

Next issue
in two weeks –
Sat., Oct. 22

The Main Street **WIRE**™

26th Year as Roosevelt Island's Independent Community Newspaper



Photo: Karina Freudenthal

Katrina Benefit Juanita Fleming and Susan Young performed September 22 at Good Shepherd Community Center in a showdown of Roosevelt Island musical talent with the participation of the Dayspring Church musicians and many guest stars. The benefit event, organized by Fleming, raised over \$2400 for the Red Cross, AmeriCares, and the Salvation Army. Some contributions are still coming in. Other Island performers included Maya Orr, Margaret Gaspard, and Janice Pendarvis.

New Chair for RIOC Board

With the departure of Mary Beth Labate as a DHCR Deputy Commissioner and Chair of the Board of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation, a replacement has been designated. RIOC issued the following press release:

“Deborah Boatright, Assistant Commissioner for Community Services in the State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR), has been designated to chair the RIOC Board of Directors.

“Boatright’s appointment was announced in New York City by DHCR Commissioner Judith Calogero. Boatright, who heads the New York City office of DHCR’s Office of Community Development, replaces Mary Beth Labate, a former DHCR Deputy Commissioner, who is taking a position as Chief Budget Examiner in the State Division of the Budget.

“Calogero, as DHCR Commissioner, is the statutory chair of the RIOC Board. She designates a person to chair the RIOC Board, which oversees operations and management of the 147-acre East River island, which is home to an estimated 10,500 people.

“I am very pleased and humbled that my Commissioner, Judy Calogero, is confident that I can join the RIOC team and contribute to the betterment of Roosevelt Island,” Boatright said. “I am looking forward to helping to improve the quality of life for all the people who have made Roosevelt Island their home.”

“Deborah has done an outstanding job leading DHCR’s New York City Regional Office and possesses a skill set that makes her ideal for this position,” said Commissioner Calogero. “She is a native New Yorker whose passion for her City is matched by her ability, and I am confident that she the right person to chair the RIOCC Board.”

“Boatright takes over the leadership of the Board at a time of fiscal stability for RIOC under President Herbert Berman. RIOC has undertaken its first self-financed five-year capital program and successfully begun a major course of upgrades to Island infrastructure, including parks and other public areas.

“Boatright is a 20-year veteran of government, starting as an assistant in the office of former Mayor Ed Koch. She has served in increasingly senior positions in City and State government, with a focus on affordable housing. She currently serves as a Vice-President of DHCR’s Housing Trust Fund Board.

“Boatright is a graduate of City College and received a Master of Science in Policy Analysis and Public Affairs from the New School University’s Robert J. Milano Graduate School of Management. She also studied at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government as a Fannie Mae Fellow in the State and Local Government Program for Senior Executives.

“Boatright was born in the Bronx and currently resides in Manhattan.”



RIOC Offering Builders More Island Park Space in Development Package

by Dick Lutz

Quietly, RIOC has put up more Island parkland for commercial or residential development.

With no notice to *The WIRE* or residents, the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC) published an offering of five Island properties in the New York State Contract Reporter (NYSCR) on September 26. Neither RIOC nor Jones, Lang, LaSalle, which represents RIOC in development matters, has supplied any information for local consumption. On Tuesday, a Jones, Lang representative told *The WIRE* that he was prohibited from doing so pending preparation of a website intended to inform developers.

On Wednesday, a person identifying himself as a RIOC press representative promised a statement before press time, but the statement contained no information, while asserting that RIOC’s process is “open and transparent.”

The NYSCR notice, published September 26, describes five development opportunities. Two locations may be obvious: “Enclosed 2,000-space parking garage” could be the unbuilt northeast quadrant of Motorgate or it might be RIOC’s partial ownership in the existing structure; “approximately 80,000 square feet of urban retail space package [sic] as a grocery anchored shopping center” could be the street level of Motorgate (possibly including the glass-enclosed area that contains broken escalators RIOC has indicated it does not intend to repair), and other Island retail space, much of which has gone unoccupied.

