Santa just happened to be passing by Fishers Island on Tuesday, December 6 as the sun was setting. He got a special ride in the Fire Department’s Rescue truck – which happened to be covered with holiday lights – and dropped by some houses on a quick Santa Run that evening.

Then, to everyone’s surprise, Santa must have heard the Fishers Island Fire Department was having a party for the island’s children at the American Legion on Sunday morning December 18.

Breakfast was provided by the American Legion’s cast of cooks with entertainment for all by Les Julian. Santa arrived on the Fire Department’s Rescue 3 truck and had a special something for the younger children, (up through 6th grade).

Santa’s visits and the Fire Department’s party were made possible with the help of so many volunteers – members of the Fire Department and many other community members including Di Shillo, Patty Walker, Deb and John Doucette, Jamie Doucette, Dee Ross, Joe Brock, Alex Kardziyak, Bruce Hubert, Dirk Harris, Courtney Allan, Brandy Rogers, Ace and Jane Ahrens, Brooklyn and Jade.

Santa said, “Thank you to everyone on Fishers Island.”
After several years of preparation, the day came for the demolition of most of the FIC building to make way for the new facility.

Pre-Demo Readiness (photos taken Sunday, December 4, 2016). The building was stripped of certain materials, some parts were taken for repurposing, and the right side to be demolished was separated from the left side to remain.

Today is the Day! Tuesday, December 6 – morning images
John Ski was on hand to take the first swipe at the demo that morning – 43 years after he oversaw the demolition of the previous stone FIC main building. John’s son Jim Ski, owner of Ski Construction, carried on from there.

Tuesday, December 6 – afternoon images
The pro shop was gone and next was the office, front hall and into the living room before the day was done. As Jim worked his way through the building he also used the excavator to ‘chew up’ the demolished material for hauling.

Wednesday, December 7
A gloomy day which actually helped keep the dust down and much progress was made!

Thursday, December 8 – Day 3
Lots of progress with the living room and dining room gone.

Friday, December 9 – Day 4
Chimney down.
Done and done!
CELEBRATING THE ARTS AT FISHERS ISLAND SCHOOL

Thursday, December 8 Fishers Island School was filled with students getting ready for the concert. Parents and community members were visiting the art show beautifully installed in the hallways for all. Classmates displayed and managed their fundraisers for their many supporters. Most picked up Pre-ordered Holiday Wreaths from the Class of 2017 Fundraiser. The Class of 2022 Fundraiser Dinner served Chef Robin’s chicken and dumplings. Many took a chance on the Class of 2020 Gift Card Holiday Tree raffle and the highest bid took home the delicious treats of the Class of 2018 Dessert Auction. And, all enjoyed the music selections performed by Pre-K up through the Senior students.

FOURTH ANNUAL PIANO RECITAL

The Union Chapel piano never sounded better than when Kapri Thomas’s piano students took their turns at the annual piano recital on December 16, 2016. Sponsored by Island Concerts, the recital was streamed live for those unable to attend the actual performance and the video is available at http://fishersisland.net/fourth-annual-piano-recital/. (Start at 00:10:25). The wonderful recital was followed by a short awards presentation and a delicious potluck dinner provided by the students’ families and friends. Thank you to Union Chapel as well for the recital venue. If you are interested in supporting scholarship for Kapri’s piano students please contact her directly at kaprikia@me.com.
IN MEMORIAM: CHARLES ELLSWORTH MEYERS, JR.


Meyers was an outstanding athlete at North Haven High School in Connecticut. As co-captain of the 1966 Football team, he was elected the team’s most valuable player.

He was a graduate of Southern Connecticut State University with a BA in Philosophy, MS in Elementary Education and a 6th Year Diploma in School of Administration and Supervision.

Meyers was named the 1998 Rhode Island Principal of the Year by the Rhode Island and National Association of Elementary Principals and was a recipient of the United States Department of Education National Distinguished Principal Award.

