

Next scheduled issue:
Saturday, November 3

The Main Street **WIRE**

Roosevelt Island’s Community Newspaper

in association with **Website NYC10044** www.nyc10044.com



Broadway Magic Fund-Raiser Police Officer Daniel Rodriguez and his company of musicians and singers performed Sunday night at Manhattan Park Theater Club in a benefit to raise funds for installation of the organ at Chapel of the Good Shepherd. Committee Chair Mary Fitzgerald (above with Rodriguez) reported this week that the event had raised over \$8,000. With \$8,237 raised earlier, that puts the campaign within \$6,000 of its \$22,000 goal.

RIRA Sets Town Meeting on New Octagon Plan – Wednesday 8pm

The revised Becker and Becker plan for the Octagon Park area will be the subject of a Town Meeting Wednesday (October 24) at 8:00 p.m., in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

City Councilmember Gifford Miller will appear at the meeting to discuss the ramifications of making changes in the Island’s General Development Plan (GDP) to accommodate the changed proposal. Residents will have an opportunity to address comments and questions to the architects.

At the RIOC Board of Directors meeting last week, the firm received an extension of site control, moving one step closer to a final go-ahead.

Changes in the GDP, which is part of the 99-year lease under which New York State is developing Roosevelt Island (which is owned by the City), are believed to be required because the development uses land designated in the GDP as parkland.

The Wednesday night meeting will present plans, previously discussed with the Residents Association Planning Committee, to increase the size of the proposed development to as many as 450 apartments, including a dozen within the landmarked Octagon tower, the last remaining piece of the City’s “Pauper Lunatic Asylum.” It was designed by a renowned architect of



Mort Pavane

In 1982, the Octagon’s dome was destroyed by fire.

the time, Alexander Jackson Davis, and first opened in 1839.

The expansion of the Octagon apartments plan includes a parking structure where the Octagon Park tennis courts are located, with a plan to put the courts on top of the one-story parking structure. With that change, the development goes nearly shore to shore across the Island.

No site plan was available at press time.

CB8 to Ask for City-State Action on Blackwell

The Landmarks Committee of Community Board 8 “takes very seriously” the deteriorated condition of Blackwell House, according to Historical Society President Judith Berdy, who attended a meeting of the committee Monday night.

Berdy said CB8 will adopt a “scathing resolution,” appalled that RIOC has not reached out for sources of funding beyond a State grant, which was denied last year. CB8 will call for the State and the City to work together to find ways of addressing the deterioration, which has continued for several years.

No Quorum at RIRA Meeting

There was no quorum at a Residents Association (RIRA) “emergency” Common Council meeting Monday night.

The session had been scheduled when the Council ran out of time at its October 3 meeting, and failed to consider the voting status of Sherie Helstien, the secretary of the Residents Association.

Helstien, the wife of RIRA President Matthew Katz, lost her seat representing Manhattan Park when she and Katz moved to Westview in May, but not before being elected to the secretary post. Disagreeing sides on the Council hold opposite positions as to whether the post entitles her to a vote.

Katz, Helstien, and a group of

several supporters point to ambiguities in the RIRA Constitution regarding RIRA’s Island-wide offices like President, First Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and hold that Helstien should have a vote in her capacity as secretary. Further, they point out that Robert’s Rules of Order, which govern Council meetings, hold that the benefit of any doubt should generally be given to a member of an organization.

An opposing group, followers of former RIRA President Patrick Stewart, contend that Helstien lost her elective voting rights on the Common Council when she moved from Manhattan Park, whether or

See **RIRA**, page 7

RIOC Board Takes No Action on Tram Hours

“You can rest assured that [the Tramway] will be operating fully until and if you hear anything to the contrary.”

So said Mary Beth Labate, Chair of the RIOC Board of Directors, at its October meeting held last week.

The Residents Association had sought RIOC passage of a resolution supporting policies guaranteeing a continuation of Tramway service at present levels, but Labate said, “At this point we are not prepared to make a definitive decision one way or another on the Tram.”

The possibility of reducing hours had been raised by Labate at the Board’s June meeting, when she asked for community reaction to the idea. It was met with a summer avalanche of negative reaction from residents in a petition, letters, and e-mails.

The RIRA-sponsored resolution was discussed briefly by RIOC Board member Leo Kayser, who has been asking residents to back his plan to narrow the Tram’s operating deficit by selling advertising on the Tram cabins, a plan which has met resistance from City Councilmember Gifford

See **Tram**, page 7

A Long-Time Fixture at Trellis, “Ali” Keeps Smiling and Serving

by Anusha Shrivastava

Tazul Islam may have served you the last time you ate at Trellis. Maybe even the *first* time you ate there.

Never heard of him? Think again.

Pencil tucked behind his ear, green apron covering his white shirt, he has been working at this 107-seat Island restaurant for nearly twenty years.

