

Thanksgiving issue:
Saturday, Nov. 23

The Main Street **WIRE**™

Roosevelt Island's Community Newspaper

News updates on **Website NYC10044** www.nyc10044.com



Above, winner Matthew Katz (right) and his chief opponent, Byron Gaspard, shook hands Tuesday night after votes were counted in the RIRA election. At left, shortly after polls closed at 9:00 p.m., Election Marshal Joyce Mincheff handed out vote-counting assignments for the paper ballots cast by about 1,160 residents. For the first time in six years, RIRA voting was done on paper ballots rather than machines.

Katz Retains RIRA Presidency; Steve Marcus Is Vice President

RIRA President Matthew Katz pulled 55% of the Island-wide vote on Tuesday, to keep his post as President of the Residents Association for a second term.

Rivercross Resident Steve Marcus, running in a field of four candidates, captured the First Vice Presidency, with 35% of the vote.

Most Common Council candidates were elected automatically, because there were fewer or no more candidates than the allotted seats for their buildings. The exception was Rivercross, where six candidates vied for three seats. Of those, Margie Smith proved to be the Island's top vote-getter for a Council seat, with 199 votes. Ron Schuppert took 178 votes, and Nurit Marcus 177. Joe Cristiano, who had also run for the organization's Vice Presidency, was first runner-up with 134 votes. He becomes first alternate delegate, with the trailing candidates, Bubu Arya and Ethel Romm, also eligible to serve as alternates.

To win, Katz survived an attack on his affiliation with the Maple Tree Group (MTG), which has spent five years seeking legislation that would entitle residents to elect members of the Board of Directors of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation. Although 92% of residents backed the effort in the 1998 election (and 80% in 2000), its opponents have made the effort and the group controversial.

One anti-Katz flier, distributed in Eastwood, specifically urged residents, "I urge you to vote in the RIRA election... Vote for Byron Gaspard or James Whalen for RIRA President, but *not* for Matt Katz." Over the name of former RIRA First Vice President Joan Christianson, the flier gave as one reason, "He was and still is a supporter of the Maple Tree Group, who want your building not be [sic] represented directly at all. He fought to have Eastwood's representation on the new RIOC Board cut to just one vote, while Rivercross, Island House, and Westview each have one apiece... Eastwood has as many apartments as the other three put together."

(Katz had responded to the charge in the RIRA Presidential debate two weeks earlier by pointing out that several possible versions of "self-governance" legislation, with various representation patterns, have been considered by the Island's legislative representatives.)

The flier may have had some effect. In Eastwood, Katz, a recent transplant from Manhattan Park to

the top vote-getter in Island House, with 124.

Results were announced by Joyce Mincheff Wednesday night at the final RIRA Common Council meeting for the "class of 2000."

Perhaps the greatest surprise of the campaign and election was the vote-drawing power of James Whalen, who had been characterized as the "comic relief" candidate, even though he spoke seri-

The Vote, Building by Building

President	2RR	4RR	MPk	Ewd	546	IHs	Ww	Riv	TOT	Pct
Matthew Katz	16	11	60	71	36	90	103	217	604	55%
Byron Gaspard	7	18	28	155	45	35	50	76	414	37%
James Whalen	3	0	13	17	8	18	12	19	90	8%
<i>bldg votes</i>	26	29	101	243	89	143	165	312	1108	
First VP										
Steve Marcus	6	5	30	56	20	54	62	129	362	35%
Joe Cristiano	5	8	23	77	25	35	31	86	290	28%
Franz Aliquo	10	8	20	53	21	19	35	23	189	18%
Ron Schuppert	2	4	8	31	11	28	27	72	183	18%
<i>bldg votes</i>	23	25	81	217	77	136	155	310	1024	

Westview, lost to Byron Gaspard, an Eastwood resident, by 93 votes. But Katz more than made up for the deficit in Island House, Westview, Rivercross, and Manhattan Park, which together gave him a 281-vote margin over Gaspard. Overall, the Katz plurality worked out to 190 votes – 604 (55%) to Gaspard's 414 (37%), with James Whalen taking 90 (8%).

Whalen joined others in attempting to make an issue of MTG and self-governance, mocking the effort to create "a People's Republic of Roosevelt Island" and calling MTG "the evil empire." (Whalen has also called *The WIRE* a "house organ" of MTG because the newspaper has supported MTG editorially.)

An anonymous posting spotted in the glass of the door at Trellis also urged voters to "follow the money," linking support of Katz's 2000 campaign by Rivercross resident Mark Ponton with the fact that Ponton has now been named, by the Governor, to the RIOC Board of Directors. Ponton was one of a seven-person MTG delegation that met with the Governor to urge his acceptance of the idea of an elected RIOC Board, as proposed in legislation supported by Assembly-member Pete Grannis and Senator Olga Mendez. While the Governor didn't go for the fully-local, fully-elected RIOC Board, he did sign a compromise bill giving appointed residents the majority of seats. During that period, he also nominated Ponton to a Board seat.

