



Cornell Tech's Bridge Building has been topped out. It's to serve as a connection between the academic and entrepreneurial worlds. This Kilograph rendering shows the final look. Photos on page 8.

## Cornell Tech

# Data Privacy & Encryption Is Not Just In the News; It's Coming Soon to RI

by Andre Cappon

*“There were still web cameras everywhere, and the possibility of optical computer scanning of license plate numbers. Murder was no different than other human activities in its ability to benefit from more pervasive computerization. Perhaps that’s what Rochelle had been thinking... First of all, she told him, ‘Avoid elevators.’ Elevator assassinations were not uncommon in the espionage business... Rochelle’s precautions were outmoded, rendered obsolete by the creeping tendrils of the internet.”*

So reads a portion of *Tetraktys*, a novel set in a spy-thick world of symbols and computers devised by Prof. Ari Juels.

Juels is on the faculty at Cornell Tech, soon to move from Chelsea to new quarters south on Roosevelt Island, “creating pioneering leaders and technologies for the digital age, through research, technology commercialization, and graduate-level education.”

Juels, who is a youthful 46, is focused on computer security, cryptography, and privacy – hot topics in today’s news as the FBI and Apple battle over access to a locked iPhone used by a San Bernardino shooter. His novel betrays his unusual background: He studied literature and Latin at Amherst and Oxford before completing his computer science doctorate at the University of California at Berkeley. He admits that *Tetraktys* is somewhat autobiographical.

Before Cornell, Juels was the Chief Scientist at a division of EMC Corporation, working in RSA, the algorithm (named with the initials

of the three MIT students who invented it) that powers most data encryption on the internet.

### Dark Side of the Web

So far, the internet remains mostly free of intervention by authorities and governments, except in coun-



tries like Saudi Arabia, Russia, or China. It offers total freedom of expression and commerce. It is a libertarian paradise but it can also be a jungle, full of deception, predators, hackers, scammers, and criminals.

Juels’ research is predicated upon the fact that the internet is central to our lives. All information can now be digitized, stored, preserved indefinitely, and transmitted instantly around the world, at practically zero cost. All knowledge is accessible on a laptop, tablet, or smartphone with internet connection.

A large part of our lives has already migrated to cyberspace: business and financial data; personal data, including finances, social interactions, images, medical records, and many others are now residing on computers. We shop, bank, follow news, communicate,

socialize and date online.

And commerce is rapidly becoming “e-commerce,” creating a need for the safe exchange of assets in cyberspace. “Every major complex system is vulnerable to cyberattack,” says Juels. “We usually defend the perimeter but you always should assume the enemy is already within the gates.”

In other words, Juels says, expect that fraudsters are already at work inside all banking and credit card systems, Chinese hackers have already infiltrated our defense systems and, possibly, terrorists are already seeking to take down the electric grid and wreak all sorts of havoc.

So what do we do to fight these enemies? How do we detect them, catch them, and stop them? Juels believes that likely solutions will be electronic versions of classic “deception” strategies, such as lures, traps, and “sting operations.”

### Honey Objects

Criminals constantly seek to access secure financial systems  
See Juels, page 8

# Indelicato Leaving RIOC; Next Question: Board’s Role in Filling the Job

by Briana Warsing

Charlene Indelicato is leaving her post as Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC) President, starting a new job on April 4, nearly three years to the day after starting her term here.

### What Happens Next?

When the RIOC Board of Directors meets at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, they’ll be asked to vote for appointment of current Vice President and General Counsel Susan Rosenthal as Acting President and CEO.

### And Then?

According to the RIOC bylaws, (Article IV, Section 2), “The officers of the corporation shall be elected by resolution at a regular meeting of the Board. Each officer shall hold office, unless removed, until his or her successor shall have been elected. Except as otherwise provided in the Act, a vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Board.” The RIOC enabling legislation, codified in 1985, gives the Corporation the authority to appoint the corporation’s officers. According to the RIOC website, the first RIOC Board and President were appointed by the Governor in 1986.

The next scheduled RIOC Board meeting is next Thursday (March 10). Will a successor be elected at that meeting? Board member Margie Smith said, “I can’t say with certainty what role the RIOC Board of Directors will have in hiring a replacement for Charlene



[Indelicato] until we all meet and discuss it more thoroughly, which will happen shortly.”

Smith said, “What I hope will happen is that the State will do a search to find qualified candidates [from within State government], do some initial vetting, then give the board members at least three candidates to interview. If one is appropriate, the search is over. If not, we’d look outside [State government] for candidates and again interview at least three people before selecting anyone.”

### History

If history is an indicator, it doesn’t always work the way the laws say it should. Before Indelicato, there was a six-month vacancy after Leslie Torres left the office. RIOC  
See RIOC, page 10

## Briefly...

• **The Bridge at Cornell Tech** topped off on March 1 at its final seven stories. It is scheduled to open in the summer of 2017 along with the other Cornell Tech phase one buildings, The Bloomberg Center, and the residential building.

According to a press release, The Bridge will be a first-of-its-kind building that will house an ecosystem of companies, researchers, and entrepreneurs focused on catalyzing innovation and the commercialization of new products and technologies, driving economic growth for New York.

• The voting age for the City Council’s **Participatory Budgeting** has been lowered to age 14 this year. PS/IS 217’s Green Roof is again on the ballot for the final \$500,000 required. Another initiative seeks computer carts for PS/IS 217 and other schools. (See *RIRA Column*, page 3.)

# RIOC Comedy Coming – This Time, It’s Supposed to Be a Laughing Matter

by Sara Metzidakis

William Neville, a comedian who has lived in New York City since 2013, met a cousin of his on Roosevelt Island one day last fall. As they walked around exploring the Island, Neville took note of the sign for Main Street Theatre and Dance Alliance [MST&DA]. At that time, he was doing a residency at People’s Improv Theater, where he had a weekly show. With his residence scheduled to be finished in January of 2016, he emailed Kristi Towey, Director of MST&DA, to propose bringing a comedy show to the Island.

He said, “There are other shows around town, but I wanted a show that’s mine.” He and Towey partnered in RIOC.

### No, Not *That* RIOC

RIOC, in this case, stands for Roosevelt Island’s Only Comedy (though observers of the “real” RIOC may dispute the “only”). Neville, who is from a small town in Massachusetts, went to Columbia College, a liberal arts college in Chicago. The school offers a semester at Second City, the renowned comedy club in Chicago, where aspiring artists study performance, writing and improvisation. Neville says, “It was the best semester of college in my life.” In addition to Second City he also worked at Comedy Sportz, also in Chicago.

Neville has performed stand-up in various venues in New York City and Boston and currently hosts The Stand Up Showdown most Friday nights at People’s Improv Theater (known colloquially as PIT) “I am also the producer of PIT Presents, the theater stand-up residency program.” He works as PR and marketing

See RIOC Comedy, page 8



## Born in 2012?

# It’s Time: Get on the List

by Briana Warsing

Parents of rising preschoolers are gearing up for a fight. As of the current school year, the Department of Education (DOE) added 18 seats to PS 217 for a total of 36 Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) seats. Yet that left dozens, tallying close to 100 Island families, still on the wait-list to get their 2011 born child into our school.

Parents of children born in 2012 mobilized early, hoping for a more favorable outcome. Led by Susana Del Campo Perea, they have been trying to ensure that there are enough Island seats for the upcoming school year, 2016-2017. Island daycares and schools joined the fight. At one point, it was rumored that Creche Du Monde, Roosevelt Island Day Nursery, and Island Kids would all offer UPK as what the DOE calls NYCEECS (New York City Early Education Centers).

None has received approval yet. The deadline for UPK application was extended to March 9. As of today, only PS217’s 36 seats are on the table. As other schools win approval, parents will be able to apply to them. In fact, parents can opt in to receive emails when UPK seats in our district

See Pre-K, page 10

The Editorial Page

Four Freedoms Reimagined

The 75th anniversary of FDR’s Four Freedoms speech was celebrated earlier this year. In 2012, when I moved back to the Island, I was excited about being able to run through a part of the Island that had been off-limits when I was growing up. During those early runs and the many since, I have often thought about the Four Freedoms as reimagined for today’s Roosevelt Island.

The first is the freedom to be able to live here if you choose. Roosevelt Island is no longer that place with the middle class rents and upper class views. Our General Development Plan was clear and specified the percentage of fair market housing, 25% in Northtown, and 40-60% of Southtown; the rest of the Island, the majority, was supposed to be affordable housing. Our housing was predicated on the principals of Senator MacNeil Mitchell and Assemblyman Alfred Lama. The program named for them kept the Island affordable for a few decades. Now we are guided by fair market value, Cushman & Wakefield, Hudson/Related and the almighty dollar.

