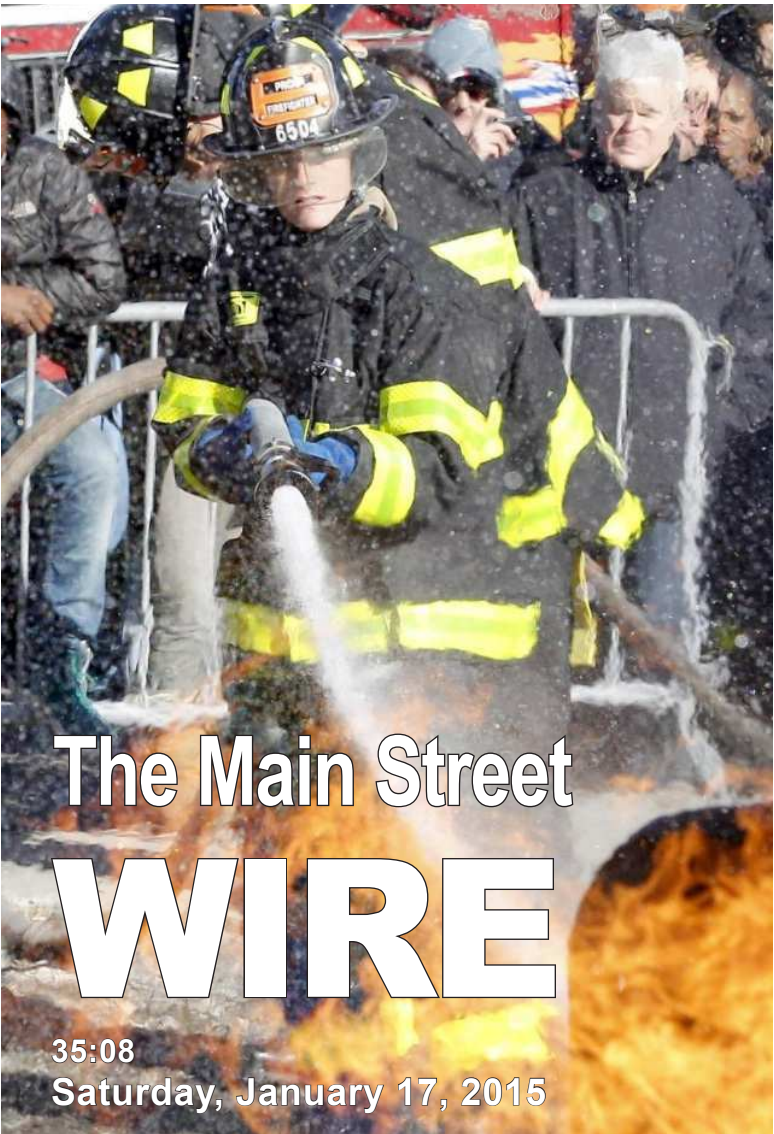




The Main Street WIRE

35:08
Saturday, January 17, 2015

Like Father, Like... Daughter Firefighter Josephine Smith

by Jim Baehler

Her father, Kevin Smith, was a firefighter who died in the collapse of the World Trade Center towers on September 11, 2001. Now, Josephine Smith is the first firefighter descendant to join FDNY, assigned to a station house in mid-town Manhattan.

“Even before 9/11, I wanted to be

a firefighter,” she says. “It was in my mind when I was just a young girl. I just loved the thought of putting out fires and helping people – graduating from the Fire Department Academy is a dream come true.”

The Academy is located on Randall’s Island, which hosts an 18-week program of extremely



New State Ruling May Kill Public Purpose Fund

A new interpretation of law by New York State’s Authorities Budget Office (ABO) may spell the end of the Island’s Public Purpose Fund, which have supported non-profit community service endeavors on Roosevelt Island since it was created with the construction of Manhattan Park.

Explaining the nature of the ruling, the ABO has written, “statutory language such as ‘to do all things necessary or convenient to carry out its purposes,’ ‘to act in the public interest,’ or ‘to lessen the burden of government’ should not be construed as providing a state or local authority with implied authorization to make grants or loans from its own monies in the absence of clear statutory language. In fact, the Attorney General has stated that such an interpretation ‘would render meaningless the Legislature’s careful delineation of express powers.’”

Other grants by RIOC, and by other State and some City agencies, may also be affected.

Main Street Sweets Enters Third Year as Part of Slow-Motion Retail Renaissance

by Briana Warsing

It’s frigid and grey on Main Street, but Coach Scot’s Main Street Sweets is warm and welcoming, as is Coach Scot himself. The shop is a full-on sensory experience. Bob Dylan plays in the background, bright candy colors line one wall, sports memorabilia are everywhere. And then there are the delicious aromas. As of December 2014, the place has been open for two years.

Scot Bobo moved to Roosevelt Island 20 years ago with his wife, Denise. They settled in Westview and raised their two children here; son Jonah is almost 18, daughter Georgia is 13. Bobo refers to them as “home-grown Roosevelt Islanders.”

Since moving here, Scot and Denise have always been participants in the community. In fact, Bobo did not start coaching Little League because his son was playing; he started coaching as soon as they moved here. “A lot of kids and their parents came to know me as Coach Scot,” Bobo said. “When we were coming up with names for the store, the designer and my wife told me that



we had to use that name.”

The Roosevelt Island community has always been very important to Bobo. He lists “the Temple (RIJC), the Youth Program (RIYP), Island Kids” as places where his family is active on the Island, but also adds, “We go to a lot of events and activities that take place here.”

Bobo opened Coach Scot’s Main Street Sweets because “I was always looking to get more involved in the community.

“When the retail spaces became available, it became a good way to get more involved and bring services to the community that it wanted and didn’t have. When Hudson/Related polled the community, the community said what they wanted most was an ice cream and coffee shop.”

To that end, Bobo tries to use Main Street Sweets’ location in the middle of the community, the chalkboard outside the shop, and his 30-foot windows to bring people together. He hosts kids’ movie nights – the store closes and, for \$10, kids get popcorn, a drink,

ice cream, and a movie. Parents get something too – a break. Parents are not invited to movie night.

At the beginning of this past Little League season, the shop hosted a sports exchange. Bobo says, “It worked out well. We have so many families here from outside of the United States who don’t know what to buy, and so many families with gloves and cleats that are too small.”

The shop hosts parties, too. According to Bobo, “our parties are definitely less expensive than going off-Island.” The shop decorates with streamers, pictures, and signs. It supplies cake, pastry, and hot drinks, and will also use the hosts’

music or videos if they wish. For kids, an activity is part of the deal, and attendees play musical chairs and Simon Says, and do arts and crafts.

Challenges

“I was hoping this would be a place where the community would congregate,” Bobo says. “But it turns out, most of our business

See **Sweets**, page 9

On page 9:
Scot Bobo’s thoughts for Islanders dreaming of a business here.

Teen Authors Guide To NYC for Her Set

by Francine Lange

When a New York teenager sets out to write a guide for teen tourists in the Big Apple, you might expect a “New Yawk” approach: sassy, sarcastic, and just plain funny. Lucy Cappello’s debut book also teaches you how to be a New Yorker.

And with a list of comedy writers for her inspiration – David Sedaris, Tina Fey, Mindy Kaling, and Amy Poehler – the book is pitch-perfect. “I really like stand-up comedy,” she explains.

The Teen’s Guide to Killing Time

JE SUIS CHARLIE

We choose not to portray the Prophet Mohammed in deference to our Muslim friends. We portray, instead, one tear in the endless stream that he would shed over what has been done in his name.

in New York offers advice on everything from clothing choices (“Trade in your brand names for all black.”) to riding the subway (“Always act like you know where you’re going.”) to a must-eat city food (“...everyone who visits New York City should have a soft pretzel from a cart.”).

Cappello also exhorts tourists to explore other parts of the city, including some of its other boroughs (remember Brooklyn and Queens?).

As a true New Yorker – she was born in Boston but arrived on Roosevelt Island at age one – Cappello, now 18, shares her unique view of growing up in a city of eight million-plus residents. One chapter chronicles a highlight for each year she’s lived here, providing even more great tips for tourists. At age 15, for example: “New York was shopping in SoHo. My friends and I finally had our own money from various babysitting jobs, and we made sure to head for SoHo almost every weekend to spend it.”

