

SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Board of Trustees was held on July 21, 2010, in the Planetarium Lobby, Centerport, New York.

The following were in attendance:

Noel Gish – President
Gretchen Oldrin Mones – 2nd Vice President
Ronald A. Beattie – Treasurer
Donald B. McKay – Secretary
Sarah Anker – Trustee
Thomas D. Glascock – Trustee
Dr. Steve Gittelman – Trustee
Dr. William Rogers – Trustee
Kevin Peterman – Trustee
Elizabeth Jean Cambria – Trustee
Christopher Hahn - Trustee
Carol Ghiorso-Hart – Executive Director
Stephanie Gress – Staff
Patrick Keefe – Consultant for Public Relations
Peter Newman – Staff
John Pokorny - Staff
Joanne Young – Audio Visual Imagineering
Ken Ofani – USA Agent for Konica Minolta
Shigeru Tanaka – USA Agent for Konica Minolta
Phil Groce - USA Agent for Konica Minolta
Mike Dowling – Skyscan
George Barnett – Skyscan
Kurt Berna - Skyscan
Lora Gellerstein – Aide to Legislator Cooper
Ann Marie Pastore – Stenographer

Absent:

Michael B. DeLuise – 1st Vice President
Dan Olivieri - Trustee
David Bottomley - Trustee

(Mr. Noel Gish called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.)

MR. GISH:

I'd like to call the July meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium to order. I'd like you all to stand for the Pledge to the Flag, please.

(SALUTE TO THE FLAG)

Thank you. Ann Marie, do we have a list of guests in attendance?

MS. PASTORE:

Yes.

MR. GISH:

Did everybody get a copy of the minutes that were sent out? Are there any questions or corrections to the minutes? Can I have a motion to accept the minutes?

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

Motion.

MR. BEATTIE:

Second.

MR. GISH:

All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries. (Vote: 9/0/0/6 Not present: Mr. Glascock & Ms. Cambria. Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant position.)**

I'd like to take this time to introduce two of our new Trustees who are here tonight. We do have four new Trustees to the Board. When they come in or when they get here, and it just might be difficult tonight dealing with traffic and whatever trees are down on 25A, but we'll get to them later. We have Christopher Hahn from Stony Brook here tonight. Chris, maybe you could just tell us a little bit about yourself.

MR. HAHN:

I'm an attorney. I live in Stony Brook. I've been coming to this museum since I was probably about eight years old. This is probably one of the only planetariums I've ever been to. I worked for Senator Chuck Schumer for six years. I was the Chief Deputy Executive for Nassau County for a couple of years. I'm a commentator on *Fox News*.

That's a recent development in the last three or four months. I write a column for the "Long Island Business News."

MR. GISH:

So you can't keep a job is what you're saying. Just kidding.

MR. HAHN:

Pretty much. I'm in good company, though.

MR. GISH:

Kevin Peterman.

MR. PETERMAN:

I'm Kevin Peterman. I'm a Professor at Suffolk Community College. I have been there for quite a while, about 30 years, so I guess I can hold a job. Seriously, I'm also an officer in the union. I represent the faculty there. I'm a Trustee of the Benefit Fund that provides benefits for the faculty. I live in West Islip.

MR. GISH:

Thank you very much. We appreciate both of you coming on the Board. We have two more new Trustees. When they come in, we'll have them do some introductions as well.

We will have a new Trustees list out to you. You'll get it by email, so that all of the information that we collected and that I asked for will be updated. You will have everyone's home phone and everyone's address, so that if mailings have to go out or you want to make contact with someone, you'll have that. That should be out this week.

We also have members from Konica/Minolta who are inside right now looking at the planetarium. They were here this morning at nine o'clock. Carol and I met them. They're reviewing their plan for the new star projector that's inside. Hopefully when they're finished with their evening, and they've been in here since early this morning – in fact the two fellows who flew the all-nighter in from Japan looked a little tired this morning when we saw them at nine. They're still kicking around here now, so it will be interesting to have them put that together.

Gretchen, Education and Exhibits Committee.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

The Education and Exhibits Committee met July 8, and we're happy to welcome recently appointed Trustee, Betsy Cambria, as a new member of our committee.

We consider the Education and Exhibits Committee at the core of what's wonderful and unique here at the Vanderbilt. We hope that the other new Trustees will also join our committee. Our next meeting is going to be August 4 at 2 p.m. at Normandy Manor.

A top priority of the agenda was to finalize the education brochure so that the content and the lay out changes could be quickly completed by Tom Curran, who has helped out again this year with photography and design and has even volunteered his daughter to be the star struck child on the cover. If you haven't seen the cover yet, we'll pass that around so you can see the star-struck child.

Last year's cover was very different, very corporate looking. This year we feel it's a nice change. We're way ahead this year in our timeline in completing the brochure. We're very happy about that.

The printed brochure is expected back early August. If you do come to that next meeting, be prepared to help stuff some envelopes so we can get those distributed. We're ahead, as I said, and we have targeted some new audiences, like PTA's.

July 4 was a huge success, thanks to the efforts of Emily Gittelman, who organized the day, recruited volunteers and vendors, and arranged for raffles, prizes and food. Over 1,000 people enjoyed this wonderful event. It's a family day. It ended with viewing fireworks at Asharoken. One highlight was when a female Marine veteran sang a moving rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner."

The summer program, "Wizard University," started July 6. The children are studying mummies, magical creatures, astronomy, and potions. Some of the projects include a mummy mask, gold finger stalls, mixed media collage and a sundial. The children will be making their own glue and paint and will recycle paper as well to make art. If you know anyone who wants to get in on all this fun and education, registration is still open for upcoming weeks.

Stephanie met with Cablevision while they filmed the segment on the Vanderbilt Cup Race for their "Neighborhood Journal," which is a half hour magazine format show. She received a thank you letter from

Joanna Venditto, producer of "Neighborhood Journal." Betsy was going to read it to us but, Stephanie, would you like to read the letter to us.

MS. GRESS:

If you have it with you.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

I have it, yes. I thought it was a great letter. I thought we would read the second letter also into the record.

MS. GRESS:

"On behalf of Cablevision's Neighborhood Journal, I would like to thank you for your enthusiastic participation in our show. Your involvement certainly enhanced our program and helped us to carry out our mission of providing viewers with fun, exciting and informative local programming. Neighbor Journal is a half-hour magazine format show that features Long Island and its people, places and events because our show airs seven days a week and several times each day, we have a unique opportunity that allows us to keep our audience constantly in tuned."

"We believe it is important for our viewers to be aware of the many wonderful things happening in their own backyards. Enclosed please find a copy of our last edition of Neighborhood Journal highlighting the Vanderbilt Cup Races. I hope you enjoy the final product that our entire crew here at Neighborhood Journal helped to put together. Thank you again for helping us complete another chapter in our Neighborhood Journal. Sincerely, Joanne Venditto, Neighborhood Journal Producer."

I want to thank Carol. I was not able to be there that day at the last minute. She had to step up and do the whole interview. That was kind of a surprise for her that day, I'm sure. They have produced other shows for us in the past when Neighborhood Journal was here about a year and a half ago.

(Ms. Cambria entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.)

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

Cablevision also filmed a 22 second public service announcement with a lovely montage of images. Stephanie, who was here, narrated. It will air on almost all channels and can serve as a match for funding.

Stephanie received this follow-up letter from the Director of Government Affairs.

MS. GRESS:

"We hope you enjoyed taking part in the June 11 PSA Day, your opportunity to deliver your message to our community via Cable TV. Enclosed is a DVD copy."

"Your PSA is scheduled to air cross channels on a variety of cable networks from July 26 through August 29."

Actually I want to add that people have already seen the PSA on some channels so it's been airing early. I haven't seen it. They list the networks, and it's unbelievable. There are about 30 or 40 of them here, everything from ABC, AMC, Animal Planet, Biography, Bravo, Fox, Food, Headline, HGTV, History Channel, everything, all the way down to VH1, Weather Channel. It could be on any of these or all of these.

