ICB REPRESENTATIVE ELECTION RESULTS

UPDATE FROM THE ICB

Fishers Island Community, September 1, 2015

I am pleased to announce the winners of this year’s election to the Island Community Board.

Dickey Riegel has been elected your new Seasonal Representative. Candy Whitman has been elected your new Year-Round Representative.

Peter Gaillard and Patty Faulkner have both finished their terms. They have served the Board with consistency and unwavering service. Thank you Peter and Patty!

Another development has occurred during this election season. Stephanie Hall has decided to step down as a Year-Round Representative. I’d like to thank Stephanie for all her efforts throughout her time on the ICB. In the wake of her departure the Board is pleased to appoint Nate Malinowski as the new Year-Round Representative to finish out her term.

I’d also like to take this opportunity to thank Willard Soper for stepping up and taking part in this year’s election. The willingness of all four candidates to participate in this process has been critical.

We would like to encourage members of our island community to continue to register to vote for next year’s election and other polls. The stronger our numbers, the more balanced voice we have going forward.

Our next ICB meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8 at 5:30 at the Community Center. This will be a brief meeting welcoming our new members, creating committees, setting the agenda for the Annual Meeting and establishing our meeting schedule for the upcoming year. Everything will be posted following that meeting.

Our annual meeting will take place on Saturday, October 10 at 4:30 at the Community Center. We hope to see you all there.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy Labor Day.

Best, Tom
Tom O’Neil, ICB President

Thank you to those who participated in the election. Moving forward, elections will be held annually. I’d also like to thank Jane Ahrens and Beth Jepsen for all their hard work putting together our online election process. We had over three hundred registered voters and although a new format, the community of Fishers Island has once again risen to the task.
by Jane Ahrens

As I approached the Red Barn Gallery Charlie Ferguson and his granddaughter Jessica were just opening up for the day. Charlie with crossword puzzle in hand, and Jessica securing the barn doors open, both greeted me with welcoming smiles.

I felt a little shy and a bit like I was intruding, but that melted away as I began to chat with them. Charlie was pleased to show me around the gallery and into the back room where so many of his paintings and etchings are on display. I was especially intrigued with his small sketch of a group of islands in the Philippines and one of a pair of reptiles from a farm a friend of his ran in the South Pacific.

I recently read Charlie’s memories A Path Less Traveled and it was a gift to see in person the images in that book. They were coming to life on the walls of the barn.

I asked him about a still life with a bandana and a Wild Turkey bottle – interesting and a different subject matter than those we usually associate with Charlie’s more familiar works of Fishers Island landscapes and sailboats racing. He said with a wink, “That bottle had a note in it – whomever finds this note will know the liquor was consumed…”

In the early 1980s and again in the 1990s my husband and I purchased two of Charlie’s etchings, both of geese flying in formation over the waves. I think at the time I liked them because they reminded me of an etching that hung in my grandmother’s living room on the Cape and then in Shaker Heights. As I read A Path Less Traveled I discovered why. Charlie wrote in the chapter titled ‘Charlie as Teacher’, “While at Trinity, I also earned a Masters Degree. Teaching three days a week and taking evening classes was not easy, but I prevailed. I wrote my thesis on an American artist Frank W. Benson, a fine wildlife artist.” I arose from my chair on our porch and checked the signature on the etching of sea birds in flight my father had since given us, and has hung next to Charlie’s two etching in the last three homes we have had. In fact, it is by Frank W. Benson. It all makes sense now and I had the pleasure of sharing it with Charlie during my visit.

At the recommendation of Ogden Pleissner, a sporting artist who shared a studio in Vermont with Norman Rockwell, Charlie began attending the Arts Student League of New York in 1946. There he studied under Frank Vincent DuMond. Later that summer Charlie and his wife Alice found and purchased “an old wreck of a house” which Alice named ‘Flounder In’. Charlie told me that during a later visit to Fishers Island, when Mr. DuMond stayed at Charlie’s parents house ‘Brookwood’, Frank visited Flounder In and said, “Never sell.”