If Katz opponents intended to make the election a referendum on the Maple Tree Group, which operates as an independent subcommittee of RIRA's Government Relations Committee, MTG emerged unbowed in the only races where its work was tested. Steve Marcus, elected Vice President, is a member, as are two of the Rivercross delegates elected Tuesday – Marcus's wife, Nurit Marcus, and Margie Smith, who is currently co-convenor of the group with Vicki Feinmel. For her part, Feinmel was

ously on some issues. He had professed, in a biography he supplied to run with *The WIRE*'s transcript of the candidates' debate, "I don't like cats, children, tennis players, old people, gays, lesbians, bagels, yentas, and poor people." He professed to be a "lifelong ne'er-do-well" who "grew up to be the guy my mother told me not to hang out with." Whalen got 90 votes, presumably from the anti-bagel faction.

Delegate Seats

With the exception of Rivercross, all candidates were automatically elected because there were fewer or no more candidates than Council seats. In Rivercross, the three highest vote-getters become that building's elected representatives to the Common Council. The others serve as alternates.

Building Delegates	Count
2 River Road	
James Whalen	16
4 River Road	
No candidate	
10-40 River Road	
Lynn T. Chambers	64
Mark S. Chipman	51
W. Russell DiBello	51
George Reither	49
Doris L. Speer	50
Eastwood	
Byron Gaspard	170
Virginia Granato	118
Edward J. O'Flynn	93
Abraham Hassan	83
Jim Tendean-Luce	76
546 Seniors	
Dolores Green	66
Island House	
Vicki Feinmel	124
Frank Farance	80
Debra Mount Cornet	76
Rivercross	
Margie Smith	199
Ron Schuppert	178
Nurit Marcus	177
Joseph Cristiano (alt)	134
Bubu Arya (alt)	77
Ethel Romm (alt)	68
Westview	
Sherie Helstien	94
Erin R. Feely-Nahem	93
Franz Aliquo	80

Island History Trail Done, Now Ready for Walkers

Roosevelt Island now has an enhanced "History Walk" – a self-guided walking tour that features a series of signs near points of interest from Lighthouse Park to Southpoint.

Neil Tandon, who created it starting in early 1999 as an Eagle Scout service project, told *The WIRE* his goal was to "give residents and visitors alike a taste of the Island's unique past and present." By late 1999, most of the research and planning was completed, and trail markers had been installed. But Tandon had not yet found an economical way to produce plaques describing each of the locations.

The project went into a suspended state until last summer, when Tandon created a website (www.rivalk.com) featuring the writing about the historic points. Tandon says that Islander John Dougherty, assistant scoutmaster of his troop, suggested an economical way of fabricating the signs. The results went up October 28, with the help of RIOC personnel.

Each of the plaques points the way to the next and has an overview map of the entire trail.

Tandon, a lifelong Island resident, is in his fourth year at Cooper Union, in electrical engineering. He passes out credit for completion of the project, naming Judy Berdy, President of the Roosevelt Island Historical Society; Robert Antonek and Chris Baker of RIOC; Tom McCarthy, webmaster of the New York Correction History website (www.correctionhistory.org); Scoutmaster Geoffrey Kerr; and Boy Scout Troop 59.



Briefly...

PS/IS 217 is again seeking tutors for its **Learning Leaders Program** to work one-on-one with children to improve reading, writing, math, or English skills. The volunteers work individually with students, and help in the library, office, and cafeteria, with on-site support available. A required training program is scheduled two Wednesdays, December 4 and 11, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. To register or get more information, call Susan Cohen, the guidance counselor, at **980-0294**, ext. 2422.

In the **New York Marathon**, Roosevelt Island had eleven finishers. The stats and a photo are on page 6.

The **RIOC Board Meeting** scheduled for Thursday has been put off one week, to November 21 (see *ComingUp*, page 3).

The Editorial Page

Ouch! That's the reaction, sometimes, when the subjects of interviews read the resulting reportage in print. They may express their reactions more clearly by saying, to themselves or others, *That's not the impression the reporter should have taken away from our meeting*, or, more honestly, *That's not the impression I wanted to make*.

Very often, that reaction means that the interviewee failed to prepare. S/he probably didn't ask, in advance, *What message do I want to communicate to the reader through this reporter?* Sometimes, another question is equally important: *What message do I not want to convey?*

It should come as no surprise that there are public relations firms that make a business of keeping their clients "on message" and shaping the impression companies will leave with reporters and, through them, with the public. They are paid, often handsomely, for finding ways to structure the public perception of their clients, or of events.

