

Welcome,  
Fireworks  
Visitors!

# The Main Street WIRE™

Vol. 27, No. 21 • 27th Year as Roosevelt Island's Independent Community Newspaper • Next issue: Sat., July 28 (summer schedule)



Historical Society President Judy Berdy and RIOC President Steve Shane, at the Visitor Kiosk on Wednesday.

## Visitor Kiosk Opening Just in Time for Island's Fourth of July Fireworks Fest

by Rachel Durfee

The next time you step off the Tram, take a look around. You are sure to notice the impressive kiosk on the lawn directly in front of the station – that is, if you haven't noticed it already. The early 20th-century design – white terracotta with green ornamental cast-iron trim – stands out markedly.

"How dare you step on my grass!" is the first thing Judy Berdy, President of the Roosevelt Island Historical Society and the mastermind behind the acquisition and renovation of the century-old kiosk, yells at me when I turn up on-site. She is only half-joking. Though seemingly plunked down almost as suddenly as Dorothy's house into Oz, this 43-ton project has been years in the making. "Four long years," according to Berdy, who has been at the forefront from the beginning. So when she gets protective over the grass, which has been planted only hours earlier, I understand.

The Roosevelt Island Historical Society Visitor Center is set to open for the Fourth of July, when upwards of 4,000 eager fireworks gazers are expected to swarm the Island for the holiday. The 16-by-16-foot space will have desks manned mainly by volunteers, and rotating exhibits on the walls. Brochures and maps will be available for free, while various publications and Roosevelt Island souvenirs will be

on sale.

It's obvious this project has become a major part of Berdy's life, and her work is not going unnoticed. As we talk, at least four people wave and come up the walk to comment on how great the kiosk is looking. "Great job, Judy!" "It looks marvelous, Judy!" People who may not know her personally pause on their way down the sidewalk to study the building and take in the banner hanging from the front railing,

### Music Returns to Trellis

Summer weekend music, outdoors, will return to Trellis starting Friday evening, July 13.

The extended dinner-hour performances, featuring small groups playing light jazz, often with singers, had been suspended after the restaurant was fined on noise complaints based on a City ordinance written to discourage loudspeakers blaring into Manhattan streets to attract business.

RIOC has apparently worked things out, so the concerts will resume and continue each Friday and Saturday night from 6:00-10:00 through September 15.

spoke up. In July of 2003, Berdy happened to read an article in *The New York Times* regarding the question of what to do with the trolley kiosk, one of only two remaining in New York. The article mentioned that the New York City Department of Transportation was open to ideas. "A lot of people were talking about saving the kiosk, but it didn't seem like anybody was going to do anything," says Berdy. "I just

which announces the upcoming center. Serving as her own public-relations and advertising firm, Berdy hands out brochures by the fistful. "Here, take some!" she encourages a quiet Asian woman. "Give some to your friends!" she tells me. "Spread the word!"

"I'm just so shy and introverted," she says, joking. And it's a good thing she's not either, since the project began when Berdy attended a City Council meeting and

See **Kiosk**, page 10

## City Plans Razing Goldwater for Housing, Consolidating at Coler

Many Steps Remain, Including Consideration of Transportation

by Dick Lutz

New York City is planning for a consolidation of Roosevelt Island hospital operations – probably at the Coler campus north of the Octagon Park Apartments.

The move would free land at the Goldwater campus, south of the Queensboro Bridge, for a housing project.

A spokesman for New York City

Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), James Saunders, told *The WIRE* in an e-mailed statement that "we are at such a preliminary stage."

But there are indications that the project is focused not just on a modernization of Island hospital facilities, but also on reclaiming the valuable land at the Goldwater site as a location for housing. It is among the most valuable large properties at the City's disposal.

By way of background for newcomers and fireworks visitors (who will receive this issue at the Southpoint Park gate on the Fourth of July): Roosevelt Island is owned by New York City. Most of it is leased to New York State for development as a residential

community, a process that started in the mid-1970s and continues today with buildings going up just north of the Tramway station. Under the 99-year lease (through 2068), the hospital properties remain under the control of New York City. A document attached to the lease, the General Development Plan (GDP), says that the City retains control of the land on which the hospital buildings sit, out to five feet from the buildings' outer walls.

Although Coler Hospital and Goldwater Hospital were merged into one administrative unit in 1996, in common usage the campuses retain their original names – Coler at the north end, Goldwater

See **Goldwater**, page 6

## Red Bus Changes Came From RIRA-RIOC Meeting

Red Bus service went back to its former stops and route on Monday.

The change involves use of the cross-Island road south of Sportspark as a turnaround in place of the circle opposite the Tram station, which was taken out of service with the start of construction of Southtown buildings 5 and 6.

It also eliminates use of the Motorgate/Gristedes loop during the morning rush, saving two minutes or more to offset the minute for the Sportspark loop.

The change came about after the Residents Association (RIRA) Common Council approved a letter to the president of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC), Steve Shane, listing disadvantages of the counterclockwise route that put northbound buses on the new Main Street. That routing required homebound subway riders to walk from the subway station to Main Street, to catch a bus going north. A key complaint, along with the uphill walk, was loss of the subway station as a shelter, seen as a particularly serious disadvantage for elderly and disabled residents in bad weather.

RIRA's letter (on line in the June 16 *WIRE* at nyc10044.com), drafted by Island House representative Frank Farance, led to a meeting last week involving Shane, RIOC operations personnel, Farance, RIRA President Matthew Katz, and others. While Shane had initially rejected the Sportspark turnaround as dangerous and/or time-wasting, he agreed to

See **Red Bus**, page 10



RIRA Common Council member Frank Farance, as he made the case for proposed Red Bus changes in a meeting with RIOC last week. Buddy Satar, RIOC's bus manager, listened.

## RIRA Sets Plan for RIOC Board Election

The Residents Association is preparing for a September 18 pre-election of RIOC Board appointees. It will coincide with a primary election.

Some details are subject to change, so *Website NYC10044* will carry updates at nyc10044.com/RIOCelection as well as the package of forms the State will require candidates to complete. Queries can also be directed to RIOCelection@gmail.com. Meantime, here are the requirements – most subject to refinement over the summer:

- Candidates must be at least 25.
- Candidates must be Island residents, with no required minimum duration of residency.
- There will be a Candidates Night prior to the election, probably no later than mid-September.
- Potential candidates can be placed on an e-mailing list to receive alerts when new information becomes available, by sending a

request to RIOCelection@gmail.com.

The election will be one step in the process. Ultimately, under the law, only the Governor can name people to the RIOC Board of Directors. Their appointments must then be confirmed in a State Senate vote. Along the way, there is a State Police investigation – part of the process for all State appointments.

The RIOC Board has nine members, two of whom hold seats by virtue of their State offices (the Chair, who is Housing Commissioner, and a representative of the State Budget Office). The rest – seven – are potential resident-electees.

The terms of some current resident Board members have expired, while others will continue to serve. The status of the Board at the time of the election will presumably determine how many open positions there are, with the possibility that

having "surplus" winning candidates might provide for a vacancy, either expected or unexpected.

The idea of a mostly elected RIOC Board of Directors has been around for some time, and was even the subject of legislation put forward by then-Assemblymember Pete Grannis after work by the Maple Tree Group. But September's election will be only a partial move toward election of the Board members, since the process will produce a list of elected candidates that will go to the Governor. He will then select appointees. It's indirect, but RIOC President Steve Shane and DHCR Commissioner Deborah VanAmerongen have said they'll do their best to make sure the Governor goes along with the results of a resident election.

Under the plans being made, all Island residents of voting age, regardless of national citizenship, will be eligible to vote.



Rockets' Red Glare Queensboro Bridge in silhouette. (Fourth of July information, page 12.)

The Editorial Page

Visiting?

Welcome!  
You’ve just become part of New York City’s most special community.

We’re so fully and joyfully integrated – in terms of economics, race, ability – that this community can call upon an outstanding variety of talent and determination that makes every last one of us proud to be a Roosevelt Islander. Or we can tap into the strong side of just about every ethnicity, national custom, and religious persuasion known to mankind.

We’re like New York City – of lot of everything good that the world has to offer. But ours is a special situation, for we have it in just 144 acres, surrounded by water and views that will take your breath away.

We have a history, too, that mirrors the rough and tumble as well as the drive and delight of New York, New York. (You can find much of that on the WIRE website at nyc10044.com.)

Thanks for visiting. As you leave, take away the knowledge that, for a short time, you’ve been part of a community as spectacular, the year around, as the sky that blazed with fireworks tonight.

Collaboration

It may be that not everybody is totally happy with the latest re-revision of the Red Bus routing and schedule, but we’ve heard little grouching since it went into effect on Monday.

But what happened when RIOC and RIRA sat down together to hash out a means of returning to northbound service stopping directly in front of the subway station was more than a change in transportation patterns. It also marked a pattern in RIOC – lots of new people there – talking with RIRA – lots of old-timers there – about what has worked and what hasn’t worked in the past.

There’s a resident resource, and the work of revising the Red Bus service tapped into it, as residents have been wishing – for well over a decade – would happen.

It’s something fairly new and very welcome.  
You can see the product of the resident resource not just in a better Red Bus service, but in the Visitor Kiosk at the Tram station, in the product of residents’ labors on Roosevelt Island Day, in our youth baseball, in Island Kids, in The WIRE, and in organizations far too numerous to list here individually.

RIOC is just catching on to how to use that resource, and it’s not perfect yet. There’s a movie series this summer at Southpoint that could have benefited greatly from an involvement of residents who staged movies there a couple of years ago. There’s the matter of those missing stop signs on Main Street and lax enforcement that has us fearing the first report of a child dart-out accident.

In short, there is more to be learned. But the new RIOC exhibits a willingness to learn, and there are hundreds of years of resident experience here, so it should be easy.

It’s part of governmental system that off-Islanders come here to run the place. It need not be part of the system that those off-Islanders ignore on-Island experience and expertise, and RIOC has shown the beginnings, at least, of being ready to integrate residents into planning and execution in making the wheels turn. It’s collaboration, and it’s welcome.

DL



Published by **The Main Street WIRE**™  
©2007 Unisource2000™ Inc.  
531 Main St. #413, NYC10044

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

**Managing Editor** – Dick Lutz  
**Reporters** – Jami Bernard, Mary Camper-Titsingh, Rachel Durfee  
**Photographers** – Maria Casotti, Paul Katz, Ghila Krajzman  
**Chief Proofreader** – Linda Heimer  
**Proofreaders** – Ashton Barfield, Dick FitzPatrick, Lillian Shaman  
**Advertising Sales** – Ellen Levy, Stu Feit  
**Circulation Managers** – Sherie Helstien, Matthew Katz, Teri Sheridan

**Circulation Assistant** – Dexter Benjamin  
**Legal Counsel** – Lewis Perkiss  
**Human Resources** – David Bauer  
**Website NYC10044 facilities** – Frank Farance  
**NYC10044.com Webmaster** – Elena Zaremba

**Founding Publisher** – Jack Resnick  
**Editor Emeritus** – Jim Bowser

Judi Arond, Bubu Arya, Steve Bessenof, Marcie Brown-Suarez, Lynn Chambers, Carol Chen, Mark Chipman, Vivianne Coddereens, Malcolm Cohen, Julian Edelman, Arlise Ellis, Don Eremin, Willven Falcon, Angela Grant, Teresa Hasing, Steve Heller, Darrell Henry, Roberta Hershey, Ken Kaplan, Matthew Katz, Michael Kolba, Silvia Kramer, Imam Mandia, Iris Marciano, Clarissa McCraley, Clinton Narine, Sandra Narine, Essie Owens, Florence Paaui, Joan Pape, Ronnie Rigas, Gwen Ryals, Ron Schuppert, Raye Schwartz, Beryl Seaforth, Margie Smith, Alan Ulick, Nina Winttingham; students of Legacy High School, Sean Suarez with fellow Scouts from Island Scout Troop 59, and members of the Island Girls Project.

