Women’s History Month Theatrical Performance

Saturday, March 9, 2 pm
Actress and storyteller Laurie Gaulke will present a one-woman show, “Alice Ramsey and Her Automotive Odyssey across America.” In 1909, 22-year-old Alice Huyler Ramsey of Hackensack became the first woman to drive across the United States, from Hell’s Gate on the Atlantic to the Golden Gate on the Pacific.

Gaulke specializes in creating historical portrayals of real women with real stories to tell. Using their own words as recorded in diaries, letters, journals, and other primary source materials, she breathes life into the extraordinary lives of ordinary women.

Journaling Workshops are for Everyone
The library will offer its first “journaling” workshops to both older children and adults this year when Plainsboro artist and sketchbook journalist Paula Ridley leads participants through the process of recording their thoughts in visually creative ways. Workshops will be totally accessible to everyone — no art or writing experience necessary!

See “Journaling” on page 2

Free Museum Pass Program Expanded
Thanks to the Friends of the Plainsboro Public Library, the number of museums to which cardholders may now gain free admission will be expanded. Starting in April they will include: Grounds for Sculpture, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Barnes Foundation, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, the Frick, Morven, and the Museum of Modern Art.

Eligible cardholders may reserve each museum pass online once per month, using their library card number. Certain passes may be printed on demand while others must be picked up at, and returned to, the library. For more information, call 609-275-2897.

Pronunciation Class for ESL Students
Cindy Gordon, a literacy tutor with Literacy New Jersey of Mercer County, will lead a weekly pronunciation class for ESL students at the library, every Tuesday, March 5 through April 23, from 10:30 am-12:30 pm. The interactive format will include an emphasis on consonants, vowels, syllables, word stress, the rhythm of sentences, intonation, and more. Sessions will include exercises, games, and lots of practice. Registration is required; check the library website for available spots. All questions should be directed to Joyce at jhuang@lmxac.org.
Classes for ‘Girls Who Code’

“Girls Who Code” classes, designed to diminish the gender gap in technology by teaching the basics of computer programming to girls, are scheduled to take place in March. Two identical classes will be held for those in grades 3 - 6 – on March 5 and March 19. Both boys and girls may attend either class to master the computational thinking skills needed to learn and use programming languages.

Those in grades 7 - 12 will meet every Monday in March from 6-7:30 pm, to learn about coding languages and the basics of Python.

Registration is required for both age groups. For more information, call 609-275-2897.

Celebrate Creativity on NJ Makers Day

The Plainsboro Library will be an official location for “NJ Makers Day” on Saturday, March 23, from 11 am-2 pm. NJ Makers Day is a statewide event that promotes hands-on creative pursuits and collaborative learning - “maker” activity – in science and the arts. Participants in NJ Makers Day will focus on projects that they might not pursue at home. For example, at the library, kids of all ages will be invited to create simple circuits with copper tape, watch batteries and LED lights. Those with a mathematical bent may test their problem-solving ability in the Engineering Minute-to-Win-It competition. Program your own robot, or devise a signature button (pin) with the library's Button Maker program. For information about other Makers Day activities at the library, go to www.plainsborolibrary.org

Art Gallery

MARCH: YOUTH ART MONTH

West Windsor-Plainsboro students’ art, hosted at Plainsboro and West Windsor Libraries and the Plainsboro Township Recreational and Cultural Center. Contact schools for details.

APRIL: "FLY GUMJI" BY SUNGHYE CHO

April 6 – May 1
Reception: Sunday, April 7, 2-4 pm

Sketches and digital illustrations of travels with the artist’s beloved puppy. A must-see for lovers of graphic novels and comics.

MAY: PLAINSBRO CENTENNIAL & INTERACTIVE “MEMORY” EXHIBIT

May 3 – 29
Kick-off Reception:
Friday, May 3, 1-3 pm

In celebration of the Township’s centennial, residents are invited to share their memories with others by means of an interactive “memory” exhibit in the library. The contents of that exhibit will be loaded into the Township’s time capsule in November for future generations to enjoy! Bring in your photos of Plainsboro from years ago to hang on the gallery wall (or email them to plainsboromemories@gmail.com). Write down your memories of Township life for display with the photos — and for the time capsule. Join this running conversation with fellow – and future – residents throughout the month of May. The exhibit will include local historical images as well as aerial photos from 20 years ago.

Jazz Performance Series

In celebration of Jazz Appreciation Month in April, a series of jazz concerts will be presented throughout the Township. The music will begin every Friday evening, at 7 pm, in the following locations:

Friday, April 5, Wendy Zoffer Trio, location to be determined.

Friday, April 12, Akiko Tsuruga Jazz at Plainsboro Preserve

Friday, April 19, Darla Rich Duet at Plainsboro Recreation Center

Friday, April 26, Nate Adderly, Jr. at Plainsboro Library

“JOURNALING” continued from page 1

Thanks to a grant from the Middlesex County Office of Arts and History, the journaling workshops will begin in late spring, and will be integrated into the library’s “Universe of Stories” summer theme. Ridley will provide prompts to help workshop goers get started with a journal entry. Prompts can be as diverse as the imagination. They could include subjects such as a favorite holiday tradition, a food that reminds one of a childhood memory, even a favorite place.

Small journals will be provided to all participants, to be used at their own pace. Each person will recreate one of the pages on archival paper; Plainsboro artist Maria Pisano will then will bind the works for a future exhibit.