

Next issue
in two weeks:
Sat., Feb. 5

The Main Street WIRE™

25th Year as Roosevelt Island's Independent Community Newspaper



Former Roosevelt Island resident Dani Sirait (back to camera), now managing Orphans International operations in Indonesia, visiting children at a refugee camp in Keutapang, Banda Aceh. The group plans a “Roosevelt Island House” in a new 60-house complex, with construction starting next month.

Orphans Group Plans “RI House” in Sumatra For Tsunami Victims

by Arthur Kimball-Stanley

Orphans International (OI), a charity based on Roosevelt Island and active all over the world, is raising funds to build a home in Sumatra for orphans of the December 26 tsunami. One house in a group of 60 will be called Roosevelt Island House.

OI is currently set to rent two houses at the epicenter of the tsunami’s destruction in Sumatra as temporary housing for children whose parents were killed. The organization will then begin scouting out locations for a new 40-acre campus on which to build a 60-house facility for 240 children, hoping to begin construction of the new campus in February – only six weeks after the tsunami disaster.

“We have never been involved with disaster relief before,” said Island resident Jim Luce, founder of OI. “But we found ourselves coincidentally ready to respond to this disaster.”

OI has been operating campuses in Indonesia for the last four years. Its first campus opened in Sulawesi in 2001, followed by another campus in Bali in July of 2004. In December, Luce met in New York with Indonesia’s

How to Contribute
– page 8

Briefly...

Dan Quart has announced a run for Gifford Miller’s City Council seat, and has raised \$104,000 for his primary campaign. A frequent visitor to the Island to attend community meetings, Quart is active with Community Board 8 as chair of its task force on the Second Avenue subway and co-chair of its transportation committee. He lives in the Ruppert-Yorkville apartment complex at Third Avenue and East 90th Street. Quart’s opponent is Miller’s chief of staff, Jessica Lappin.

The **RIOC Board** will meet Wednesday morning at 9:30, in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. It will be the first Board meeting for two new resident members, Alberteen Anderson and Michael Shinozaki.

Do Not Call List – A tip from RIRA President Steve Marcus: To avoid a flood of unwanted calls when cell phone numbers are released to telemarketing companies shortly, call **888-382-1222** from your cell phone. The process takes less than a minute. It works for your home phone, too.

RIRA Executive VP Sari Dickson is moving on. In response to a *WIRE* e-mail asking about her plans and reason for leaving, RIOC spokesman John Melia provided a four-word response, possibly a forward from Dickson, “None of his business.” RIOC President Herb Berman responded to a follow-up with this statement: “Sari has a wonderful opportunity to advance her career and do unique work at DHCR. Her leaving creates a void, but she is entitled to further her career. We all wish her well and we know that she will maintain a close, warm relationship with those of us on Roosevelt Island.” No word on Dickson’s replacement, Berman said later.

RITE, the Roosevelt Island Tidal Energy Project, delayed by regulatory red tape, is soldiering on. Verdant Power President Trey Taylor says that May is now the target date for putting two turbines in the water just north of the Roosevelt Island Bridge – almost a year past the original target.



Kahn’s FDR Memorial Getting A Fresh Push for Southpoint

by Marc Diamond

In just a few months, the future of Southpoint Park has become the subject of greatly intensified interest, both on and off Roosevelt Island. An exhibition of Louis I. Kahn’s design for an FDR Memorial has now brought that decades-old plan into fresh focus as a design competing with a plan advanced by the Trust for Public Land (TPL).

The exhibition, at The Cooper Union’s Houghton Gallery, brings together the most extensive collection of materials to date on the FDR Memorial. Original Kahn sketches, construction drawings, a model and a digital animation of a walk through the site are giving the public, especially Roosevelt Islanders, a timely opportunity to learn about, imagine and evaluate the experience that Kahn envisioned. The exhibition is open only for another two weeks, until February 5. A symposium is planned for Tuesday (January 25). [See *ComingUp*, page 3, and ad, page 5.]

The exhibition opened early this month, just weeks after TPL presented its final preliminary design for all of Southpoint Park, a 13.5-acre site that includes the 3.5-acre southern tip where the FDR Memorial would be sited. TPL’s plan, designed by landscape architect Mark K. Morrison, excludes the FDR Memorial, which TPL concluded was less preferred by Island residents and other site visitors than other, less formal options for the site.

But the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOCC) has yet to act on TPL’s plan, which is not on the agenda for its meeting Wednesday morning (January 26).

TPL’s conclusion that the FDR Memorial is not desired by residents and visitors was based both on the Memorial’s inclusion as one component of a plan called Visionary Landscapes, which was rated second of three plans, and on the Memorial design’s negative rating as a component. While this appeared to be the end of the 32-year effort to realize the FDR Memorial, it may actually be just another of many setbacks. The Cooper Union exhibition, in fact, seems to have revived interest in the Memorial.

M.E. Freeman, who serves on the Board of Directors of Friends of Roosevelt Island Landmarks and a longtime advocate of the FDR Memorial, believes that misperceptions about the Memorial design have led to some of the negative views. “It’s a problem of visualization,” she said this week. “The project was not adequately conveyed and explained.” She points out that, in TPL’s presentation, the FDR Memorial received no more or less description than other proposed elements.

Though TPL reported to the community that the Memorial as a component received a net negative evaluation, there was no clear majority, as a recent *New York Times* article (nytimes.com; search for “Louis I. Kahn”) may have implied. Of 64 respondents, 29 (45%) indicated they “don’t want this” and 18 (28%) considered the Memorial “very important” to include. The remaining 27% registered no opinion.

Charles McKinney, TPL’s project director for Southpoint, reports that respondents complained of “too many hard surfaces,” “blocked views,” and a “sterilizing” of the shoreline.

Harriet Pattison, a landscape architect who worked with Kahn in the early 1970s, expresses surprise at these comments. Of the Memorial she helped design, she says, “It would be wonderful. It would be a very moving experience with a variety of vistas.”

The Design

Kahn spoke of his design as “a garden and a room.” A journey through the Memorial as it is conceived begins at a plaza just south of the ruins of the 19th-century Smallpox Hospital designed by James Renwick. A monumental stair leads up from the plaza to the top of a triangular lawn – the “garden” Kahn envisioned. Red gravel paths on the sides of the lawn

are lined by linden trees and converge down toward another triangular tree-lined space, this one smaller and paved. At the southern edge of this plaza is a sculpture of a bust of Roosevelt and the entrance to the “room.”

Sixty feet square on the inside, this room is entered by passing between massive blocks of granite, 12 feet tall, six feet wide, and six feet thick, which continue around to form the room’s east and west sides. There is no ceiling and no south wall, allowing a framed view of the river and shores beyond. The blocks of granite forming the walls are set one inch apart, giving occupants of the room a sense of their mass. During most of the year, once each morning and once each evening for several minutes, the one-inch slots would admit sunlight into the room. The tops of the granite walls are the same height as the top of the sloping triangular lawn. A visitor at the top of the lawn would have a



Architect Louis I. Kahn (center) shows a model to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Jr. (left) and W. Averill Harriman (right), April 26, 1973. The design later evolved considerably, just before Kahn’s death. Finished plans and a model appear on pages 6-7.

view out over the granite room.

At high tide, water would rise to the base of the walls on the exterior of the room, which extend below the room’s floor level. Riprap would surround the shore along the full length of the Memorial, as it does elsewhere on the Island.

An excerpt from Roosevelt’s “Four Freedoms” speech would be inscribed on the north wall of the granite room. In the speech, which was the President’s annual address to Congress in January of 1941, eleven months before the United States was attacked at Pearl Harbor, Roosevelt rallied Americans to the defense of “four essential human freedoms” – freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear – that he said applied not just to Americans but to people throughout the world.

“He is speaking in a global way about what the stake is in this war that’s emerging, but of which America was not yet a formal part,” explains Christopher Breiseth, president and CEO of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (FERI).

Reaction

“I thought there was a mass of concrete or granite and stone paving all the way from the top of the steps to the room,” says Margie Smith, Vice President of the Roosevelt Island Residents Association, who has now seen the exhibition. “I was surprised that it evoked such a strong feeling in me. It is so serene, with a lot of grass, a lot of trees, but you can see right through them. There’s an air of solemnity there.”

Ethel Romm, a Rivercross resident who is on RIRA’s Planning Committee, which will attempt in the coming weeks to determine a position on the Memorial that represents residents’ views, also visited the exhibition. “All my fears were alleviated,” she said.

However, Judy Berdy, president of the Roosevelt Island Historical Society, remains opposed to the formality of the plan. Viewing the animation confirmed her feelings. The white granite, “the hot, dry place with pruned trees is passé. It’s not what people want in this day and age.”

See **FDR Memorial**, page 6

The Editorial Page

It Is Our Knitting

The Main Street WIRE normally sticks close to home, largely ignoring events in City, State, and Nation unless they have a direct impact on readers, 99.9% of whom are Roosevelt Island residents.

That's why, given the limited space made possible by the level of advertising support available, we tend to decline the many offers we get for regular "columns" – on women's issues, knitting, computers, cooking, diet, collecting, cars, movie and theater reviews, and so on. The rule of thumb – *If it could appear in a magazine or could be published in a New York newspaper of more general circulation, that's where it should appear. They have more space.* And given the way the City's major media ignore news of considerable importance to Roosevelt Islanders, it's clear *The WIRE's* mission is best defined as "close to home – Roosevelt Island-specific."

But since December 26, there's been an off-Island tragedy that has commanded the attention of residents – the tsunami.

On the WIRE's Website –

Supplements to this issue of *The WIRE* appear on *Website NYC10044*. They include the *Public Safety Blotter*, a timeline on the FDR Memorial supplied by The Cooper Union, and additional illustrations from the Cooper Union exhibit on the Kahn design. It's all online at nyc10044.com, along with an archive of the last eight years of issues.

where. Luce is a brilliantly successful fundraiser whose very good idea has been embraced in the countries where he's chosen, one by one, to establish small-home environments for orphans. The idea is to raise "citizens of the world" in a non-denominational child-oriented environment – four children to a home, with houseparents who can provide the attention needed by devastated young lives.

Now, Sumatra. And in a 60-house Sumatra setting, **Roosevelt Island House.**

The WIRE has told the OI story before, and we have the latest in a front-page story in this issue. In the coming weeks, there will be a number of fundraising events for OI here and in the City as Islanders and others pitch in to have some direct personal impact on the misfortunes of the hardest hit victims of this disaster.