The second freedom is to be a true democracy. Sadly, our Island is run by Albany. It is an absentee, not an indigenous, government. Our Island is State-controlled land and RIOC is a State authority. We don’t vote for RIOC President, yet it’s RIOCs trucks and RIOCs snow-plows that we see outside. We can go to a RIOC Board meeting and air grievances but RIOC doesn’t have to listen to, agree, or vote on our suggestions, despite the impact their choices have on us. That’s pretty much all the say we get over our public spaces, the maintenance of the Island, and the choices RIOC makes.

The third freedom is to send our kids to school here. It’s one thing to choose not to go to the school down the street. It’s another thing not to get a seat in it. Undue hardship doesn’t begin to express travel with a four-year-old during rush hour. In the winter. With a baby in tow. It’s not like there’s a free bus to transport your child to that one school that had a seat, located in Chinatown. You have to get your kid there. And then you have to arrange for your kid to get home. It’s a lot to ask. Suddenly, Universal Pre-K doesn’t seem so universal.

The fourth freedom is the freedom to engage our neighbors so that together we can fulfill the dream of Roosevelt Island. That dream has, as its ultimate goal, a rich tapestry of different economic backgrounds, cultures, and religions coexisting and collaborating in an enriching and meaningful way. For this fourth freedom to be realized, there must be a hospitable climate – affordable housing, democracy, and a public school seat.

Retail Progress

While only one lease was signed in 2015 (Creche du Monde daycare), and there remain many empty storefronts which could and should be filled with needed goods and services, there has been progress made under Hudson/Related as landlord. Wholesome Factory, Island Spirits, Subway, Main Street Sweets, and the long-awaited Urgent Care are all products of Hudson/Related. The new arcades and upgrades of the deli, Gristedes, and, fingers crossed that they open soon, Trellis are all attributable to Hudson/Related.

The New York Public Library and the Catholic parish will both move to 504 Main Street and anticipate opening in 2017, all on Hudson/Related’s watch.

We still have a lot of need; who wouldn’t want to get a good burrito or some Thai food without having to take the Tram, but it is very possible that as Cornell’s move-in date gets closer, so will more of the goods and services we want and need also move-in.

BW

Letters

To the Editor:

I’m fed up!  
It’s not even funny how tired I am of having *no parking* available on this Island. All over the five boroughs you can find free parking within two to three blocks of your apartment, except here. The nearest free but never available parking is at Manhattan Park and beyond (and I am not sure if this is even true these days).

Why does RIOC park on the sidewalk next to Island House? They are not an emergency agency, and if a true emergency were to happen, they could ride with Public Safety (PSD). That area should be for PSD, in case of an emergency, and they should free that huge parking space [on Main St., currently used by PSD vehicles] for Island House tenants to load and unload their shopping or luggage or for more parking.

Also, on such a small island, why do we have so many disabled tag users when we see half of them are completely capable of walking from here to the garage (which has more disabled spots used by non-disabled people). On the streets they do not pay and can stay

there is only the one bit of chatter. Everyone else is standing alone, almost sullen, eyes unfocused on the middle distance beyond the plexiglas or glued to some handheld electronic device.

Nothing against the modern personal assistants we all carry around, you understand. But what has changed is the more valuable comradery of the Tram – that opportunity afforded when a friend or mere acquaintance is encountered and it’s a chance to catch up... or a chance to speak up and make a new friend. The conversations used to involved last night’s episode of some TV show,



or the politics of the moment, or the unrelenting incompetence of RIOC, or the weather, or any one of a hundred other topics. Sometimes, the deadline of arrival at yonder station would be defeated by an arrangement to meet at Trellis for coffee (which has its own limits these

24/7, taking half of the entire Island parking spaces. The 45 minutes allowed on Main Street is just not enough time for someone to visit. Going to the subway to park for two hours is just as bad, since, depending on where you live, it may take 30 minutes to go and be back to the person you are visiting.

I don’t believe the [RIRA] survey will solve this problem.

I am trying to do a little remodeling on my apartment and the first thing people ask me about is where I live. Once I tell them, the next question is, “Are you paying for parking at the garage?” They don’t want to come here, it’s unproductive or very expensive for them.

I want to be clear, I am not against the police or the disabled; I just feel that RIOC could accommodate the police in a better spot and limit the amount of time disabled residents can take spots. I believe adding street cleaning hours would give us a better rotation since it would force disabled tag users to clear their spots more often.

Name Withheld

days) or even a get-acquainted date. On this morning’s trip, there is none of that.

Perhaps we have all become New Yorkers, keeping to ourselves, busied in our own thoughts, preferring not to be bothered with others. Perhaps it is a byproduct of community size,

the divergence of economic fortunes, or a capitulation to the isolation of living in a crowd. But not all of it can be attributed to wholesale adoption of the digital future.

Tomorrow, on the Tram, smile at someone. Start a conversation. You may be rebuffed, but it is more likely that you will rediscover the joy of knowing an interesting neighbor. That, when experienced enough by enough people, becomes community.

That’s what was missing on the Tram this morning. Notice it the next time you’re over the East River, but notice only briefly. Then, smile, and say something that brings back the art of the elevator conversation right there on our Tramway. If the person you happen to choose happens to be me, I’ll respond warmly. If you happen to be the person chosen, please respond warmly. You remember how it’s done.

Your day will be richer, and so will our community.

DL

Letters deadline

for March 19 issue:  
Tuesday, March 15, 5:00 p.m.

Letters Policy

The WIRE welcomes letters of interest to the Roosevelt Island community, and to/from officials. Recommended maximum length, 350 words; longer letters will be considered if their content, in the judgment of the editors, merits the required space. All letters are subject to acceptance and editing for length and clarity. Letters submitted anonymously will not be published; requests for a Name Withheld signature will be considered, but the writer’s name, address, and phone number must be provided for verification and for our records.

Submit by email to MainStreetWIRE@gmail.com. Expect a confirming response and, if you receive none, resend and call 212-826-9056 to alert us. Alternatives: Typed copy left at 531 Main Street, and clearly handwritten letters will be considered, if brief (allow extra time for typesetting). We are not able to take telephone dictation of letters.

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Advertising 917-587-3278  
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Editor – Briana Warsing – MainStreetWIRE@gmail.com

Layout Editor – John Dougherty

Chief Proofreader – Linda Heimer

Proofreaders – Lorraine Altman,  
Vicki Feinmel, Helke Taeger

Reporters – Sara Maher, Alex Marshall,

Sara Metzidakis, David Stone

Photographer – Maria Casotti

Advertising – Ellen Levy – 917-587-3278 / msWIREads@gmail.com

Circulation Managers – Sherie Helstien, Matthew Katz

Circulation Assistants – Jim Horace, Brandon Cruz

Human Resources – David J. Bauer

Legal Counsel – A. Ross Wollen

Island History Consultant – Judy Berdy

MainStreetWIRE.com – Jeff Prekopa, Laurence Vaughan

Acting Publisher – Dick Lutz – DickLutz@usa.net

Founding Publisher – Jack Resnick

Peter Alber, Laila Amatullah, Bubur Arya, Marty Atkins, Steve Bessenoff, Ann Biddlecom, Barbara Brooks, Shelly Brooks, Carol Chen, Gloria Cherif-Jamal, Joan Davis, Joan Digilio, Justin Evans, Jan Fund, Gloria Gonsalves, Matthew Gonsalves, Tiffany Gonsalves, Aaron Hamburger, Todd Jagerson, David Kolakowski, Michael Kolba, Anton Luser, Lilya Luser, Mary Mangle, Katharina Mauer, Vincent McClean, Hezi Mena, Bakul Mitro, Clinton Narine, Kiran Narine, Sandra Narine, Kumar Nathan, Halima Nooradeen, Essie Owens, Joan Pape, Christina Park, Lucas Plaut, Judy Quintana, Brian Reccardi, Ronnie Rigos, Ilonka Salisbury, Mondira Sarkar, Bob Specker, Betty Spensley, James Starace, Luca Starace; and...  
Allison Pearlman and students of Legacy High School;  
Angelo Sacino, Kaitlyn Abdul, and students from the PS/IS 217 Beacon Program,  
Juniors and Cadettes of Girl Scout Troop 3324

As I'm sure many of you have seen, all major parts of phase one of Cornell Tech's campus are far along and on track to open summer 2017! Andrew Winters, Senior Director of Capital Projects at Cornell Tech, recently gave the Construction and Community Task Force an update on our progress.