"In September we will send you an affidavit stating the exact number of times your PSA aired and the value that this represents. We would appreciate your forwarding a copy of any printed materials mentioning our partnership with you. We hope our PSA campaign will help you further your mission, and we offer our best wishes for continuing success." That's from Joanne Gilroy, Director of Government Affairs.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

Thank you very much. That's something to look forward to.

MR. GISH:

I'm just going to go on record by saying that that was worked out with a woman by the name of Lynn Sawicki at Cablevision, who also worked with me in putting that together. I just wanted to get her name on the record thanking her also.

MS. ANKER:

Can I ask a question? Is there any way we can link that? Is it linked to our website at the museum?

MS. GRESS:

Do we have to get rights for us to air it?

MR. GISH:

Yes, I believe so.

MS. ANKER:

Can we ask them to see if we could at least put it on our website and link it to their website?

MR. GISH:

I can ask them.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

Newsday displayed a photo of members of our Living History in costume at Oheka Castle. I think there is a copy of that in this gigantic packet with the recent PR. That was the meeting site of Gold Coast Alliance.

Wealth TV did an extensive photo shoot and interview with Stephanie. The cast from *Cyrano de Bergerac* put on a play here at the Vanderbilt. They are part of the Suffolk County Community College Royal productions. It was very successful. At least the alliance between them and us was successfully forged. There were lots of young people here. They have lots of energy. They loved being here. We loved having them. With better publicity their next production will be more widely appreciated.

We're also in "Jet Blue" magazine as a "Thing to Do."

As you can see, Stephanie spends considerable time with students and with publications providing images and information for enhancing interviews and articles. Much of the material in Steve Gittelman's recently published book entitled, "Willie K. Vanderbilt, a Biography" was based on materials in our archives.

In the planetarium Dave Bush will soon have a new program called, "Night Lights" dealing with combating light pollution and the seasonal stars and constellations.

October 16 will be another Astronomy Day. The Rocket Club may be back and ASLI will be here.

Lorraine is updating and revising the planetarium shows for the 2010/2011 season.

There's a group of autistic volunteers who come on Tuesdays to help with whatever needs doing. I was lucky and happened to notice that last Tuesday they were doing a great job weeding along the path to Normandy Manor.

September 25 is a date I'm sure you have already marked on your calendar for our annual gala event. It is also Girl Scout Day here at the Vanderbilt. Although it will be a challenging day for staff to switch from one activity to the other, as you know we do not say no to visitors or business.

Finally I saw Howard Kroplick at the Port Jefferson "Climb the Hill" Centennial Event for antique cars this past Sunday. We discovered two of the cars there had the Vanderbilt Motor Parkway passes mounted on their dashboards. He mentioned that his next event is the car show here at the Vanderbilt Sunday, July 25. So if you haven't seen or heard Howard's 'Black Beast" Alco racer, which was the winner of the Vanderbilt Cup Race in 1909, this Sunday would be the perfect opportunity.

I'm going to pass around his brochure of the "Black Beast." It really is a beast, if you hear it. Unfortunately, he didn't win that race. Luckily people like Herb were there to help him push the car around and put him back down hill. We all had a good time. I have a picture somewhere, which I will pass around, of the Long Island Motor Parkway Annual Official Pass. It has a little devil on top of it.

That's the end of the report.

MR. GISH:

Any questions on the Education Committee Report? I will state that Betsy Cambria, who is one of our new Trustees, is already on the Education Committee and met with us at our last meeting. Betsy, when you came in both Chris and Kevin gave us a little background on getting on the new Trustees. Since you're one of the new Trustees, could you just give us a little update on what you're doing?

MS. CAMBRIA:

I haven't really done much for this Board, but I'm into the star – what is it called?

MR. GISH:

Projector.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Yes. I really can see that that's something that's essential. I would like to dig out exactly what's holding it up and work on those areas to see if I can do more.

MR. GISH:

Good. You'd be happy to know that Konica/Minolta is here tonight. If they get a chance, they'll be able to address us. They were here early this morning at 9:00, and hopefully they'll come out and give us an update on exactly where they are with this.

MS. CAMBRIA:

I've decided that that's the thing I'm going to focus on, as well as anything that Gretchen asks me to do. I think that's important. As you discussed it, that will put us leaps and bounds ahead of everybody.

MR. GISH:

It will be a mainstay of the Education Program, obviously, because there's not another planetarium of this size and dimension until you get into New York City. Based on the update that we'll have here, at least according to the individuals here this morning, they were naming the planetariums that are probably within our capacity. There was one in San Francisco, there was one in L.A., there was one in Boston, and the fifth one was the Vanderbilt.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

But do those others have live programming?

MR. GISH:

No, they do not have live programming.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

That puts us way ahead of everyone else.

MR. GISH:

We actually have an individual who is there who can answer questions that kids have and who's at the console. It's a live educational performance, which is very, very different than some other places.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

And tailors every program to the audience and is especially attuned to students with special needs.

MR. GISH:

So it will be unique. In listening to them talking this morning – to get all the tech guys to talk about the stars and those that twinkle and those that don't is really something.

MS. CAMBRIA:

That's going to put us in a special category.

MR. GISH:

Absolutely. Like I said, a 60 foot dome and the new star projector, it will be state-of-the art. Remember, the star projector that we have now is 1969 vintage. Remember where we all were in 1969. If you can't remember 1969, leave the room. That's obviously when the Goto projector was first put in here. You're looking at cell phone technology and plasma televisions, HD/TV and computerization, that obviously –

MS. CAMBRIA:

But if we have a contract with them –

MR. GISH:

With?

MS. CAMBRIA:

With Konica/Minolta, then we should be able to run with it, right?

MR. GISH:

Yes, it has to be approved by the County. The Legal Department has to go through with that. That's part of what they do. That and, obviously, a letter urging them to move as quickly as they can would be nice, but it's out of our hands now. It has been awarded. Konica/Minolta has the award now.

It's just a matter of producing these -- because that's going to take almost nine months for them to put it together. Remember, each dome has a different capacity, whether it's a 90 foot dome or an 80 foot dome. This is 60, so it has to be geared to fit in there. Obviously, there is construction that needs to take place. I believe Carol is meeting with DPW and Jim Ingenito tomorrow to discuss exactly what has to take place with construction.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Is the County Legal Department waiting for DPW to sign off on it, or are they already in contract and are going ahead with this?

MR. GISH:

No, believe it or not Konica/Minolta does not have a contract now. They are in here early operating with good faith and understanding that Suffolk County is going to provide that. So my hat's off to

Konica/Minolta to come in early, even before the contract has been finalized to begin their preparation for the installation. We're ahead of the game at this stage of the game on our end. It's just a matter of how quickly all of the steps that the County has to take for it to go through. I do not think that there will be any problem. I'm very positive and upbeat. I think by October of 2011, that we'll all be meeting here, and we'll have the Trustees meeting inside the planetarium. The wow factor will then kick in.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Okay.

MR. GISH:

Buildings and Grounds, Don.

MR. MCKAY:

A couple of items. I'll go quickly in no particular order. We have the coke machines installed. We actually sold out, and we have some new product coming in on Friday. We are moving the product. Every nickel counts.

The snack machine -- a company has donated a snack machine to us. We're going to put that here. Peter is going to pick that up on Friday. We're going to bring that to Farmingdale to get that refurbished and cleaned up a little bit. We'll put that in order.

The whole idea with the Coke machines and snack machines is that we're going to stock them and reap a better profit than the 20 percent you were getting from both machines.

Peter has been working on the repair to the bridge with the mosaic tiles. Not mosaic, but it's been extremely tedious because these tiles are very small, and you can't just plop cement and try to make it even again. We've been doing that and making headway on it. But it's important because we need to preserve the historical integrity of that brick. You can't just put down cement and cover it over.