Even so, not many know him by name. That’s not because no one cares or because he has refused to reveal his identity. It’s because everyone knows him by a nickname: “Ali,” they call out when they want his attention.

“I like the name,” he says, flashing a thousand-watt smile.

The short, dark-haired, 39-year old Tazul Islam was a lanky young man when he arrived in New York from his hometown, Naozaon, in Bangladesh, in 1982. The second child in a family of peasant parents and seven siblings, Islam was brought here by a friend. “I don’t remember his name now. It was a long time ago,” says Islam. “I used to call him ‘bhai.’ It means brother.”

The friend hosted him for two years and

got him a job at a coffee shop on Steinway Street in Queens. Two years later, “bhai” got Islam a job at the restaurant on Roosevelt Island. “It was called Green Kitchen at the time. I did not like it then, but that may be because I used to wash dishes and could not speak in English,” says Islam, who speaks with a distinctive Bengali accent even today.

Overcoming his handicap by attending English classes, Islam, who had never attended school before his arrival in the States, was promoted to busboy. Within six months, he was working at the counter.

In his time there, a lot has happened.

One evening in 1987, a time when the restaurant went by the name of Green Kitchen, he saw the rooms fill up with policemen. “There were about 50 of them,” he says. He panicked and called his boss, who told him to stay at the counter and deal with whatever the problem was. “I was really worried because I had never seen so many policemen here before. One policeman asked me several questions about two customers who were sitting here and if I had seen them do anything strange. Then, the police asked the two young men lots of questions and finally ar-



rested some people,” says Islam.

It was a drug bust, the only time Islam saw anything like this happen.

The restaurant was taken over by new management and renamed Andy’s Place.

He worked at the counter throughout the 1990s and then became a waiter. Under Kaie Razhagi, the current owner, Islam serves as manager two days a week. “I like to be a waiter. Being a manager is too much responsibility. I am a simple person. I like to do my work and go home,” he says.

Razhagi says he thinks Islam’s reluctance to be a manager has something to do with money. “This game is all about money and Ali makes more money as a waiter because he gets tips,” says Kaie.

Considering that Islam sends most of his savings to his parents back home in Bangladesh, that may certainly be true. “I lead a good life here, they lead a good life there,” said Islam. While Islam is happy renting a house and riding the subway, he says his wife of nine years, Banoo, is not. She saves the meager wages she earns at a clothing factory in Astoria in an attempt to con-

See **Ali**, page 7

The Editorial Page

Community

The WIRE often speaks of community in praise of Roosevelt Island.

In recent days, we’ve seen this spirit of community exemplified in ways that can make us all the more proud to live here.

In response to the September 11 tragedy, the Residents Association mounted a fund-raising effort. Led by Vicki Feinmel, a dedicated group collected funds on the street. Inspired by their example and the need, hundreds who live and work here reached into their wallets and backed their compassion with cash. The sum, now over \$8,000, was a remarkable outpouring.

Artists put together a window saluting the heroes of the World Trade Center (see page 3 and, more importantly, the display in a Rivercross window).

Residents, individually and in groups, visited the Fire Department facility here with gifts of food and their expressions of condolences.

After September 11, there were gatherings, both planned and impromptu, in a coming together to mourn, and hope, and – where appropriate – to celebrate the wonder that is America. There were dozens of small acts of kindness and caring that are still felt by those they touched.

And last Sunday, in an event that turned out to be poignantly connected, there was another community gathering for a remarkable concert featuring a New York City Police Officer – and put together, appropriately enough, by a committee led by a retired member of the force, Mary Fitzgerald. This event, raising funds for the community’s organ in Good Shepherd Chapel, brought in over \$8,000. When it ended, all standing and joining in *America the Beautiful*, we knew we had been present for an extraordinary occasion.

All this – and too much more to mention – in an extraordinary community.

DL

Letters Policy

The WIRE welcomes letters to the Editor, to the community, and to/from officials. Publication on a *Name Withheld* basis will be considered, but the writer’s name, address, and phone number **must** be provided for verification and for our records. **Preferred methods of submission:** PC-standard 3.5-inch floppy disk left at 531 Main Street for *The WIRE*, or by e-mail to Letters@MainStreetWIRE.com (ASCII text preferred or use any wordprocessing software, but no MSWord files with macros). **Alternatives:** Typed, double-spaced copy left at 531 Main Street or faxed to (212) 755-2540. Clearly handwritten letters will be considered if brief, but we cannot take telephone dictation of letters. **All letters are subject to acceptance and to editing for length and clarity.** We recommend a maximum length of 300 words, but will consider longer letters if their content merits the required space.



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About subscriptions: *The Main Street WIRE*, which is delivered free to every residential door on Roosevelt Island, does not normally solicit off-Island subscriptions but, as a courtesy, provides first-class mailing on day of publication. The cost is \$50/year (for about 20-24 issues, published fortnightly September-May, and less often June-August) to cover postage and materials. A check payable to *The WIRE* should be sent, with delivery address, to *The WIRE*, 531 Main Street #413, NYC10044. Most of each edition also appears, with many archived back issues, on *Website NYC10044* at www.nyc10044.com.

