

AROUND NEWPORT COUNTY

Portsmouth trivia night returns

The Portsmouth Historical Society will hold its Seventh Annual Portsmouth History Trivia Night on Thursday, Feb. 27, at Tremblay’s Bar & Grill, 514 Park Ave., Island Park.

Trivia begins at 6:45 p.m. Seating is limited to just 60 spots, so early reservations are highly recommended. Last year’s event was a full house. Teams of four to six players are welcome and individuals and smaller groups are welcome. The event is free but a \$10 per table donation is suggested. Tremblay’s will be offering their full menu.

Back by popular demand, Joe Cassidy, Portsmouth High School AP History teacher, will serve as emcee. Known for his quick wit and energetic hosting style, Cassidy will guide players through an evening of fun and challenging Portsmouth history trivia.

To register, email [PHSInfo@PortsmouthHistorical.org](mailto:PHSInfo@PortsmouthHistorical.org) with your team name, number of players, and a contact number.

Puddingstone Music Series announces board of directors

The Puddingstone Music Series announced its first Board of Directors.

KAREN NIELSEN BEVAN: Karen majored in the history of art and classical voice studies at Connecticut College and Yale, then subsequently performed soprano roles in NYC at venues including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Carnegie Hall with the New York Pops, and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center. She later developed, produced and sang in a series of original Broadway Musicals that were performed throughout New York State in private homes, clubs, and at charity events.

KATIE MOORHEAD: Katie is an accomplished contemporary ballet dancer with over 20 years of experience performing on prestigious stages across the East Coast, Central Asia, and Europe. An honors graduate of the Kirov Academy of Ballet, she received the Honorable Merit Diploma from the Tersiphora Foundation in St. Petersburg in 2004. After relocating to Rhode Island, Katie introduced the Gyrotonic Expansion System to the region, founding the largest studio in the state.

WILLIAM SCHAAL: Bill is a happily retired Director of Quality Assurance for a major pharmaceutical company, grateful to be free of that rat race. As a youth, his first concert was Eugene Ormandy’s Philadelphia Orchestra with Van Cliburn as guest artist, and this sparked a passion to study piano.

MART MASRI: Mary brings a wealth of experience and expertise from her work in the United States and abroad, including in the arts and fundraising spaces. She is based in Washington, D.C., and holds a master’s degree in Security Policy Studies.

John Clarke senior living community earns LGBTQ+credential

John Clarke a senior living community, proudly announces its achievement of receiving a SAGECare Credential. This prestigious credential was awarded for John Clarke's unwavering commitment to providing an inclusive and affirming environment for LGBTQ+ older adults.

SAGECare awarded John Clarke with its SAGECare Credential after a rigorous assessment of policies, practices, and staff training to create an inclusive and welcoming space for all residents, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

"We are thrilled to partner with SAGECare in our shared mission to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ older adults," said Brianna Medeiros, admissions and marketing director. "I hope this credential gives our local community peace of mind. Peace of mind that any LGBTQ+ senior can come to John Clarke and feel respected, valued, and celebrated for who they are. We work hard to create an inclusive environment that prioritizes the well-being of all residents."

The SAGECare credential process evaluates senior living communities based on various criteria, including non-discrimination policies, staff training on LGBTQ+ cultural competency, community engagement, and resident support services. By meeting and exceeding these standards, John Clarke has demonstrated its commitment to promoting a diverse and supportive environment for LGBTQ+ seniors.

Rose Island artist residents sought

The application for the third annual Rose Island artists residency is now open.

The Rose Island Lighthouse & Fort Hamilton Trust—a 501c3 non profit organization that works to preserve the historic and environmental integrity of



2024 artist Erica Connolly, inspired by her work as an elementary school art teacher in Jamestown, created an accordion-style abecedarium (alphabet book) titled “R is for Rose Island.” She used one-block and two-block printmaking techniques, along with cyanotypes of Rose Island leaves, to produce multiple prints.

PROVIDED BY ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE & FORT HAMILTON TRUST



The Museum of Newport Irish History will present the fourth talk of its 23rd Annual Lecture Series on Monday, February 24 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Scott B. Spencer, Assistant Professor of Musicology at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California, will give a talk titled "Traditional Irish Music and Irish-American Identity at the Dawn of the Recording Age."

PROVIDED BY THE MUSEUM OF NEWPORT IRISH HISTORY

Rose Island and maintain the lighthouse as open for public access and education—is offering this opportunity to Rhode Island-based artists to come stay on the island for 6 nights in early September to work on their projects. Up to eight artists may be selected for participation. Artists whose work will be uniquely inspired or affected by the environment and/or history of Rose Island are encouraged to apply.