His career included twenty-five years as an elementary school principal in Woodsville, New Hampshire, Springfield, Vermont and East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Later he served as Superintendent of Schools in East Greenwich and Superintendent of the Fishers Island Union Free School District in New York.

Meyers enriched the lives of countless children, student athletes, and teachers with his passionate and loving approach to teaching and learning. He coached middle school and high school football and held various coaching positions in the Women’s Professional Football League and the Independent Women’s Football League. Meyers recently served as a volunteer assistant football coach at Murray Middle School in Wilmington, North Carolina. He served as a Eucharistic Minister at St. Thomas More Parish in Narragansett, Rhode Island and at St. Therese Catholic Church in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. He was an avid skier and softball player, and enjoyed fishing, golfing and sailing. His most treasured times were those spent with his loving family.

He is survived by Trudy Capasso Meyers, his devoted and loving wife of 46 years and loving daughters Jessica Meyers Maurer and husband Kevin Maurer of Wilmington, North Carolina, Alison Meyers Gleason and husband Taylor Gleason of Kingston, Rhode Island, Marissa Meyers and partner James Russell of Wilmington, North Carolina as well as grandsons Jackson and Kiernan Gleason and Charlie and Owen Maurer and beloved brother, Robert Meyers and family of Woodstock, Vermont. He was predeceased by loving sister Barbara Meyers Sherman (September 28, 2008)

The family will receive friends from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm Sunday, December 18, 2016 at Andrews Mortuary Market Street Chapel. A Funeral Mass will be held at 12 noon on Monday, December 19, 2016, at St. Therese Catholic Church, 209 N. Lumina Avenue, Wrightsville Beach, NC.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at Saint Thomas More Parish in Narragansett, Rhode Island in the Spring of 2017.

BIRTHS

October 27, 2016
Walker Russell Cook
to Crosby and Dinah Cook

December 29, 2016
Finley Dunseth Carroll
to Kevin and Gillian Carroll

The Commissioners of the Fishers Island Waste Management District acknowledge and thank Ann Banks for her years of faithful service to the District. Ann’s inquisitive and open demeanor made her a valuable member of our team. Ann’s friendly personality along with her steadfast and patient leadership will be sorely missed at our meetings. We appreciated that Ann always worked toward doing the right thing instead of concentrating on being right. We value your efforts Ann; on behalf of our community, we sincerely thank you.

Rob Goodwin, Sarah Malinowski, Tim Patterson, and Greg Thibodeau

Harry graduated from Phillips Academy Andover in 1946 and from Yale University in 1950. He majored in U.S. history and played tennis, soccer, hockey, rugby and court ball. While at Yale he was in the naval officers training program, afterwards serving as a lieutenant, junior grade, with his final posting in the Engineering Department of the “Coral Sea”, one of the Midway class aircraft carriers, then the largest in the U.S. Navy.

Following his tour in the Navy he entered a sales training program at Manning, Maxwell and Moore, manufacturer of material handling equipment located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Subsequently, he and George Follansbee co-founded Follansbee & Gruner, Inc. where he was President until his retirement in 1998. Chief among his volunteer activities was his 20-year service as chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee on the board of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, one of the few regional hospitals that survived the period with an independent board. He was a volunteer with the Fox Chapel Fire Department and Chairman of the Fox Chapel Golf Club Greens Committee for many years.

Harry was a gifted and enthusiastic fisherman, hunter and athlete who played multiple games on multiple teams in multiple venues. He spent parts of many summers on Fishers Island, NY in contented pursuit of bluefish, striped bass, flounder, fluke and golf balls. He once claimed that he really only answered the phone in hopes it would be someone inviting him to go fishing. Which he would do anywhere, but most happily for Atlantic salmon in Quebec, Iceland or the River Tweed.