Most reporters go into most interviews as a blank slate.

But we're all familiar with interviewees who feel, after an interview finds its way into print, that they were misinterpreted. Sometimes, they conclude – usually after seeing the result in print – that the reporter had preconceptions, or "just didn't get it," or was particularly unskilled. A paranoid interviewee, already beset with problems, may see the reporter as part of the difficulties, and convince himself the reporter set out to do damage.

It would be patently untrue to claim that no reporter ever had unfriendly intentions going into an interview. But most have no ax to grind; they simply want to get the story. Of course, good reporters think through, in advance, what ground they would like to cover, and they may anticipate answers as a way of preparing follow-up questions or a general line of inquiry.

But the responsibility for *having* a message, and communicating that message during an interview, rests with the interviewee. Those PR firms that charge the big bucks actually do practice interviews with their clients, teaching them how to

use the Q&A situation to their advantage – *whatever* the disposition of the reporter on the Q side of the equation. They may even say, "Just assume the reporter may be hostile or got up on the wrong side of the bed. *You control the interview.*"

But for the individual, too often the shaping of the message comes as an afterthought, in the form of those post-publication reactions: *That's not the impression the reporter should have taken away from our meeting*, or *That's not the impression I wanted to make*.

For the individual or small organization, then, those questions need to be asked in advance, as part of the preparation for an interview: *What impression do I want to leave with the interviewer? What's my message? What areas do I want*

island observer

to avoid, or at least avoid emphasizing?

Another way to handle it is to ask, *If I could write this article myself, what would be the headline? What would be in the first paragraph? What would be the thrust of the overall article?*

When those questions get asked in advance, and answered with care, the result can take the form of a hierarchical outline of points to be made, or sometimes even a key sentence or two – perhaps even a slogan or catch-phrase. Equally important, it can produce a strong notion of areas to be avoided – impressions *not* to make.

All this means there needs to be a certain discipline in the interview situation, as well. An interviewee – particularly one who's in a potentially difficult situation – should have a tiny little PR person sitting on a shoulder during an interview, saying, "OK, you're *on message*," or "Oops... that's an *off-message* comment," or "Watch it – you're straying into problem territory."

A reporter will often see it as his or her job to get past the planned message, particularly when s/he knows that the interviewee has been prepped by professionals. In the reporter's mind, that can take the form of an effort to "get behind

the story" or "cut through the crap," the latter term being one often applied to an obvious "PR message."

A really skilled interviewee will often turn a seemingly hostile question to advantage, perhaps by avoiding a direct yes/no response. Even a question like, "When did you stop beating your wife?" which is the classic "loaded question" of courtroom fame, can be *handled*: "Wives always deserve tender treatment," or "I really love my wife." A really good interviewee may go beyond the initial answer by adding a point *s/he* wants to make. It may be totally unrelated to the question but might even shape the continuing direction of the interview: "My wife really appreciated the contribution I made to the Girl Scouts of America. We are both big fans of scouting. Have you heard about the journalism merit badge?" (A little obvious, but you get the idea.)

Preparation for an interview can be as simple as realizing that it's not the reporter's job to make an interview subject look good – or bad. A reporter who sets out to do either, if s/he works for a good editor, is likely to end up answering a lot of questions about the interview situation. But most good editors can tell, reading the copy, when an interviewer – or interviewee – was unprepared.

So when you're called for an interview, *prepare*. Know in advance the message you want to pass through the reporter to the reader. Know what areas you want to avoid and how you'll do that if they come up. Have a good idea of what you'd like the article to convey if you could write it yourself. Think through how you're going to handle questions that are difficult or strike you as carrying a reporter's preconception. If there's another "side" to the matter, know what it is and how to handle questions that may have been shaped from that point of view.

You might go so far, in fact, as to visualize the situation: How will you sit? Will you lean forward, or relax? Will you smile? Will you shake hands before and/or after? Will you object, or agree, if the reporter wants to record the interview? Will you ask to go "off the record" on some points, or not? (If you do, you must ask *in advance*, not after making a comment you'd like to withdraw; then it's too late.) Will you have materials to present – photos or charts or a prepared statement? How will you phrase the key message that you'd like to see in the headline or first paragraph? What overall impression would you like to leave?

You can't count on success, of course. In the end, the reporter and editor will control the final words that appear. And you won't be given an opportunity to read an article before it is published (don't even ask).

But some simple preparation can go a long way toward avoiding that post-publication **Ouch!**

DL

How We Voted

Roosevelt Island voters were generally in sync with other voters in the State or districts, but not in the race for Governor, where H. Carl McCall was the overwhelming favorite here, taking 60% of the vote against Governor George Pataki's 27%. Roosevelt Island's active Greens also polled well here by comparison with the rest of New York State.