“After two years of successful residencies, this program has become an important part of our community engagement and has helped foster relationships across our local arts landscape. We’re delighted to welcome our third cohort and excited to see how Rose Island will inspire this year’s applicants,” said Jen Thum, residency co-organizer and Vice President of the Trust.

A link to the application can be accessed online at [roseisland.org/artist-residency](http://roseisland.org/artist-residency). Applications will be accepted through April 11.

Whitehouse to discuss climate change

Rep. Lauren Carson and Rep. Terri Cortvriend will host an upcoming virtual Aquidneck Island Climate Caucus conversation with U.S. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse on climate change, renewable energy and resilience and the new administration in Washington begins shaping policy.

The forum will take place on Zoom Sunday, Feb. 23, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. It is open to the public but pre-registration is required for access and is available at

[tinyurl.com/AICC2-23-25](https://tinyurl.com/AICC2-23-25).

This is the fifth consecutive year that Whitehouse has joined the Aquidneck Island Climate Caucus for this forum.

The event will provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the latest environmental news from Washington, and to ask questions of Senator Whitehouse, who has been a leading advocate in the Senate for climate initiatives. Questions for Senator Whitehouse can be submitted in advance on the registration form or by email to [Aquidneckclimate@gmail.com](mailto:Aquidneckclimate@gmail.com).

Sail Newport lecture on slavery in Newport

Sail Newport's Challenger Lecture Series presents Keith Stokes who will speak on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 6 p.m. at Sail Newport, 72 Fort Adams Drive, on the peculiar institution of slavery in Newport, which had its start and evolution with the sea providing one of the best paths for African freedom and prosperity “African Heritage Mariners in the Colonial Era” provides an interpretation of how seafaring was one of the most significant occupations among enslaved and free African heritage men during the 18th and 19th centuries. The presentation will include an in-depth review of Newport’s role within the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, the evolution of African mariners, and the use of the sea as an early path to freedom. Presentation images of historic artifacts will come from the collections of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society. Purchase tickets at: [sailnewport.org/](http://sailnewport.org/)

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**Neronha to discuss Trump lawsuits**

The Jamestown Democratic Town Committee is hosting a Community Conversation with Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Neronha on Tuesday, March 4, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at the Jamestown Philomenian Library, 26 North Road. Neronha will explain the series of lawsuits he and 23 of his counterparts across the country have filed to block what they allege to be illegal overreaches by the Trump administration.

The lawsuits challenge Elon Musk's authority and his Department of Government Efficiency's access to sensitive government data, including personal information. Other federal lawsuits include challenging President Trump's executive order ending birthright citizenship, which they believe violates the constitutional rights of all children born in the United States.

Touro Synagogue Foundation hosts talk on ancestral foods

Touro Synagogue Foundation will host the first event of its 2025 Judah Touro Program Series, to be presented via Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker Amy Wachs will present a talk titled "Our Eastern European Roots: We Are What our Ancestors Ate." There is no fee to participate, but reservations are required to receive the Zoom login information.

Based on her personal experiences there, Wachs' presentation will focus on the Russian Pale and Galicia. Her talk will include examples from Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine and Moldova.

For the link to reserve, plus recordings of past programs, please visit the "Programs & Events" page at [tourosynagogue.org](http://tourosynagogue.org). For more information, email [Meryle@tourosynagogue.org](mailto:Meryle@tourosynagogue.org) or phone 401-847-4794 ext. 207.

Museum of Newport Irish History lecture on traditional Irish music

The Museum of Newport Irish History will present the fourth talk of its 23rd Annual Lecture Series Monday, Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Scott B. Spencer, assistant professor of musicology at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California, will give a talk titled "Traditional Irish Music and Irish-American Identity at the Dawn of the Recording Age." The lecture is made possible by a generous gift from Margaret Armstrong Murray, given in memory of her husband, Vincent J. Murray.

This presentation, which includes historic musical recordings, will discuss the past century of traditional Irish music and its impact on Irish and Irish-American identity and community. There is no fee to participate, but reservations are required to receive the Zoom login information.

For the complete talk overview, speaker bio, and the link to reserve, please visit the “Lectures” page at [NewportIrishHistory.org](http://NewportIrishHistory.org). For more information or assistance with reservations, call Ann Arnold at 401-841-5493.

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