But three sites are described only as follows: “The Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation of the State Of New York (‘RIOC’) is pleased to announce [sic] the availability of the following prime waterfront investment and development opportunities on Roosevelt Island (the ‘property’), which is being marketed through a request for proposal process for the following locations, with unparallel [sic] views of Manhattan and other surroundings: Development site #1 which is about 4.5 acres, Development Site #2 is about 1 acre, Development Site #3 is about 2.5 acres...” The notice continues, describing the garage and “shopping center” opportunities.

One of the sites being offered is clearly at least part of Southpoint Park – probably in the northern half of its length since specific commitments exist for park-related development on the south half – despite past assurances from RIOC Board members that the land would be reserved as a park, and despite the State Open Spaces Law, which attempted to reserve the entirety of Southpoint for park purposes.

In 2004, a group of resident leaders sued when part of Octagon Park was turned over to a developer, but the action was beaten back, and the April, 2005, ruling appeared to open the door to trade-offs in which developments could occupy parkland as a way of providing the funding necessary for park development.

The WIRE has been unable to learn what other sites are being offered, even though the NYSCR notice offers an informational package to developers.

The NYSCR publication on September 26 gives developers only one month to prepare proposals, which are due October 27 – just 20 days away as *The WIRE* goes to press. Whether most developers are able to prepare proposals in so short a time is unclear. RIOC may eventually extend the time period, or may know

of a developer already preparing proposals for the sites. In any case, some developers are likely to interpret the short period as a cue that a deal is politically “wired” and they need not apply.

Open spaces of the sizes listed, which might accommodate large development, could include the Octagon Park soccer field (just north of Manhattan Park), the portion of Blackwell Park immediately south of Rivercross, Capobianco Field (just north of Eastwood), or, conceivably, hospital properties. While New York City controls the hospitals, the lease under which the State controls the rest of the Island gives the State development rights on everything more than five feet past the walls of the hospital buildings.

For years, there has been speculation that, one day, both Goldwater Hospital and Coler Hospital would be closed or moved to a new facility elsewhere in the City or its vicinity. While the land they occupy was a logical siting for extended-care facilities when they were built, in today’s real-estate market the land would have considerable value for residential development, presuming a solution could be found to the transportation problems presented by a considerable increase in commuting population. A non-commuting population, such as would occupy a residential facility for the elderly, might be built without serious further strain on the F line, which is already seriously overcrowded in morning rush periods.

If plans were made to close the hospitals, their existing steam plant behind the Tram station would no longer be required; it was inadvertently put under RIOC’s control when the original lease was drawn up giving the State development authority over the Island.

Southtown properties are unlikely to be involved in the current offering, since those are tied up in a deal with The Related Companies and The Hudson Companies (Hudson-Related).

RIOC management offered no explanation for why no local notice was given of the offering of these development parcels, although RIOC President Herbert E. Berman has, from time to time, boasted that his administration is more open than those of the two predecessors appointed by Governor George Pataki, each of whom left the post suddenly. George Shea, the person who identified himself as a spokesman for RIOC, asserted in his statement that “the RIOC Board will address all issues in an open forum... RIOC welcomes residents to Board meetings to share thoughts and ideas to advance the Island.” However, RIOC’s most recent practice has been to allow residents to speak at Board meetings only once every two months, and then only after all pending business was already conducted, and often, only after waiting an indeterminate amount of time while the Board adjourned to a “executive session” closed to press and public.

The WIRE asked resident Board members to provide statements with their justifications for RIOC’s secrecy in keeping issuance of this RFP from residents, but by deadline for this story, none had responded. The newspaper continues to seek information on the specifics of what properties are being offered. Follow-up information will be available by e-mail bulletin; readers may subscribe to the bulletins by e-mail to editor@MainStreetWIRE.com.

Related
editorial
and
cartoon,
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Briefly: Brodsky Hearing Set, and...

