



The Main Street **WIRE**

Saturday,
January 25, 2014
34:09

On Tuesday morning, the first of Cornell’s barges arrived in the East Channel and anchored. A spud barge – so called because of the spuds driven into the river bottom to hold it in place – carried a crane that will be used to transfer containers of hazardous waste from the Goldwater Hospital demolition to other barges bound for a New Jersey port. On this trip, the barges brought containers, but also roadway barriers and fencing.

Francoise Richards, Who Served on Rivercross and RIOC Boards, and as RIRA President, Recalls Those Days

by Briana Warsing

Recent headlines tell of a Roosevelt Island Residents Association (RIRA) Common Council wracked by censures, factions at war over an expulsion, email scandals, and finger-pointing. Traditionally, however, RIRA has been something more than such temporary diversions.

A version of RIRA has been in existence since 1975-1976 when Island House first opened. It was organized to help support the formation of the Youth Center, the Day Nursery, and the Little League, among other Island institutions. Its membership – by default, every



resident of the community – has grown along with the Island, and the same can be said for its reach and influence.

Francoise Richards was RIRA’s president from June 1987 to November 1989, and on the RIRA Common Council from 1980 until the end of her RIRA presidency.

It was a time of growth and flux that was as unimaginable to Islanders then as Cornell is to us now.

Richards was president when ground was broken on Manhattan Park, the first “new” building to be built here since the WIRE buildings (Westview, Island House, Rivercross, and Eastwood, now renamed Roosevelt Landings) were completed over 10 years earlier. She remembers a lot of Islanders being against any new development.

Over a bottle of Burgundy in her Rivercross apartment overlooking Good Shepherd Plaza, Richards reminisces, “There was a village mentality, where people just didn’t want more development. Period. Which I can understand, you know. And there were the problems of the developers, and it was never the right developer – all the crocodiles of real estate. It was obvious that more development was needed because that’s the only way to have resources.”

After ground was broken, media coverage described the evil of Manhattan Park as changing the demographics of the Island, and compared the price of a Manhattan Park studio to that of a See **Richards**, page 13

As Once-Rigid Marijuana Law Is Relaxed Elsewhere, Island’s Policy Remains Firm on Enforcement

by Briana Warsing

As of January 1, marijuana was legalized for recreational use in Colorado and for medical use in New Jersey. Earlier this month, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced an executive action in his State of the State address – on a limited basis, he will legalize medical marijuana.

Where do Islanders stand on this issue?

Many online postings on the Roosevelt Island Parents’ Network complain of marijuana being smoked in buildings’ common spaces. Parent Jax Schott says, “We have found dime bags in the parks and playgrounds, as well as stubs of joints. It really bothers me when there are cigarette butts in the grass or playground areas.” She adds, “I’m not opposed to it for recreational use at adult-only events. However, smoking in public spaces, near schools and daycares, or wherever there are children, is not appropriate.”

Phoebe Flynn tells a story of walking to the Tram from her apartment in Island House behind a young man whom she describes as a “20-year-old who was casually smoking a joint the whole way down Main Street.”

So – has pot smoking become an acceptable part of Island life?

Public Safety Director Jack McManus says it has not and is not. “We enforce the laws as they stand now.” He affirms that there is no special leniency or special policy in place for public drug use on Roosevelt Island. He also states, “I don’t think there is any more of it here than in other places.”

Will that change as we change?

The demographics of Roosevelt Island show that we have a growing population of younger, more affluent residents. We are primarily Democrats, and educated. The likelihood that those groups will continue to expand is high, given the coming populations of Cornell students and faculty and Hudson/Related’s market-rate rentals, including new construction.

Governor Cuomo’s executive action will allow a pilot program of 20 hospitals across New York State to prescribe marijuana for people with cancer, glaucoma, and other conditions that meet standards to be set by the New York State Department of Health.

Nationally, the District of Columbia and some 20 states allow it in some form. In Colorado, it’s legal to sell to those 21 or older. Among the 20 states that allow medical marijuana are Connecticut, Vermont, and New See **Marijuana**, page 10

Comment
on this report or
anything in this issue
on the website:
MainStreetWIRE.com

Briefly...

• **No digital wayfinding** for now, says Hudson/Related. A delay in Island signage while waiting for City government’s plans for interactive screens is over. Static signs will be used instead.

• **Jane Swanson**, top aide to Jessica Lappin during her service on the City Council, has accepted a job with **Cornell NYC Tech** that will continue her liaison function with the Roosevelt Island community. There’s more detail on the *WIRE* website, MainStreetWIRE.com, and in the *Cornell Column*, page 3.

• Gallery RIVAA will celebrate **Black History Month** starting next weekend. More on page 12.

• **Mewy** the kitten has been found. On the loose for several days, the feline was found by her owners, absorbing warmth near a heating vent; she had been the object of an intense search.

• **FDR Four Freedoms State Park** has hired **Nellie Chaban** as the park’s first Director of Education & Public Programs. She’ll develop events that celebrate and educate about the 32nd President, working with Suzy Brown, the Director of Visitor Experience. The park has now been open for 15 months.



Rendering supplied by Hudson/Related shows how Southtown’s Building 7 will look when completed in 2015. The structure will have a “Riverwalk” name, like the rest of the Hudson/Related development, and 266 apartments, all rentals. Opening is slated for the second quarter of 2015.

The Editorial Page

On Roosevelt Island, 911 is Still Broken

You hope you’ll never have to call 911 – but you know you will, someday. My time came Friday morning, January 17, after a distress call from a friend in my building.

911, what is your emergency?
I need an ambulance at 531 Main Street on Roosevelt Island, apartment 1408.
Where is that?
Roosevelt Island.
What are the cross streets?
It’s an island, there are no cross streets.
I need the cross streets, sir.
It’s Roosevelt Island. There’s one street. The ambulance comes across the 36th Avenue Bridge from Queens. It’s a left turn at the bottom of the ramp. The driver will know... Just send...
That’s not the way it works, sir. You need to give me the cross streets.
I...

Right about there, or after one or two more equally frustrating exchanges, I hung up. The urgency didn’t permit my asking for a supervisor or arguing it through with the woman on the other end. After hanging up, I called Public Safety – figuring that the desk officer there would know the magic words needed to unlock the intransigence at 911 HQ – and provided the same information.

The upshot was that two ambulances arrived. One was sent to apartment 1408 as a result of PSD’s call, but the other was sent to “N415” in Rivercross – the N meaning the north wing (so far, so good), but the 415 that must have appeared on the 911 operator’s screen was off by two digits, because my apartment is 413 – and it wasn’t the emergency location, anyway.

- Here are the lessons:
1. Roosevelt Island’s longstanding 911 problem still stands. Instructions given to 911 operators just don’t fit Roosevelt Island. That’s a chore for Ben Kallos, our new City Councilmember – to attempt, as did Jessica Lappin, his predecessor, to fix 911 for our community.
 2. Until that happens (again? for the first time?), if you need an ambulance or other emergency service, when the operator insists on having cross streets to go by, the magic words are “between 36th Avenue, Queens, and Goldwater Hospital.” That should work, at least until Goldwater Hospital is wiped off 911’s maps.
 3. The tally on 911 screens, which is probably based on telco wiring or a faulty reverse directory, may show an incorrect apartment number.
- And there’s a question:
- Why, after all these years and after repeated efforts, does 911 not comprehend Roosevelt Island? Are we such a backwater that there is no incentive for the 911 service to adapt to the circumstances of an island not built on a rigid grid?

DL

Add Your Voice
Comment on this editorial, letters and articles in this issue, or other matters, at
MainStreetWIRE.com

I am saddened to learn that Mark Ponton passed away last week. He was such a bright and engaged man, and a huge asset to the community. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC) from 2002 to 2007, during many of its challenging administrations, he spent hours with his multi-page lists of projects, tracking them quietly behind the scenes to ensure that our needs were being met, and taking action when needed. One story comes to mind: Around 2006, RIOC and Con Edison had a disagreement about who was responsible for replacing burned-out bulbs in the streetlights. Meanwhile, for months, many of our streetlights remained dark. Each week, frustrated RIRA members would detail the additional lights that were out, and send that information to RIOC. Finally one day, all the lights were on – Mark Ponton had gotten on the RIOC truck and ridden around the Island with staff to make sure that they got bulbs into each and every lamp, effectively ending the discussion. People like Mark, who do what it takes rather than complaining, are so important to a vibrant community. He will be missed.

January RIRA Meeting

A motion was passed to donate \$700, collected during the 2013 Cherry Blossom Festival, to the hurricane relief organization You Are Never Alone. We on Roosevelt Island were fortunate that we got off easily in Hurricane Sandy. Others are still suffering

The RIRA Column

Happy New Year!
2014 is barely under way, but it is my great pleasure to share two exciting announcements related to construction of the Cornell Tech campus here on Roosevelt Island: the official start of barging operations, and the addition of a new team member who should be very familiar to Islanders.
Earlier this week, we launched the largest voluntary barging operation in New York City with the arrival of our first barge from New Jersey. The first barge brought over construction materials, empty containers to be filled with demolition materials, and the large crane that moves the materials to and from the barge. By the time this column is published, we will likely have begun installation of a site fence, and removed our first load of demolition material via barge, signaling the start of construction and our ongoing effort to minimize the impact of construction on the Island. The first demolition work will be interior demolition, which will include the removal of partitions, walls, and ceilings. All of the debris from the interior demolition that needs to be removed will be placed in containers and transported from the site by barge.
In order to maintain public safety during barging

The Cornell Column

the effects of that devastating storm. We hope that this small outreach by our community can help.
Another motion that was passed postponed the pending expulsion vote until the February 5 meeting. The parliamentary maneuvering and financial discussions at the January meeting took too long for us to be able to give the expulsion process the attention that it deserves.
Cornell NYC Tech
RIRA welcomes Jane Swanson as Cornell’s community liaison. We look forward to working with her to ensure that Cornell keeps its agreements with the community.
We also welcome the arrival of the first Cornell barge, on Tuesday. This is a good start to a long demolition and construction process.
I am glad to know that RIOC and Cornell are meeting regularly to iron out issues relating to the demolition as they arise. The demolition is being carefully orchestrated to mitigate impact on the community.
RICC (the Roosevelt Island Community Coalition) and RIOC in turn did a very good job of letting Cornell See RIRA Column, page 6



Ellen Polivy, President
Roosevelt Island Residents Association
RIRApresident@gmail.com

operations, the east roadway and promenade will be closed for the duration of the abatement and demolition project – anticipated to be about one year. In order to accommodate traffic to Southpoint Park and Four Freedoms Park, the west roadway will be modified to accommodate two-way traffic, including the creation of a temporary vehicle turnaround near the west entrance to Southpoint Park. The roadway modification and construction of the turnaround is expected to take several weeks and, during that time, the west roadway will be closed to all but emergency vehicles. Following the completion of this work, no later than April 1, the west roadway will be re-opened. The west pedestrian promenade will be open for the entire duration of the abatement and demolition project, including the time See Cornell Column, page 6