Starting Young

Cappello offers a simple reason for her passion – “I like writing in general” – and also points to some building blocks of her budding



talent. Her parents, Amy Jones Richmond, a writer and editor for time4thinkers.com, and Dean Cappello, a journalist and executive vice president and chief content officer at WNYC/New York Public Radio,

See **Teen Author**, page 10



The Editorial Page

Next?

New York State’s sleazy patronage system has never done any favors for Roosevelt Island.

The one non-patronage appointment, made in the early days of a briefly righteous Eliot Spitzer administration, was the best in two decades: Steve Shane as RIOC President. He arrived with the mission of democratizing governance of the Island, delivered on that, saw himself as a servant of the residents of this very special community – and then, unfortunately, was done in by a flawed decision of the democratic structure he had fostered.

Leaving aside any evaluation of the present management team at the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation, we can observe that the Andrew Cuomo administration has jettisoned democracy as though it carries Ebola. In his political horse-trading, he put a non-resident on the RIOC Board of Directors, only to have that individual – the Child School boss – fail miserably at both jobs, and leave the Island and the school essentially overnight. Since then, Cuomo has allowed that seat to remain vacant and all the other RIOC Board appointments to expire, and has failed to act despite having resident candidates, nominated by election, for the seats.

Apart from Shane (and, again, leaving aside Charlene Indelicato), every RIOC President that the patronage system has given us has been – from the viewpoint of residents – a failure. It’s not that each has produced an unmitigated disaster. It’s just that none has been a creative, top-flight community manager. None has accomplished any major step forward.

Indeed, the best step forward – Cornell Tech – is being imposed by the City. And that has myriad devil-in-the-details twists that, all along, RIOC could have managed far more competently in its new relationship with the university.

Now, Larry Schwartz, the governor’s aide who made promises to the Island that he never kept, has left the Cuomo administration. That raises the likelihood of somebody else’s protégé being appointed to the RIOC presidency. (Who needs continuity, after all?) At \$150,000 a year, it’s a plum payoff for somebody’s loyalty or fund-raising prowess. It’s also adequate money for a professional community manager who understands the needs of the community s/he serves. But the governor is likely to send us someone who qualifies better as a Klingon than as a community-oriented administrator.

Last time, the RIOC Board (with one exception) accepted the first name put before them.

That must not happen again.

This time, the RIOC Board must require an executive search and conduct multiple interviews to find a genuinely competent and creative administrator – someone as good as or better than Shane – but, at a minimum, someone with his stature, dedication, community orientation, and capabilities.

Alert! (Nonsense)

Typically deficient “alert” from RIOC (Tuesday and Wednesday, for example): *Please be advised that the MTA has issued a temporary service disruption advisory for the F train, which may affect travel plans. Please plan your travel accordingly and visit <http://mta.info> or call 511 for more information.*

This “alert” would make more sense if RIOC would simply pass along an exact copy of the MTA’s notice, rather than telling us to “plan accordingly” with reference to absolutely no informational content. Is anybody there (excuse the suggestion) actually *thinking*?

DL

Letters

To the Editor:

Rummaging recently in the Island House attic, I came across a crystal ball, stored there since the Island went Roosevelt, and zut! What appeared quite clearly was a myriad of apartment buildings rising, Phoenix-like, from the leveled footprunt of Coler! Think that’s a bit over the top? Odds are sky-high that the Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) has for some time, and with full nod from the City, had its acquisitive eye on that oh-so-valuable tract of land. A year or so into the building of the Cornell Tech campus, that eye should start glittering with the intensity of a Majarajah’s prize ruby! Then, when Coler’s replacement is abuilding (somewhat in tandem with Cornell) and with Island residents thus nicely neutralized, powerless as perceived potential obstructionists, we may be in for quite a surprise.

You see, back in the late ’70s/early ’80s, ESDC’s predecessor positively frothed at the mouth to build something on Goldwater land. But RIRA, this time with the City’s blessings, would have none of it. There were so many ex-Goldwater patients, now well enough to live in their own apartments in our town, some lying flat on beds, many in wheelchairs and on oxygen (although having still to check back periodically with the hospital), that RIRA rightfully couldn’t stomach the cutting of such a vital Gordian knot. And so we marched down Main Street, 150 strong, including scores of the disabled, complete with signs and chants, culminating at the Tram, where things started really heating up – good example of a group of angry people suddenly turning into an angry mob. Talk was that we should take over and distrust the (then mini) Red Bus as well as the Tram! However, fellow-marcher Councilmember Bob Dryfoos (who went to so many Island functions, I swore he was a City spy planted here to make sure the State was treating us properly) persuaded us that we had indeed made our point and to go home. Indeed, we had in fact prevailed, but were thereafter

branded “obstructionist.”

Since that day, the heads of ESDC, doubtless fearing further opposition to their ambitious building plans here, have not had an exactly wonderful attitude toward us, removing all our “privileges,” including our basic right of democracy, ever after bulling their programs through while totally ignoring our often excellent better suggestions, and treating us like spoiled stepchildren with absolutely zero input regarding what was happening on the Island where we live, as well as keeping us, for most of the time, in a minority on the RIOC Board. And we, pinning much of the blame on whoever has been governor, have simply been (please excuse) barking up the wrong political shin.

But all those fears of that State authority: groundless. How could we possibly, without a just cause and the City’s backing, impede any building taking place on this Island?

And why would a Coler “take-over” be of such importance to us? Because that land represents the last large parcel on the Island that can be developed, after which the ESDC will have safely brought to full fruition its mandate, which it has always perceived (for good or bad) as developing every squeezed square inch; thereafter, the aforementioned surprise will be our iron curtain miraculously rising, the unaccustomed light of freedom so blinding we cannot go shadeless! And from then until we are handed over to the City in ’68 and beyond, friends, we will live happily ever after, with that last 50-year block of time under the State’s rule proudly proclaiming to the world what a *model of real democracy* we are, how happy and well-treated the residents always have been on this, the brightest “jewel in the State’s crown.” No divulgence whatsoever, though, of those long, frustrating years of devastating “drought!”

How’s that for a cynical crystal-ball scenario?

Barbara Potts

The Main Street WIRE™

Published by **Unisource2000™, Inc.**
©2015 Unisource2000™ Inc.
531 Main St. #413, NYC10044
e-mail **MainStreetWIRE@usa.net**
MainStreetWIRE.com™

News **212-826-9056**
Urgent news **917-617-0449**
Advertising **917-587-3278**
Circulation **212-935-7534**

Editor & Publisher – Dick Lutz
Managing Editor – Briana Warsing
Copy Editor – Ashton Barfield
Chief Proofreader – Linda Heimer
Proofreaders – Vicki Feinmel, Helke Taeger
Reporters – Jim Baehler, Andrew Gordon, Francine Lange, Sara Maher, Alex Marshall, Laura Russo, David Stone
Photographers – Maria Casotti, Mircea Nicolescu, Kurt Wittman
Aerial Photography – Ken Decker; Jeff Prekopa; David Quinones, SkyCamUSA.com
Editorial Cartoonists – Anna Eppel, Scott Williams
Advertising Sales – Ellen Levy
Circulation Managers – Sherie Helstien, Matthew Katz
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

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, Gloria Gonsalves, Matthew Gonsalves, Tiffany Gonsalves, Angela Grant, Aaron Hamburger, Steve Heller, Ellen Jacoby, Todd Jagerson, Michael Kolba, Gad Levanon, Bill Long, 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, Sue Pirard, Lucas Plaut, Judy Quintana, Brian Reccardi, Ronnie Rigos, Ilonka Salisbury, Mondira Sarkar, Bob Specker, Betty Spensley, Camilla Stacchetti; and...

Krystyn Donnelley and students of Legacy High School;
Kim Massey and students from the PS/IS 217 Beacon Program,
Juniors and Cadettes of Girl Scout Troop 3324

To the Editor:

Thanks for your recent article on the forthcoming move of the Library to larger quarters. However, one would have felt a little more excited by this welcome development had there also been news that the Library would be allotted more *books* to help fill its increased space!

