SOME DAYS I JUST LOVE MY JOB . . .

... FROM WRITING GRANT APPLICATIONS TO CHASING HORSESHOE CRABS AT DOCK BEACH.

By Jane T. Ahrens, Editor, FishersIsland.net
May 29, 2018

Today the planets aligned and I received all the documents we need to complete a grant application to (hopefully) assist in funding the workings of www.FishersIsland.net and the Fog Horn…and the full moon at 10:15 pm presented the perfect opportunity to search for spawning horseshoe crabs – over 75 spotted and 9 tagged by FI School students Constance Toldo and Jack Morrissey tonight at Dock Beach!

FI School Science Teacher Carol Giles is a trained site coordinator for the tagging program conducted under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956. She also coordinates, over sees, and teaches the Early College Experience Oceanography class. Of the 10 FI School students enrolled in the class, 6 take the college level course and are required to attend at least 2 tagging sessions as part of their lab credit for which they receive 4 UConn credits.

Tonight at Dock Beach the students spotted a previously tagged horseshoe crab and confirmed they had tagged #311239 in 2014. As Carol remarked, “They do come back!”

To learn more about tagging horseshoe crabs, read this 2014 article: www.fishersisland.net/horseshoe-crab-tagging/
**ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES**

**UPCOMING ELECTION UPDATE**

**Fishers Island needs Election Inspectors.** If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, learn more here: [http://www.suffolkvotes.com/inspector.asp](http://www.suffolkvotes.com/inspector.asp)

Suffolk County’s Polling Place #1 is at the Community Center. The 2nd floor is accessible by elevator. The polls in Suffolk County are open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm.

**Federal Primary Election** – June 26, 2018

**State and Local Primary Election** – September 13, 2018

**General Election** – November 6, 2018

Find voter registration, absentee ballot and other information here: [http://www.suffolkvotes.com/index.asp](http://www.suffolkvotes.com/index.asp)

**COMMUNITY CENTER Membership**

**Annual Supporting Membership** provides access to everything in the building except the Fitness Center. Reserve spaces for private use, such as telework, and are entitled to discounts on many programs.

**Fitness Center Membership** includes the above, with full use of the Fitness Center and a key card for building access during non-business hours. Your FICC cards will be activated by the start date of your choice! Sign up or renew online today. [www.ficommunitycenter.org/membership](http://www.ficommunitycenter.org/membership)

Volunteer Fire and EMT personnel, year-round residents, club employees, should contact Sarah Porter to receive their membership discounts.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

Mackie Siebens and David Lindholm, March 18, 2018 in Hudson, NY

**BIRTHS**

Quinn Makai, April 25 to Abbie & Matt Hand and granddaughter of Justine Kibbe

**IN MEMORIAM**

Memorial Service for Pam Peck at Union Chapel, 2pm Saturday, June 30.

Luke McGeeney and Tina Cody, May 26, 2018 on Fishers Island, NY

Olivia Claire Fox, May 17, 2018 to Matt & Linda Fox

A gathering for Charlie Ferguson will be held 2pm Sunday, July 1 at the Theater.
The annual Memorial Day Parade festivities began at noon Sunday, May 27 at the Alfred R. Grebe Post 1045 of the American Legion despite the wet and uncharacteristic cold weather.

Fishers Island Fire Commissioner John Klimczak, acting as master of ceremonies, welcomed everyone to American Legion Post #1045 prior to the Fishers Island Memorial Day parade with The Reverend Kricia Burnham.

The old large cannon that has historically been used to officially start the parade has been retired and Jimmy Ski set up a smaller one for the occasion. American Legion adjutant commander Tim Patterson set off the cannon and rest assured, it is just as loud!

John Klimczak said, “Thank you for joining us for the Alfred R. Grebe American Legion Post #1045 Memorial Day parade and ceremony. The Legion, along with our color guard as well as our rifle corps, welcome you to this special occasion. This is a national ritual, a tradition among Americans of every race and heritage.”

The parade of volunteer Fire Department members, Fire District Commissioners, island clergy, and onlookers proceeded to the Village Green, led by the color guard and Chief Bruce Hubert and Asst. Chief Jeff Edwards, for the laying of the wreath and gun salute of remembrance.

Before leaving the Green a Salute the Dead with three volleys was completed with Joe Rogan giving commands for Luis Horn with veterans Patty Walker and Tim Patterson.

Taps was played by Fishers Island School Music Teacher Chris Dollar who is an AEMT and EMS Captain in the Fishers Island Fire Department.

“This is a time of special remembrance of the supreme sacrifices of those soldiers, men and women, who have lost their lives overseas in the war against terrorism and oppression.” ~ American Legion

The community remembered the loss of loved ones who have passed this year that served our country and who have helped make a difference to the Fishers Island community in years gone by.

Robert Wall served in the U.S Army and was on active duty in South Korea during the Vietnam era. Bob was also a long-standing member of the Fishers Island fire department for over 50 years, serving as department chief and captain of the Sea Stretcher.