Last Two Weeks of June:  
1. Had joint meetings with RIRA representatives to discuss prominent issues:  
a. Commercial corridor on Main Street: Met with Margie Smith and a developer she brought in. Conclusion was that, for this developer, with only 30,000 square feet “available” (out of the total of 90,000 square feet, 60,000 is occupied under lease or permit), too small to be of interest given the investment of time and money required. We continue to explore the avenues to lease up the vacancies, while the clean-up program proceeds.  
b. Red Bus routes: After much discussion and a trial run, as of June 25, the morning rush hour bus no longer loops into Gristedes, stops in front of Manhattan Park, proceeds directly down Main Street as before, discharging passengers across West Channel Drive from the sub-way, then to the Tram, discharging and receiving passengers at the existing stop, then looping behind Sportspark to head north on West Channel Drive, picking up passengers in front of the subway, and on to the north as before. The Gristedes loop elimination is during morning rush hours only. The Tram will still be met by the bus in the evening rush hour and after dark. The East Main Street bus stop near the Riverwalk sales office is eliminated.  
c. Red Bus and strollers: After much discussion, the issue was referred back to RIRA to poll its greater constituency. Obviously, for the parents who must bring their strollers/toddlers onboard during rush hours, it is an imperative, despite the imposition on the much greater number. Where the line is to be drawn is one of the problems of democracy. For the time being, the rule continues as: “No unfolded strollers during rush hours.”

The RIOC Column

These have been frantically busy weeks as RIRA and RIOC have prepared for and executed their last board meetings until September. RIRA has labored to address the Red Bus issues that have consumed our attention since the East Channel Drive (AKA, Main Street South) route was put in place and that was extensively discussed in the last issue of The WIRE.

As you’ve likely discovered this past week, several of the routing problems have been tackled and, I hope, solved. With RIOC President Steve Shane’s encouragement, I convened a meeting on June 20 that included RIRA officers and members Mark Chipman, Frank Farance, Vicki Feinmel, Margie Smith, and Betty Walker who were joined by RIOC resident Board members David Kraut, Mark Ponton, and Michael Shinozaki. Steve was joined by RIOC staffers Fernando Martinez, Chris Baker, and Buddy Satar.

Our goal was to consider the current Red Bus routing and scheduling and to see if either or both could be improved. The resident group represented roughly some 140 years of Island living, and many of us had seen various bus scenarios attempted and abandoned. In a productive two-hour meeting, we determined the following: the East Channel route would be abandoned. This had been put into use after the loss of the turnaround at the Tram station as construction begins for Southtown buildings #5 and #6. While building a new turnaround east of the old one seemed to some of us to be a logical alternative, there were technical questions for which we had no answers. Our second choice, as you may recall from the RIRA letter in the last issue of this newspaper, was a route requiring a turn around Sportspark and then traveling north again on the West Channel Drive. While adding a minute or two to the bus schedule, it would allow pickups at the subway without either crossing a street or walking overland to a 455 Main Street bus stop. After testing the route on Thursday, this change was approved and commenced this past Monday.

The second change involved making up some time during the morning rush hour by eliminating the turn-in at the Gristedes/Motorgate bus stop. RIRA determined that 91% of the morning riders who used this stop were coming from Manhattan Park and could easily use a stop in front of 2 River Road. This plan would 1) save time, 2) be safer, as Manhattan Parkers would no longer be obliged to scurry across Main Street to catch the bus, and 3) still protect riders from the elements under the Main Street/River Road arcade.

We discussed the indiscriminate violations of stop sign and yield sign rules by trucks, buses, and private

d. Red Bus capacity: Whether the good weather season is conducive to more walkers or other reasons, the buses are not now overcrowded and neither the lines nor the wait too long. All will continue to monitor the situation and will add capacity as required.  
e. Main Street congestion: While summer is here and without school buses, the congestion is relieved; double-parked delivery trucks continue to be a problem. Public Safety is researching available New York City regulations and asking merchant cooperation. The matter is being worked.  
f. Main Street stop signs and crosswalks: Recognizing the danger to pedestrians, enforcement will be emphasized. A patrol car will be stationed near the foot of the bridge ramp and a couple of summonses issued for violations should become an effective deterrent. The moving of the southbound bus stop to the west side of the street and elimination of the Gristedes loop during the morning rush hour should remove much of the potential for accidents at that spot.  
2. Manhattan Park: A totally unsubstantiated rumor as to the elimination of the affordable housing units in Manhattan Park was circulated. While the Section 8 contract with the US Department of HUD may expire at some date in the future, Congress has always reauthorized the program (and it would be a



Steve Shane, President  
Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation  
e-mail: SShane@RIOC.com

See Shane, page 12

vehicles on Main Street. We’ve all seen them zoom through pedestrian walkways without even slowing down. President Shane promised to step up moving violation enforcement with a ticket blitz, and to request Public Safety Director Jim Fry to give an account as to the number of infractions ticketed along with the index crimes that are regularly reported at RIOC Board meetings. RIRA suggested switching the yield signs back to stop signs so as perhaps to grab the attention of motorists, but no decision was made. Listen neighbors, when you see violations of these signs and when you see Public Safety ignoring those violations, for pity sake, report it!

We came to no conclusions as to the efficacy of allowing parents with strollers to bring them aboard buses during rush hours. There is merit on both sides of the question and, in fact, the MTA doesn’t allow them on City buses during peak hours. However, we are not the MTA, and it seems to me that we must consider the needs not just of the majority but also of those who have no options. Parents who must travel with kids, packages and strollers during the rush hours have no options; the able-bodied and unencumbered do. The elderly on walkers or the disabled riding wheelchairs have limited options as well. As a planned community we must consider the needs of those least likely to find alternative modes of travel, both on-Island and off-Island.

There are two other perennial problems that still must be pondered: We’ve all seen the bunching of two, three or even four buses. By considering the variability in waiting times, much as airport buses at car rental facilities do, we might get a handle on a problem that City buses have never solved. Further, it’s in everyone’s interests to improve non-rush hour scheduling so as to synchronize with the Tram schedule; it’s the only schedule that’s ever worked. I hope that subsequent meetings of our working group will address these issues.

It’s very gratifying to see RIRA, RIOC, and the RIOC Board work together to solve a problem. You old-timers know that this has not always been the case. I hope that Steve Shane will share operational decisions with this group, or one like it, prior to their implementation so as to bring those 140 years of ex-

See Katz, page 12



Matthew Katz, President  
Roosevelt Island Residents Association  
e-mail: MatthewKatz@verizon.net

# COMING UP

## – This Weekend –

**Children’s Advanced Swimming Classes**, Sat., 9:30; Mon.-Wed.-Fri., 5:30, Sportspark pool. Information: **212-753-3611**.

**Children’s Learn-to-Swim Program**, Sat., noon; Tues. and Thur., 5:00 p.m. Information: **212-753-3611**.



◀ **Art from the Heart II** continues through July 8 at Gallery RIVAA. Visual art by Coler-Goldwater patients and residents, hosted by the Roosevelt Island Visual Arts Association, 527 Main Street. Gallery hours are Sat.-Sun. 11:00-5:00, Wed. and Fri. 6:00-9:00.

**Movies at Southpoint Park – *Ghostbusters***, Sat., **June 30**, sundown (about 8:30). Free, sponsored by RIOC.

## – The Coming Week –

**Fireworks Viewing at Southpoint Park, Wed., July 4**. Tickets on the RIOC website at [rioc.com](http://rioc.com), at Tram Plaza in Manhattan and, on July 4, at Southpoint gate and at Tram booth on the island. \$18. Gate opens at 5:00 p.m.

**Opening Reception for *Timeless Photography***, exhibition of photographs by Islander Selwyn Fund, **Sat., July 7**, 5:00-7:00 p.m., lobby gallery, Octagon Park Apartments.

## – Future Weeks –

**Music Outdoors at Trellis, Fri.-Sat., July 13-14**, 6:00-10:00 p.m., and each Friday and Saturday evening through September 15.

**Opening Reception for *Summer Expressions***, new show at Gallery RIVAA, **Sat., July 14**, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Exhibition runs through August 26. Gallery hours: Sat.-Sun., 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Wed. and Fri., 6:00-9:00 p.m.

**Movies at Southpoint Park – *title to be announced***, Sat., **July 14**, sundown (about 8:30). Free, sponsored by RIOC.

**Book Discussion Group: *The Secret Agent*** by Joseph Conrad, **Thur., July 19**, 6:30 p.m. Group meets monthly, third Thursday, at the NYPL Roosevelt Island branch.

***The Main Street WIRE*** – Next issue, **Sat., July 28**. (To receive e-mail bulletins between issues, send an *AddMe* message to [Bulletins@MainStreetWIRE.com](mailto:Bulletins@MainStreetWIRE.com).)

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

**Advertising Deadlines:** Ads in the paper, Thur., July 19; decision on circulars/inserts for *The Bag*, Mon., July 23; they are due Thur., July 26. **Additional issues in 2007:** Aug. 25; Sept. 8, 22; Oct. 6, 20; Nov. 3, 17; Dec. 1, 15. **Issues scheduled in**

**2008:** Jan. 12, 26; Feb. 9, 23; Mar 15, 29; Apr. 19; May 3, 17, 31; June 14, 28; Aug. 2, 30; Sept. 13, 27; Oct. 11, 25; Nov. 8, 22; Dec. 6, 20. **News phone, 212-826-9055**; urgent matters, **917-617-0449**. **Phone** for display and classified advertising placement and information, **212-751-8214**.

**Movies at Southpoint Park – *title to be announced***, Sat., **July 28**, sundown (about 8:30). Free, sponsored by RIOC.

**Movies at Southpoint Park – *title to be announced***, Sat., **Aug. 4**, sundown (about 8:30). Free, sponsored by RIOC.

**Shakespeare’s *The Tempest***, Fri.-Sat., **Aug. 10-11**. Outdoor performance, location to be announced; sponsored by Residents Association.

**Book Discussion Group: *Collected Novellas*** by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, **Thur., Aug. 16**, 6:30 p.m. Group meets monthly, third Thursday, at the NYPL Roosevelt Island branch.

**Movies at Southpoint Park – *title to be announced***, Sat., **Aug. 18**, sundown (about 8:30). Free, sponsored by RIOC.

**Residents Association Common Council** meeting, **Wed., Sept. 5**, 8:00 p.m., Good Shepherd Community Center (lower level). Meetings, open to all, begin with public access period for residents to present matters to the Council. (Future meetings Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5.)

**RIOC Board of Directors** meeting, **Thur., Sept. 6**, 9:30 a.m., Good Shepherd Community Center. (Future meetings 4:30 Oct. 25, 9:30 Nov. 29.)



