



# Ward's Island Weekly



Photo: Martin Ter Woort

Thousands of tulips at attention around the gorgeous new mosaic at the WIA entrance

## Are You Ready to Dance?

It's dance time! If you like cutting a rug, or boogieing down (not necessarily in that order), head on down to the WIA clubhouse on June 30th for a big ol' shindig. We have an excellent band and plenty of wobbly pops for your enjoyment. The Soul Shakers will be belting out a bevy of sounds, masterfully crafted together to create a wonderful groove. The great urban street poet L.L. Cool J said it best, "Don't call it a comeback, they've been here for years." and they will be here to get the crowd jumpin'. Tickets at the door are \$10 – a very reasonable price for a night to remember. Hope to see you there.

*Elliot Hill, Entertainment Chair*

### Upcoming events

June 30	WIA Dance - Soul Shaker
July 21	WIA Dance
Aug. 4	GALA DAY - Paul James
Sept. 22	WIA Dance
Oct. 20	Hoedown
Oct. 27	Halloween Dance

# A Word from the VEEP

The very first Gala Day was in August, 1921, which makes this year the 91st anniversary. Okay, I realize it's not a nice round number, or even a multiple of five. But I can't help it if I have anniversaries on the brain. So, here's a taste of what we're working up for this year's Gala, centennial year kickoff.

## Masquerade

In keeping with the centennial theme, this year's Gala Masquerade will be a Miss Canada 1912 pageant, including - naturally - a swimsuit competition. But even though we're harking back 100 years, we're going to play by 2012 rules (note that this year's Miss Canada pageant even had a transgender contestant!). So of course our Miss Canada 1912 pageant will be open to contestants of all ages and genders. Look elsewhere on these pages for inspiration, then get busy and start crafting your 1912 fashion statements.



Hanlan's Point beach, 1913

Photo: City of Toronto Archives

## Dinner in the Park

Wouldn't the WIA centennial be the perfect occasion to bring back Dinner in the Park? For years, this was a big community feast, held on the Saturday of Gala Weekend. I have vivid memories of my very first Dinner in the Park, when I was thrilled to learn that I had won a prize in the dessert competition. It was only later that I learned my fruit crumble had been chosen "most slimming dessert" (which, when you think about it, is really the opposite of winning a prize).

This year, we're thinking that the WIA could provide a main course (which may or may not involve the outdoor roasting of a large animal), with community members contributing salads, sides and desserts. But to make the return of Dinner in the Park a reality, we're going to need LOTS of volunteers. So who's up for it? Talk to me on the boat or send me an email at [mcdonnellkath@gmail.com](mailto:mcdonnellkath@gmail.com)

## Memory tent

Gala 2012 will be an opportunity to gather material for our Centennial book project. The WIA was formed back in the era when Wards was a summer tent community, and the plan is to have a designated area, a

"memory tent," in the Beer Garden, festooned with vintage WIA photos, where islanders past and present can write or record their stories and reminiscences. Alec Farquhar has agreed (with only slight arm-twisting) to spearhead this and he'll be looking for volunteers to help set it up and work out the technical details.

*Kathleen McDonnell*

## Island Artists! Your chance to create for posterity!

The WIA has a great logo, but we're thinking we'd like to tweak it into something special for our double anniversaries – the 75th anniversary of the clubhouse (built in 1937) and the WIA centennial in 2012-13. So we're putting out a call for Island artists of all ages and persuasions to come up with design ideas. This isn't a contest – there's no formal judging, no prizes (well, maybe some beer garden tickets), just everlasting glory for whoever comes up with a design that somehow conveys the essence of the WIA as we enter our second century. Email your ideas to me at [mcdonnellkath@gmail.com](mailto:mcdonnellkath@gmail.com) or drop them off in the mailbox at 16 Fifth St.