Cathy Dove, Vice President
Cornell NYC Tech
cathy.dove@cornell.edu

The arrival of Winter Storm Janus has kept our snow removal crews hard at work clearing the roads and walkways to ensure safer conditions for travelers. Restoration work at the Good Shepherd Community Center is progressing on schedule, and Bike New York continues to offer classes at Sportspark.
Water Main Break
This past Monday, January 20, a water main break occurred at the site of the former Goldwater Hospital. The DEP was on-site making repairs on Tuesday. While brownish water was reported in some buildings north of the site, the discoloration is not a health risk, and the DEP has declared the water safe to drink.
Winter Storm
A Winter Storm advisory was issued for New York City on Tuesday, January 21. The snowstorm brought more than 8 inches of snow to the Island during the day and through the night. RIOC’s snowplows were running on Main Street constantly during the storm, and salt was spread to minimize the amount of snow on the roads and walkways.
In order to ensure that future preparations for heavy snow and subsequent snow removal proceed as efficiently as possible, RIOC will be issuing “No Parking”

The RIOC Column

advisories, requiring drivers to remove their cars from Main Street and the East and West Roadways. During this time, free parking will be available underneath the Helix Ramp and inside the Motorgate Garage. Free parking inside the Garage is limited to 24 hours from the time of entry. If a car is left in the Garage in excess of the time limit, the driver will be responsible for any fees for the additional time. Your compliance with the advisory helps us keep the roads as safe as possible for drivers and pedestrians, and we thank you for your cooperation.
Areas that have been subject to recurring icy conditions in the past, such as the Commons area east of the Subway, were closed off to foot traffic during the heavy snowfall. Residents are still urged to use caution in areas such as the Good Shepherd Plaza, Blackwell House, and pathways adjacent See RIOC Column, page 6



Charlene Indelicato, President
Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation
charlene.indelicato@rioc.ny.gov

The WIRE publishes The RIOC Column, The RIRA Column, and The Cornell Column as a service to RIOC, RIRA, Cornell, and the community, and does not control or censor them.

Letters

To the Editor:

Thank you for the ferry article in *The WIRE* [January 11, online at MainStreetWIRE.com], particularly its summary of the ferry feasibility study by Ocean and Coastal Consultants (OCC). Its conclusion – that the Observation Pier is the best choice – is strongly based on considerations of a no-wake zone and, in light of recent new proposed ferry service described below, may require more subtle analysis. RIOC and Cornell can and should help in this, and can simultaneously contribute to other related projects, like the Nerd Boat, and on-Island education and citizen science.

As you stated in the *WIRE* article, OCC’s report predates the recent extension of the East River ferry service. A list of proposed service expansions described on page 6 of the New York City Economic Development Commission’s *Citywide Ferry Study 2013* [see tinyurl.com/FerryTools] gives high priority to a route (“2B”) running from Astoria Park and stopping at the Oil Dock (see map on p. 45 of EDC’s report). The drawback cited by OCC, namely that travel time is greater due to the no-wake zone, might be

ameliorated by recommendations found in a Stevens Institute of Technology report on wakes [tinyurl.com/FerryWake]. Measuring wake energy and providing real-time feedback to ferry operators would greatly facilitate reduced-wake operation without necessarily slowing down service very much, and Cornell is technically well-equipped to help by providing wake measurement instrumentation and WiFi/WiMAX transmission of results to passing boats – including Nerd boats, which would make them high-tech platforms for active study of the issue rather than just passive transport. If it’s feasible to ferry construction workers to the barging dock, those ferry operations could be a test bed for important wake observations and analysis.

Moreover, there is other, differing expert opinion concerning suitability of the West Channel. For example, on March 1, 2007, at Verdant Power’s office at The Octagon, a maritime study group composed of representatives of various tugboat companies, harbor pilot associations, the Coast Guard, and others concluded that the oil dock was the best location for a ferry dock, because of severe wakes in the West Channel (mentioned in OCC’s report). Also worth considering are United Nations security zone closures of the West Channel.

In summary, rejection of the oil dock seems premature, further technical study is required, and Cornell has a great deal to contribute.

I hope this letter might be part of wide discussion of these issues.

Don Chesley

To the Editor:

I had a crazy uncle when I was growing up. He was always doing something unacceptable to someone. Drinking too much, smoking, swearing, divorced, remarried – you know the one. But because we were a family, we never thought twice about welcoming him, never kicked him out when he stayed too late, never patronized him – he was just another stitch in the canvas that made up life. It turned out that the best stories I know came from him, and while I try not to live my life like him most of the time, he had certain qualities that were imparted to us, changing our whole family for the better. In a community as large as Roosevelt Island, we have more than a few crazy uncles, and your crazy uncle might be my friend. We can ostracize them with all the might of rules, lawn signs, and ordinances or worse, with a dirty look and a stab in the back, attempting to control this fraction of a dot that is our lives. Or we can weave them in, with all their rough edges and colorfully unmatched colors. It takes a strong stomach to do the former, and strong character to do the latter. Frank Farance is a crazy uncle to some and a friend to many others. I doubt most of you want to have or have the stomach to kick him (or anyone) out of RIRA, and while a majority of RIRA has the character to keep him, we find this witch hunt remains on our agenda and impedes our forward progress.

Trevre Andrews

To the Editor:

I read with some dismay the front-page article in the December 14 *WIRE* covering the Farance expulsion issue [tinyurl.com/3407wire]. My concern is not directed at the debate currently fulminating in the RIRA Common Council. That will sort itself out as these controversies inevitably do. I was upset that a Council member, Trevre Andrews, took it upon himself to share with this newspaper an email stream directed only to his colleagues. I suspect that he did not seek the permission of his fellow councilors to share this private conversation with the press.

I realize that the etiquette of what may be shared with the public is evolving along with communication technology. But civility among colleagues should remain a constant, and Mr. Andrews, in my opinion, has crossed a line and has behaved irresponsibly. However, the RIRA Common Council must decide what is permissible and what requires censure.

And then, there is the question of what *The Main Street WIRE* should have done with this email stream in the age of Edward Snowden. Has journalistic ethics also evolved with the times? *The WIRE* is a hometown newspaper for and of the community. At the very least, I would expect *The WIRE* to contact the five writers responding to Trevor, to inform them that their opinions would be shared with *WIRE* readers and to inquire as to whether they stand by those opinions.

As a result of this discourtesy, I think it likely that free and open discourse among RIRA Common Council members, using email as their forum, will be less likely and, in an organization whose life’s blood is sharing ideas and arriving at consensus, irreparable damage is possible if this behavior is allowed to continue.

Matthew Katz

To the Editor:

The January 11 issue of *The WIRE* [on line at MainStreetWIRE.com] missed the opportunity to report on several important items in the January RIRA Common Council meeting.

For example, the “parliamentary” issue that RIRA President Ellen Polivy complained about [in *The RIRA Column*] is significant to every resident: Can one be expelled from RIRA based on merely two people voting *Yes*? Ms. Polivy’s position is that it can happen, although she and the rest sided with a different interpretation in October when we took a vote to amend the by-laws (amendments that would have imposed serious constraints on Ms. Polivy’s running of the meeting). The October vote failed because it required “two-thirds of the Common Council,” e.g., if the membership is 40 people, then 27 are required to vote in favor.

The November vote (the first part of the expulsion) requires “a majority of the Common Council,” e.g., 21 people voting in favor, but Ms. Polivy and her supporters have now interpreted “of the Common Council” differently – as if having no effect. The second vote (actual expulsion) requires “two-thirds of the Common Council” to pass, and Ms. Polivy and her supporters now interpret those same “two-thirds of the Common Council” differently, e.g., all it takes is two yes votes (even if everybody else abstains) to expel a Common Council member.

This is newsworthy because Ms. Polivy’s position means that we

COMING UP

See page 6 for a listing of regularly scheduled meetings and events.

– This Weekend –

Island Girls, a play about women incarcerated on Welfare Island (today’s Roosevelt Island), continues, closing **Sun Jan 26**. Remaining performances **Fri-Sat** 8pm, **Sun** 3pm, Theatre for the New City, 155 1st Av. (betw 9th/10th). Info: 212-254-1109 or TheaterForTheNewCity.net..

In With the New, group show by members and guests of the Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association, continues through **Sun Jan 26**, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. Gallery hours **Sat-Sun** 11am-5pm, **Tue & Thu** 1-5pm, **Wed & Fri** 6-9pm.

Snapshots, exhibit of photos by Mircea Nicolescu, opening reception **Sat Jan 25** 6-9pm, Octagon Gallery, 888 Main St. Runs through Mar 2. Gallery hours 9am-9pm daily. (Photos, page 8.)

Inauguration of City Councilmember Ben Kallos, **Sun Jan 26**, 12noon, 92nd St. Y, 1395 Lexington Av. Open to public. Info: 212-860-1950.

– Through Next Weekend –

Bicycling Basics for adults and mature teens, **Tue Jan 28** 10am-1pm, Sportsark. (See *RIOC Column*, page 6.)

Roosevelt Island Bridge Testing, **Wed Jan 29**, 10am-2pm, weather permitting; each closure about 15 minutes, with time after each for backed-up traffic to clear.

Cornell Tech Construction & Community Task Force meeting, **Wed Jan 29** 6-8pm, 12th floor meeting room, 546 Main St.

Women’s Health Organization (RIWHO) meets, **Thu Jan 30** 6:30pm, 546 Main St., 12th floor community room. Zen Holmes speaks on the benefits of yoga, with a seated demonstration; meditation session; blood pressure reading; refreshments.

The Melanite Visions, second annual **Black History Month** art exhibit, **Sat Feb 1-Sun Mar 2**, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. Gallery hours **Sat-Sun** 11am-5pm, **Tue & Thu** 1-5pm, **Wed & Fri** 6-9pm. **Opening reception Sat Feb 8** 6-9pm. (Item, page 8.)

First Sunday Jazz Salon, **Sun Feb 2** 5-7pm, Gallery RIVAA. \$5 donation; refreshments.

– Regularly Scheduled Events & Meetings–

See separate listing, page 6.

– Future Weeks –

Presentation and Community Discussion anticipating **Cornell construction kick-off**, **Wed Feb 5** 6-8pm, Manhattan Park Community Center., 8 River Rd.

Roosevelt Island Residents Association Common Council meets, **Wed Feb 5** 8pm, Manhattan Park Community Center. Public session at beginning for brief resident/guest comments/announcements.

The Main Street WIRE– Sat Feb 8. Advertising deadlines: Display ads, **Wed Jan 29**; decision date for circulars/inserts, **Tue Feb 4**; 5,500 copies due **Thu Feb 6. Future issues:** Feb 22; Mar 8, 22; Apr 5, 26; May 10, 24; Jun 7, 21; Jul date to be determined; Aug 30; Sep 13, 27;

Oct 11, 25; Nov 8, 22; Dec 13. **News phone, 212-826-9056; urgent matters, 917-617-0449.** Email press releases or feature-story suggestions to MainStreetWIRE@usa.net. **Advertising** (display & classified):

There is no charge to list Island-related events in ComingUp. Email information to MainStreetWIRE@usa.net or leave it at the lobby desk at 531 Main Street, addressed to *The WIRE*.

917-587-3278.

Book Discussion, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman, **Thu Feb 20** 6:30-8pm, Library.

Women’s Health Organization meets, **Wed Feb 26** 6:30pm, 546 Main St., 12th floor community room.

Book Discussion, *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini, **Thu Mar 20** 6:30-8pm, Library.