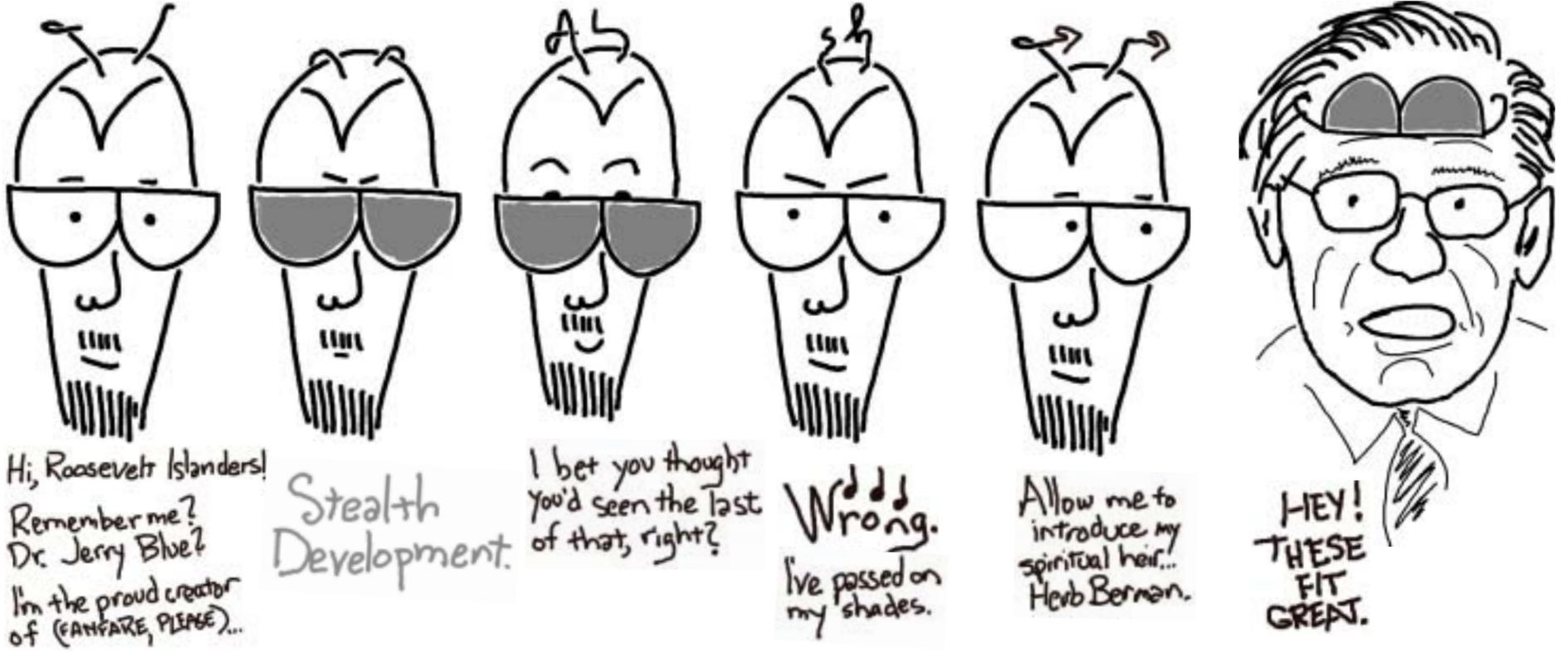
• **The Brodsky Committee Hearing** is now scheduled for 10:00 Monday morning, October 17, in the Good Shepherd Community Center. Assemblymember Richard Brodsky’s interim report found serious fault with RIOC operations under Pataki appointees prior to RIOC’s current president. He says the Island hearings will seek answers to questions raised in the initial report. Brodsky says that former RIOC Board Chair Mary Beth Labate, who has now left the DHCR post that gave her that role, will testify, and RIRA leaders have

also been asked to appear. The interim report is on line at nyc10044.com/wire/2523/wire2523.html.