I agree with Mr. DuMond. Founder In is a most special place as I discovered when Jessica and Charlie graciously invited me out for a visit. The road on North Hill is a bit tired and after the early morning rain looked more like a stream than a road, but Charlie said, “That keeps the grandchildren from driving too fast.”

I had a short tour and met Albert with whom we shared some crackers for his mid-day snack. Charlie wrote and illustrated a book about Albert and his long time companion Victoria, the wise herring gulls who fish off his beach and rest on his rocks. Charlie guesses that he and Albert are about the same age.

As I departed I envisioned Charlie getting to work on his current project, a painting of his beloved dog Lee Lee frolicking on the beach with the puppies she might have had, and reflected that I wish I had had the opportunity to meet Alice years ago.

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I have a special reminder of my morning with Charlie. An old (Charlie said it is one of his earliest) etching of Flounder In. There were several in the folder at the barn and I asked him which he liked the best, that is the one that will join his other framed etchings in our island home.

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If you would like to visit Charlie at the Red Barn Gallery, it is open 10:00-noon in season. There you will discover his varied works of art and the treasure of books he has authored and illustrated. One of my favorites is Flounder In, a collection of drawings and watercolors from his pocket-size sketch books.

You may also find:
~ A Path Less Traveled, The Memoirs of Charles Ferguson
~ Victoria and Albert’s History of Fishers Island, Part I and II
~ Twenty-seven Views of Race Rock Lighthouse in the Four Seasons
~ Twelve Months on the Enchanted Isle Fishers Island, NY
~ Lee Lee: A True Tail
~ A Thanksgiving Story
~ Sea Fever
~ Fishers Island Club and its Golf Links (with Pierce Rafferty)

THE “MAGIC” OF SUMMER READING ON FISHERS ISLAND

Story and photos by Karen Goodwin, FIS
Superintendent/Principal and member of the FI Library Trustees

The Fishers Island School and Fishers Island Library partnered this summer to ensure that our year-round and seasonal children realized the magic and enjoyment of reading outside of school. Regular reading is essential to preventing the “summer slide” that often occurs when school is not in session.

From a spring brainstorming meeting held at the Fishers Island Library with Librarian Ann Banks, Program Director Amy Harris, FI School Superintendent/Principal Karen Goodwin and FI School Library Teaching Assistant Fay Smolen, the Magic School Bus program was born. The overall goals were to generate excitement for summer reading and library use, and to promote FI School student attendance at the special summer children’s library programs by removing the transportation barrier. As many of our students’ parents work multiple jobs during the busy summer season, we wanted to ensure that all children had transportation to the July 28th Songs and Stories of Land and Sea and the August 11th Len Cabral Storytelling programs. The Magic School Bus is a series of educational children’s books authored by Joanna Cole and illustrated by Bruce Degen, featuring fictional teacher, Ms. Frizzle.

Through the use of banners designed by Amy Harris, our school’s small school bus was transformed to the Magic School Bus. Because our students do not have regular bus transportation to school, being picked up at home by the Magic School Bus filled with friends and Ms. Frizzle herself was an exciting adventure! The bus was full for both events and students thoroughly enjoyed the outstanding library programs and ice cream treats at Toppers, as you can see from the photos of the July 28th program.

Special thanks are offered to the Fishers Island Library Trustees and the FI Board of Education for their sponsorship of the program, and to FIS teachers/bus drivers Meg Atkin and Michael George and the Ms. Frizzles portrayed by Fay Smolen, and to English teacher Jess Hall for making the Magic School Bus program a huge success.