Also, we're looking to remove at least, possibly more large trees right out here. One of them is blocking our huge flagpole. We can't use it because when the flag goes up, it gets tangled in the tree. We're looking to remove that tree. The danger is that it's a big tree, and although Peter and his crew are excellent workers, if this thing goes this way, we'll --

(Mr. Glascock entered the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)

MR. GISH:

We'll definitely need something to put the star projector in because the tree will fall right that way if it falls the wrong way.

MR. MCKAY:

Peter and I are trying to hit up a local guy to hopefully donate a half a day labor to come in and remove that.

Maintenance equipment, in talking with Peter, just look at the resolve issue of repairing our maintenance equipment, like lawnmowers and everything you can think of because as Peter said we have three of everything and one of them works. Again, Peter and his staff do the best they can to get these things to run but it's impossible. The staff, as we all know, is beyond limited.

The two options we're considering doing is that we actually called Suffolk DPW today. I spoke to the Commissioner, who is a very nice man. I never spoke to him before, but he got on the phone with me. What we're trying to do is get them, Suffolk DPW or possibly Suffolk County Parks, to actually take the equipment over there and have them fix it for us. They're open to the idea. He didn't say yes, but he said if he could swing it he had a guy to do it. That might be an avenue where we can bring over a rotting land mower and a walk behind and they can fix it, and we can get it back. Again, it's a cost savings thing. It's constantly going out to the local repair shops.

Along those lines, what we're contemplating doing, and I don't know how I'm going to do this, but is to try to barter, that we'll go to a local land mower guy and say, "Hey, look. Can you possibly fix our mower for us, and in return because of your generosity we would give you some advertising space in the planetarium on the projector or we'll put up some kind of sign." We could do something like that. I'm going to explore that.

The same idea is we need a truck repaired. We could go to a local repair shop and say, "You guys are local. Can you help us out here, and in return for your assistance, we're going to help you out and promote you." We're still kind of fine tuning that idea.

Peter has done some work on the gate house bathrooms. We're looking to do some more stuff up there, maybe install some new tile floors, which is not going to be a lot of money. And we're also going

to kind of figure out how we could possibly replace the stalls, because they're kind of shot. We're looking at that. That area gets a lot of foot traffic. It's one area where people come in and see that. We don't want them to see it looking shoddy.

Also the crew has been working on restoring and repairing exterior light fixtures throughout the grounds. They have done a few already and they continue to do that.

I received from Carol copies of the 2011 Capital Budget. I'm still going through it. I'm going to try to get it deciphered as best I can, but Budget Review seems to agree with us on a lot of items. But, unfortunately, the County Executive has different thoughts. But we'll have to figure that out and see where we stand.

I sent a letter last week to the Long Island Arbors Society requesting that the group choose Vanderbilt next year – every year they do a community day. They take not-for-profits and they go in and they bring in trucks. They do more work in one day that we could do – they did this about ten years ago here. It was awesome. So I sent a letter out, and hopefully they will put us on the calendar. It's a long shot, but you never know.

Along the same lines, I'm in the process of writing a letter – I actually wrote it – and this is a pipedream, but I sent a letter to the guy that owns Allure from Extreme Homemaker. The guy lives in Huntington. He's a local guy. I wrote a letter basically saying – not along the lines of Extreme Makeover, but asking if they could come to the Vanderbilt and help us out. I wanted to see if he would consider refurbishing the tennis area to make it into a visitor center where people can come in, check in and then use that area. It really needs to be cleaned up. The roof needs to be refurbished. We'll see. If it goes into the circular file, it goes into their circular file. Then we'll try somebody else.

Also, if anybody has any friends in the trade business, plumbers, electricians, carpenters, masons, anybody looking to help out or donate some time and labor, trust me, we will find something for them to do to help us out.

Finally I'm exploring – throughout the grounds we have a lot of metal that we need to get rid of, whether it be an old Coke machine from whenever – The idea is to do a scrap metal drive on one weekend in the fall. The neighbors might like this also. They could come in and dump their lawn mowers and stuff like that into this thing. Peter is compiling a list of all the stuff we have here. I spoke to the fire

department today who ran one about a month and a half ago on Eaton's Neck, and they made a couple grand. These are just some things I think we should explore. My hope is that we could use that money to invest that into our maintenance equipment. I'll report back on that at the next meeting.

MR. GISH:

Great. Thank you, Don. For the new Trustees, the bathrooms that we're talking about, as you came in tonight, the security booth is right on your left hand side. The bathrooms that are used that are behind that booth are mainly used by the school kids. The buses usually park at the top of the hill. When they get on the bus there, they are heavily used. The tennis area that's a little bit further down again on your right hand side. That was really in this spot before they put the planetarium in this was the tennis courts for the Vanderbilt. They had the tennis courts removed and the planetarium was put here. It was the least historical area that they could deal with. That was done way back in 1969.

Ron, you're up.

MR. BEATTIE:

I guess I could do Finance first. Everybody has a copy of the Treasurer's Report. We are pleased that Hotel/Motel Tax is coming in, so we're not in as much of a crisis state as we have been before.

While you're reviewing, I think there's another issue regarding to the Treasurer's Report that I should bring up. I think we have brought this up to the Board before, but this month I'll be sending a letter to Bill Lindsay and the Legislature regarding the issue of our general liability insurance, which Bill Lindsay had a motion on the table to forgive us and to waive that liability to the County. It ran into some resistance.

The issue is that the insurance people – that the County was insistent that they were sending us these invoices all the time, and they were not. We are going to hopefully revive that issue with Bill Lindsay, and get it back on the table. It's in the neighborhood of \$180,000.

MR. HAHN:

What do you mean they were sending us invoices? Didn't we know we had insurance?

MR. BEATTIE:

The issue is we carried the liability on our books. Back in around 2001 or 2002 when most of us were not involved on the Board there was a discussion with somebody who was, I believe, the Treasurer of the Museum who was negotiating with the insurance – I don't know if it was the Commissioner or whoever it was with the County, to have us not have that liability anymore.

What happened was, we stopped getting the invoices, but we never got formal notification that we weren't liable for these. Then we stopped getting invoices. We kept it as a liability on our books, but nobody ever said to the County, "Hey, you're not sending us an invoice on this." It's not like we were hiding it. It was on our books as a liability, but then all of a sudden last year, September of last year, the County said that we owed them \$180,000.

MR. HAHN:

So have we accounted for this liability over the last six or eight years?

MR. BEATTIE:

It's in our audits.

MR. HAHN:

Do we have any plan to cover it?

MR. BEATTIE:

The motion that Bill Lindsay has on the table is to waive it for the past and then we'd get back into it. His logic, which makes a lot of sense, is we have given the Vanderbilt a lot of money to keep the doors open. Are we now going to say, "You owe us \$180,000 and then we're back to where we were before." We're hoping that the evidence, for lack of a better term, our statements about what really happened – it's not like we were ignoring the invoices.

MR. HAHN:

Did the County produce any invoices?

MR. BEATTIE:

They have not. That's one of the things that we're going to ask for. I'm sending that letter to Bill. Hopefully that will be enough ammunition that he could actually put this resolution through.

MR. HAHN:

You're a Trustee – do we have an in-house accountant?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We have a staff person who is a bookkeeper. Then we have an outside accountant who works with us on a regular basis and helps communicate with audits. He often comes to the meeting if there is something to discuss.

MR. BEATTIE:

And we have an audit firm.

MR. HAHN:

Perhaps it will be a good idea so that Ron has some support that the outside accountant and the bookkeeper come to these meetings. There are a lot of questions about the finances of the institution. I think that they would be able to support Ron and answer some of these questions in a little more detail since they work with it everyday.

MR. BEATTIE:

This is probably the first meeting that Mike has not come to, I think.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, Mike Iadevaia is his name, and he generally will come. Certainly if we request it, he is here. Barbara often comes. She's on her way to vacation.