# Senior Center

**Monday**  
10:30, English as 2nd Language  
10:30, Blood Pressure  
12:30, “Oldies” Movies  
1:00, Computers  
5:45, Yoga

**Tuesday**  
9:30, Get Stronger Bones  
10:30, Shoppers’ Bus  
2:00, Bingo  
2:00, Paint & Sculpt  
7:30, Games (RISA)

**Wednesday**  
9:30, Yoga  
10:30, Computers  
10:30, Shoppers’ Bus  
7:00, Pokeno (RISA)

**Thursday**  
9:30, Get Stronger Bones  
10:30, Creative Arts  
11:00, Tai Chi  
12:30, Movie  
2:00, Lotto

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

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

**Special Events**  
**Beauty Spa Day** with Youth Program, Sat., June 30, 2 p.m.  
**Fourth of July** party, Wed., July 4, time to be announced  
**Stop & Shop**, Fri., July 6, noon  
**City Island Lunch**, Tue., July 10, noon  
**RISA Flea Market**, Sat., July 14, 9:00-4:30  
**Atlantic City trip**, Wed., July 18  
**IHOP Trip**, Mon., July 23, 2:00  
**Circle Line Luncheon Cruise**, Thur., July 26, 10:00  
**Green Acres Mall**, Tue., July 31, noon

# Letters

### To the Editor:

I appreciated Jonathan Kalkin’s article (June 15 *WIRE*). I always had curiosity and lack of understanding of why RIOC would leave storefronts empty and, in some cases, close some, when in my uneducated mindset, I found that to be uneconomical and certainly a loss of money. Although I do not focus my own life around the almighty dollar, I can fully understand that RIOC is a business and “money is good.” I now have a better sense of understanding of where things are from RIOC’s point of view.

With that said, I have to commend Jonathan for an excellent introduction and explanation of the proposed Master Leaseholder model. I think that would be an excellent way to solve the challenges imposed by the Public Authorities Act and RIOC.

I would like to address some of the concerns/risks listed:

- Jonathan states that a concern would be having a Master Leaseholder potentially use a majority, if not all, of the storefronts for office space instead of retail. As much as I would be concerned about that, I agree with him that “money talks,” and we have a unique model here on Roosevelt Island with a captive audience, street foot traffic, and virtually no competition. However, even if the theory of “majority of office space” were to happen, I am certain many Island residents would still relish even the introduction of just *one single retailer*. Even one would be a blessing and better than what we have today. But I tend to agree that a Master Leaseholder will see all the factors at hand and will want to have retail storefronts that will attract money to the retailer and thus allow the Leaseholder to increase rents and be more profitable in subsequent years.

- Jonathan also states a concern about the aesthetics and appearance of storefronts, especially when involving franchises. But look at what we have today. Today, in my humble opinion, if you walk down Main Street, we have a “Soviet-era” look and feel. All grey stone walls. Red signage. Bland white lettering. There is absolutely nothing appealing to the appearance of Main Street today, in terms of storefronts. However, I do agree that we should have a common “signage” appearance, but feel it should be much more appealing and “small town” in feel. I am aware of the examples you have mentioned in other communities. Those common signages take on the appearance of a wooden shingle that can hang out from the storefront, and have an appealing small-town look and feel. With this said, I also believe that franchises are not a bad thing, *if* that is what residents want. And I agree that the “selection” will happen “naturally” based on which storefronts residents patronize.

As part of that selection process, it would be important for merchants and retailers to have spaces meeting ADA requirements. As you may know, we have a lot of residents who are wheelchair or scooter bound. As a Master Leaseholder allows merchants to come in, the retail space itself will need to take that into account. A storefront should not follow a “typical” demographic “foot traffic” profile. Roosevelt Island is unique in many ways, in particular the demographics of its residents. So any establishment would need to be considerate to such needs.

All in all, I think your suggestion will certainly solve the “dilemma” at hand for RIOC. I also think it will give the residents retailers, both “mom and pop” and franchise, and will certainly give a boost to our livelihood and offer choices that no longer involve crossing the bridge or taking the Tram or F train.

You suggest a resident advisory board to provide RIOC or any Master Leaseholder with suggestions or advice on retail selection. I would gladly want to be considered on that board if the opportunity would present itself.

Thanks again, Jonathan.

Alex Ricardo

### To Sophia Geier, Main Street Theatre:

Back when there were only five or six channels on TV, the only thing programmers could fill time with was old movies. In 1977 my contemporaries and I were well acquainted with the archetypes of film like Jimmy Cagney and Bette Davis.

But congratulations to you as the director, your superb cast, musician, and crew for putting on a fantastic production of *A History of the American Film*. Through study and extraordinary talent, the young actors at MSTDA managed to re-incarnate the spirit of the movie icons of the past.

Thank you for a delightful evening.

Joan Pape

### To the Editor:

Thanks to a number of Roosevelt Islanders who contributed time and talent to the memorial concert [photo, page 10] Friday, June 22, honoring the late Robin Russell and for the benefit of his son, Matthew. Matthew’s mother, Rosemarie Van Zandt Russell, died in 2002.

Although Robin didn’t live on the Island, he contributed greatly to the arts on the Island, starting the River Music Concert Series over ten years ago and the Island Arts Music School three years ago.

Performers included Ralph Allen, Iris Jortner, Roy Eaton, Kyra Humphreys, Andrea Hallam, and Amie Weiss. Thanks to them and to Marianne Lau, who organized both the traditional students’ music recital in May and the memorial event.

A fund has been set up for Matthew Russell. Contributions can be sent to either of the following addresses:

**Smith Barney Custodial Account**  
**c/o Christopher Phillips**  
**340 East 74th Street #7D**  
**New York, NY 10021**  
(Write “Matthew Russell Custodial Account” in the memo line of your check.)  
**R.I. Residents Association**  
**P.O. Box 341**  
**New York, NY 10044**  
(Include “Matthew Russell Fund” in the memo line.)

Judy Arond

### To the Editor:

Shame, *shame* on us! Only 554 people voted in the election Tuesday, June 5! Situated in the school, the voting station is convenient for all of us, just 1-2 blocks at most. We have at least 5,000 adults on Roosevelt Island qualified to vote... and yet *only* 554 people voted in the election on Tuesday, June 5.

In the *full* 65th district, a total of 6,196 people voted. Can you imagine what power we have if we used it. If all 5,000 adults (100%) on Roosevelt Island voted, our votes would represent 95% of *all* votes in the 65th district. With our votes we could decide *every* local election and have a great impact on City and State elections, as well.

We Roosevelt Islanders depend on our representatives. Pete Grannis, Jessica Lappin, and Carolyn Maloney truly care for us. They spend time on Roosevelt Island, most of us have talked with them personally, they know our issues. And we depend on them to assist us with a huge range of important issues, issues that affect *our* quality of life such as privatization, the MetroCard, traffic signs, the Youth Center, our art gallery, protecting our park land and so much more.

This last election was to determine Grannis’s successor. With approximately 5,000 voters, we could totally decide so many issues in our favor *if we all took the time to vote*. It takes only 20 minutes at most out of our day. Let’s aim for 100% next time.

Doris Chernik

### To RIOC President Steve Shane:

I call your attention to the dismissive, contemptuous disregard for the prohibition of bike riding on the bridge sidewalk. One is often passed from behind by a bicycle going what seems like 10 to 20 mph, where a misstep could cause serious injury to most able-bodied people, especially daily bridge crossers such as this 87-year-old letter writer.

I understand that enforcement of this is impractical, if not impossible, and depends really on the sense of responsibility of the riders, which is lamentably lacking. But I respectfully urge that you do as much as you can to protect us and suggest new, larger illustrative signs of a bike rider with an X across the face of the sign. It would need no reading. It would be unequivocal, and those who disregard it would be in clear violation. The installation must be substantial and secure. The present Island sign is dangling by a wire.

Edward B. Hussey

Additional letters on page 12

# Letters Policy

**The WIRE welcomes** letters of local interest to the community, and to/from officials. Requests for *Name Withheld* publication 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 method of submission:** E-mail to **Letters@MainStreetWIRE.com** (plaintext e-mail preferred, or attach a file), or on a CD left at the desk at 531 Main Street, addressed to *The WIRE*. If you e-mail, *expect a confirming response* and, if you don’t receive one, *resend* and call **212-826-9055** to alert us that it’s been sent. **Alternatives:** Typed copy left at the lobby desk at 531 Main Street; allow extra time for typesetting. Clearly handwritten letters will be considered, if brief. We are not able to take telephone dictation of letters. **All letters subject to acceptance and editing for length and clarity.** Recommended maximum length, 350 words; longer letters considered if content merits the space.

**Letters deadline for July 28 issue: Tues., July 24.** After deadline, letters considered on a space-available basis.

# OLYMPIC

## LUXURY CAR SERVICE, INC.

**1-718-626-8000**

**1-718-728-3030**

*Serving Roosevelt Island for Over Ten Years*

- Door-to-door service •
- Long distance and local calls •
- Service to all area airports •

**Please ask about your  
return trip from the airport.**

***When it really counts,  
count on Olympic!***

Special discounts are included  
in these low airport fares:

**JFK \$32**

**LGA \$16**

**Newark \$65 + tolls**

- Call Olympic about your return trip  
from the airport: 1-718-626-8000 •

Discount on all other fares:

\$1 off any fare under \$20

\$2 off any fare over \$20

Clip & Save this Guest Coupon

## THE GROG SHOP

605 Main Street, Roosevelt Island



*We  
specialize  
in  
wines  
from  
all  
nations*



Free Delivery (minimum \$15)

**212-838-5822**

Mon. & Wed. thru Sat. 10:30-1:30 & 4:30-8; Sun. 12-3  
Closed Tuesday

## ATTORNEY ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND

Long-time Roosevelt Island resident

**Free consultation for Island residents**

Evening and weekend appointments available • Home visits

- Divorce & Family Law
- Personal Injury Law
- Criminal Law
- Wills, Trusts, & Estates
- Real Estate: Closings
- Business Law

**PHILIP GRONER, ESQ.**

67 Wall Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, #8028  
New York, New York 10005-3111

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

## Salamis Service Center & Auto Body

### 718-392-7451

- 10% discount for Roosevelt Island residents
- Free towing for Roosevelt Island residents
- Licensed Inspection Station

Mon.-Fri., 8AM-6PM, Sat. 8AM-4PM (closed Sun.)

**Towing is 24/7 – Call anytime**

21-15 38th Av., Long Island City

# Move Up. Not Off.

**Stay on the Island you love.  
Move up to the luxury of Riverwalk.  
Just Steps from the F Train and Tram.**

Condo Finishes. Spectacular River & Skyline Views.  
Rooftop Lounge & Sun Terrace. State-of-the-Art Fitness Center.  
Washer/Dryer in Every Home. Children's Playroom.  
24/7 Concierge. Bike Room and More!