State Senator Olga Mendez may now be able to claim she is among the most popular politicians in America. She ran on four lines, and took 95% of votes in her district (92% here).

	Roosevelt Island		New York State	
	Votes	%	Votes	%
Governor				
Pataki (Rep.)	377	27	2,159,348	49
McCall (Dem.)	827	60	1,455,961	33
Golisano (Ind.)	104	8	633,582	14
Cronin (Right to life)	11	1	42,990	1
Aronowitz (Green)	37	3	40,762	1
Leighton (Marij Reform)	3	0	22,574	1
Cuomo (Liberal)	17	1	16,528	0
Jeffrey (libertarian)	1	0	9,076	0
Controller				
Hevesi (D)	1,025	80	1,961,053	50
Faso (R)	221	17	1,830,835	47
Hawkins	30	2		
Cristea	9	1		
Eisert	3	0		
Attorney General				
Spitzer (D)	1,065	84	2,583,943	66
Irizarry (R)	148	12	1,175,695	30
Long (G)	33	3		
Broderick (R. to Life)	15	1		
Conti (libertarian)	4	0		
Congress			District	%
Maloney (D)	997	86	83,509	75
Srdanovic (R)	158	14	27,614	25
State Senate				
Mendez (D)	998	92	26,901	95
Rosado (wf)	75	7	1,076	4
Alamo (conservative)	16	1	344	1
State Assembly				
Grannis (D)	896	83	12,939	64
Friedman (R)	153	14	7,037	35
Edwards (G)	34	3	279	1

Note: Several candidates ran on multiple lines. Their vote totals and percentages are consolidated to one line for each candidate. Candidates are listed in order of State- or District-wide votes received.

Letters

To the Editor:

As the President of the PS/IS 217 PTA, and a member of the working committee trying to get the RIRA Legal Action Committee-PTA cookbook out, I feel I should respond to the comment made by Byron Gaspard in his letter to the editor in the last issue of *The WIRE*.

The comment I refer to is the attack on Sherie Helstien, which I felt was without real substance and was unwarranted. It was a statement made without any real first-hand knowledge, and made from a purely subjective, and competitive view point.

Although it is true that this cookbook project is taking longer than any of us expected, to attribute the delays to Sherie alone is unfair. There have been numerous reasons for the delays, and if Byron had been in attendance at these meetings, or part of the e-mail correspondences, he would be aware of them.

Ms. Helstein has worked diligently and with minimal support. She has been tireless in her efforts

To James Whalen:

It amazes me, Mr. Whalen, that you would have the audacity to run for the RIRA presidency and expect to represent this Island with the long list of prejudices you so proudly possess. I can only hope your presence at the debate was a stupid joke. If not, I must say, you sound like a miserable old bastard and it scares the hell out of me that you were let in the doors in the first place.

Do us all a favor and go back to your dark cave of existence. You're the last person anyone in their right mind would want for representation.

Denise Larocque

to pull this project together, and deserves more credit than she gets, and more respect than his comments gave her. Actually, we are at the final editing stage, and do expect the completion of the project in time for Holiday sales.

Erin Feely-Nahem
PS/IS 217 PTA

Letters deadline for November 23 issue: **November 18**
Letters received after this deadline will be considered on a space-available basis

Letters Policy

The WIRE welcomes letters to the Editor, to the community, and to/from officials. Publication on a *Name Withheld* basis will be considered, but the writer's name, address, and phone number must be provided for verification and for our records. **Preferred methods of submission:** By e-mail to Letters@MainStreetWIRE.com (ASCII text preferred, or use any wordprocessing software, but no MSWord files with macros), or PC-standard 3.5" floppy disk left at 531 Main Street for *The WIRE*. **Alternatives:** Typed, double-spaced copy left at 531 Main Street or faxed to (212) 755-2540. Clearly handwritten letters will be considered if brief, but we cannot take telephone dictation of letters. **All letters are subject to acceptance, and to editing for length and clarity.** We recommend observing a maximum length of 300 words, but will consider longer letters if their content merits the required space. Questions? Call (212) 826-9055.

The Public Safety Blotter

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Commemorative Stamp Event Today

by Mary Camper-Titsingh

When Nellie Bly came to Roosevelt Island, she came in custody. Her real name was Elizabeth Jane Cochrane, and Roosevelt Island was known as Blackwell's Island in those days. Under the Nellie Bly *nom de plume*, she wrote an article for *The New York World* that exposed conditions and treatment at the City's Lunatic Asylum.

Her methods and her writing broke new ground in investigative journalism.