A “wreath laying at sea” ceremony took place during the Sea Stretcher’s Sunday morning check-run earlier in the morning with Captain Steve Malinowski and Navigator Dirk Harris. Members of the Wall family attended in memory of Bob Wall. Bob’s siblings Patty Faulkner, Jimmy Wall and Billy Wall, with Billy’s wife Kristin, honored Bob during this ceremony.

Richard Baker served in the U.S. Army and was on active duty in Europe during WWII. Dick was a longstanding member of the Fishers Island Fire Department for over 50 years as well as being the treasurer of Union Chapel during the same time period, and was active in many community and charitable activities.

A wreath laid by the Baker family at the American Legion in memory and honor of Dick Baker before the parade. Attending was son Jim Baker, his wife Diane, and Dick’s granddaughters Kristina Baker and Caroline Selwood, and her husband Pat Selwood.

Charlie Ferguson served in the Signal Corps during WWII coordinating messages from radio operators behind enemy lines about Japanese troop movements, work which earned him a Bronze Star. An accomplished artist, Charlie shared his gifts with the Fishers Island community and beyond.

Wayne Doucette was an active member of the Fishers Island Fire Department for 32 years, serving 6 terms as Fire Chief. Wayne was a humble public servant who always shared his knowledge and experience and sought to contribute to the Fishers Island community with pride and without recognition. A wreath in honor and memory of Wayne was placed at the monument to WWII vets at the Green by his widow Jamie.

As they returned to the Legion, John Klimczak introduced longtime Fishers Island resident, community leader and American veteran Tim Patterson who bravely and selflessly served in the Vietnam War. Tim shared his Memorial Day message including how he remembered as a very young child, wanting so badly for his father to return from the service. He reminded those present to be grateful for all who have served and are continuing to serve, every day. Taking out of context a quote from John Milton: “They also serve who only stand and wait.” Tim suggested that we are honoring not only the fallen, but also those wounded in body or spirit and the families of those who did not return.
Sunday, May 24th the island celebrated the Peter Sanger Sea Stretcher Marathon effort with 166 participants, their supporters, and donors raising over $20,500. (up $600 over the 2017 event). The 166 runners and walkers was an increase of 8 people over 2017 despite the rainy weather!

The Sea Stretcher donations so far for 2018 are:
$9,900.00 Online donations so far this year
$1,405.00 paid their pledge when signing up
$9,272.00 non pre-paid pledges* at registration
20,577.00 Total as of May 31, 2018

“To all the volunteers who come out to help make the whole thing go as smoothly as possible, I am very grateful. The funds raised is a substantial amount that will go right to maintaining Sea Stretcher.” ~ Dave Denison to whom we are all very thankful as he is the marathon’s lead organizer, volunteer, and Sea Stretcher Captain.

The mile runner winners were:
1A mile (12 and under) from the Library: Rhett duPont and Eleanor duPont
1B mile (over 12), from the Library: Chris Addey and Clarissa Parker:
3 mile for all ages, from Four Corners: Tim Hoch and Alexis Higgins
5 mile for all ages, from Top of the World Road: Tommy Thiel and Alexis Burwell
8 mile for all ages from the Castle: Meris Enright and Dexter Benkard

by Terry McNamara, for the H.L. Ferguson Museum
MUSEUM NATURE NOTES: AMERICAN MINK

Each year there are reported sightings of a chocolate to dark brown weasel-like animal about two feet in length with a bushy tail. Detailed observations mention white on the animal’s chin and throat and a tail about one third of its total body length. If you shine a light in this creature’s face at night, its eyes glow a yellowish green. What is this mystery animal? The American mink. Though sightings are rare, minks are not. They’ve been spied in a wide range of locations on the island, from haunting Pirates Cove to dispatching rabbits along the Bike Path. The mink is found in diverse wetland habitats such as marshes, ponds, and tidal flats, and it occupies forests in the winter. This predator is a tireless wanderer. While generally active at night, dawn, or dusk, the mink adapts its behavior to prey availability, so it’s sometimes seen during daylight hours. The mink has few natural predators, and the coyote and Great Horned Owl are the only mink hunters on Fishers Island. Trapping, which led to the extinction by 1860 of the subspecies that once roamed the rocky shores of New England, is no longer a threat, as the pelts, like other furs, are nearly worthless today. Mink are highly susceptible to mercury poisoning...Luckily, the populations are considered stable throughout New York State. So keep an eye out for sightings and signs of these versatile, tenacious animals as you travel the island’s roads, paths and trails.
IN MEMORIAM: JAMES M. DURYEA

James M. Duryea, 74, of Glen Cove, New York, died peacefully on May 17, 2018 after a long journey with Alzheimer’s.