• **The Island House Tenants Association** elected a new Board last weekend after four members of its old five-member Board resigned, saying they could not steer the building to privatized resident ownership under a new set of bylaws approved by tenants. Renato Folla, who did not resign, continues. Elected to fill out a newly constituted nine-member Board were: Dorothy Davis, Lee Edelman, Frank Farance, Mark Tannen, Graham

Cannon, Elizabeth Blair, Lydia Tang, and Owen Johnston.

• Roosevelt Island-based **Orphans International** has raised over \$200,000 in its current fund-raising cycle to support its existing children’s homes in Haiti and Indonesia, according to founder Jim Luce. Volunteers meet Thursday nights to discuss these and projects planned for China, Ghana, India, Guyana, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, and Togo. To join in the 7 p.m. sessions, call **212-755-7285** or just show up at 540 Main Street, #418 (buzzer 157).



The Editorial Page

Local BushSpeak

George Orwell gave us *newspeak* in his novel, *1984*.

George W. Bush has given us the global equivalent in which bad things are portrayed as good and bumbler get high awards.

Locally, we have *RIOCspeak*, in which a George Pataki-model State agency that issues secret proposals for development on our park land withholds them from residents for two weeks while characterizing itself as "open and transparent," while giving developers so little time to respond that they'll understand they should stay away – that the deal is wired... a State agency that claims, in a statement given to *The WIRE* supposedly to explain its secret offering, that it "welcomes residents to Board meetings to share thoughts and ideas to advance the Island," while knowing full well that residents are mostly locked out from speaking to the assembled RIOC Board because they get the chance only six times a year, only after business has already been conducted and decisions made, and only at weird hours when real humans have other things to do – and then, too often, only after making residents wait an indeterminate amount of time while they go off to conduct important business in secret.

RIOC's cloaked offering of parkland for development is the latest example of how removal of park space from public use will be characterized as a great benefit for all concerned. Just wait and watch. Part of Southpoint, too, is "rubble-strewn." It could be made into a beautiful park, but instead, the rubble and fences will become the excuse for a development that will strain transportation.

BushSpeak is alive and well on Roosevelt Island, in our own dialect. We have only to decide what to call it. *RIOCspeak?* *BermanSpeak?* *PatakiSpeak?*

DL

Letters

To the Editor:

Regarding the RIOC Board's discussion of conflicts in affordable housing vs. revenue need (*The WIRE*, September 24), allow me to play dormouse once again and pop up to add my two cents.

It seems that for RIOC, the question on the table is this: Whether to maximize its own revenue by demanding "best value" for land assets, as sanctioned by impending legislation, or to preserve affordable housing for residents, as the Island's charter requires.

What I gleaned from RIOC members' responses does not comfort me at all. It boils down to this: "Yes, we realize that, gee, we should do the honorable thing and preserve affordable housing, but gosh, we really don't know how to go about it because, as it stands, there are few solid legal guarantees for the preservation of affordable housing on this Island. And soon, there will be even fewer."

In other words, these people are trying to make "compassionate" noises while offering absolutely no workable solutions to the hundreds of low-and-middle-income renters who face displacement as a result of the privatization process.

In fact, what they're really saying is that we low-renters are out of luck. Don't believe otherwise and don't be lulled by the double talk: these are, unmistakably, the cues we are being handed and we should act on them.

What to do? Maybe step up legal and political efforts to delay the privatization process, while we wait for a more favorable change in the State's political guard. Above all, let's make sure that we don't vote for another Republican governor.

Mayoral elections are a trickier matter. Do we reelect a Republican mayor who comes from Big Money and may ultimately sympathize with big landlords' goals? Or do we elect a Democrat surrounded by sharp, hungry operatives who, once their candidate is in, might be susceptible to the same Big Money interests? It's a tough one.

All too often, distaste for a particular Democrat has prompted otherwise liberal folks to hold their noses and vote for a Republican. But before we do that again, we have to carefully review all of our options and their possible consequences.

