Fishers Island has a new communication tool – the redesigned Fishers Island.net website and Fog Horn eNewsletter. FishersIsland.net and the accompanying Fog Horn serve as the communications resource for the Fishers Island community. The content – news, calendar, links and photos, milestones, ads and more create a clear image of Fishers to those on and off island.

The website’s redesign incorporates a fresh modern look, new features and improved content organization and usability. This website allows us to produce and send the Fog Horn eNewsletter to all free of charge (and produce a printable version for those who wish to receive it).

Contributors are most welcome! We will continue to feature pieces by Museum Director Pierce Rafferty, gardening tips by contributor Melie Spofford and many more. Your photographs, stories and news will be welcome additions – be it a surf report, Ebb and Flow milestone, organization’s event, save the date, calendar event or other Fishers Island community news.

Many thanks to website designer Beth Jepsen of Insite Design for all her thoughtful work on designing and building the new site. Gratitude also goes to Heather Burnham, Jamie Doucette, Elizabeth Reid and Jill Rogan for their valuable advice; Pierce Rafferty for his comprehensive writings; Chip Riegel for the use of his beautiful photos in the masthead; Andrew Benkard for his assistance with the transition; Sarah Porter for her continued attention to the Community Calendar; and everyone who took time to review the site development, answer questions and offer suggestions.

A special thank you goes to the Sanger Fund and ICB for their support and help in making this new site a reality.

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FI INTERNET SURVEY
FI SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
EBB AND FLOW

Birth:

January 10, 2014 Alden Price Weida to Kyley (Lyon) and Jason Weida

Weddings:

October 26, 2013 Roxana Beatriz Alvarado Mendez and Jackson Oakes Howard, Kohala Coast of Hawai‘i.

December 26, 2013 Robert Edmonds Hunt and Phoebe Jane Davison, Solana Beach, CA

FERGUSON MUSEUM CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 2013

The 114th Annual Christmas Bird Count took place on Saturday, December 28, 2013 on Fishers. Penni and Greg Sharp were accompanied by Justine Kibbe, the Island’s Naturalist. Beginning at the west end, they spent the day traversing the island and the following list includes the variety of birds spotted and counted.

Common Loon 6  
Double-Crested Cormorant 7  
Great Blue Heron 6  
Mallard Duck 13  
American Black Duck 11  
American Wigeon 4  
Common Eider 32  
White-Winged Scoter 2  
Surf Scoter 1  
Black Scoter 11  
Bufflehead 32  
Hooded Merganser 4  
Red-Breasted Merganser 38  
Ruddy Duck 10  
Sharp-Shinned Hawk 1  
Northern Harrier 4  
Herring Gull 73  

Great Black-Backed Gull 15  
Mourning Dove 5  
Belted Kingfisher 1  
American Crow 23  
Horned Lark 14  
Black-Capped Chickadee 10  
Tufted Titmouse 1  
Carolina Wren 4  
Ruby-Crowned Kinglet 1  
American Robin 1  
European Starling 35  
Yellow-Rumped Warbler 1  
Northern Cardinal 7  
Song Sparrow 5  
White-Throated Sparrow 5  
Dark-Eyed Junco 2  
American Goldfinch 2


The 2014 Bird count will take place on Saturday, December 27. Everyone is invited to participate.
MUNNATAWKET: A 7.5-HOUR TOUR

The Fishers Island ferry boats receive routine maintenance by the District’s mechanics throughout the year, but each winter one of them goes into dry dock for a time to get a thorough check of the external hull and other items on a pre-assembled punch list. This winter it is the M/V Munnatawket’s turn.

The Fishers Island Ferry District (FIFD) received three bids from shipyards on the east coast for this year’s work, and selected Fairhaven Shipyard’s bid after FIFD management completed extensive research and gathered references.

RJ Burns, FIFD’s Manager, Marine Operations, determined the date of the journey after a careful study of weather forecasts and tides, and yard availability.