DR. GITTELMAN:

You said that the liability appeared in the audits. Was that for all eight years?

MR. GISH:

Yes. It was carried over. The issue dealing with the County was triggered when we switched auditors. You remember that when there was some displeasure with the auditors in the past, I suggested a new audit review. We sent out an RFP. We got interest back. We reviewed. We picked a new audit company, and the new audit company in reviewing it kicked it over to the County and said, "By the way, they're carrying this on their books." That's when the County responded. It was based on our audit in an effort to be as transparent as possible. But obviously we're dealing with issues that were before this Board got on.

DR. GITTELMAN:

But I was there.

MR. GISH:

The present leadership.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I need some memory refreshing, if it's okay. I can't keep track of everything that happened in the past 20 years. You said that 2001 through present, this was caught in the audit as a building liability.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

The fund balance deficit that we were building is in part due to that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Was it itemized as part of the fund balance deficit that you're referring to?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I believe it was.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Could you show it to me? I was the President for 15 years and have been a Trustee for 21 years. I was certainly there. What happened was that there was a change of administrations. Let me put that on the table. It was also that we approached the then head of Insurance – the Treasurer approached the head of Insurance and had the discussion. The discussion was, "No, we are going to waive this."

What I want you to understand is that we did not go forward with that liability insurance. When the Treasurer came back and said, "This has been waived; we're not going to be charged for this. We're going to keep this as a separate –" We're a strange entity. It's sometimes hard to understand who we really are. We're a 501C3, but we're part of the government. It's a tough call.

In any regard, what happened was that we were told we weren't going to be charged. And then no invoices appeared and the insurance was cut. The gentleman who told us that left.

MR. HAHN:

Who is the gentleman? Where is he now?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

He's working privately consulting.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I think he could be brought in to say that this occurred. See, I don't remember the deal, but I can't say to you that I remember everything that happened. One of the problems with the audit was that as President I was not allowed to participate in the audit process itself because of State law.

MR. HAHN:

No, but you were given the audit upon its completion.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That's right.

MR. HAHN:

And then you could review it with the auditor. The auditor came and presented the audit to the Board, I would assume, every year.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Right. I can't recall whether that line item was in there. That's all I'm saying.

MR. HAHN:

I understand. I just think that it sounds logical to me, but I would think that at some point after a meeting a writing would have taken place following up on a meeting, thanking them for waiving this insurance. There has to be something from when that happened --

DR. GITTELMAN:

There is no writing.

MR. HAHN:

-- on one side or the other. Or we should -- I think the first person we should call is the Insurance Commissioner under County Executive Gaffney who was responsible for making this waiver and ask him to verify that that was a decision that was made and who approved it. Maybe it was the County Executive himself who approved it, and we would just have to ask Bob Gaffney to write a letter to support Bill Lindsay's motion, which could perhaps end the process.

MR. BEATTIE:

Or the other thing is --

MR. HAHN:

Or on the flip side, he might say I've never had such a meeting, and then we have to figure out how to pay for this.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Let's have a meeting then. We would hope that there would be an explanation as to why no invoices were submitted for a period of eight years, I think it was. Since we weren't invoiced, it was clearly discussed amongst the Board who were told that we were now covered by the County and all players were covered. One would think we were covered and there was no liability. Now to retroactively bill us is an uncomfortable situation.

MR. HAHN:

Excuse my ignorance, but let me just ask one question. Prior to the Hotel/Motel Tax, was there any other aid given to us by the County? Did the County angle any imbalances? Is it possible that the County was deducting the cost of insurance from that –

MR. GISH:

In fact, when the County gave us a helping hand in 2009 we were authorized to get, I believe, \$800,000. We did not –

MR. HAHN:

It was more regulated, is what I'm saying.

MR. GISH:

But we did receive money to make payroll and to keep the doors open and to pay LIPA bills and so on and so forth. We did not use the \$800,000. There was a discussion of whether we should just take what was left, ask the County – now if you can follow the logic – ask the County for the additional money to get to \$800,000 and then turn it over to the County, that seemed to be the logic. I said that's silly. Why would we ask for more money from the County to turn around and give it back to you? Can we just let it ride? We did not take this amount –

DR. GITTELMAN:

I clearly could help us here. I have this information. I'm curious if anybody called Carl Luecke?

MR. GISH:

No, I did not.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Carl was the Treasurer. The other thing was Carl is an insurance expert. That's why he was handling this. Carl was an insurance expert. Carl handled it. I allowed him to do that.

MR. GLASCOCK:

From the description of events, I don't think it outrageous to think that perhaps, as you mentioned, that no letter was ever produced confirming things, and that it just kind of went under the radar. If people are questioned eight years later no one will remember anything or frankly want to take ownership and say, "I had the authority to do this."

On the other hand, I don't know if meetings were conducted at that time like they are today. But today we take minutes. They are submitted to the County. They get a copy of the minutes. A discussion that was discussed at a Board Meeting at that time –

DR. GITTELMAN:

It was discussed at multiple Board Meetings.

MR. GLASCOCK:

And minutes were taken and copies were submitted to the County, and nobody ever at the County ever contested what was in the minutes and that may serve as some evidence that in fact the County had approved –

MR. HAHN:

Then we should perhaps look through the minutes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's in the minutes. Carl Luecke would remember it. He negotiated it. If anyone – I forget the gentleman who was in charge of insurance -- probably would remember it. I lobbied for it.

MR. GLASCOCK:

It might even make sense, if it's not an unwieldy task, to try to find in those minutes where it was discussed before speaking to the person. This could be presented to them saying, "Well, we have evidence on such and such a day you agreed to do this." That might refresh his memory at some point.

MR. HAHN:

So what's the action? Do we then ask someone on staff to go through the minutes and discover that?

MR. GISH:

How far back do they go, Ann Marie?

DR. GITTELMAN:

I checked the files.

MS. PASTORE:

I started taking the minutes in 2000.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Since you've been taking them. When I became President in 1995, that's when the minutes started to be required. I insisted on them being verbatim minutes. They weren't always verbatim minutes.

MR. HAHN:

Well, if they were verbatim minutes since 2000, it should be pretty easy to find.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We have the minutes on file.

MR. HAHN:

So can I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that staff do an immediate search of the minutes and then someone should have to contact the former Insurance Commissioner for the County and then provide a written memo to the rest of the Board and to the County Legislature suggesting what actually happened, so that it could support what the Presiding Officer is trying to do.

DR. GITTELMAN:

May I give you another person who would remember, the Director. He certainly knew all about it because I know the Director knew about this.

MR. GISH:

Who?

DR. GITTELMAN:

Lance Mallamo, the prior Director. He had numerous conversations about this subject both with Carl – the only thing was that was something I did delegate, and I did not get involved directly in the conversations. I was more involved in the lobbying component.

MR. HAHN:

Who did you lobby?

DR. GITTELMAN:

I would have, at that juncture, asked multiple Legislators, talked to Legislators – none of them are in office today.

MR. HAHN:

Did the Legislature have to move on it?

DR. GITTELMAN:

No.

MR. HAHN:

It's an expenditure of County funds. They may have had to move on it.

DR. GITTELMAN:

They did not move on it.

MR. GLASCOCK:

The question was brought out if the Insurance Commissioner had the authority to waive –

MR. HAHN:

Without the Legislature acting on it. You may have had to ask the Legislature to act on it.

MR. GLASCOCK:

If we have three letters from people and the minutes and enter evidence with the County, that might not settle the issue, but –

MR. HAHN:

But it might allow us to –

MR. GISH:

I was going to ask a favor of Steve. Would you not mind racking your brain and see whether you could come up with a date or at least a year where you think that took place and maybe just do a quick search of those meeting minutes to see if we can find any contact with that. Then we'll develop some plan either to get in touch with Carl Luecke or a letter from Lance Mallamo to try to answer the questions that are involved. I don't know whether I could pull anybody. There is nobody

on staff that I have to be able to do that research. We don't have that type of –

MR. HAHN:

It's \$180,000.