These coming months will see significant progress for the campus. The North Loop Road has reopened for the community to use. The Bloomberg Center topped off in November, and the Bridge and Passive House residential building are expected to top off this month.

In an extension of our aggressive bargaining effort, we are currently bargaining in drywall, and we expect to start barge delivery of wall panels in several weeks.

At the Task Force meeting, we had a wonderful presentation from the organization

Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW). NEW prepares, trains, and places women in construction careers – including carpentry, plumbing, electricity, and more – and serves as a direct pipeline for construction trades unions, providing women with skills and access to high paying jobs. NEW trains more than 400 women every year – 80% of them are low-income, and many are single moms.

Cornell Tech is extremely proud to sign on as a NEW signature project. We have committed to ensuring that at least 15% of the construction jobs on campus to go tradeswomen. We encourage anyone interested in learning more about the organization and how to get involved to visit their website [www.new-nyc.org](http://www.new-nyc.org). And in conjunction with the Cornell Tech Community and Construction Task Force, Cornell Tech will soon be hosting an outreach/recruitment event on Roosevelt Island. Stay tuned!

As you know, Cornell Tech is always looking for new ways to engage with the island community, and on February 4th, our faculty and students had an exciting opportunity to talk with The Coler Rehabilitation and Nursing Care Center about the potential for future collaboration.

The workshop included presentations by Cornell Tech and Cornell University professors and students

whose research relates to helping those living with disabilities.

Dr. Shiri Azenkot, who directs the Enhancing Ability Lab at Cornell Tech, shared updates on her current research. One of her students is developing Palette, a device that allows people with quadriplegia to better control their environments. Another student is developing smart glasses to improve sight for people with low vision.

Dr. Susanne M. Bruyère, the Director of Cornell University's Institute on Employment and Disability, discussed her experience researching and working to improve employment outcomes for people with disabilities.

Leadership and staff at Coler Hospital also presented on the valuable resources and technology already at the hospital, and provided key insights into the hospital's current needs. Floyd Long, Acting CEO of Coler Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, provided a key overview of Coler's current operations and expressed excitement about this potential collaboration. Members of his staff shared videos and models of the technology available to improve their patients' daily lives and foster rehabilitation.

The meeting with Coler is a first meeting step towards collaborating on the important issue of disabilities.

We are having our next Construction and Community Task Force meeting on Thursday April 28th at Gallery RIVAA at 527 Main St at 6 p.m., where we will provide additional updates. The next town hall meeting is currently scheduled for June 13th, with more details to come.

I look forward to seeing you all on the Island! Please visit [tech.cornell.edu](http://tech.cornell.edu) for more information and to get in touch with us.



Jane Swanson  
Cornell Community Liaison  
[js399@cornell.edu](mailto:js399@cornell.edu)

## The Cornell Column

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

It has been recently reported that the current President of RIOC, Charlene Indelicato, will be leaving her post in April to be the Village Administrator of Dobbs Ferry. Although the RIRA Common Council has yet to receive official and proper notice of Ms. Indelicato's departure, it is unfortunate that such departure, if true, comes at a time when stewardship of life on the Island and its residents is needed the most.

- Construction trucks are constantly rumbling up and down Main Street polluting our main corridor and causing transportation frustrations and delays on a regular basis.
- Infrastructure projects remain uncompleted, inhibiting Islanders' ability to fully utilize the Island's resources.
- Facilities are in need of repair and refurbishment, serving to mark our Island as aging.
- The Main Street retail corridor sits empty, and forcing residents to look elsewhere to meet their everyday needs.

## The RIRA Column

- Community groups are forced to vvy for space at a time when community and non-profit services are most needed.
- RIOC Board members' ability to make decisions has been neutered by strong-arming and edict from the powers that be in Albany.

A vacuum of leadership and stewardship is not what the Island needs right now. In fact, one could say it is what is needed the least.

Regardless, with Ms. Indelicato's departure, an opportunity presents itself that would allow a suitable long-term RIOC President to be installed. One would hope that Albany and the Governor's office will do what is right and allow Island residents to participate in providing input on who the next RIOC President will be, and will install a RIOC executive who has the Island and the community's best interests in hand. One can only hope, for it has yet – over the course of the Island's history for the last 40 or so odd years – for this hope to be seen.

### Participatory Budgeting

Among the 15 projects on this year's Participatory Budgeting ballot in which residents of 24 City Council districts have the opportunity to vote on how \$25 million of taxpayer money is spent Citywide, Roosevelt

Island once again has two projects vying for your and our community's vote. What is Participatory Budgeting? It is the City's annual effort to allow residents of our City to democratically and directly vote on how to spend part of the City's public budget.

Phase II in support of finalizing the effort to bring a 6,750 square-foot green roof and green STEM learning hub to our Island children is on this year's ballot. If you will recall, last year, through the hard work and support of Principal Mandana Beckman along with Ursala Fokine, PS/IS 217 Science and Math Coach and Sustainability coordinator, the Parent-Teacher Association of PS/IS 217, parents and friends of PS/IS 217,



Jeffrey Escobar, President  
Roosevelt Island Residents Association  
[jeffrey.escobar@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.escobar@gmail.com)

the Cornell Tech Partnership, City Councilmember Ben Kallos, Borough President Gale Brewer and countless others, the first step in the school's efforts since 2013 to bring a green roof to PS/IS 217 became a reality when New York City residents overwhelmingly voted in support of pledging PS/IS 217 \$500,000 towards the \$1.5 million needed. Manhattan Borough Gale Brewer pledged a further \$250,000 in support of the endeavor last year. Now, PS/IS 217 is on the cusp of making the green roof and green STEM learning hub of PS/IS 217 a reality – but they need your help.

Also on this year's Participatory Budgeting ballot is the initiative to bring 10 Computer Carts to 10 New York City Public Schools, including our PS/IS 217. If successful, each school will receive 32 new computers.

During the week of March 29, make sure you stop by the following Roosevelt Island venues and vote for PS/IS 217's Green Roof initiative and the 10 Computer Carts for 10 Schools initiative: Saturday, March 26 at the RIRA Annual Egg Hunt at Manhattan Park, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 29 at the F Train Subway Stop on Roosevelt Island, 4:00 p.m.-7:00

# COMING UP

## - This Weekend -

**“Opening reception, Vernissage XV, Sat Mar 5** 6-9pm at Gallery RIVAA. 527 Main St. Exhibition runs through Apr 3. Gallery hours: Wed & Fri 6-9pm, Sat & Sun 11am-5pm.

**“On Roosevelt Island We...” campaign** continues to accept submissions through Mar 31. Have your child draw a picture that completes the statement and deliver to 455 Main St., ATTN: Leila. Posters with submitted artwork will be displayed on the Island. Info: [leila@omniarch-ny.com](mailto:leila@omniarch-ny.com)

**Registration open for Palladino Academy of Soccer** spring season, through Apr 1. Season Apr 4-Jun 24, Octagon Field. Season fee \$600. Info and registration: [palladinoacademy.com](http://palladinoacademy.com)

**Registration open for Master Swim Mar-May session.** Classes Mon, Wed, Fri 7:30-8:30pm at Sportspark. Register online ([rioc.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/ProgramRegistration](http://rioc.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/ProgramRegistration)), by email ([Eddie.Perez@rioc.ny.gov](mailto:Eddie.Perez@rioc.ny.gov)), or by phone (212-832-4569). Residents \$60/session or \$7 per drop-in.

## – Regular Meetings Events –

See page 4.

## - The Next Two Weeks -

**Free Tax Preparation Assistance** for low-moderate income taxpayers, every Tue through Apr 15 9am-1pm, at the Senior Association. Info: 212-980-1888

**Roosevelt Island Day Nursery open enrollment starts Tue Mar 8** 8:30am-3pm daily, until classes are filled, at 4 River Rd. Info: 212-593-0750 (See ad, page 7.)

**RIHS lecture, The SS Columbia and the Return of the Hudson River Day Liner, Tue Mar 8** 6:30pm, Library. Free.

**Opening reception, Solo Exhibition by Dan Nistor, Sat Mar 12** 6-9pm at Octagon Gallery, 888 Main St. Exhibit through Apr 17.

**Americordo reading and book signing, Fri Mar 18** 7pm at Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. Author Gianna Pontecorboli discusses Italian Jews who emigrated to America to escape Fascism.