**Ward's Island** Weekly

### 2012 WIA Executive and beyond

President	Bruce Rosensweet
Past-President	Matthew Ferguson
Vice-President	Kathleen McDonnell
Secretary	Jay Bascom
Treasurer	Liz McDonald
Membership chair	Ariel Cikvar
Events chair	Elliot Hill
Clubhouse chair	Eliza Moore
Tennis chair	Dalia Tanner
Lawnbowling chair	Colin Brodie
Baseball chair	Elliot Hill
Bookings	Chris Webster
WIA Weekly Team	Allyson Woodrooffe
WIA Weekly Team	Liz Amer
WIA Weekly Team	Mary Anderson

# Early Bird Special Extended to July 1st

The WIA season is officially upon us and, to encourage membership, we will be offering early bird pricing until July 1st. We greatly appreciate all contributions to the club: attending events, volunteering time and purchasing sports and social memberships.

The association hosts a wide range of events from dances, to hoedowns, pie-eating contests, vet clinics, milestones and fundraisers. There is never a dull moment. We also offer reasonably priced tennis and bowling opportunities.

The club is here to represent the residents needs and wishes. Share your ideas with over 400 neighbours. Get actively involved in shaping our organization to respond to the needs of all.

Joining as a member also grants you preferred booking and reduced rates to the facility. As well as reduced rates for events and merchandise.

The courts, greens and dance floor are abuzz with the pitter patter of the many feet of the young and old and all in between. We would

love to have you join the club and be part of the hoopla! Come join a square, grab a chair, lend a hand, be a friend. The summer will be over before we know it, but many memories will be made in the mean time.

To become a member or to have any questions answered, please call 416-731-3503 or e-mail [arielcikvar@gmail.com](mailto:arielcikvar@gmail.com)

*Ariel Cikvar, Membership chair*

Category	2012 Membership	Regular Fee	Early Bird (to July 1)	Details
All Sport (Tennis, Bowling & Field Sport)	Family	\$360	\$330	* All sports categories include social membership. * Single Parents and their children receive 50% off regular 2012 family fee in any category. * Family Memberships are available for families with children 18 and under, or students 19+. * Members who have been awarded Lifetime Memberships no longer pay any associated activity fees. <b>2012 WIA GUESTS:</b> Tennis \$14/day or \$70/week • Bowling \$10/day or \$49/week. Passes are available for purchase at the Wards Island Café.
	Single Adult 19+	\$210	\$185	
	Seniors 65+ / Students	\$110	\$85	
Tennis	Family	\$285	\$255	
	Single Adult 19+	\$155	\$130	
	Child 18 and under	\$50	\$40	
	Seniors 65+ / Students	\$95	\$70	
Bowling	Family	\$100	No Early Bird Rates	
	Single Adult 19+	\$75		
	Seniors 65+ / Students	\$50		
Social Only	Family	\$40	No Early Bird Rates	
	Single Adult & children 18 and under	\$30		
	Single Adult 19+	\$25		
	Seniors 65+ / Students	\$15		



It's spring training for our local youth baseball players as they prepare for a new season on the ball field. In what were some spirited affairs over the last few weeks, as the players shook off their winter rust, everyone was excited about the season ahead. With line drives being belted out and the ball being snapped around the bases with vigour, it's only a matter of time before multi-million dollar contracts

are being handed out like candy on Halloween. I'm not embarrassed to admit my pitching was not up to snuff, as I was shelled by all the batters that stepped up to the dish. Just a reminder to parents and players: we will begin warm ups at 6:30 p.m., with drills and skill development, and begin play around 7 p.m. Our hope is to play three to four innings each game or until I break down into tears after giving up plenty of big hits and many

runs. As we embark on a new season, we (the commissioner's office) hope to provide better record keeping to preserve our players all-star calibre performances as well as my undoubtedly shameful and woeful pitching lines. I hope to see you all out there again so that we can keep supplying the island with exciting and riveting baseball.

*Elliot Hill, Commissioner*



# Remembering Albert ...

Could there be a more fitting tribute for Albert Fulton than to honour him in the newly refurbished memory garden?