I see that Mayor Bloomberg has just launched an affordable housing program for New York City em-

Judith Calogero, Commissioner
NYS Department of Housing and Community Renewal
Dear Commissioner Calogero:

I must take exception to the remarks attributed to you in the September 24 issue of *The Main Street WIRE*. You spoke of the Octagon Apartments project as making Roosevelt Island "a much better place to live" and of the litigation brought by the Roosevelt Island Residents Association as "nimby-ism." When I met you years ago, shortly after your investiture as DHCR Commissioner, you expressed your affection for this Island. And yet, in the intervening years, you have never seen fit to attend a single RIOC Board of Directors meeting where you are *ex officio* chair. And now, when you have finally found your way here, it was to attend a ceremony for a residential building where not a single Roosevelt Islander yet lives, nor did you make any effort to meet with any of the organizations (RIRA, RISA, RIDA) that represent the 10,000 residents already here.

The litigation that RIRA recently brought was not to prevent additional residential expansion, but to keep it where the General Development Plan, the Open Spaces law, and the residents of the Island expect it to be: Southtown. Therefore, the question was not "not-in-my-backyard," but unfettered development that destroys both parkland and any pretense of a planned community. The RIOC Board has suggested that the litigation was frivolous and that Judge Wechsler declared it so, but, as one who attended every hearing (unlike a single member of the Board) and carefully read the decision, I can assure you that his ruling was on the basis of "laches," defined as neglect to do a thing at the proper time or undue delay in asserting a right. RIRA delayed filing its Article 78 petition until the RIOC Board gave its final approval for the project. The process was delayed more by RIOC and Octagon attorneys filing for continuances, based on professional conflicts and vacation time (!), than on RIRA dragging its feet. And, while these continuances may have been smart legal strategy, they hardly qualify as some moral imperative or ethical high ground.

We've learned to our dismay that the General Development Plan may be amended by a sympathetic Mayor without community consultation and that the Open Spaces statute has no teeth. We hope that Assistant Commissioner and RIOC Board Chair Mary Beth Labate's promise to the Island to build a park (and only a park) at Southpoint will be honored even after she leaves her duties here. To our sorrow, the New York State Supreme Court has ruled that there are no designated parklands on Roosevelt Island and we can only count on the good will of the Board to honor the work of the Trust for Public Land whose surveys of Southpoint Park users clearly repudiated any other use for this space.

While I was not a party to the recent litigation and am no longer a Residents Association officer, as an interested party I urge you to speak with Island residents and their elected representatives before deciding what will make Roosevelt Island "a better place to live." We know the answer to that question better than you.

Matthew Katz

Letters deadline for Oct. 22 issue: Monday, Oct. 17

Letters received after deadline are considered on a space-available basis.

Letters Policy

The WIRE welcomes letters to the editor, to the community, and to/from officials. *Name Withheld* publication will be considered, but the writer's name, address, and phone number must be provided for verification and for our records; *letters submitted anonymously will not be published*. Preferred method of submission: E-mail to Letters@MainStreetWIRE.com (plaintext e-mail format preferred, or attach a file), or on a PC-standard 3.5" disk left at the desk at 531 Main Street, addressed to *The WIRE*. Alternatives: Typed copy left at 531 Main Street, but allow extra time before deadline for typesetting. Clearly handwritten letters will be considered if brief, but we are not able to take telephone dictation of letters. All letters are subject to acceptance and to editing for length and clarity. Recommended maximum length, 300 words; longer letters will be considered if their content merits the required space.

ployees. Hey, Mike, *what about the rest of us?* Let's remember that affordable housing is one of the platforms on which these people claim to be running.

And let's think up a few creative and very noisy ways to remind both mayoral candidates of it, before the election.