Even so, it's hard to wait, and contributions are needed on a continuing basis. On page 8 you'll find information on how to contribute now, and on the OI website (oiwww.org) you'll find other news and additional information about contributing.

This Island has a heart. Orphans International provides a way to extend its compassion around the world.

DL



Published by **The Main Street WIRE**,
©2005 Unisource2000™ Inc.
531 Main St. #413, NYC10044

News **212-826-9055**
Urgent news **917-617-0449**
Advertising **212-751-8214**
Circulation **212-935-7534**
Fax (call first) 212-755-2540
e-mail editor@MainStreetWIRE.com
in association with
Website NYC10044 – nyc10044.com

Managing Editor – Dick Lutz
Reporters – Mary Camper-Titsingh, Anna Doumnova, Anri Wheeler
Albany Correspondent – Erik Kriss
Chief Proofreader – Kay Thompson
Proofreader – Linda Heimer
Photographer – Vicki Feinmel
Advertising Sales – Ellen Levy
Circulation Managers – Sherie Helstien, Teri Sheridan
Circulation Assistants – Dexter Benjamin, Ron Davidson

Legal Counsel – Lewis Perkiss
Website NYC10044 facilities – Frank Farence
WIRE Webmaster – Garrett Rieman

Founding Publisher – Jack Resnick
Editor Emeritus – Jim Bowser

Judi Arond, Bubu Arya, David Bauer, Mickey Karpeles Bauer, Steve Bessenof, Phillip Bias, Shiva Boodoosingh, Melanie Castine, Lynn Chambers, Mark Chipman, Nassima Codderrens, Thibault Codderrens, Vivianne Codderrens, Malcolm Cohen, Susan Cohen, Alicia Cordovano, Asaah Coston, Ryan DeAbreu, Jevon Degraffenreidt, Alexander Dienstag, Rebecca Dougherty, Julian Edelman, Teshawn Edmonds, Don Eremin, Bryan Ewald, Dan Folla, Diana Folla, Wesley Gibbs, Anthony Hasan, Teresa Hasing, Armida Heimerdinger, Roberta Hershey, Ken Kaplan, Mattie Kaplan, Matthew Katz, Mike Kolba, Phuong Lee, Brigitte Loewy, Omari Mack, Claudia Narine, Clinton Narine, Sandra Narine, Anh Nguyen, Mai Nguyen, Jenny Olivera-Del Mastro, Joan Pape, Ilana Papernik, Harry Patel, Sheila Patel, Raye Schwartz, Beryl Seaforth, Muhammad Fahad Shakeel, Alan Ulick, Nina Winteringham, and students of Legacy High School.

Letters

To the Editor:

The tsunami disaster in Sri Lanka is an event that has never happened before in 5000 years of recorded history. The damage to the infrastructure will take decades to repair in spite of generous donations from other countries.

While most of the relief efforts seem to be concentrated in the South, the people of the northern part of the island are in great need of humanitarian help.

Fortunately, a local group, the Tamil Rehabilitation Organization is working very hard to mitigate the suffering. Though there have been pejorative accounts about the Tamil Tiger separatists, the TRO has been internationally praised as being efficient and non-political.

More information about the TRO can be found on their website (trousa.org). Their address is 516 Old Town Road, Cumberland MD 21502. As they are a volunteer group, almost all of the donated funds go directly to helping people. The percentage of their operating costs is much smaller than that of some overseas organizations. Donations can be made by check (or by credit card on their website) and the donations are tax-deductible.

Diana Keyt

To the Editor:

As a 25-year resident of Rivercross, I have had only one major complaint. Our architects/planners assumed no vehicular traffic on Main Street and thus no reason to make it easy to unload stuff from a car and bring it in. Of course, that never happened, and it is rare when one does not have to double-park to unload (and try to navigate packages between cars often parked bumper-to-bumper).

The new "commercial zone" parking area in front of 531 Main, while not for residents, scared some vehicles away and gave residents, if very lucky, an occasional space to unload, in great haste, afraid of a ticket, with motor running. On the busiest package-delivery day of the year – Christmas Eve – this U.S. government "For Official Use Only" auto was firmly ensconced in the commercial zone. It did not move for four days. Snow fell on it and melted. It came back for New Year's weekend. Does DHS mean Department of Homeland Security? I'm as patriotic as one can be, so if someone was protecting Roosevelt Island, I'm all for it. But is that the whole story?

A. Ross Wollen



To the Editor:

Last weekend, an article appeared in *The New York Times*, telling of an exhibit opening at Cooper Union School of Architecture. The subject is the unbuilt memorial to Franklin D. Roosevelt designed by Louis Kahn.

The memorial was in the original 1970's plan for the Island. In addition to renaming it, a park and memorial were to be built at Southpoint.

Due to the financial crisis of 1975, the memorial was never completed. Barely enough funds were left to finish the first phase of the Island, which opened that year.

Over the years, mumblings have been heard about reviving the FDR memorial as the last project of architect Louis Kahn. He died in 1974; his associates had finished the plan.

The plan has been revived with this exhibit at Cooper Union. Kahn aficionados and FDR admirers came forward, and want to build it.

Many problems now arise: The Island has a population of over 10,000 – a community with its own very strong sense of being. This is no longer the experimental laboratory of the "new community" movement of the 1970's. Residents fight for parks, trees, and open space.

The community was surveyed by the Trust for Public Land last summer and three schemes were offered for Southpoint with different landscaping possibilities. In an overwhelming response by park users, residents, hospital residents, tourists, seniors, and fishermen, the most popular scheme was the one offering less structure and more open land. This was the first time the community was able to give input into a plan and the suggestions were used to improve the design.

The Kahn memorial was featured as one of the concepts. It proved to be the least popular, and comments indicated that it was not the type of park people want today. One main

To the Editor:

No matter how the current controversy of an FDR Memorial here turns out, it should always be remembered how RIOC, in the name of privatization, killed FDR's dream of a Fair Deal in housing for all New Yorkers when it turned the Island over to money-mad landlords and developers saying, "To hell with the disabled, the elderly, the moderate-income people, the struggling – it's time to get the well-heeled on Roosevelt Island – it's time to make some real money!" This is the legacy of RIOC – not the faithful preservation of FDR's dream, but its heartless destruction and a return to the law of the jungle here.

Helen Chirivas

objection was a large formal lawn, stone walls, and topiary (pruned) trees. Others were that views from the southernmost tip of the Island would be blocked by a three-sided structure with a statue in it.

There were expressions of concern that, since the Island has never properly maintained the landscaping already in place, a formal area would be too costly to keep up. It also seems like a tempting target for graffiti and vandalism.

Construction, including re-building the seawalls and foundations for stone walls would be far more expensive than the natural plan favored by the community.

I have had conversations with a resident who favors the Kahn Plan. This person feels that the residents would only lose 2.5 acres and we could have the rest of the park to do with as we pleased. But hopefully, we will never develop Southpoint piecemeal for any special interest group that comes along.

The architectural experts know little of our Island, its community, and its open-space issues. They are well-meaning people who **Letters** continue on page 3

To the Editor:

Well, school Christmas vacations are over and we're back to the same problem on Main Street.

If you don't get to the Red Bus stop by at least by 7:30 a.m., you can expect a long wait due to the traffic of vehicles displaced by the yellow school buses parked on both sides of the street.

This also has caused a delay in the Red Bus schedule in the mornings.

As illustrated in pictures in previous issues of *The WIRE*, at times the traffic is backed up almost to Gristede's, and that was prior to the school being opened on the other side of the street.

Why can't they drop the children off by the circle where there is more room and walk them to the school?

Rosemary Dringus

To the Editor:

As reported by the WIRE (January 8, "RIRA: What to Do About Public Safety?"), a question was raised at the last meeting of the Common Council as to the contribution of Southtown buildings to RIOC's Public Safety costs.

According to the terms of the lease agreement* between Riverwalk and RIOC, the new condominium will be obligated to pay \$20 per unit per month at the start – with an upward adjustment of 3% per annum. For the 230-unit condo, this would amount to about \$50,000 per year.

Assuming that the same rate has been agreed to between RIOC and the developers for other buildings (and it may not have been), a total annual payment from the eventual 2,000 unit Southtown development would come to around \$500,000.

Tim Johns
Island House

*"Commencing on the Rent Commencement Date, and for so long as Landlord continues to provide public safety services on Roosevelt Island, a monthly payment for each Completed Unit to be applied by Landlord to cover Certain of the costs to Landlord to provide public safety officers and equipment to the Building for external patrols (the 'Monthly Public Safety Payments'). The initial Monthly Public Safety Payments shall be calculated at \$20.00 per Completed Unit per month, subject to an annual increase of three percent (3%) for each Lease Year over the applicable amount for the immediately prior Lease Year, and shall be paid monthly to Landlord, in advance, on the first day of each month. The Monthly Public Safety Payments payable by Tenant for the Building shall not be decreased by reason of a decrease in the number of Completed Units in the Building resulting from a combination of Units or a diminution in the number of Units by Tenant."

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; *letters submitted anonymously will not be published.*

Preferred submission: E-mail to Letters@MainStreetWIRE.com (plaintext e-mail format preferred, or attach a file), or on a PC-standard 3.5" disk left at the desk at 531 Main Street, addressed to *The WIRE*. **Alternatives:** Typed copy left at 531 Main Street. Clearly handwritten letters will be considered if brief, but we are not able to take telephone dictation of letters. **All letters subject to acceptance and to editing for length and clarity.** Recommended maximum length, 300 words; longer letters will be considered if their content merits the required space.

Letters deadline for February 5 issue: Tuesday, February 1
After deadline, letters considered on a space-available basis.

January has certainly reminded all of us that it's winter in New York City. Fortunately, Roosevelt Island has not experienced any weather-related problems as of this writing. We'll keep our fingers crossed.

Our grounds people immediately dealt with the dusting of snow we received last week and as a consequence we suffered no inconveniences. Our staff does an outstanding job on snow removal and we are grateful for their dedication.

The New Year brings the first RIOC Board meeting of 2005, where we will greet two new Island-resident members, Alberteen Anderson and Michael Shinozaki, at the January 26 meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Good Shepherd Center.

Both Ms. Anderson and Mr. Shinozaki are eager to get to work. Please join me in welcoming them to their first working session as members of the RIOC Board. No doubt you have all read their profiles before in these pages.

This month's Board meeting will focus on internal RIOC matters, where the Board will be asked to approve two employee-related items as well as set the Board meeting schedule for the rest of the year.