In his own way, Albert created a kind of an island memorial garden himself, weeding through endless clippings and photographs to curate the island archives. Our volunteer archivist documented our collective (or is it collected?) memory. And now, thanks to Doryne Peace and Anne Koytyk, we can pause in this lovely spot to honour Albert. Bob Kotyk's thoughtful words (Albert Fulton 1938 - 2008, Island Archivist, "He helped us to see ourselves") grace the bench, the project funded from money from the garden tours.

Of course, Albert would want us to know that the memory gardens have a history. They began in 1984 with two magnolia trees planted by the community to honour Maria Metcalfe (Marie's mother). Then, about 10 years later, after Marie's sister Terry Metcalfe's death, two gingko bilobas were planted to replace the magnolias, which had foundered.

Those trees grow behind the bench, as our own memories stand behind those we have lost.

*Alison Gzowski*



Photo: Doryne Peace



Congratulations to our first 2012 round robin winners, Sheila Saunders and Paul Nelson. A very big thank you to Denis Redican who, once again, rose to the challenge of matching our motley crew of players into winning partnerships.

If you have been on the courts in the last two weeks, you probably noticed the new clay surface. The courts are in great shape. Thanks to all the members who pulled up the tapes and rolled up the nets in order to get the courts ready for the new clay. Thanks also to Marc Irman and Roger Pepler for helping Bob White when a crisis arose on the courts! It takes a village to look after our tennis courts.

*Dalia Tanner, Tennis Chair*



Photos: Dalia Tanner

Denis Redican, Christoph Strube, Paul Nelson, Warren Webster, Brett Lye and Jennifer Collins, working on the tapes.

## Round Robins

Sat. June 30

Sat. Aug. 4

Sat. Sept. 1

If rained out, postponed to Sundays.

**Start time:** 10:00 a.m.. Please arrive earlier to register and warm up.

**Fee:** \$4.00

**Participants:** Members & guests (guests must purchase a pass).

## Tournaments

Mixed Doubles – Sat. July 14

Men's Doubles – Sat. July 21

Women's Doubles – Sat. August 18

Women's Singles – Sat. Sept. 8

Men's Singles – Sat. Sept. 22

If rained out, postponed to Sundays.

**Start time:** 10:00 a.m.. Please arrive earlier to warm up.

**Fee:** none

**Participants:** WIA Tennis members only

# Updates on ...

## ... Willow Square

The fantastic tulips in the new beds have now made way for four Paperbark Maple trees, with rhododendrons and other shrubs, perennials and ground cover coming soon. Thanks to Sheila Murray for obtaining the donations of the tulips from TradeWinds International Sales, and shrubs from Humber, Sheridan and Putzer's nurseries. Also to Grahame Beakhus for sourcing the Paperbark Maples as well as for his fundraising efforts, to Jerry Englar for his brilliant site plan, and to all the gardeners who are helping out. Thanks to Loblaw's for its contribution of \$500 from the garden centre.

We are now getting close to raising the \$14,000 that we need for the installation of Phase 2 of Willow Square, due to the generous donations of many Islanders. Phase

2 will transform the area formerly used as a parking lot and garbage transfer site. The Sandbar Sisters/Hoedown crew turned over the proceeds from Saturday's event, the \$500 matching funds have been received, and many private donations have put us just \$2400 away from our goal. We would really like to have Phase 2 installed, with the pavers, small mosaic squares, and planting beds, before Gala Weekend. The installers are ready to proceed the first week of July, we just need to have the rest of the funding in hand.

The Church has generously offered to issue tax receipts for donations to the project. Cheques should be made out to: Church of St. Andrew-by-the-Lake, with a reference on the cheque to the HKMF and the



Photo: Vivian Pitcher

WIA Pebble Mosaic Project. The Church will redirect donations to our project, and issue tax receipts in January. Cheques can be dropped off at Joyce Roger's home at 25 Seneca or Kathleen Doody's at 9 Channel.