The Munnatawket trip plan held to the schedule, “Depart New London, CT: 0500, Jan 9, 2014”. The route had two options – travel due east past Watch Hill Pass, or circumnavigate The Race. The latter was selected and the boat departed the New London slip at 05:03 am. With the lights of Groton’s General Dynamic plant glowing on the dead flat, ice coated Thames River she headed for The Race. Few lights were visible on Fishers, save the streetlights on the west end. One could barely make out the silhouette of Race Rock Lighthouse, until the lamp turned our way. Taking the Lighthouse to port, the Munnatawket turned east toward the Point Judith “R2” buoy.

Needless to say, there were next to no lights on the south side of Fishers, which made it possible to notice beautiful falling stars from the pilothouse.

The sky become lighter about 06:11 and as the sun began to rise Block Island came into view to starboard, followed shortly by Martha’s Vineyard on the distant horizon. From “R2” off Point Judith, Captains Jesse Marshall and John Haney drove the Munnatawket on a generally northeastern route across Rhode Island Sound to Narragansett Bay and into Buzzards Bay, using the pre-plotted course and running parallel to the shipping lane.

FIFD Commissioner Peter Rugg followed the trip remotely with the Marine Weather app, reporting at 09:44, “Munnatawket: 8 miles south of entrance to Sakonet River, east side of Newport, headed ENE at 9.3 knots. Wind W@ 16, Temp 24, water temp 40. Seas 2 feet.

In Buzzards Bay, Captain Marshall communicated with various nearby fishing vessels and kept tabs on repeated radio announcements on the timing of Weddings cont.: January 11, 2014 Alexandra Geddes Parsons and Mark Edwin Andrews IV, New York, NY

Engagement:

Karen Reale and Michael Simoncini
January 2014

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
http://fishersisland.net/events/

‘Frozen on Fishers’
Photo Credit: Liz Furse
In Memoriam: Stowe Phelps

Born April 15, 1917, Stowe Catlin Phelps died peacefully at home on December 24, 2013. He had lived "Many Very Good Years" to quote the title of his memoirs. On June 24, 1944 he married Charlton Yarnall Jacobs of Philadelphia. They had two daughters: Sophia Yarnall Payne of Fort Worth, TX and Meredith Phelps Rugg of New York City.

Stowe had a varied, creative career that included acting on Broadway, working at CBS television and writing and producing documentary films. He spent many years on the Board of the Third Street Music School Settlement and was an active member of The Century Association. Music was central to his life and he was the oldest living Whiffenpoof. He loved golf and enjoyed his many years as a U.S. Senior. His family was all important to him and in addition to his wife and two daughters he is survived by his son-in-law Peter Rugg, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: The Third Street Music School Settlement, 235 E. 11th St, New York, NY 10003 or The Fishers Island Sea Stretcher, c/o FIFD Box 222, Fishers Island, NY 06390 or The Century Association Foundation, 7 West 43rd St, New York, NY 10036. There will be a memorial service soon in 2014. Published in The New York Times December 26, 2013.

A 7.5-HOUR TOUR cont.

the vessel Kracken doing blasting of bottom ledge in the Acushnet River’s harbor.

Meanwhile Captain Haney and Mr. Burns plotted the trip progress on the charts using various tools including a Nautical Slide Rule, Parallel Rulers, Dividers, Watch, Tide Tables and calculator. They also practiced taking a noon sight with a sextant.

During our transit Senior Mechanic John Paradis kept a close eye on all the machinery systems. As we neared Fairhaven he pumped out our ballast water tank to make it easier to lift Munnatawket and put less stress on the hull when out of the water.

The customary Buzzards Bay wind picked up and the temperature dropped as the Munnatawket turned northeasterly to the New Bedford entrance channel at the mouth of the Acushnet River. Followed closely by a large commercial fishing trawler, she passed the 115 year-old Butler Flats Lighthouse and Captain Marshall reported into Buzzards Bay Control (an extension of Cape Cod Control). The Munnatawket then passed through the New Bedford Hurricane Protection Barrier that protects the New Bedford and Fairhaven harbor. Extending across the harbor entrance, this barrier is a 20 foot-high, 4,500 foot-long stone wall with a 150 foot-wide gated passage allowing boats of all sizes to enter and exit.