Many of you have called or e-mailed regarding the

departure of Sari Dickson, who acted ably as my assistant and RIOC operations manager since my arrival here in 2003. Sari was an invaluable aide and under-



Herbert E. Berman, President
Roosevelt Island Operating Corp.
e-mail: HBerman@rioc.com

took many important projects that will enhance the Island for years to come. Sari left because she was presented with a career opportunity at the State Division of Housing and Community Renewal that would draw on her experience learned at RIOC as well as her expertise in housing issues. Sari came to RIOC from DHCR and her return is our loss and their gain. We wish her all the best.

RIOC has been working on repairing the concrete ramp off the Island. Most of the work is completed with the exception of some further touch-up work.

Finally, stay warm and safe until Spring!

PSD should be notified afterward.

On a completely different topic, The Trust for Public Land (TPL) offered its final recommendations for Southpoint park in December. The design, carefully researched and well presented, reflected the priorities of Island residents. However, it does cost \$35 million and TPL has offered no suggestions on how it can be funded. Most likely, this plan will never be implemented. However, there is a group that supports the Louis Kahn plan for a memorial to Franklin Roosevelt that may be able to find the funding needed to develop the southernmost 3.5 acres of Roosevelt Island.

This design is being exhibited at the Cooper Union Gallery until February 5. It has recently been discussed on National Public Radio and in *The Times*. This plan received a lukewarm reception when offered by the TPL as one of their alternatives for Southpoint Park. However, this exhibit gives a much clearer idea of Kahn's plan, and may very well change some opinions.

I have been asked several times what the "RIRA position" is on this design, and we should definitely formulate one that accurately reflects the wishes of Island residents. So again, I solicit your opinion on this plan. Do you like it? Even if it isn't your ideal, is it worth supporting because funding is feasible, or should we wait, perhaps for a long time for funding to be available for a different plan?

You can see it at 7 East 7th Street at Third Avenue from 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, or 12:00-5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Please let me know by e-mail what you think.

Finally – the Social, Cultural and Education Committee of RIRA, in cooperation with the PTA, will be sponsoring a fund-raiser for orphans on the stricken island of Sumatra. This idea was initiated by Robin Russell, who has offered to produce a musical program. Those of you fortunate enough to enjoy the River Music shows that Robin has produced here in the past know we are in for a treat. All proceeds will go to Orphans International, which will probably be the first charity in the world to begin a working program in response to this disaster. We are all working hard on the arrangements, but please plan to attend this benefit on Saturday night, February 12.

Roosevelt, the contour of the southern point be maintained, as the land was graded that way. A grove of trees, a pier, or an overlook could be a perfect place to place a plaque honoring these two great men. The pier/overlook would be disabled-accessible, as will be the entire park, a greater tribute to FDR than any wall of stone could be.

Judith Berdy

The RIOC Column

The RIRA Column

upon payments, and PSD would likely disappear.

I shared with the council the apparently unanimous sentiment of RISK members (an independent committee dedicated to Public Safety issues) that PSD was so dysfunctional that it should be disbanded, with the hopes that this would hasten an NYPD substation on the Island.

As reported in the last *WIRE*, resident Ron Musto recounted to the Council the sad details of his arrest by PSD for taking pictures of an extremely noisy air conditioning unit installed by the Child School adjacent to Westview. This was another of several unfortunate cases where residents have been cuffed and arraigned for crimes that were immediately dismissed when they reached the courtroom.

I hope that in a few months RIRA's Public Safety Committee will make recommendations on our policy towards Public Safety, which the RIRA council will either approve or amend. The sense that I got from the preliminary discussions at that last meeting were that PSD is flawed, but is better than nothing (although some did feel that PSD should be shut down).

Your input on the following questions would be helpful:

- Should PSD be disbanded, thus saving \$2.7 million per annum?
- If so, what, if anything, should replace it?
- If not, have you recommendations of how to improve the performance of PSD?
- Will the suspension of PSD services improve our chances for a NYPD substation on the Island?

One thing that we can all do to insure that NYPD gets a fair picture of conditions on the Island is to be sure to call in all incidents either to **911** (crime) or **311** (quality of life). If we lived almost anywhere else in the City, these would be our only options – all of our calls would be logged and added to the statistics for our neighborhood and we would get police protection commensurate with the problems that we had reported. In fact, unless there is a dire emergency where the quick arrival of a PSD officer can make a big difference, the call to 911 or 311 should be your first call.

Letters from page 2

would love to see the Kahn/FDR memorial here. As always, the architects, planners, and experts will do their project and walk away from it leaving it to the locals to live with.

One of their issues is that it would bring tourists. It would probably attract some visitors, but not enough to justify a drastic change in the Island parks.

I looked at our most successful park, Lighthouse Park, with its natural contours, no granite or stone surfaces, gentle willow trees and casual seating, many people fishing off its shore and grilling their picnic meals. To contrast this successful design with the Kahn design shows how out of touch this memorial is.

My suggestion is that, in honor of Mr. Kahn and President

COMING UP

– This Weekend –

Coasters Concert, tonight, 8:00, PS/IS 217 auditorium, sponsored by the Roosevelt Island Youth Program. Free.

Louis I. Kahn exhibition, including his plan for a memorial to FDR at Southpoint Park, **continuing through Sat., Feb. 5**, Cooper Union, 7th Street at Third Avenue. Open Mon.-Fri., 11-7; Sat. 12-5; closed Sundays. Free.



– The Coming Week –

Symposium on the Works of Louis Kahn, including discussion of his plan for a Roosevelt Island memorial to FDR as a dominant feature of Southpoint Park, **Tues., Jan. 25**, 6:30 p.m., Cooper Union, 7th Street at Third Avenue; a reception will follow. Free.

Queensboro Bridge Area Subcommittee of Community Board 8 meeting, **Tues., Jan. 25**, 7:00 p.m., New York Blood Center, 310 East 67th Street. Additional information: **212-758-4340**.

Eastwood Building Committee meeting, **Tue., Jan. 25**, 7:30 p.m., 556 community room, for fair-market-rate families to discuss building's future. Open to all.

RIOC Board of Directors meeting, **Wed., Jan. 26**, 9:30 a.m., Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

– Future Events –

Residents Association Common Council Meeting, **Wed., Feb. 2**, 8:00 p.m., Chapel of the Good Shepherd (lower level). Open to all; an opportunity to address the Council is included near the start of each meeting.

The Main Street WIRE – Next issue, **Sat., Feb. 5**. (To receive e-mail bulletins between issues, send an "Add Me" message to Bulletins@MainStreetWIRE.com.) **Advertising Deadline:** Ads in the paper, Friday, Jan. 28; decision on fliers for *The Bag*, Mon., Jan. 31; inserts due Thur., Feb. 3. **Future issues:** Feb. 19; Mar. 5, 19; Apr. 2, 16, 30; May 14; June 4, 18; July 2, 30; Aug. 27; Sept. 10, 24; Oct. 8, 22; Nov. 5, 19; Dec. 3, 17. **Phone/fax** for news, **212-826-9055/755-2540**; urgent matters **917-617-0449**. **Phone** for display and classified advertising placement and information, **212-751-8214**. **To list your organization's Island-related event in this column**, please e-mail information to ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com, or leave it, addressed to *The WIRE*, at the lobby desk at 531 Main Street; provide a telephone number for follow-up questions. There is no charge for such listings.

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

La Leche League meeting for breastfeeding and pregnant women, **Mon., Feb. 7**, 1:00 p.m., 20 River Road #5P. Information: **212-832-1188**.

Valentine's Concert featuring **Tim Love**, **Sat., Feb. 12**, 8:00 p.m., PS/IS 217 auditorium, sponsored by the Roosevelt Island Youth Program. Free.

Toastmasters Public Speaking Group, **Mon., Feb. 14**, 8:00 p.m. Visitors welcome. Additional information: **212-751-9577**.

Book Discussion Group at the Library, **Thur., Feb. 17**, 6:30 p.m., *Who's Irish*, by Jen. Copies of book available at the branch.

Oldies-But-Goodies Dance with Lingerie Show, **Sat., Feb. 19**, 8:00-1:00, Manhattan Park Theater, 8 River Road. Ticket, in advance, at \$25, includes food by Julie; music by DJ Mario. Tickets: **212-826-5646** or **646-331-3445**.

Toastmasters Public Speaking Group, **Mon., Feb. 28**, 8:00 p.m. Visitors welcome. Additional information: **212-751-9577**.

Residents Association Common Council Meeting, **Wed., Mar. 2**, 8:00 p.m., Chapel of the Good Shepherd (lower level). Open to all; an opportunity to address the Council is included near the start of each meeting.



Steve Marcus, President
Roosevelt Island Residents Assn.
e-mail: SteveAtRIRA@verizon.net

Senior Center

Monday
10-11, **Latchhook Class**
10-11:30, **English as 2nd Language**
10:30, **Blood Pressure Screening**
12:00, **Painting & Sculpting**
12:30, **"Oldies" Movies**
7:00, **Dance Class** (Beginners)

Tuesday
10:00, **Computers**
10:00, **Chinese massage**
1:00, **Bingo**
6:00, **Yoga Class**
7:30, **Games** (RISA)

Wednesday
9:15, **Stay Well**
10:00, **Spanish Class**
10:30, **Shoppers' Bus**
12:30, **Sculpting**
7:00, **Pokeno** (RISA)

Thursday
10:00, **Tai Chi**
10:30, **Creative Arts**
12:30, **Movie**
1:00, **Drawing with Pastels**

7:00, **Dance**
Friday
9:30, **Yoga**
10:30, **Computers**
1:00, **Bridge**
7:00, **Games** (RISA)
Saturday
7:30, **Bingo** (RISA)

Special Events

Tue., Feb. 1, 6:00, Center tour
Tue., Feb. 1, 10-3, Taxes for Seniors begins
Tue., Feb. 8, 7:00, General meeting
Sat., Feb. 12, 6:00, Chinese New Year party
Mon., Feb. 14, 6:00, Valentine's Day Party
Wed., Feb. 16, Atlantic City trip
Sat., Feb. 19, 6:00, Korean New Year party
Mon., Feb. 21, closed (Presidents Day)
Sat., Feb. 26, 10-5, Black History Month celebration

Home-delivered meals: **212-744-5022**, ext. 1203

The **Public Safety Blotter** for the first half of January is now available on *Website NYC10044* at nyc10044.com/wire/2510/plot2510.html.