This month, Nellie Bly is back on the Island, honored on a 37-cent stamp — part of a commemorative series, *Women in Journalism*. To observe the occasion, there will be a commemorative cancellation event today (Saturday, November 9), at Gallery RIVAA, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Some of Bly's writing will

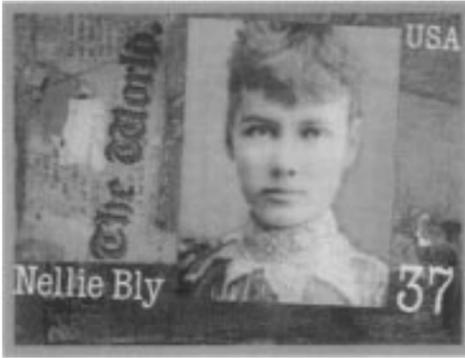
be read by Islander Irene Clark. (Stamps will be available by the sheet only, at \$7.40/sheet.)

Getting herself committed to the asylum here was a trailblazing

ing was a series of reforms in care of the mentally ill.

She had come out of western Pennsylvania, a refugee from an assignment to write about "a woman's place in the world." After publication of her Blackwell's Island exposé, using as her pen name the title of a Stephen Foster song, she traveled around the world in less than 80 days to beat the "record" fantasized in Jules Verne's science-fiction novel, *Around the World in 80 Days*. She did it in 72 days, traveling by sail, train, rickshaw and burro.

Bly went on to write a series of biographies for *McCall's* magazine, highlighting social issues of the time. She shares the commemorative issue with three other legends of journalism, Ida M. Tarbell, Marguerite Higgins, and Ethel L. Payne.



technique in journalism. She wrote that she acted insane only long enough to be committed, then fully sane while here, as a test of whether medical personnel would see that she was actually sane. One result of her writ-

For the last several weeks, our disabled and senior communities have once again found traveling to Manhattan almost impossible. The subway elevator to the Manhattan-bound platform is out of service. All the escalators going down to the platforms have been out of service. And the main elevator on the Manhattan-side Tram platform is out of service and, we're told, awaiting parts.

Virginia Granato, newly-elected Disabled Association president and Common Council member, has informed me how distressing this is to her constituents. Vincent Kopicki, chief RIOC engineer, has assured me that the emergency Manhattan-side elevator is available to anyone with a legitimate medical need, and if this applies to you, demand this service. One problem: There is no intercom at street level with which to alert the token-booth operator that someone needs assistance getting to the Tram platform. While RIOC has acknowledged the problem, we have yet to be apprised of a solution. Once again, the squeaky wheel will get the grease. If you truly must have the Tram elevator to use this facility (unfortunately, this doesn't include folks with strollers or large packages), make your voice heard. After all, the secondary elevator was installed just for this purpose.

I attended an extraordinary meeting last week convened by Representative Carolyn Maloney. With Byron Gaspard, Nellie Velez and other resident representatives, we met to discuss the policing of Roosevelt Island. In addition to our Member of Congress and Assemblymember Pete Grannis, we met with representatives of City Council Speaker Gifford Miller, the Attorney General's office, the Manhattan District Attorney, NYCHA, DHCR, HUD, RIHMC and the 114th Precinct. Our group made it clear that we see a burgeoning danger from drug use and sales in housing and on the street, and from gang presence on Roosevelt Island. We discussed the bizarre nature of our political structure that provides police service from the 114th Precinct in Queens, with our crime statistics reported to the 19th Precinct in Manhattan. The officials were clearly shocked by the stories of rampant drug trafficking on Roosevelt Island offered by Island residents.

We proposed several ideas for enhancing the patrolling of the Island and touched upon the general dissatisfaction Islanders have with the Public Safety Department. Representative Maloney promised to convene another meeting, to include RIOC and Public Safety, in the near future.

I raised the issue of how to report drug activity without calling attention to yourself and possibly jeopardizing family. The drug hotline number I offered in this column some time ago has been withdrawn, and a call to 911 identifies the caller on a caller ID system. Until a solution is found, I can only suggest using the NYPD Quality of Life Hotline

number, 1-888-677-5433, although this alternative seems to be less than ideal. I hope these meetings will be a continuing process resulting in concrete answers and enhanced policing. Stay tuned.

Election Day has come and gone. The United States Senate now has a Republican majority, George Pataki is still our Governor, and our other public officials have won re-election. I've been returned as RIRA President with a 55% majority, and Steve Marcus will be First Vice President. Steve was Vice President of Government Relations in the last Common Council and was responsible for bringing the mayoral candidates (including Mike Bloomberg) to speak at Roosevelt Island Town Meetings.