Apparently, your young reporter is not aware of the notorious “rape of the library” seven or eight years ago, when suddenly, without warning to any of its readers, almost half of its books disappeared – including a formidable large *Webster’s Dictionary*, an excellent set of encyclopedias, and, from the English literature shelf alone, the collected works of Byron, Milton, Wordsworth, and nearly all the other greats except Shakespeare (and even that selection was thinned out).

The day I walked in and discovered this catastrophe, in alarm, I naturally confronted the then director, and was informed casually that headquarters had done this, but she assured me that most of the important books would be gradually restored. They are still absent. In fact, most of the shelves are now only about half full. As for foreign literatures, there are only three or four books representing French, German, Italian, and Russian classics, respectively. Similarly, very few Latin, Greek, and Oriental masterpieces in translation can be found in the Roosevelt Island branch of the NYPL.

This loss also meant that on this tragic occasion, the library was stripped of almost all of the books from the original private Roosevelt Island Library organized and developed by its residents, which formed the basis of this branch library when it was taken over by the NYPL. True, many of those books had become outdated, but there were some very rare and valuable books within that original collection that one could not find anywhere else in the NYPL system. Why were they sacrificed to the winds? Not enough space? Now that the library will have more space, it can start to rebuild and become, once again, a fairly good source of important and necessary books, and some more of the former excellent research volumes can be restored. Perhaps *The WIRE* could encourage such a campaign. It might be necessary, since headquarters may not agree to enlargement.

Some years ago, when I saw that nothing was being restored or built up, and that books on the shelves were, if anything, growing more sparse, I offered to donate 100 classics and important modern works to fill some of the gaps. But I was turned down. It’s not NYPL policy, they shamefacedly explained.

Could one of the Island’s organizations form a small delegation to look into this matter?

The pioneers who founded the Island’s first library deserve recognition, and should have a corner of the new space dedicated to their memory.

Maurice Edwards

Letters deadline

for January 31 issue:
Tuesday, January 27, 5:00 p.m.

COMING UP

— This Weekend —

Registration now open for **Main Street Theatre & Dance Alliance** winter/spring session running **Jan 19-June 7**. Register at mstda.org.

Registration closes **Fri Jan 23** for **Mommy & Me Swim Classes** starting week of **Sun Feb 1**. Children 6 months-3 years. **Wed** 10:30am, **Sun** 11am, 1:30pm, & 2pm. Minimum of 6 registrants for each class to be offered. Residents \$40/session (\$5/class), \$7 drop-in (proof of residency required). Non-residents \$80/session (\$10/class), \$12 drop-in. Register at tinyurl.com/MMregMM. Info: Eva.Bosbach@gmail.com.

Pre-closing reception for *Out with the Old, In with the Few* group show presented by Paul Calendrillo, **Fri Jan 16** 6-9pm, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. Show extended to Jan 31. Gallery hours Sat-Sun 11am-5pm, Wed & Fri 6-9pm.

No direct F train service to Manhattan, Fri Jan 16 11:15pm to **Mon Jan 19** 5am. Service to the Island from Manhattan expected to be normal.

Opening reception for *Characters at Dusk*, one-artist show of paintings and drawings by RIVAA artist Dan Nistor, **Sat Jan 17** 6-9pm, Octagon Gallery, 888 Main St. Exhibit through Sun Feb 28. Gallery hours 9am-8pm daily.

Island pianist Roy Eaton's recordings on *The Piano Masters*, **Sun Jan 18** 12noon, WWFM.org (online). Rebroadcast **Wed Jan 21** 10pm & **Sun Jan 25** 12noon.

— The Next Two Weeks —

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Mon Jan 19.

Four Freedoms Democratic Club – See fourfreedomsnyc.org for January events **Tue Jan 20** and after.

Making Movie Magic – How 1920s Astoria Came to Life in Filming *The Great Gatsby* in 2013, **Tue Jan 20** 6:30pm, Library. Sponsored by Roosevelt Island Historical Society. Free.

Postponed: RIOC Board of Directors meeting, **Thu Jan 22** rescheduled to **Thu Feb 26**.

Four Freedoms Democratic Club annual meeting for qualifying dues-paid members, including election of executive board, **Thu Jan 22** 7pm, Church of the Holy Trinity, 316 E 88 St (Second/Third Ave), in the main church. Info: FourFreedomsNYC.org.

Community Board Information Session for Teens interested in appointment to CB8 and other community boards, **Fri Jan 23** 4:30-6:30pm, Municipal Building mezzanine, 1 Centre Street (north entrance). Ages 16-up. Pre-registration required at teenboards.eventbrite.com.

No direct F train service to Manhattan, Fri Jan 23 11:15pm to **Mon Jan 26** 5am. Service to the Island from Manhattan expected to be normal.

Relay for Life organizing-recruiting session for *A Fight Back with Fitness Rally*, **Sat Jan 24** 5-7pm, PS/IS 217. Free. Family-friendly activities, including yoga, Zumba, and a presentation about the event being planned.

Bike New York Bike Maintenance Class, Sun Jan 25 11am-1pm, Sportspark Gym, sponsored by Bike New York. Limited spots, reservation required: cgoodspeed@bike.nyc or 212-870-2075.

Dr. Jordan Wolff, Chiropractor, **Mon Jan 26** 4pm, Senior Center, 546 Main St. Nutrition, exercise, posture, energy. Screenings follow. Free.

Cornell Construction & Community Task Force quarterly meeting, **Mon Jan 26** 6-8pm, Gallery RIVAA. Open to the public.

Women's Movie Group presents *Makers: Women who Make America*, **Thu Jan 29** 7pm in the 425 Main Street Party Room. Suggested donation is \$8. Please RSVP to RlwomenMovie@gmail.com and bring healthy snacks or drinks for six people.

The Main Street WIRE – **Sat Jan 31**. Advertising deadlines: Display, Wed Jan 21 (advertising accepted after deadline on a space-available basis); decision date for circulars/inserts, Tue Jan 25; 6,000 copies due Thu Jan 27. **Future issues:** Feb 14, 28; Mar 14, 28; Apr 11, 25; May 9, 23; Jun 6, 20; July issue to be announced; Aug 1, 29; Sep 12, 26; Oct 10, 24; Nov 7, 21; Dec 12. News phone 212-826-9056; urgent matters, 917-617-0449. Email press releases and feature-story suggestions to MainStreetWIRE@usa.net. Advertising (display & classified) 917-587-3278 or msWIREads@gmail.com.

— Future Weeks —

State of the Borough event hosted by Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer, **Sun Feb 8**, 1:30pm, Lerner Hall, Columbia University.

State of the District presentation with City Councilmember Ben Kallos, **Sun Feb 8** 2-4:40pm. Registration required at tinyurl.com/sod020815.

Valentine's Day, Sat Feb 14.

Presidents' Day, Mon Feb 16.

Book Discussion, Beautiful Mystery by Louise Penny, **Thu Feb 19** 6:30pm, Library.

RIOC Board meets, **Thu Feb 26** 5:30pm, Manhattan Park Community Center, 8 River Rd.

Main Street Theatre & Dance Alliance Grand Reopening Celebration – *A Night to Remember*, honoring Owen Johnston II and Nina Wintringham, **Fri Feb 27** 7:30pm, Cultural Center. \$75 (\$100 at the door). Info and reservations: mstda.org/gala or email gala@mstda.org.

Daylight Saving Time begins, **Sun Mar 8**.

St. Patrick's Day, Tue Mar 17.

Book Discussion, Capital in the 21st Century by Thomas Piketty, **Thu Mar 19** 6:30pm, Library.

Book Discussion, Vacationland by Sarah Stonich, **Thu Apr 16** 6:30pm, Library.

Earth Day, Wed Apr 22.

Cornell Construction & Task Force quarterly meeting, **Mon Apr 27** 6-8pm, Gallery RIVAA. Open to the public.

Mothers' Day, Mon May 10.

Events?

List 'em! MainStreetWIRE@usa.net

List early, so that other organizations can avoid conflicts.

Neighbors and friends, a very happy and healthy New Year to each and every one of you! As the cold winter sun settles over the city, and we begin the long march toward spring, the Common Council continues the work of reconstituting its committees and forming its legislative and policy agenda for the 2014-2016 term.