DOVE ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

OLDIES BUT GOODIES DANCE

WITH LINGERIE SHOW

Saturday, February 19
Manhattan Park Theater
8 River Road
8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

Tickets \$25 in advance
Food by Julie included with ticket
Refreshment Available
Music by DJ Mario & Crew

For tickets & info call 212-826-5646
Julie's Sports Bar 646-331-3445
After-Dance Party at Julie's, 513 Main Street



MINERVA

Est. 1969

CLEANERS & TAILORS

Proudly Serving Roosevelt Island For Over 12 Years
Twice Daily Monday To Friday

- Exceptional Quality Dry Cleaning
- Shirts Laundered
- Expert European Tailoring
- Suede, Leathers, and Furs Cleaned
- Storage Available
- Draperies & All Household Items
- Free Pick-up and Delivery
- Concierge Or To Your Door
- Storage Available
- Complimentary Laundry Bag
- Convenient Monthly Billing
- Corporate Accounts Welcome

37-22 34th Street • Long Island City • NY • 11101
TEL: 718-729-4566 • FAX: 718-729-4344

THE GROG SHOP

605 Main Street, Roosevelt Island



We
specialize
in
wines
from
all
nations



Free Delivery (minimum \$15)
212-838-5822



Roosevelt Island Day Nursery

**Introduction to Preschool
for 2 and 3 year olds**

A Class for Parents and Children Together

30 classes: February 1 - May 26
Tuesday and Thursday mornings
from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Register at 4 River Road
For information and fee call 212 593-0750

Thinking of Riverwalk?

- Find out how high is too high!
- Secure money back at closing!



BEFORE your appointment, contact long-time
Roosevelt Island Resident and Licensed Real
Estate Agent, Joyce Mincheff

917-517-8572



Coming to Light The Louis I. Kahn Monument to Franklin D. Roosevelt for New York City

Perspective. Courtesy, Louis I. Kahn Collection, University of Pennsylvania
and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Presented by the Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture of The Cooper Union
and the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute

exhibition
The Arthur A. Houghton Jr. Gallery
The Cooper Union Foundation Building
Third Avenue at Seventh Street, New York City

January 10 – February 5, 2005
Monday through Friday, 11am – 7pm
Saturday 12pm – 5pm
Closed Sundays and January 17, 2005

symposium
Modernity and Monumentality
Tuesday, January 25, 2005 in the Great Hall, 6:30pm
Moderated by Dean Anthony Vidler with panelists
Sarah Williams Goldhagen and Michael Lewis
Co-sponsored with the Architectural League of New York

reception
Follows symposium in the Arthur A. Houghton Jr. Gallery

This exhibition was made possible with support from The Reed Foundation

The Farmers Market

We're part of
Roosevelt Island's
Saturday
tradition... Out in
the air, breathing
deeply – and at the
Farmer's Market
every Saturday
morning, you'll
breathe the scents
of fresh fruits and
vegetables from
the Pennsylvania
harvest. Make us
part of your
Saturday morning
on Roosevelt
Island!

*the highest quality every
Saturday at Motorgate*

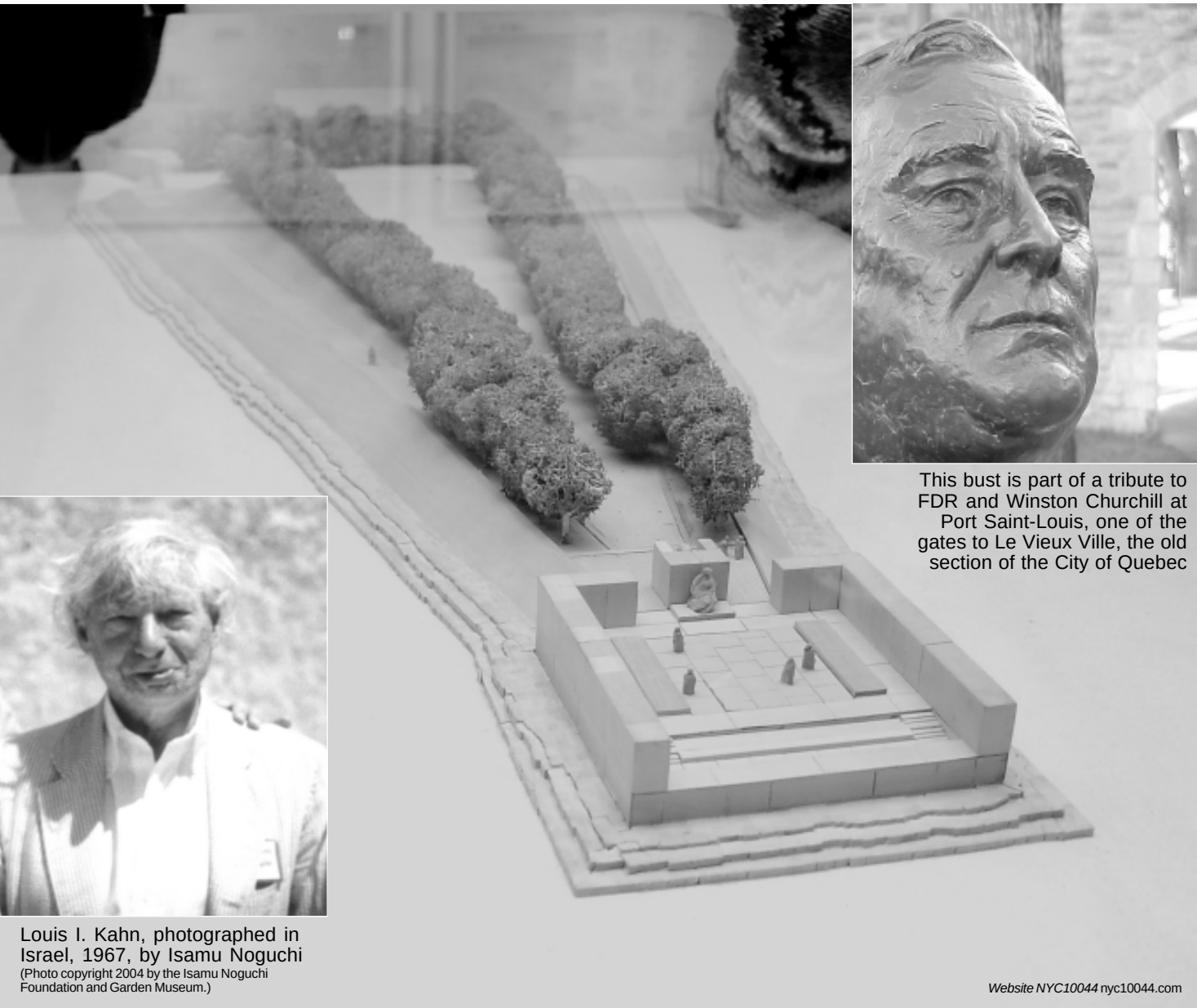


WENGERD FARM

*prices in the best tradition
of Pennsylvania farms*

Only the finest:
Apples – all kinds
Pears
Oranges, Lemons
Grapefruit
Tangerines
Bananas
Cookies & Pies
Special breads
Jams & jellies
Lettuce
Fresh herbs
Onions
Tomatoes
Broccoli
Asparagus
Potatoes
Cheese
Chicken

As always, Thank you for shopping with us every Saturday.



This bust is part of a tribute to FDR and Winston Churchill at Port Saint-Louis, one of the gates to Le Vieux Ville, the old section of the City of Quebec

Louis I. Kahn, photographed in Israel, 1967, by Isamu Noguchi
(Photo copyright 2004 by the Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum.)

Website NYC10044 nyc10044.com

FDR Memorial from page 1

Ursula BeauSeigneur, the patients’ librarian at the Goldwater campus of Coler-Goldwater Hospital, just north of Southpoint Park, feels the design is “not appropriate for this location. It changes the shape of the Island as seen from Queens and Manhattan. Miles of granite right to the water’s edge are hard to maintain and New York City does not maintain its public spaces well.”

For some residents, there is the question of whether a Memorial designed more than three decades ago to a president who served more than six decades ago would still be appropriate for the current time. But Jonathan Kirshner, a professor of government at Cornell University, sees an FDR Memorial as “extraordinarily relevant” today. “President Roosevelt not only rallied our nation through its most difficult crises of the 20th century – the great depression and the Second World War – he also remains an inspirational figure for the courage he displayed in the face of terrible personal adversity.”

Breiseth argues that a monument to Roosevelt may be even more relevant today than it was when it was designed. “I don’t think the whole accomplishment of World War II was in the public mind the way it is now. I think we now realize that that group of Americans coming out of the depression, and coming out of a country that was profoundly isolationist, really brought America into the world as the world leader. And absolutely at the center of that process was President Roosevelt.”

The Four Freedoms remains a vivid representation of democratic ideals. At a ceremony on the first anniversary of the

September 11 attacks, Mayor Bloomberg’s comments were limited to a reading of the Four Freedoms segment of Roosevelt’s speech. And President Bush referred to the Four Freedoms on the deck of the USS Abraham Lincoln in May, 2003, when declaring the end of major hostilities in Iraq.

Elizabeth O’Donnell, associate dean of the Chanin School of Architecture at The Cooper Union, relates an FDR Memorial to current U.S. politics, saying, “Institutions need to be cared for; they do not survive on their own.” She cites, among other examples, Social Security, which was a central part of Roosevelt’s Economic Bill of Rights, the future of which is now uncertain.

Along with historical importance, the Memorial is also seen to have spiritual value. Says O’Donnell, “I think of the room as a contemplative space where one can feel safe.”

Nathaniel Kahn, whose documentary about his father, *My Architect*, was nominated for an Academy Award a year ago, believes “we need simple, contemplative space now more than ever, especially with what’s happened in New York in the past few years.” Nathaniel was 11 years old when his father died. “One of the strongest memories I have is him working on the Memorial. I remember my father’s passion for this project. There was great concern that it serve the people of the Island, and that it be something that works with the existing landscape and is not imposed on it.”

History

Kahn received the commission to design the Memorial in 1972. Planning for the FDR Memorial was the reason for the renaming of Welfare Island in 1973. After Kahn’s death in 1974, Mitchell/Giurgola Associates and architect David Wis-

dom completed the construction documents. Funding, then estimated at \$6 million, was to be split roughly equally among New York State, New York City, and private donations. The City’s fiscal crisis in 1975 halted the project.