MR. GISH:

No, I agree. Yes, sir, I understand that. But what I'm saying to you for the research end of it, that's going to be a tough –

MR. HAHN:

To just research the minutes, to just pull them out and read through from prior meetings? I think that it's worth \$180,000 and it makes it more likely that we won't have to expend \$180,000, I can't see what's worth more than that.

MR. MCKAY:

Mr. Levy wants the money. Mr. Levy is going to have to look elsewhere.

MR. HAHN:

We don't have the money, and I understand that, but you have to prove your point. Right now it sounds like we're saying, "Hey, we thought we had a deal." I'm an attorney. I don't make a lot of deals that cost \$180,000 without a writing. So there's nothing in writing. Even a record in the minutes would be something that we could provide. The County did receive those minutes. I think it's probably worth a couple of hours of someone's time to go through the minutes or volunteer.

DR. GITTELMAN:

The County does enormous deals without writing. For example, does anybody have a copy of the insurance policy? There is no copy of the policy. I suggest to you the fact that we weren't going to be charged since we couldn't get a copy of the policy. It might be that a lot was oral.

MR. HAHN:

But like I said, right now we're depending on the County to give us Hotel/Motel Tax. They could easily withhold a portion of that to pay this \$180,000, which would put us in a bad place.

MR. GLASCOCK:

If possible, the minutes are about, what, 50 pages long? If we can generally get an idea as to the year, you pull three years, you scan them, and PDF them to a couple of Board Members, including me, it will take a few nights but I'd be happy to look through those minutes.

MR. GISH:

Let's take Chris' lead on that and we'll see if we can get in touch with—

DR. GITTELMAN:

I have no problem with you going through the minutes, but I really feel like the place to start is call Carl Luecke and see what he recalls and we start there.

MR. GISH:

If we can begin that process, I think that would go a long way before the next meeting.

MR. PETERMAN:

I would be more comfortable if we had it in writing in the minutes, though.

MR. GLASCOCK:

I think if you just call him out of the blue ten years later on a liability that he probably doesn't want to accept responsibility for, if he even remembers it or knows it. If you approach him and you have in writing that evidence that he agreed to it, I think that's good to have in your back pocket to kind of help refresh his memory before you contact him.

MR. GISH:

Let's see if we can do that. Sarah.

MS. ANKER:

Can I make a suggestion? If we stopped paying the bill in 2001, why don't we just go back to 2000? If the records are on Microsoft software, just hit find, go to the documents and look up the word "liability."

DR. GITTELMAN:

They are all paper records.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

The Vanderbilt minutes are available on the website back to around 2003, I think on-line. We do have copies. I have quickly gone through whenever Carl Luecke talked, and I didn't find it, but we can certainly go through again. Again, for the new Trustees –

DR. GITTELMAN:

Did you go through them, Carol?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I went through quickly whenever Carl Luecke talked around 2001/2002. I didn't see anything, but it was quick.

MS. ANKER:

If we stopped paying in 2001, we should –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We'll pull them. We have hard copies. The Treasurer's Report, this is produced by our outside accountant, Mike Iadevaia. It does include under insurance what we may owe Risk Management. Risk Management said there was a change in their staffing around 2002, and there was a disconnect for a period of years. That was the word they used. I think we didn't receive anything until our auditors were working in 2007, and requested a letter from Risk Management. That's what kicked this off. We got a letter back saying, "You owe in 2006/2005." At that time we received a couple of letters.

MR. HAHN:

What probably happened, from my experience in County government, is that the Insurance Commissioner prepared an MOU that had to go to the County Attorney's Office for approval, and then it probably had to go to a Deputy County Executive or somebody else or a Commissioner, and somewhere along the line it got left on someone's desk and it was forgotten. It happens.

MR. GISH:

Yes, with changes in administration.

DR. GITTELMAN:

May I suggest another chapter that you just mentioned? In 2006/2007 the issue was brought up. But we argued it. So in 2006/2007 when we argued it, the County could have said, "No, you're wrong." But they didn't. We argued it; they didn't pursue it.

MR. GISH:

That will have to be part of our case, but I think we're going to have to see if we can find those minutes, see if we can make the contact with the past Director, Lance Mallamo, and Carl Lueke. We'll see if he is willing to come on board. That would be very simple, if that was the case. I'd like to go with Chris' recommendation, at least to see if we can adjudicate this as quickly as possible, rather than regularly sit around and bash it around.

MR. HAHN:

Is it on the County Legislative agenda?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

It's been tabled.

MR. GISH:

It has been tabled I believe on three separate occasions. Again, you're forgiving from 2001 to 2008. It was never part of the fund. We're not taking any money from anybody. The Police Department is not losing any money here. It was never part of the County budget, that amount of money. It would only go back into the liability fund. That's where it would be. Let's cut to the quick and see if we can amend this as rapidly as possible.

MR. MCKAY:

It's an important note that the money that's supposed to be paid for this fund goes to a liability fund for the County. It does not go to the General Fund for the Police Department.

MR. GISH:

It has been labeled, by the Vanderbilt not paying, that there are other people losing jobs, and that is not the case.

MR. MCKAY:

Also note that there were minimal claims –

MR. GISH:

Correct. I'm going to take a break from our normal run. If we possibly could, Joanne, if you could introduce the group that's behind you here. They look like they need some rest.

MS. YOUNG:

Thank you. We are the team that's going to be renovating the planetarium. We have that great privilege and thank you so much.

I'd like to introduce you to some of the team. Two have come from Japan. This is Kenneth Otani; he's the engineer who will be building the most magnificent star projector you will ever see.

We also have with us Shigeru Tanaka. He's our liaison for the United States. This is Phil Groce. He can tell you about the project briefly. We have Mike Dowling, George Barnett and Kurt Berna. We're all here and happy to be here. Phil Groce, please say something about this project.

MR. GROCE:

It's a great pleasure to be here for a lot of different reasons. One, this is one of my favorite planetariums in the world. You may not realize this, but this planetarium was designed by the same man who was design consultant for the Air and Space Museum at the Smithsonian and for the planetarium in Boulder, Colorado. That planetarium, the Smithsonian Planetarium and this one are three of my favorites.

The reason for that is because Jim Sharp, the late, great Jim Sharp designed them. This planetarium has great bones. It's a great planetarium to build upon. When it was first built it was the best planetarium of its kind. It will be, again, with all the new technologies that we're going to add to it.

We're here today and tomorrow to begin the good work of getting the details done, so that we have a work plan with a goal of getting this thing reborn in a way that will make all of us proud. We want to use this as our showcase and know that there are a lot of things – there are selfish reasons why we want this to be a great planetarium. We're looking forward to taking lots of people here.

That's all I really want to say. We look forward to working with all of you. Thank you.

MR. GISH:

Thank you, Phil, along with the Konica/Minolta representatives who have been here since nine o'clock this morning starting this process, so it has been relatively a long day for them. Thank you very much.

We won't make you stay any longer. Tomorrow they meet with representatives from DPW to take a look at the construction and the relationship between the County and DPW and obviously the coordination with Konica/Minolta in getting that star projector installed.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Just to let everyone know where we are with this capital project, the contract has been awarded to Konica/Minolta. There are other companies involved like Skyskan. It's a very complicated project. The contract has not been signed yet. We're right now waiting for that moment.

DPW, I believe is working on the contract. It will then go to the County Attorney's Office. Hopefully that won't take too long. It's taking a long time to get here, but we keep making progress. It's just a wonderful thing that Konica/Minolta came out to get a head start on things. They can't wait.

We're waiting tomorrow with Department of Public Works. There is an engineer consultant that's working on this that, again, just to get a head start, we're really going to hit the ground running as soon as that contract is signed.

Thank you, again, for coming.

MR. GROCE:

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.

MR. GISH:

Ron, Development Committee.