**The Most Luxurious Rental  
in the History of Roosevelt Island.  
Now Renting!**

JUNE/JULY OCCUPANCY  
1BRs fr \$2,695, 2BRs fr \$4,325 & 3BRs fr \$5,295

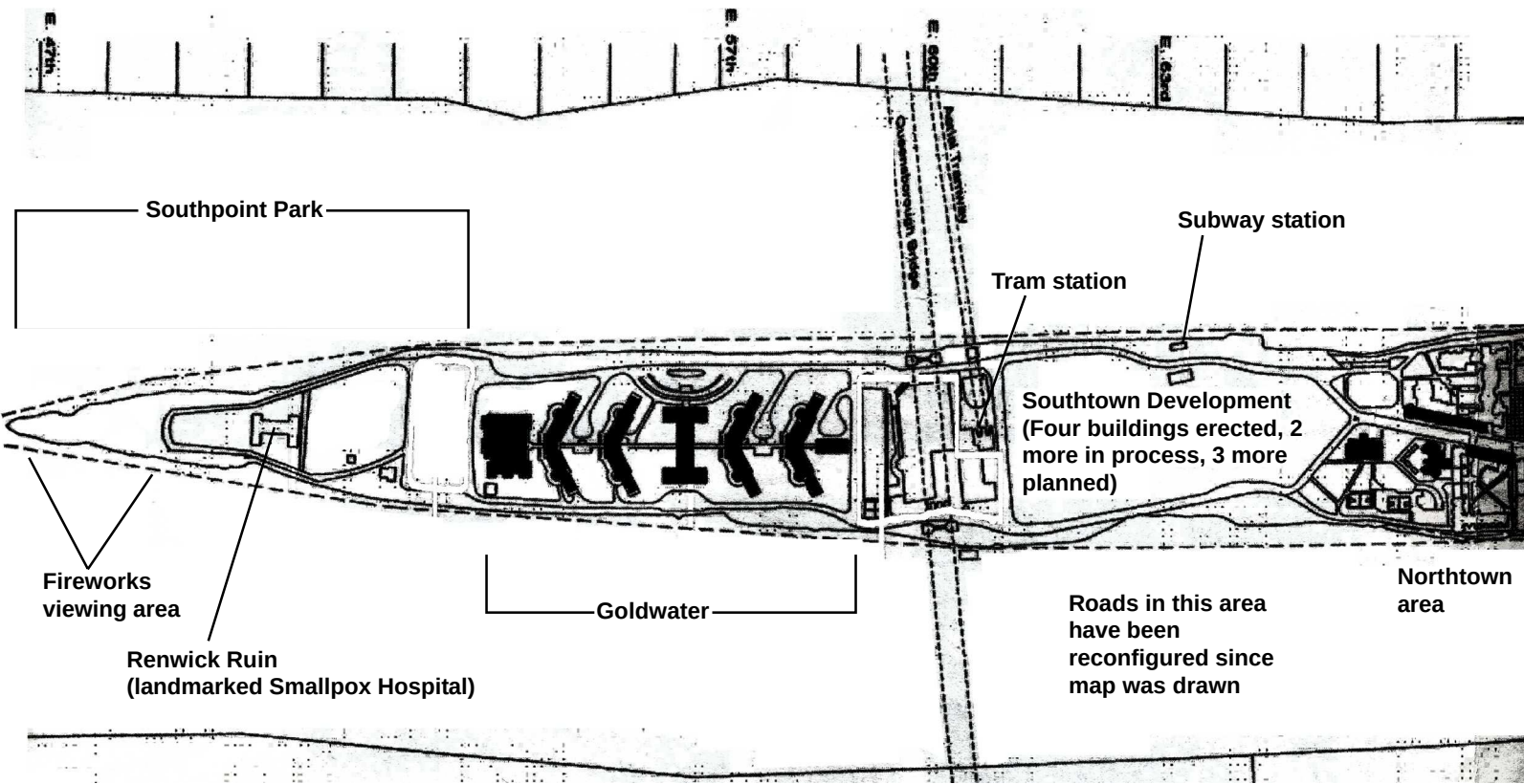


425 Main Street

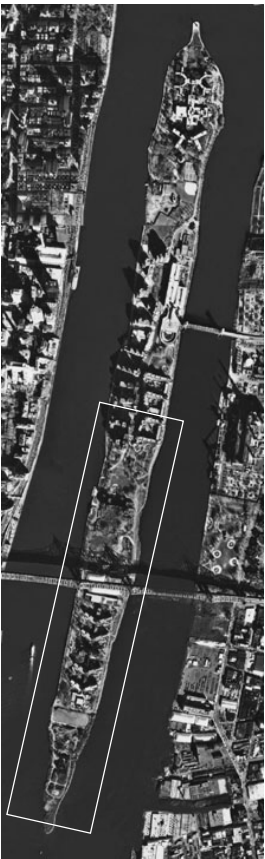
**212.754.0455**  
[www.riverwalknyc.com](http://www.riverwalknyc.com)

A JOINT DEVELOPMENT BY:  
The Hudson Companies, Inc. & The Related Companies, L.P.

We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the Nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.



Map at left shows Goldwater buildings, which are linked by a long corridor, in black; white outline below indicates area depicted at left



**Goldwater** from page 1

south of the Queensboro Bridge. Part of the hospital consolidation project calls for an assisted-living residential tower at the north end of the Island, most likely to be built on a parking lot on the east side of Coler. Earlier this week, City Councilmember Jessica Lappin, in whose district all of Roosevelt Island lies, had not been briefed on the project. “I heard about this from a constituent,” she told *The WIRE*. Lappin said she was requesting a briefing for herself, State Senator José Serrano, and Assemblymember Micah Kellner. At midweek, the president of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC), the State agency that operates Roosevelt Island and holds responsibility for developing the State-controlled property on the Island, had heard nothing of this City plan, even though a PowerPoint presentation had been shown to hospital administrative staff and, shortly thereafter, a memo was given to all employees

at Goldwater. The fact that RIOC has not been brought into the discussions suggests that the City intends to hold discussions – or has already held them – at the Mayor-Governor level. Construction at Goldwater – perhaps even demolition – would likely require use of more than just the building footprint plus five feet. For that, RIOC permission would be required, and there would be questions about truck traffic hauling demolition debris and construction materials. The idea of converting the Goldwater site to housing has been “in the wind” for years. The land is considered too valuable to continue to be used for hospitals, which do not require an Island site with spectacular views of, and ready access to, Manhattan. Indeed, according to one *WIRE* source, a Brooklyn site may be considered as a destination for both Coler and Goldwater operations. That would free up both Roosevelt

Island sites for residential development, a fully viable idea now that the State has established a community here that is in its fourth decade. Presumably, the City would take bids for use of the Goldwater (and perhaps Coler) properties, and a winning developer would build. Depending on the number of floors that would be allowed (towers could be taller nearer Southpoint Park and away from the Queensboro Bridge), the Goldwater site could easily accommodate 2,500-3,500 apartments or even more. The planned Southpoint Park would make apartments overlooking the south end of the Island particularly valuable, but the entire site has views that would contribute greatly to the market value of any apartments on the west side of a building. **Transportation** *The WIRE* has been unable to learn whether the Island’s rush-hour transportation squeeze has

been factored into thinking about adding residential units to the Island. Morning rush-hour passengers often find it difficult to board trains, and six of the eventual nine Southtown buildings are not yet occupied, though one has just gotten its first residents and ground has been broken for two more. The MTA has said that subway service here is operating at full capacity, and that no more trains can be pushed through the tunnel. When existing State plans for residential units are completed, the commuter load is expected to be about 40% heavier than now. If Mayor Bloomberg’s congestion pricing plan goes into effect, many who presently drive into Manhattan will presumably switch to parking in Queens and taking the subways, including the F, that reach midtown and downtown areas. There is an E-train tunnel running under Southpoint Park, and the potential for building a station there, far underground. But such an undertaking would be very costly, perhaps very difficult, and is not presently in any known plan. Other transportation options are limited: Ferry service might be considered but could probably not accommodate the passenger load that a sizable development would generate.

Goldwater property to a developer would very likely cover much of the proposed work at the Coler site. There are indications, in fact, that the City is attempting to keep a lid on this project, at least for now. When *The WIRE* first inquired, the Chief of Staff at Goldwater agreed to show a reporter the PowerPoint presentation that hospital administrators had seen. But she stopped returning *WIRE* calls and the matter was bumped up to HHC, where Saunders became the contact. At first, the agreement to show the PowerPoint presentation was withdrawn (“No, we’re not going to show you that.”), even after Saunders described it as “benign.” Finally, the withdrawal was withdrawn and the presentation was provided Wednesday morning. The presentation focuses primarily on a description of the present state of both the Coler facility and the Goldwater facility, but the version provided to *The WIRE* ends with a major heading, “Next Steps,” after which it is blank. (Each of the other major headings were followed by one to five screens.) While a project of this magnitude – new building and renovation at Coler, then razing Goldwater, then building on the site – would take many years, some sources believe that the City administration wants the plan under way, at least in preliminary stages, while Mike Bloomberg is the City’s chief executive. Presuming Bloomberg does not resign to make an independent run for the Presidency, that’s about two and a half years.

**Op-Ed**  
**Island Has a Role in Energy Independence for USA**

by Rep. Carolyn Maloney

Last month, I was delighted to tour Verdant Power’s new “kinetic hydropower” plant on the eastern shore of Roosevelt Island. As you may know, the plant harnesses the energy within the tides and currents of the East River, a potential source of power that until recently flowed out to sea, unharnessed. Our community is truly at the cutting edge of energy technology; in fact, we’re setting an example that the rest of the nation can and should follow. If America is ever to become truly energy-independent, we need to invest in new technologies like those under development on the Island. That’s why I am working in Congress to secure federal funds to help Verdant’s scientists research even more effective ways of gathering tidal energy, which I hope will one day allow the company to deliver clean, renewable power not only to Roosevelt Island, but to other parts of the city, as well. In addition to supporting projects – like the tidal energy plant – that hold great promise for the future, we in Congress are taking action to promote cleaner energy and tackle global warming in the near term – starting in Washington, D.C. On June 7, my House Democratic colleagues and I introduced the Carbon-Neutral Government Act of 2007 (H.R. 2635), which would require our government to finally step up to the plate and become a leader on the serious issue of global warming. The federal government, which is the largest energy consumer in the United States, can and should lead the way to a greener future for our country and the world. Under this bill, the federal government would have to take stock of its greenhouse gas emissions, freeze

those emissions by 2010, and then reduce them over time to achieve zero emissions by 2050. The Environmental Protection Agency would be required to set annual government-wide emissions targets to achieve these reductions and each year, all federal agencies would have to issue public progress reports on how well they’re achieving our goals for a greener federal government. Lastly, the bill would set minimum emissions standards for all the motor vehicles in the federal government’s fleet. Unfortunately, while Congress has been leading the way on these critical issues, at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue things are moving in the opposite direction. Under this Administration, our government has done virtually nothing to address global warming. In fact, earlier this year President Bush even went so far as to repeal an Executive Order calling for the government to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Over 500 American cities and towns have already pledged to meet the targets for greenhouse gas reductions included in the Kyoto Protocol, an important international agreement to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases, but the Bush Administration continues to refuse to ratify the treaty. It is clearer than ever that the federal government must follow the lead set by Roosevelt Island and other communities throughout the country. Using clean energy and increasing energy efficiency will not only help slow global warming, they will also save taxpayer dollars. It is well past time for Washington to demonstrate that it is serious about giving future generations a cleaner environment in which to grow and live.



Rep. Carolyn Maloney at the Verdant Power site on Roosevelt Island recently, with Verdant President Ron Smith.

**Harold A. Josephs**

Harold A. Josephs, known as “Daddy” to family and friends, died Wednesday at the age of 96. His daughter is Verna FitzPatrick, who, with her husband, Dick, has lived on Roosevelt Island for 25 years. Harold was often seen with his grandchildren, Bobby and Ellie FitzPatrick. He lived in Panama and worked for the U.S. Canal Zone. Ten years ago, he moved to the U.S. to join Verna and his other daughter, Marcia, spending time in Maryland and here on Roosevelt Island, where he became a familiar figure to Rivercross residents as he strolled in and around the buildings during constitutional he took regularly, well into his nineties. In his eighties he became an accomplished water-color painter. Ever the gentleman, he will be missed by his family and many friends.





## FREEDOM

*Love It!*

*Live It!*

*Defend It Always!*

July 4th is the time to reflect and to remember the legacy our forefathers gave us...the blessing of freedom and our responsibility to nurture and sustain it. The professionals of **Walter B. Cooke Funeral Home** join with you in honoring this freedom.