A commission appointed by Governor Mario Cuomo in 1986 recommended that the Memorial be “moved to completion with all possible speed,” but it was not until 1991 that RIOC contracted with Langan Engineering and Environmental Services for preparatory site work. Langan graded and sculpted the site in 1994. The sloping triangular field that exists today, a setting for Independence Day fireworks viewing since 1995, is a result of Kahn’s design.

A timeline detailing events surrounding the Memorial’s history can be seen at the exhibition and with this issue of *The WIRE* on *Website 10044* at nyc10044.com/wire/2510/fdrtimeline.html.

Competing Plans

The near simultaneous opening in the past month of the exhibition and TPL’s presentation of a Southpoint plan that excludes the Memorial is coincidental. The current renewed effort to realize the Memorial began early in 2004 when Jane Gregory Rubin, who had been involved with the Southpoint site in the early 1990s, contacted William vanden Heuvel, past president of FERI and its current chair.

With Harriet Dorsen of Plaza Construction, she collected documents on the Memorial design from FERI, the Kahn archives at the University of Pennsylvania, architects Mitchell/Giurgola, and other sources, in an attempt to determine their status and the project’s potential. When Rubin contacted RIOC for documents in its archives, Rubin learned of TPL’s project at Southpoint, which had also begun early in 2004.

Rubin suggested to Cooper Union’s Elizabeth O’Donnell that the materials collected warranted an exhibition. “Too fantastic to turn down,” the exhibition was developed in a very short time, compelled both by O’Donnell’s belief in the high value of the materials for architectural history and architectural education, as well as a fortuitous cancellation in the gallery’s schedule. The Reed Foundation, on whose Board Rubin serves, is funding the exhibition.

If built today, the Memorial would cost \$30 million, according to a new cost estimate by Plaza Construction.

Last month, another work by Louis Kahn, the Yale Center for British Art, received the 25-Year Award for Architecture of Enduring Significance from the American Institute of Architects (AIA). It is the fifth time Kahn’s work has received the award, which only 36 buildings have received. Nathaniel says his father’s work “retains its relevance, profoundness, and usability for many generations.”

The FDR Memorial is the only completed late work of Kahn that remains unbuilt. His last sketchbook, containing drawings of the Memorial, is on display at the exhibition. His son remembers, “one of the greatest wishes at the end of his life was that the Memorial be built.”

Could a future Southpoint Park include both the FDR Memorial and the favored Wild Gardens/Green Rooms concept? McKinney says TPL was “prepared to take a combination of plans” but it was not warranted because of the Memorial’s high “don’t want this” response. Nevertheless, he says there is nothing in the Phase I version of the plan “that precludes something else being built” south of the Renwick ruin.

Nearly all of the features of the Wild Gardens concept to which survey respondents gave positive responses are located in the approximately 10-acre portion of Southpoint north of the Memorial site. Two exceptions are an oval plaza/skating rink with amphitheater seating located just north of the Renwick ruin where the initial plaza and monumental steps are in Kahn’s plan, and a removable stage at the southern tip on the space to be occupied by Kahn’s granite room.

Margie Smith suggests that the paved plaza in front of the granite room “can be a stage and have a screen” for projecting films. As a seating area for such events and for fireworks viewing, the sloping lawn of the FDR Memorial would have a lower capacity than the sloping lawn of the Wild Gardens plan, which extends farther south and does not have red gravel tree-lined paths on either side.

If revisions are considered, landscape architect Pattison would want to help ensure that the spirit of the design is carried through. She advises that the poplar trees shown pruned to rectangular form in the Mitchell/Giurgola construction documents, and to which Berdy objects, were originally intended to be in their natural form. Kahn’s sketches and the model would confirm this. Also, prior to Kahn’s death these trees were specified as beech trees, not poplar.

“My hope is that people will engage in a discussion,” says McKinney, whose extensive conversations and surveys with residents and visitors has already brought Roosevelt Islanders more into this design process than they are accustomed to.

Nathaniel Kahn believes “it’s important to take a moment and fully realize all possibilities before going forward. Mem-



Website NYC10044 nyc10044.com

On Tuesday, Andy Stone of the Trust for Public Lands (second from right) joined former RIRA President Matthew Katz (right) and current Common Council member Lilly Picchione for a tour of the Kahn exhibit guided by Elizabeth O’Donnell, Associate Dean of the Cooper Union School of Architecture (left).

bers of Kahn’s family and of the design community, and FERI, would be honored to meet with Roosevelt Islanders and talk about it.”

TPL expects to present its preliminary plan to the RIOC Board of Directors, perhaps as soon as February. If it were to reconsider the Memorial, TPL would first likely return to an Advisory Committee made up of community leaders from on and off the Island.

RIOC Board member Patrick Stewart says one important question is whether prior approvals and contracts between the predecessor organizations of RIOC and FERI constitute legal standing for FERI with respect to the Southpoint site. Stewart says RIOC is “awaiting what the Trust recommends” and will “pay very close attention to community input.”

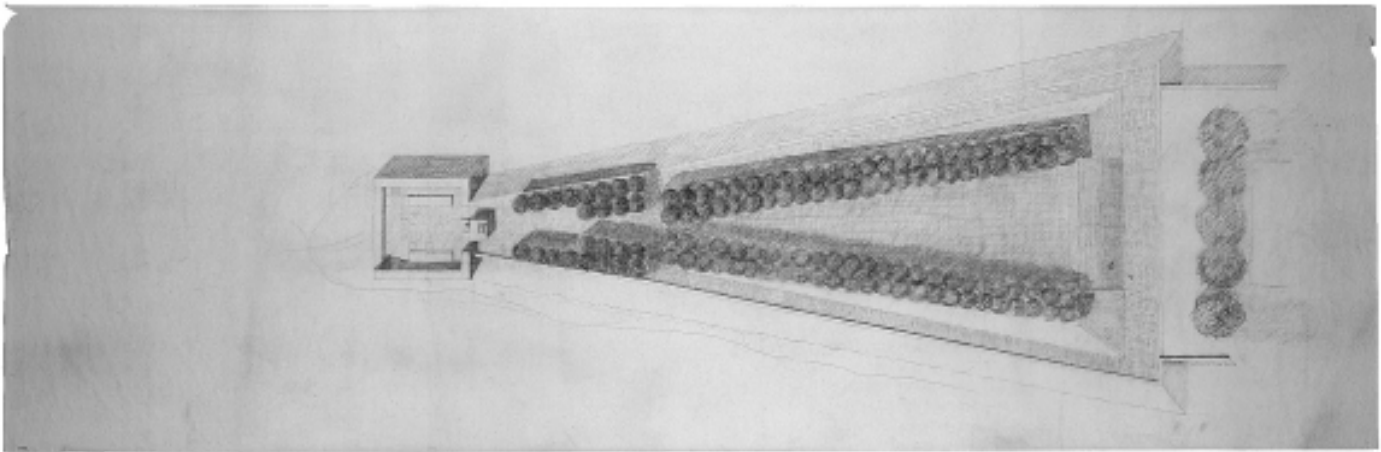
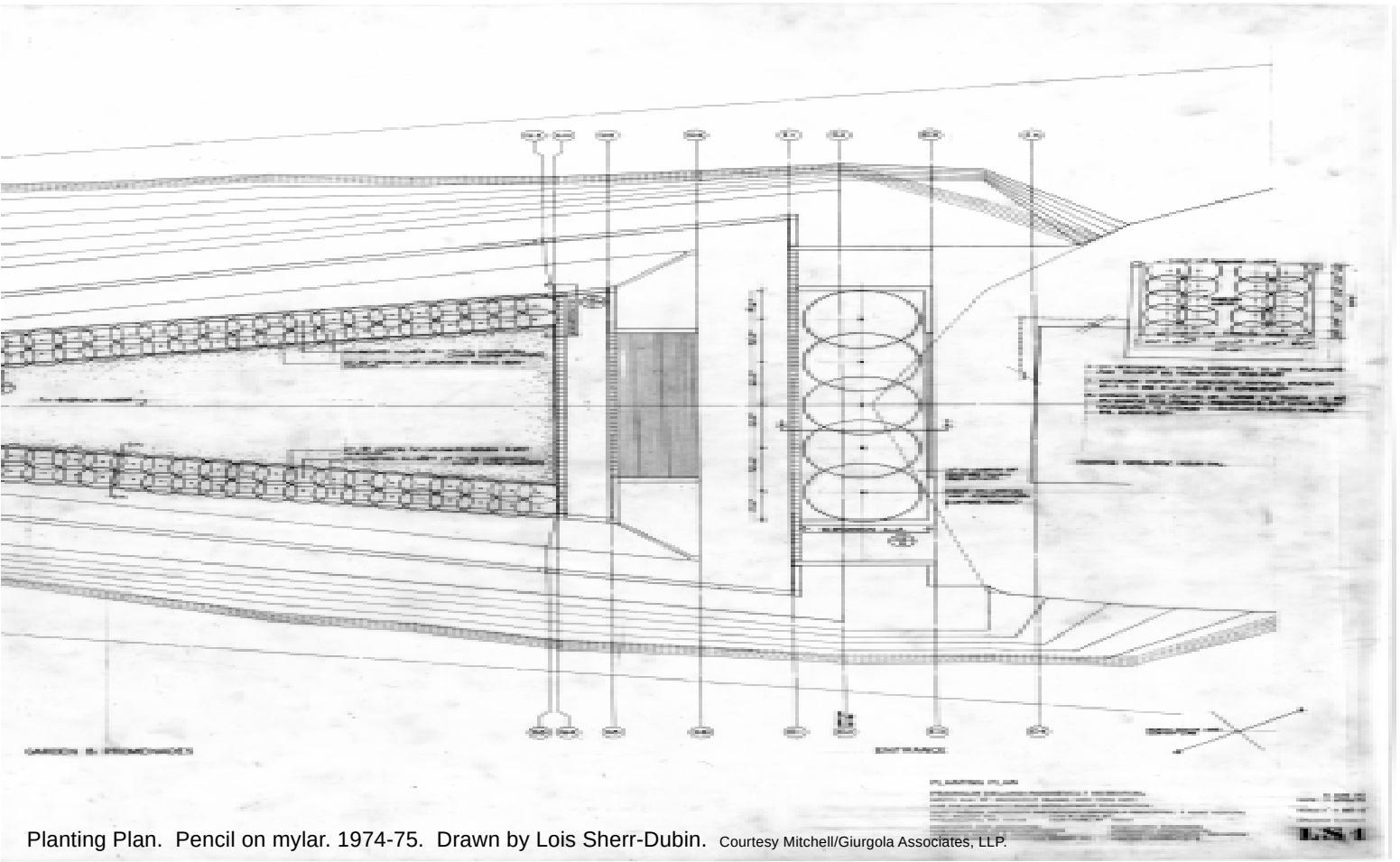
RIRA’s Margie Smith says she mistrusts RIOC and sees the possibility that the Memorial could become the only open space at Southpoint, with RIOC approving a residential or commercial development for the rest of the park area. (The Residents Association has recently filed suit against RIOC and other defendants to stop construction of an apartment complex at the Octagon near the north end of Roosevelt Island, claiming it would violate a 2002 law protecting certain open space on the Island.) “I would love to see some kind of compromise where the area north of the ruin is less formal, where you can barbecue and play,” and the Memorial is built south of the ruin. “I can’t imagine not wanting the Memorial, but residents need to feel very secure that they can get behind this.”