Our many donors (some anonymous) are named on our blog at [www.torontoislandmosaic.blogspot.ca/p/fundraising.html](http://www.torontoislandmosaic.blogspot.ca/p/fundraising.html) and will be listed in the next issue of the Weekly.

Thank you for your support,  
*Kathleen, Penny and Jerry*

## ... Far Enough Farm: "Why would anybody ever think of closing this place?"

It is vital that Far Enough Farm receive donations through the parks department, as Beasley will match dollar for dollar any monies raised. Tax deductible donations (\$10 and over) can be made through:

<https://torontoparksandtrees.org/far-enough-farm>

Work is still going on to save the farm in its present state. We don't know what would happen if Beasley took over the farm – would it only be open in the summer months? Would experienced people care for the animals? And, if it was only open for the summer months, what would happen to the animals?

For the moment, it is vital to get as many donations as possible to keep the farm open until the end of the year at least. This farm really needs

to be saved for future generations. As one visitor to the farm said yesterday "Why would anybody ever think of closing this place?"

*Lynn Jenkins*

### From the Toronto Star, Friday June 8, 2012

"Far Enough Farm, the popular animal attraction at Centre Island threatened by city budget cuts, is getting a reprieve.

City council voted Thursday to continue operating the farm until it can be included in an upcoming tender for the operation of Centreville kids' rides attraction, and to accept donations to keep the treasured hobby farm open.

Councillor Pam McConnell, who has been spearheading a campaign to save the farm,

welcomed a donation that will help.

Beasley Amusements, which has long held the contract to operate Centreville, pledged up to \$30,000 to keep the farm open and will match residents' donations up to an additional \$30,000.

"Today's announcement of a substantial donation from Centreville Amusement Park gets the fundraising off to a big start," McConnell (Ward 28, Toronto Centre-Rosedale) said in a statement.

During tough budget deliberations in January, council cut funding to the farm as well as High Park Zoo and Riverdale Farm, as of June 30.

Both High Park and Riverdale Farm will also continue to operate, thanks to donations and local councillors' efforts to find sustainable funding sources."

# Frederick John Mazza

We are very sad to inform you of the passing of an old Islander, Ron's dad, Fred Mazza.

Fred was born in Toronto and served in the Canadian army in WW II in England, Italy and Holland. He met Jean in Sheffield, England, where they married. She came to Canada after the war. They soon moved to the island with their twin boys, Rob and Ron. Fred had Bert Barker build 3 Oneida, where the family lived until he sold to Bruce Weber in 1970.

Fred moved to the Island because he had joined the Toronto Fire Department which needed someone to ride a big, old Indian motorcycle, used to check the hose boxes spread around the Island. Fred apparently could do that.

When he got here he liked the place and was looking to build a home, but he was unsure of the 25-year lease and checked with his city alderman about its security. He was told in no uncertain terms that the city of Toronto would NEVER kick a war veteran out of his house. Based on that assurance he, like many other returning veterans, purchased a lease and built a home on the island. However, within six years, Metro Toronto was formed and the clearing of island residences began, first at Hanlan's, then Centre. In order to get some return from his supposedly secure house, he, like many other Islanders at the time, sold in the last year an island lease could legally be sold.

The Mazza's 22 years on the Island were a most important time in their lives. They were part of a close-knit community of young families. He was a member of Queen City Yacht Club, helped build the original AIA, served on the Fire Department at the island station on the Main Drag at Centre Island,

with many other Islanders including Bill Stevenson, Fram Ward, and Gordy Tuck.

Fred played semi-pro baseball in Toronto, mainly at Kew Beach, as one of the best pitchers in the



game. He also played in the intra-island league before the houses were demolished. Later at Ward's, he was allowed to pitch only if he did so from second base. Batters still couldn't hit his pitches, so he happily played third base. He apparently had a wicked fast ball.



