

Rec center has new program coordinator

By Eileen M. Daly

Jill Goldstein, a recent graduate of New Hampshire's Colby-Sawyer College, has accepted the position of program supervisor at the Jamestown Recreation Center, which operates under the auspices of the Jamestown Parks and Recreation Department.



Jill Goldstein, who was an intern with the parks and recreation department last summer, was recently hired as the new program supervisor for the department.

Photo by Eileen Daly

As program supervisor, Goldstein is responsible for the development and implementation of recreational programs. Her work includes the staffing and supervision of employees at Mackerel Cove Town Beach, program development for the Jamestown Summer Playground, and program development for the recreation center, among other things. The center offers pre-school through adult programs. Goldstein is an enthusiastic and energetic young woman who says she is, "thrilled to be the new program supervisor. All of my colleagues are helpful and great to work with, and Bill Piva is a wonderful boss." Last year, she served as an intern at the center in order to fulfill her college requirements. Asked to stay on after her internship hours were met, she readily agreed. When the new program supervisor position opened this year, she applied and was accepted.

Goldstein describes herself as a summer transplant. She spent summers on the island during her childhood and became a permanent resident during her high school years. She graduated from Colby-Sawyer's sport management program in May, which she described as a business program with a sports concentration. Prior to entering Colby-Sawyer College, she considered teaching as a profession. After working at the Jamestown Early Learning Center for a time, she ultimately decided to parlay her love of sports and recreation into a career choice.

Though many of her fellow sports management graduates

focused on athletic director positions, Goldstein said she was always interested in a position in recreation. She loves the diversity of the position and the opportunity to work with so many creative people. She also enjoys working with different age groups and said the program supervisor position affords her that opportunity.

Of all the programs that Goldstein is involved in, she said she has a special affection for the Jamestown Summer Playground and refers to it as, "my baby." Each week, the summer camp is given a different theme and activities are tailored to meet that theme. "Pirates of Jamestown" week to a "Wet and Wild" week, which involves water balloons, a trip to a water park, and lots of wet but happy children enjoying the summer in Jamestown, are some of the planned events. The program runs for eight weeks. It begins June 23 and runs through Aug. 13. Children ages 5 to 13 are welcome to participate.

The recreation center offers a wide variety of programs and includes such things as yoga, tennis, and Pilates. Goldstein is quick to point out that the center also offers a number of creative arts courses. There is a creative

arts camp and the teen center offers some artistic programs as well. One of the more creative courses is titled, "Dance Your Animal." It does not however, involve teaching your Chihuahua or pet iguana the tango, but rather is a creative movement class that encourages the imitation of animal movements as a method of expression.

Goldstein is excited about the future of the recreation center and hopes to expand some programs. She has already begun to focus on the girl's softball league, recently taking the initiative to contact North Kingstown's recreation director, Al Southwick, to arrange a game. The girl's junior league softball game took place May 30 and though North Kingstown won, Goldstein said she was pleased with their "not too shabby," 6-9 showing.

Another goal she is focused on is the establishment of a sailing program. She would love to initiate a program that makes sailing available to anyone who has an interest. Finally, Goldstein is planning to work closely with the director of the teen center. Last year's Skate-Fest was a big success and plans are being made to host another one in August. Current teen center hours are Monday through Thursday, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. The summer Teen Center hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Recreation Center is located at 41 Conanicus Avenue.

Bugs star in two library programs

A children's program on all the great things about insects is coming to the Jamestown library on Tuesday, June 24, at 3:30 p.m.

What do doodlebugs, spiders, ants and skeeters have in common? Find out as the "Stand-up Chameleon" takes the stage in his latest lowlife revue.

Jackson Gillman, as the chameleon, sparkles with energy, wit and whimsy, as he magically transforms into a wide array of colorful characters in this show about bugs. Participatory song, story, movement and/or sign language might be incorporated into his interactive family theater. The chameleon will do whatever works best to bring any age audience along for a rollicking ride into his wildly imaginative worlds of creativity and fun.

Registration is not required for this free program, which is for children ages 4 to 10 years of age.

On Thursday, June 26, bugs continue to star as Marvelous Marvin brings his "Bugging Out," show to the library.

Beginning at 7 p.m., kids can find out all about bugs, insects and outdoor exploration. Using Marvin's unique rhyming text, kids will learn about some bug habits that they may not believe or even want to know. Marvin has written poems about dragonflies, ladybugs, worms and a host of other crawly, creepy creatures.

Mixing in circus arts, magic tricks and fun music, Marvelous Marvin has constructed his show to look like a large book revealing engaging illustrations inside.

These free programs are sponsored by the Friends of Jamestown Philomenian Library, Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and McDonald's Restaurants of Rhode Island.

Teens tak talents on stage

The Jamestown library will host a Teen Improv Workshop with Keith Munslow on Wednesday, June 25, at 11 a.m.

Teens can take their talents to the stage. This workshop is all about making it up on the spot. Using a mix of theatrical warm ups and comedy improv games like the kind one sees on "Who's Line Is It Anyway?" teens will dive into the fast-paced world of improvisation. This exciting group program teaches teamwork, give/take and creative problem solving in a fun, safe environment

Registration is required for this free program, which is sponsored by the Friends of Jamestown Philomenian Library.

Visit or call the library at 423-7280 or e-mail children's and young adult librarian Rowena Burke at rowenadunlap@gmail.com.

Sign up now for summer reading events

The Jamestown Philomenian Library invites young readers to join their 2008 Summer Reading Program, "Catch the Reading Bug," a statewide celebration of reading and insects, including many free programs and performances.

The Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through age 12. The programs and performances are designed for children ages 4 to 10 years of age.

Families with preschool children are invited to join the Read-to-Me portion of the program and chart their progress on a reading record.

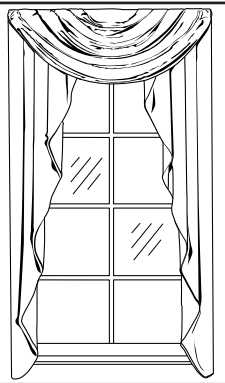
Independent readers will be given journals to write and draw pictures about the books they are reading, to make note of new vocabulary words they like, report their summer activities and ideas of all kinds. Children should bring their reading record or journal in to show the children's librarian at least once a week, so they can earn reading incentives for time or books read.

Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins as soon as school lets out. Registration will be rolling all summer in order to accommodate as many readers as possible. For more information, call the library at 423-7280.

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