He was a gentleman, “old school” in the best way, approachable and appreciated by folks from all walks of life. Most memorably, Harry was funny, blessed with a gentle, wry sense of humor that endeared him to everyone he met and he will be terribly missed.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Nancy Evans, his children, Dr. Sam Evans (Leslie Goss), Harry Siegfried (Rebecca Henry), Alexandra Coffin (David Riley) and seven grandchildren, William E., Harry B., Angus G., Ellory G., George C., Emma D. and Charles H. His beloved younger sister Harriet Gruner Ross Rockefeller (Sue) predeceased him on Christmas morning, 2014.

A memorial service will be held at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 on Saturday, January 7th at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a contribution to the West Penn Hospital Foundation, 4818 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224.
One of my favorite Christmas presents to give is an Amaryllis bulb. It doesn’t look like much on arrival and my Godson wondered if I had brought them a large planted onion. But after a week or two, a green stem will appear growing out of the center of the bulb and a magnificent flower will follow to brighten up the dreary days in January.

Dr. Uduard Frederich Poepping discovered the Amaryllis plant growing in the Chilean mountains in 1828. The plants are Hippeastrum bulbs and part of the Lilium family. Another species is found in South Africa. Both varieties made their way to Holland where the bulbs were hybridized and named after the shepherdess Amaryllis in Greek Mythology. They have become popular to grow because they have the ability to produce beautiful flowers inside in mid-winter.

If you have received an Amaryllis unplanted, place it in a pot that is a bit bigger than the bulb and fill it with regular potting soil mix. Only the bottom half of the bulb should be in the soil. You can also grow the bulb in pebbles and water in a flower container, but I have always had better luck planting it in a pot, I think the soil provides more nourishment. Keep the soil slightly damp and after a week or two, a large green stem will appear out of the center of the planted bulb. The stem can grow up to be almost a foot high. It is therefore, a good idea to put a stake into the pot to help support the stem and keep it growing straight because it will always lean towards the light. Turning the pot is also helpful. A glorious flower will eventually appear and last for week or two. Once the flower has faded, cut down the stem and often another one will emerge and produce an additional flower. Usually, after two flowers, the bulb will start to grow leaves. These leaves will feed the bulb in order to create flowers for next year.

Last summer I took my amaryllis bulb out of its pot and planted it in my vegetable garden with a bit of fertilizer in the hole and much to my surprise another flower appeared in mid summer! Once that flower was finished blooming, I cut back the stem and left the bulb with its green leaves in the ground until the fall. After it got a bit colder in September, I dug up the bulb and put it into a shopping bag and put the bag in my shed. The leaves died back and in late November, I remembered the bulb and brought it inside and replanted it. Now in early January, a new stem has appeared and even a couple of little baby bulbs along the side. I know the baby bulbs are too little to produce flowers, but the larger bulb definitely seems to be back in business again and it will be interesting to see if the flower will be as nice as the ones the bulb produced last year.

It is important to buy good quality Amaryllis bulbs and I have always gotten mine from John Scheepers. They sell many magnificent varieties that produce single and double blooms.

Fishers Island seniors ‘escaped’ the Island for the second time this year on Saturday, December 3. Boarding the 8:15 am ferry, 14 headed off for a day in Providence, RI organized by Fran Roethgen and hosted (and financed by) IPP. Rhode Island School of Design’s (RISD) Museum was the first stop. A cultural gem tucked into the hillside near the college, it is not only a showcase for modern expression, but holds a comprehensive collection of American pieces and exhibits of impressionism and other periods.

Hemenway’s Restaurant was a wonderful choice with a beautiful setting and delicious meal. The final destination was the Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC) featuring a national touring cast of the Tony Award-winning best musical Once. The party continued aboard the 6:15 ferry. IPP Board Member Polly Heeney, and her son Jack, treated the seniors to a host of delicious hors d’oeuvres and refreshments on the voyage home. The island’s seniors thank the IPP Board and their supporters for the opportunity to have experiences together like this. The generosity is heartwarming and most appreciated!
THE LIBRARY IS OPEN AS ALWAYS

WE ARE OPEN DURING CONSTRUCTION!
Don’t worry! While the front room is being transformed, the back room is open for business! We have a carefully selected group of popular and classic titles available for circulation, along with DVDs, children’s books, puzzles, magazines and more. Just come up the ramp on the right side of the building.