**The Main Street WIRE – Sat Mar 19.** Advertising deadlines: Display, Wed Mar 9 decision date for circulars/inserts, Tue Mar 15; 6,000 copies due Thu Mar 17. Also: Apr 9, 23; May 14, 28; Jun 11, 25; Jul issue date to be announced; Aug 27; Sep 10, 24; Oct 8, 22; Nov 5, 19; Dec 10. News phone, 917-842-7638; urgent matters, 917-617-0449. Email press releases and feature-story suggestions to [MainStreetWIRE@usa.net](mailto:MainStreetWIRE@usa.net). Advertising (display & classified) 917-587-3278 or [msWIREads@gmail.com](mailto:msWIREads@gmail.com).

**Crafts with Kids: Easter, Sat Mar 19** 10-11am, Senior Center. Sponsored by Roosevelt Island Parents Network. RSVP to [eva.bosbach@gmail.com](mailto:eva.bosbach@gmail.com)  
**PS/IS 217 Annual Silent Auction, Sat Mar 19** 12-5pm, Manhattan Park Theater Club, 8 River Rd. \$5/person, \$20 per family of 4+. (Ad, page 6.)  
**Spring Concert, Laudamus Children's Chorus, Sun Mar 20** 7pm at the Good Shepherd Center. Free. [laudamusnyc.org](http://laudamusnyc.org)

## - Future Weeks -

**Annual Egg Hunt** sponsored by RIRA Sat Mar 26 11am at the Manhattan Park Green for children 8 and under. Pre-registration required. (See RIRA column, this page.)

**Participatory Budget voting, Sat Mar 26** 11am-2pm, 20 River Rd. at the annual Egg Hunt. Info and full list of voting locations: [council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml](http://council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml)

**Participatory Budget voting, Tue Mar 29** 4-7pm, F train. Info and full list of voting locations: [council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml](http://council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml)

**Participatory Budget voting, Wed Mar 30** 4-7pm, Tramway Plaza. Info and full list of voting locations: [council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml](http://council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml)

**Participatory Budget voting, Thu Mar 31** 7:30-10:30am, PS/IS 217. Info and full list of voting locations: [council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml](http://council.nyc.gov/html/pb/home.shtml)

**Opening reception, Visions of Gaia, Sat Apr 9** 6-9pm at Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main St. Exhibit runs from Apr 5 through May 1. Gallery hours: Wed & Fri 6-9pm, Sat & Sun 11am-5pm.

**RIHS lecture, Women in Health, Tue Apr 12** 6:30pm at the library. Free.

**Crafts with Kids: Spring, Sat Apr 16** 10-11am, Senior Center. Sponsored by Roosevelt Island Parents Network. RSVP to [eva.bosbach@gmail.com](mailto:eva.bosbach@gmail.com)

**Presidential Primary, Tue Apr 19.**

**RIOC (Roosevelt Island's Only Comedy), Fri Apr 22** MST&DA, 548 Main St. Details to be announced.

**Cornell Tech Community Construction Task Force meeting, Mon Apr 25** 6-8pm, Gallery RIVAA. Open to the public.

**Crafts with Kids: Spring, Sat May 7** 10-11am, Senior Center. Sponsored by Roosevelt Island Parents Network. RSVP to [eva.bosbach@gmail.com](mailto:eva.bosbach@gmail.com)

**Cornell Tech Community Construction Task Force meeting, Mon Jul 25** 6-8pm, Gallery RIVAA. Open to the public.

p.m.; Wednesday, March 30 at the Tramway Plaza at 59th Street in Manhattan, 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.; and Thursday, March 31 at PS/IS 217 located at 645 Main Street, 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. No voter registration or proof of citizenship is required. There's tough competition, against many others on the Upper East Side, so be sure to get out and vote in support of the Roosevelt Island initiatives and make our voice, as the Roosevelt Island community, heard!

### RIRA Annual Egg Hunt

The date has been set and this year's RIRA Annual Egg Hunt is

set for Saturday, March 26 at 11 a.m. at the Manhattan Park Green across the street from Gristedes. The RIRA Social, Cultural and Educational Services Committee, in conjunction with other Island organizations, businesses, and charities invite you and your little ones ages 8 and under to participate in this new Island tradition. As with last year, rain or shine, this year's hunt will include a visit from the Easter Bunny, story time under the tree, bonnet-making, children's book giveaways, the egg hunt, and so much more. Space will be limited  
See RIRA Column, page 10

# Adventures Of F F-Island

curated by Sara Maher

The sun is shining! The birds are singing! The wind is... well, still howling, but you can't have it all. Get your brain and body to start the slow thaw by heading out to one of these events.

### Food For Thought

Eating greens doesn't have to leave you blue. Help your little foodies find their next favorite at the Kids Food Fest. The event was started to help the fight against childhood obesity, but it does it with a healthy serving of fun. Free admission includes live entertainment, chef demonstrations, and activities like a Balanced Plate scavenger hunt, but you can also pay a little extra for hands-on cooking classes like Camp Cooking with the Boy Scouts; Healthy Candy; and Fresh Apple Cookies & Carrot Cookies; and Healthy Asian Street Food with MasterChef Junior finalist Josh Reisner.

- F downtown to 42nd St-Bryant Park and enter the park. Sat Mar 5-Sun Mar 6, 10am-4pm. Free admission; cooking classes \$25. kidsfoodfestival.com

### Get Reel

True Hollywood diversity is about more than just the color of your skin. The Reel Abilities Film Festival is the largest film festival in the country "dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories and artistic expressions of people with different abilities." All of the films are about people who are differently abled—including those with mental and learning disabilities as well as physical differences, and the panels focus on topics such as why filmmakers and actors with disabilities have limited opportunities in Hollywood. There are also family-friendly programs like

short films and Music for Autism.

- Various locations; F-accessible venues include 58th St Library (127 E 58th St, Manhattan); Mid-Manhattan Public Library (455 5th Av, Manhattan); Mulberry St Library (10 Jersey St, Manhattan); and the New York Transit Museum (Boerum Pl and Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn). Mar 10-16, various times. All films are captioned or subtitled (unless otherwise noted) and all venues are wheelchair accessible. They also offer audio description, ASL interpretation, CART, and information in Braille for select events and upon advance request. Ticket prices vary, but many screenings are free and open to the public. newyork.reelabilities.org

### Ju Ware OR Jōmon?

Asia Week New York is an annual ten-day celebration of Asian art packed with exhibitions and auctions. The auctions are a huge draw for collectors and curators from all over the world, but there will also be museum tours, author meet-and-greets and book signings, symposiums (like Living with Classical Chinese Furniture, ooh!), and dealers and auction houses opening their doors for Open House New York.

- Various locations; F-accessible venues (all in Manhattan) include Dai Ichi Arts, Ltd. (18 E 64th St, Suite 1F); Scholten Japanese Art (145 W 58th St, Suite 6D); Laurence Miller Gallery (20 W 57th St, 3rd Fl); the Museum of Modern Art (11 W 53rd St); the Rubin Museum of Art (150 W 17th St); and Tibet House (22 W 15th St, 2nd Fl). Mar 10-19, various times. Regular museum admission fees apply. Some events may not be open to the public. asiaweekny.com

### Only Books Understand You

In today's book market, it's hip to be YA (that's "young

adult," for you biography readers.) More than 100 authors will participate in this year's NYC Teen Author Festival, with bookish events ranging from author talks and signings to a performance by Tiger Beat, an all-author band (well, at least the lyrics will be good.) If you, like, love David Levithan, you're in luck, as he's acting as host or moderator for many of the events.

- Various locations; F-accessible venues (all in Manhattan) include NYPL Stephen A. Schwarzman Building (42nd St and Fifth Av); Mulberry St Library (10 Jersey St); McNally Jackson Books (52 Prince St); and Dixon Place (161 Christie St). Mar 13-20, various times. All events free, but book purchases strongly encouraged. nyctaf.com

### Green is Good

Right, let's not forget America's favorite guilt-free holiday: St. Patrick's Day! You can celebrate it in one of two traditional ways: at a bar (literally any bar) or watching a parade. If you want to go the parade route (the more we celebrate, the worse the jokes get!), you can grab a green bagel and line up along Fifth Avenue to watch the oldest, largest St. Patrick's Day parade in the world (just copying from the website, Dubliners). You can really get into the spirit by wishing sláinte agus táinte to this year's Grand Marshal, Senator George J. Mitchell... or you can order another round.