*Together, may we never forget our responsibility.*

### Walter B. Cooke Funeral Home

352 East 87th Street • NY, NY 10128

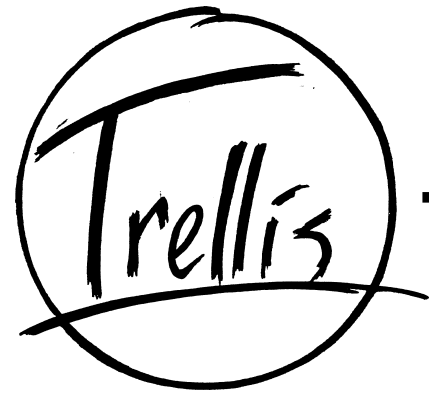
**212-535-1500**

*Mary DeLouise - Fred Ganss, Funeral Directors*



DignityMemorial.com

Walter B. Cooke Funeral Home is owned and operated by a subsidiary of Service Corporation International, 1929 Allen Parkway, Houston, Texas 77019 (713) 522-5141.



## Everybody's Holiday

The Fourth of July isn't just for Americans anymore. It represents the spirit of freedom and self-determination for all people in all lands, whatever their status. We welcome our Island's residents from other lands as they celebrate with us.

*See you at Trellis. Bring a neighbor.*

**212-752-1517**

*At the heart of the community,  
next to the Good Shepherd Community Center*

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

### TORAH CLASS

**TAKE A DEEP PENETRATING LOOK** at right and wrong. Journey through ancient texts and find powerful, compelling truths that confront today's society. Join us, as we examine the heart of each of these and other modern moral dilemmas in a series of classes that are bound to be unforgettable.

Tuesday, July 10, 8:00-9:00pm  
Responsible Rivals: Where do we draw the line on competition?

888 Main St. Apt #215  
suggested donation \$5  
Light refreshments



For more info call Rabbi Zalman and Nechama Duchman 212.652.5660  
In Memory of Yisroel Ben Schneir Zalman Halevi zduchman@nvbb.net

### SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

- Friday, June 29 at 8:13 pm
- Friday, July 6 at 8:12 pm
- Friday, July 13 at 8:09 pm
- Friday, July 20 at 8:05 pm
- Friday, July 27 at 7:59 pm

**Blessing:** Boruch A-toh Ado-noi  
E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom  
A-sheer Ki-de-sha-nu Be-mitz-vo-sov Ve-tzi-vo-nu  
Le-had-lik Ner Shel Shab-bos Ko-desh.

**Translation:** Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the light of the holy Shabbat.



## BEST HOME SERVICES SERVING ALL OF MANHATTAN

**\* – Special Introductory Offer – \***  
**\$10 Discount on First Cleaning**  
**The Best Home Services, Ltd.**

*We clean your home as if it's our own.*

Same personnel each visit.

All screened, trained & English-speaking.

**Daily • Weekly • Bi-Weekly • Monthly**

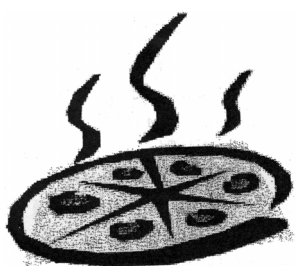
**Flexible • Dependable**

**Satisfaction Guaranteed • Bonded & Insured**

**212-688-6712**

besthomesvcs@aol.com

## S&S CALABRO PIZZERIA



**Buy 2 pies,  
Get 2-liter  
Pepsi**

**••• Family Special •••**  
**Large Pie, 12 garlic knots  
2-liter Pepsi – \$15**

**Cheese Pie: Large \$12, Medium \$10**

**Choice of topping \$2.50 extra**

**Also: Heros, Gyros, Calzones, Pasta**  
**Established 1971**

**– FREE DELIVERY 3-9 PM–**

**718-278-5262**

**30-65 14th Street, Long Island City**  
**Open 11AM-9PM**



## BANGLA GARDEN Indian Fast Food

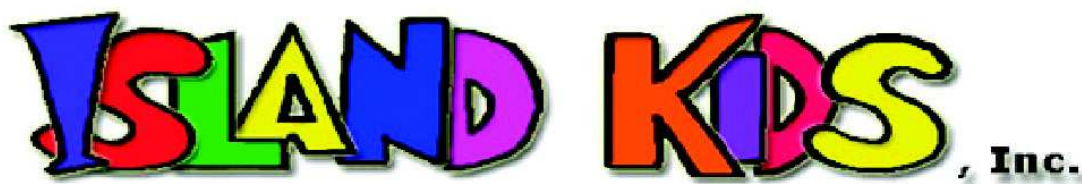
**29-14 36th Avenue, Astoria**

**Delivery to Roosevelt Island**

**Minimum \$12 • 11:30-11:00**

**718-937-0002**

**Party Room available with sound system**



## FAMILY CENTER

### Coming this Summer...

#### Creative Play for Kids Summer Mini-Camp

*Music, Movement, Art, Tabletime Activities, Story, & Snack –  
all part of this fun-filled morning for kids 2-4*

When: Wednesday and Friday mornings

Dates: July 13-August 3

Time: 10:00-12:00

Fee: \$40 per morning

**Registration is required, as space is limited.**

Contact Leopolds5@aol.com for more information.

Sibling discounts are available.

#### Island Kids Day Camp

*For children 5-7 and 8-12*

*Tuesday, July 10 through Friday, August 31*

Sign up for one week or multiple weeks.

\$160 per week. Space is limited.

Discounts available for multiple-week signup and for siblings.

**Call 212-317-0216**

[www.IslandKids.org](http://www.IslandKids.org)

*Registration is ongoing.*

# This Saturday... Free Outdoor Movie at Southpoint Park!!



Join us this summer at  
Southpoint Park for some of your favorite  
movies, both old and new!

### June 30th– Ghostbusters

Residents can vote for the next movie to be shown at Southpoint Park online, at [www.rioc.com](http://www.rioc.com)  
beginning Monday, July 2nd. Movies will be based on the following themes:

July 14th– Date Night  
July 28th– Christmas in July  
August 4th– Family Night  
August 18th– A Night on Broadway

All movies begin at sundown (approximately 8:30pm). Gates open at 7:30pm. Limited seating is available. Lawn  
chairs, blankets and snacks are welcomed!  
A special movies bus stop will be provided by the Red Bus.



*Come for the colors... Take home real nutrition*

# The Farmers Market

every Saturday morning, under the ramp at Motorgate

## Marty Dinerstein

Piano  
Tuning  
&  
Repairs



No Job Too Small!!  
Ph 1-718-358-8882  
Bpr 1-917-483-1020

## CHINA 1 KITCHEN

Delicious Chinese Health Food  
*Order for Delivery or Take-Out*  
Szechuan, Cantonese & Mandarin Cuisine  
**Call 212-588-0806 / 0663**

Our vegetables are farm-fresh daily, and cooked only with pure vegetable oil. We serve brown rice. All dishes can be altered to your liking. Catering for all occasions.

|                  |                                                                                                                                                   |                  |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 一<br>帆<br>風<br>順 | Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m.<br>Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-midnight<br><i>FAST Free Delivery (min. \$6)</i><br>609 Main Street • Roosevelt Island | 一<br>本<br>萬<br>利 |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|



## CAT SITTER

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.



## Telly's Taverna

SEAFOOD • CHOPS • GREEK SPECIALTIES  
(718) 728-9194

**The Greek Excellence that Put Astoria Cuisine on the Culinary Map**



**Open Every Day 11AM-Midnight**

Amazingly Fresh Fish  
Chops • Steaks • Salads  
Full Bar

**28-13 23rd Avenue, Astoria**  
**Reservations: 718-728-9194**  
parties • corporate events • weddings • baptisms • showers



Representatives of the Residents Association, RIOC, and the RIOC Board met last week to work out changes in the Red Bus schedule. Around the table counterclockwise, from lower right: Mark Ponton (RIOC Board), Vicki Feinmel (former RIRA Common Council member), Matthew Katz (RIRA President), Frank Farance (RIRA Communications Chair), Buddy Satar (RIOC Bus Manager, behind Farance), Chris Baker (RIOC staff), Steve Shane (RIOC President), Fernando Martinez (RIOC Vice President for Operations), David Kraut (RIOC Board), Betty Walker (RIRA Island Services Chair), Margie Smith (RIRA Government Relations Chair).

# Changing the Red Bus Route: An Assessment

by Frank Farance, RIRA Communications Chair

The most recent change to the Red Bus schedule was accomplished by RIRA and RIOC collaborating, sharing information, and arriving at the best-informed decisions.

1. We’ve heard virtually no complaints about the new routing improvements. All in all, we believe this change was a success. If there are problems in the future, RIRA would be happy to hear suggestions from residents, and RIRA would be happy to present a consolidated presentation of residents’ points of view.
2. We appreciate *The WIRE* making the announcement of the service change via its e-mail bulletin service. In the future, we would prefer that RIOC provide more visible signage on RIOC letterhead/logo. Possibly RIOC could use a mechanism similar to the *WIRE* bulletin service.
3. Although we made good progress on the issues of the turnaround, subway stop, and slightly shortening the schedule for the morning rush, we still have several outstanding issues from our original letter:
  - Stop signs on Main Street
  - Reducing the variability in waiting times for the buses (also known as the “bunching” issue)
  - Permitting parents with open strollers at all times
  - Improving non-rush-hour scheduling to synchronize with the Tram schedule

As reported by RIRA Common Council members: There are safety issues concerning the lack of stop signs. Not a day goes by where someone is[n’t] almost hit by a car/truck/bus, especially seniors and disabled. Traffic enforcement is especially problematic during the hospital shift changes.

At our meeting of June 20, we (RIRA and RIOC) acknowledged that we would continue to work on these remaining issues at a later day. We recommend scheduling a follow-up meeting 2-3 weeks from now to address these remaining issues.

4. What is the consolidated bus schedule? Given the multiple changes, it is unclear what the current comprehensive schedule is. We suggest that one of us (RIRA or RIOC) draft a document that contains the updated schedule and that both of us review the wording. *The WIRE* might be helpful in reviewing the wording; its *WIRE* e-mail bulletins have managed to translate MTA announcements on F-train service changes into words that normal people can understand.

In summary, we’ve collaborated and made good progress. I’m hopeful that this will be a template for future RIRA-RIOC collaboration.

**Frank Farance, Residents Association Communications Chair, receives e-mail at Frank@Farance.com (include “RIRA” in subject).**

# Robin Russell Memorial Concert



Musicians performed last week in a memorial concert for the late Robin Russell (inset), founder of River Music and the Island Arts Music School. Left to right: Roy Eaton, Amie Weiss, Andrea Hallam, Kyra Humphreys, Ralph Allen, Iris Jortner.

## Red Bus from page 1

a test, which was conducted Thursday. That led to the route change. After two days, comments received by *The WIRE* were all favorable. That was also the judgment in a Farance response to an e-mail question from Shane about resident response. “We’ve heard no complaints,” Farance responded.

### Other Issues

RIRA’s original letter to Shane had addressed a number of other issues, which remain unresolved. They include:

- Restrictions on strollers. RIOC requires strollers to be folded during rush periods. RIRA complained that the policy is problematic for parents with more than one child and, possibly, packages to carry.
- Bus bunching.

Farance pointed out that during the “continuous service” period in the morning, buses tend to begin running in packs, leading to irregular waiting times that can stretch, he said, to as much as 30 minutes.