He is predeceased by his parents, Bub and Sis Duryea, his brother Center Hitchcock, and his sister Missy Duryea Butterfield. Jay is survived by his wife of 51 years, Linda; his children Mindy (Sandy Draper), Megan Scott (Christopher), and Oakley (LeeLee); his brother Bobby, his in-laws Hawley VanderPoel (Janice), Bea Banker (Bindy), Susan Barrett, and Ken VanderPoel (Barbara), as well as numerous nieces and nephews. “JBird” to Isabel, August, and Alix Draper; Cordelia and Oliver Scott; Lila and Wells Duryea.

He attended Green Vale, Aiken Prep, Middlesex School, and Boston University. Jay worked briefly as an operating room technician at Glen Cove Hospital, and then served in the US Marine Corps. As a commercial pilot, he flew twin otters for Pilgrim Airlines and then 727’s for Northeast Airlines. He was both a Governor and a Director of the New York Stock Exchange, where he worked as an independent floor trader for J.M. Duryea, Inc. for 35 years.

Jay came to Fishers when he was nine and summered there for 65 years. Some of the happiest times Jay had on Fishers: fishing at the Race, “The Porch” at Hay Harbor, playing in the tidal pools at the Big Club with his grandchildren, warming a stool at “The Quot” with Dicky Grebe and the guys he grew up with, and many hours at the FI airstrip shooting the breeze with Helen Best.

Jay served on the board of the Glen Cove Boys and Girls Club and is an honorary director there. He also served on the boards of Lattingtown Village and Locust Valley Cemetery, volunteered as a coach and referee for many years at Beaver Dam Winter Sports Club, as well as serving as Treasurer of its board.

A funeral mass was held Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 10:30 am at St. Dominic’s Chapel, Oyster Bay, NY. If so inclined, contributions may be made to the Fishers Island Fire Department, PO Box 123, Fishers Island, NY 06390 or Walsh Park, PO Box 684, Fishers Island, NY 06390.
FROM MÉLIE’S GARDEN

The past two months I have written about different public and private gardens I have seen as I traveled this winter. They all have been interesting to visit, but we on Fishers Island are truly blest to have one of the most enchanting gardens at “Hooverness”, the garden Tom Armstrong created. With Whitney Armstrong and Mike Simoncini’s loving and skillful care the garden is still magnificent. John and I visited earlier this spring and it was superb. The azaleas were beautifully sculptured in the Japanese garden and the hellebores bloomed profusely along the path, mingling with the glorious collection of daffodils. The garden is a great gift to our Island and the Armstrong family is so generous to continue to share it with us. I hope you visit it often on the “open days” through out the year.

May and June are always daunting with what seems to be an overwhelming set of chores to do. This is particularly true on Fishers Island with our very short spring, which has been especially challenging after the endless winter this year. First on the list is to clean up any debris – early weeds and broken branches. Once done you can divide and move perennials, making sure they are well watered in their new home until they become established. Roses should be fertilized once a month through July. Remove all dead wood from hydrangeas and prune to the top green leaves. Once flowerbeds are weeded, mulch can be applied, my favorite being sweet peat from Race Rock. Bagged chips are fine as long as they are small, so they will easily decompose with in a year. Heavy chips do not breakdown as quickly and at my house often blow away in a good wind. Annuals and Vegetables can be planted once the ground warms up, which I usually find sometime is almost mid June.

This year in my garden travels, I have seen spring bulbs and vegetables being combined in planters. At both Chanticleer and Wave Hill Swiss chard, spinach and different varieties of lettuces were planted among spring flowers. Those early crops enjoy the cool weather and add different colors and textures to the planters. Some crops could do equally well in summer planters combined with flowers. My niece, Jennifer Sanger, has an entire garden in Elevated Garden Beds that did wonderfully well last summer. And Tiggy Ski had an incredible hydro planter full of vegetables! This year, I think it would be fun for anyone interested, to try different combinations of plants in containers – think originally and photograph your creations and send the pictures into www.fishersisland.net at finyinfo@gmail.com. It will be inspiring to see what different combinations people think of and how successful they are through out the summer. Happy growing!
Volunteers are again placing American flags at grave sites in the Island’s cemeteries to honor those who served in the military.

If you have a family member with a grave at Fishers and who served, and have any questions or want to be sure a flag is placed for them, please contact Beth Stern at figaiabeth@gmail.com
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, photos to share, suggestions or an interest in advertising, please contact Editor Jane Ahrens at (631) 788-7487 or finyinfo@gmail.com.

FIND ALL THE NEWS, STORIES, PHOTOS & EVENTS AT WWW.FISHERSISLAND.NET

LIBRARY BOOK GROUP
6/14: White Rose Black Forest
7/12: Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine

CELEBRATE THE CLASS OF 2018 AT COMMENCEMENT
FRIDAY, JUNE 22 AT 4:45 PM
FISHERS ISLAND THEATER

The Henry L. Ferguson Museum Invites you to the Opening Reception
Photographers of Fishers Island, Part Two: 1940s to Date
Saturday, June 30, 2018
5 to 7 p.m.