- F downtown to Lexington Av-63rd St; 57th St; 47-50th Sts-Rockefeller Center, or 42nd St-Bryant Park; route runs north on Fifth Av from 44th to 79th Sts. Thu Mar 17, 11am-roughly 5pm. Free. Note: it is against NYC law to consume alcohol at a public event or display public drunkenness. nycstpatricksparade.org

## 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

**Winter Treasures #2** at the Octagon Gallery, **through Mar 6**. Gallery open daily 9am-8pm. **Vernissage XV** RIVAA anniversary celebration at Gallery RIVAA, **Sat Mar 5-Sun Apr 3**. Gallery open Wed, Fri 6-9pm and Sat-Sun 11am-5pm. **Solo Exhibition by Dan Nistor** at the Octagon Gallery, **March 12-April 17**. Gallery open daily 9am-8pm.

### PARKS

**Southpoint Park** open daily 6am-10pm.  
**Lighthouse Park** open daily 7am-9pm.  
**Four Freedoms Park** daily 9am-5pm. **Closed Tue**. Free guided tours **Sat** 11am, 3pm; **Sun** 11am.

### CLASSES

**Art**, taught by members of the RI Visual Art Association, **Sat** 11am-2pm, Sportspark. Free.  
**We Are New York English Class**, every **Fri** 10:30-12:30 at the library.

### EXERCISE & SPORTS *(alphabetical)*

**Basketball** (all ages), **Sat** 2-5pm, Sportspark. Free.  
**Basketball** (adults), **Mon-Thu** 7:30-9:30pm, PS/IS 217. Free.  
**Pilates with Karen**, **Wed** 8:30am. Info 212-750-6223.  
**Ping Pong** (all ages), **Tue Wed Fri** 6-9pm, Sportspark. \$5.  
**Rhythmic Gymnastics Classes**, **Mon** 4-6pm for beginners, **Thu** 4-6 intermediate, Sportspark. Information: RogueRhythmics@yahoo.com or 917-331-2044.  
**RI Moms on the Move** walk and exercise program, **Mon 9:30am**, Visitor Kiosk in Tramway Plaza. Free. To confirm day and time: [Eva.Bosbach@gmail.com](mailto:Eva.Bosbach@gmail.com).  
**Sportspark** parks and recreation website for information on fitness classes and program calendar: rioc.recdesk.com. 11  
**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 Wed Fri** 7:30-8:30pm, Sportspark.  
(\*\$5; free for disabled, seniors 60+, and ages 0-3.)  
**Tennis for Kids**, see **Older Kids** entries, below.  
**Yoga** (open-level), **Mon & Thu** 6:15-7:15pm, **Sat** 10-11am, Sportspark. \$5. Mats available.  
**Yoga** (Vinyassa-flow) with Keren Messer, **Mon** 7:45pm, **Fri** 10am, Good Shepherd Center. Info: KerenMsr@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 *(listed sat-fri)*

Parent and Me Swim Class, Sun 11am & Wed 10:30am, Sportspark. \$5 for pre-registered Island families.  
**Baby Story Time** (0-18 mo), **Mon** 10:30am, Library. No registration required.  
**Baby Playtime** (0-18 mo), **Mon** 11am, Library. No registration required.  
**Music with James**, every **Tue** 4pm at the Cultural Center (548 Main St.) Ages 4mo-4yr. \$15/child. musicwithjames.com  
**Toddler Story Time** (18-36 mo), **Wed** 10:15 & 11:15am, Library. No registration required.  
**Toddler Play Time** (18-36 mo), **Wed** 10:45 & 11:45am, Library. No registration required.  
**Island Kids Baby Group** (0-14 mo.), **Thu** 10:30-11:30am, 536 Main St. Info: IslandKidsRI@gmail.com.

### OLDER KIDS *(listed Sat-Fri)*

**Tennis** – Junior Tennis, **Sat & Mon-Fri** after school, Racquet Club. Info 212-935-0250.  
**Tennis** – New York Junior Tennis & Learning program, **Mon-Fri** 3-6pm (ages 8-18); **Tue** 5-6pm & **Thu** 3-4pm for ages 5-7 (with parent/guardian), Octagon Park Courts. No preregistration; sneakers required. Info tc@nyjtl.org or 718-786-7110.  
**Teen Time** (ages 13-18), **Mon-Fri** 3pm, Library.  
**Beacon After-School Program**, grades 1-8, **Mon-Fri** 3-6pm, PS/IS 217. Free. Info: 212-527-2505.  
**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.  
**Anime Club** (teens), **Thu** 4-5pm, Library. No registration required.  
**Kids & Family Yoga** (ages 4-7 & caregivers), see Exercise & Sports.  
**Reading Aloud** (children), **Fri** 3:30pm, Library. No registration required.  
**Girl Scouts** (6-13 yrs), **Fri** 6-8pm, PS/IS 217. Info: 212-527-2505.

### SENIORS

**Lunch**, **Mon-Fri** noon, Senior Center, 546 Main St. \$1.50. Menus outside social worker's office. Also see additional listings, this page.  
**Computer Basics for Seniors**, every **Fri** 10:30am at the Library.

### REGULAR MEETINGS *(listed Sat-Fri)*

**Toastmasters** (public speaking), **2nd & 4th Mon** 7:30pm. Info: 212-751-9577.  
**Sci-Fi Discussion Group**, **1st Tue** 6:30pm, Library.  
**Coloring for Adults**, every **Tue** 12pm, Library. Materials provided.  
**114th Precinct Community Meeting**, **4th Tue** 7pm, Riccardo', 2101 24th Av., Astoria.  
**RIRA Common Council** meeting **1st Wed** (except Jul-Aug) 8pm, Good Shepherd Center.  
**Women's Health Organization**, **last Wed** except Nov and Dec, when meeting is on third Wed, 6:30pm, 546 Main St, 12th floor conference room.  
**Knitting and Crochet Group**, every **Thu** 11:30am. Library.  
**Book Discussion**, **3rd Thu** 6:30-8pm, Library.

### OFFICE HOURS

**RIOC's Community Office Hours**, **Mon** 3-5pm, 591 Main St. Info: 212-832-4540.  
**Conversations with Cornell Tech Staff** at Gallery RIVAA, **Wed & Fri** 10am-12noon & 1-4pm, 527 Main St.  
**Constituent Service Hours:**  
**Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright**, **1st Wed** 11am-2pm, Senior Center or Library Info: 212 288-4607.  
**City Council Member Ben Kallos**, **4th Wed** 2-5pm, Senior Center, 546 Main St.  
**State Senator Jose Serrano**, **Wed** 3-6pm, Senior Center or Library. Info: 212-828-5829.

### OTHER

**Organics Recycling** every **Sat** at the Farmer's Market under the Helix from 9:30am-3:30pm. Residents can drop off kitchen scraps to be made into compost for local parks and gardens.  
**Clinic on Housing Law**, **1st & 3rd Mon** 3-6pm, district office of City Councilmember Ben Kallos, 244 E. 93rd St. Reservations and questions: 212-860-1950 or [RSVP@BenKallos.com](mailto:RSVP@BenKallos.com).  
**Free Legal Clinic**, **1st Mon**, sponsored by Assemblymember Rebecca Seawright. For appointment call 212-288-4607.  
**Policy Night**, **2nd Tue** 6:30pm, Kallos office (see above), 244 E. 93rd St.; help formulate policy.  
**Knitting & Crocheting Circle** (adults), **Thu** 11:30am, Library. Info: nyp1.org.  
**First Fridays** with Kallos, 8-10am, district office (see above); questions and issues.

Submit event information by email to [saralynmaher@gmail.com](mailto:saralynmaher@gmail.com). Include your phone number(s) for follow-up questions.