Please visit www.fishersisland.net/the-magic-of-summer-reading-on-fishers-island to see many more photos
FROM MÉLIE’S GARDEN

This month I am overwhelmed with ripe tomatoes! This is my own fault because I was so concerned about the tomato plants I planted in late May that I bought more to put in the garden in June. The first ones I planted looked like they might have tomato blight, so I sprayed them once with an organic tomato spray and amazingly enough it worked, so now I have healthy tomato plants from both plantings and tons of tomatoes!

Last year I experimented with slow roasting tomatoes and placing large scoops of them in small plastic freezer bags. I put the “roasted tomato bags” in the freezer and added the contents to sauces, soups, stews or casseroles whenever tomatoes are required throughout the year. The results were delicious!

**Roasted Tomatoes for the Freezer**

- Halve or quarter regular size tomatoes
- Leave on the skins, but remove all the seeds
- Place the tomatoes flesh side up on a parchment-lined baking sheet with sides to catch the juice.
- Season with olive oil, peeled garlic, rosemary, thyme, oregano, salt and pepper
- Roast in the oven for 3 to 5 hours at 275 degrees

Once finished, spread on toasted French bread or make tomato sauce adding sautéed onions. Or, place in plastic bags and freeze for later use in sauces, stews, soups or casseroles.

If you have an abundance of cherry tomatoes you can pickle them with this delicious recipe, a big favorite in my family!

**Pickled Cherry Tomatoes** (These pickles are not processed, so need to be in the refrigerator and can be used for about ten days.)

- 12 oz. cherry, grape or pear tomatoes
- ¼ cup of coarsely chopped fresh dill
- 2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- ¼ teaspoon of dried crushed red pepper
- ¼ cup of apple cider vinegar
- ¼ cup of water
- 4 teaspoons of kosher salt
- 2 teaspoons of sugar
- 1 3½ inch strip of lemon peel (yellow part only, removed with a carrot peeler)

Put the vinegar and water in a saucepan and add the salt, sugar and lemon peel. Bring to a boil and stir to dissolve the sugar and salt. Remove from the heat and set aside to cool for 20 min. Meanwhile, prepare everything else. Halve the tomatoes and toss them with the dill, garlic and crushed red pepper in a large bowl. Add the cooled vinegar mixture. Let it stand at room temperature for about 2 hours and then pack the mixture into a large sterile jar and store in the fridge for a week or two. Makes about three cups.

NATIVE PLANTS ON DISPLAY  by Gerrit Goss

The Fishers Island Conservancy’s Native Plant Demonstration Garden is flourishing in its second season! Thanks to the hard work of a number of volunteers, the garden has been weeded, mulched, and mowed, and it sits ready to fulfill its mission of highlighting native trees and shrubs and illustrating their use in a ‘garden’ setting. The natives selected—many seen growing wild on the island—are perfectly adaptable to a more formal garden setting, and are not only every bit as ‘ornamental’ as most of the exotic (and in many cases, invasive) trees and shrubs that are so often used in our island gardens today, but have the added bonus of supporting the island population of Lepidoptera—moths and butterflies.

Located next to the Movie Theater, the Demonstration Garden is managed by the Fishers Island Conservancy and maintained through the generous effort of countless volunteers. Island visitors and residents alike are encouraged to explore the site and view natives from a different perspective. While it currently showcases only a handful of the beautiful trees and shrubs that can be considered native to the region, there is plenty to inspire all gardening enthusiasts to incorporate more of these plants in our island landscape. For the full article and plant recommendations, please visit: http://fishersisland.net/fi-conservancys-demonstration-garden/
IN MEMORIAM: MICHAEL DE VLAMING FLINN

Michael de Vlaming Flinn of Delray Beach, FL, and Greenwich, CT, died peacefully at home on August 1, 2015. Born on June 15, 1941 in Durham, N.C., the son of Marion de V. Flinn and Lawrence Flinn. He attended Aiken Preparatory, Hotchkiss, and Yale, from which he graduated magna cum laude in 1962. He received a JD from Harvard Law in 1965. Michael was a Captain in Army Intelligence at Ft. Benning, Ft. Holabird and The Pentagon. His law career began at White and Case, and later merged into the fields of finance and Connecticut State politics. He was a limited partner at Ingalls and Snyder, 1970 to 1996, later joining the firm of Spears, Benzak, Solomon and Farrell, and in recent years has been a managing director at Tocqueville Asset Management, where he was the General Partner of Blooming Grove Partners, LP.