Book Discussion, *The Silver Linings Playbook* by Matthew Quick, **Thu Apr 17** 6:30-8pm, Library.

Cornell Construction & Community Task Force meeting, **Wed Mon Apr 28** 6-8pm, 12th floor meeting room, 546 Main St.

Book Discussion, *Proof of Heaven* by Eben Alexander, **Thu May 15** 6:30-8pm, Library.

R&R Concerts presents Islander **Roy Eaton**, pianist, performing selections in *A Marriage of Chopin and Joplin*, **Sat May 17** time to be announced, Good Shepherd Center.

Book Discussion, *Mom & Me & Mom* by Maya Angelou, **Thu Jun 19** 6:30-8pm, Library.

Senior Center listings on page 14



The WIRE
Published by *The Main Street WIRE*
©2014 Unisource2000™ Inc.
531 Main St. #413, NYC10044

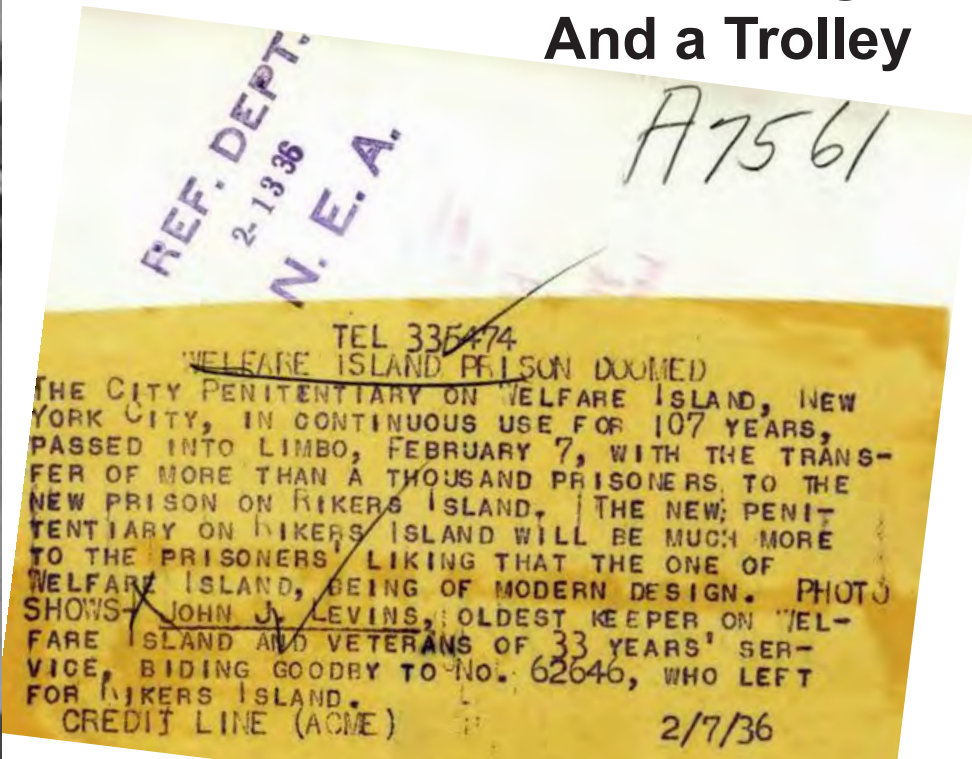
News **212-826-9056**
Urgent news **917-617-0449**
Advertising **917-587-3278** or **212-751-8214**
Circulation **212-935-7534**
e-mail **MainStreetWIRE@usa.net**
Website NYC10044 – nyc10044.com

Editor & Publisher – Dick Lutz
Copy Editor – Ashton Barfield
Chief Proofreader – Linda Heimer
Proofreaders – Vicki Feinmel, Helke Taeger
Reporters – Jim Baehler, Judy Buck, Andrew Gordon, Alex Marshall, David Stone, Briana Warsing
Photographers – Maria Casotti, Mircea Nicolescu, Kurt Wittman
Aerial Photography – David Quinones / SkyCamUSA.com
Advertising Sales – Ellen Levy
Circulation Managers – Sherie Helstien, Matthew Katz, Katherine Vithlani
Circulation Assistants – Jim Bates, Brandon Cruz
Human Resources – David Bauer
Legal Counsel – A. Ross Wollen
Technical Advisor – John Dougherty
Island History Consultant – Judy Berdy
Website NYC10044 – Jeff Prekopa, Laurence Vaughan

Rudolfs Alsbergs, Bubu Arya, Marilyn Atkins, Marty Atkins, Steve Bessenoff, Claire Blake, Barbara Brooks, Shelly Brooks, Mary Camper-Titsingh, Carol Chen, Gloria Cherif-Jamal, Billy Cuozzi, Caroline Cuozzi, Joan Davis, Joan Digilio, John Dougherty, Arlise Ellis, Justin Evans, Russell Fields, Jan Fund, Victor Gazdoui, Gloria Gonsalves, Matthew Gonsalves, Tiffany Gonsalves, Angela Grant, Aaron Hamburger, Steve Heller, Ellen Jacoby, Todd Jagerson, Michael Kolba, Gad Levanon, Bill Long, Mark Lyon, Mary Mangle, Hezi Mena, Bakul Mitro, Brett Morrow, Clinton Narine, Kiran Narine, Sandra Narine, Kumar Nathan, Lutum Niu, Halima Nooradeen, Rebecca Ocampo, Essie Owens, Florence Paa, Joan Pape, Christina Park, Lucas Plaut, Judy Quintana, Brian Recardi, Ronnie Rigos, Ilonka Salisbury, Mondira Sarkar, Bob Specker, Betty Spensley, Camilla Stacchetti, David Stone, Nina Wintringham; and...

Krystyn Donnelley and students of Legacy High School;
and students from the PS/IS 217 Beacon Program

Before Cornell, Before Goldwater, There Was the Prison... And an Elevator to the Bridge, And a Trolley



When the Island’s penitentiary closed for good on February 7, 1936, Acme newsphoto service provided newspapers with this picture of a long-serving guard and supposedly happy prisoner #62646 going off to incarceration on “modern” Rikers Island. The prison is seen – along with a relatively unobstructed view of the Empire State Building and the Chrysler Building – in the postcard below.



Getting Here...

Talk of transportation concerns attendant to the arrival of Cornell in 2017 has again raised the question of some form of pedestrian access to the walkway on the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge. Until 1970, elevators in the Island’s storehouse provided access to vehicles, pedestrians, and trolley riders. In this postcard (far right), the storehouse is seen hard by the bridge. Manhattan-bound trucks and pedestrians moved off the elevator directly onto the bridge. Arrivals from Manhattan by trolley (near right and below left) descended to a walkway slung under the bridge to access the elevator. Passes were required. The storehouse elevators were closed in 1970 – the Welfare Island Bridge had been open since 1956 – and the building was demolished around 1971, according to the president of the Roosevelt Island Historical Society, Judy Berdy. By then, the trolley was a 14-year-old memory; it had stopped running in 1957.



Take your time machine far enough back into the Island’s history, and you could get to and from the Island by boat. But it was operated by the City’s Department of Charities, and you may have been on your way to the Pauper Lunatic Asylum, or to treatment for a dreaded disease.



MEET YOUR ROOSEVELT ISLAND BANKING TEAM



Albert Salas, Parul Jhala,
Simon Prestigiacomio, Ivana Kostic

Our friendly staff at Amalgamated Bank’s Main Street branch is proud to serve the Roosevelt Island community.

Led by Albert Salas, who has more than three decades of experience in the banking industry, our team offers a variety of personal and business banking solutions to meet your financial needs; including:

- Affordable checking and savings options
- Residential mortgage originations
- Loans and lines of credit

Learn what Amalgamated Bank can do for you and to get to know Albert’s team. Stop by the branch at 619 Main Street or call 212-413-8775.



Programs for Ages 3 Months to 6 Years

Registration

Open Registration to the Roosevelt Island Community
Register for River Road & Riverwalk Programs

Registration will take place at the Roosevelt Island Day Nursery
located at 4 River Road from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
All registrations must be accompanied by a 10% deposit
of the full school year tuition to secure a place for your child.

Financial Assistance is available to those who qualify.

For more information & Tuition Rates check our website www.ridn.org,
call 212-593-0750 or email preschool@ridn.org



CHILDREN, TEEN & ADULT THEATRE • MUSICAL THEATRE



Spring Semester is under way.



It's not too late to **join the fun**.
Space is available in many classes.

Curious but **not sure**?
Try a class for \$20. If you register later,
the money is applied to your class fee.

Want to **try a few** classes to find the
best fit? Buy a 10-class card which lets
you sample various classes.

Contact us at the email below
and we'll get you going.



WWW.MSTDA.ORG • INFO@MSTDA.ORG

548 MAIN STREET ROOSEVELT ISLAND NEW YORK 10044

HIP-HOP • WORLD DANCE FUSION • PRE-BALLET • AEROPUMP • YOGA • PILATES

CREATIVE DRAMA • JAZZ • TAP • BALLET • BALLROOM • MUSIC TOGETHER®

COMING UP

A schedule of repeating meetings & events

See page 3 for events this weekend
and in coming weeks.

– Continuing Events & Activities –

ART EXHIBITS

In With the New, group show by members and guests of the Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association, through **Sun Jan 26**, Gallery RIVAA. Gallery hours **Sat-Sun** 11am-5pm **Tue & Thu** 1-5pm, **Wed & Fri** 6-9pm.

PARKS

Southpoint Park open **daily** 6am-10pm.

FDR Four Freedoms Park open **daily** (except Tue) 9am-5pm.

Lighthouse Park open **daily** 7am-9pm.

CLASSES (alphabetical, then Sat-Fri)

Art, taught by members of the Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association (RIVAA), **Sat** 11am-2pm, Sportspark. Free

MUSIC

Jazz Salon, 1st Sun (except Jul-Aug) 5-7pm, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. \$5 donation.

EXERCISE & SPORTS (alphabetical)

Basketball (all ages), **Sat** 2-5pm, Sportspark. Free.

Basketball (adults), **Mon-Thu** 8-10pm, PS/IS 217. Free.

Ping Pong (all ages), **Tue Wed Fri** 6-9pm, Sportspark.

Sportspark extended hours (ages 16-25), **Fri-Sat** 9pm-midnight.

Swimming (all ages; no instructor) – **Sat-Sun** 12-3pm, **Mon-Fri** 6-10am, **Mon Wed Thu Fri** 7:30-10:30pm.

(All **Sportspark swimming** \$5; free for disabled, seniors 60+, and ages 0-3.)

Swimming (18 yrs+) – **Sat-Sun** 4-7pm, **Tue** 7:30-10:30pm, Sportspark.

Swimming – Water Aerobics, **Mon** 12-1pm, **Wed & Fri** 9-10am, Sportspark.

Yoga (open-level), **Mon & Thu** 6:15-7:15pm, **Sat** 11:15am-12:15pm, Sportspark. \$5. Mats available.

Yoga with Keren Messer, **Mon & Tue** 8-9pm. \$17; multi-session rates. Location and other info: KerenMsr@gmail.com or 212-614-9181.

Yoga with Jax Schott, **Wed** 7:30-8:40pm, Island Kids, 536 Main St. \$15.

Yoga (open-level) with Lauren Blankstein, **Thu** 7:30-8:30pm, PS/IS 217 Beacon. Free.