Among the serious candidates, including Byron Gaspard and myself, I thought there was a good discussion of Island issues and I feel that I've received a mandate with this vote to continue my efforts. There was some ugliness towards the end, especially with some of the literature distributed in Eastwood, but nothing as distasteful as the negative ads with which we've been inundated on the television airwaves. I was far more upset with RIOC's wholesale removal of campaign signage from every Main Street kiosk on Monday afternoon and again on Tuesday. Kiosks are cleaned off on Mondays, it's true, but it doesn't take a genius to recognize the need for modifying the rules once every two years for Election Day. RIOC President Robert Ryan came to us from the major political wars of the New York State gubernatorial races, and shouldn't have required reminding that free speech (which includes candidate posters) needs to be protected.

Many long-time Common Council members have hung up their spurs this time 'round, with many new faces offering their services to the community. In the next few weeks I'll produce an orientation meeting for our freshmen members to familiarize them with our constitution, Robert's Rules of Order, committee assignments and, most importantly, a chance to hear their ideas about representing their constituents. If RIRA is not useful then we lose our reason to exist. We must be vocal, we must be proactive, and we must be an intrinsic part of the life of this community. This requires much more than a president with a big mouth, it requires a Council of energetic, innovative leaders.

The elections are over. I hope to deserve the support of my proponents and to win the respect of my detractors. I intend to be the RIRA president for Westview (where I live), Rivercross (which gave me a majority), Eastwood (which did not), and all the residential buildings here. Roosevelt Island is one community, not a collection of fiefdoms, and my job is to represent our town to the world as a unified entity.

The elections are over. Let's get to work!

The RIRA Column



Matthew Katz
Residents Association President
e-mail: matthewkatz@rcn.com

COMING UP

Exhibition – Les Sculptures Marika, works of Marika Bordes; Rivercross window gallery, through Nov. 30, sponsored by the Mother Earth Committee.

– This Weekend –

Postal Commemorative Cancellation Event for Nellie Bly stamp, part of the *Women in Journalism* stamp set, Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main Street, featuring a performance by Irene Clark of Nellie Bly's writings; presented by Roosevelt Island Historical Society and the U.S. Postal Service. **Sat., Nov. 9**, 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

– The Coming Week –

Toastmasters public speaking group. Visitors welcome. Information: 751-9577 or 759-0396. **Mon., Nov. 11**, 8:00 p.m.

Cub Scout registration, 576 community room, **Tue., Nov. 12**, 7:00 p.m. (First meeting, Nov. 19.) For information, call Geoff Kerr at 751-9241 or contact jimluce@aol.com.

Postponed: RIOC Board of Directors Meeting, Chapel of the Good Shepherd. **Rescheduled from Thur., Nov. 14 to Thur., Nov. 21**, 5:30 p.m.

Parent and Baby Class at Island Kids, 536 Main Street community room. \$8 per class. Information: 317-0216. **Fri., Nov. 15** (and every Friday), 11:00 a.m.

Seniors Association Fashion Show, Manhattan Park Theater Club. \$5 advance sale, \$7 at the door. **Sat., Nov. 16**, 8:00 p.m. (doors open 7:15)

Seven Women Reading Their Poetry, including Islander Adela Sinclair. Open mike, and wine reception, Gallery RIVAA. Admission, \$5. **Sun., Nov. 17**, 4:00 p.m.



Adela Sinclair

– Future Events –

Cub Scout Pack Meeting, 576 community room. **Tue., Nov. 19**, 8:00 p.m. For information, call Geoff Kerr at 751-9241 or contact JimLuce@aol.com.

PTA General Meeting, PS/IS 217, **Wed., Nov. 20**, 6:00 p.m.

RIOC Board of Directors Meeting, Chapel of the Good Shepherd, **Thur., Nov. 21**, 5:30 p.m. Formal meeting is followed by open Q&A session.

Book Discussion – Empress of the Splendid Season by Oscar Hijuelos, Library. Advance registration required; book available at the Library. **Thur., Nov. 21**, 6:30 p.m.

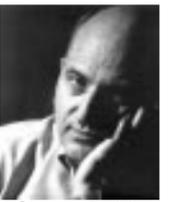
The Main Street WIRE Thanksgiving issue – Sat., Nov. 23. Deadlines: Advertising in the paper, **Fri., Nov. 15**; decision on stuffers for

The Bag, **Mon., Nov. 18**; materials due **Thur., Nov. 21**. **Future issues:** December 14 (Christmas/end-of-year issue); then twice a month in 2003: January 11, 25; February 8, 22; March 8, 22; April 12, 26; May 17, 31; June 14, 28; July 26; August 23; September 6, 20; October 11, 25; November 8, 22 (Thanksgiving issue); December 13 (Christmas issue 2003). **Phone/fax** for news, 826-9055/755-2540; phone/fax for display and classified advertising placement and information, 751-8214/755-2540; to list your organization's Island events here (no charge), fax information to 755-2540, or send it by e-mail to ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com.

