

ABOUT TOWN

Brooks novel on tap for reading groups

The next novel to be read by the book groups at the Jamestown library will be "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks. The book will be discussed on Monday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 1 p.m.

Publisher's Weekly said "Reading Geraldine Brooks' dazzling new novel, People of the Book, Brooks allows both her native land (Australia) and current events to play a larger role while still continuing to mine the historical material that speaks so ardently to her imagination."

The Jamestown library runs two book discussions, one 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.

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

Celebrate German unity at Oct. 3 event

An event to celebrate the 18th anniversary of Unity Day, which commemorates the unity of East and West Germany, will be held at the North Kingstown Public Library on Friday, Oct. 3, from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Several German exchange students under the German-American Partnership Program (GAPP) will be at hand with two of their own teacher-chaperones from the Burgau Academy, in Düren, Germany.

Ruthann Baker, a German teacher at North Kingstown High School is organizing the program, which will include a scavenger hunt in Wickford for the students, a late afternoon cruise of Wickford Harbor followed by a picnic and the library event.

Prepare for the future with planning series

Many people delay making plans for their futures. This fall, Central Baptist Church will offer several programs to help individuals consider various aspects of this planning and each program will be free and open to the public.

A four-part series called "Necessary Preparations" will kick off at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2. Kathryn Palen, CBC's pastor, will lead a discussion of the emotional, relational and spiritual aspects of planning for later life.

Richard Fleury of the Rhode Island Bar Association will explore the legal aspects of such planning during a session on Thursday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m. Guest speakers on Thursdays, Nov. 6 and 20 will present programs on medical and housing issues to consider while planning for later life.

Additionally, Pam Taylor, director of communications for Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island, will speak on Sunday, Oct. 5, at 11 a.m. about the benefits of hospice

and palliative care for individuals with a serious illness. She also will address myths and misconceptions about hospice care.

Kathy Black, director of elder care ministries for the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island, will speak on Sunday, Oct. 19, at 11 a.m. about the 10 things everyone should do in planning for later years.

Central Baptist Church is located at 99 Narragansett Ave. in Jamestown.

Abstract art featured in new CIAA show

The Conanicut Island Art Association is beginning a new season with its first exhibit of abstract art at the Jamestown Town Hall Gallery.

The "Abstracts in the Fall" show will open tonight, Thursday, Oct. 2, with a reception from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Refreshments provided by Trattoria Simpatico.

The association wanted to feature abstract art "to stimulate the interest and imagination of the viewers and to challenge artists to produce work that they might not normally consider doing," said Don Miller, CIAA president.

This open, juried show includes work from artists from throughout the state. It features original art, including paintings, graphics and photographs.

The show runs from Thursday, Oct. 2 to Thursday, Dec. 4 at the Jamestown Town Hall, 93 Narragansett Ave. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The show is free, open to the public and handicap accessible.

Youths to experience homelessness Saturday

St. Matthew's Youth Group, which includes those ages 12 to 16, will set up a "tent city" on the St. Matthew's property the night of Saturday, Oct. 4 as part of their year-long program of helping the homeless and the hungry.

To kick off the season and gain perspective on homelessness, the kids will arrive at St. Matthew's at 3 p.m. with nothing but the clothes on their backs, cardboard boxes and duct tape, and will spend the night on the church grounds regardless of the weather. The parishioners of St. Matthew's have been informed of the event and are encouraged to drive by to bring blankets, food and other supplies for the participants, as well as monetary contributions for Lucy's Hearth in Middletown and canned goods for the Johnnycake Center.

Chorus looking for some musical kids

A youth chorus will be part of the chorus' 2008 December holiday concert "Fall Into Winter." The concert will focus on music that represents the time between the onset of autumn and the December holidays.

Young singers, ages 8 to 16, are invited to sing starting on Monday, Oct. 6 from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Rehearsals will be held at the Central Baptist Church at 99 Narragansett Ave. in Jamestown.

The dress rehearsal for the concert will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11. The concert dates are Saturday, Dec. 13 and Sunday, Dec. 14.

There will be no auditions or fees, just singing. For further information, call 423-1574 or access www.jamestownri.com/chorus.

Have fun this fall in an after-school program

The Jamestown Education Foundation (JEF) and the Jamestown School Department will be offering a series of After School Programs for children this fall. Programs are offered for all grade levels.

The eight-week session begins Tuesday, Oct. 14, and runs through the second week of December. While the majority of the programs are offered at no cost, some of the programs may have a small fee for materials. Fee waivers are available.

Programs offered this session include: Spanish language at Melrose, cooking, string ensemble, yoga, Empty Bowls, knitting, robotics, volleyball, writer's club, and yearbook.

Registration will begin on Wednesday, Oct. 1. Registration forms will be available online at JamestownEducationFoundation.org and at the Jamestown school Web site. For more information, call the school principals, Kathy Almanzor at 423-7010 and Carrie Melucci at 423-7020.

JEF is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to providing educational and cultural enrichment for students in Jamestown.

Town seeking volunteers for committee seats


The Town Council is seeking five volunteers for the newly established Town Charter Review Committee. Members of this committee will conduct a review of the Town Charter within the parameters set by the Town Council.

One vacancy exists on the Jamestown Harbor Management Commission. The term will expire on Dec. 31, 2009. A riparian property resident (coastal waters) is needed. The harbor commission is the local advisory and regulatory body authorized by the Town Council to manage the coastal waters and harbor areas of the town through the implementation of the Comprehensive Harbor Management Plan and subsequent ordinances. The harbor commission enforces the provisions and ordinances of the Harbor Management Plan as well as adopts additional policies, rules, and regulations for the implementation of the Harbor Management Plan and such ordinances, subject to the approval of the Town Council and the RI Coastal Resource Management Council.

There are also openings on the Personnel Board, Traffic Commission, Police Pension Committee and Affordable Housing Committees.

Any resident who is a registered voter and is interested in serving on this committee should submit an application to the Town Clerk, 93 Narragansett Ave., Jamestown, RI 02835. Applications can be found at the Town Clerk's office, 93 Narragansett Ave. or on the Internet at www.jamestownri.net. The deadline to respond is Oct. 20. The Town of Jamestown has adopted an Affirmative Action policy and will make appointments consistent with that policy.

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