Letters

To the Editor:

Approximately six months ago RIOC erected a fence around the active Southtown playing field. With this one simple move RIOC reduced our public facilities, increased our cost of living, and made the Island less healthy.

Look at the cost of living. Since RIOC blocked off the turnaround just south of Blackwell House, every vehicle serving the center of the Island must travel an extra mile to complete its trip. That’s as many as 4000 vehicles a day. The stop-and-go traffic moves at ten miles to the gallon; the average gasoline consumption for these 4000 vehicles amounts to 400 gallons a day or 12,000 gallons a month. At \$1.50 a gallon, that’s \$18,000 a month.

Look at the health factor. These vehicles emit carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen, formaldehyde and particulate matter into the air that we breathe.

Is there any way that RIOC might be prevailed upon to restore the Main Street turnaround?

David Bauer

To The Community:

When it comes to a crisis, the residents of Roosevelt Island always pull together for their own. It was so wonderfully evident in our most recent disaster.

To those who gave and to those who couldn’t, but wanted to, we truly thank you.

Our special thanks to the Korean Community, Mark Ponton Corporation, Roosevelt Island Senior Association, Julie’s Back Page, Eastwood Building Committee, Rivercross Tenants’ Corporation, the Roosevelt Island Tennis Association, and the Island House Task Force.

Our hearts go out to the families that were affected by this tragedy.

Again, we thank you for all your support and generosity.

RIRA Fundraising Committee

Letters deadline for
Nov. 3 issue: Oct. 28

Letters received after deadline
will be considered on a
space-available basis

Dear Roosevelt Island Residents:

It is very difficult to say goodbye and express how much I have enjoyed working with you. I truly believe there will not be an experience in my lifetime that will compare to the past 16 years serving this community as Director of Community Relations. It has been a very exciting and satisfying career. Although my life will take on new direction, you will always hold a special place in my heart. I thank you for sharing with me countless memories and hope that I have served you well. I will miss you all.

Also at this time, I will continue providing community relations services to Manhattan Park residents at Manhattan Park Management, 30 River Road.

Roosevelt Island residents or community organizations wishing to reserve the Manhattan Park Theater Club may also reach me at Manhattan Park Community Relations, (212) **308-4040**.

Wishing you and yours much happiness.

Marilyn Engstler

Be a part of it

Your Business Card in the WIRE’s
Thanksgiving Issue

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The WIRE’s
Thanksgiving
Business Card Issue

Run your business card in
The WIRE’s Thanksgiving issue
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Cards will run slightly reduced to 3.3w x 1.8h. The word *retired* will be added, if you wish.
You may type or write additional information on your card, if appropriate to indicate the nature of your work, or provide brief separate copy to be added by *The WIRE* to an open spot on the card.

DEADLINE • Wednesday, November 7 • DEADLINE
Send it in now while you’re thinking about it,
and show your support for *The WIRE*

If you prefer not to publish a business card but would like to support *The WIRE*, contribute \$20 and have your name on a list that will accompany the business cards.

Thank you for supporting *The Main Street WIRE*,
Roosevelt Island’s Community Newspaper.

COMING UP

Compiled by *WIRE* staff – Fax information to 755-2540
e-mail ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com
or click on the e-mail link at www.nyc10044.com

Mon., Oct. 22, 8:00 p.m., Toastmasters Open House meeting. For information, call 795-0396.

Tue., Oct. 23, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Opening Reception for Art Harvest 2001, residents’ annual art exhibit, Coler-Goldwater Hospital South Campus Auditorium. Exhibition continues Wed., Oct. 24, through Sun., Oct. 28, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Free.

Tue., Oct. 23, 6:30 p.m., Book Signing and Discussion with Islander Bernie Schwartz and Gerald Chatanow, co-authors of *Another Time, Another Place – A Neighborhood Remembered*.

There is no charge to list Island events here. E-mail information to ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com, fax to 755-2540, or leave copy at the desk at 531 Main Street, addressed to *The WIRE*. Provide a telephone number for possible follow-up.

Wed., Oct. 24, 8:00 p.m., Town Meeting on revised proposal for Octagon Apartments, with Becker and Becker Associates (architects) and City Councilmember Gifford Miller on ramifications for the

Island’s General Development Plan.

Fri., Oct. 26 (and every Friday), 7-9 p.m., **Sketching Session** at the Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association (RIVAA), 546 Main Street, 12th floor (across from elevator). Small fee. For information, call 755-1771.

Sat., Oct. 27, 12 noon, Halloween Parade and Extravaganza. Meet at Blackwell House for march to PS/IS 217 for games, food, and music in the PS217 yard. (In case of rain, all activities indoors at PS 217.) Information: 935-3645 or 838-4747.