Zumba, Mon 6:30-7:30 & 7:30-8:30pm, **Thu** 8:30-9:30pm, **Sat** 10-11am, Sportspark. \$5.

Zumba/Dance/Cardio, Mon & Wed 6:30-7:30pm, PS/IS 217. Free.

BIRTH THROUGH TODDLER (listed Sat-Fri)

Swimming classes (age 3-up), **Sat** 3-4pm, Sportspark. \$15 or \$100/10 weeks. Questions/registration, ryansherrill84@gmail.com or 917-261-2771.

Art for Kids with Connie Tanner (ages 3-8), last **Sun** of the month, 10-11:30am, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. \$10 suggested donation; materials supplied. No reservation required.

Baby & Toddler Swim classes (6-36 mo), **Sun** 11am & 11:30am (through Mar 2), Sportspark. \$5. Info: eva.bosbach@amu.cz.

Baby Story Time (0-18 mo), **Mon** 10:30am,

Library. Advance registration required.

Story Time with Olya (pre-school ages), **Tue & Thu** 9am, Main Street Sweets, 559 Main St. Free.

Toddler Story Time (18-36 mo), **Wed** 11am, Library. Registration required. Free.

Island Kids Baby Group (0-14mo), **Thu** 10am, 536 Main St. Info: IslandKidsRI@gmail.com.

Read Aloud (3-6 yrs), **Fri** 3:30pm, Library.

Music with James (4 mo-4 yrs), **Fri** 4:30pm, 475 Main St. lounge. Info: MusicWithJames@aol.com.

OLDER KIDS (Sat-Fri)

Tennis – New York Junior Tennis League (ages 5-18), **Sat-Sun** 6-8am, Racquet Club. Free.

Tennis – Junior Tennis, **Sat & Mon-Fri** after school, Racquet Club. Info 212-935-0250.

Beacon After-School Program for 1st-8th-graders, **Mon-Fri** 3-6pm, PS/IS 217. Free. Info: 212-527-2505 or RooseveltIslandYouthProgram.com.

Open Gym for high school students, **Mon & Wed** 6-8pm, PS/IS 217.

Games (5-12 yrs), **Tue** 4pm, Library. Free.

Teen Game Night, **Wed** 6pm, Main Street Sweets, 559 Main St.

Girl Scouts (6-13 yrs), **Fri** 6-8pm, PS/IS 217. Info: 212-527-2505.

SENIORS (also see page 14)

Lunch, Mon-Fri noon, Senior Center, 546 Main St. \$1.50. Menus outside social worker office.

REGULAR MEETINGS (Sat-Fri)

Toastmasters, 2nd & 4th Mon 7:30pm. Info: 212-751-9577.

Sci-Fi Discussion Group, 1st Tue 6:30pm, Library.

114th Precinct Community Meeting, 4th Tue 7pm, Riccardo’s by the Bridge, 2101 24th Av., Astoria.

RIRA Common Council meeting **1st Wed** (except Jul-Aug) 8pm, Good Shepherd Community Center.

Book Discussion, 3rd Thu 6:30-8pm, Library.

OFFICE HOURS

RIOC’s Community Office Hours, Mon 3-5pm, 591 Main St.

Constituent Service Hours for Assemblymember Micah Kellner and/or staff, **Mon-Fri** 9:30am-5:30pm, District Office (1365 First Av at 73rd St.). Call 212-860-4906 for appointment.

Constituent Service Hours for State Sen. Jose Serrano and/or staff, **2nd Mon** 4-7pm, Senior Center, 546 Main St. Info: 212-828-5829.

OTHER

Knitting & Crocheting Circle (adults), **Thu** 11:30am, Library.

Food Box Orders for Helping Families Help Themselves, ordering period **1st-11th of month**. Menu online at jolinfoodbox.com. Info 347-985-7540; pickup period at 546 Main St. **15th of month**.

Carolyn Yohannes

Carolyn Yohannes, a resident of 510 Main Street for more than 30 years, died January 7 at age 68. She was a native of New York City. After a lengthy hospital stay, Carolyn spent her last night at home surrounded by her loved ones.

Carolyn was a fixture in the community, involved in the soccer league, Boy Scouts, homeless shelter, and numerous other activities, such as her book club. She was a stellar student, a voracious reader, and a gifted writer. She loved to travel, and she fancied herself a bit of a gourmet.

Her commitment to others was evidenced in her choice of profession. A lifelong educator, she joined AFS International in 1982, leaving as a Director of Special Programs. She moved to Nassau County Board of Cooperative Educational Services in 1988, retiring in 2011 as a Supervisor for Extracurricular & Summer Academic Programs.

An inspiration to the world, and a friend to many, Carolyn will always be remembered for her generosity and principles. She is survived by her four loving sons, Robert, Jonathan, Miebaka, and Micheil. A memorial service was held at the New York Society for Ethical Culture on Sunday, January 12. In lieu of flowers or gifts, please make a donation to UNICEF in Carolyn’s name.



RIOC Column, from page 2

to the lawn south of Rivercross, as these areas are also known to become icy during severe weather. We encourage residents to check in on their elderly and disabled neighbors, to be careful, and to stay safe throughout the storm. We also ask that you contact us to report any areas that need further snow removal or attention, so that we may address any issues as soon as possible.

Good Shepherd Center

Work on the Good Shepherd Community Center’s entry area has begun and is proceeding according to schedule. Work on the north entrance is planned to be completed in four weeks. Restoration of the west entrance is projected to be completed in the following four weeks. Interior renovations are scheduled to be finished during a final four-week period. The Community Center will remain accessible to the public for the duration of the restoration process.

Bike New York

Bike New York continues to host free indoor cycling classes at Sportspark (250 Main Street). This Tuesday, January 28, at 10:00 a.m., you can join Bicycling Basics, a free 3-hour class for adults and mature teens who recently learned how to ride a bike or who want

to improve their core cycling skills. Registration and more information on Bike New York’s offerings are available on their website: www.bikenewyork.org.

Contacting RIOC

If you would like to get in touch with RIOC about your questions, comments, or concerns, please send an email to information@rioc.ny.gov or call the offices at 212-832-4540. You can also subscribe to RIOC’s advisories by visiting rioc.ny.gov/advisorybody.htm or sending an email to subscribe@rioc.ny.gov. In addition, you can contact us through RIOC’s Facebook page, facebook.com/RIOCNY. Feel free to send us a Facebook message, or use the contact form on the page to get in touch. You can also visit our Facebook page for event photos, news, announcements, and more.

Comment on *WIRE* columns and articles at MainStreetWIRE.com

RIRA Column, from page 2

know that we are watching with due diligence, and we congratulate RIOC for their excellent negotiation in getting concessions from Cornell and the State.

Please attend Cornell’s community meeting on Wednesday, February 5, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Manhattan Park Community Center, 8 River Road, and bring your friends and neighbors. We need a large turnout.

The RIRA Common Council meeting will be held immediately afterward at the same location. We hope to see you there.

CERT

One of RIRA’s greatest successes so far this term has been the revival of the Community Emergency Response Team. The 16 newly trained members are energetic, and excited to be helping the community. They have become a tight-knit group, with plans for more extensive training. They will be coordinating with Public Safety Director Jack McManus, who is thrilled to have an active CERT.

The class was trained by the best. Their instructor has been promoted to FDNY Battalion Chief.

The group seems like they are having so much fun, I suspect that CERT will be the “in” place to be for a long time.

Cherry Blossom Festival

I want to set the record straight on the 2013 Cherry Blossom Festival. RIRA and the Japanese Association ran the festival with a focus on the utmost integrity. Their goal was to create a traditional Japanese festival in America. It was intended to be an authentic cultural experience. By that standard, it was a huge success. The crowd far exceeded the expectations that even a seasoned street-fair vendor would have. A world-famous professional orchestra entertained the crowd, the Japanese Ambassador spoke, and everyone had a fabulous time. While RIRA did not make the money it expected, RIOC likely did not lose money that day – earnings from increased Tram ridership probably offset extra RIOC costs. For Frank Farance to make such a major, ongoing public commotion about ethics and fraud when a quiet request for clarity would have sufficed was a shameful act of self-aggrandizement.

Community Board 8

In my last column, I did not completely describe the responsibilities of CB8’s Roosevelt Island Committee. In addition to matters concerning Cornell Tech, the committee has the ability to study any other issue that relates to Roosevelt Island, and then to make recommendations to the full Community Board. The Department of City Planning’s Queens West Transportation Study and the Q102 bus route have been, and will continue to be, reviewed by the committee.

The Experts List

On the back burner of RIRA’s Government Relations Committee has been development of an experts list to help RIRA, RICC, RIOC, and elected officials with specific expertise about best practices in various fields. I would like to propel this forward, and you will hear more about the experts list in future columns. For now, as a test run – if you are willing to periodically give us the benefit of your knowledge, please email me at RIRApresident@gmail.com with the subject line *Experts List*.

Cornell Column, from page 2

when the west roadway will be closed.

The second piece of exciting news is the addition of Jane Swanson to the Cornell Tech team. Many of you know Jane from her years of service to the Island, most recently as chief of staff to Council Member Jessica Lappin. Jane joins the campus as Assistant Director of Government and Community Relations, and will work directly with Islanders and others in the City as Cornell Tech’s community liaison. She will spend time at Cornell Tech’s Chelsea Campus and on Roosevelt Island. We couldn’t think of a better person for this role, and I know that you will join me in welcoming Jane.

Now that construction is under way, I hope that you will take advantage of the opportunities that Cornell Tech is providing to keep informed on the progress of the work. The central clearinghouse for all information related to campus construction is a new website that

Cornell Tech created, construction.tech.cornell.edu. On the website, you can view a map of the worksite; sign up to receive a bi-weekly look-ahead via email that will contain updates on our progress, milestones, and occasional meeting notices; and contact us.

In addition, we will be hosting a town hall meeting on Wednesday, February 5, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Manhattan Park Community Center. At this forum, we will introduce ourselves and our partners, provide a full briefing on our plans, and answer any questions that you may have.

We have spent over a year doing detailed planning on our approach to construction, with the goal of minimizing the impact of construction on the community. As construction kicks off, I hope that you will keep in touch with us, sharing any questions or concerns, and I hope to see many of you on February 5.



Your Roosevelt Island Real Estate Specialist

A Roosevelt Island resident for over 35 years, Suzanne brings a wealth of firsthand experience and intimate knowledge of living in this unique neighborhood. For the past 13 years Suzanne has been an award winning agent with The Corcoran Group, the #1 individual real estate firm in the nation*. Representing both buyers and sellers, Suzanne has generated over \$34M in sales on Roosevelt Island alone.

Call Suzanne for a complimentary market evaluation and to discuss your real estate needs.

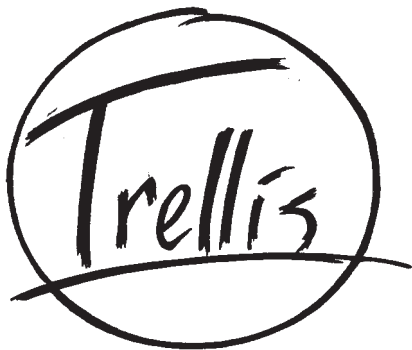
*Member of Corcoran's Multi-Million Dollar Club
Ranked among the top 2% of NRT agents nationwide*

Suzanne Wolf
Lic. Assoc. Real Estate Broker
(o) 718.923.8095
sew@corcoran.com



corcoran
corcoran group real estate

*Source: NRT, LLC. Based on 2012 earnings of Realty affiliates and owned companies. The Corcoran Group is a licensed real estate broker located at 660 Madison Ave, NY, NY 10065.