Once inside the harbor, it was a short transit to the Fairhaven Shipyard on the river’s east side. Ice blocks were floating around her as the Munnatawket was steered into the slip, coming face to face with the enormous blue lift that would take her to dry dock.

With minimal winds, running in a strong ebb (Fair Tide) from New London, and catching the flood into Buzzards Bay, a very competent FIFD crew made the 67 nautical mile trip from New London to Fairhaven, averaging 10 knots in 7.5 hours, and landing at 12:32. At 13:24 Captain Jesse Marshall locked the pilothouse door. The Munnatawket was lifted out of the water and driven, by remote control, to her spot in the yard for the evaluation and work to begin.

An interesting maritime fact - the only time a captain gives up command of his or her ship is in dry dock - and when navigating the Panama Canal.

The Munnatawket, commissioned by the Fishers Island Ferry District, was designed and built by Blount Marine in Warren, RI and was launched in March of 1978. In the coming weeks, the Munnatawket’s hull plates and external machinery, including the bow thruster, can be inspected, worked on, and repaired where necessary. RJ Burns and John Paradis will oversee the yard work.

To learn about the Crew and see photos of the trip, please visit http://fishersisland.net/mv-munnatawket-7.5-hour-tour/
EBB AND FLOW

In Memoriam: Kathleen Collins

Kathleen (Dooley) Collins, 77, died suddenly on Saturday, January 4, 2014. Mrs. Collins was a resident of Plainfield and Fishers Island, N.Y. She will be remembered fondly for her kindness of spirit, sincerity, steadfastness, compassion and her devotion to family, who provided her with much joy and great pride.

Kate was born in Monasterevan, Ireland, on Aug. 28, 1936, the tenth child of Joseph and Catherine Dooley's eleven children. She first came to New York City in 1956 where she joined her sisters, Elizabeth and Bernadette, and extended family. In the years that followed, Kate worked in New York and often traveled to Fishers Island to visit with her sisters and their families. It was there that she met and later married her loving and devoted husband of 48 years, Paul Joseph Collins. They were married at Our Lady of Grace Church on Nov. 21, 1964 and began a long and happy union, settling in Connecticut. They also enjoyed many happy times with both of their families on Fishers Island.

Kate was a devoted wife to Paul, who predeceased her, a loving mother and a very attentive "Nana" to her grandchildren. She was a loyal parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Church on Fishers Island, N.Y. and St. John the Apostle Church in Plainfield.

She is survived by two daughters, Catherine A. Collins of Providence, R.I. and Pauline C. Heeney of Newton, Mass.; her son-in-law, Matthew Heeney; and her beloved grandchildren, Molly and Jack Heeney. Kate is also survived by her sister, Elizabeth Peishoff of Fishers Island, N.Y.; as well as dozens of nieces and nephews, who loved her dearly and will miss her greatly.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at Our Lady of Grace Church, Fishers Island, N.Y. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to Island People's Project, P.O. Box 523, Fishers Island, NY 06390, or Our Lady of Grace Church, P.O. Box 425, Fishers Island, NY 06390.

Published in The Day on Jan. 12, 2014

JANUARY GARDENING TIPS

From Mélie’s Garden

Happy 2014 and hopefully a wonderful year of gardening!

We spent the holidays in New York, so I was confronted with having a Christmas tree in our apartment. In last month’s column, I wrote about making a clean cut at the bottom of the Christmas tree trunk, so that the tree will be able to absorb water to keep it fresh. Since we did not have a tree saw in the apartment, my husband drilled three fairly deep holes into the bottom of the trunk instead and it worked beautifully. The tree drank tons of water and stayed fresh for almost three weeks. I then was faced with taking the tree down and having it put on the street for the recycling truck to pick up, a great civic idea, but I would not have the branches to put in my garden at Fishers Island for winter mulch. So, I took some loppers I brought to NYC, and removed the branches from the tree and put them in two large contractor bags to bring to the Island. I am sure the back elevator man was a bit shocked to find the stripped Christmas tree, which looked like an over zealous beaver had attacked it on the 9th floor, but I was very happy to have my rosebushes at Fishers Island surrounded by the branches of our once lovely NYC tree. This, I admit, has taken gardening almost to an obsessive level, but it did work!