Mon., Oct. 29, 11:00 a.m., NYS Dormitory Authority Public Hearing on issuance of bonds for purchase, by Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, of the first Southtown building, Dormitory Authority offices, One Penn Plaza. Public comment in person or in writing is invited; related materials available at the hearing or at the agency’s offices in Albany at 515 Broadway.

Tues., Oct. 30, 9:00 a.m., Learning Leader Training Session at PS/IS 217. First of 3, all required. For information, call 980-0294, ext. 2422.

Sat., Nov. 3, next issue of *The Main Street WIRE*. **Deadlines:** Advertising in the paper, Fri., Oct. 26; decision on stuffers for *The Bag*, Mon., Oct. 29, with materials due Thur., Nov. 1. **Future issues:** Nov. 17, Dec. 1, Dec. 15, then every two weeks starting early in January, 2002. **Phone/fax** for news, 826-9055/755-2540; phone/fax for advertising inquiries, 751-8214/755-2540; to list your organization’s Island events here (no charge), fax information to 755-2540, or e-mail ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com.

Tue., Nov. 6, Election Day. Balloting 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at PS/IS 217.

Wed., Nov. 7, 8:00 p.m., RIRA Common Council Meeting, Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

Thur., Nov. 8, 6:00 p.m., RIOC Board of Directors meeting, Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

Tue., Nov. 20, 6:30 p.m., Book Discussion, Kindred by Octavia Butler, Library. Advance registration required.

Tue., Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m., Book Discussion, Bodega Dreams by Ernesto Quinonez, Library. Advance registration required.

2002

Sat., Jan. 5, all day, **Blood Drive**, Senior Center, sponsored by RIRA, the Icla da Silva Foundation, RISA, and the New York Blood Center.

Tue., Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m., Book Discussion, Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri, Library. Advance registration required.

Tue., Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m., Book Discussion, Surfacing by Margaret Atwood, Library. Advance registration required.

Tue., Mar. 19, 6:30 p.m., Book Discussion, The Reader by Bernhard Schlink, Library. Advance registration required.

Tue., Apr. 16, 6:30 p.m., Book Discussion, Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells, Library. Advance registration required.

Senior Center

Monday
10:30, **Blood Pressure Screening**
12:45, **Arts & Crafts** (RIDA)

Tuesday
10:00, **Jazzercise**
1:30, **Games** (RISA)

Wednesday
9:15, **Stay Well Exercise**
10:00, **English as 2nd Language** (beginner)
11:00, **English as 2nd Language** (intermediate)

Thursday
10:00, **Tai Chi**
10:30, **Creative Arts**
12:30, **Movie**
7:00, **Dance Class**

Friday
9:00, **Citizenship**
10:15, **Yoga Stretch**
10:00, **English as 2nd Language** (beginner)
11:00, **English as 2nd Language** (intermediate)
11:00, **Stay Well**
7:30, **Lotto**

Saturday
7:30, **Bingo** (RISA)

Special Events

Fri., Oct. 19, 9:30-11:30, Free Flu Shots

Wed., Oct. 24, 9:30-11:30, Free Flu Shots **cancelled** for this date and **moved** to Friday, Oct. 19 and Friday, Nov. 16

Wed., Oct. 24, 11:15, Health Awareness Lecture (also Oct. 31)

Wed., Oct. 24, 12:30, Oriental Calligraphy (also Nov. 7 and 21)

Mon., Oct. 29, 10:00, Medical lecture and blood pressure screening

Wed., Oct. 31, 7:00, Halloween Party and Birthday Party

Mon., Nov. 5, 10:30, Crime Prevention Lecture

Mon., Nov. 12, 11-12:30, MetroCard Bus

Fri., Nov. 16, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Free Flu Shots

Fri., Nov. 30, 9:30-4:30, Cardio-Vision Program

Home-delivered meals available: 744-5022, ext. 1203

A Tribute to Heroes

These are two works of art displayed in the southernmost window of Rivercross as a tribute to the heroes of September 11 and after. They are the works of Harry Small (right), Tad Sudol (left), and (not shown here) Arline Jacoby, Esther Piaskowski, and Maureen Leong, all members of the Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association.



Halloween Parade Set Next Saturday

Roosevelt Island’s annual Halloween Parade will kick off at noon next Saturday from Blackwell House, and end at PS217, where games and food will be awaiting the community’s little (and big) ghouls.

If it rains, everything will be inside at the school.

PS/IS 217 Seeking Volunteers as Learning Leaders

Learning Leaders are being sought by the Island school.

In the program, volunteer adults work one-on-one with students on their skills in reading, writing, math, or English, and help in the library, office, and cafeteria. On-site support is provided.

Training sessions, all of which are required, are scheduled 9:00-11:00 a.m., October 30, November 1, and November 8, at the school.

To register for the training, call 980-0294, extension 2422.

First Lady Laura Bush, a former teacher, praised the Learning Leaders program when in New York September 25.