PTA Book Fair, PS/IS 217 lobby, **Sat., Nov. 23**, all day. (Event runs Nov. 20-Nov 23; open to the public only on Sat., Nov. 23.)

Toastmasters public speaking group, Westview community room. Visitors welcome. Information: 751-9577 or 759-0396. **Mon., Nov. 25**, 8:00 p.m.

Our Lives – Islanders Reminisce: George Rubin, WorldWar II B-17 waist-gunner/armorer shot down over Germany, Gallery RIVAA. **Sun., Dec. 1**, 5:00 p.m.



George Rubin

Historical Society Annual Meeting, including election of officers, Island House community room. **Mon., Dec. 2**, 7:30 p.m.

Islander **Roy Eaton** with the **New York Pops Orchestra**, Carnegie Hall, playing Ravel & Joplin, a benefit concert for the Lauri Strauss Leukemia Foundation. **Mon., Dec. 9**, 7:30 p.m.

Toastmasters public speaking group. Visitors welcome. Information: 751-9577 or 759-0396. **Mon., Dec. 9**, 8:00 p.m.

PS/IS 217 Winter Band Concert, at the school, **Thur., Dec. 12**, 5:30 p.m.

Senior Center

Monday
10:30, **Blood Pressure Screen**
12:30, "Oldies" Movies
1:00, **Tai Chi**
7:00, **Dance** (Beginners)

Tuesday
10:30, **Jazzercise**
7:30, **Games** (RISA)
Wednesday
9:00, **Stay Well**
10:00, **English as Second Language**
7:00, **Pokeno** (RISA)

Thursday
10:00, **Tai Chi**
10:30, **Creative Arts**
12:30, **Movie**
7:00, **Dance Class** (Advanced)

Friday
10:00, **English as Second Language**

10:15, **Yoga Stretch**
1:00, **Bridge Class**
7:30, **Lotto**
Saturday
7:30, **Bingo** (RISA)

Special Events

Mon., Nov. 11, 11-12:30, **MetroCard Bus**
Wed., Nov. 13, 10:00, **Stress Management**

Sat., Nov. 16, 8:00, **Seniors Fashion Show**, Manhattan Park Theater Club
Sat., Nov. 23, 6:00, **Annual Dinner** (RISA members only)

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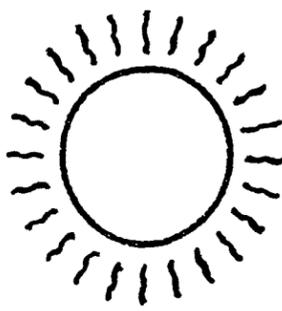
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RIDA Elects Officers



RIDA, the Roosevelt Island Disabled Association, has just elected officers. They are Virginia Granato, President (front row, left); Nancy Brown, Secretary (front row, middle); Margaret Graham, Treasurer (front row, right); Pearl Cooper, Co-Treasurer (back row, left); Gloria Narduzzo (back row, right); and Elena Vrinceanu, Vice President, who was away on Wednesday when this photo was taken.

Classified

50¢/word • 751-8214

Deadline for Nov. 23 issue: Nov. 18

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SPORTSWIRE

by Seth Kaufman

SOCCER With the end of the regular season drawing near, each game becomes critical as the races for first place are very close. The standings in the Youth Program's Soccer League following the games played on Saturday, November 2, are:

Minors (7-8)		Juniors (9-10)		Seniors (11-14)	
Blue	2-0-1 (7 points)	Gold	5-2-0 (15)	Gold	3-1-3 (12)
Red	1-0-2 (5)	Silver	3-2-2 (11)	Silver	3-2-1 (10)
Gold	0-1-2 (2)	Red	3-2-1 (10)	Red	1-1-4 (7)
Silver	0-2-1 (1)	Blue	0-5-1 (1)	Blue	1-4-2 (5)

Minors: In games played November 2, Blue came from behind to tie Red and hold onto its two-point first-place lead. Marko Cibic scored the lone goal for Red, while Thomas Diamond scored for Blue. In the other game that day, Silver recorded its first point of the season by playing a 3-3 draw with Gold. Leo Kell, Nicole Monroe, and Mark Choueiri scored for Gold, and Mahadi Ladjouzi, Krit McClean, and Haley Strong-Shinozaki had the goals for Silver. Even though six goals were scored, the game was marked by great goaltending by Olivier Streitz for Gold and Tucker Bartholomew for Silver.

Juniors: The games played this past weekend wreaked havoc with the standings as Silver jumped ahead of Red and into second place by virtue of a 3-0 victory over Red. Djordje Vuckovic, Javon Perry, and Alberto Marzan scored for Silver. First-place Gold, however, stayed four points ahead of Silver with a 6-2 victory over Blue. Bertrand Oubida and Eric Verdejo scored for Blue. Oussama Boutaleb led the onslaught for Gold with 3 goals, while Justos Burgos added 2, and Baba Kane added another.

