

Mosaico News

March 23, 2010

Happy spring! The days are getting longer, the temperature is rising, and Mosaico is about to launch 250 blue-shirt clad 4th graders to the streets of Bristol and Warren as part of our Sense of Pride program's walking tours. This year we have expanded the program to include the students of Hugh Cole Elementary School in Warren, who will be learning about their town in a way similar to the way that Bristol students have been doing for several years.

Table of Contents

- [Board of Directors](#)
- [Save the Date](#)
- [Sense of Pride](#)
- [Mentoring](#)
- [Workforce Planning](#)
- [Census Assistance Center](#)
- [Earth Day](#)
- [Mosaico Park](#)

Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors continues to expand. We are pleased to announce our newest board member, Lynn Creighton. Lynn has recently returned to Bristol, where she lived several years ago. She is working with the owner of the Belvedere at Bristol to fill the retail and residential spaces available in that building. She also works as a realtor in Newport. We are very pleased to have her on the Board.

***The Belle of Amherst* Performance - Save the Date**

2nd Story Theatre will be at the Statehouse during the month of June performing, *The Belle of Amherst*, a one-woman play by William Luce based on the life of Emily Dickenson. As part of their schedule, a special showing will be held to benefit Mosaico and the Statehouse Foundation.

On **June 5**, Mosaico will host a pre-performance reception before the show. This reception will be our way of saying, "Thank you" to all of our friends and supporters of the past year. Details coming soon.

Sense of Pride

The 10th annual Sense of Pride program is underway with the History and Architecture classroom talks taking place in the coming weeks. Lane Sparkman, the new coordinator for Sense of Pride, is giving the History talks and Lombard Pozzi and Rick Greenwood are giving the Architecture talks. Walking Tours and Community Service projects will take place later in the spring.

We have had a wonderful response in Warren to Sense of Pride's expansion to the Hugh Cole Elementary School. Many members of the community, including preservationists, historians, conservationists and teachers past and present, have offered their expertise to support the program in a variety of ways. We're still working with the town of Warren; the Hugh Cole PTA and the Kickemuit River Council to fine tune the Community Service project for Warren, and are hopeful that it will result in some sort of community garden that can grow food for Hugh Cole's Food Pantry.

In the coming weeks Lane will be appearing before the Bristol and Warren Town Councils and the Warren Rotary Club to explain this year's program and to raise awareness generally about Sense of Pride and its goals.

Mentoring

On March 10, the students at KMS, along with their Mentors, went on a field trip to the Audubon Society. The students enjoyed a perfect spring day walking the educational center, visiting the fresh-water marsh and learning about tidal pools. Twelve students and eight mentors were able to attend the field trip, which was organized by Dale Aubrey. After the program, the students wrote essays to describe their trip. I am attaching a couple of my favorites for you to read.

This field trip, that meant so much to our students, was made possible by generous donations from Bank Newport and other grants.

In looking forward to next year, we are realizing that several of our KMS students will be going on to the high school in September. We have already begun to meet with the MHHS staff to ensure that their transition is smooth and that there will be mentoring support in place for them as they begin the last phase of their formal education.

Workforce Planning

On March 27th, Mosaico will be hosting an Open House for unemployed or underemployed residents of Bristol and Warren. Residents will be able to find out about training and employment suggestions for Marine Trades, Healthcare, and Green Technologies. Roger Morris & Cathy Goulart, our Workforce Planning consultants, will be on hand to tell them about Mosaico's program and how we can help them to learn the skills they need to find meaningful employment.

Census Assistance Center

Our own Tony Teixeira is working for the Census offering assistance to residents of Bristol who may need help with completing their forms. As a bi-linguist, Tony is at the Statehouse to assist residents with translation and/or understanding their census questionnaires. His schedule is below. In addition to the Statehouse, residents can get help at the Benjamin Church Community Center and the East Bay Food Pantry.

Questionnaire Assistance Centers

Schedule: March 20 – April 16

SITE	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Mosaico @ the Statehouse	9am -12 noon	9am -12 noon	5-7 pm	4-7pm		9am -12 noon
Benjamin Church Comm. Ctr.				1-3 pm		
EB Food Pantry			3/24 & 3/31 11am to 3pm			

Earth Day

On **May 1**, following tradition, Mosaico is once again organizing to spruce up the Wood St/Franklin St area as part of the Town-wide Earth Day clean up (rain date May 8). We are recruiting volunteers to help with the effort to pick up trash, make minor repairs, and give the neighborhood a good spring cleaning! If you'd like to volunteer, give us a call, 253-4627. We'll have more details in the April newsletter.

Mosaico Park

And speaking of sprucing up the place, we should be seeing some of those lovely spring blooms that Gary Watros planted last fall. We can't wait to see the park come alive with color.

Yes, spring is in the air!