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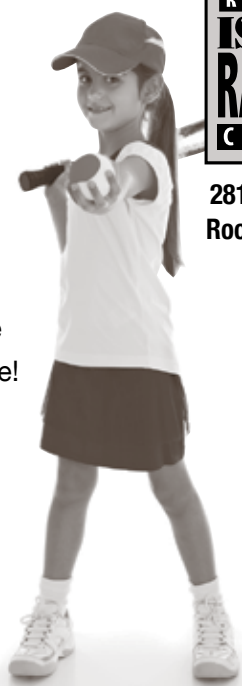
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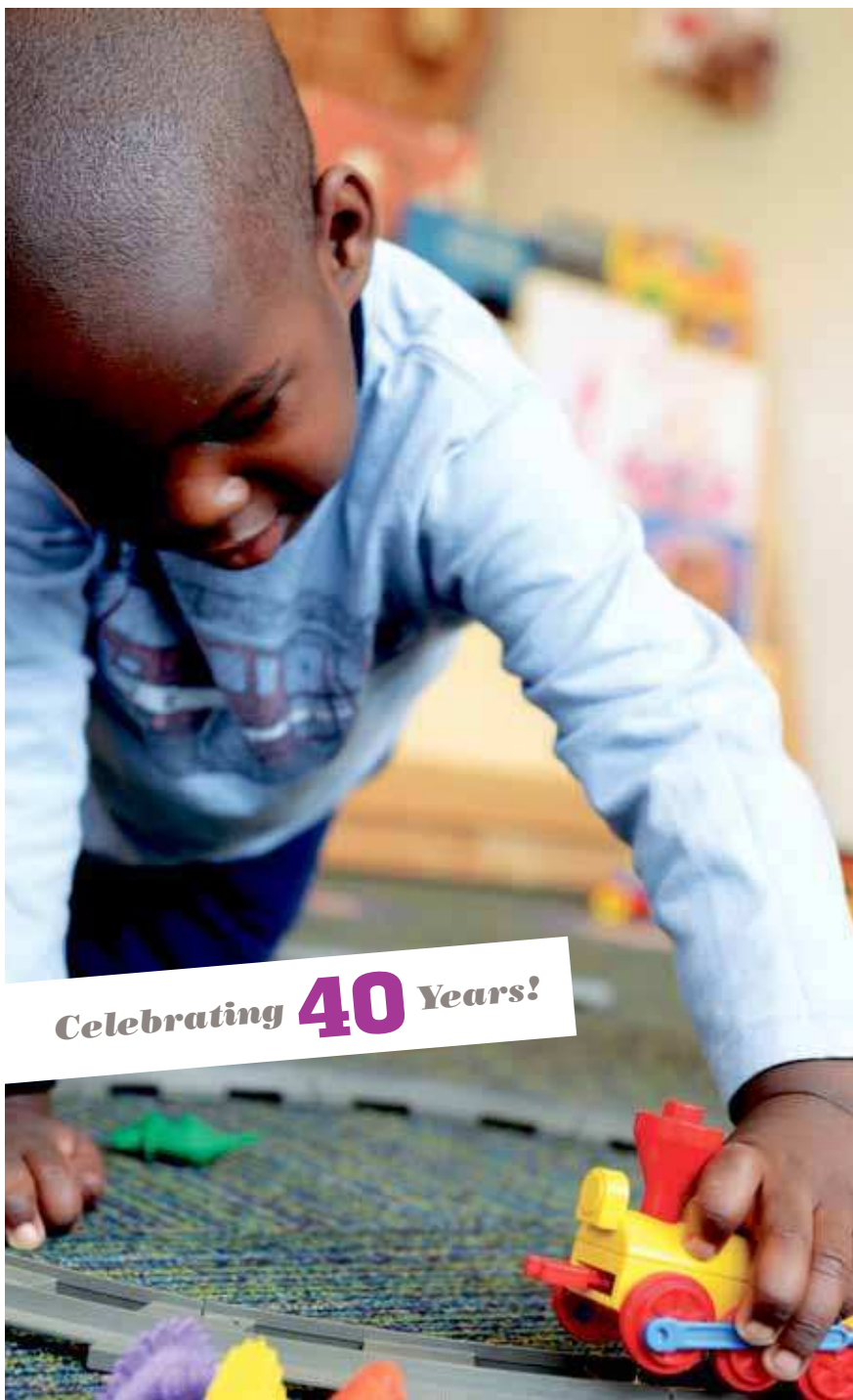
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**Juels**, from page 1  
in order to generate unauthorized transactions and steal funds. For instance, a criminal may want to pose as the holder of a bank account and wire money to an accomplice. To do this, he will need one or multiple account passwords. Most likely, he will try to access the confidential database of passwords inside a bank’s system.

One way to catch these keyboard criminals is to lay traps for them, by creating “honey” or “decoy” passwords.

Suppose a criminal has acquired a list of usernames and passwords and is beginning to use them to steal. The moment he uses a planted decoy username or password, an alarm sounds, alerting system administrators that a probable breach is under way.

**Cryptocurrencies**

The internet supports remote transactions among individuals and firms. The parties to a sale or a financial transaction often do not know each other, yet they must trust each other to “perform” – make payments, provide goods and services, deliver securities. This is normally done by relying on trusted third-party intermediaries, or “central counterparties” such as banks, brokers, insurance companies, exchanges, or clearinghouses.

They play a key role:

- Participants (buyers and sellers) maintain accounts with the intermediary (they are “clients” of the intermediary).
- The intermediary maintains a “ledger” or record of the various participants’ “positions” (assets, claims e.g.).
- Prior to executing a transaction, the trusted central intermediary makes sure the payer does not “double-spend” his account, by inspecting the ledger and confirming that the payer is “good to pay.”
- As the transaction is processed,

the central intermediary “credits” the participant who receives the payment and “debits” the participant who makes the payment.

The “trusted intermediaries” (banks e.g.) know and verify the identity of payer and payee; they act as guarantors of the transaction.

**The New Model**

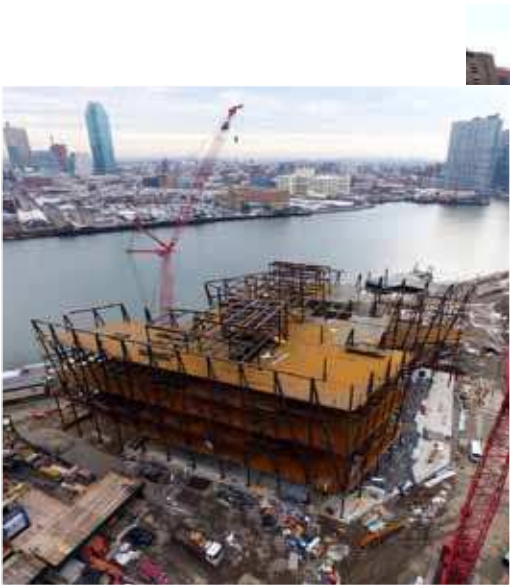
“Blockchain,” the technology behind the cryptocurrency Bitcoin, invented by the mysterious Satoshi Nakamoto in 2009, changes this model entirely.

Online payments or transactions go directly from one party to another, through a “peer-to-peer network.” The network creates an ongoing record or ledger (the “blockchain”) of all transactions.

Transactions are digitally signed, encrypted, time-stamped, and incorporated into the blockchain, the transaction record.

Cryptographic techniques ensure that the transaction record is a complete and accurate record of all transactions. Made widely available as a “distributed ledger,” it cannot be tampered with.

In this model, the trusted central intermediary is no longer necessary. The introduction of blockchain and the electronic cryptocurrencies it supports may lead to the “disintermediation” and obsolescence, at least in part, of traditional financial institutions. That is, since cryptocurrency transactions do not go through the banking system, they are difficult to trace and may escape



**Campus going up.**  
Topping out the Bridge Building marks a milestone in the drive toward Cornell Tech’s 2017 opening.



government scrutiny. Not surprisingly, several of the world’s top banks are seeking to incorporate blockchain into a consortium of financial institutions, probably with an approving wink from regulators.

**Smart Contracts**

Juels says, “Smart contract technology automates a large part of the ‘trust function’ necessary in business interactions.” Building on blockchain and cryptocurrencies technologies, scientists such as Ari Juels are preparing yet another revolution: smart contracts. These are contracts that are verified by computer rather than by a person or organization. Just as

Smart contracts enable users to contract for trading of all types of assets – securities, commodities, and others so contracts may be made efficiently and enforced through cryptography rather than by a third party.

**Criminal Smart Contracts**

Once you are “invisible,” and nobody knows who you are on the internet, what is there to prevent you from stealing, spying, and committing other crimes?

Ari Juels’ research explores the possibility of “criminal smart contracts” – These are criminal deals among two parties, each of which can remain anonymous, thanks to the internet. Examples:

- a contract in which a party buys secret private information from another party and pays for it in cryptocurrency, thus escaping detection;
- a contract in which a party, who remains unknown, gets an assassin to commit murder in exchange for a reward payable in

cryptocurrency upon the successful assassination.

Juels says, “Our results illuminate the scope of possible abuses in next-generation cryptocurrencies. They highlight the urgency of creating policy and technical safeguards and thereby realizing the great promise of smart contracts for beneficial goals.”

Interestingly, criminal smart contracts could be used in sting operations against hackers or electronic criminals: Posing as the initiator of a criminal contract, law enforcement could lure a would-be criminal, get him to prepare to commit the crime, then nab him in the act. Clearly, some a way of tracing the criminal on the internet is essential.

Ari Juels’ research is probing the leading edge of the internet world. Clearly, people will be interacting with each other and with institutions in totally new ways online and relying on technologies being invented at places such as Cornell Tech, by people such as Ari Juels and his colleagues.

Roosevelt Island will be on the leading edge of this new world.