Common Council Committees

Recently, the Council elected the following members as the committee chairs. As has been said here before, the RIRA committees are the lifeblood of the organization, where much of the work that affects our daily lives on the Island is carried out. The Council congratulates each of the chairs, and looks forward to working closely with them. If you are interested in joining a committee, have an issue that you wish a committee would undertake, or have an idea that you believe a committee should pursue, contact the appropriate chair as indicated below, or contact me directly at jeffrey.escobar@gmail.com, or contact any of the three other officers, listed below.

- Communication – Janet Falk (janetfalk@yahoo.com)
- Government Relations – Joyce Short (shortjm@aol.com)
- Housing – Susan Marcus (sqmarcus@gmail.com)
- Island Services – Aaron Hamburger (ashamburger33@gmail.com)
- Planning – Steven White (arj2002@yahoo.com)
- Public Safety – Erin Feely-Nahem (erfn315@gmail.com)
- Social, Cultural and Educational Services – Lynne Shinozaki (lynnestrong@hotmail.com)
- Ethics – Mickey Rindler (rindlm01@yahoo.com)
- Constitution & Bylaws – David Evans (evansde23@hotmail.com)
- Community Polling Initiative – Adib Mansour (addoub@earthlink.net)
- Public Purpose Funds – David Evans (evansde23@hotmail.com)
- Secretary – Sue Pirard (pirardsm@aol.com)
- Treasurer – Todd Caplan (toddcaplan@gmail.com)
- Vice President – Sherie Helstien (helkatz@verizon.net)

Do not hesitate to reach out to any or all of us at any time. We are here to serve you!

Public Purpose Funds

Every year since the construction of Manhattan Park in 1989, not-for-profit organizations operating on

The RIRA Column

Roosevelt Island and providing services and programming to the community have been able to apply for Public Purpose Grants established and made available by New York State to support community uses. Over the years, with input and recommendations from RIRA and its Public Purpose Funds committee, the RIOC Board of Directors has approved financial support for many not-for-profit organizations and programs that enrich and serve Islander's daily lives. From Island Kids to the Disabled Association to Gallery RIVAA, every Island resident has come into contact with, and/or received services from, and/or participated in a program from at least one of these organizations, whose purpose is to enhance the quality of life here through education, artistic and cultural enrichment, improved health, or a better environment.

On Monday, January 5, procedures and guidelines for the 2015 Public Purpose Grant application process were posted on the RIOC website (www.rioc.ny.gov/grants). Organizations and programs hoping for such assistance this year are strongly encouraged to review the guidelines thoroughly, as there are several changes to this year's process, including a Letter of Intent, applicant presentations, and a special email address for all inquiries pertaining to the application and/or process. Moreover, the general public will be invited this year to participate in providing review and input about individual applications. If you or your organization are interested in participating and/or applying for Public Purpose funding, go to www.rioc.ny.gov/grants, or email Erica Spencer-EL, RIOC Community Relations Specialist, at Erica.Spencer-EL@rioc.ny.gov.

Community Polling Initiative

As outlined in last month's column, the Council voted for an initiative to find out what issues and programming you, the Roosevelt Island community, want this term's members to undertake. For more

See **RIRA Column**, page 10



Jeffrey Escobar, President
Roosevelt Island Residents Association
jeffrey.escobar@gmail.com

The WIRE publishes these columns, exclusively, as a service to the community and to the entities invited to provide them, and does not control or censor their content.

A little over two years ago, Kim Massey, Director of the Beacon Program, approached me and my friend Jane Muller. She asked if we or anyone we knew would be interested in becoming Girl Scout Troop Leaders. I knew it was a big undertaking, and I knew if Jane didn't do it that I wouldn't be able to handle it by myself. Later that afternoon, I saw Susan Marcus at Trellis. She approached me and said she was considering being a leader, but she also knew it was a job for more than one person. That was it! We three agreed that it would be great to work together and with the girls on Roosevelt Island.

Girl Scout Troop 3244 started in December 2012, and after two months we had 10 Junior Girl Scouts. My daughter and her friends were my inspiration. I wanted to open their eyes, and get them away from video games and TV. The girls learned the skills of "One," "Team," and "Community." They learned about their own personal skills and about how to work as a team, and they did many community service projects. The Historical Society's Judy Berdy was a guest speaker, and taught them about the city's cherry blossoms. The girls made posters for the Annual Cherry Blossom Walk that were posted all over the Island. They also helped at the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

The girls learned so much, and had more fun than we ever imagined. By the end of the year, they had raised enough money for a weekend at the Girl Scout Camp, Camp Kaufmann. We went with 200 other Girl Scouts from our New York Service Unit, Eastriver 1. That was an amazing trip. They learned how to use a compass by hiding and finding objects, and they even learned archery. All of our girls are ready to go again – me, too.

During 2014, the girls learned Hands-Only CPR

The Community Column

from our local trainer, Lynne Shinozaki. They did community service by planting tulip bulbs in front of Motorgate, sponsored by The Daffodil Project; in the spring, everyone will get to see more than 100 tulips blooming. A few girls went on a Cookie Rally trip at St. Joseph's Church with about 60 other Girl Scouts, and learned how to become perfect cookie salespeople.

In just a few months, the girls raised enough money to go on our first big trip, "A Night at the Museum" at the American Museum of Natural History.

We have a troop of strong, proud, and very hardworking girls. This year, we have 24, and not just Juniors – we also have five Cadettes. These are girls from last year who moved up but didn't want to leave us. We also have two Seniors, both in 9th grade, and have brought in a Senior leader, Carmen Albino. This will allow our Seniors to work on their badges, and on special projects that need to be done outside of our general meetings. We expect great things from our Seniors.

Our Girl Scout troop wouldn't be possible without the sponsorship of the Beacon Program and the support of the Roosevelt Island community. We thank you all. We will be continuing to sell cookies to raise money to go camping again. Be on the lookout for cookie sales representatives in your building, or call 212-754-0350 to have a cookie representative service you and your building.

At this time, the Roosevelt Island troop is at capacity, but you can find troops taking new Scouts at GirlScouts.org.



Janine Schaefer, Head Leader
Girl Scouts Troop 3244
j9eds@aol.com

The Community Column features a broadly chosen rotating series of columnists and topics.

Tuesday

Magic to Film a Classic: Recreating the Era of Gatsby



Photos:
Greater Astoria Historical Society.

“As we crossed Blackwell’s Island a limousine passed us,” says Nick Carraway in *The Great Gatsby*, narrating the route he and his companions traversed from Long Island to Manhattan on a hot summer day.

Although this is the work’s only mention of the Island now called Roosevelt Island, the novel refers repeatedly to locations in Queens. Director Baz Luhrmann sought to recreate these sites in his 2013 cinematic remake of the classic work set in the 1920s.

Robert Singleton, Executive Director of the Greater Astoria Historical Society, will describe the behind-the-scenes research and movie magic for the film *The Great Gatsby* in a lecture sponsored by the Roosevelt Island Historical Society, on Tuesday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m., at the New York Public Library Branch on Roosevelt Island.

Singleton will discuss the pivotal role that the Greater Astoria Historical Society played in evoking the bygone era. The Society was a credited historical advisor on the film, which won the 2014 Academy Award for Best Production Design.

“We sent them hundreds of period photographs and maps,” said Singleton. “What the production team did was create New York in the early 1920s in 3-D.”

- Key locations are:
- Northern Boulevard, a major thoroughfare that extends across Queens between the mythic Long Island towns and Manhattan;
 - The Corona Ash Dumps, called the valley of ashes, where Tom drives to see his mistress Myrtle, who lives with her husband Wilson near his car repair shop. Once the site where the Long Island Railroad tracks ran alongside the road now known as Northern Boulevard, the area was filled with ashes, manure, and garbage in the 1920s. Today, it has been reclaimed as Flushing Meadows-Corona Park.
 - The Queensboro Bridge itself, which causes Nick Carraway to exclaim, “Over the great bridge, with the sunlight through the girders making a constant flicker upon the moving cars, with the city rising up across the river in white heaps and sugar lumps all built with a wish out of non-olfactory money.”
- Singleton will illustrate his presentation with period photos of selected locations. The event is free and open to the public. It is the first in a series of spring lectures sponsored by the Roosevelt Island Historical Society.