Steve Marcus, president of RIRA, which organized a guided tour of the exhibition for residents earlier this week, says, “It would be nice if we could get as many people as possible to see the exhibit and register an opinion.”

The Cooper Union exhibition continues to grow even while it is open, as archivists Steven Hillyer and Gina Pollara assimilate additional materials. An audiotape of Orson Welles narrating a 1980 film about the Memorial was found last week. It may be added to the exhibition, along with the film, if that is found. The Cooper Union is located at Third Avenue and 7th Street; the exhibition is open 11-7 Monday through Friday and 12-5 Saturday. It

closes Saturday, February 5. Speaking not only of the experience of viewing the exhibition, but also of the potential Memorial, Nathaniel Kahn invites Islanders to “take the journey that my father took.” Along with community and RIOC approval, McKinney

sees financing as determinative. “You would not build [just] anything that has funding behind it, but real approval is only obtained when you have money.” It is expected that a combination of public and private funding will again be sought for Southpoint Park; none is yet in place.



Roosevelt’s Four Freedoms

In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

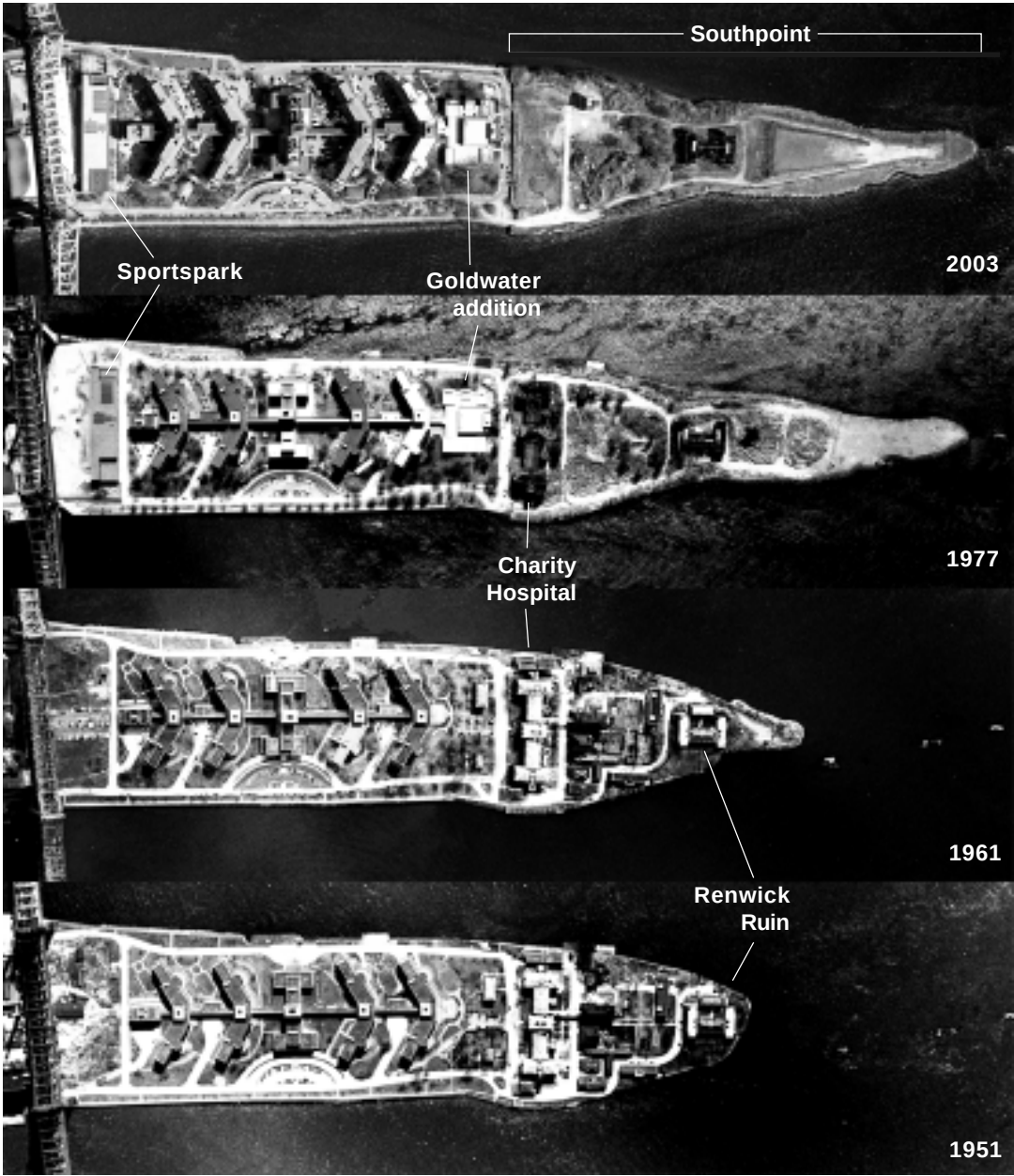
The first is freedom of speech and expression – everywhere in the world.

The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way – everywhere in the world.

The third is freedom from want – which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants – everywhere in the world.

The fourth is freedom from fear – which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor – anywhere in the world.

That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation.



The Cooper Union exhibit shows how Roosevelt Island’s southern end was lengthened using fill from subway tunneling.

The bottom photograph, taken in 1951, shows the Island ending just a few feet south of the Renwick Ruin.

By 1961, a small point had been added.

By 1977, the Ruin and City (Charity) Hospital had lost their roofs and Southpoint had acquired most of its length. Sportspark had appeared just south of the Queensboro Bridge.

By 2003 (top photo), Charity Hospital had long been demolished and the shaping of the land for the FDR Memorial is evident.

Photos courtesy Aerial Viewpoint, Keystone Aerial Surveys, and Langan Engineering

Orphans from page 1

Chief Social Welfare Minister to discuss an expansion of OI’s Indonesian operations. A few days later, on December 26, only hours before the tsunami hit, Luce left to visit OI’s Indonesian campuses and bring Christmas presents to the children.

The tsunami struck while Luce was waiting in Singapore for a connecting flight to Sulawesi. Upon checking his e-mail at an airport café, he was greeted by a torrent of messages asking if he was all right.

“There were televisions in the airport terminal airing the news, and stories began to come in about the tsunami, but nobody understood the enormity of it at that point,” Luce said.

OI’s Bali and Sulawesi campuses, located far away from Indonesia’s devastated west coast, were not physically hurt by the tsunami. But as reports of the death toll began to come in, “Everyone was in a state of shock,” Luce said.

Ramdani Sirait, a former journalist, lived on Roosevelt Island for two years before leaving

How to Contribute

Tax-deductible contributions for the Emergency Tsunami Fund, deductible for 2004 through Jan. 31, 2005, may be sent to **Orphans International America**, 540 Main Street #418, New York, N.Y. 10044, earmarked “OI Tsunami Orphans Fund.” More information can be obtained from the organization’s website, [www.oiww.org](http://oiww.org), and contributions may be made on-line at <http://oiww.org/howtohelp.html>. Note that contributions to tsunami relief programs are now tax-deductible for 2004 through January 31, 2005 under H.R. 241, Section 1, Acceleration of Income Tax Benefits for Charitable Cash Contributions for Relief of Indian Ocean Tsunami Victims.

A benefit concert is also planned for mid-February on the Island; details to be announced.

ment plan, construction would begin as soon as possible on a campus composed of 60 small homes (four children each), schools, clinics for medical, psychological and dental health, sports parks and athletic facilities. Emergency housing will be constructed first.

Luce estimates the cost of building an OI campus to be around a million dollars. Over the last 10 days, OI has raised over \$100,000. “I’m confident that we will be able to meet our fundraising goals over the next 6 months,” Luce said.

OI staff has also begun the process of reviewing applications of orphaned children in the province of Aceh, the area of Indonesia most affected by the tsunami, and is working to gain the necessary approvals to transport those accepted to Sumatra House.

OI Sumatra aims to provide a continuing and long-lived base of support for the tsunami victims. The campus is slated to be fully integrated into the local community, and serve as a locus of interaction for international humanitarian organizations working with Indonesian Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Sumatra.

“Orphans International differs remarkably from many other institutions as our goal is not to warehouse children but to transform them into global citizens,” Luce said. “Through our interfaith approach, high adult-to-child ratio, and emphasis on education, the arts, and athletics, we are not merely rescuing tsunami victims, but attempting to raise the next generation of leadership in Indonesia.”

“The enormous scale of this disaster precludes any one organization or government from stabilizing the situation,” said OI America board member Tim Vanover. “However, if every NGO on the ground there could assist to its maximum capacity, it would alleviate much suffering and despair.” He continued: “I am proud that OI can play a modest role in securing the future of a significant number of the most unfortunate victims – the children.”

Unlike many charitable organizations, OI does not have expensive offices in Manhattan or paid staff. All of OI’s fundraising is run out of Luce’s apartment at 540 Main Street on Roosevelt Island.

“One very large recent contribution was from someone who was going to give to a larger charity but changed his mind,” Luce said. “The larger agencies pool your money and you can’t see the impact of your dollar. All of the funding doesn’t always go where you intend.”

Over the next few weeks, OI plans on organizing a fundraising drive targeting its neighbors here on Roosevelt Island. These funds will be earmarked for building a house on OI’s new Sumatra campus, which will be named Roosevelt Island house. A year ago OI organized a fundraiser on Roosevelt Island for its Guyana campus, where there is now a Roosevelt Island House. Luce said he hopes to see the second in Sumatra.

“Orphans International was in the concept stage when I moved to Roosevelt Island,” Luce said. “The concept of Roosevelt Island greatly impacted the concept of OI’s campuses. All our facilities are wheelchair accessible and 10% of all beds are set aside for children with disabilities.”