**RIOCComedy**, from page 1

assistant for QED, a cafe and education center in Astoria, and also produces occasional shows there. Finally, he works as one half of At the Museum with Mull and Neville which he describes as a kind of Siskel and Ebert style comedic review show of the City’s museums.

He was the night manager of PIT’s improv theater from June, 2014 through September of 2015 where he met hundreds of New York-based comedians. RIOC will perform comedy shows twice a month on the second and fourth Fridays. The first show every month will be a family-friendly evening of improvisation. He has lined up five core performers: Kevin Laibson, Jake Keefe, Tracy Mull, Rachel Scherer, and Langston Belton. These comedians have done improv for younger children in the city for many years. Since these programs are skewed to children age five and up, the improves are short, two to three minutes each. There will be two teams and one referee. In addition to the core performers, they plan to welcome one or two guest improvisors to Roosevelt Island every month.

**Meet the Comedians**

The second show each month will be stand-up comedy appropriate for teens and adults, or as Will describes it, “PG 13 or Cable TV comedy, a little more adult.” These shows will include three comedians doing a half hour routine each.

The first performance is on April 22. The initial comedians lined up for the first show are Christian Finnegan who, according to Neville, “appears frequently on TV....and is perhaps best known as one of the original panelists on VH1’s Best Week Ever and as Chad, the only white roommate in the infamous Mad Real World sketch of Chappelle’s Show. He can currently be seen on the TBS sitcom Are We There Yet. Over the past decade Christian, who also writes comedy, has been a fixture on Comedy Central and has appeared on Conan, The Late Show with Craig Ferguson, Good Afternoon America, and The Today Show.

The second comedian is Jacob Williams who has appeared on America’s Got Talent, and has been a cast member of MTV’s Wild n’ Out, since 2013.

The third, Will Mars, is a British comedian who has gained a lot of attention in Britain as host of a live show recording on the BBC, which he started doing within his first year of performing. Neville explains, “He was asked to host his own club in the Canary Islands, a club which he hosted monthly for five years before continuing as a producer only to focus on his solo career.” He has written, produced, and performed at comedy show festivals since 2012. “He has taken productions to the Edinburgh Festival every year since then.” He has performed widely throughout the world and, “in 2015, completed a sell-out double-show World Tour in Australia, Hong Kong, Manila, Singapore, Iceland and the United Kingdom, “ before going to a month-long run of full houses at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.” His touring and shows have brought him numerous awards and a lot of attention.

**Family Friendly**

Will says, “I will be bringing in new stand-ups each month. I’m going to try to differentiate shows each month. There are cool theme shows, such as competition on one theme where the audience gets to choose who is funniest.” He says, “I’ve hardly ever met anyone who didn’t enjoy stand-up or improv. We’ll have a very unique show in a very unique setting.”

“I love the space,” he notes, explaining that most comedy occurs in bars and is therefore not inclusive of all ages. The ticket prices are also family-friendly with \$5 tickets for children and teens, \$10 tickets for adult Island residents, and \$15.00 tickets for off-Island audiences.

Towey points out, “One of the things I think is really important for the Island is that the shows will be family-friendly. There’s not a lot of teen-friendly things that are happening in the evening and I would like to have something that teens have to do that is interesting, new and fun for them to do in a group.”

More information about RIOC (No, not that RIOC) is now on the website of the theatre company. Neville also has other ideas for getting the word out. He says, “I have contacts at Time Out N.Y. and the Skint, and there are also comedy blogs, in particular Hy-Reviews, which is not known to the general public, but if you’re a comedian in the city, you know it.” He is also hoping to advertise on the Red Bus and the kiosks. He is mainly interested in bringing comedy to the Island.

He says, “The Island has many youth programs so we think we can tap into that audience,” but with a lot of classes and student performances, he believes that, “There is an opening for a show that is just people, adults and children to come out and enjoy.” Kristi agrees, “What better thing than to come and have fun. Just come and have a good time, meet your neighbors, bring the kids and laugh together. I’m excited for ‘MST&DA’ to be offering something new to the community. I think our community will love it.”

*The systems we have are so fragile that trying to have extra keys, or extra ways in, or ways to take them apart is asking for all kinds of trouble. The good of the country depends on having strong security.*

–Ron Rivest, co-inventor of RSA security, speaking Tuesday at the RSA Conference in San Francisco.

cryptocurrencies may make financial intermediaries obsolete, smart contracts will reduce the role of legal intermediaries, such as courts and lawyers.

A smart contract embeds, into computer code, all of the conditions and outcomes of legally binding agreements, allowing parties to enter into a contract without trusted third parties like lawyers and courts. Instead, the computer ensures that those legal contracts and agreements are being fulfilled.

Smart contracts can work within cryptocurrency system and allow for the transfer of assets with a digital signature. Both cryptocurrencies and smart contracts are being rapidly adopted because their combination is synergistic – it increases cryptocurrency utilization and it provides an efficient legal system throughout a cryptocurrency network, such as Bitcoin or the new Ethereum, a decentralized platform for applications that run exactly as programmed without any chance of fraud, censorship, or third-party interference.

For more about RSA encryption and how it works, see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA\\_\(cryptosystem\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA_(cryptosystem)).  
For a *New York Times* report on a White House presentation on iPhone decryption, see <http://tinyurl.com/WhiteHouseRSA>.  
Additional links online at MainStreetWIRE.com.

# M&D Deli Becomes Bread & Butter and Keeps on Keepin’ On

by David Stone

Maybe it was a Sunday morning, decades ago, when Buddy Hackett called “Good morning!” on his way to buy coffee and *The Times*. Or maybe it was when you caught yourself wondering how long since you saw the shop cat relaxing in front and you worried a little.

Whenever it was, sooner or later, you realized that “the deli” was a resource shared by almost everyone on Roosevelt Island, some for a hot cup of coffee before hopping on a Red Bus out front, some for an emergency bottle of laundry detergent, and others for fresh fruit and a break in the day. Rich or poor, famous or just one of us, we have relied on our deli for decades.

One thing is for sure, whether we call it the “M&D Deli” or its new name, “Bread & Butter Market,” it’s so much “the deli” that many of us didn’t even notice the name change for months after new signage went up. Our deli is woven into the Roosevelt Island fabric. It’s just *there*.

As part of Hudson/Related’s deal for managing local business leases, a major push began to update and improve shops fronting on Main Street – or to supervise the exit of those unable to keep pace. For all to thrive, the environment had to improve, to become more welcoming and vibrant. When that impetus hit the M&D Deli, things went from good to even better.

Along with a new name came a revitalized look, more products and a more user-friendly design.

One thing that strikes you on entering Bread & Butter Market is the more open look of the counter space where clerks greet customers in a well-lit setting that used to be cluttered and a little claustrophobic. Now, it’s friendlier, with an easier connection between customer and register.

Joined on the right is a salad bar and a deli counter filled with delicious-looking prepared meals, making it a great place to grab lunch or dinner on the fly.

Summoning the bleary-eyed customer on her or his way to work, a coffee machine offers the variety people have come to expect, whether you’re a black coffee-for-survival type or a more refined consumer of hot, caffeinated beverages. Bagels and baked goods are nearby, and for the more health conscious, baskets of apples, bananas, lemons and plantains are fresh and full.

What seems most changed at the deli is the smart reorientation of shelves filled with basic commodities. Instead of aisles running north from the counter, each now rests at a 90 degree angle and takes advantage of the floor-to-ceiling street-front windows for extra lighting. The shelving is tall and well-stocked. Prices are usually easy to locate for comparisons.

Comparison shopping matters to most of us. At Bread & Butter Market, the owners wisely offer an adequate variety of products to consider. Maxwell House faces off against Folger’s, for instance. General Mills goes head to head with Kellogg. Nowhere in this new arrangement are you hampered by a lack of choices or an inability to find what you want.

You might expect less from a market with relatively small floor space, but instead, what you come away with is an understanding of why such places are sometimes called “convenience stores.” With the new, better-lit, and open design, shoppers save time and money by easily finding what they want without walking endless aisles, forced to look at products for which they have no interest.

A final but decisive factor is that the friendliness Islanders have become used to finding at this venue remains undiminished. Sam, the deli counterman, waits for his next order with a broad, easy smile. “I’ve been working here since 1985,” he brags.

So, how about that? A convenience store that’s actually convenient and retains people who love their jobs? Little things help a small community thrive. More than ever, now, Bread & Butter Market does its share.



**Pre-K**, from page 1  
open up.

**Island Kids**

Unfortunately, Island Kids does not believe they will be able to offer the program. According to Nikki Leopold, Island Kids has been trying to get a lease for the space they’re in for months now, as a prerequisite for being able to apply for the program. She says it didn’t happen in time for them to be able to apply for UPK for the upcoming school year.