He was elected to two terms from the 149th District to the Connecticut State House of Representatives from 1982 to 1986. He served on the Board and as President of the Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich, Republican Town Meeting, the Board of Greenwood Cemetery, and The Cold Water Conservation Fund.

Michael excelled as an athlete and sportsman. Above all he admired and unfailingly practiced good sportsmanship. He was famous for his many Clubs extending from New York to Florida, where he pursued competition with enthusiasm particularly in squash and Court Tennis. In March he and his partner Jonathan Pardee, successfully defended his National Court Tennis doubles title in the over 70 age category at the International Tennis Center in Newport, R.I. In May, he captained the American team at Prested Hall, England against an International field.

We will miss his bright mind, love of art, poetry, music, gardens and travel, his fondness for being in nature, his generosity, his admonition always to be kind, his winning smile and unforgettable laugh. He lived his life fully and lovingly to the very last day. Michael is survived by his brother, Lawrence Flinn, Jr., his first wife, Elizabeth Tracey, and their four children: William III, Michael, Jr., Theodore, and Randall, as well as his wife Ann, two step-children, Allison Ryan and Jonathan Hanes. All their wonderful spouses: Maura, Suzanne, Michael, John and Victoria, and twelve beautiful and adoring grandchildren. Michael’s eldest brother George died in October 2014.

Donations may be made in memory of Michael de V. Flinn to the Everglades Foundation, 18001 Old Cutler Road, suite 625, Palmetto Bay, Florida 33157. A memorial service took place at Round Hill Community Church, in Greenwich, CT., on Friday, August 7, 2015. Excerpts from The New York Times on August 4, 2015 For the full obituary, please see the Ebb and Flow section on the FishersIsland.net website.
IN MEMORIAM: DANIEL HERRICK

Daniel Herrick of Delray Beach, FL and Fishers Island, NY passed away on August 8, 2015 following a short period of cardiac complications during which he was surrounded by close family and friends. He was 94 years old.

Mr. Herrick will be remembered as a loving father, grandfather, friend and a gifted communicator. He will also be remembered for his passion for collecting art, which included both nautical antiquities and art and artifacts from a career that afforded an extraordinary level of travel and exposure to cultures across the world’s continents. Those who knew him will recall his endless pursuit of sun and new experiences, as well as the sincerity and warmth of personality that he extended to everyone with whom he interacted.

Born in Montclair, NJ, he graduated from Montclair High School in 1938. At UVA he was a member of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps and joined the US Navy, retiring 20 years later with the rank of Commander.

During WWII he served as the Supply Officer on the USS Lansdowne in the Pacific Fleet, and for two years as the Assistant Supply Officer for the Pacific Fleet. From 1949-1953 he served as a White House aide and graduated from Harvard Business School in 1955. He was posted to the Naval Station Newport, RI, the Brooklyn Navy Yard and as Comptroller of the Yorktown Naval Weapons Station in Yorktown, VA. Following his career in the Navy he joined WR Grace & Company as Assistant Vice President of Finance.

In 1968, Mr. Herrick was hired by The Metropolitan Museum of Art, to be the museum’s first Chief Financial Officer. With Senator Claiborne Pell and Congressman John Brademas he helped to create the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Act. After retirement from the Met, Mr. Herrick was chief financial officer of the National Gallery from 1985-1995.

Mr. Herrick served on the Board of the Foundation Center, New York City, and on the boards of New York Life Insurance Company and the University of Virginia Arts Council. He was a member of the New York Yacht Club and the Union Club in New York, as well as the Fishers Island Yacht Club, the Cosmos Club in Washington and the St. Andrew’s Club, in Delray Beach.

