

## ABOUT TOWN

### Founding document display dedication

The 1657 Conanicut Island Land Agreement display wall in the Jamestown Town Hall will be dedicated on Thursday, Sept. 18, at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to view the wall and enjoy the ceremony and refreshments.

The 1657 Conanicut Island Land Agreement is a pre-purchase contract among 101 Rhode Island colonists specifying the participants in the purchase, naming the men responsible for the negotiations with the Narragansett tribe and laying down rules for the initial governance of the island. It is the foundation document for all land titles in Jamestown.

The Jamestown Historical Society purchased the document in 2005 and approached the town with a proposal to create an appropriate display for this unique pact in the new Town Hall, then under construction.

The Town Council approved the proposal and authorized the Town Hall architect, Bill Burgin of Burgin Lambert Architects Inc., to design a niche in the west wall of the hallway between the town clerk's and the finance offices. A Jamestown family donated the money used to purchase specially designed case to fit within the niche and protect the document from light, dust, and other environmental hazards. The Jamestown Rotary Club and the Jamestown Lions Club both contributed generously toward the construction of the display and for forthcoming literature about the document.

A historical society team and

seniors at North Kingstown High School developed informative materials to surround the document and worked closely with an exhibit design consultant to create the display.

The Jamestown Historical Society is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to preserving, collecting, and sharing the island's history. Founded in 1912, the society maintains and operates the Jamestown Museum and three 18th century historic sites: the Windmill, the Quaker Meetinghouse and—with the town—Conanicut Battery Historic Park. All sites are open to the public free of charge.

Learn about becoming a member at [www.jamestownhistorical-society.org](http://www.jamestownhistorical-society.org) or call 423-0784.

### Book groups post 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. 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.

### Historic homes on tour this weekend

The Annual House Tour sponsored by the Jamestown Historical Society is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The two historic homes featured on this year's tour are Riven Rock, located at 113 Melrose Ave., and Onarock located at 105 Walcott Ave. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in advance at Baker's Pharmacy or at either of the houses the day of the tour.

Riven Rock was built in 1911 and is a classic Jamestown summer home overlooking the West Passage of the bay. The home recently received national attention as the location where the major motion picture "Dan in Real Life" was filmed.

Onarock, built in 1896, is the work of J.D. Johnston. The house rises above Walcott Avenue on a rocky point and has two large wings visually hinged at a half-round tower. Onarock has undergone many transformations over the years — but Johnston's design retains its original grandeur.

On Friday, Sept. 12, members of the JHS are invited to a preview party at Birdview, 28 Newport St., from 5 to 7 p.m. Built in 1888, Birdview has stunning views to the north and east from its wrap-around porch. The two-story entrance hall has a balcony that runs around three sides of the landing. Non-members can join at the door. Tickets are \$40 and reservations can be made by calling 423-0784 or by emailing [jhs@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:jhs@jamestownhistoricalsociety.org).

### Musical classes coming to island

Ready, Set, Play with Cindy will present Kindermusik classes at 87 Narragansett Ave. at St. Matthew's Church, beginning the week of Sept. 15. The classes will be conducted by Cindy Olsen of Jamestown, a Kindermusik licensed educator.

This season's offerings will feature three programs: Village on Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m.; Our Time, on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.; and Family Time, on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.; plus one new class, Imagine That, on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.

The classes are all programs of award-winning Kindermusik International that has developed curricula that combine music and child development principles for families with children ages newborn and up.

Village classes are for babies from newborn to age 18 months and their parents. Our Time focuses on toddlers ages 18 months to 3 years. Family Time applies musical and developmental learning in a multi-age, multi-child, family setting. Imagine That is geared for children ages 3 to 5 years.

For more information, contact Ready, Set, Play with Cindy by phone at 608-2022, by e-mail at [readysset-playwithcindy@usa.net](mailto:readysset-playwithcindy@usa.net) or learn more via the Web at [www.readyssetplaywithcindy.kindermusik.net](http://www.readyssetplaywithcindy.kindermusik.net).

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at St. Matthew's Church  
87 Narragansett Avenue  
For details, registration, free demonstration class contact Cindy Olsen  
**401 608 2022**  
[cindy.olsen@usa.net](mailto:cindy.olsen@usa.net)



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