Goldwater Sets Art Harvest 2001

Art produced by patients at the South Campus of Coler-Goldwater Hospital will be on display October 23-28, under the sponsorship of the facility’s Department of Therapeutic Recreation Services.

An opening reception is scheduled Tuesday (October 23) from 2:00-4:00 p.m., with exhibit times daily through Sunday, 10:00-4:00; with additional hours, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Thursday only.

PS217 Running a Twin Towers Penny Harvest

Six days remain in a month-long Twin Towers Penny Harvest being run by the City Board of Education and Common Cents New York. The goal is to collect as many pennies as possible before Friday, October 26.

Students from the Roosevelt Island school are participating. Individuals and classes collecting the most pennies will receive prizes.

Collecting points include various stores, the school entrance, and the Rivercross lobby.

Proceeds will go to aid relief efforts following the September 11 Twin Towers attack.

It’s the Penny Harvest’s ninth year.

Last week, the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation Board of Directors met for the first time since July. Not surprisingly, they had a heavy agenda, and met in executive session for two and a half hours before convening the public portion of their meeting. The question of curtailing Tram hours, which has occupied so many of us for the past three months, was not on the agenda, but was dealt with up front.

The Chair, Deputy Commissioner Mary Beth Labate, acknowledged the hundreds of letters and thousands of signatures provided by this community as “appropriate feedback.” She affirmed receipt of the resolution adopted by RIRA that calls on the resident RIOC Board members to introduce the following resolution: “It shall be the policy of RIOC to support and guarantee policies which preserve Tramway service at no less than its current service levels, with no reduction in hours, staffing or level of maintenance.” Community Board 8 passed a similar resolution affirming strong opposition to any reduction in Tram service or hours of operation. Commissioner Labate stated that the Board was “not prepared to make a definitive final decision” on the question of eliminating the third shift.

Resident member David Kraut stated that the Board would be seeking alternative methods to deal with the Tram deficit. One alternative under discussion is acquiring advertising for the Tram or Tram Plaza. City Councilmember Gifford Miller has been fighting to tie the City’s permission for advertising to an agreement providing the MetroCard for Tram riders. RIOC Board member Leo Kaiser suggested cutting token booth hours on the Manhattan side. This certainly doesn’t comply with the resolutions offered by RIRA and CB8, and I fear a slippery slope of service cuts if this idea were implemented. Unless this stand-off is resolved or ridership increases to the level of self-sufficiency, I expect we’ll be obliged to mount this debate yet again sometime in the future.

In other business, the RIOC requests for a Blackwell House grant of \$650,000, and \$520,000 for an ecological park, denied last year by the State, were re-submitted. I do hope RIOC will not put all its eggs in this one basket and will pursue other resources while this proposal works its way through the New York State system. Scott Weiss of AMEC, RIOC’s representative in Southtown construction, said that a traffic turn-around just south of 510 Main Street was planned for Southtown when street construction is under way. Like you, I wish this could be restored now. The initial site control agreement with Becker & Becker Associates, designated developers of the Octagon landmark, expired after six months and has been renewed. Director Kraut mentioned that his knowledge of the new Octagon proposal came from *The Main Street WIRE* (see October 6 issue), and asked RIOC staff to keep him better-informed.

I feel that the community also needs to be kept informed, both as to the nature of the proposed development and the ramifications on our General Development Plan. I spent some ink in the last *WIRE* issue discussing the pros and cons.

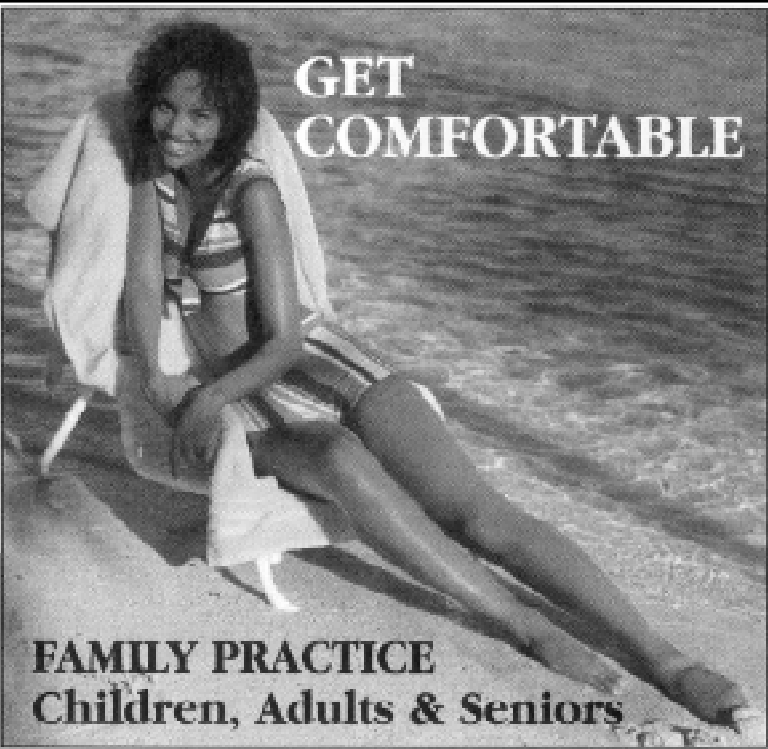
I’m happy to report that a Town Meeting has been set to address these concerns. It will take place on Wednesday, October 24, at 8:00 P.M. in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. RIRA will host Becker & Becker Associates to present their plans, as well as Councilmember Gifford Miller, who will consider the implications of changing the General Development Plan (GDP). No one has tried to amend the GDP in over ten years, and not since the Board of Estimate was abolished.