• Yield signs. These replaced many Main Street stop signs during the Berman administration at RIOC. “Not a day goes by where someone is[n’t] almost hit by a car/truck/bus,” Farance wrote to Shane Tuesday afternoon, adding, “Traffic enforcement is especially problematic during the hospital shift changes.”



**Islanders boarded a Red Bus at the Tram on Wednesday. Bus rides will be free on the Fourth of July.**

## Kiosk from page 1

picked up the phone and went to a meeting.”

It turned out “walking the walk” wasn’t as easy as it first seemed. Held up by bureaucratic hoops and major construction mishaps, the project has had its fair share of difficulties. In Berdy’s words, “it’s been epic.”

To begin with, though the City agreed to fund the project, a check wasn’t cut right then and there. The City Council handed the proposal to the Department of Cultural Affairs, which in turn passed it off to the Department of Design and Construction, which then came up with the architectural plans and hired the contractors, who hired the sub-contractors, and so on and so forth. Berdy now has a grant and a permit, and cites Gifford Miller, the Island’s City Councilmember when the process began, Jessica Lappin, who succeeded Miller, and New York State Senator José Serrano as key players in getting the funds approved. To date, the project has cost over \$300,000. The building is now RIOC property, and the costs of running the kiosk will come from Island public-purpose funds.

After approval and funding, the second challenge was bringing the building onto Roosevelt Island from its perch atop a hill at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum. In January, 2005, it had to be hauled to the Island on a flatbed truck in the middle of the night – to avoid traffic and, hopefully, accidents. “It barely made it down the ramp coming off the bridge,” Bendy recalls with horror, showing me photos of the mammoth cast-iron structure strapped onto the flatbed but hanging dangerously off both sides.

Originally, the kiosk was one of five visible entrances to the trolley car system, which transported New Yorkers over the Queensboro Bridge and back. Before the tram, F train, and the Roosevelt Island Bridge existed, trolley passengers would disembark on the Queensboro Bridge and access the Island, then known as Welfare Island, via a set of elevators from the lower level of the bridge. When the workers began digging the foundation for the kiosk, the first thing they hit was a thick stone elevator wall. They also found 1,000-pound elevator wheels, cables, pulleys and other debris. In all, it took seven full dumpster loads to excavate the site.

After the prep work was done, in January of this year, the real construction could begin. Unfortunately, a mistake in measurement led to a ramp that was too steep and too narrow, and a set of too-shallow steps that had too many stairs. By this time, it was March. Dreading the tedious process of finding a new contractor through the government, Berdy hired her own architect to redesign the site. This time, it looks as though they’ve got it right. Early this week, workers were placing and watering new sod.

The kiosk will be open six days a week, from noon to 6:00. Beyond providing visitor information, historical exhibits, and offering walking tours, it may also be available for events, and could soon be hosting live music, among other entertainments.

And if Berdy hadn’t picked up *The Times* that day? “I would have stayed four years younger!” she exclaims. Though she’s proud of what’s been accomplished, she notes that this is only the beginning: “Now we actually have to run it!” But is she nervous for opening day? She doesn’t seem to be: “After getting through construction, opening day will be a breeze!”

Though no official surveys have been conducted, Berdy estimates that over 80% of people on the Island on a Saturday afternoon are tourists. The point of the kiosk is to give them a sense of what there is to see, and to educate both guests and locals on the rich history of the Island. As far as Berdy is concerned, there are no cons to the addition. “It’s not like they [tourists] are coming to invade your house,” she points out. She adds that almost everyone she has spoken with has voiced support of the visitor center, most echoing her thought that tourism on the Island “has always been a lost opportunity.” The Historical Society also believes an increased tourist flow will boost local commerce. “If someone asks, ‘Hey, where can I get some good Chinese take-out?’ I can send them down the street and give the restaurant some business.” Berdy pauses. “If they want pizza, I’ll have to say, ‘Go back to Manhattan!’”

The sun begins setting over Manhattan and Berdy points out how lovely the space will be in the afternoons and evenings when it’s shaded and cool. “Relaxing in a rocking chair with a cool drink, that’ll be me,” she says contentedly.

She locks up carefully and gives the building a satisfied nod before turning away. Without thinking, I tramp carelessly over the newly planted grass down to the street. Sheepishly, I wait as Berdy walks carefully down the newly poured sidewalk to the curb.

# Court Square Diner

*Serving the community since 1991*

**Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner**

**Open 24 Hours 7 Days a Week**

Free Delivery 24/7 (\$15 Minimum)  
Call for Our Daily Specials

Send us your fax number to receive our  
daily specials and soups

## THE ONLY DINER IN LONG ISLAND CITY

- Corporate Accounts Welcome •
- Baking Done on Premises Daily •
  - Private Parties •
  - Special Group Pricing •
  - Catering •
  - Weekend Brunch •

45-30 23rd Street  
Long Island City 11101

**718-392-1222**  
fax: 718 392-1380

VISIT US AT OUR NEW WEBSITE -  
[www.CourtSquareDinerLIC.com](http://www.CourtSquareDinerLIC.com)

# Famous Original JOHN and TONY'S

## Pizzeria & Trattoria



Discover the Tram area's  
best-kept secret.

Enjoy our casual pizzeria  
or join us in our  
warm and intimate dining room  
for a delicious Italian  
home-cooked meal.

We offer a wide variety of  
appetizers, entrees, and desserts.

**Dining room open until 2AM**  
**1097 First Avenue**  
**corner 60th**  
**212-371-4965**

Choose a powerful team for all your real  
estate and home financing needs.



**Joyce Mincheff**  
Associate Broker  
30-year Roosevelt Island Resident  
Coldwell Banker Hunt Kennedy  
917-517-8572

Real Estate Information:  
© 2006 Coldwell Banker Hunt  
Kennedy. All rights reserved.



**Robert Shapiro**  
Private Mortgage Banker  
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage  
212-805-1010

Financing Information:  
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage is a division  
of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. © 2006 Wells  
Fargo Bank, N.A. All rights reserved.  
#43216 12/06-3/07



# HealthSource Pharmacy

235 East 57<sup>th</sup> Street, between 2nd & 3rd  
*Just two blocks south of the Tram*  
Phone 212-310-0111 • Fax 212-310-0144



**Free  
Delivery to  
Roosevelt  
Island**

## YOUR NEW PRESCRIPTION & HEALTH HEADQUARTERS

- All insurance plans welcome •
- We will match or beat Costco's online Rx prices •
- Full line of vitamins & supplements at NYC's best prices •
- Full line of medical/surgical supplies •

Coupon

**\$2 Off** any Purchase of \$10 or More

**\$5 off** any Purchase of \$30 or More

• Some exclusions apply. Sale and discounted items are not included.  
Limit - one per customer.  
Expires 7/31/07.

Coupon

**\$10 Off** any New or Transferred Prescription

• Limit - 5 prescriptions per family.  
Valid only for new customers.  
Expires 7/31/07.

Also at 1302 2nd Avenue (at 68<sup>th</sup>) & 120 E. 34th Street (Lex/Park)

**Morning and full day programs  
for children ages 2.6 through 5 years**  
**Subsidized full-day Pre-K**  
**Extended day to 6:00 p.m.**

Accredited by the National Association for the  
Education of Young Children  
Financial aid available

For more information, call 212-593-0750



ROOSEVELT ISLAND DAY NURSERY

## Letters from page 3

### To the Editor:

My two elderly aunts (90 and 96, God bless them!), and my cousin visiting from Rome, could not sing the praises of Roosevelt Island enough: the water views and promenade, the parks and Islanders’ garden plots, The Main Street Theatre and its talented teens, the feeling of community and friendly people, etc. Then came the Octagon.

They were duly impressed with the restoration, not impressed with the institutional look of the residential buildings, and understandably offended by the request made by an Octagon employee to vacate the premises.

We had gone to the convenience store on the first level to purchase some cool beverages to help mitigate the effects of the hot sun and long stroll we had just taken from Rivercross. The doorkeeper had started to question me when he saw my cousin and me pushing my aunts in their wheelchairs to the elevator. I thought he was about to say we could not go up to the apartments and I interrupted with, “I know. I’m an Island resident. We just need to get some refreshments and rest a bit,” to which he gave his approval.

After our purchases, we proceeded out the store exit onto the terrace overlooking the pool area. We parked ourselves at one of the first tables we came to (far from the pool), took a few photos of each other, and had started to partake of our refreshments when an Octagon employee came to admonish us and escort us out.

As a long-time Island activist, I was witness to the promises made by Octagon’s Becker and Becker

### To the Editor:

I love to shop here, there, and everywhere – malls, Fifth Avenue and off, and in all boroughs. I have noticed that when you make a purchase, salespeople wrap your item in three or four layers of tissue paper. Why? The paper just gets tossed in the garbage once you hang up your item. (Garbage is another topic.) I have been refusing all tissue paper unless it's for a gift. Just a little paint brush idea to keep NYC green.

**Marlene Flom**

and RIOC that there would be compensations for the destruction of the park Islanders had built years ago. It had contained swings and other playground equipment, barbecues, picnic tables, shade trees, and a long expanse of turf on which several groups could play ball or engage in other recreational activities. “We will replace it with bigger and better,” was the implication made by the developers when they sought approval for the site, because they would recoup what was, at the time, unuseable land. There were also promises that a convenience store or coffee shop and other amenities in the rooms of the Octagon rotunda would be made available to the public.

I am not aware of any rooms above the ground level available to the public in the rotunda, and the convenience store had been off-limits until a complaint was made and it was subsequently, though quietly, opened. There is a public tot lot but I do not see barbecues, picnic tables, or even an expanse

equal to what we had before where this would be possible.

After long years of being witness to broken promises made by Roosevelt Island developers, I am not shocked but I am disappointed. Of all the potential and actual developers that have made their pitches here, I found Becker and Becker to be the most impressive because of their commitment to landmark restoration and to building “green.” I am also one of those Islanders who welcome Octagon residents and already see evidence of some of them contributing actively to our community. And I understand the need for security.

However, I would hope those at Octagon would understand that those of us who have lived here a long time and helped to develop this unique community to what it is today, have lost something we valued greatly (our playground and park at Octagon), were promised more than we are getting, and would at least appreciate consideration when visiting land much of which was once ours to roam freely. Some of our Octagon neighbors have complained that we have not been welcoming to newcomers. I am astonished that Octagon management would see two elderly women in need of rest and refreshment, and their escorts, as a threat – or anything else that might require summary ejection. It was not neighborly, to say the least, and perhaps Octagon should re-think their policies or at least use better judgement on a case-by-case basis.

What *are* the rules concerning Islanders? As the recipient of public funds, is the developer obliged

# Red Bus Routes July 4

Red Bus service will be free all day on the Fourth of July and will take riders as close to the Southpoint Park entrance as traffic and crowds will permit.

Starting at 6:00, seniors and disabled can board at Good Shepherd Plaza for a ride to the end of the line outside the Southpoint Park gate. From the gate, RIOC will provide transportation for the disabled and others in need of assistance, taking them from the gate to a point closer to seating. People-mover service will also be available after the event.

At times, vehicle access to the Island will be limited. Motorgate will be full by 7:30 or 8:00; after that time, only residents will be admitted. There’s a list of prohibited items on the RIOC website at RIOC.com.

Tickets, \$18, are available on the RIOC website, at Tram Plaza in Manhattan, and, on the Fourth, at the Tram ticket booth on the Island and at the Southpoint gate.

At Southpoint Park, there’ll be entertainment, including live music, after the 5:00 p.m. gate opening. Food will be sold, too.