Stand by for February

Its weather is already here! Cold, snowy, blustery, icy, and [toss in your choice of expletive]. Trellis stands ready to provide delivery service when it's way too cold to go out and when just getting home has been a tiring chore. Call us and let us know what we can provide to get lunch or dinner on your table while you relax.

See you at Trellis!
212-752-1517
trellisdiner.com

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

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

CALLING JUNIOR TENNIS PLAYERS OF ALL AGES AND SKILL LEVELS!

All City Jr. Tennis, New York City's oldest and most established junior program. At Roosevelt Island Racquet Club, just minutes from Manhattan.

Here's what you'll love about the program:

- Some of the finest coaches in the Eastern U.S.
- For players as young as 4, recreational players, and tournament competitors
- Players improve and enjoy the game with appropriate levels of competition
- After-school and Saturday classes



Transportation Available!

ADVANTAGE
TENNIS CLUBS

We've Got Your Game



Find out more today!
Call 212-935-0250
Email: netennis@aol.com

What's New on Website *NYC10044*?

Well, for One Thing, It's Now *MainStreetWIRE.com*

Choose the current issue of the newspaper, the 17-year issue archive, or visit and contribute your Island-related pictures to the Photo Gallery.

The front-page image appears on story pages. It'll always bring you back to the index for that issue.

Click on reports listed here to access them on separate pages, along with photographs and supplementary materials.

Here, you can browse back issues by viewing their front pages.

The Main Street **WIRE**

Roosevelt Island's Community Newspaper

Current

Archive

Photo Gallery

search

Volume 34, Issue 8

January 11, 2014

(or download as a PDF)

In This Issue

- Cornell Architects Enthusiastic On Fit To Academic Plan
- Islanders: Call Her Joyce Short; Personal Rebranding Goes With New Book
- Ferry Need Evident With Coming Changes
- Nutrition Program at Senior Center
- Islanders Have Many Yoga Choices
- History: Penitentiary For NYC Women Here
- History: Island's Convalescent Camp
- Editorial: Turmoil in RIRA
- The RIRA Column
- The RIOC Column
- Letters
- Upcoming Events
- Continuing Events & Activities
- Briefly...

Front Pages

Barges Arrive At Cornell Site

Posted in Web Extras

The first of the barges that will remove demolition material from the future site of Cornell NYC Tech arrived at Roosevelt Island this morning (Tuesday, January 21).

Continue Reading »

Cornell Architects Enthusiastic On Fit To Academic Plan

Posted in Volume 34, Issue 8 - January 11, 2014

If you think Roosevelt Islanders and Cornellians are excited about Cornell NYC Tech's project on Roosevelt Island, you should listen to the project architects. They are eXcited, too, with a boldface capital X. They use a whole new catalog of buzzwords to describe what they're doing – new to the lay ear, anyway.

Ferry Need Evident With Coming Changes

Posted in Volume 34, Issue 8 - January 11, 2014

It's deceiving – how close Manhattan looks from the Island. The impression is often forcefully corrected by the trip there. The F train is always crowded during rush hour – sometimes so crowded that a few trains must go through before you can board. The Tram, always full during the rush, isn't much better. Often, bikes and strollers must wait for the next crossing.

Login

Register

Share

1

1

Tweet

7

Follow @twitterapi

Share

Like

Share

1

Latest News

Barges Arrive At Cornell Site

Former Lappin Aide Hired by Cornell Tech

Tram Elevator Repair Plans in Place, Says RIOC

Digital Wayfinding Off the Table for Now

On the Web

- Digital NYC & the New Mayor
- Dissenting View: Some Islanders Unhappy With Cornell's Plans

Tweets

Main Street WIRE

Check out those #icicles! @skyeKisser: Brrr-cicles #nyc #rooseveltisland <http://t.co/I3nYupX3QI> by MainStreetWIRE about 20 hours ago

Main Street WIRE

RT @nypl: Since we closed early yesterday, unreturned materials with a due date of January 21 have been extended to January 23. <http://t.co/...> by MainStreetWIRE 1 day ago

You can register here, but we'll also ask you to register when you comment or respond to a comment. You can use a "handle," but the discussion section won't take totally anonymous comments.

Tell your friends about *The WIRE's* website.

Our latest reports, between issues of *The WIRE*.

Links to the latest Island-related news to be found elsewhere on the web.

Follow us on Twitter.

Direct access to the archive. Check topics in back issues of the newspaper.

Click any category for direct access to the related websites.



[Continue Reading »](#)

[Browse the archives by front page](#)

WIRE Archive

Can't find what you're looking for? Visit our [archive](#).

Links

Government

- [Councilmember Jessica Lappin](#)
- [Borough President Scott Stringer](#)
- [State Senator Jose Serrano](#)
- [Assemblymember Micah Kellner](#)
- [Operating Corporation \(RIOC\)](#)

Institutions

Organizations

Business/Professional

Housing Related

Blogs

Other

Islanders Have Many Yoga Choices

Posted in [Volume 34, Issue 8 - January 11, 2014](#)

“Roosevelt Island is a perfect place to practice yoga,” says yoga teacher Jax Schott. “Yoga means union, Roosevelt Island is a community, and classes become a community as well.” Lauren Blankstein, another teacher, agrees, describing her classes as “a community gathering; that is what yoga is really supposed to be about.” A third teacher, Keren Messer, says, “I find that our community is thirsty for yoga, for movement – for something other than the gym.”

[Continue Reading »](#)

Nutrition Program at Senior Center

Posted in [Volume 34, Issue 8 - January 11, 2014](#)

Cornell University Cooperative Extension is providing a free nutrition course, complete with meal preparation, at the Senior Center, 546 Main Street.

[Continue Reading »](#)

Islanders: Call Her Joyce Short; Personal Rebranding Goes With New Book

Posted in [Volume 34, Issue 8 - January 11, 2014](#)

In November 2013, Joyce Mincheff – as she has been known for years to her Island neighbors – announced her return to her maiden name, Joyce Short. Although the legal change occurred years ago, Short’s recent announcement is the appropriate coda to her just-published book, *Carnal Abuse by Deceit: How a Predator’s Lies Became Rape*.

[Continue Reading »](#)

History: Penitentiary For NYC Women Here

Posted in [Volume 34, Issue 8 - January 11, 2014](#)

Welfare Island’s prison for women is the setting for *Island Girls*, a play being presented by Theater for the New City (see *Coming Up*, page 5).

The play, set in 1927, is running now, but a performance to

[#rooseveltisland!](#)

Welcome to a beautiful but cold day!
<http://t.co/eVXegStLaT>
by [MainStreetWIRE](#) 1 day ago

© Copyright 1996-2013 Unisource2000, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Reproduction by permission only.
Submit request by e-mail: MainStreetWIRE@usa.net

Powered by Big City Softworks, Inc.

At the bottom, you'll find contact information, advertising rates (but call Ellen Levy at 917-587-3278), *The WIRE's* letters policy, and and opportunity to sign up for *WIRE* email bulletins.

Letters, from page 3
interpretation of its rules – Ms. Polivy would not allow these essential discussions on interpretation.

Another newsworthy item was a Common Council member reporting that Ms. Polivy was twisting arms to the point that Ms. Polivy threatened to “ruin her on the Island” if she sided with me. I heard similar reports about Ms. Polivy’s threats. That Common Council member resigned in protest, but *The WIRE* did not cover it. So it’s OK to threaten people if they don’t vote in your favor, and when reported publicly, *The WIRE* doesn’t cover it, right?

Lastly, the RIRA Council is now a laughing stock! We have a new ad hoc Ethics Committee whose co-chairs have resigned, and which decided to meet secretly and in executive session. The committee was composed mostly of Ms. Polivy’s supporters – no attempt to balance perspectives – and largely appointed with a lack of awareness of corporate governance: There are no committee meeting minutes. The committee seems to be focused more on cover-ups than on proper functioning of the corporation. And the chair of the committee was improperly appointed, according to our constitution/by-laws. I note that the last time I pointed this out (Matt Katz’s improper appointment of the Government Relations Committee chair in a *WIRE* letter), it was the basis for a censure motion.

So now with this flawed Ethics Committee, one of the potential areas of misconduct is “intimidation/threats of violence” and “threatening behavior,” as we heard from the Common Council member who was threatened by Ms. Polivy for voting against Ms. Polivy’s side. This will be an important test of this so-called Ethics Committee. Do we expect that it will take action against Ms. Polivy? I don’t think so, and it will have no credibility. Meanwhile, had I (or others) done the same as Ms. Polivy, people would be screaming bloody murder – a double standard in Ms. Polivy’s leadership.

Along with my neighbors in Island House, I will be developing a better proposal for a Code of Ethics and Conflicts of Interest, having a meeting on Wednesday, January 29 at 8:15 p.m. in the Island House Community Room (555 Main Street). Unlike the faulty RIRA Ethics Committee, our meeting will be open to all residents, and our work will be conducted in an open/public manner. I look forward to hearing from residents.

Frank Farance

Response:

The editor’s view is that the community has little further interest in the dispute between Farance and Polivy.

Farance’s suggestion that *The WIRE* should spend time and space “investigating” the arcane details of parliamentary maneuvering related to his current troubles in RIRA reflects only one thing – his own interest in troubles that he could have avoided with a tiny dash of diplomacy.

The WIRE has three policies that come into conflict here.

First, we publish virtually every non-anonymous letter we receive. Second, we enforce a policy that letter-writers are not allowed to carry on largely personal tit-for-tat battles in these pages. That is, once a letter-writer expresses himself, someone may feel compelled to respond, but thereafter the parties should talk things through in person – avoiding intense boredom for our readers and the use of newspaper space that could carry something of actual interest to the community.

On that basis, this Farance letter (and one or more earlier letters on this subject) would have been rejected, except for this: A third policy is that *The WIRE* does not censor *The RIRA Column*, and as long as Polivy continues the feud there, Farance has some right for space to speak in his own defense.

Frankly (please excuse the pun), we wish they would both just stop it.

Marijuana, from page 1
Jersey, all New York-border states.

New Yorkers’ Views

A Siena College poll released Monday reveals that close to half of New York City residents believe that the governor should skip the pilot step and go straight to state-wide legalization of marijuana for medical use. Fifty-six percent of New Yorkers who earn more than \$100,000 a year were for skipping the pilot step; 46% in that income bracket would follow Colorado and Washington in legalizing marijuana sales for recreational use. Among 18-to-34-year-olds, 51% would skip the pilot step, and 57% would legalize marijuana for recreational use. As that age bracket swells here, it’s likely that residents in that demographic group would follow the city-wide pattern of acceptance or rejection.