Firefighter, from page 1

difficult. The hardest part was climbing a ladder five stories high in full gear and carrying various heavy tools that a firefighter uses. The total weight was somewhere between 100 and 140 pounds. I know it was more than my body weight. I prepared for the Academy by doing a lot of running and climbing a lot of stairs. The cadets all tried to help one another, and there was very close bonding as a result. My squad-mates became my new family. There were 321 of us who started out in my class at the Academy; 280 managed to graduate. Six women started, but only four of us finished.”

An observation that 18 weeks hardly seems enough time to prepare someone to serve as a firefighter elicited this response from Josephine. “Graduating from the Academy doesn’t mean you are equipped to function as a firefighter. The real training is done on the job. There are constant drills and exercises, where you learn all about the tools that you will be using and the skills required of a firefighter. There are forcible-entry tools for breaking down doors or walls or penetrating ceilings. There are all kinds of apparatus on the fire engine, such as the hoses where you learn how to connect them to all different types of hydrants and to regulate the flow of water. I am a

probationary firefighter, and will be for another year or so. During that time, the other firefighters in the station serve as my instructors. You never stop learning on this job. As someone once said, ‘If you think you’ve learned it all, it’s time to retire.’

“The men in my firehouse have been incredibly supportive of me. I am the only female in the station house, but I have never detected the slightest resentment by any of the men. They are great guys, always willing to help me and show me the correct way to do things when I make a mistake. They treat me as if I were one of the guys, although they are respectful and watch their language when I am nearby. They are quick to answer my questions and make sure I understand the right way of doing things. I have my own changing facility with a bathroom and a shower. If I have to stay overnight, I sleep in the bunk room with the guys and there has never been the slightest discomfort or problem.”

Of her father, Josephine says, “He was incredibly smart, humble, and quiet. He read a lot and knew so much about everything; we told him he should go on Jeopardy, but he wasn’t interested in that. He was always there to help people; neighbors would call at all hours, and he would sometimes get out of bed to help someone. I have four brothers and sisters, and I was a triplet. I have an identical twin sister and a brother, all of us born on the same day. How my parents were able to handle all three of us



at once, I’ll never know.

“My father spent some time with the Special Ops group of the Fire Department, which has its headquarters on Roosevelt Island. On 9/11, he was assigned to the HazMat Squad that deals with chemical spills and other similar dangers. On 9/11, I was at work in an office out in Suffolk County when we heard on the radio about the attacks on the World Trade Center. I wasn’t sure if my father was working that day, so I called home and spoke to my stepmother, who told me she had just gotten off the

phone with my father. He could see the Twin Towers from his facility in Brooklyn and was headed there immediately. After the towers collapsed, we waited anxiously for some official word. When I got home, everyone was there - relatives, neighbors, everybody. I kept telling myself that my father was still alive and that we would see him again. It took a couple of

weeks for me to realize my father was not coming home.”

Josephine is now living on Roosevelt Island with her aunt and uncle, Kathy and Ian Kross, long-time Island residents, and looking for an apartment here. “I just love Roosevelt Island. It is so beautiful here and the people are so wonderful.” She’s also looking for a roommate to share the rent.

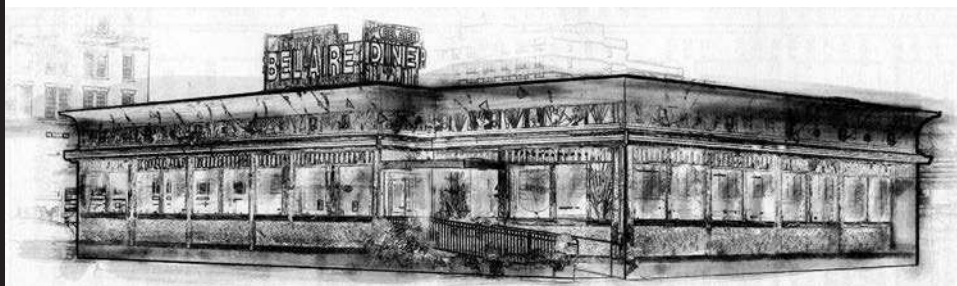


What Would You Like in the New Library?

The Island’s branch library will move to new quarters in 2017, and the New York Public Library would like to know how it can best serve the residents of Roosevelt Island. To complete a survey, go online to tinyurl.com/riLIBsurv (or you can complete it at the library).

Hint: The more Islanders completing the survey, the more NYC will understand how much we need our own well-staffed branch here, with expanded hours.

bel aire



**31-91 21st Street
Astoria, NY 11106**

**24 HOURS A DAY
718-721-3160**

**Free Delivery
to Roosevelt Island**

**Take-Out and Dine-In
24 Hours a Day**

HAVE YOUR TAXES PREPARED AT ACCOUNTABLE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION



Serving Roosevelt Island Since 1998

**WE ARE - CONVENIENT - COMPETENT
COMPETITIVELY PRICED &
CONFIDENTIAL TOO!**

**CALL (212) 644-8231
FOR AN APPOINTMENT**

WALK-INS WELCOME

501 MAIN STREET, SUITE B
south end of Rivercross building near MD's office

**Office Hours
Monday-Friday 10AM-7PM
Saturday-Sunday 11AM-3PM**

Website: www.AFMCmoney.com

Advantage QuickStart makes tennis fun – all winter long!

Now players 4 & up can get in the game

- No experience or equipment needed
- “Real Tennis” sized for kids
- No frustration of waiting in lines
- Learn to rally faster
- Expert instruction and a structured program
- Popular, customized teaching method

Classes held at Roosevelt Island
Sports Park Gym – right next door
to Roosevelt Island Racquet Club.

Sign up now for winter 2015!

**New students get
the first class FREE!**

Call Paul Fontana – 646-884-9644
Email pfontana@advantagetennisclubs.com
Visit www.quickstartny.com



281 Main Street
Roosevelt Island



OFFICE SPACE



SET UP SHOP AT THE OCTAGON

355_{sf} & 915_{sf}
priced to move



**888 MAIN STREET
212-888-8NYC**

Saturday FARMER'S MARKET

Fresh fruits & vegetables
for your healthy table
Every Saturday,
early morning
to mid-afternoon,
at Motorgate

CREDIT CARDS & EBT WELCOME

ST. JOHN'S PREP

INFORMATION NIGHT

Accepted & Interested Students
Tuesday, January 20—6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
For details, please call 718.721.7200 ext 699.

Educating Tomorrow's Leaders

Knowledge, faith, virtue, service, creativity, and a passion for learning. These are the marks of true leadership and the foundation for learning and success at St. John's Prep.

- High standards including AP, Honors, enrichment
- Personal engagement with each student
- Close-knit, vibrant community of Catholic faith
- Active engagement in athletics, arts, service, campus ministry, and more
- Experiential learning through apprenticeships, global travel, STEM, and partnership programs with St. John's University
- Outstanding guidance and college placement

718.721.7200 | stjohnsprepschool.org
St. John's Preparatory School
21-21 Crescent Street | Astoria, NY 11105

Open 7 Days a Week
Free Island Delivery

ISLAND

WINE & SPIRITS

Mon-Thu 12 noon-10 pm • Fri 11 am-11 pm
Sat 10 am-11 pm • Sun 12 noon-7 pm

605 Main Street • 212.355.3111
IslandWine@verizon.net
facebook.com/islandwinesRI

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.

Registration

Programs for Ages 3 Months to 5 Years

The Roosevelt Island Day Nursery

Riverwalk at 405 Main Street
3 months to 2.6 years

River Road at 4 River Road
2.6 to 5 years

Registration at 4 River Road; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All registrations require a 10% deposit of the full tuition paid by check or cash

Financial Aid is available to those who qualify

Call to schedule a tour

For more information and tuition rates please visit our website
www.ridn.org, call 212-593-0750 or email preschool@ridn.org

Roosevelt Island Day Nursery
Serving Roosevelt Island families since 1979

Come and Visit our New Associated-City Fresh Market



Take advantage of our **FREE**
SHUTTLE to City Fresh Market
Free with \$40.00 purchase or more
Every Day!! 10:00 am – 7:00 pm



Call us to schedule a
pick up **718-728-1112**

2115 Broadway Astoria NY 11106
cityfreshmarket2115@gmail.com

Adventures OFF-Island

compiled by Sara Maher

New year, new you? After the holiday chaos, it can be difficult to know where to begin. Here are a few ways to get a start on your resolutions.