Roosevelt Islanders need to ask the basic questions about whether the GDP needs to be changed to accommodate the Octagon plan, the wisdom of amending the plan for this development project, the methods of changing the GDP, and the “ripple-effect” of changing the GDP. And then, we need to examine the Becker plan for the Octagon to see how it impacts on our Island and to offer advice. These decisions will affect the quality of life here for many years to come, and so I urge you to attend and to ask questions of the participants. Once the Octagon Park Apartments attain the requisite approvals and the momentum that comes with them, it will be hard for us to provide new input. Let’s take advantage of this exchange of information while we can.

The RIRA Column



Matthew Katz
RIRA President
e-mail: matthewkatz@rcn.com



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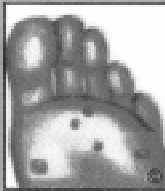
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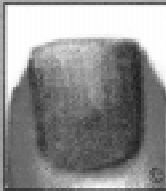
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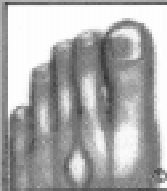
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WARTS



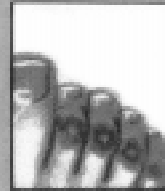
FUNGUS NAIL



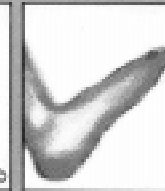
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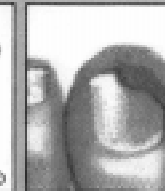
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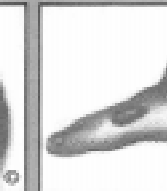
HAMMERTOES



HEEL SPURS



INGROWN TOENAILS



CYSTS



ULCERS

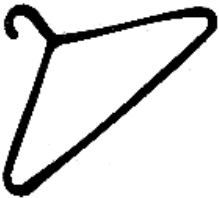
How Roosevelt Island Voted – The 2001 Primary and Runoff

	Sept. 25 Primary			Oct. 11 Runoff		
	RI vote	RI %	NYC %	RI vote	RI %	NYC %**
Mayor - Dem						
Green *	286	35.9	32.0	538	62.6	52.0
Ferrer	200	25.1	36.0	322	37.4	48.0
Vallone	178	22.4	20.0			
Hevesi	126	15.8	12.0			
Spitz	6	0.8				
Votes cast	796			860		
Mayor - Rep						
Bloomberg *	47	67.1				
Badillo	23	32.9				
Votes cast	70					
Public Advocate						
Gotbaum *	184	27.9	24.0	506	66.2	64.0
Siegel	123	18.7	16.0	258	33.8	36.0
Colon	66	10.0	16.0			
DiBrienza	48	7.3	16.0			
Stringer	168	25.5	16.0			
Flaxman	15	2.3				
Freed	55	8.3				
Votes cast	659			764		
City Comptroller						
Thompson *	364	56.0	54.0			
Berman	286	44.0	46.0			
Votes cast	650					

*winner **unofficial; final count still to come

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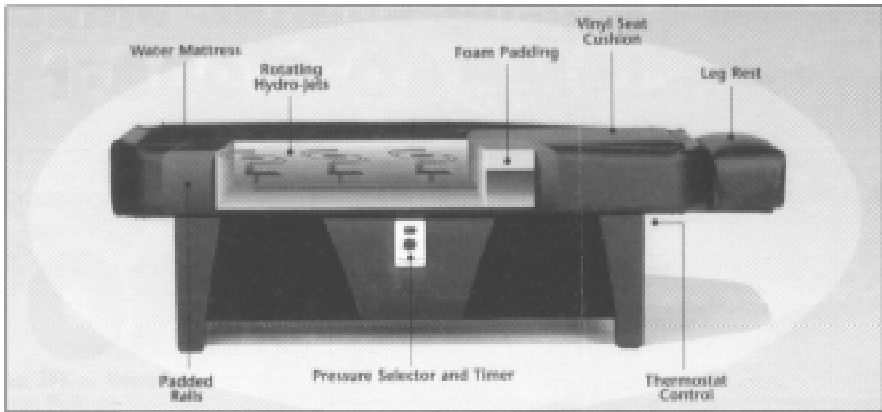
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SPORTSWIRE

FLAG FOOTBALL In the Youth Program’s Flag Football League 12-14 Division, the Raiders and the Giants are tied for first place after three weeks of play. After both teams opened the season with two victories each, they met on Saturday, October 13, and battled to a 19-19 tie. After a 7-7 first half tie, the Giants opened a 19-7 lead, only to have the Raiders come back to tie the game late in the second half. The Jets won their first game of the season on October 13, defeating the Broncos, as Matthew Brodsky, Maurel Clark, Richard DeLaCruz, and Le-Quan Francis all had outstanding games for the Jets.