MR. BEATTIE:

Okay, Development Committee. In future agendas, Development should probably be separate from Strategic Planning. I think it's confusing.

In terms of the Development Committee, we missed this month. Did we officially give the go-ahead on the website?

MR. GISH:

No, we met with Anthony and Tom. They are analyzing exactly how the website would take place.

MR. BEATTIE:

I think that was a separate issue. If we haven't, we should be giving them the go-ahead soon to redo the website, which is all geared toward self-sufficiency in the shortest term possible for the museum to have a revenue generating website.

We started the work on the take-away instead of, and I'll use my dated term, the mimeographed map that we give to people when they pay good money to come and see our site.

She's not here, but if it's in the public record, I'd like to thank my wife, who is a pilot. She took a photographer up and we got these stunning aerial photographs of the site that we're going to use as the basis for the takeaway in our map, which is also going to be an interactive map on the website. It's all interrelated.

MR. GISH:

Picture 205.

MR. BEATTIE:

Picture 205, very good.

We have started to put the preliminary requirements for the corporate giving brochure, of which if I could take this, which Gretchen pointed out, that this cover was more corporate, and we're redoing the cover for the educational brochure, and this will be the cover to the corporate brochure. We are establishing a calendar of campaigns with targeted revenue goals.

Just a brief note on the Thatched Cottage report, the Thatched Cottage, it's kind of tough to get everybody together for the Committee Meetings, but the Executive Committee did meet.

We put together a list of criteria for that. It started out as a two-page proposal. They have given us a four-page proposal. Obviously, it needs to have a lot more detail than that. We have asked them for a little bit more detail. We haven't yet, but we're about to send them that request. Any questions on the Development Committee?

MR. HAHN:

Yes, the Thatched Cottage proposal. I saw something with the Thatched Cottage. It seems like – I don't know if you put this out to bid yet – did you put this out to bid, and they were the only ones that came back to us? They were the best one, the most likely one?

MR. BEATTIE:

They could not really respond to our RFP. They gave us a proposal, but it didn't have the detailed –

MR. GLASCOCK:

Ron, could I just interrupt. Can I make a recommendation?

MR. BEATTIE:

Absolutely.

MR. GLASCOCK:

No selection has been made. This is still an open process, that there not be a lot of detail talk regarding specific responders because no selection has been made. We don't want it to look inappropriate. Until such time as an official determination has been made, it really needs to be open and fair to all the parties that have responded.

MR. HAHN:

Who else responded?

MR. GISH:

There was a number of other respondents to the RFP.

MR. HAHN:

Who else was a qualified respondent?

MR. GISH:

I think we had probably three that responded to RFP. One was a major firm from New York City. I'd rather not mention the names at this stage of the game, especially if they're still in the running. I will keep them there. But when we looked at the RFPs, a number of them, two of the major ones that responded, really wanted to take over the institution and make it a catering facility. That was the big sort of kicker that sort of held us at bay.

The money was there, however, there was going to be a second tent put up in front of the marine museum. All weekends would be consumed. Normandy Manor, where our administration is, would be turned over to the catering institution in both plans, so that they could run their catering operation.

MR. HAHN:

But that was not the situation with the Thatched Cottage?

MR. BEATTIE:

That's correct.

MR. GISH:

Right.

MR. HAHN:

Because they have a facility a mile away.

MR. GISH:

So in the consideration for that, that was one that we looked at most favorably but still have issues relating to their answer to the RFP.

MR. HAHN:

Well, what's the issue?

MR. GISH:

I don't know whether I should –

MR. GLASCOCK:

I think there is some definition and some –

DR. GITTELMAN:

If there are contract issues, why don't we go into executive session?

MR. GISH:

I think I would have to do that.

MR. HAHN:

I'll make a motion to go into executive session to discuss this issue.

MR. GLASCOCK:

Second.

MR. GISH:

All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries. (Vote: 11/0/0/4
Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant
position.)**

(Executive Session 8:15 – 8:45 p.m.)

MR. GISH:

We are back in session. Steve, can I have a motion, please?

DR. GITTELMAN:

Certainly. We would like to request that the County Attorney review the documents from – I'd like to put in a motion that we refer the

proposal from the Thatched Cottage to the County Attorney, so that the County Attorney's Office can prepare a contract appropriate to move forward on bringing a food service to this facility.

MR. PETERMAN:

I'll second that motion.

MR. GISH:

All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries. (Vote: 11/0/0/4 Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant position.)**

Any questions? Ron, are you done?

MR. BEATTIE:

No, I still have Strategic Planning.

MR. GISH:

Yes, please go ahead.

MR. BEATTIE:

I don't know why I'm getting all the hot button issues, but I'll get right to this. We had our second meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee. This Strategic Planning Committee was formed for a couple of reasons.

The most important of which is to really chart our course to financial self-sufficiency.

The other reason is when our accreditation process and higher education – you guys know about accreditation, right? It really helps that process along.

We've had two meetings, as I mentioned. We have established sub-committees, which are Development, which is headed by me. Education, which is headed by Gretchen; Buildings and Grounds, by Don; and Governance, which is by Noel Gish. We hopefully have the our Friends of the Vanderbilt. We have a neighbor who is also a member of the Vanderbilt, who is heading up the assessment, which is probably the most important part of the Strategic Planning Committee. Then we have Finance, which is headed up by myself. I don't think I missed anything, did I?

MR. GISH:

I don't think so.

MR. BEATTIE:

We have two positions unfilled. We have a representative from a major corporation and a political representative. I have met with Jon Cooper this Monday, and Jon is going to give us two recommendations for those, so we'll have a full committee by the next time we meet. That's it.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Just quickly, as far as the Strategic Planning, included in everyone's packet there is a little section, a publication, "Building a Sustainable Non-Profit Organization that our Strategic Planning Committee will definitely be looking at.

I really like this because it's brand new, so it's got a lot of examples from 2008/2009. I had gone to a session at the AAM conference presented by this person. The little section I pulled out deals with money, deals with some of the benchmarks for museums, percentages, what a healthy institution is and the endowment income, what percentage that should be of the operating budget, and what's the percentage of a healthy income of your staffing costs, for example.

I thought this provided some good examples. If anyone else would like the full booklet, I can get that to all of you. But there is a lot of data out there.

Certainly our neighbors have been wonderful. We have been going back and forth, and we're trying to pull together these kinds of things with the key toward sustainability and obviously money. Although we'll also be looking at more museum kinds of issues, finance is going to be key.

MR. BEATTIE:

For those new members here, the make-up of the committee is not just Board Members. It's Board Members, staff, neighbors, volunteers, outside educators and a student. We're trying to get all our constituencies here so we can chart that.

MR. GISH:

And we do have an outside educator, we do have a student that's on the committee, and we do have a neighbor.

MS. ANKER:

Is that the same committee that Lynne was on?

MR. BEATTIE:

No, totally different.

MR. GISH:

The aim of the Strategic Planning Committee is to put us in a better position to gain grants on down the line. Every time you put in for a major grant, either through New York State or a Federal grant, it is essential for them to know, "How does this fit into your plan?" We have not really had a long-range plan. We need a long-range plan, middle-range plan, and a short-range plan.

Then we need to re-evaluate it over a time period to see where we're going and to make us better able to get those grants that are out there. We just want to be in the forefront. We are accredited. That is a plus, to have a strategic plan. It's going to take about nine months for this to actually come together. We will be in a better position to get those grants that are available. That's one of the key elements involved with that.

MS. ANKER:

If it's okay, can I attend these meetings?

MR. GISH:

Absolutely, positively. In fact, we've got a chair that you can actually— get in touch with Ron. There's an opening for you.

The Director's Report.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Pat Keefe is here. He's our Consultant for Public Relations and is also going to be spending some time with marketing and fundraising events. Pat put together the media coverage. I think everyone has a copy of that. Pat, do you just want to speak briefly about our media and marketing efforts?