Mr. Herrick is survived by his children: Kip Herrick O’Brien of Westport, CT, Lawrence Herrick of Bouchelle Island, FL, Lucinda Jackson Herrick and her husband Charles Moffett of New York City, NY and Fishers Island, NY and Lynn Herrick of Umatilla, FL. He is also survived by his grandchildren Alexander Strothe, Connor O’Brien, Daniel Strothe, Kathrin Dunn, Kelty O’Brien and William Strothe.

In lieu of flowers, kindly support the Fishers Island Sea Stretcher Fund at PO Box 123, Fishers Island NY, 06390. For the full obituary please visit: www.fishersisland.net/in-memoriam-daniel-herrick

IN MEMORIAM: EVELYN “LYN” STEPANEK

Evelyn “Lyn” Stepakne passed away peacefully Sunday night, August 2, 2015, with her family around her. She filled her 73 years with life, laughter and love. Always the first to lend a hand or an ear. She left a lasting impression with all who knew her.

She leaves behind her husband of 43 years Charles “Charlie” Stepakne. She is also survived by her two daughters Carolyn Ross and Susan Lavertu, and their spouses Edward Ross and David Lavertu. She will be remembered lovingly by her grandchildren: Avellana Ross, Merryn Ross, Liadan Ross, Ian Lavertu and Connor Lavertu. Each of them brought her great joy and immense pride.

In lieu of flowers her family respectfully asks that a donation be considered to the Concord Regional VNA Hospice House. Their compassion and care were a great source of comfort the entire family during her brief illness.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, August 12 at The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Concord. Following the reception following the service, a private interment ceremony was held at the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen.
IN MEMORIAM: W. RICHARD BINGHAM

W. Richard Bingham “Dick” died peacefully at his cherished home in Fishers Island, NY on August 18, 2015 surrounded by his loving family. The loss is felt for this family man who was a lifetime keen intellect, Navy Veteran, respected financier, philanthropist, civic affairs strategist, competitor and avid sportsman. He was foremost a loving husband and father dedicated to his extended family and friends and having as he called it “the fortunate opportunity to experience a lifetime of participation in problem solving and creation of new entities.”

Dick was born in New York City and grew up in Bucks County, PA and Hillsborough, CA. He attended Hillsborough School, Town School for Boys (Class of ’49), Middlesex (Class of ’53), Stanford University (Class of ’57), and Harvard Business School (Class of ’61). He attended the Universities of Geneva and Paris. Throughout every stage of his life he held a myriad of leadership positions beginning at Stanford where he was President of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, and head of campus security. He served as Line Officer aboard the U.S. Navy destroyer, U.S.S. Davis, from 1957-1959. He remembered his naval service fondly which contributed to his unwavering love of the ocean. Dick was characterized by and often closed remarks on occasion with this line taken from his US Navy days, “May fair winds and following seas accompany you.” Following his military service, Dick began his career on Wall Street at the investment banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb, and Co. in 1961. As a partner, Director of Investment Banking, a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, he advised many companies and countries on capital raising activities. He continued his career as a partner of Lehman Brothers in 1977 where he was Director of Investment Banking, Corporate Finance, and Mergers and Acquisitions and a member of the Board. In 1988 he founded American Industrial Partners (AIP) which became a respected, ground-breaking private equity firm. As a savvy investor and President of AIP, Dick and his American Industrial Partners team raised four funds and led multiple investments in diverse industrial companies while he served on a number of corporate boards. In 1996, during Mayor Frank Jordan’s administration in San Francisco, Dick was appointed Honorary Consul to the Republic of Lithuania. Also, during that time, he was appointed to the newly formed San Francisco’s Committee on Jobs where the primary focus was to promote a business climate that allowed San Francisco to remain a desirable place to live, work, and operate a business.