The President’s View

President Obama answered questions on marijuana when interviewed for an article in the current *New Yorker*: “I smoked pot as a kid and I view it as a bad habit, not very different from the cigarettes that I smoked as a young person up through a big chunk of my adult life. I don’t think it’s more dangerous than alcohol.” He added, “It’s important for it to go forward because it’s important for society not to have a situation in which a large portion of people have, at one time or another, broken the law and only a select few get punished... We should not be locking up kids or

individual users for long stretches of jail time when some of the folks who are writing those laws have probably done the same thing.”

Here on the Island, Phoebe Flynn has similar views. She complains about kids smoking in the Island House courtyard, but feels that “there are probably just as many we *don’t* see smoking. Those who are more discreet probably aren’t getting into trouble, while those smoking outside will suffer consequences.

“As long as it’s illegal, that’s likely to be the case.”

Opinion in the Nation

Across the country, support for legalizing marijuana has risen 11 points since 2010, the year that Californians rejected a ballot proposition to legalize recreational use. That evolution in public opinion is even more dramatic when you compare it to the late ’60s, when a Gallup survey found that just 12% favored legalized marijuana.

A survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted in March 2013 among 1,501 adults, found that young people are the most supportive of legalization – 65% of Millennials (now between ages 19 and 33) favor legalizing the use, up from just 36% in 2008. Richard Lee, the California, medical marijuana entrepreneur who sponsored the California ballot item and spent \$1.4 million of his own money to qualify the measure for the ballot, says, “The issue is generational. Many of the biggest contributors to the campaign were

Mark Ponton, a resident of Roosevelt Island since 1976, passed away on January 12. He attended Providence College on a basketball scholarship, became an executive at IBM, Citibank, and European American Bank, and eventually started his own consulting firm, headquartered here on the Island.

In spite of his busy schedule, Mark found time to give back to the community, serving on the RIO Board of Directors from 2002-2008. He has been described as a force of nature, from his physical stature (6 feet, 10 inches) to his larger-than-life personality. While on the RIO Board, he was outspoken, tenacious, and always a thousand percent supportive of the Island’s residents. He accomplished many things while on the Board, but he’ll probably be best remembered for getting Southpoint Park opened to the public in April 2003. (Prior to that time, the park, with its amazing views and open spaces, had been fenced off from the community for decades.)

Because of his intelligence, sense of humor, and quick wit, Mark had an uncanny ability to look at a situation, sum it up in a few sentences, and present it back wrapped up in a clever package that at times could be downright hilarious. He was also a world traveler, a gourmet cook, an avid reader, and an all-around interesting person. He had a natural curiosity about how things worked, and would read technical manuals just for fun. He had an impressive art collection,

When Mark Ponton was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation in 2002, reporter Anusha Shrivastava profiled him for *The Main Street WIRE*. (Shrivastava now counsels journalism students at Columbia University.)

by Anusha Shrivastava
from *The WIRE*, June 29, 2002

When he was nine years old, people thought he was 18. “I was always a foot taller than the people around me,” says the lanky Mark Ponton, the newest appointee to the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation. “It was attention-getting and I liked it,” says Ponton, who claims that today, despite being 6 feet, 10 inches tall, he mostly likes to keep a low profile.

A resident of Rivercross for well over 20 years, he says he doesn’t know why he has been appointed to this position. “My guess is no one else wanted the job.”

On a more serious note, he says he is qualified to represent Island residents on the Board because he is “reasonably intelligent” and has “a tremendous business sense.” Pointing out that he is a member of Mensa, he told *The WIRE* in an interview, “I am among the top two percentile of the world’s most intelligent people.

“I think my experience in business, across many lines – banking, computers, wireless and telephone communications, real estate, and office equipment – gives me insight into the soundness of any business. I know what constitutes a good and a bad deal. I am used to dealing with people at high levels and I won’t be intimidated by anyone I meet [on the Board]. This is not arrogance. That’s just the way I am. I am not awed by title, I am awed by intelligence and discipline and quality.”

A management consultant who runs two businesses from an office at the south end of Rivercross, Ponton says he has no pronouncements to make about what he will do during his term in office on the Board. “For all I know, I may be completely powerless, or I may be influential. I’ll find out, in context, what can be done. I don’t have a plan. I want to find out first. If I don’t know how things work, first I find out. I don’t know

younger and based in Silicon Valley, representing a changing of the guard of political influence and leadership.”

Interestingly, there has been a striking change in long-term attitudes toward legislation among older generations, particularly Baby Boomers. Half now favor legalizing marijuana – among the highest percentages ever. In 1978, 47% of boomers favored legalization, but support plummeted during the 1980’s “War on Drugs,” down to 17% in 1990. Since 1994, however, the percentage of Boomers favoring marijuana legalization has doubled, from 24% to 50%.

Generation X, born from 1965 to 1980, came of age in the 1990s when there was widespread opposition to legalizing marijuana. Support for marijuana legalization among that group has also risen – from just 28% in 1994 to 42% a decade later, and now 54%.

The Silent Generation, born prior to World War II, is still the least supportive of marijuana

Mark Ponton



and was especially fond of paintings in the Hudson River School. He was also a devoted animal lover who could spend hours playing with his daughter Christine’s basset hound, Digger. Mark is survived by Christine, and will be sorely missed by his extended family and friends.

what I don’t know.”

Ponton’s company, which bears his name, provides general management-consulting services for Fortune-50 corporations that have included Merrill Lynch, Citicorp, Xerox, CBS, IBM, and Bell Atlantic. His prior background includes a period with European American Bank, where he managed the branch system, advertising and public relations, and consumer and commercial lending. While at Citicorp in the early ’70s, Ponton was involved in creating one of the world’s largest credit-authorization telecom networks.

As a Roosevelt Islander, Ponton is clearly disappointed with the way things went in the Southtown development case, where groups of residents lost cases seeking to alter the positioning of the buildings. Ponton says he hopes to have residents’ voices heard in all future planning.

“The outcome was unfortunate. To me, [the development] seemed to ignore the General Development Plan.” (The GDP is an attachment to the Lease under which New York State is developing the Island, which is owned by the City.) “It has divided the Island geographically and socially. That series of buildings looks like a special building module deposited on the Island. I would have stayed with the GDP or had a new one done by world-famous planners and architects.”

Hoping to apply what he has learned through his business career, Ponton says he is going to be cautious, if not skeptical. “In business, I have three principles: Nothing ever works, things that are supposed to be resolved don’t stay that way, and no one ever does what they are supposed to.” With that guiding him, he says he hopes he can achieve something during his tenure on the Board.

With no clearly-stated agenda, Ponton says he is taking up the position with a mixture of hope and cynicism. “I will look at plans and suggest alternatives.”

legalization. But even among them, those favoring legalization have nearly doubled – from 17% to 32% – since 2002.

The Fear Factor

Islander Eric Flynn explains why, in his view, there might be a chasm between the perspectives of different generations and why public opinion is evolving on this issue. Of those against legalization, he says, “People are scared of it. They don’t understand it.” Research backs that up. The only generation that still believes that marijuana is a gateway to harder drugs are the “Silents.” They may reflect attitudes that led to *Reefer Madness*, a 1936 film that attempted to ignite fear in the hearts of parents. It portrays supposed consequences of teens trying marijuana – a hit-and-run accident, manslaughter, suicide, a rape attempt, and descent into madness. At the end, a high school principal points at random parents, warning, “The *next* tragedy may be that of *your* daughter... or

your son... or *yours*, or *yours*,” then points at the camera and concludes ominously, “...or *yours!*” *Tell Your Children* crosses the screen in bold capital letters.

That film, released in a different time – without television or the internet – came to be mocked by Boomer youth familiar with the actual effects of marijuana. They and Gen-Xers and Millennials just don’t accept the gateway drug theory for marijuana.

Flynn believes that alcohol is worse than marijuana. As support, he asks, “When is the last time you heard of someone killing people because they were too stoned to drive?” He also says, “[Marijuana] doesn’t make you ‘crazy’ like alcohol does.” But, like everyone else interviewed for this story, he doesn’t think it’s for kids. “It’s not good for developing brains,” he says. As a result, he favors legalization and regulation. “I don’t think it’s a great idea for it to be a gray area of morality.”



JOHN SHEEHAN
Representative
Licensed Associate
Real Estate Broker
C: (808) 429-5244

E:jsheehan@townrealestate.com

If you are purchasing an
apartment or selling your home
on Roosevelt Island, call your

Town Residential Professionals



JIMMY BRETT
Representative
Licensed Associate
Real Estate Broker
C: (917) 687-4614

E:jbrett@townrealestate.com

John Sheehan is a Roosevelt Island pioneer and long-time resident, having lived here since 1976. He resides at 531 Main Street, and has served as president of the Roosevelt Island Residents Association. John has transacted over \$250 million in sales during a 30-year career as a real estate broker. Jimmy Brett, John's business partner, also has a 30-year career in real estate, successfully marketing, renting, and selling in New York City. Together, John and Jimmy bring more than 60 years of knowledge and experience to every transaction that they are involved in, and are backed by one of the best real estate companies in the city. Contact them for a free private consultation. Their service is just a phone call or email away.

TOWN
FIFTH AVENUE

TOWN
ASTOR PLACE

TOWN
FLATIRON

TOWN
West Village

TOWN
FINANCIAL DISTRICT

TOWN
UPPER EAST SIDE

TOWN
SOHO

TOWN
GREENWICH VILLAGE

TOWN
GRAMERCY

Town Astor Place, 26 Astor Place, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10003

OLYMPIC CAR SERVICE

All discounts included in airport fares:
JFK \$35 • LGA \$19 • Newark \$70+toll

On all other fares:

\$1 off any fare under \$25

\$2 off any fare \$25 or over

Save this Coupon

Ask for your special RI resident's discount card

Call us about your return trip from the airport

1-718-626-8000

Eco-Friendly Drycleaning

- Exceptional Quality Dry Cleaning
- Shirts Laundered
- Expert European Tailoring
- Convenient Monthly Billing



MINERVA
Cleaners & Tailors

Established 1969

*Proudly Serving Roosevelt Island
For Over 20 Years*

Free Daily Pickup & Delivery

29-09 Broadway / Astoria, New York 11106 Tel / Fax: 718.726.2336

S&S CALABRO PIZZERIA



Buy 2 pies,
Get 2-liter
Pepsi

Major
CREDIT
CARDS
accepted

Large Pie + 2-liter Pepsi – \$17.00
+ 12 garlic knots – only \$18.50
+ 8 pieces Buffalo Wings – \$23.95

Cheese Pie: Large \$15.00, Medium \$12.50
Choice of topping \$2.50 extra
Also: Heros, Gyros, Calzones, Pasta
Hawaiian Pizza – Ham, pineapple, & cheese \$17.50
Chicken pizza with mozzarella & cheese \$17.00

.....**NEW**.....
8 Buffalo Wings, spicy or BBQ – \$6.50
– FREE DELIVERY 11am-10pm –

