

Showcase a life story with easy photo management

Islander's book will offer tips on digital photo organization

By Michaela Kennedy

Sarah Bay Williams manages hundreds of thousands of digital photographs for one of the largest, historic collections in the world. She now offers advice to the everyday photographer on how to keep personal photos easily organized, accessible, and safe.

Williams, a Jamestown summer resident with family here that dates back generations, is an expert in digital media archiving. After securing a film and media arts degree from Temple University, Williams went to work for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills, Calif. Her friends knew she was the "digital girl" at the Academy, and started approaching her for tips on what to do with photographs that piled up in digital cameras and computers.

Questions she received ranged from simple downloading of pictures to frustration with applications that try to organize the material automatically. Williams soon realized there was a need for a straightforward, airtight way to organize pictures, without getting stuck in computer applications. "Ease of taking digital photos should not compromise the ability to enjoy them," she says. "Photographs are a digital journal of your life. Keeping them organized makes sense."

Williams is keen to educate the everyday photographer on how to simplify workflow and not lose



Sarah Bay Williams

photos. She considers original photo files "sacred" and likes to keep a log of every picture she uses. She can then reference when and where she sent images, from e-mail to posts online. "Storage is so cheap," she adds.

If you ask a librarian trained with distinct rules for archiving, "Nothing like that exists for digital," Williams explains. All kinds of media are currently available for storage, such as compact discs, digital video discs, and hard drives. Professional photographers may opt for tape drives, known for their long archival stability. "The secret is keeping it (a digital collection) in more than one place."

Williams found inspiration from Peter Krogh, a professional photographer who has helped to develop standards in digital management. After reading his publication, "The DAM Book: Digital Asset Management for Photographers," Williams asked for his consultation in setting up a professional system for digital asset

overflow at the Academy in Los Angeles.

Williams is now putting the finishing touches on her own book on how to manage digital media simply. The small paperback, due on bookstands in January 2009, will be convenient to carry and to be used as a quick reference for downloading pictures, accessing them, and all other steps in between. "This book is general to different kinds of computer users," she explains. "It speaks to people who think in analog terms."

Williams plans to publish her original photographs of Jamestown in her upcoming book.

"It's more like home than any other place," she says about the island. She is even named after the body of water off the coast, with her middle name Bay. "It's easier to say than Narragansett," she laughs.

Williams led the creation of the communications photography department at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which included managing a team of photographers, editors and runners for events, including the Academy Awards. She now works in the photo archive of the Academy's Margaret Herrick Library, long regarded as one of the most complete collections of film-related materials ever assembled. Williams also takes on new projects and enjoys consulting for personal collections of photographers.

More information about Williams' work can be found online at www.Oscars.org, and follow the link for the Margaret Herrick Library.

EZ Pass

Continued from page 1

Paiva-Weed agreed with Long's assessment. "Overall the e-mails I have received from my constituents support the EZ Pass program. There are, however, many unanswered questions about how the program is going to be implemented."

In order to ensure that these questions do not go unanswered, Long and Paiva Weed collaborated on a letter sent to RITBA Chairman David Darlington last week requesting that the implementation of the EZ Pass program be delayed until a number of community forums could be held. "Please give our citizens the opportunity to ask their questions and have input into the program's roll out," the letter read in part.

The letter also identified some of the more pressing questions area residents have raised such as: What will the impact be for local residents, especially the elderly or those on fixed incomes? Why will tokens no longer be useful? Will residents need to pay for a transponder if they are infrequent users? How expensive will the tolls be for local residents if they do not have an EZ Pass? Will family members, health aides or other associates stop coming to Newport if Newporters can no longer provide them with tokens for the bridge?

Other questions not contained in the letter, but still of concern to residents according to Long and Paiva Weed include: How is the RI EZ Pass going to differ from other EZ Pass programs? Will residents who have EZ Passes from neighboring states such as Massachusetts or Connecticut be able to use those passes here in RI? Will residents be able to trade a neighboring state's EZ Pass in for a Rhode Island EZ Pass if those passes are not honored?