SOCCER The standings in the Soccer League after three weeks in the Minor Division (ages 7-8), Junior Division (ages 9-10), and the Senior Division (ages 11-14):

Minor Division	W	L	T	Pts
Red (B)	3	0	-	6
Blue (C)	2	1	-	4
Yellow (A)	1	2	-	2
Green (D)	0	3	-	0
Junior Division	W	L	T	Pts
Blue (B)	2	1	-	4
Green (C)	1	0	2	4
Red (D)	1	1	1	3
Yellow (A)	0	2	1	1
Senior Division	W	L	T	Pts
Red (C)	3	0	-	6
Green (B)	2	1	-	4
Yellow (D)	0	2	1	1
Blue (A)	0	2	1	1

In the Minor Division, the first-place Red Team has been led by the outstanding play of Ussama Boutleb, Daniel Ruiz and Eric Michels. The second-place Blue Team has received strong play from Javon Perry, Michelle Holland, Thomas Diamond and Graham McMillan. The Yellow Team, which is in third place, has been led by the superb play of Madhi Ladjouzi, Andrew White, Austin Cure and Nathaniel Henderson, while the Green Team has received strong play from Jared Rosenthal, Weston Gurlach and Vinicius Maluly.

In the Junior Division, Anass Dorani, Bertrand Oubida and Marco Oydanich have led the Blue Team into first place at the halfway point of the season, while the Green Team is in second place behind the goaltending of Reid Cure and Tulga Enhσαιhan, and the scoring of Nikola Gak. The Red Team have been led by the strong play of Alex Beola, Sammy Johns, Ahmed Aboulezz, Diana Folla and Beatrice Ajero, and the Yellow Team has received superb play from Alex Pinks, Justus Burgos, and Brandon and Pascal Atangana.

In the Senior Division, the first place Red Team looks like the team to beat, led by the inspired play of their goalie, Ilija Trojanovic, with strong support from Ussama Al-Zatari, Jason Fell, Alessandro Matillo, and Elliot Levine. The Green Team, which is in second place, has received outstanding play from Chris Sullivan, Rafik Mrabik, Thomas Herlihy, Eyosas Tadesse and Olivia Callender. The Blue Team has been led by the strong play of Seif Dorani, Stephanie Maikarfi, Hugo Genes and Sid Mennon, while the Yellow Team has received superb play from Omani Guy, David Malary, Klaus Lucas and Kwaime Phillips.

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M 22		
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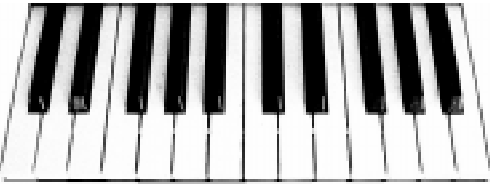
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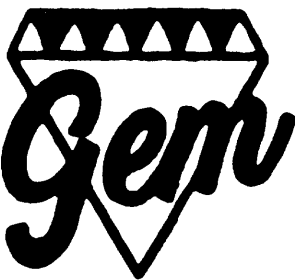
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Tram from page 1

Miller, who represents the Island. Miller has said he would consider the idea, but only if linked to making MetroCard transfers available to and from the Tramway.

Kayser said, “If we could get the support of our elected representatives to make it easier for us to get advertising revenue and not tie it to something that’s going to drain off our resources otherwise – we already have a substantial gap – it would be helpful [in] preserving those hours. People [who] want to preserve the hours [should] ask the elected representatives to give us a freer hand to increase revenue from advertising.”

Kayser, who, like other Board members, had read residents’ comments submitted during the summer, praised some suggestions such as eliminating a token-booth clerk at the Manhattan station during certain hours, but then criticized a segment of community reaction to the possibility of cuts as saying, “We don’t care about the problems you have on operating deficits. We don’t want you to look at any adjustments that you can make to preserve those hours – just preserve them come hell or high water.” Kayser said, “That kind of attitude is to me not constructive, and doesn’t take into account balancing all sorts of priorities which this Board has an obligation to do.” He added, “A little cooperation and some flexibility on things, in terms of the economics, would be very helpful from this community, and would show a maturity from the community in terms of recognition of economic realities.

“If we’re barred from doing that [selling advertising on the Tram and Tramway station],” Kayser said, “it makes it more difficult to keep these hours. The vast consensus of the Island is to maintain those hours. We all have a common objective, and the question is how to go about doing it.”