Patricia Duarte



Published by *The Main Street WIRE*,
©2005 Unisource2000™ Inc.
531 Main St. #413, NYC10044

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

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Proofreaders – Linda Heimer, Mickey Karpeles Bauer
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Steve Marcus is on vacation so once again I'm the guest columnist. With the summer over, the RIRA Common Council will be taking stock of Island issues and deciding what to focus on in the upcoming months. If you have any specific issues you'd like the Council to address, please tell your RIRA building

The RIRA Column

rep or come to one of our meetings (first Wednesday of every month), where you can speak in the public session, which is held at the beginning of every meeting. Notices of time and place are published in the

ComingUp section of *The WIRE*. It's long been the intention of RIRA to become more active with other nearby communities in New York City so that we attract more visitors and we're aware of what other places in the City are doing to improve their quality of life. Some time ago, RIRA joined a group called the East River Network, which is part of the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (MWA). The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance works through education, grassroots organizing, and media advocacy to include the public's voice and values in the decision-making that will determine the future of our region's waterfront and waterways. Representatives from RIRA attended the last meeting of the East River Network, where we talked about Roosevelt Island, our concerns, and our hopes for the future. The group was very receptive and in fact they've asked to hold their next meeting right here on the Island. We quickly agreed and we intend to give them a warm welcome and a complete tour of the Island. Over the coming months and years, we intend to join with many other area groups and we ask any Islanders who are interested

to tell their RIRA rep they'd like to participate and we'll be sure to include them in our future plans.

Also coming up in the next several weeks, the New York State Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Committees will convene hearings to consider matters raised in their report issued on August 26, 2005, "An Inquiry into the Management of Roosevelt Island by the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation." RIRA has committed to be as cooperative as possible to ensure that these hearings bring about the best possible results for the residents of the Island. Go to <http://brodsky2006.com/RooseveltIsland.html> if you want to see a copy of the report.



Margie Smith, Vice President Roosevelt Island Residents Assn. e-mail: MSmith@quintennium.com

group that will inspire creative solutions for some of the Island's growing concerns.

As I'm sure many of you have heard by now, DHCR Chairperson Judith Calogero has named a new designee to chair the RIOC Board meetings, Deborah Boatwright. RIRA would like to welcome her and invite her to attend a RIRA Common Council meeting so that we can begin to form a productive working relationship from Day One. We look forward to developing a cohesive

Autumn has brought with it not only the changing of the leaves, the crispness in the air, but also a change in leadership on the Roosevelt Island Board of Directors. Mary Beth Labate, who has served so ably as Commissioner Judith Calogero's designee, has resigned her position with the Division of Housing and Community Renewal to accept a position with the Division of the Budget. It is with much sadness that I say goodbye to Mary Beth. She has been an able leader for the Island and a great friend to me personally.

The RIOC Column

In concert with Commissioner Calogero, Mary Beth's leadership has been the driving force behind the significant advances this Island has made over the past several years. Her dedication, commitment, sense of fairness and community spirit has been an inspiration to all who have come in contact with her. She felt a strong connection with the Island and, in her own way, sought to improve the quality of life for Island residents. Putting RIOC on firm financial footing has enabled RIOC to enhance the quality of life for those living on Roosevelt Island – capital improvements, new buses, new amenities to be ordered, new elevators at Motorgate, a refurbished Tramway among a few.

But more importantly, Mary Beth's vision has been instrumental in transforming the Octagon ruin – an

area that had deteriorated so badly that for the last twenty years, this space was fenced off to guard residents and visitors from the unsafe conditions in the rubble-strewn area – to the beautiful restoration of the landmarked historic structure of the Octagon, the expansion of open space on the Island and the creation of affordable housing on Roosevelt Island.



Herbert E. Berman, President Roosevelt Island Operating Corp. e-mail: HBerman@rioc.com

As well, Mary Beth worked diligently on behalf of Island residents to ensure that the space at Southpoint would be developed into a state-of-the-art park and recreational area for residents and visitors to enjoy for years to come. Mary Beth has been a strong positive presence on the Island and her leadership and friendship will be missed greatly. As we say goodbye to Mary Beth, we wholeheartedly welcome her successor, Deborah Boatright. I look forward to working with Deborah and know that together, we will continue to improve the quality of life for Roosevelt Island residents.