Throughout his life, Dick was dedicated to philanthropy and offered his services and support to many Bay Area institutions over the years. His philanthropic interests reflected his love of the wonders of the world, nature, the ocean, music, and the arts. His most memorable philanthropic lifetime achievement was the California Academy of Sciences located in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. He served as Chairman of its Board from 1996 until it’s reopening in 2007. He was extremely proud of what he and the board accomplished, especially literally knocking on doors to aid in the passing of Proposition B, which was pivotal in the process to completely rebuild the Academy into the world-class science and educational institution that it is today. As an adjunct to the Academy, he envisioned and worked tirelessly to raise private monies needed to fund the Music Concourse Garage which lies between the Academy and de Young Museums. He served as Chairman of that board. He passionately believed that education and educational pursuits were important for individuals and society. To him, saving and rebuilding the Academy was the tangible apex of that passion. His efforts helped ensure the Academy remained in Golden Gate Park as a state-of-the-art learning center and museum.

Dick also is past trustee of The Town School for Boys, Marin Country Day School, The Urban School, The Bay School, Middlesex School, The World Affairs Council, St. John’s Church on Fishers Island, and CPMC Foundation. He was a member of the Pacific Union Club, the Burlingame Country Club, The San Francisco Golf Club, and the Fishers Island Club.

Dick is survived by his loving wife, Wendy Wasson Bingham, adoring children, Lock, Frances, and Grace Bingham, and devoted sister Betsy Bingham Davis. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Dick’s memory to the California Academy of Sciences, which was an important cause for Dick.

Published in The New York Times on August 23, 2015

A Service for Dick Bingham was held at St. John’s Church on Fishers Island, Friday, August 21 at 10:30 am.
SAVE THE DATES: VISIT HTTP://FISHERSISLAND.EVENTS FOR ALL UPCOMING FISHERS ISLAND EVENTS

LIBRARY HANDMADE QUILT RAFFLE

Congratulations to Martha Rosenthal. She was thrilled to be the raffle winner of the one-of-a-kind handmade quilt by Laura Edwards and Diane Dexter on Labor Day weekend.

LIBRARY BOOK GROUP
Thursday, October 1
7:00-9:00 pm
Just Mercy
Fishers Island Library

TOPPER’S HOURS
Open weekends in September:
Friday & Saturday 4-8pm
Sunday 1-5pm

FISHERS ISLAND FOG HORN
P.O. BOX 464, FISHERS ISLAND, NY 06390

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 Editor Jane Ahrens at (631) 788-7487 or info@fishersisland.net. Contact Sarah Porter to place an event on the Community Calendar at www.fishersisland.net/events/ at (631) 788-7683 or fishersislandevents@gmail.com.

WASTE MGMT: TURN THE TIDE ON TRASH
Beach Clean up - Saturday, September 19, 2015

Be one of Fishers’ 100 volunteers to help clean up the beaches with 6,800 other NY State Beach Cleanup volunteers and a collection goal of over 90,000 lbs of trash! MEET US at the COMPOST STATION after 7:30am to COLLECT TRASH BAGS, GLOVES AND DATA CARDS. RETURN TO THE COMPOST STATION before 2:00am to show us and drop off YOUR FINDINGS and DATA CARDS

UNION CHAPEL’S ASSIST TO ISLANDERS
Rev. Whitman and a group of concerned islanders met to address food insecurity in our community, and the need to assist a few islanders in meeting their utility bill by providing short-term support in both areas, including a small temporary food pantry that will expand based on need. Individuals seeking assistance may contact Candy confidentially at her home (788-7029). Those interested in donating non-perishable goods or funds, or volunteering may contact Candy or their own clergy. Tax-deductible donations for food and utilities may be made by check to Union Chapel, PO Box 192, Fishers Island, NY 06390, with “Islanders for Islanders” in the memo line.