As the days get a tiny bit longer in January, houseplants will begin to wake up. It is a good time to look the plants over carefully and give them a nice shower in the sink. If there are any suspicious signs of bugs, spray the plants with insecticidal soap. Piles of seed catalogs arrive this month. I like to sit with a cup of tea and read through them and make lists of seeds or plants to try in the garden. I also enjoy this time to read about gardening and I love a wonderful British magazine called Gardens Illustrated. It has the most heavenly photographs of gardens and plants in the UK and has wonderful gardening tips as well. I also recommend, the Connecticut Gardener, which is an informative local newsletter “serving gardeners in Zones 5.6 and 7 since 1995”. You can contact them for a subscription at www.conngardener.com.

Enjoy this quiet garden planning time because outside winter chores are approaching quickly in the next few months.
NEW WINTER HOURS:

Monday: 1:00-8:00 pm  
Tuesday: 5:00-8:00 pm  
Wednesday: 1:00-8:00 pm  
Thursday: 5:00-7:00 pm  
Friday: 1:00-5:00 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am-12:00 noon

WIRELESS CONNECTION:
The Library has wireless Internet connection, so use one of our computers or bring your laptop – anytime we are open.

ADULT BOOK GROUP:
The Library welcomes everyone to join our Adult Book Group that meets at the Library the second Thursday each month at 7:00 pm through June 12.

The book selection for February 13 is My Daughter in France by Barbara and Stephanie Keating.

Check the Library Facebook page, the website www.filibrary.org, or call (631) 788-7362 for monthly book selections.

TEN PIN ALLEY OPEN
The Island Community Center’s Ten Pin Alley is open for the winter. Hours coincide with the Community Center Café dinner hours - 4:00-8:00 Wednesday and 4:00-9:00 Saturday.

Ten Pin Alley is available for private parties and organized bowling leagues.

Come play Wednesday and Saturday, or to arrange your special event contact Brian at bvbusse@gmail.com

2014 COMMUNITY BIRTHDAY CALENDAR
ON SALE NOW
Available for purchase to support the Fishers Island School Class of 2014’s fund raising efforts.

Please contact Chris Dollar at c.dollar@fischool.com to make a purchase.

Calendars are $10. Cash and checks are accepted. Checks should be made out to FI School.

DECEMBER SENIOR LUNCH

Our Fishers Island seniors celebrated the holidays at their monthly luncheon in December. Catered by Sue Lusker with special centerpieces created by Ann Banks and Ellen Pickett, the guests were treated to the sweet voices of the Fishers Island School's Kindergarten-Second Grade Chorus. The children sang several selections they had perfected for the School's Winter Concert.

Additional photos can be viewed at http://fishersisland.net/fi-seniors-december-luncheon/.

All islanders over age 60 are invited. If you would like to be added to the list, please contact Heather Burnham at 788-7762 or email beachplum@fishersisland.net. The Senior lunches are held on the third Thursday of the month from October through May - most are held at the Union Chapel. The Senior Lunch Committee is always looking for entertainment ideas and volunteer chefs.

Upcoming Senior Lunch Dates: Thursday, February 20; Thursday, March 20; Thursday, April 17; and Thursday, May 15.
Just as important as having telephone service or electricity, **reliable high speed Internet access is required for our community** to be a part of a modern society, and is vital to stay connected and to make a living in the 21st century.

Upgrading and modernizing our Internet network will require major funding. We are researching several grant and loan programs through the federal government, all of which call for **extensive community support**.

We are collecting survey responses from all community members, and businesses and organizations.

As Fishers Island community members, your collective indication will have an enormous impact on our ability to secure federal funds:

1. How you are **disadvantaged** due to the lack of sufficient, reliable high-speed Internet.
2. The **improvements you would experience** with a faster, more reliable Internet connection.