**The Roosevelt Island Day Nursery**

Roosevelt Island Day Nursery (RIDN) is confident they will be able to offer the program, yet they caution parents that it will not be official until the spring. According to school administrators, the DOE must approve and allocate a certain number of seats. Otherwise, because they have been a UPK provider in the past, they currently have the necessary Department of Health License and their Director and teachers have the required qualifications.

Pending DOE’s approval, the RIDN Board would then vote to determine whether to accept UPK funds. The school has stated that as much as they can, they would give currently enrolled RIDN children priority for any UPK spots they will be given for the 2016-2017 school year. They do add that if outside families are interested in this option, they should let the school know because the school must supply the DOE with a headcount.

**The List**

Just like RIDN must supply a headcount to offer more spots at PS217, or anywhere else on the Island, the City needs a headcount and they will want verification that there will be “butts in the seats” that they will be funding.

To that end, DelCampo Perea is making a list of all Island children born in 2012 that she plans to send to all our governing authorities and the DOE. She wants to demonstrate what the demand is versus the number of seats we actually have. Currently, DelCampo Perea’s list has 63 names, almost double the amount of seats at PS217. She believes, however, that the list is not accurate and the correct number is higher because some parents have expressed to her that they do not want to release their child’s name.

To stress the importance of disclosing this information, DelCampo Perea shared the substance of a correspondence she had with Kallos’ office. She wrote, “I just got a call from Ben Kallos’ office, from an intern assigned to UPK, who doesn’t even know when the application period for UPK is, that RI is an Island and the time it takes to get to Manhattan, how many UPK seats we have,” culminating with, “[the intern] wants me to apply to daycare centers in Queens

**RIRA Column**, from page 3

and registration will be required, so keep on the lookout for more information on how to be put on the pre-registration mailing list. Interested in volunteering to help stuff eggs and to assemble gift baskets? Do you or your organization have items to donate for this year’s festivities and giveaways. If you have the time, talent, or want to help make this year’s hunt a very special one for the expected 500 child attendees, email the SC&E Committee at SCE@riraonline.com and contact the Common Council at contact@riraonline.com.

**On Roosevelt Island We...**

The RIRA Social Cultural and Education (SCE) Committee’s year-long “On Roosevelt Island We ...” campaign is in full swing, and we invite your child to directly participate in the campaign by sharing ideas about what makes our Island so special. Through the eyes, minds, words and pictures of our Island’s children, the SCE Committee’s multimedia campaign designed to promote good citizenship and raise awareness of the impact our Island Residents have on each other’s lives have begun to be posted throughout the Island. If you or your child have an idea for an “On Roosevelt Island We...” poster, or your or your child’s community group or organization would like to participate in this year’s campaign, do not hesitate in reaching out at contact@riraonline.com to submit your idea or your poster. Submissions with children’s work will be reproduced, distributed, and posted throughout Main Street and on our Island’s Red Bus.

Many thanks to Lynne Strong-Shinozaki,

that have a lot of space!” Other parents have told similar stories, about being told about a facility in Ravenswood that’s “near where you live.”

Islanders are used to having to explain that there is actually a Main Street in Manhattan, and that people do live on this Island, and DelCampo Perea believes it is incumbent on us to keep explaining. According to her, if the DOE gets a list with a large number of names on it, they will make sure we have seats here. They added 18 seats for the current school year and at one point, there was discussion about adding more mid-year for the children born in 2011 in pre-K now.

She says, “Here’s what we need to do, all of us, because this problem still exists since before last year and it won’t disappear like magic. Let’s make some noise! Let’s call Fariña, email her and tell her how many we are and how much we need this! Let’s do the same with Serrano and with the Mayor and with everyone.”

In an effort to reach all Islanders, DelCampo Perea has asked residents of all Island buildings to post a copy of a flyer she made which she had translated into Spanish, Korean, Chinese, French and Russian. It will probably also be posted on the kiosks.

DelCampo Perea implores parents who will experience hardship taking their kids off Island to speak up. Specifically she wants parents who will have more than one school-age child to pick up and drop off in two different schools, one off Island, one on. She also wants to hear from parents who will have to take a baby along when they drop off and pick up off their pre-schoolers twice a day, which, with spotty Tram elevator service and City buses that make you fold up your stroller, can be a challenging endeavor. If this is you, reach out to DelCampo at susy.delcampop@gmail.com.

**Do Have a Child Born in 2012?**

Do you want a free Universal Pre-K seat on Roosevelt Island for your child?  
There are only 36 seats for pre-k!! Join our list to ask for more seats in Roosevelt Island for your kid.

¿Tienes un hijo que nació en 2012? ¿Quieres tener una plaza Gratis de pre-k en Roosevelt Island para tu hijo? Sólo hay 36 plazas de pre-k en RI!!! Únete a nuestra lista para pedir más plazas para tu hijo.

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Ваш ребенок родился в 2012 году? Хотите получить бесплатно место для дошкольного образования на острове Рузвельта? Сейчас таких мест всего лишь 36!  
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Est-ce que vous avez un enfant née en 2012? Il y a seulement 36 places au pre-k. Rejoind la liste pour plus de place pour votre enfant à Roosevelt Island.

email: susy.delcampop@gmail.com

chair of the RIRA Social Cultural and Education Committee for this initiative, Leila Vujosevic for chairing the RIRA “On Roosevelt Island We...” subcommittee, Adib Mansour for designing the flyers, and all the Island children’s groups and children for their participation! And remember, when you see a poster, don’t just read it, heed it!

**Composting Initiative Partnership**

Since the launch of the Composting Initiative late last November, Island Residents have contributed, over a span of 14 Saturdays and 972 drop offs, over 4,804 pounds of organic materials. That’s nearly two tons of organic kitchen scraps and materials to be composted. Keep spreading the word. Every household counts! The Roosevelt Island Composting Initiative will continue its cooperation with the NYC Compost Project and BIG-Reuse and will continue to accept organic kitchen

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Deadline for March 19 issue: Tuesday, March 15

Please see ComingUp, page 3, for other advertising deadlines

**FOR SALE: RIVERCROSS DUPLEX**, 4-bedroom 2.5 bath on church plaza with partial view of river. Asking price: \$1,550,000. Contact cervieres42@gmail.com or 415-350-4061.

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**ROOM WANTED** – Non-smoker, quiet female desires to rent room starting April. I can supply references. Please call or text “ROOM” – 212-592-4066. I will return your call. Rosemarie.

**ATTORNEY NEEDED** to revise will, create power of attorney, etc. marycav@aol.com. 1/9 only

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**RIOC**, from page 1

Counsel Donald Lewis served as president in an acting capacity throughout that time.

The RIOC Board of Directors did not conduct an executive search or interview multiple candidates before settling on Indelicato. She was nominated for the post of President by Governor Andrew Cuomo and confirmed by the Board. Three resident board members abstained on the vote: Kathie Grimm, Michael Shinozaki, and Margie Smith withheld their approval.

As the reason for his abstention, Shinozaki said, “...the Board voted, on the record, as a matter of public policy, that we would conduct a formal search, and that was completely disregarded.” He agreed Indelicato was an “excellent candidate,” but said, “I have some very strong objections to the way this candidate was brought to the Board, completely untransparent to the community and a violation of the Board’s directive.”

Grimm’s objection was similar. She said, “I’m disappointed there wasn’t an executive search with proper references being checked.”

Smith said, “I think this Board would not buy a lawnmower without three bids. I think it’s unconscionable to hire someone without having interviewed at least three candidates.”

While no Board members objected to Indelicato specifically, they faulted the process. Even those board members who voted yes to her appointment made it clear that they were doing so because the seat had been vacant far too long. Board member Howard Polivy said, “I think it’s unfortunate that we have reached this pass. It is unconscionable that the State apparatus, knowing our need, moved so slowly.” Board member David Kraut said, “We haven’t had a president for some time and a very viable candidate has been offered to us.”

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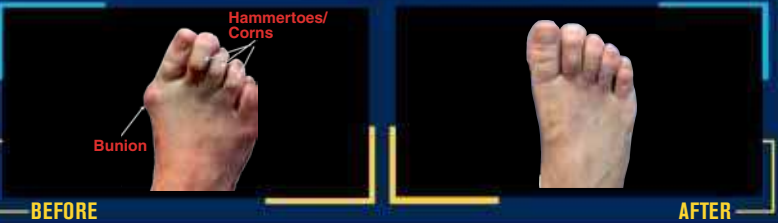
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