Seniors: With its victory over Blue last Saturday, Silver, with a game in hand, moved to within two points of first-place Gold in the Senior Division. Silver was led by the stellar defense of Olivia Callender, Genny Holmes, Eleanor Philips and Kelsey Santella, with Nachiketa Goyal in goal. On the offensive side of the ball, Elliot Levine, Hugo Genes, Sid Menon, and David Malary scored for Silver, while Nikola Gak had the lone goal for Blue. In the other game that day, third-place Red held its own with first-place Gold, tying them 3-3 and staying within striking distance of first place. Samuel Johns scored 2 goals to lead the offense for Red, while Klaud Lucas scored the other goal. For Gold, Daniel Folla scored 2 goals, with Kwaime Phillips adding the third.

FLAG FOOTBALL: In week three of Flag Football, the Saints in the Junior Division (ages 12-14) and the Chargers in the Senior Division (ages 15-17) remained undefeated and moved into sole possession of first place with victories over the second-place teams in their divisions. The Saints defeated the Falcons 58-26, while the Chargers outscored the Broncos 52-26.

In the first Junior Division game played November 2, the Buccaneers defeated the Panthers, 15-13. In a tight defensive struggle, the decisive points came on a two-point safety. Jenna Stueber and Sebastian Gherardi scored the touchdowns for the Bucs, while Maurel Clarke and Stevano Jones scored the TDs for the Panthers.

The second Junior Division game, which featured two previously undefeated teams, went to the Saints over the Falcons 58-26. The Falcons broke on top and led 12-0 in the first five minutes of the game on touchdown passes from Steven Morabito to Joshua Hart and David Dinkins. However, the Saints stormed back behind the quarterbacking of Derrick Davis and the receiving of Remy Armenakis, who scored five touchdowns in the game. For the Saints, Dax Armenakis had two interceptions and scored two touchdowns, while Sanger Devine and Ricky Bonano each scored once. Emilio Estevez and Noel Polanco scored the extra points. For the Falcons, Steven Morabito scored twice on passes from Joshua Hart, and Jake Russem scored two extra points.

Island Has 11 Marathon Finishers

Overall Finish	Name	Time	Sex	Age	Age Place
622	Russo, Charles	3:01:53	574	25	92
1367	Menand, Sebastien	3:15:01	1255	29	217
2574	Freimer, Meredith	3:27:18	265	23	71
5821	Intermite, Francesco	3:46:53	4995	41	1036
11665	Conte, Rosanna	4:10:54	2223	36	1022
19465	Herman, Gloria	4:40:52	4857	55	54
25379	Herman, Jillian E	5:09:05	7160	22	1903
28698	Takakura, Hitoshi	5:41:16	20059	47	2339
30988	Gershwin, Emily	6:36:57	9727	38	4046
31229	Bdera, Karen P	6:48:31	9854	41	1497
31230	Bdera, Nicholas	6:48:32	21376	54	2183



Marathoners Nick and Karen Bdera, pausing at Mile 19 (1st Av. at 112th Street)



The P.T.A. of PS/IS 217 would like to extend our warmest thanks to everyone who helped make our Halloween fundraiser a screaming success.

We'd like to acknowledge the following individuals; without their assistance we couldn't have pulled it off:

Sandra Holden, Marilyn Engstler, Thelma, Linda and Edgar from the Manhattan Park Management Team. We couldn't have asked for a better co-sponsor.

RISA, RIVAA, The Hispanic Society, RIRA, RIHMC, and the NYFD Special Operation Command force, Bob Foley, Chris Rooney, Jim Trainor, and Jim Murtha. Your dedication, hard work, good cooking, and genuine support made this event a memorable "community" affair.

All of the PTA members who came through and volunteered when we needed them most, baking, decorating, selling, staffing the game tables, and cleaning up afterwards.

All the RI Merchants who year after year support this event: M&D Deli, Adrian at Gristede's, The Nail Salon, Hair Solution, Trellis, We Are One, Capri Pizza, Cards & Gifts, The Bakery, Cymelia Florist, RI Cleaners, The Video Store, China One and Julie's Sports Bar. Thank you for providing us with the necessities and the prizes for our contest winners. And of course Israel, of Wengerd Farms, whose generous donation provided us with our "Pumpkin Patch" this year, and whose support shows no limits.

A cackle of thanks to our witch, Gail Montague, for serving the "witches' brew;" "Cookie" Lugo, the creator of the PTA's raffle baskets; Isabel, our face-painting clown, and Public Safety for looking out!

And, although it may seem odd to thank ourselves, I just wanted to acknowledge Rose and Sandra Morabito, whose boundless energy was the key to our event's success.

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