If you haven’t yet completed the short survey, please visit the survey links at [http://fiuc.net/internet-survey/](http://fiuc.net/internet-survey/) to respond as an individual or organization, or both.

If you have any questions, contact Jill Rógan at [fitelephone@fishersisland.net](mailto:fitelephone@fishersisland.net).

We look forward to collecting survey responses from all community members and thank you in advance for your attention to this.

### AMERICAN LEGION CHILI COOK OFF: BIG SUCCESS

The Fishers Island American Legion Post 1045 Chili Cook Off was held Saturday, January 18. With 17 chili entries, the 66 guests had a chance to sample as many as they liked, and then vote on their favorites - 1st, 2nd and 3rd place picks.

The chili varieties - including beef, vegetable, turkey, fish, venison and bison - were accompanied by a choice of sour cream, grated cheese, and onion toppings with corn bread and chips. Dessert selections were homemade fudge brownies or a slice of pastry chef Vinny's beautiful cake.

Don Murray's chili came in on top with the most votes, followed closely by Fe Ahrens in 2nd and Jared Toldo in 3rd place.

All the chili entries were delicious - including those prepared by Deb Doucette, Di Shillo, Lou Horn, Call Nichols, Vicki Rogers, Eric Giles, Ryan Rod, Sharon Patterson, Py Peringer, Karla Heath, Peter Rugg, and Billy Bloethe.

### FI SUNGLASSES

A FI School Class of 2015 Fundraiser. Perfect for men or women. Price: $13.00. Contact Mrs. Bean (631) 788-7444 or linda.bean@fischool.com

### FI PINT GLASSES

Fundraiser for the FI School Class of 2017. Pint glass with green or blue Fishers Island in baked enamel – dishwasher safe!

Get a set for yourself & give them as gifts! Sets of four come wrapped for gift-giving!

$6 for one; $20 for set of four
To order contact: gcypherd@fishersisland.net or helen.rozwadowski@gmail.com

### PIZZA & BINGO NIGHT

Hosted by the FI School Class of 2017

**Save the Date!**
Friday, February 28, 2014

### FISHERS ISLAND INTERNET SURVEY

[Image of Fishers Island Fog horn and Sunglasses]
Valentine’s Day Elegance

Fishers Finery is now offering GODIVA Chocolate with its Valentine’s Day Gift Wrap.

Nothing says I Love You like our silk and cashmere.

There is beauty in simplicity. Our silk, cashmere and bamboo “Finery” embody luxury and sustainability. We are dedicated to a simple vision...

Understated Elegance is timeless.

www.fishersfinery.com
We currently have some beautiful and unique properties for sale on the island. The prices range from around $500,000 to $3,500,000 in varying locations and styles. We are anticipating 2014 to be an active year in both sales and rentals.

Mystic Isle Realty is pleased to announce that Ace Ahrens has joined our team. Please call Jim Reid, Bagley Reid, Meg Atkin or Ace Ahrens with any Fishers real estate questions. For more information please visit our website at www.mysticislerealty.com or scan the following QR code.

Jim Reid, Bagley Reid, Meg Atkin and Ace Ahrens  
631.788.7882 or 860.885.9880
**Maddemar** – This East End island property offers water views of the Connecticut shoreline, from all the principal rooms. It sits on 5.73 shorefront acres with 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths and a guest house. $3,990,000

**Ocean View Contemporary** – Beautifully set on 2.33 acres of manicured grounds, this five bedroom house enjoys wide, stunning views to the South and East overlooking Block Island and Long Island Sound. $3,500,000

**Hakki House** – Built in 1990, the Hakki House is contemporary in design with the back of the house open to the great water views. $785,000

**Stedman House** – This wonderful four bedroom, four bath house has one of the great porches for watching the sunset on Fishers. Located near the Hay Harbor club, it is a terrific spot to be any time of the year, but particularly in summer. $1,100,000

**Alpine Ave House** – Cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bath house has great expansion opportunities. Located in a charming neighborhood it is a short walk to the Library and the Village. You can hear the surf on south beach and be at water’s edge in just a few minutes. $495,000