Fred Mazza and the Island Fastball Champions, 1950, sponsored by Hughes grocery store, Main Drag, Centre Island

Fred was also a member of the very improbable Island Bagpipe Band, under the tutelage of Mac Murdock.

Before retiring from the fire department in 1970, he had attained the rank of Captain and was stationed on the then new fireboat, William Lyon McKenzie. Unfortunately, or maybe fortunately, the day the freighter Orient Trader caught fire in the late 1960s, the only active engagement by the fire boat, he was off duty and watched it all with other club members from the east balcony of QCYC.

When he left the Island in 1970, Fred built a house in Cannington, finally being able to use his Veteran's Land Grant. He lived there for ten years before moving to Niagara-on-the-Lake, where he has lived since.

But his greatest contribution to present Islanders may be saving the life of Jimmy Jones from the frozen lagoon at Hanlan's Point in the 1960s. Ask Jimmy about that night.

A memorial was held at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club.

*Ron & Pam Mazza*

# Milestones



**RACHEL VANDERLAAN** graduated from University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine. Congratulations!



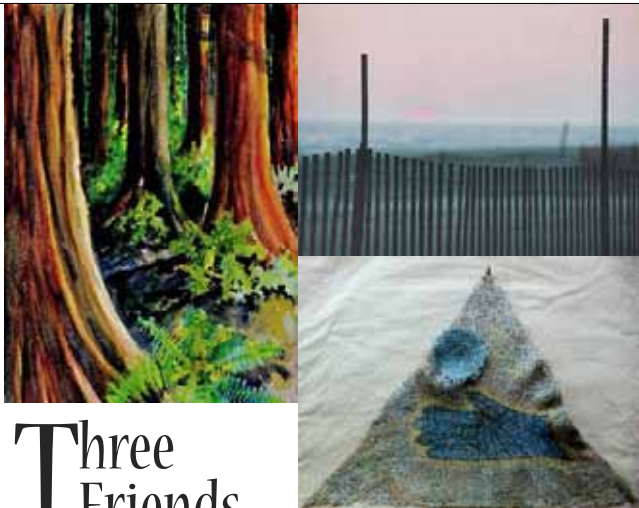
**JESSE ROSENSWEET** earned his JD and MBA degrees at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law and Rotman School of Management. Congratulations!



**LINDSAY STEPHENS** and Jeff Krahn married on Saturday, June 9, 2012 on the Ward's Island beach. Congratulations!

Got a graduation, anniversary, wedding, birth or other significant event in the family? Send us the info and photos. Email [allyson9@mac.com](mailto:allyson9@mac.com) or deliver to the mailbox at 24 Bayview Ave.

*Liz, Mary & Allyson*



## Three Friends Celebrate the Elements

6-30 June 2012, Rectory Gallery, Toronto Island

opening, 06/06/12 Wednesday, 7-9 pm

Rectory Cafe/Gallery: M-Th 11-5pm; F-Sun 11-8pm

Leida Englar • Luisa Milan • Julie Stone  
Watercolour • Textiles • Photography



**Lisa Hoover and son Holden will be on sabbatical for the next year at "The Little White House," across the meadow, in Nova Scotia.**

Check out the WIA's new website.  
Upcoming events, the colour newsletter and lots more!  
[www.wardsislandclubhouse.com](http://www.wardsislandclubhouse.com)



**Church of St. Andrew-by-the-Lake**  
**Toronto Islands**

You are cordially invited to the

**63<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**Blessing of the Boats Service**

**Sunday, June 17, 2012**  
**at 11:00 am**

Drop anchor in our lagoon and attend the service from your boat, or come by ferry.

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And after the service, you're invited to a

***Strawberry***  
***Social***

From 12 noon until 2:00 p.m.

**Tickets: Adult \$15.00, Children \$5.00**

For tickets please see  
**Liz Amer 416 203-0942**  
**and Marian Lye 416 203-3600**

*Please join us!*