist. 74 Jamestown, Middletown) and Senate Majority Leader Teresa Paiva-Weed (D-Dist. 13 Jamestown, Newport) have introduced legislation that will protect the health of firefighters in Rhode Island. These bills would establish a program to test all firefighters for bladder cancer.

In order to increase bladder cancer awareness and highlight the need for regular testing, Rep. Long and Sen. Paiva-Weed will be offering screenings to local firefighters. The screenings will take place on Thursday, March 20, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Jamestown Fire Sta-

tion. Firefighters from the communities they represent, Jamestown, Middletown, and Newport, have been invited.

"We hope to see as many of these brave men and women as possible," said Rep. Long and Sen. Paiva Weed. "This is something that has been done in the past, and until we can get legislation passed that provides this testing for all firefighters, then we will do what we can to get as many tested as possible. With greater awareness and the proper testing, we can detect problems early and hopefully save lives."

There have been great advances in the screening process in recent years. There is now a urine test that measures the protein NMP22. High levels of this protein can be indicative of bladder cancer. Results can be available within 30 to 50 minutes of administering the test. In the past, bladder screening required a cystoscopy, which entailed the insertion of a tube into the urethra and cost hundreds of dollars.

The program that Rep. Long and Sen. Paiva-Weed support would be directed by the Department of Health. It would test all firefighters, collect data on the results, and provide educational resources on bladder cancer awareness to all Rhode Island firefighters about bladder cancer.

Representative Long and Senator Paiva-Weed have paid for the entire cost of these screenings and no public funds have been used.

Women's history expert to speak at Jamestown library

In honor of Women's History Month, the Friends of Jamestown Library present author and University of Rhode Island history professor, Evelyn Savidge Sterne on Tuesday, March 18, at 7 p.m.

Professor Sterne will speak on the theme of her book, "Ballots and Bibles: Ethnic Politics and the Catholic Church in Providence."

By the mid-nineteenth century, Providence, an early industrial center, became a magnet for Catholic immigrants seeking jobs. The city created as a haven for Protestant dissenters was transformed by the arrival of Italian, Irish, and French-Canadian workers. By 1905, more than half of its population was Catholic. Rhode Island was the first state in the nation to have a Catholic majority. Civic leaders, for whom Protestantism was an essential component of American identity, systematically sought to exclude the city's Catholic immigrants from participation in public life, most flagrantly by restricting voting rights. Through her account of the newcomers' fight for political inclusion, Sterne offers a fresh perspective on the nationwide struggle to define American identity at the turn of the twentieth century.

This free program, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, will take place in the library's meeting hall, is for both teens and adults.

After school program ideas sought

The Jamestown School and the Jamestown Education Foundation (JEF) are currently seeking proposals for the upcoming Spring After-School Program session. Anyone interested in running a children's academic, cultural or athletic program may apply. Previous and on-going programs have included cooking classes, yoga, Spanish, test preparation and art classes. Most programs run for eight weeks and are free for Jamestown students. Instructors receive a stipend from JEF. For more information, call Principal Kathy Almanzor at 423-7010 or Mary Hall Keen at 423-1225.

Student work on display at art museum

March is Youth Art Month in Rhode Island and to celebrate the Jamestown School will join other schools from the East Bay region in an exhibit at the Newport Art Museum.

This annual event infuses student artwork into the community to broaden public awareness of the importance of art in school.

The month long celebration continues until March 20 with a show of works created by student artists. The following Lawn Avenue School students are exhibited in the show.

From grade 5, Grace Doherty and Hayley Carlisle; In grade 6, Jamie Mielde and Holly Bobola; From grade 7, Jack Tregenza, Brooke Doherty, Haden Rudd and Shannah Crowell and in grade 8, Christian Kowolchuk, Shannon Sheekey, Donovan Dougherty and Victoria Shaw.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. The Newport Art Museum, School of Art Studio is located at 76 Bellevue Ave., Newport.

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