**WG Rafferty Family House on Middle Farms Pond** – Built in 1917 for the Ferguson family, this elegant 8 bedroom lakefront house sits on 6.25 acres with sweeping elevated views of Middle Farms Pond. The property is walking distance to Chocomount Beach, and protected on 3 sides by Land Trust Property. $2,500,000

**Ocean View Contemporary** – Beautifully set on 2.33 acres of manicured grounds, this five bedroom house enjoys wide, stunning views to the South and East overlooking Block Island and Long Island Sound. $3,500,000

**The Barnacle** – This cute little two bedroom cottage on the west end is a short distance to everything and has endless possibilities. $345,000

**Built in 1987, this private East End home overlooks the golf course and Fishers Island Sound. Relax on the back deck and watch the golfers on the fairway and the sailboats sailing by Latimer Light. 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths. $1,750,000**

**Mansion Cottage #8** – This classic summer cottage is in an ideal Fishers location directly across from Hay Harbor Club. Sunset porch, open living spaces, formal dining room and furnace for the cooler months. 7+ bedrooms including a private master suite on the first floor. $995,000

**2014 Rentals are booking quickly. Call today to book your vacation rental.**
The Fishers Island School

...cultivating and honoring the gifts & talents of ALL students

The Fishers Island School welcomes interested students entering grades 4-10 to submit an application for admission to the School as a tuition student for the 2014-15 school year.

The Fishers Island School seeks creative and responsible students who love to learn and enjoy being challenged in an engaging, student-centered learning community. We welcome tuition students with age-appropriate social and communication skills to enrich our strong academic and extracurricular programs.

To learn more about our unique educational environment and School-wide Enrichment Model program, explore our website at www.fischool.com.

Interested families are encouraged to attend:

Fishers Island School OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, February 5, 8:00 AM-12:30 PM
(Ferry leaves New London dock at 7:00 AM and returns at 1:30 PM)

RSVP for Open House (631) 788-7444 by January 31, 2014

Application Deadline is March 1 - See Admission Forms & Information on the School website.

NEW LISTING
$2,500,000
Walter G Rafferty Family House on Middle Farms Pond – This elegant residence has the inviting atmosphere and openness of a classic country house. Originally built in 1917 for the Ferguson family, this well-maintained lakefront house has 8 bedrooms and sits on 6.25 acres with sweeping elevated views of Middle Farms Pond. The property is easy walking distance to Chocomount Beach, and protected on 3 sides by Land Trust Property.

The property consists of a residence of +/- 6000 square feet on 3 floors and a 2 story detached garage. Features include a 600+ square foot, covered porch on the west end, a billiard room with tournament-size pool table, a Bird Room with specimens collected by the original owners, and stone fireplaces in the living and dining rooms.
FISHERS IS ON FACEBOOK

Just visit FishersIsland.NY
www.facebook.com/FishersIsland.NY and ‘Like’ the page.

Created October 5th, it already has over 690 readers/Likes.

This Facebook page feeds information from the new website and contains news and photos, announcements and upcoming FI calendar events.

RACE ROCK LIGHTHOUSE RAFFLE

FISHERS ISLAND SCHOOL FUNDRAISER - CLASS OF 2017
Wrapped Canvas Print - 30” x 20” and ready to hang. $5 per Ticket or 5 for $20. To purchase tickets contact a member of the Freshman Class or Mrs. Battista at School. Drawing to be held February 28, 2014 at the Class of 2017’s Bingo & Pizza Night at Fishers Island School.

If you have something you would like posted on FishersIsland.net or in the Fog Horn - a story idea, an event ‘save the date’, photos to share, suggestions or an interest in advertising, please contact Jane Ahrens at (631) 788-7487 or info@fishersisland.net.

To place an event on the Community Calendar, contact Sarah Porter at (631) 788-7683 or fishersislandevents@gmail.com.

FISHERS ISLAND FOG HORN
www.FishersIsland.net
P.O. Box 464
Fishers Island, NY 06390

[RECIPIENT]