MR. KEEFE:

Sure, since I arrived the first week of March, the first thing that Carol and I agreed on was we needed a better, wider, deeper media list. I worked on that right away. I have been adding to it consistently.

I have been working with writers and editors throughout the region to develop – to cultivate and develop professional working relationships with them and building on some of the connection that Carol has already had. We had some great connections with Newsday and a lot of the weekly papers and that kind of thing. I'm trying to get everything we do here listed in every conceivable kind of place and to all our different audiences, adults, kids, teachers, and the general public.

I have been cranking out news releases right and left. The packet that I prepared hopefully shows that we have been bearing some fruit lately. I'm pretty pleased with some of the coverage.

We're always trying to find new ways to generate stories based on the pretty amazing things that are done here.

In addition to that, I have been working with Carol and Elizabeth on the fall gala. I have also been going to a lot of events and doing a lot of photography with the idea in mind that some of it could be used when we expand the website. I'd like to get more images on there, hopefully in video and all kinds of things or just for archival purposes.

We have also been pulling together ideas for future down the line for things like an annual report, newsletters, those kinds of things.

Very quickly, that's what I've been doing for the last several months.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Thanks, Pat.

MS. ANKER:

I love the art on here with the wizard. This is stunning.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We have a part-time young graphic artist who comes in. We have some really great talent who are willing to work part-time.

MR. KEEFE:

Michael is great. He has only been out of school for a couple of years. He's been building a free-lance practice.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We hired him right out of school. He's building his portfolio and at the same time doing wonderful work for us.

MR. KEEFE:

We hope he stays around a while.

MS. ANKER:

Can I ask a question? As a PR type of incentive to get – so the Vanderbilt Museum will stay fresh and these media supplements, we can offer them tickets to the museum to bring them back here. Like the Islanders give out free tickets to corporations, companies and to schools to bring them back. Maybe we could do that and encourage them to be friends with the museum.

MR. KEEFE:

Right.

MR. GISH:

I don't know whether we've done that directly, but we've increased our effort to hand out complementary passes. Carol has done that to individuals who have come in, to school groups, to volunteers who have come either from the County or student groups to make sure that they are aware of who we are and get them to come back in during the good times.

MS. ANKER:

I mean specifically. Again, we're talking media. Give them ten free tickets.

MR. GISH:

Right, and I think that's a distinct possibility.

MR. KEEFE:

One of the things that I've been doing constantly in my conversations with people that I've been cultivating is saying, "You might be a Long Island resident. You might even be a native, but when was the last time you were here? Come on over. Call me any time. I'll walk you around. I'll set you up with Stephanie for a tour of the mansion and the Education Department crew." Most of them say, "I'd love to do it." I'm keeping after them.

MS. ANKER:

My background is PR and marketing. Maybe we could have media day or media week. There are hundreds of papers and radio stations and web logs or whatever. You could invite those people.

MR. KEEFE:

Carol and I were actually talking about that not too long ago about having a day when they come over and have a press lunch or something. Brief them on all aspects of the institution, what they can do here and take them on a tour.

MS. ANKER:

And then give them a little goodie bag with all our stuff. I would really support that. That would be great.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

John, could you get the video running.

MR. GISH:

This is the one done for Cablevision. Lynn Sawicki was involved with this.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

This is part of a promotional effort. This was free airtime by Cablevision, a really nice in-kind contribution. Stephanie worked really hard on this. The hardest part was getting it down to 22 seconds.

(1st Video Presentation)

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Stephanie has been getting calls at 6:00 a.m. This has been showing, and it will be showing – Noel put that all together for us. It's been great.

We have another video to show.

MR. PORKORKY:

This is in "The Vanderbilt Cup Races."

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Stephanie, which program was this one on?

MS. GRESS:

"Neighborhood Journal." It's on Channel 18 on Cablevision.

While we're waiting for that, one of our upcoming events, Tango in the courtyard is July 31, Saturday. This is a wonderful night. We have professional Tango dancers and a trio. It's a really nice, colorful event. It's one of my favorite nights of the year.

The following Friday, August 6, is our fourth annual Alex Torres concert. That's an 11 piece Latin orchestra and Salsa dancing instructions. We were sold out last year. We've gotten sponsorships for the program this year. We're about half way to being sold out. That's another wonderful event if you're available and like to Salsa or watch other people dance.

(2nd Video Presentation)

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Talking about upcoming events, this Sunday is an all car car show. It's the first time we're doing on that particular event. Corvette Club is running it. They are telling us they are expecting around 150 cars. Howard Kroplick will be there with the "Black Beast." Car shows here are generally very, very busy. We hope that that will be a good event.

MR. HAHN:

Do you make any money off of car shows?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, in the past we haven't charged that much. We charge a fee per car, but mostly it's the increased attendance. One car show days we fill the parking lot. We're parking outside. It will be two or three times our normal attendance. Generally car shows do a lot of PR, so it's generally a good thing all the way around for us.

Again, this is the first show although the PR seems to be hitting. Hopefully it will be a busy day. Attendance overall has been very robust so far. I think it could be good.

MR. GISH:

We have been trying to do that by increasing daily activities. Last year was the first Fourth of July that we ran. In fact, we mentioned before that Emily was very much involved, as she was this year. This year was a much bigger success than it was last year.

The car shows – in fact, we won't mention the major brand, but there is a car company that's looking to do a national show here. Corvette, Buick, Oldsmobile, British racing cars – we can have them come in. We'll get a lot of attention and obviously the more revenue, we think we'll make a decent amount. Again, it's opening the doors for specials on things that are happening.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Another event coming up is a depression glass show on Sunday, August 8. That, too, again there's a minimal fee we charge for the vendors, but it's the increase in visitors.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Do you have food vendors at these events?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Sometimes we do, and sometimes the club will arrange something, and we get a fee for the outside vendor.

MR. GISH:

We did this Fourth of July.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Will you have a food vendor for this Sunday?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I think there is a food vendor.

MR. HAHN:

Do you have a policy on this?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, we do have a policy. They have to be licensed. This is part of our problem here.

MR. HAHN:

What do we charge them?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Oh, you mean what do we charge for an outside –

MR. HAHN:

Like if a car club comes in, and they bring in a vendor and the vendor is paying the car club x-amount of dollars –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We do make some money. We negotiate every deal. We have a hard time sometimes on our own even getting a vendor to want to come. Until we build up a good record of attendance and how many people – sometimes I just want the food here. The vendor will come and give us

a little percentage. We work sometimes that way. It's the only way we could get a vendor here.

DR. GITTELMAN:

This Fourth of July we sold out.

MR. GISH:

We have attempted to do that in the past. Last February we attempted to get a food vendor, and believe it or not they couldn't get a health permit from the Suffolk County Board of Health. We had some stumbling blocks with that. Hopefully when we get a catering company, we can have the little café past the planetarium that will do a lot of resolving for at least on-site food services that will be here.

Again, Don has come a long way. When you talk about the machines that are in the back, initially we just had somebody come in, and we were getting a percentage. We have now gotten to the point where we have the machines and are making a greater percentage.

When you say, what are you doing? We're making slow progress. We're making progress to try to make us more financial solid.

MS. ANKER:

Just by the PR on the Fourth of July – was that the first year?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Last year was the first year. It was two days. This year it was just the Fourth of July. It was in a way the perfect storm. I don't know if it will happen again, in that so many municipalities cancelled their fireworks, including Jones Beach.

In Newsday, I think that we were only one of maybe four or five places to go see fireworks, and they named us. They had us in Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We had tremendous PR. We had calls and people coming from Queens all the way out east. We were one of the few places open to the public. We ran out of parking. It was a wonderful successful event.

Just to go through some of the numbers with you, we did charge for vendors. Again it's a growing event. Next year we can say now that we had 1,000 come through. We did get a little over \$1,000 for vendors. We did a raffle donation, admissions for the day, including our mansion tours, there was Shakespeare going on and a few other

things, but it was \$9,000 for the day, which is a huge number for us. Games and food were another \$1,255. There were a few donations.