Long made a particular point of emphasizing his belief that the Pell Bridge toll should not carry the burden of supporting other local bridges. "There are four bridges that are being supported by the Pell toll: The Pell Bridge, the Jamestown Bridge, the Sakonnet River Bridge and the Mount Hope Bridge. This has to stop," Long said. According to Long, residents are especially adverse to the Pell toll supporting the Mount Hope Bridge. "The Pell Bridge tolls ought to go toward supporting the Pell Bridge and not be used to support other bridges in the state," Long said.

Both Long and Paiva Weed agree that RITBA has been responsive to their expressed concerns. "We have a positive relationship with RITBA and they are very responsive to our concerns," Paiva Weed said.

In response to the letter sent by Long and Paiva Weed, RITBA Executive Director Buddy Croft announced on Tuesday that RITBA plans to hold a series of informational open houses to discuss the EZ Pass program. These forums will be available to the public and hosted by RITBA to answer questions and take input of the proposed implementation of the EZ Pass system on the Pell Bridge, according to the press release. The forums will inform the public on what is proposed to date and there will be displays and staff on hand to demonstrate the equipment.

Forum dates, times and locations are as follows: Saturday, Sept. 6, from 9 a.m. to noon at the RITBA Administrative Office/Maintenance Facility in Jamestown; Monday, Sept. 8, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Colony House, Washington Square in Newport; Tuesday Sept. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the RITBA Administrative Office/Maintenance Facility in Jamestown.

Book groups set fall reading schedule

The next book to be read by the book groups at the Jamestown library will be "Breakfast with Buddha," by Roland Merullo.

The book will be discussed on Monday evening, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. and Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 16, at 1 p.m.

The review from Booklist says: "Veteran novelist Merullo continues the spiritual odyssey he began in *Golfing with God* (2005). Otto Ringling, a successful New York editor and contented family man, has been in a slump ever since his parents were killed in an automobile accident. To settle the estate, he and his loopy sister, Cecilia, must drive to the family homestead in North Dakota. Then Cecilia tells him she's giving her half of the farm to her guru, the maroon-robed Volya Rinpoche, and that she wants Otto to drive him there. A grumbling Otto reluctantly agrees, mapping out a route that will take them along some of the

Midwest's most charming back roads, and treating the rotund monk to a taste of American fun, including a tour of the Hershey chocolate factory and a round of miniature golf. Volya proves to be such a jovial and serene companion that Otto soon regains not only his peace of mind but also his joie de vivre. The skillful Merullo, using the lightest of touches, slowly turns this low-key comedy into a moving story of spiritual awakening."

The Jamestown library runs two book discussions. The evening group meets on the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m., the afternoon group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. Both groups are facilitated by library director, Judy Bell.

Upcoming books include "People of the Book: a Novel" by Geraldine Brooks, on Monday, Oct. 20 and Tuesday, Oct. 2.

The November book is "Three Cups Of Tea: One Man's Mission

To Promote Peace -- One School At A Time" by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

For more information, call the library at 423-7280. These books may be obtained through the Jamestown library by placing holds on one of the many copies in the state available through the Ocean State Libraries. Registration is not required. The meetings are free and open to the public and new members are encouraged to join.

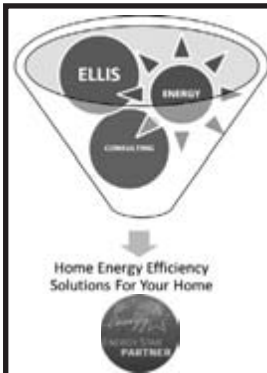
Fall fun planned at Sept. 20 event

Scarecrow building, kids' crafts, storytelling, local produce and artisans highlight the fourth annual Fall Family Festival hosted by the Preservation Society of Newport County at Green Animals Topiary Garden in Portsmouth on Saturday, Sept. 20. The event will feature a full day of fun for the whole family.

Plenty of children's activities are planned. Kids will be able to build their own scarecrows in the Scarecrow Factory.

Local artisans will display some of their wares, including handmade jewelry.

The fun begins at 10 a.m. and goes on all day, until closing at 5 p.m. Preservation Society members and all children under 6 enjoy free admission. General admission is \$11 for adults, \$4 for children 6 to 17.



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