Resident Board member David Kraut said, “It is, in the end, about money. It costs money to run the Tram, and it’s very easy to make a financial case that at least one shift costs too much, despite the fact that, if we did away with it, it would work a significant hardship on this community.”

Kraut said he had called Councilmember Miller about the advertising idea “to ask him to expand on his comments in the public meeting held here on August 1. He told me that he remained firm in his position that any advertising on the Tram would have to be tied in directly to his long-term goal, and a dream I share, of getting the Tram tied in to MetroCard, something we haven’t been able to proceed on to this point because it’s too expensive. It seems apparent to us that one way to increase the revenue on the Tram is to put advertising on the Tram and/or, preferably, on the Tram platform in Manhattan. There is a large potential for advertising revenue from these two sources...

“Gifford feels that an increase in expenses would be mitigated by the amount we would charge for advertising, and also the fact that use of the MetroCard would tend to raise Tram usage. Our [RIOCI] staff sees the numbers one way. Gifford sees the potential another way.

“I think there’s a sense that people are drawing lines in the sand here. There’s no such thing as a line in the sand on a Roosevelt Island issue. [When I hear that,] that’s when I say, ‘OK, now we can start [having constructive discussions].’”

Kraut continued, “The next step is to get as many people that have relevant parts to play at a meeting, a real meeting, not just a yelling meeting, but a meeting bound to get something done... to figure out what we can negotiate. That’s where it stands right now.”

RIRA from page 1

not she continues to serve as secretary. They claim the RIRA constitution is firm on the point and, on a motion by former First Vice President Joan Christianson, have been calling for Helstien’s removal.

Four Council members adhering to that position were absent, attending a meeting of the Landmarks Committee of Community Board 8. They included Stewart, Deirdre Breslin, Judith Berdy, and Nneka Pope. They had asked for a rescheduling of the meeting so they could attend, but Katz declined the request, saying he had already rescheduled it once, and had received no prior notice of Roosevelt Island landmarks being on the agenda.

The Common Council is almost evenly divided between supporters of Katz and Stewart. Thus, whether or not Helstien can vote might be a factor in Council decisions about matters on Katz’s agenda.

At Monday’s aborted session, First Vice President Byron Gaspard, who was Katz’s running mate, appeared only long enough to read a statement of his view that the meeting had not been called with adequate notice; he left to keep a quorum from being counted.

One of Katz’s campaign planks called for work to revise the RIRA constitution on several points, partly to remove ambiguities, and partly to bring it up to date. Among other things, he wants the Council to consider whether nearly half the votes on the Common Council should be held by non-elected delegates from other organizations. Stewart, for example, has a vote on the Council by virtue of his membership on the RIOCI Board of Directors, having also lost his bid to represent Island House, a campaign he ran in parallel with his bid for a third term as RIRA President. Others have voting rights because they represent the Roosevelt Island Council of Organizations (RICO).

Another former RIRA President, Nneka Pope, votes at RIRA Council meetings by virtue of her appointment to Community Board 8 by Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, having lost her vote as an Eastwood representative when she moved to Rivercross. One of Katz’s proposed constitutional revisions would allow elected representatives who change buildings to retain their voting rights until the end of their term. Under such a change Pope would have retained her elective vote, as would Helstien. Constitutional changes require time, however, being subject to resident approval at a Town Meeting.

Ali from page 1

vince Islam that they have enough to make a down payment. He says she is constantly nagging him to buy a house and a car. “We don’t have any children so I see no need to buy a car. If we have children, I will buy a car,” says Islam. As for a house, he is not too sure. “We will see.”

Not one for planning for the long term, Islam is happy to live life on a day-to-day basis. “When and if I retire, I may go back to Bangladesh,” he says. “I miss my parents.” In the two decades that Islam has lived away from his hometown, he has been back seven times, including once to get married and escort his spouse here.

There is not much time off to miss his parents. Islam works six full days a week. On his single day off, he watches television and reads Bengali novels. “I hate cooking,” says Islam. “I see and smell food all day long and I don’t like to be around the kitchen after that.”

His employer seems to have plans for him, though. “I think he may eventually become a full-time manager, so I give him a chance here. It gives me a break and Ali has proven himself to be an honest, trustworthy man. All good adjectives you can think of – dedicated, punctual, pleasant – can be applied to Ali.”

“Ali is very important to Trellis. People ask where he is stationed and like to be served by him,” says Barbara Tzoulis, a co-worker. “He treats this restaurant like his home. He is a good worker and I have never had any problems with him in the four years that I have worked here.”

Regular customers are also happy to be served by Islam or Ali, as they know him. “He is very personable and goes out of his way to make dining here a good experience,” said Monique Trebot, a Rivercross resident who dines at the Trellis frequently.

“Ali is very good,” said Marian Wolfson, who eats two meals a day at the Trellis every day. “Even on days when it is busy here, he smiles.”

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