1) Unplug first, experience second

If you’re transferring trains and rush past a giant glass cube, it’s not another Apple store. JP Morgan is hosting its Tournament of Champions squash tournament inside Grand Central Terminal from January 16-23. Watch live women’s and men’s matches during your daily commute, or spend this Sunday at Kids and Family Day. Kids will get giveaways, posters, autographs, and a chance to play with the pros.

➡ F downtown to 42nd St./Bryant Park, then walk east to Grand Central Terminal. January 16-23, multiple matches played daily. Tickets are \$8-170, but matches can be viewed through glass walls in the Terminal for free. Kids and Family Day is tomorrow (Sunday, January 18) with sessions at noon and 2:00 p.m. Tickets, match schedule, and information at tocsquash.com/.

2) Learn a new skill

Fill a few hours (and your candy dish) with chocolate-making classes at Tache Chocolate. You’ll learn about cultivating, tasting, and decorating chocolate before making your own classic chocolate bars and kisses, or fun favorites like mustache lollipops.

➡ F downtown to Delancey St., then walk southwest to 254 Broome St. Schedule a class by emailing classes@

tachechocolate.com. \$65 for a family of three or more; price includes all chocolate you make, gift packaging, and your choice of hot beverage. tachechocolate.com/class.html

3) Then (sigh) exercise

Did you resolve to wake up earlier? Work out more? Wake up earlier so you could work out more? Now you can start your day the dance-party way with a session at Morning Gloryville. Yes, you’ll have to dance ‘til you drop, but you’ll also be offered massages, smoothies, and free coffee. You can even bring the kids.

➡ F downtown to West 4th/Washington Square, then walk southeast to Judson Memorial Church at 55 Washington Square South. Wednesday, January 21 at 6:30 a.m. \$20 for adults, free for kids under 12. Tickets and information at brownpapertickets.com/event/1054122.

4) Do things you actually enjoy

That’s enough exercise. Time to watch a movie. The Sonywonder Technology Lab offers free screenings every weekend (on top of a “museum” that’s already pretty fun). This month you can see *The Boxtrolls*, the story of an orphan named Eggs who is raised by a community of creatures living in a cavern under a city. Eggs has to save his family from extermination after they are discovered by a villainous townspeople.

➡ F downtown to 57th St., then walk southeast to 550 Madison Avenue. *The Boxtrolls* is rated PG and showing Saturday, January 24 at 12:15 and 3:30 p.m. Admission and

screening are free, but reservations are required. Information about screenings and reservations at sonywondertechlab.com/

5) Enjoy a night out (or five)

Free concerts may feel like a lucky find, but what about a free concert every night? Jazz Evenings at Arthur’s Tavern feature two performers each, and there’s no cover charge. If you make it to Monday’s first show, you’ll get to see the Grove Street Stompers, who have been performing Dixieland Jazz at Arthur’s for over 40 years.

➡ F downtown to West 4th/Washington Square, then walk northwest to 57 Grove Street. Must be over 21 to enter. No cover charge. Cash only. Performers and showtimes at arthurstavernnyc.com/

6) Go to a museum

After being homebound by illness, Henri Matisse stopped painting and started snipping. MoMA presents *Henri Matisse: The Cut-Outs*, now through February 10. It is the largest collection of Matisse’s cutouts ever displayed, and it includes over 100 pieces of his work, including his famous *The Swimming Pool*, which is being shown for the first time in more than 20 years.

➡ F downtown to 57th St., then walk southeast to 11 West 53rd Street. Due to unprecedented crowds, timed tickets are required to enter the exhibit. Museum admission is \$25 for adults, \$18 for seniors, and free for kids under age 16. For tickets and exhibit hours, go to moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2014/matisse/

COMING UP

Continuing Events & Activities

A listing of **repeating** or **regularly held** meetings & events (a listing of other events scheduled for this weekend and in coming weeks appears on page 3)

ART EXHIBITS

Out with the Old, In with the Few group show extended to Jan 31, Gallery RIVAA.

Islander Dan Nistor presents a one-artist show, opening Sat Jan 10, Octagon Gallery. 9am-8pm daily through Feb 22.

PARKS

Southpoint Park open daily 6am-10pm.

Lighthouse Park open daily 7am-9pm.

FDR Four Freedoms Park daily 9am-5pm. **Closed Tue.** Free guided tours **Sat** 11am, 3pm; **Sun** 11am.

CLASSES

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

Hands-Only CPR Training, **1st Wed** 10:45am, Senior Center, 546 Main St.; **2nd Tue** 8pm, 546 Main St 12th-floor conference room; **3rd Thu** 5pm, Child School, 587 Main St.; **4th Sun** 5:45pm, Good Shepherd Center, 543 Main.

MUSIC

First Sunday Jazz Salon, **1st Sun** 5-7pm, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. \$10 suggested donation.

EXERCISE & SPORTS (alphabetical)

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

Basketball (adults), **Mon-Thu** 7:30-9:30pm, PS/IS 217. Free.

Bike New York classes continue through winter; schedule at BikeNewYork.org.

Pilates with Karen, **Tue & Thu** 7:15pm; **Wed** 8:45am, 10am; **Fri** 9am, 10am; **Sat** 10am. Info 212-750-6223.

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

RI Moms on the Move walk and exercise program, **Fri** 11am, Visitor Kiosk in Tramway Plaza. Free. To confirm time: Eva.Bosbach@gmail.com.

Sportspark extended hours (ages 16-25), **Fri-Sat** 9pm-midnight. **Weight-lifting and basketball**. Free. **Note:** ID and proof of Island residency required.

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

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

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

Swimming* – Master class, **Mon & Fri** 7:30-8:30pm, Sportspark.

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

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

Yoga (Vinyassa-flow) with Keren Messer, **Mon** 7:45pm, **Fri** 10am, Good Shepherd Center. Info: KerenMs@gmail.com.

Yoga (Hatha) with Keren Messer, **Tue** 6:30pm, Good Shepherd Center.

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** 6:30-7:30pm, **Thu** 6:30-7:30pm, **Sat** 10-11am, Sportspark. \$5.

BIRTH THROUGH TODDLER (Sat-Fri)

Mommy & Me Swim Classes. Registration deadline **Fri Jan 23.** See *ComingUp*, page 3.

Baby Story Time (0-18 mo), **Mon** 10:30am, Library. Advance registration required.

Baby Playtime (0-18 mo), **Mon** 11am, Library.

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.

Toddler Play Time (18-36 mo), **Wed** 11:30am, Library.

Island Kids Baby Group (0-14 mo), **Thu** 10:30-11:30am, 536 Main St. Info: IslandKidsRI@gmail.com.

Bi-Lingual Birdies: Mandarin (0-5 yrs), **Thu** 11am, Library.

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

OLDER KIDS (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.

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.

Teen Time (ages 13-18), **Mon-Fri** 3pm, Library.

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

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

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

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

Crafts, **Thu** 11am & 3pm, Library.

Reading Aloud (children), **Fri** 3:30pm, Library.

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

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

SENIORS

Lunch, **Mon-Fri** noon, Senior Center, 546 Main St. \$1.50. Menus outside social worker’s office. Also see listing below.

REGULAR MEETINGS (listed 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 Center.

Women’s Health Organization, last **Wed** 6:30pm, 546 Main St, 12th floor conference room.

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 State Senator Jose Serrano and/or staff, **Tue**, alternating between Senior Center, 4-7pm and Library, 3-6pm (Oct 28). Info: 212-828-5829.

Conversations with Cornell Tech Staff at Gallery RIVAA, **Wed & Fri** 10am-12noon & 1-4pm, 527 Main St.

Constituent Service Hours for City Councilmember Ben Kallos, **4th Wed** 4-7pm, Senior Center, 546 Main St.

OTHER

Clinic on Housing Law, **1st & 3rd Mon** 3-6pm, district office of City Councilmember Ben Kallos, 244 E. 93rd St. RSVP and questions to 212-860-1950 or RSVP@BenKallos.com.

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

Food Box Orders from 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.