ISLAND PEOPLE’S PROJECT JOB POSTING

IPP is accepting applications for a Morning Program Director for Summer 2017 and beyond. Please go to www.islandpeoplesproject.com for more details.

LADIES “CRAFT-N-COFFEE” AT THE LIBRARY

Sunday, January 15 @ 2:00 at the Fishers Island Library
If you knit, crochet, embroider, quilt, scrapbook, bead, needlepoint – or do any kind of handiwork – bring it to the Library for some social time while working on your craft! The idea is for Island ladies to get together, share ideas, get inspired, and work on projects! We have coffee, tea, and hot cocoa at the Library for all. This will be a casual gathering and if those interested can’t make it, please stop by or call to let us know. We would like to start this as a monthly gathering and can adjust days and times so that it works for everyone!

Admissions Open House

Join Us Thursday, January 12 8:00 am-12:30 pm (Snow date: January 13)
Fishers Island Ferry leaves the New London dock at 7:00 am and returns at 1:30 pm

FISHERS ISLAND SCHOOL, Fishers Island, NY
A Common Core curriculum with an Enrichment Program for every student – PreK-12.
Are you a 3rd-8th grade student who loves to learn and enjoys being challenged?
Find out more about Fishers Island School’s unique, student-centered learning community.
Tuition is $3300 for 4th-6th Grade and $3500 for 7th-12th Grade 2016-17 commuting students.
Call us and let us know you are coming to visit (631) 788-7444
Learn More: www.fischool.com & Find Us on Facebook: Fishers Island School

CHECK OUT THE CLASSIFIEDS

Many job openings and items are listed on FishersIsland.net (in Classifieds at the top right). Full-time, seasonal and part-time opportunities are listed from a wide variety of companies and island organizations – for all ages. Please check them out and spread the word!
Senior Lunch
@ Union Chapel

Library Book Group
January 12:
Dark Athena: A Novel
by Arthur Houghton

Spiritual but not religious?
Join us for time around the table
Sundays, 9:00 – 9:30 am - January 15- February 26
All are welcome. Coffee will be served.
Union Chapel Fellowship Room

Save the Dates:
Visit http://FishersIsland.net/events/
for all upcoming FI Events

Senior Luncheon
Join us for lunch this fall.
Everyone over 60 is invited!
Thursday, January 19
Thursday, February 16
Volunteer Cooks for March or April are welcome!
Contact Heather Burnham

Time to Order Girl Scout Cookies
See Karen at the Village Market to place your order today.
The deadline is February 6!

Fishers Island Community Center’s Island Café
Come on down for dinner.
Eat in or take-out.
Look for weekly specials this fall.

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’, have photos to share, suggestions or an interest in advertising, please contact Editor Jane Ahrens at (631) 788-7487 or finyinfo@gmail.com. Contact Sarah Porter to place an event on the Community Calendar at www.fishersisland.net/events/ at (631) 788-7683 or fishersislandevents@gmail.com.

Athletic Accolades

Ashley Morell, Jackson Eastman, Isabel Scroxton, and Kloe Scroxton travelled to Montville to compete in a newaza contest.

New England Invitational Gymnastics Meet. Congratulations to our gymnast Ellie Bloethe (Level 4 (10 yr old) who placed 3rd in the all-around, 6th in Beam, 3rd in Bars, 2nd in Vault, 1st in Floor.

Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association selected Maritime senior guard Tim Hoch (Coventry, R.I./Fishers Island, N.Y.) to its listing of Division II-III Honorable Mention honorees for their first week of reporting for the 2016-17 season.