Bob McDowell

Bob McDowell, the composer/lyricist/musician who provided music for many shows at *The Main Street Theatre*, died September 8 of brain cancer, in his home in Astoria, at age 52.

Born Robert Lee McDowell in Sedan, Kansas, he worked extensively in the world of theater, cabaret, ballet, and choral music. A member of the BMI-Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop, he was also known for his adept arrangements and orchestrations. He received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts for three ballets commissioned by Guadalupe Parkway Center in Lubbock, Texas. Other commissions included *Fire*, a work for a Denver chorale, inspired by the political conflict over a ballot proposition that proposed the denial of equal rights to gays and lesbians. His *Workbook* was commissioned by another Denver choir. Under commission, he wrote scores for musical versions of *Twelfth Night* and *Love's Labors Lost*.



He also wrote the score for *Alpha Girls*, an ambitious children's musical that tackled the subject of schoolgirl cliques and bullying, which had its premiere performance at the Main Street Children's Theatre. It was a finalist for the 2003 Richard Rodgers Award and in the Jackie White Memorial Children's Playwriting Contest. MST also produced his next children's show, *Like Totally Grimm*, a contemporary take on the tales of the Brothers Grimm.

He also wrote arrangements, orchestrations, and special material for the Off-Broadway hit *Swingtime Canteen*. Much of his career was spent as musical director/conductor at theaters around the country, including Seaside Music Theater in Daytona Beach, where he worked on a wide variety of shows. At his death, he had begun work on an adaptation of *The Snow Queen* for Seaside Music Theater.

He is survived by his life partner and sometime collaborator, playwright Bill McMahon. A memorial service is planned for October 21, at 6:30 p.m., at Metro Baptist Church, 410 West 40th Street, west of 9th Avenue. RSVP to bmcdowellny@earthlink.net.

COMING UP

– This Weekend –

◀*Southpoint from Ruin to Rejuvenation*, exhibit at Gallery RIVAA, closing tomorrow. Gallery hours 11-5 Sat., Sun.; 6-9 Wed. and Fri.

Open House New York on Roosevelt Island, including Octagon Park Apartments and Lighthouse Park, today and tomorrow, 12:00-4:45.



J. Wayne Olson's *Questions for a Fetus* ▶, a series of art installations, continuing through December, Rivercross Window Gallery, sponsored by the Mother Earth Committee. October: *Introduction* (life in Century 21) – *Origins* (Darwin or Divinity?); *Evil Part I*. November: *Evil Part II; Language* (signs and symbols of communication). December: *Routes* (the paths of cultures and races).



– The Coming Week –

Toastmasters meeting, Mon., Oct. 10, 8:00 p.m., Westview community room, 625 Main Street. Additional information: **212-751-9577**.

Ramp delays and restrictions in effect Tue., Oct. 10 and Wed., Oct. 11, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., as RIOC performs concrete repairs. No long trucks during these periods.

Gallery RIVAA Group Show, opening Sat., Oct. 15, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Gallery RIVAA, 527 Main Street. Usual gallery hours Sat. and Sun., 11-5; Wed. and Fri., 6-9.

Tram out of service, Sun., Oct. 16, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, for FDNY rescue drill.

– Future Events –

Brodsky Committee Hearing regarding Roosevelt Island and the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation, Mon., Oct. 17, 10:00 a.m., Good Shepherd Community Center.

La Leche League meeting for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, Mon., Oct. 17, 10:30 a.m., 536 Main Street (behind Capri Pizza). Free. Information: **212-832-1188**.

Visual Art Fest ▶, the patient/resident annual art exhibit at the south campus of Coler-Goldwater; opening reception Tue., Oct. 18, 2:30 p.m.; exhibit open daily, Wed., Oct. 19-Sun., Oct. 23, Goldwater Auditorium, 1 Main Street.