Senior Center

Monday (except Jan 19, closed)

10:00 **Zumba**

11:00 **Computers**

5:00 **Brain & Body Stretch**

Tuesday (closed Nov 4 and 11)

10:20 **Shoppers’ Bus**

10:30 **Building Strength**

11:00 **Blood Pressure**

1:00 **Paint & Sculpt**

Wednesday

9:30 **Yoga Stretch**

10:20 **Shoppers’ Bus**

10:30 **Salsa with Luis**

10:45 **Spanish**

11:00 **Social Media for Seniors:**

Facebook, Instagram, Photos, more

10:45 **Spanish**

12:00 **Bridge**

1:30 **Scrabble**

6:00-8:00 **Computer Lab**

Thursday

9:15 **Chair Pilates**

10:30 **Zumba**

12:00 **Movie**

1:00-2:30 **Theatre tickets** at discount prices; see Rema or Annie

3:00 **Computer Basics** (Library)

Friday

9:00 **Building Strength**

10:30 **Computers**

10:30 **Tai Chi**

12:00 **Korean Exercise**

2:00 **Art with John**

2:00 **Pokeno**

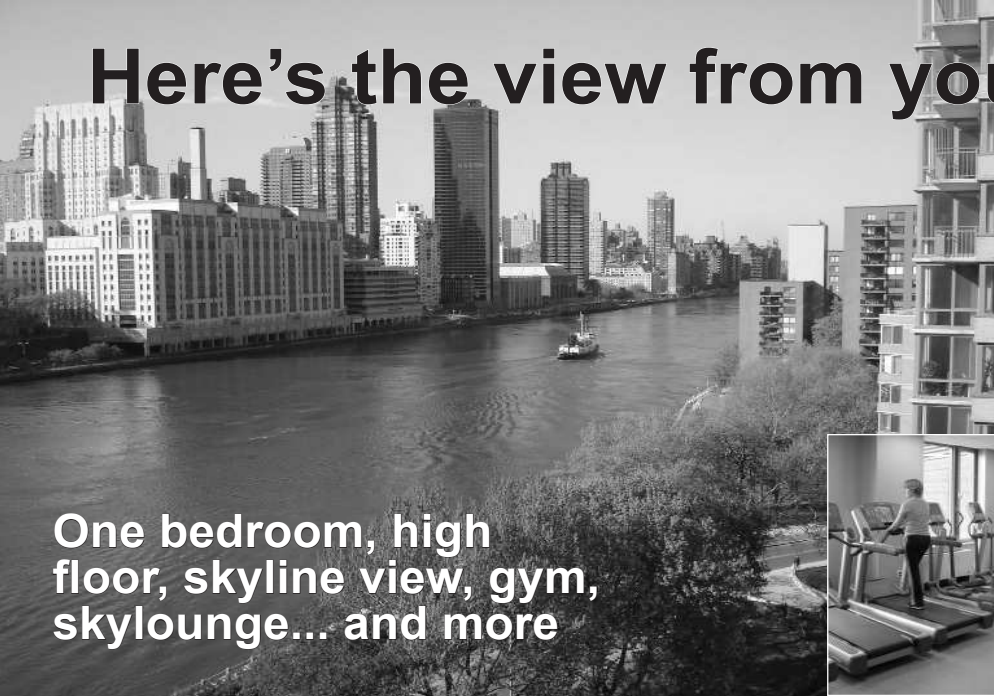
7:00 **Games** (RISA)

Special Events

Martin Luther King Jr birthday celebration, **Sat Jan 17** 5pm.

Dr. Jordan Wolff, Chiropractor, **Mon Jan 26** 4pm.

Indian Food Shopping & Restaurant, **Sat Feb 25** 9:30am-1:30pm. See Bubû.



Here's the view from your new Riverwalk home FOR RENT



Call for information
and appointment:
917-796-9021



One bedroom, high
floor, skyline view, gym,
skylounge... and more

RIRA Column, from page 3

information on what to expect in the Community Polling Initiative, Committee Chair Adib Mansour has provided the following:

“In the second [December 3] RIRA meeting, a resolution was unanimously passed for RIRA to do a community poll in order to better understand the needs of the people it represents.

Knowledge is the power to change, improve and serve the community, thus fulfilling RIRA’s mission towards the Roosevelt Island residents. RIRA as a whole needs to know the answers to a host of questions to identify areas of need, plan, allocate resources and maximize the benefits of our efforts to serve our key audiences.

Surveys are an important tool for reaching out to our residents, to assess a wide range of issues and obtain meaningful, actionable feedback. Using carefully designed surveys will help us gather data we can use to identify our successes or shortcomings and improve upon them intelligently. The process will help us understand the mixed demographics in the different parts of our Island, and the programs that they want us to undertake: the needs of the north, center, and south parts of the Island could not be more diversified.

The process will have to be heavily publicized through a series of Town Hall meetings with the Council members and officers, lobby meet-and-greets with building representatives, the use of both traditional and social media (posters on kiosks, listings in newspaper and blogpost, etc.)

In addition, Council members would stage a town hall meeting to have an understanding of the issues the residents would like us to cover in our survey. It is a pulse taking mechanism that can help us shape our questions and have a set direction.

The survey will be rolled-out in several ways in order to ensure all the residents of the Island are represented. This will be done through numerous venues: online on RIRA’s website or a link on the Roosevelt Island BlogSpot, printed in *The WIRE*, and through ballots made available at specific locations on the Island (RIOC or PSD offices, Duane Reade, [Gristedes], etc.). Another suggestion would be to do a door drop in all buildings.

There are numerous decisions that must be made in order to construct the survey to accomplish our goals: determining the question content, scope and purpose as well as

figuring out how to word the question to get at the issue of interest. Stay tuned for more updates, but be sure to expect your council members talking to you face to face and engage in constructive conversations.”

If you are interested in helping with the Community Polling Initiative, have ideas on how the polling program might work better, or want more information, contact Committee Chair Adib Mansour at addoub@earthlink.net.

Mommy & Me Swim Classes

In conjunction with the Island Services Committee, the Sportspark Users Group, and the Roosevelt Island Parents’ Network, efforts have been made to address the concerns about the temperature of the Sportspark facility and its pool water that have been voiced by parents of small children who participate in the Mommy & Me swim classes. As many of you are aware, because of the Steam Plant’s decommission, a temporary boiler system has been providing heating to Sportspark. Unfortunately, the temporary boiler has not been able to regulate temperatures as effectively

as the Steam Plant. Until the new permanent system is installed in late 2015, RIOC has agreed to implement the following procedures to help ameliorate the temperature issue: (a) The exit door in the pool area will remain closed at all times, and (b) temporary heaters will be mounted in the women’s locker room.

Mommy & Me classes are scheduled for Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m., Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m., and Sunday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. The classes are for children 6 months to three years of age, and cost \$5 per class for Island residents. A minimum of six families must register in order for the class to be offered. Registration for the next season is open through January 23 at tinyurl.com/MMregMM. If you have a question or concern regarding the classes, contact either Council member and RI Parents’ Network Coordinator Eva Bosbach at eva.bosbach@gmail.com, or Aaron Hamburger, Island Services Committee Chair, at ashamburger33@gmail.com.

unClassifieds

50¢ a word • 212-751-8214

deadline for January 31 issue: Tuesday, January 27
deadline for February 14 issue: Tuesday, February 10

Please see ComingUp, page 3, for other advertising deadlines

U.N. EDITOR (retired). Contact Editing Solutions at Joyce.Bratich.Cherif@gmail.com or 917-647-6650.

ManhattanHypnosis.com – Smoking, Weight, Confidence – midtown – Free phone consultation 917-923-6772.

INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENT – Medicare, Life, Retirement. Ilya Gurevich, 917-407-1797.

CHESS INSTRUCTOR – Island resident, 10 years experience. Children & adults, beginners & intermediate. Free consultation. Moderate rates: 2-hour session \$30. 212-750-9087.

CLASSICAL PIANO with Irene. Read music. It’s logical fun! 917-655-0028.

LICENSED ACUPUNCTURIST – Experienced in pain management, chronic conditions, depression. Please call Anne Kanninen L.Ac. 917-282-7328.

NOTARY – 212-317-0736 Tami.