Luce is quick to point out that there are 35,000 new orphans in Indonesia as a result of the tsunami, and that OI’s plans will only be able to help a few hundred. “But,” he said, “you do what you can.”

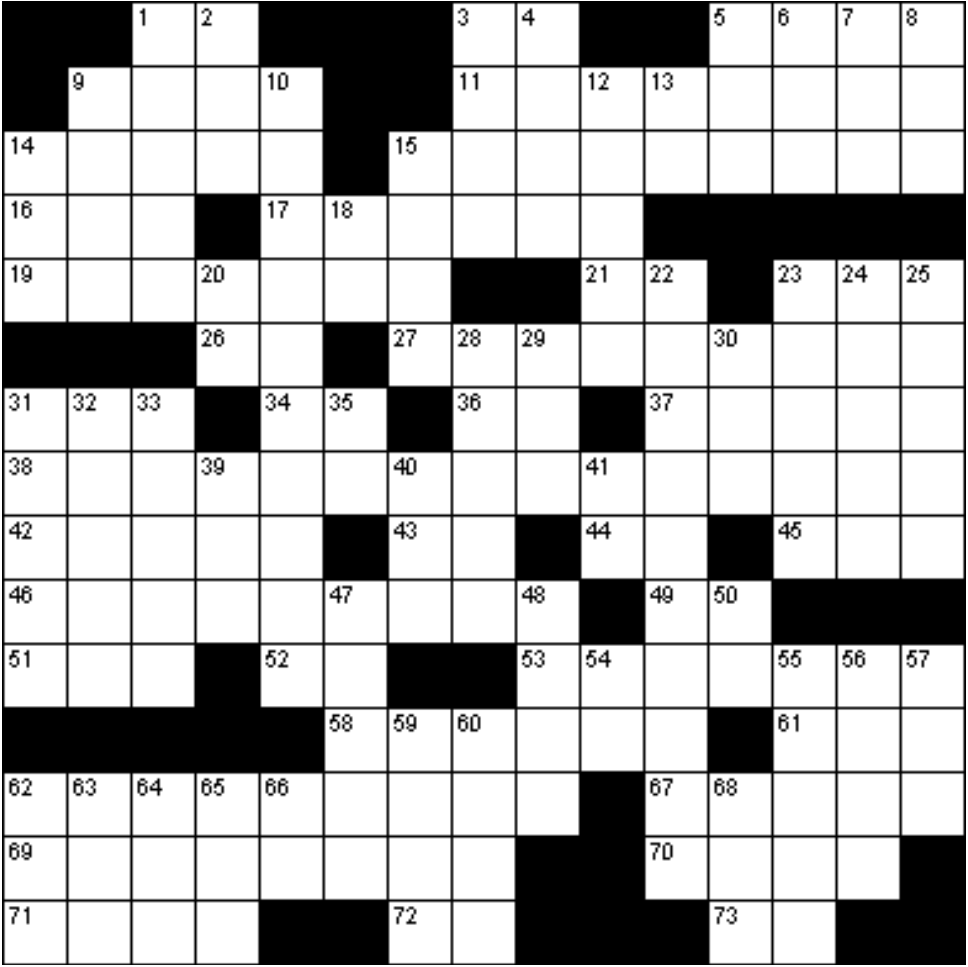
He went on to say: “If we can carve out 40 acres, and other NGOs come in, and the Indonesian government comes in, then they will all be able to begin to rebuild.”



Dani Sirait of Orphans International (OI) walks a street lined with body bags in Rimajeneu village, Aceh Besar District, Aceh, one of the tsunami’s worst-hit areas where 80% of the villagers are dead or missing. Roosevelt Island-based OI says that many children orphaned from this village are now living above the village on a mountain.

It’s Our Home, So...
Not a CrossWord!

by Ronald L. Stuart



Across

- 1

Hair style
- 3

Season final (abbr)
- 5

Local conveyance
- 9

Digital destroyer
- 11

Where were you?
- 14

In the middle for Chris
- 15

Southpoint, in Stiller’s movie
- 16

Between Miss. & Ga.
- 17

Name of computer peripheral maker
- 19

An easing of hostile attitudes
- 21

Doesn’t cost a cent (abbr)
- 23

Flightless bird
- 26

____ the World Turns
- 27

A repugnant thing
- 31

Comparative words
- 34

Where ____?
- 36

Individual’s helper (abbr)
- 37

Attack
- 38

In a capitol confab, #1 of three
- 42

Model railroad track size
- 43

Like Roosevelt, just another NYC place (abbr)
- 44

None at Coler-Goldwater (abbr)
- 45

Nautical left
- 46

Vaarkens, Blackwell’s, Welfare, ____
- 49

’Taint ____
- 51

Mass. cape
- 52

Promoted DC in NY (initials)
- 53

Theosophical second bodies
- 58

Theater area
- 61

Seen (French)
- 62

Walkway around RI
- 67

Haley’s bombshell TV Show
- 69

Steve Marcus, e.g.
- 70

Queen of England (abbr)
- 71

____ and shut
- 72

Disingenuous discourse (abbr)
- 73

Star horse

Down

- 1

Original Mr. Chips
- 2

Leftover
- 3

See 10 down
- 4

Booty
- 5

Biblical pronoun
- 6

Actor in *Crying Game*
- 7

Airport abbreviation
- 8

Malathion’s fly target
- 9

Cunning ruse
- 10

Organ of communication (with 3 down)
- 12

Before (French)
- 13

Compass direction
- 14

Place to rest
- 15

J. Edgar’s minions
- 18

Remedial assistance (abbr)
- 20

NY Giants General Manager (initials)
- 22

Kind of Native American statuary
- 23

Hard rock music
- 24

Site of 1970 World’s Fair
- 25

Up and about
- 28

NYS budget deadline
- 29

Players’ union
- 30

Take-home
- 31

Greek marketplace
- 32

Athenian statesman
- 33

Par for air mail
- 35

Switch position
- 39

Annapolis grad (abbr)
- 40

Simple sugar
- 41

In the gym at PS217 (abbr)
- 47

Actress Lisi
- 48

Helprin novel “Winter’s ____”
- 50

Either/____
- 54

Seen on some RI mail
- 55

Skirt
- 56

Skater’s flourish
- 57

French possessive
- 59

Metrical foot
- 60

Summer quaffs
- 62

One who plays for pay
- 63

Initials found in 15 across
- 64

Miners’ quest
- 65

Irish Sea isle
- 66

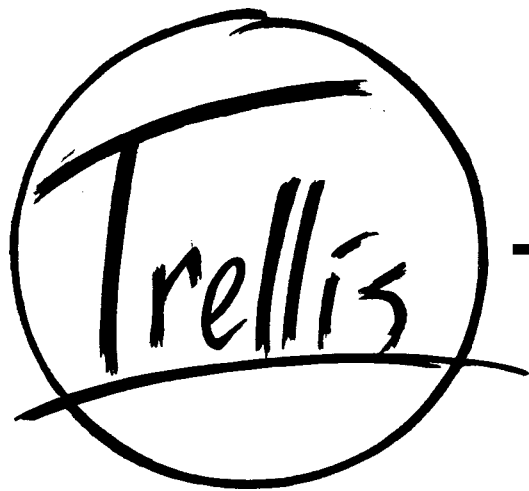
Printer’s measure
- 68

Rah in Spain

Save your work! Solution will be published next issue and will be posted on Website NYC10044 at nyc10044.com/wire/2511/puzz2510.html on Friday, January 28.



Two great Roosevelt Island color postcards
See Classifieds, page 10



Tsunami Aid \$2,952 So Far

But we're still collecting. Trellis is the drop-off point for Roosevelt Islanders' donation checks to provide relief for tsunami victims.

One Island can make a difference. That's Roosevelt Island, reaching out across the world. Please make your checks payable to Americares or Save the Children USA.

212-752-1517

***At the heart of the community,
next to the historic Chapel of the Good Shepherd***

**Trellis: 6:00 a.m. to midnight,
7 days every week. We also deliver.**

Want to Adopt a Cat?



An extra-caring home is needed for Tigger and Munchkin, beautiful and healthy neutered brother kittens from a Roosevelt Island colony of strays. They have had their shots and checkups and have been in foster care. Now they are ready for a home of their own. Though they are sweet-natured and affectionate, they are still very shy. They need to go together to a home with no other pets and no children under 12. They may need to hide for a while and then develop trust at their own pace, but your love and patience will be richly repaid. Lifetime return guarantee and free routine first vet visit. Call the RIPPY Project at 212-593-1054. (The Roosevelt Island RIPPY project, named after a favorite Island stray called Princes YinYang, hopes to increase awareness of the Island's abandoned cats.)



We will feed and lovingly care for your cat while you are away. We will make sure your pet is safe and happy in his or her own home. Will also help with mail, plants, etc. Excellent references. Call us at 212-751-8214.



Retirement Rivercross doorkeeper Herman Lawson, who has served the building since its first resident arrived, retired last week. At a party, Evonne Tolbert held his front desk nameplate.

Authentic Thai Cuisine

A "Star" in Astoria for "glorious" Thai cooking.

–Zagat survey – rating 24

Superior Thai cooking

–Newsday



Thai cuisine

Where Thai food stays Thai

Catering for all occasions

– We deliver to Roosevelt Island –

www.ThaiRestaurant.US

Free Parking

24-42 Steinway Street • Astoria, NY 11103

Tel. 718-545-2874, 718-545-0743

Open 7 days a week, 12:00 noon-11:00 p.m.

Major credit cards accepted

for the power of an informed community

The Main Street WIRE

Website NYC10044

<http://nyc10044.com>

Email BULLETIN Service

(Send an "AddMe" e-mail to news@MainStreetWIRE.com)

Tax Preparation and a Whole Lot More...

*Certified Financial Planning
Insurance
Investments
Mortgages
Real Estate*

Accountable Financial Management Corp.

599 Main Street • Roosevelt Island

212-644-8231

Website www.AccountFin.com

Classified

50¢/word • 212-751-8214

Deadline for February 5 issue: Tuesday, February 1
Deadline for February 19 issue: Tuesday, February 15

CLEANING SERVICE – Residential and professional. Proprietor of 17 years is RI resident. Bonded & insured. Same personnel each visit. Call **212-688-6712**.

FOR SALE – Power wheelchair, Jazzy Model 1100, with electronic battery charger. Seat size, 22x22". Unused. Best offer. **718-645-3869**.