RIOC Board of Directors meeting, Thur., Oct. 20, 9:30 a.m., Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

Book Discussion Group, Thur., Oct. 20, 6:30 p.m., at the Library. *A House for Mr. Biswas* by V. S. Naipaul.

The Main Street WIRE – Next issue, Sat., Oct. 22. (To receive e-mail bulletins between issues, send an *AddMe* message to Bulletins@MainStreetWIRE.com.) **Advertising Deadline:** Ads in the paper, Thursday, Oct. 13; decision on fliers for *The Bag*, Tue., Oct. 18; inserts due Thur., Oct. 20. **Future issues:** Fortnightly through December: Nov. 5, 19; Dec. 3, 17; then fortnightly, resuming Jan. 14, 2006. **News phone, 212-826-9055;** urgent matters **917-617-0449**. **Phone for display and classified advertising placement and information, 212-751-8214.** **To list your organization's Island-related event in this column**, e-mail information to ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com, or leave it, addressed to *The WIRE*, at the lobby desk at 531 Main Street; provide a telephone number for follow-up questions. There is no charge for such listings.



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

Tram out of service, Sat., Oct. 22, 6:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, for inspection.

Tram out of service, Sun., Oct. 23, 6:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, for inspection.

Toastmasters meeting, Mon., Oct. 24, 8:00 p.m., Westview community room, 625 Main Street. Additional information: **212-751-9577**.

Halloween Mardi Gras Fundraiser at Manhattan Park Theater Club, Fri., Oct. 28, 5:30-8:30 p.m., sponsored by the IS/PS 217 PTA and Manhattan Park. Admission \$3 all ages; proceeds to Katrina relief.

Senior Center

Monday

9:30, **Yoga**
10-11:30, **English as 2nd Language**
10:30, **Blood Pressure Screening**
12:30, **"Oldies" Movies**
1:00, **Tai Chi**
7:00, **Dance Class** (Beginners)

Tuesday

10:00, **Chinese Massage**
10:30, **Shoppers' Bus**
2:00, **Bingo**
2:00, **Painting and Sculpting**
7:30, **Games** (RISA)

Wednesday

9:15, **Stay Well**
10:00, **Heart Health Care**
10:30, **Computers**
10:30, **Shoppers' Bus**
7:00, **Pokeno** (RISA)

Thursday

10:00, **Get Stronger Bones**
10:30, **Creative Arts**
12:30, **Movie**

Friday

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

Special Events

Fri., Oct. 14, 6:00 p.m., RIDA Annual Dinner
Sun., Oct. 16, 12:00, Aqueduct Flea Market trip
Wed., Oct. 19, Atlantic City trip
Fri., Oct. 21, 10:30, Legal Briefing – Wills, Trusts, and more
Sat., Oct. 29, Atlantic City night trip
Mon., Oct. 31, 6:00, Halloween Party
Mon., Nov. 7, 9:30-11:30, Flu Shots, first-come, first-served (no appointments)

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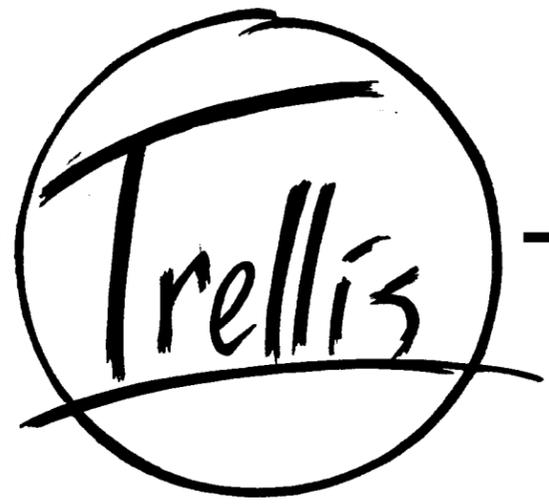
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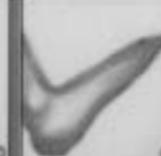
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