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

SCAN PHOTOS – Will teach a student how to scan & retouch properly. \$10 per hour. Flexible hours. Contact John at 212-593-7610 or johnndtp@gmail.com.

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.

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

ERRANDS: Organizing, special projects, personal assistance. You run your life, I’ll run your errands. Call Vicki Feinmel, 212-223-1108.

EXPERIENCED CAT SITTER – 212-751-8214. RI resident. Will also check mail, etc.

Calendars are sold out, but

The TOTE

(I TRAM NY) is still available.

\$20 to Main Street WIRE, 531 Main St. #413, NYC10044. Free delivery to Island buildings with doorkeepers; if no doorkeeper, we’ll email you when order is ready for pickup (provide address or phone number). For off-Island mailing, add \$3 for each.

Teen Author

from page 1

work with the printed and spoken word and have instilled in her a love for books.

“My dad would read to me,” recalls Cappello of her childhood, “not only children’s books, but also Robert Frost poetry.” She devoured books, sometimes one a day, and then reread them. Her mom helped her learn critical thinking, writing, and editing her own homework early on. It’s no surprise that English is her favorite subject. Ms. Richmond adds that her daughter’s rigorous education in elementary and middle school added to her ability.

Cappello agrees. “With those skills in place, it made my life a lot easier.”

Having multiple blogs, which she wrote for school assignments and for fun, also helped. In one, an independent study project that she completed in her junior year, Cappello read about the Salem witch trials in Massachusetts in the late 1600s. She wrote historical fiction pieces about those events, weaving in real people with fictional characters to bring to life that part of history.

Her personal blog, “Just Saying,” at lucy-cappello.blogspot.com, highlights her comedic chops. Here’s an excerpt from a 2013 post titled *Hmm*: “... right now I’m supposed to be working on an essay but I just spent 5 minutes throwing a pen in the air and trying to catch it with my teeth. ... Does this seem like mature behavior to you? (If it does, you may benefit from some counseling.)”

Essay to Book

Fast forward to the guide book. Cappello says she started writing a series of essays about being a teen in New York City that she planned to include in her college applications.

“It seemed like a nice little wrap-up,” she explains, a goodbye letter of sorts to her town as she headed off to higher education.

With direction from her mom, she turned to Jenny Sawyer, a writing tutor and the

creator of 60SecondRecap.com, a website that offers brief but information-rich videos that make the works of literature accessible and interesting to teens.

During three months of focused effort last summer, Cappello wrote in the mornings, submitted her work, and then engaged in Skype sessions with Sawyer in the afternoons.

The expert tutor and editor helped Cappello flesh out her ideas. Sawyer spotted the talented teen’s strengths and weaknesses. One writing problem she had was “not being specific – telling, not showing,” explains Cappello. She started her chapter on pretzels, *Let’s Do the Twist*, with “I love pretzels so much.” Sawyer asked her questions about the why of her love. “After I got her feedback,” says Cappello, “I was able to make it a lot better.”

Now, the “why” included a mouth-watering and funny description: “The bready, warm inside. The opaque white chunks of salt on top. The slightly repulsive – but still yummy – street mustard that I like to drown them in. The disregard I have for the fact that eating one is probably equivalent to eating an entire loaf of bread.”

Cappello also recognizes the agony of writing: “I did feel like I was running out of steam at the end,” she confesses.

But at the end of August last year, the project was completed, and through 60SecondRecap’s publishing arm, Recap Press, the essays became *The Teen’s Guide to Killing Time in New York*.

The ebook, now available online, is receiving mostly five-star ratings. Cappello loves the fruit of her labor. She says it’s “very encouraging to share your work with someone who will appreciate it.”

As for college, Cappello has been accepted at a university in New England and plans to continue writing. And reading.

Lucy Cappello’s advice

- If you like writing, just do it.
- Read a lot, because that’s the way to become a good writer.
- Write a lot and get feedback.
- Show, don’t tell.
- Find a good editor to bounce your ideas off.

David Lloyd Marcus, Ph.D. Psychotherapy and Counseling

Associate Professor
NYU School of Medicine

501 Main Street
Roosevelt Island

212-777-8222

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE
MOST INSURANCE PLANS, INCLUDING MEDICARE, ACCEPTED

E-mail david.marcus@med.nyu.edu

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

B"H



Friday, January 16 at 4:36 pm

Friday, January 23 at 4:44 pm

Friday, January 30 at 4:53 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 ☺

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



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

Sutton Place Chiropractic Dr. Jordan Wolff

300 East 57th St. NY, NY
212 688 3704
Two blocks from the Tram

Come meet Dr. Jordan on January 26th at 4pm,
Roosevelt Island Senior Center at 546 Main St.

Brief Presentation and Complimentary
Spine and Nerve System Evaluation

We specialize in difficult cases



455 Main Street
7 days, 11am-11pm
212-583-1688
Free delivery
for orders \$15 and
over.
All major credit
cards accepted (\$15
minimum).

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

CHINA 1 KITCHEN

Pilates

with Karen

strength, balance, flexibility
Certified Instructor

Private/Group classes on Roosevelt Island

212-750-6223

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 volun-
teers will come to your apartment.
917-558-0534



STEINWAY COURT VETERINARIAN



32-41R Steinway Street
Astoria
718-728-2822

Quality Care

And Compassion In a Neighborhood Setting

steinwaycourtvet.com
info@steinwaycourtvet.com

GRISTEDES of ROOSEVELT ISLAND

CHECK OUT OUR GRISTEDES CAFE
EAT IN OR TAKE OUT... PREPARED FRESH DAILY!!!

PIZZA DEPARTMENT

**2 Pizza Slices
& Iced Tea**

\$2⁹⁹ Ea.

Toppings
50¢
Each



**Eggplant or
Chicken Parm Rolls
& Iced Tea**

\$5⁹⁹ Ea.



Available Hot or Cold

16" Pizza Pie

\$6⁹⁹ Ea.

Additional
Topping
\$1.00 extra



**Friday, Saturday,
Sunday Special**

(2) 16" Pizza Pies (With 1 Topping)

\$10⁰⁰ Ea.

ICE CREAM SHOPPE

**Featuring...
Schrafft's
or Sedutto
Premium
Ice Cream**

\$1⁹⁹
Per Cup



START YOUR DAY

**Bacon, Egg &
Cheese
& Coffee**

\$3⁰⁰ Ea.

On a Bagel, Roll
or Croissant



Fried Chicken Specials!

**2-Piece
3-Piece
4-Piece**

**\$4⁹⁹
\$5⁹⁹
\$6⁹⁹** Ea.

Includes
2 Side
Dishes
& FREE
Iced Tea



2 Pieces Each of Wings, Thighs, Legs, Breast

**8 Piece
Fried
Chicken**

\$7⁹⁹ Ea.

Your Choice of 1 lb. of Potato, Macaroni or Cole Slaw Salad



COME VISIT OUR BAKERY
— Custom Cakes For Any Occasion —
Choose Your Cake, Filling & Topping

**Store Made
7 or 8" Cakes**

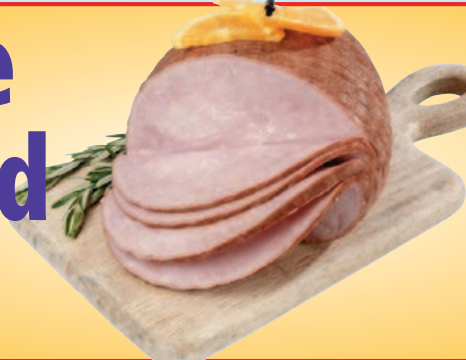
\$19⁹⁹ Ea.

Choose From: Strawberry Shortcake, Oreo, Carrot,
Chocolate Mousse, Red Velvet or NY Style Cheesecake



**Store
Baked
Ham**

\$4⁹⁹ lb.



**Schickhaus
Bologna**

\$4⁹⁹ lb.



**Includes Potato, Macaroni
or Cole Slaw Salad**

**3 Foot
Hero**

\$49⁹⁹ Ea.



**Carolina
Turkey
Breast**

\$4⁹⁹ lb.



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

PICK UP OUR IN-STORE CIRCULAR FOR MORE SAVINGS • PRICES EFFECTIVE TO 1/29/15