LEARN JAPANESE LANGUAGE – Beginner's course starts February on Roosevelt Island. Group lessons (3-5 persons); 90 min. X 12 lessons, \$90 (\$5/hr). Call Masako, **212-731-9341**.

MOVING SALE – Full-size burgundy couch, \$300; Chaise Longue, \$250; 12,000 BTU air conditioner, \$250; and 15,000 BTU air conditioner, \$350; both A/C units used only one summer; light box, \$100; huge desk, 2 years old, \$200. Call Danielle at **646-732-5695**.

CLEANING WORK AVAILABLE – Part time "heavy-duty" cleaning work. Must have flexible schedule. Call **212-688-6712**.

RENTING large furnished room in doorman building with private bathroom, "kitchenette," ample storage space, color TV. \$800 a month includes utilities, cable TV, and wireless Internet access. **212-935-7583** after work.

PART-TIME POSITION – The Center for Contemporary Opera needs an organized person to help with filing, processing papers, and general secretarial work in the opera office, four hours per week, at 40 River Road #22H, Roosevelt Island. Weekly fee is \$50. Call Richard Marshall, **212-758-2757**. Website: conopera.org.

NOTARY PUBLIC – Roosevelt Island Day Nursery, 4 River Road, 9-3 school days. **212-593-0750**.

ISLAND KIDS is now hiring. If you love children and have what it takes to be around them, please give us a call. For more information, please call Anna at **212-371-1192**.

SEEKING SUBLET – Professional couple seeks 2BR sublet starting 4/1/05. Please call John Haskell at **832-444-5666** or JohnHHaskell@yahoo.com.

RIVERCROSS SUBLET AVAILABLE – Two years, three bedrooms, starting 2/15/05. Call **212-308-5618**.

WRITING TUTOR – Help with college application essays, research papers, etc. Amherst grad. Reasonable rates. Call **646-408-0969**.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST / Certified Reflexologist – Island resident Diana Brill. Gift certificates available. **212-759-9042**.

WWW.MEGASHOPPINGMALLS.NET – The cheap, savvy, and smart shopper bookmarks and logs on for fast delivery and rock bottom prices. Log on today!

NEED MORE SPACE? Danielle Broussard, Closet Factory design consultant. No one puts more into a closet than we do. I can personally customize your closet, and I live on the Island. Call **646-732-5695**.

EXPERT PIANO REPAIRS & TUNING – Prompt service. **212-935-7510**. Beeper **917-483-1020**.

ELDER LAW – Probate, Wills & Trusts, Medicaid Planning, Nursing Home Matters, Estate Planning. Steven M. Ratner, Esq., One Penn Plaza, Suite 4401, New York NY 10119. **800-836-1124**.

COMPUTER problems/consultations/upgrades/virus removal. Free estimates. **917-916-5306**.

MAIN STREET THEATRE & DANCE ALLIANCE – Ongoing registration for dance and theater classes. **212-371-4449**. Unique or period clothing & furniture gladly accepted.

NOTARY PUBLIC – **212-935-7534**.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – The Icla da Silva Foundation is looking for volunteers to help in the office, located at Goldwater Memorial Hospital on Roosevelt Island. Please call Airam da Silva at **212-593-1807**.

EXPERIENCED PAINTER/CONTRACTOR – Excellent Island references, fully insured. Free estimate. **212-751-8214**.

ROOSEVELT ISLAND POSTCARDS – Rich color Views of Tram by day and Lighthouse Park by night; sets of 20 (10 each) for \$8, or two sets, \$15. Check payable to *The WIRE*, to 531 Main Street #413 / NYC10044 with your address, phone, e-mail address (if available). Questions: **212-826-9055**. Sorry, no phone or credit card orders. Proceeds benefit *The Main Street WIRE*.

ATTORNEY ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND

Long-time Roosevelt Island resident

Free consultation for Island residents
Evening and weekend appointments available • Home visits

GENERAL PRACTICE LAW

PERSONAL INJURY

Automobile Accidents
Slip & Fall / All Injuries

DIVORCE & FAMILY LAW

Custody, Child Support, Visitation
Maintenance / Property Distribution
Agreements – Separation / Pre-Nuptial
Adoptions

CRIMINAL LAW

Felonies, Misdemeanors
Violations & DWI

WILLS, TRUSTS, ESTATES

Probate & Intestate Proceedings
Guardianships, Power of Attorney
Living Wills, Health Care Proxies

BUSINESS LAW

Buy / Sell Businesses; Litigation
Partnerships & Incorporations
Contracts, Agreements, Leases

REAL ESTATE

Residential Closings
Co-op, Condo, Home

PHILIP GRONER, ESQ.

67 Wall Street, 22nd Floor, #8028
New York, New York 10005-3111

Office 212-709-8028 • Cell 917-539-6415



Sunny Gardens Realty, Inc.

45-04 Skillman Avenue
Sunnyside, NY 11104

Marilyn Trouillot

Real Estate Sales Agent

718-507-4200

Direct **917-520-4174**

E-mail mtrouillot@aol.com

Give your apartment a lift HOME SHOPPING SERVICE

Consultations Available – Use What You Have

*Furniture
Upholstery, Slipcovers
Wallpaper & Fabric
Carpet & Area Rugs
All Window Treatments
Floor & Terrace Tiles
Lighting
Carpentry
Kitchen Renovation
Paint & Faux Finishes
All Accessories
Closet Design*



Ellen Levy

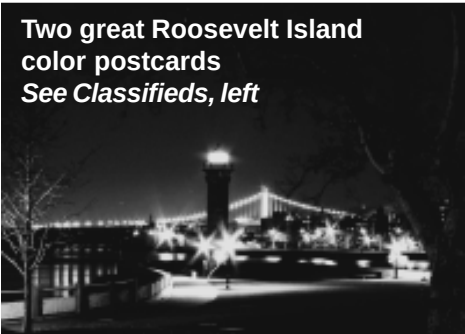
Interior Decorator

531 Main Street

212-751-8214

No job too small

**Two great Roosevelt Island
color postcards
See Classifieds, left**



GENERAL CONTRACTOR

FULLY INSURED

Painting, plastering, skimcoating • Wallpapering
Expert carpentry • Kitchen & bathroom renovation • Tile work

Rivercross References

212 751-8214

Island Arts Music Center

Roosevelt Island's New Community Music School

Enrollment now open

– All ages, all abilities, all musical backgrounds –

**piano • guitar • violin • cello
trumpet • saxophone • flute
clarinet • oboe • recorder**

Located in the Main St. Cultural Center, 548 Main St.
Classes offered Weekdays and Saturdays

**For information,
call 212-929-8343**

The Island Arts Music Center was founded by Director of RIVERMUSIC, Robin Russell, trained at Juilliard and Harvard (B.A. in Music). With over 20 years teaching experience with private students, he has been on the faculty of the Turtle Bay Music School, and the Diller-Quaile School of Music.



Katherine Teets Grimm, M.D.

Board Certified Pediatrician and Pediatric Allergist
501 Main Street • Roosevelt Island • 212-753-5505

**Have a Happy and
Healthy 2005**



Office Hours

Monday & Thursday • 9 a.m. -12 noon
Tuesday • 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday & Friday • 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Coverage provided at all times, when office is closed,
by Dr. Grimm or by her group, Uptown Pediatrics.

We provide comprehensive health care to children and adolescents.
Dr. Grimm is also qualified to evaluate and treat allergy and asthma in adults.

Roosevelt Island Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

**Our philosophy: Our office offers adults
and children a Quality Dental Service with
gentleness, compassion, thoroughness, and
respect for their time at a moderate dental
cost. Services include Bonding, Veneers,
ZOOM! In-Office Bleaching, Implants.**

Met Life in-network participant
Delta Dental in-network participant

Some of the Dental Plans we
accept toward payment:
21st Century, Cigna,
Aetna, Prudential, USHealthCare,
Guardian, First Fortis, etc.



Daytime Hours: Mon., Fri. 9-6; Tue., Wed. 12-5; Thur. 3-7
Evening Hours: Tue., Wed. 6-9

Lawrence Itskowitch, DDS, PC

Treating residents 24 years
501 Main Street • 212-752-8722

Jack Resnick, M.D.

Board-Certified Internist, FACP
Specialist in Adult Medicine

Health Plans Accepted
Aetna/USHealthcare
Empire Blue Cross
CIGNA GHI HIP
Multiplan
Oxford
United Healthcare
Medicare

**212-
832-2310**

House Calls

For the frail elderly
and the
homebound

501 Main Street
Roosevelt Island, N.Y. 10044

OLYMPIC CAR SERVICE

All discounts included in airport fares:

JFK \$27 • LGA \$12 • Newark \$55

On all other fares:

\$1 off any fare under \$20

\$2 off any fare over \$20

Clip & Save this Coupon

**Ask for your special
RI resident's discount card**

1-718-626-8000



WWW.RIVERVIEWNY.COM

RIVERVIEW

RESTAURANT/LOUNGE

THE ULTIMATE DINING EXPERIENCE

Located on the shores of the east side river of Long Island City
2-01 50TH AVE. LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101 TEL: 718.392.5000 FAX: 718.392.5556

Valentine's Day

\$65 PRIX FIXE
CHAMPAGNE TOAST

Eggs caviar
Vodka cream

Tuna tart
Wasabi cream

Venison salad
Endive, pomegranates dressing and date glaze

Steamed lobster
Served with five spices sauce

Roasted beef tenderloin
Mixed winter vegetable
Or

Roasted rack of lamb
Served with barbecue sauce

Chocolate trio
For gentlemen
Raspberries soufflé
For ladies

Executive chef: RICHARD FARNABE

Riverview offers dining with casual elegance in an unparalleled environment. It is the ideal location to hold your next business meeting, corporate function or social event, regardless of size. Riverview features an attractive 250 seated dining area and a 50 seated private and more intimate room.



Join our Chef
Richard Farnabe
at the
Riverview Restaurant &
Lounge
for a
very special meal in a very
special setting



Riverview Restaurant is located in the luxury Avalon Waterfront Tower, just south of the landmark Pepsi Cola sign. Recently opened, Riverview promises to be the borough's new showcase. Riverview has a warm and welcoming feeling while maintaining an elegant atmosphere. Riverview sparkles with contemporary flair, downtown style and snappy food. Riverview features a colorful, trendy lounge with its unique circular design for enjoying after-work delights.

2-01 50TH AVE. LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101 TEL: 718.392.5000 FAX: 718.392.5556