718-278-5262

30-65 14th Street, LIC • Open 11am-10pm



455 Main Street
7 days, 11am-11pm
212-583-1688

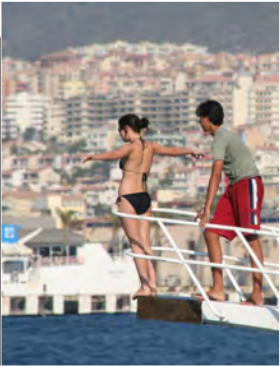
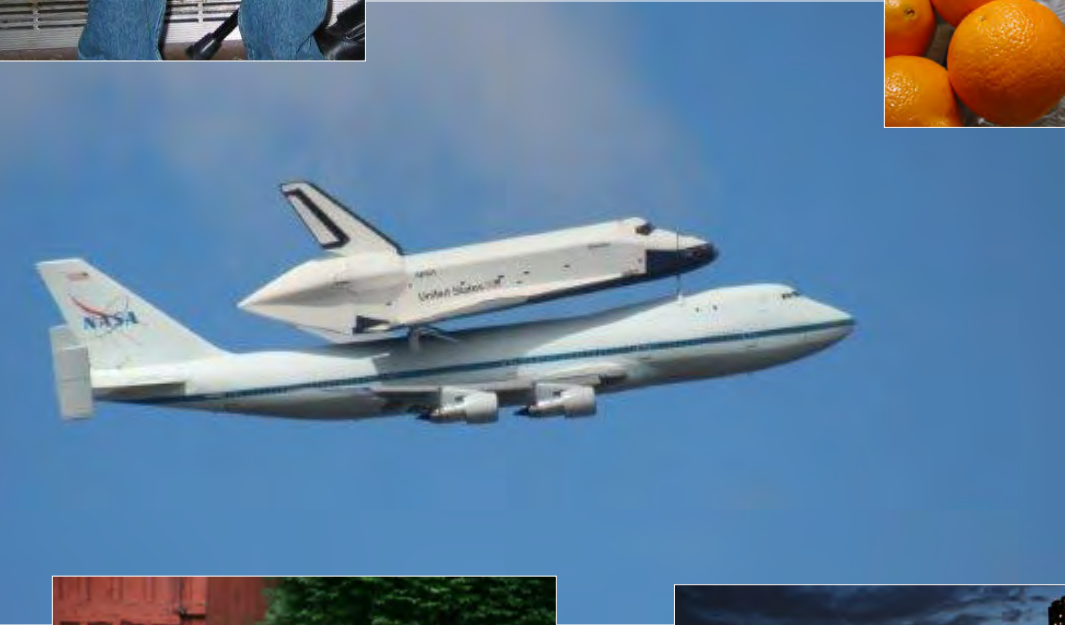
Free delivery
for orders \$15 and over.
All major credit cards
accepted (\$15 minimum).
www.fujieast.com

609 Main Street
11am-11pm Sun-Thur
11am-midnight Fri-Sat
212-588-0663
Free delivery \$6 & over

**CHINA 1
KITCHEN**

Reception Today 6:00-9:00 p.m.

***In an Eclectic Exhibit at the Octagon Gallery,
Mircea Nicolescu Shows Spontaneity and an Alert Eye***



***For Black History Month,
The Melanite Visions
At Gallery RIVAA***



The exhibit, curated by Lorraine Williams, will run from February 1 through March 2, with a reception on Saturday, February 8, 6:00-9:00 p.m. See *ComingUp*, page 3, for gallery hours.



Saturday FARMER'S MARKET

Fresh fruits & vegetables
for your healthy table

Every Saturday,
early morning
to mid-afternoon,
at Motorgate

CREDIT CARD & EBT WELCOME

*Spectacular
Winter-White
Smiles all
year 'round*

Doris Giraldo, DDS

NEW DIMENSION DENTISTRY

Taking dental care to new levels of excellence

The full range of dental care

General Dentistry
Implants
Cosmetic Dentistry
Invisalign
Laser Dentistry
Veneers
Full Restorations
Whitening - ZOOM! / Laser
Tooth-Colored Fillings
Periodontal Health

Tissue and Bone Grafting
Crowns, Bridges
Crown Lengthening
Root Canals
Porcelain Inlays/Onlays
Night Guard & Sport Guards
Extractions
Dentures
Sedation Dentistry
Baby Bottle Tooth Decay

133 East 58th Street, Suite 506
Call today: 212-750-4590
www.newdimensiondentistry.com
most insurance plans accepted

Richards, from page 1

four-bedroom apartment in Rivercross.

Richards says she ran for the RIRA presidency because “at that time, people didn’t fight to be RIRA President, you know.” Her service started simply because “I get involved. Or I did. Not anymore. I was brought up in a tradition of public service. So I went on the Rivercross board first in 1979, and later represented Rivercross on RIRA. One thing that always struck me, when I was really active, was that the people who were really active then were the working women with kids at home. The men with jobs and kids, they were always too busy. But the women with jobs and kids at home were always the most active.”

Richards reflects, “It’s important to be involved. The people who join RIRA are generally people who want to be active in the community. They do things, like the people who set up the library here.”

Of RIRA meetings, Richards remembers, “There are lots of people who like to speak a lot – have big egos. The RIRA meetings are a way of venting. You have to realize, in an organization with no power to do anything, no resources, it is difficult to be constructive. People have no sense of practicality. *Why don’t we do this or that?* Meanwhile, there is no money to do any of it.

Richards was also a RIOC Board member for about three years, at first non-voting. “It was not set forth in writing in the legislation. That, we could never obtain. It was a gentlemen’s agreement between them and us [that led to the right to vote]. It worked as long as it worked. And the bad thing is that the more RIRA is dysfunctional, the less of a chance that it will happen [become the legal norm].”

Richards thinks the two obstacles to RIRA’s success are its lack of funds and lack of specificity of purpose. She says, “RIRA should think seriously about what they can actually do, and give themselves a limited mission and go at it. That’s the only way they can be useful. Otherwise, it’s just a bunch of people who meet once a month to speak about their dreams, failed dreams, anger, and fears. It doesn’t serve any purpose or make the people who are on it happy. They really have to just limit themselves, first of all, define what they are.”

She learned on the job, “When Manhattan Park was planned, that was when I realized pretty quickly that you can’t do everything. If I am going to accomplish one thing or two things, that’s what I’m going to do.”

Richards sees her signature achievement as obtaining the million dollars in Public Purpose Funds for community services – money that otherwise would have been paid as sales taxes on building materials. She explains, “I don’t know if you remember about the Sportspark. Sportspark had a problem. It was a beautiful installation with nothing in it because there was no money to run it. One of the deals with Starrett,

because they built Manhattan Park, was that there would be a certain percentage of monies, which were called Public Purpose Payments, coming every year. The discussion was that we would build something. It was not an enormous amount of money. I said, ‘Wait a minute. You have a Sportspark here, which is a beautiful place, and it’s rotting. It’s not used, because there is no money to use it.’ So I said, ‘Okay, those Public Purpose Payments – instead of using them to make a new water fountain, no matter how nice it might be, my idea is for public activities.’ It just was not in the culture to do a thing like that. The culture was, you obtain money in order to build something and other people figure out how to run it. It was so difficult to make them just switch. It was Rick Higgins [DHCR] who did it. Everyone told me, ‘You don’t understand, that’s not how it’s done,’ ‘You can’t understand,’ ‘It’s a dream,’ ‘You’re a dreamer.’ I finally convinced them at a RIOC meeting held in one of my law firm’s conference rooms. I don’t know why they agreed to come there. Curiosity on behalf of the Commissioner, maybe?”

“I really staged that thing. I was partner in a big national firm, so I had a nice office, very imposing. When they told me, ‘It’s never going to work, you’re a dreamer,’ that’s when I came out with, ‘I didn’t arrive here by being a dreamer. There must be something practical in me.’ This was the early 1980’s, there weren’t too many female partners in large law firms, especially with a foreign accent. And it worked. The energy that I had to put in that, it was so hard on me, but it worked. What a fight. But I was really happy that I managed to do that. So that’s really what I accomplished, [though] I think I was gone by the time the first Public Purpose Payments were made.

Richards moved here with her husband and two kids from Queens in June 1978. Of Rivercross she says, “They couldn’t sell those apartments. Part of the idea was a mixed middle-income and low-income community. This building was middle-class. But after the oil shock, electricity was very expensive. This building is entirely electrically heated, including the swimming pool, which meant that, at the time, the maintenance in those apartments was sky-high. DHCR was desperately looking for people like us who didn’t have

money to buy, or money accumulated, but had very good incomes and could pay the maintenance here. It was to the point that, when we purchased, the State of New York gave us two years [during which] we could ask for an apartment to be purchased back at the price we paid. At the time, real estate prices were very low, so it didn’t make much of a difference here [Roosevelt Island] or there [Manhattan].”

Richards has been here long enough to see the Island evolve. But some of her original questions remain. “I wish something [had been] done to preserve Blackwell House,” she remarks animatedly. “It’s something that always amazed me. It’s not even a big house. It’s just a New England farmhouse. How much does it cost to renovate? It could be used for offices. It could be renovated and rented for weddings. It’s nicer than the community room in Manhattan Park, for heaven’s sake, or even the community room in Rivercross.”

[The interior of Blackwell, renovated, fell into disrepair and now needs additional work; the exterior was renovated in 2006.]

“It’s so difficult to do something in New York – the Water Tunnel, the Second Avenue Subway. It’s so easy to stop something in New York. It pervades the whole City. There are lots of people in Manhattan who would pay a lot of money to have a 15-person dinner party in a farmhouse in the middle of Roosevelt Island. You could rent it or open it for visits, furnished as an old farmhouse with Historical Society tours. It’s a no-brainer, no?”

“It amazes me. God knows, there was money for Four Freedoms Park. [Former Ambassador William] vanden Heuvel has influence, and how long did it take him? Forty years! Don’t tell me there aren’t conservation societies that would have given money to renovate Blackwell House.”

Despite the questions and criticisms, Richards loves the Island. “It’s our home. It’s where my kids grew up. It’s been our house for close to 40 years now. It was a little village here. I remember the first nights we were here. Bob told me, ‘I have the impression of being at camp.’” Richards laughs. “It was so contained.”

Of Rivercross she adds, “I don’t think that anybody who purchased at that time ever asked the State to purchase the apartment back.”

The Main Street WIRE, Friday, November 10, 1989 • 5

**Francoise Richards
stepping down**

By JUDITH BERDY
After 2 1/2 years as president of the Roosevelt Island Residents Association, Francoise Richards is stepping down next month. She will remain on the RIOC board for the immediate future. We asked her about her feelings after her term of office.

Manhattan
2. New developments should be owner occupied.
3. Revenue sharing with UDC.
4. Put aside \$1,000,000 from Manhattan Park's Public Purpose Payments, not for capital improvements but for community services.

Tax Preparation

-We minimize your tax burden & maximize your refund

And More...

Real Estate - Licensed Realtor - We list, sell, buy, rent & manage properties

Mortgages - Registered mortgage broker (NMLS ID#67120) - NYS Department of Financial Services - Mortgages provided through third-party providers

Investments - Securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds & ETFs) offered through SunStreet Securities, Member FINRA/SIPC

Financial Planning & Insurance - all types

Accountable Financial Management Corporation

501 Main Street, Suite B

Roosevelt Island, NY 10044



(212)644-8231 / www.AFMCmoney.com

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 10AM-7PM

Saturday 11AM-3PM



MAKE A RESERVATION



Laguardia \$18
JFK \$35
Newark Int'l \$70+tolls

website ContinentalCL.com • corporate accounts welcome

718.424.1111 • 24hrs • 718.507.8006

LIC. B00325

unClassifieds

50¢ a word • 212-751-8214

unClassified deadline for February 8 issue: Tuesday, February 4
unClassified deadline for February 22 issue: Tuesday, February 18

Please see *ComingUp*, page 3, for other advertising deadlines

MOVING SALE – Furniture, clothing, books, fax, printer, stereo systems (2), jewelry. Margaret A., 510 Main St #723, **212-486-9454**.