Expect delays if you must leave the Island after the event. You’ll find lines at the Tram, and space on the subway platforms is restricted for construction.

to “give back” to the community for having taken away public land or have we forever lost access to space we had and that which was subsequently promised to us? Whatever the answer, a straightforward response would be appreciated so we won’t feel like intruders when we walk into the building.

Why not ask visitors to sign in and make it clear to them, via a written handout or signage, where

they are and are not allowed to go? For that matter, why ban customers of the convenience store from sitting outside to enjoy their purchases? Either of these very reasonable practices would have saved my guests (and me) the embarrassment of this unseemly episode, the memory of which has marred an otherwise delightful visit to our Island.

**Linda Heimer**

## Katz from page 2

perience to bear.

Several of us spent June 21 on a New York Water Taxi boat cruising the East River from Fort Schuyler in the Bronx to the Fulton Street Ferry Landing in Brooklyn. It was East River Day, and the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) had convened civic groups from every borough fronting the river to discuss how best to evolve the usage of both the riverfront and the river itself for residential, industrial, and recreational use. I was proud to speak about Roosevelt Island’s plans for Southpoint Park and our hopes for the expanded use of our five miles of seawall and promenade. There is a missionary excitement in the air to resurrect mile upon mile of derelict and abandoned waterfront, and I expect RIRA, which is listed as a partner by the MWA and its parent organization, the Municipal Art Society, to participate enthusiastically.

Can you stand some good news? Kudos to Secretary (and wife) Sherie Helstien for obtaining a \$300 contribution to the RIRA Treasury from a film company that never exposed a frame of film here. While filming the Bourne Ultimatum, the location company used our western apartment façades as background. Sherie traced the location company and simply asked for a contribution. As in past years and with other films, only RIOC and the building management company were compensated for Islanders’ inconvenience, at least until we asked the location people for a donation. In each case, they were happy to comply. The squeaky wheel and all that...

Further good news: My request to the City Council to help finance our 2008 RIRA elections, filed through Jessica Lappin’s office, was approved. We will be required to complete myriad forms, we are informed, but the result will be \$4,000 in unrestricted funds that will be available probably some time before the end of the year.

Did you attend the Robin Russell Memorial Concert on June 22? It was a superb offering of classical pieces by Haydn, Ravel, Chopin, and Mozart performed by teachers from Robin’s Island Arts Music School. It was a bitter-sweet evening as we recalled the cultural bounty Robin brought to the Island as well as Robin himself. I never

missed one of his River Music concerts, which included world-class musicians such as pianist Ruth Laredo, guitarist Eliot Fisk and jazzman Junior Mance. The future of the music school is in question, not for lack of teachers but for lack of a Robin Russell to administer it. When Robin adopted us, he brought another layer of cultural endeavor to this tiny Island that boasts more cultural institutions than anyone could reasonably expect. (Roosevelt Island also is home to the RIVAA art gallery and the Main Street Theatre and Dance Alliance.) We owe Robin for the sometimes Herculean efforts he made to produce those concerts, and we can repay that debt by helping his son, Matthew, who has been orphaned at a young age, having just completed his freshman year in college.

I hope you will join me by making a generous contribution to the fund set up by the Island Arts Music School. Your checks, made out to the Roosevelt Island Residents Association and including “Matthew Russell Fund” in the memo line, may be sent to: RIRA, P.O. Box 341, Roosevelt Island Station, New York, NY 10044.

The work by the Maple Tree Group and RIRA, to invent the process to choose the RIOC resident Board nominees through Island-wide elections, proceeds. You will find instructions elsewhere in these pages regarding a website containing data on the approval process for candidates, as well as an e-mail address to which you can direct your questions. RIRA will suss out the questions of how to produce an equitable election. But our efforts will be for nought unless those residents with the training and experience to run a multi-million dollar public-benefit corporation (and you know who you are!) step up to the plate. It’s the best work you’ll ever do.

It only remains for me to wish you all a glorious Fourth of July. We live in the premier site for viewing the East River fireworks, and I hope you find a salubrious site in which to watch. My scribblings won’t appear again until the July 28 issue of *The WIRE*, but I suspect we both need a break from the RIRA Column. There’s sure to be lots to write about then. Here’s to a splendid summer!

## Shane from page 2

political firestorm not to, and make no business sense, given FHA insurance commitments on tens of thousands of units with Section 8 subsidy). More directly to the point, the lease with Manhattan Park requires the maintenance of the affordable units without exception for the Section 8 program’s continuance.

3. Island House and Westview: After many meetings with DHCR, the Island House plan for future affordability appears to be moving into a format that will be deemed to meet the affordability requirements of public purpose, both for the present occupants and those to follow. With the assistance of the residents’ financial advisors at CPC, if an appropriate agreement can be reached with the owner, refinancing arrangements made with HFA or other institutions, the physical needs of the building taken into account, and myriad legal steps taken, the road to an equity future for the tenants may be coming into focus. Not easy, with much yet to be accomplished.

4. July 4 fireworks celebration: The plans are finalized, invitations out, ticket sales underway and everyone’s hoping for good weather. For information about the event, ticket purchases, etc., see the RIOC website and the connection there. About 2,000 tickets sold so far and a great time should be had by all! The Red Bus will be free all day and the Tram will be free after 3:00 p.m.

5. Blackwell House renovation is under a full head of steam and finally looks to be on track.

6. Personnel change: With sadness for Roosevelt Island but happiness for him, Scott Weiss, our seven-year veteran of construction and engineering details, is moving on and up to a position with another company. We wish him well and thank him for his truly outstanding service. He has promised to download as much of his encyclopedic knowledge of the Island’s infrastructure as possible, both in hard copy and orally, and to be available for consultation in the future. Hill International, the engineering firm that supplies RIOC with the expertise to deal with the many diverse issues, has promoted Joie Machado to the senior position. To those who have not dealt with Joie, she is a deeply experienced project manager with an in-depth experience in construction and engineering fields. We are fortunate to have her on deck. Hill will be furnishing a second chair and will be backstopping the position as necessary.

7. Summer projects: With our seasonal hires, many projects are receiving attention. With 12,000 pairs of eyes, please let us know if you see something that looks like it should be done.

8. PS 217: I met with PTA representatives to talk about developments on the Island and specifically, the impact on the future school population of the ex-

panded housing stock of the Octagon and Southtown developments. A census and projection should be done so that advance planning will be done for the inevitable increase in the school age population.

9. Steam Plant: NYSERDA and RIOC have agreed to split the cost of a consultant to study the feasibility of cogeneration. We are moving to pick such a consultant, hopefully from the approved New York State list, to avoid having to RFP the process, but will move ahead in any event. The Goldwater-Coler plans (see next item) may play into the future of this item as well.

10. Goldwater-Coler Hospital: Elsewhere in *The WIRE* is a full story on the potential of a full merger of the two hospitals, the expansion of the Coler campus and the presumed mothballing or declaration of surplus for Goldwater. While the first steps may be at hand, no official or unofficial word has been received. As these things go, it seems far off before the process will be real.

11. RIOC permitting: With the increased demand for use of RIOC’s facilities, we hired a part-time person for evenings and weekends to assist Donna Masly to supervise the use of the various areas and problem-solve as necessary.

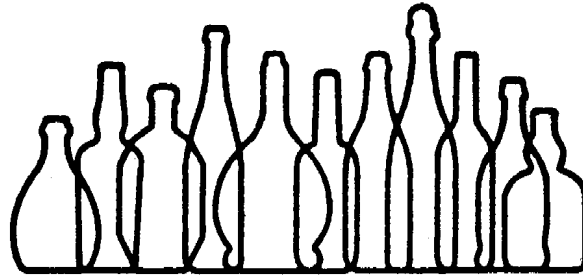
12. Octagon Ferry Service: The New York City Office of Emergency Management seems ready to support the initiative now in the permitting process with the Coast Guard and Army Corp of Engineers. As an alternate route off the Island, the ferry pier has value, which RIOC has highlighted to OEM. Perhaps this added push will be the impetus needed.

13. Seawall repair: Contract all let, but in deference to the Fourth of July usage of Lighthouse Park, commencement of the work is postponed until week of July 9.

14. Southpoint Park: Councilmember Jessica Lappin has again delivered for the Island. She arranged for \$1.5 million to be inserted into the City Council budget, now adopted, to complete the capital funding for Phase I. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) has been authorized to proceed with design development drawings based on the presentations made to both the Board of Directors and the community. The FDR committee met with representatives from RIRA to discuss concerns and is proceeding, with the Governor’s support, with fund-raising. The two planning groups have been encouraged to coordinate.

15. Historical Society Kiosk: With much prodding from Judy Berdy, the kiosk is heading for completion. Certainly shows that persistence accomplishes results.

See you at the Fourth of July celebration.



# GRAND

## WINE AND LIQUOR

30-05 31st St. (30th Avenue), Astoria

**718-728-2520**

Fax 718-956-0294

Free Delivery Friday & Saturday

“Ethnic bottles not seen elsewhere,” including labels from Greece, the Czech Republic, Georgia, and Poland, are part of the “excellent,” “diverse” selection at this “big” wine store in Astoria, conveniently located next to the Grand Street stop on the N subway line; imbibers also raise a toast to the “nicest staff,” “great specials,” and all-around “low prices.” -Zagat

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, 12 noon to 6:00 p.m.



Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association  
Gallery R I V A A

Present:

**SELWYN I. FUND**

Timeless Photography

at:

**Octagon Gallery**

888 Main Street Roosevelt Island, N Y 10044

June 30 - September 2, 2007

Opening Reception : Saturday July 7, 2007, 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Wine & chese will be served

**FREEDOM**

*Love It!*

*Live It!*

*Defend It Always!*

July 4th is the time to reflect and to remember the legacy our forefathers gave us...the blessing of freedom and our responsibility to nurture and sustain it. The professionals of **Thomas M. Quinn & Sons Inc.** join with you in honoring this freedom. Together, may we never forget our responsibility.

**Thomas M. Quinn & Sons Inc.**

35-20 Broadway • Long Island City, NY 11106

**718-721-9200**



TMQuinn.com

Thomas M. Quinn & Sons, Inc. is owned and operated by a subsidiary of Service Corporation International, 1929 Allen Parkway, Houston, Texas 77019 (713) 522-5141.

# Accountable Financial Management Corp.

*You have financial questions???*  
*We have financial answers!!!*

- **Financial Planning** – Retirement, College Funding, etc.
- **Insurance** – Apartment, Health, Auto, Long-Term Care
- **Investments** – Securities offered thru Genworth Financial Securities Corp., Member NASD/SIPC
- **Mortgages** – Registered mortgage broker – NYS Banking Department loans arranged through third-party providers – We represent over 40 banks
- **Real Estate** – Purchase, rentals, sales, & property management
- **Tax Preparation** – Tax reduction planning

**212-644-8231**

Webpage: [Accountfin.com](http://Accountfin.com)  
E-mail: [generalinfo@accountfin.com](mailto:generalinfo@accountfin.com)  
599 Main Street • Roosevelt Island

## Classifieds

**50¢ a word • 212-751-8214**

**Deadline for July 28 issue: Tuesday, July 24**

**Deadline for August 25 issue: Tuesday, August 21**

**EXPERIENCED TEACHER** living on Roosevelt Island offers piano lessons for adults and children. Call **646-675-1209**.

**SUBLET WANTED** – Island resident looking for a lease assignment or a sublet. Call **646-775-7025**.

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

**TUTORING** – English professor available. Essays / Test preparation / Grammar / Analysis. **646-319-3873**.

**BABY SITTER AVAILABLE** – Excellent Island reference. **646-201-3943**.

**VOICE TEACHER** – Paul M. Elkin – Broadway veteran, member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing & Guest Lecturer for the New England Theatre Conference on Auditioning for Musical Theatre. New to Roosevelt Island. **212-588-1245**.