MOVING SALE – Glass living room tables, lamps, baker's rack, china, wall mirrors, printer, kitchen gadgets, much more. Albert G. 540 Main St. #1326. Please call **646-579-1354**.

CHESS INSTRUCTOR – Island resident, 10 years experience. Children & adults, beginners & intermediate. Free consultation. Moderate rates: 2-hour lesson \$30. **212-750-9087** thru 8/3/13

PIANO CLASSES with Irene "PuRRple Tiger." Group lessons. Work scholarships. Upcoming troupe auditions & performances. **917-655-0028**.

AGI'S DOGS – Dog walking, play groups, solo walks. Mon-Fri 11am-4pm. Established 2010 on Roosevelt Island. References available. **212-866-0532**. AgisDogs@yahoo.com. thru 1/27/14

MATH TUTORING by experienced teacher living on the Island. Call **212-829-1406**. thru February 2014

COLLECTION CALLS stopped ASAP. StopCollectionCallsASAP@gmail.com.

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

EDITING for resumes and essays. Experienced editor, Columbia graduate. AlexWriteStyle@gmail.com.

COLLEGE STUDENT wanted – computer savvy, for Personal Assistant work for busy professional woman. Part-time, flexible hours Friday-Sunday. Must be RI resident. Contact Health_fitness@outlook.com.

FOLDING BICYCLE – Greenzone 7-speed, like new, & carrying case. \$200 or best offer. Call **212-935-7534**.

Get back in the swing with morning and lunchtime **TENNIS LESSONS** and play. Private, semi-private and small groups for adults. Highly qualified instructor, Joyce Short, **917-517-8572** or short.jm@aol.com. DL

CATCH YOUR CAT – efficient help with your feline escape artist. Vet-recommended, Island references. **917-355-1867** / catchyourcat@gmail.com.

NOTARY PUBLIC – 212-935-7534.

BANKRUPTCY help by Columbia-trained attorney. StopCollectionCallsASAP@gmail.com

BABYSITTING SERVICE – Loving babysitter available most evenings and weekends. Give me a call, so you can enjoy your time out. Georganna – **917-405-7370**.

PLAY BRIDGE NOW – Learn, or improve your game on R.I. Enjoy. Fran **212-877-8046**.

ERRANDS: Organizing, special projects, personal assistance. You run your life, I'll run your errands. Call Vicki Feinmel, **212-223-1108** vfeinmel@verizon.net. DL

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

JAY SHAPIRO COMPUTERS

SETUP & INSTALLATION
VIRUS & SPYWARE REMOVAL
PHONE DATA RECOVERY
WEB DESIGN
TUTORING

WIRELESS NETWORKS
HARDWARE REPAIR
SOCIAL MEDIA
DATA BACKUP
WINDOWS & MAC

SERVING ROOSEVELT ISLAND
WITH A NEW LOCATION IN WE ARE ONE
(599 MAIN STREET)

WWW.JAYSHAPIROCOMPUTERS.COM
917.318.5659



Form and Function

We build websites that are easy to use and easy to look at



Big City Softworks

www.bigcitysoftworks.com

Senior Center

Monday
10:00 Zumba
11:00 Computers
5:00 Yoga

Tuesday
10:20 Shoppers' Bus
10:30 Building Strength
11:00 Blood Pressure
1:00 Paint & Sculpt
6:00 Nutrition Workshop (restarts 1/21)

Wednesday
9:30 Yoga Stretch
10:20 Shoppers' Bus
10:30 Salsa
10:45 Spanish
12:00 Bridge
1:30 Scrabble
6:00-8:00 Computer Lab

Thursday
10:30 Zumba
10:45 Ping Pong
12:30 Movie
1:00-2:30 Theatre tickets at discount prices; see Rema or Annie

Friday
9:00 Building Strength
10:30 Computers
10:30 ESL
10:30 Tai Chi
1:00 Korean Games
2:00 Art with John
2:00 Pokeno with Dolores
7:00 Games (RISA)

Special Events
Valentine's Jewelry Shopping, Sun Jan 26 205pm.
MetroCard Bus, Mon Feb 10 11-12:30
Valentine's Day Party, Fri Feb 14 6pm.
Refreshments. \$5.

The same high-quality journalism

www.MainStreetWIRE.com

Just a different delivery system

The same high-quality journalism

www.MainStreetWIRE.com

Just a different delivery system



Store Hours

Monday – Thursday: 11 a.m. to 9p.m.
Friday - Saturday: 11 a.m. to 10p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.

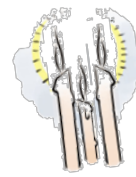
- **Free Delivery to Roosevelt Island from Wednesday to Sundays!**

718-706-WINE (9463)
BlueStreakWine.com

4720 Center Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11109

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

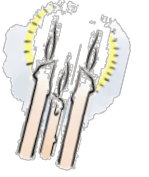
B"H



Friday, January 24 at 4:45 pm

Friday, January 31 at 4:53 pm

Friday, February 7 at 5:02 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 Sha-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.

www.RIJewish.org

© Judaism with a smile ©

Zalman & Nechama Duchman 425 Main St. #6B Roosevelt Island, NY 10044
 212-652-5660 * Nechama@RIJewish.org

Personal Training

Barbara Parker,

Fitness Consultant

ACE Certified Personal Trainer

Private & semi-private sessions

Packages of 3, 5, and 10 sessions

Specializing in daily

Functional Fitness Programs

212-752-1542 / 917-951-4137

New Patient Offer:

HOME VISITS
available

FREE FOOT EXAM



Ask about:

- Digital X-Rays: See in seconds on the computer!
- PAD (Peripheral Artery Disease) this test is important if you have cramping in your legs or feet.
- CVI (Chronic Venous Insufficiency) This test is important if you have swelling in your foot, ankle or leg.
- NCV (Nerve Conduction Velocity) This test is important if you have numbness, tingling or any unusual sensations in your feet.



Bunion



Hammertoe



Heel Spur



Fungus Nail



Ingrown Toenail

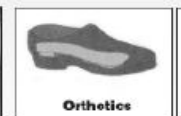
We treat corns, calluses & ALL foot problems.



Ulcers



Cysts



Orthotics



Nerve Pain

Precision Footcare

Dr. John Jurcisin

212-750-8344

www.precisionfootcare.com
 133 East 58th Street, Suite 506
 New York, NY 10022

Email for an appointment at precisionfootcare@gmail.com

Receive personal attention from

a Board Certified Podiatrist*

Established in Manhattan for over 20 Years

*Board Certified Foot Surgery • Member NY Podiatry Medical Assoc.

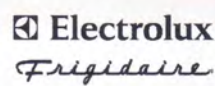
On Staff Major Teaching Hospital • Diplomate, The American Board of Podiatric Surgery

BEFORE WORK, LUNCH HOUR & EVENING APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE.
 MOST INSURANCE PLANS ACCEPTED.

AID APPLIANCE SERVICE



Life's Good



179-03 Union Turnpike
 Flushing, New York 11366
 Phone: 718-969-2211
 Fax: 718-969-2222



Jack Resnick, MD

Specialist in Adult Medicine

501 Main Street – 212-832-2310

office practice and housecalls for the homebound

Visit our Website

therooseveltdoctor.com

- check lab results
- make appointments
- take a survey
- internet health resources
- get help finding insurance
- read opinions



The Roosevelt Doctor
 Jack Resnick, M.D.

DASH

Disabled Association
 Support for the Homebound
 DO YOU NEED...?

- Help with shopping
- Medications to be picked up
- Someone to talk to

Call DASH and one of our volunteers will come to your apartment.

917-558-0534

Katherine Teets Grimm, M.D., FAAP

Board-Certified Pediatrician and Pediatric Allergist

Deborah Saltzberg, M.D., FAAP

Board-Certified Pediatrician

We accept Oxford, Cigna, Blue Cross, HIP, Aetna,
 United Health Care, GHI, Health Net, Multiplan

501 Main Street • Roosevelt Island • **212-753-5505**

Office Hours

By appointment

Coverage provided at all times, when office is closed,
 by Uptown Pediatrics

We provide comprehensive health care to children and adolescents.

GRISTEDES of ROOSEVELT ISLAND

HOURS: MONDAY–SATURDAY 7AM–12 MIDNIGHT; SUNDAY 7AM–11PM

Fresh • USDA • Grade A
Boneless

Chicken Breast

Max Pack

\$3⁹⁹ lb.



Fresh

Ground Chuck

\$3⁹⁹ lb.



Imported
6 oz. Pkg.

Blueberries

2/\$7



Florida
12 oz. Pkg.

Grape Tomatoes

\$2⁹⁹ Ea.



Yellow or White

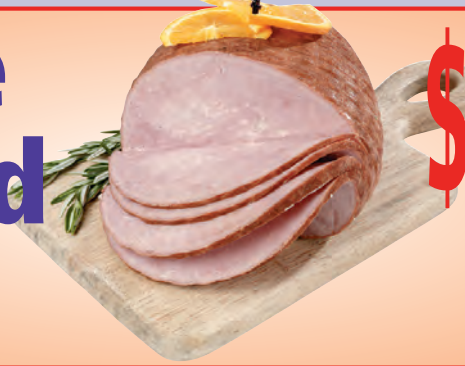
ShopRite American Cheese

\$5⁹⁹ lb.



Store Baked Ham

\$5⁹⁹ lb.



Assorted Varieties • 59 oz.

Tropicana Punches or Lemonade

\$1⁹⁹



Assorted Varieties • 48 oz.

Friendly's Ice Cream

\$4⁹⁹



1 Liter

Cento Extra Virgin Olive Oil

\$8⁹⁹



Earth Friendly Bath Tissue
(4 Pack • 175 ct. • 2 Ply)
or Towels
(90 ct. • 2 Ply)

\$1⁹⁹



GRISTEDES APPRECIATION COUPON

\$5⁰⁰ OFF

Spend \$25 or more in one shopping visit and receive \$5 off. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase and is not valid on prior purchases. \$25 total before beer, milk, tax, gift cards and manufacturers coupons. Limit one coupon per shopping family. Valid ONLY at Gristedes on Roosevelt Island. Reproductions not be accepted. Expires 2/7/14 #8031

GRISTEDES PHARMACY COUPON

PHARMACY HOURS: MONDAY–FRIDAY 9AM–9PM; SATURDAY 9AM–6PM; SUNDAY 9AM–3PM

NEW OR TRANSFERRED PRESCRIPTION

\$20⁰⁰ OFF

Up To

Waiving Of Fee Of A Co-Payment Or Reduction Of Out-Of-Pocket Expense On Any Prescription Without Coverage
Limit 1 coupon per prescription. Limit 1 per shopping family. Not valid on third party insurance co-pay. Void where prohibited by law or contract. Not valid on mail order. Cannot be used with IGT Card. Valid ONLY at Gristedes on Roosevelt Island. Exp. 2/7/14 #8034

PICK UP OUR IN-STORE CIRCULAR FOR MORE SAVINGS • PRICES EFFECTIVE TO 2/7/14