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

**SWIMMING CLASSES** – Westview Pool: Children's learn-to-swim program, ages 4-up, and Adult classes. Sportspark: Advanced program – Swim Team, ages 6-up. For info and prices, e-mail [rimarlinswim@yahoo.com](mailto:rimarlinswim@yahoo.com) or call **212-753-3611**.

**FRENCH TUTORING** by expert teacher, individual or group. Call **212-355-3848**.

**NOTARY PUBLIC** – Roosevelt Island Day Nursery, 4 River Road, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. school days. **212-593-0750**.

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

**PIANO TUNING** – \$95. Formerly with Steinway Concert Department. Good old pianos for sale. Ben Treuhaft, **212-505-3173** / [BLT@igc.org](mailto:BLT@igc.org).

**MATH TUTORING** by lady living on the Island. Any level. Call **212-829-1406**.

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

**NOTARY PUBLIC** – **212-935-7534**.

**CAT-SITTER** – **VACATION IN PEACE** – Will feed and play with your cat, water your plants, pick up your mail, etc. **212-751-8214**.

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

## GENERAL CONTRACTOR

FULLY INSURED

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

**212 751-8214**

# Bike Heaven

*Repairs • Rentals • Accessories*

348 E 62 (between 1st & 2nd Av.)

M-F 10-7 • S-S 9-5 • MC/Visa

**212-230-1919** e-mail [mybikeheaven@yahoo.com](mailto:mybikeheaven@yahoo.com)

**10% off** any single purchase of accessories with this coupon



# SPORTSWIRE

## Championship Baseball Game

The Championship Game on June 16, between the Navy Team and the Red Falcons, was one of the most exciting games of the season, with outstanding hitting, heads-up defense, and lots of emotion. The lead changed hands seven times, and the game was decided in extra innings. Navy came into the game undefeated, with six wins. The two teams finished first and second in the regular season, and each won its playoff game to advance to the Championship. The stands were packed, the kids were pumped, and the action was incredible!

The Falcons led off the game but went three up and three down, with Navy's shortstop James Matten using his glove to keep the Falcons off the bases. In the bottom of the first, Navy sent seven batters to the plate and scored twice on hits by Nick "The Stick" Loveless and James Matten. The Falcons failed to score again in the top of the second.

With the score 2-0 in the bottom of the second, a Navy scoring threat was halted by some fancy defense from the Falcon's Jacob Hogan. In the top of the third, the Falcons got two quick outs but then brought up the top of the order. The first three batters all singled which left the bases loaded for Jonah Bobo, who quickly cleaned them up with a grand slam home run to put the score at 4-2 Falcons.

Navy answered right back in the bottom of the third with four runs of their own, with the help of key hits from Joel Strickland and Jonathan Debranche. Entering the top of the fourth with Navy leading 6-4, the Falcons closed the gap to within one run on an RBI single by Alexander Enock. Pitcher Aren Marfey's defensive play halted any more scoring and Navy went into the bottom of the fourth still leading 6-5. An outstanding outfield catch by Cameron Hogan (his first of two) prevented Navy from widening the lead and the Falcons came up in the top of the fifth still down by one. The Falcons sent 9 batters to the plate that inning, scoring three runs on a rally kept alive by hits from Gianluca Yong-Gonzalez and Sam Serfaty. Another incredible out-

field catch, this time by Navy's Alpha Bah, stopped the drive and Navy entered the bottom of the fifth down 8-6. Navy was all business, and the first four batters all got hits and came in to score, putting Navy back on top 10-8. Falcons needed at least two runs in their half of the sixth inning to stay alive. Esther Work started the scoring and, before the inning was over, four Falcons had crossed the plate. That put them on top 12-10 going into the bottom half of the sixth inning.

James Matten tied the game at 12 with a huge triple, but the inning ended with the game tied and extra innings about to begin. The Falcons scored five times in the top of the seventh inning on a rally that began with a single from Serica Samms and another single and RBI by Rocky Portuhunco. With the Falcons on top 17-12 in the bottom of the seventh, Navy threatened a comeback on hits and runs by Loveless and Strickland. But that's all the scoring they could muster, and the game ended with the Falcons on top 17-14 and winners of this year's Minor's Championship.

All players received trophies after the game. Additional trophies were given to the following players from Navy: James Matten and John King (Most Valuable Players), Nick Loveless (Sportsmanship), and Aren Marfey (Gold Glove for Fielding). The Falcons awarded additional trophies to Jonah Bobo and Jacob Hogan (Most Valuable Players), Gianluca Yong-Gonzalez (Sportsmanship), and Cameron Hogan (Gold Glove for Fielding).

The Beacon and the Minor League would like to thank the following coaches for their time and effort to support the players this outstanding season: Maroon's Steven Vordenberg, Green's Charles Abdul, Black's Jamal Perry, Navy's Brian King, Lt. Blue's Ed Lucas and Red's Scot Bobo. Additionally, the umpiring crew of Steve, Brandon, and Enaldo were fantastic, as always.

## All-Star Game

The Minor League had an All-Star game last Saturday (June 23), and the top players from every team were invited to play. The unofficial game was attended by parents, players, and fans, and was an exciting match that featured big hits and flashy defense. Thanks to Brian King and Charles Abdul, the field was decorated with Red, White, and Blue banners, baseball memorabilia, and even a sound system. Karri Lucas led off the festivities with a beautiful and rousing rendition of the Star Spangled Banner, while the players and fans all stood at attention. The kids set their lineup, set their defense, and even coached the bases themselves. Brian King called the play-by-play, and the sound system kept the fans jumping between innings with songs that made even the players want to stop and dance.

The highlight of the day may not have had anything to do with baseball: Thanks to the parents of player Jerry Machachek, an ice-cream truck pulled up to the diamond and gave all the kids free cones! It was a great day for the Roosevelt Island Little League, one that all the players should remember and look forward to for next year!



The All-Stars  
Photo: Johan Marfey

# Professional Skin Care on Roosevelt Island

Marina Manukyan  
NYS licensed aesthetician



Facial & Body Treatment:  
Anti-Aging Therapy  
Adult & Adolescent Acne  
Peeling Treatment  
Hyperpigmentation Treatment

455 Main Street  
(212) 371-2971  
By Appointment Only

www.islandskincare.com



Free Consultation

# MINERVA CLEANERS & TAILORS

Est. 1969

Proudly Serving Roosevelt Island For Over 12 Years  
Daily Pick-Up & Delivery

- 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

29-09 Broadway • Astoria • NY • 11106  
**TEL / FAX: 718-726-2336**

# ARE YOUR PARENTS GETTING FRAILER?

*DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN TO GET THEM HELP?*  
Consult a private professional Geriatric Care Manager

**WE CAN HELP:** *Save You Time • Save You Money • Save You Heartache*  
We know the law, the resources, understand the illnesses and handicaps. We can guide you and help you think things through. We help with Medicaid planning and applications, arrange and monitor home care, and help you navigate government regulations and bureaucracy.

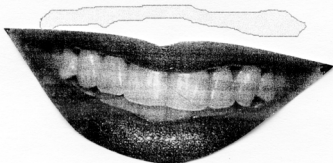
## ELLEN POLIVY, LCSW

Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
*Your guide and advocate in complex times*  
**212-362-2076**

531 Main Street  
~ 25 Years Experience ~  
www.familyassistance.net  
A Family Assistance Network

# Roosevelt Island Got Dentist

MetLife In-network participant  
Delta Dental In-network participant  
DHA/First Fortis In-network participant  
Treating many U.N. mission  
and consulate members



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

Check Us Out On The Web  
**RooseveltIslandDentist.com**  
Lawrence Itskowitch D.D.S., P.C.  
**212-752-8722**



# FOOTCARE



**We Treat:**  
Foot, Heel and Ankle Pain  
Nail & Skin Conditions of the  
Foot  
Ankle Sprains  
Bunions  
Hammertoes  
Ingrown Toenails  
Diabetic Wounds  
Diabetic Footcare & Shoes  
Custom Foot Orthotics  
Emergencies and Injuries

Dr. Neil Zwiebel  
Podiatrist and Foot Surgeon

**PARK EAST PODIATRY**  
**105 EAST 63RD STREET**  
**Suite 1D**

Between Lexington and Park Avenue

**212-207-4360**

**MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED**  
**MEDICARE ACCEPTED**  
**HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE**  
**UPON REQUEST & NEED**

Visit our website at  
**www.parkeastpodiatry.com**



**DR. JAMES FLANNIGAN**  
Chiropractor for Children and Adults

507 Main Street  
**Roosevelt Island, NY 10044**

212-688-4980  
Fax 212-688-5659

By Appointment  
Monday through Saturday

# 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

# Katherine Teets Grimm, M.D.

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

**Don't wait for the last minute.**  
**Schedule your child's camp physical today.**

## 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.



Download a  
horror movie so fast,  
it's scary.

It's frightening how fast Verizon FiOS Internet is.

Enjoy bone-chilling speeds up to 20/5 Mbps with the fiber-optic power of Verizon FiOS Internet. You can buy and download a movie in minutes, and music in seconds. And, because our network goes all the way to your home, you can be sure you're getting 100% fiber-optic power all the time. That's why Verizon FiOS is America's fastest Internet service. Now, when you add unlimited calling, you can save over \$299 a year. Plus, Home Voice Mail, Caller ID and Call Waiting are included. That includes a home networking router and professional in-home installation too. So there's nothing to be afraid of.

**Verizon FiOS. TV. Internet. Phone. From the most advanced fiber-optic network straight to your home.**

Save over  
**\$299**  
a year

on America's  
fastest Internet and  
unlimited calling.



## Verizon FiOS

internet | tv | games | sports | music | entertainment

**1-866-456-0784    verizonfios.com/internet**



Experience the power of Verizon FiOS for yourself.

**Carousel Mall**  
9090 Carousel Center Dr.  
Syracuse, NY 13290

**Great Northern Mall**  
4155 State Rt. 31  
Clay, NY 13041

**Green Acres Mall**  
Sunrise Highway  
Valley Stream, NY 11581

**Hicksville Broadway Mall**  
358 B Broadway Mall  
Hicksville, NY 11801

**Palisades Mall**  
1000 Palisades Center Drive  
West Nyack, NY 10994

**Walt Whitman Mall**  
160-5 Route 110  
Huntington, NY 11743

**Roosevelt Field Mall**  
630 Old Country Road  
Garden City, NY 11530

**Sights-N-Sounds**  
4032 Sunrise Highway  
Seaford, NY 11783

**Sights-N-Sounds**  
786 W Jericho Turnpike  
Huntington, NY 11743

**Smith Haven Mall**  
313 Smith Haven Mall  
Lake Grove, NY 11755

**Staten Island Mall**  
2655 Richmond Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10314

Verizon reminds you to always download legally.

Limited-time offer requires Verizon FiOS Internet 20/5 Mbps service and Verizon Freedom Essentials<sup>SM</sup>. Rate requires one new service. Additional charges, taxes and other terms apply. \$19.99 activation charge. One-year Internet commitment required. \$99 early termination charge. Speed and uninterrupted service not guaranteed. Calling plan includes residential direct-dialed domestic calls only. Savings based on bundled price versus price of services purchased individually.

FiOS Internet customers purchasing Verizon voice service receive both services over fiber. Includes up to eight hours battery backup (for non-IP voice service only). ©2007 Verizon.

V2NY-FIOS-N0286-B