The gross was \$11,691 – approximately expenses. The programming expenses, for Shakespeare and Alice in Wonderland our arrangement is we take half. We split. Including payroll for the day was \$2,000 for the entire payroll, not including full-time people, which there were a few around. The vent itself with the little odds and ends was about \$700. We were pretty close to about \$3,800 for expenses. There might be a few things here or there, a couple of hours that were spent prior to the event by our event person. That's not included, but basically it looks right now like we netted about \$7,800.

Again for us, that's a huge day. It's four or five times what a normal Sunday is. So we're really happy. The most thrilling part of it is now we know really where we can go next year with this and get corporate sponsors and say, "This is a huge family event. Let's us put your name out there." Food we can do better now because we can get a vendor in. Last year we ran out of food by three or four o'clock.

DR. GITTELMAN:

There were a lot of volunteers that came out to help.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, there were, minus the volunteers, about 30 or 40 volunteers. The music was all volunteers. We had lots of family members. We had five or six of our regular volunteers through Suffolk County programs and other things who volunteers that day as well. Really the increase in staff actually, when I look at the numbers, was fairly minimal to be able to do what we wanted to do.

One of the things overall strategically we have seen – we would love to get a big fix in here, like getting in catering. That will be a big punch in the arm, but for a lot of what we do, we make money on almost every little thing we do. We just need to raise it up and make better use of this facility and the other facilities. That's what we're trying to do on every level, experiencing with adding additional shows. Thursday night we add a five o'clock show. It seems to be working, but we'll analyze it.

We had, while the fireworks were going, a marine veteran singing the Star Spangle Banner. It really was unbelievable. The crowd was all singing. It was great.

MS. ANKER:

I think it was one of the best places I've ever been. Just sitting on the lawn and seeing Asharoken –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, we really have to thank Asharoken.

MS. ANKER:

You could see Asharoken, Connecticut, East Northport, you see everything. It was stunning.

MR. GISH:

We did not pay for the fireworks.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

That was the beauty of it. We also have to thank our next door neighbor who did a beautiful display for us.

DR. GITTELMAN:

There are plenty of things we could do to improve. We could have more food at night. We could continue doing other events into the evening. It will keep growing.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We have plenty of room for –

DR. GITTELMAN:

I bet we could make another –

MR. GISH:

It was a great day. It was a Sunday, everybody was off on Monday. It was a beautiful day. It was the perfect storm.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We also had a wedding on that same weekend.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Saturday night.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Saturday night was the wedding, and Sunday we did the event.

MS. CAMBRIA:

If you had that many people in attendance, it would be a good idea to get a name list from that.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We do have different –

MS. CAMBRIA:

As they come in, get their names.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That's something we can improve upon. We could have sold more memberships.

MS. CAMBRIA:

At the point of entry.

DR. GITTELMAN:

There's a lot more we can do.

MR. GISH:

We do have a membership booth set up.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We did have a membership booth.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Even if they're not going to be members. You just want their names.

MR. GISH:

Yes, there is –

DR. GITTELMAN:

We have the Gretchen Team. We could have brought in another \$20,000.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We do have a little raffle box, which we ask people to put their name in and possible win a free membership.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I have to confess there's \$5 more that somebody stuffed in the hay wagon.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I got that. It's in there.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Emily gave it to you?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, she did. Anyway, there's plenty of room for improvement. I know Noel and I both have experience running a big heritage fair at Smithtown, which we can bring into play here where a sponsorship was a big part of that event. Like I said, now that we can go to people and say, "This is a wonderful community event," I'm sure we're going to be able to do it.

MS. ANKER:

If we could, we may come to a point where you have to be a member as a priority to go to certain events.

MR. GISH:

Again, the element – on the record, it is a Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium. I think it is a place if people in Suffolk County can get to, I'd love to become Vanderbilt exclusive. But since my family didn't come into Plymouth Rock, we probably jumped fence somewhere in New York and sashayed in.

Being solidly middle class, I'd like to keep this – again, that was the object of us staying open when we had the difficult time, to keep the kids coming through here and not to raise the cost for school kids because the insurance for the buses and the trips were going up. We have kept the figures low. We have kept the increases low to get in here. We want people to come into the planetarium and to tour the mansion. It's a museum. It's an educational institution. I'd like to keep it that way.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's my first book. I'm a proud poppa. I want to do a book signing party, and I'll donate the books for free. They sell for \$38 on Amazon.

MR. GISH:

We actually talked about you giving possibly a slide show. We should really talk to you later.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I would love to do that before the –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We're looking at August 19, the day after the August Board Meeting on a Thursday night.

DR. GITTELMAN:

And I want to do Living History on Sunday.

MR. GISH:

We tried to put together a day where we might be able to do a mini slide show inside, no hay rides. It's Thursday, August 19.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We'll be looking at that date. You will get a notice on a book party and debate. If you have time to come down here, that would be great.

And, thank you again, Steve, for bringing his tractor here and doing rides all over the property along with commentary.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Guided tours with 16 people at a clip singing "Green Acres." I had so much fun.

MR. HAHN:

How many people were here?

DR. GITTELMAN:

About 1,000.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

It was on the order of 1,000. At night 530 paid after five o'clock. We know there were people returning from the day because they're fans and members. They lost count of everyone coming in, but from when we looked around, there was on the order of 1,000 at night. Again, during the day I have the numbers for what we had. I've never seen anything like that. It was a busy day for us.

MS. ANKER:

And we had an uninvited guest. I was talking to a friend I grew up with, and our daughters were hanging out in the courtyard, and a raccoon came.

MR. GISH:

And if you sashay out here at the right time –

MR. BEATTIE:

At least it's not in the boathouse now.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

It was a great event. You will be hearing more about the book party.

I just want to move forward to grants. Elizabeth Wayland is our part-time grant writer. She couldn't be here tonight, but since she's started we've been working on grants and have been able to submit a couple of significant ones.

We have been awarded a grant by New York State Senator Marcellino of \$5,000 for our education programs. The funds have not arrived yet; the funds are pending. But that's one successful one.

We have submitted proposals to Senator Flanagan for \$10,000 to support education and to Assemblyman Raia, \$2,500 to support education. We're submitting a grant to New York State Council on the Arts for \$10,000 to support a curatorial apprentice position and Target Foundation, a \$2,000 grant for education programs.

The most recent one, and why I'm bringing this up today, is that New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation – it's a historic preservation request to restore the Yellin ironworks. It's a \$400,000 request. We're very lucky that we can go for those kinds of big projects because we have capital project money to use as a match. We have a capital project. The façade project means ironwork is being part of that project. We do have that funding.

We've gotten very positive feedback from the grant officer, but as part of that – we've already submitted that grant. The deadline was last week, but we need a resolution from the Board, and it was fine to come in a little late. You have in your packages the resolution. If we could vote on that, that would be great.

"Hereby authorizing and directing to file an application for funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provisions of Title IX of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993 in the amount not to exceed \$400,000 and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium for the preservation and restoration of the Yellin ironwork and if appropriate a

conservation easement/preservation covenants to the deed of the assisted property.”

This resolution is to restore all the beautiful ironwork that you see around the property, including the weather vane, the winch at the Marine Museum.

We did receive last year a grant from New York Council on the Arts to catalog the ironwork. That’s an ongoing process. This would be the next step to preserve it. Yellin was a Tiffany of ironwork. If you haven’t noticed before, the next time you come look at ironwork, his work is incredibly significant. We have high hopes for this.

Of course, it’s New York State funding, but the point is we’re getting out there. With Elizabeth on board and working together – Elizabeth will be working with Stephanie in curatorial, we’ll be able to now really start banging out these grants.

We’re not ignoring – the reason I mentioned the \$2,000 ones, we’re going to be going after it all. Elizabeth is very motivated to show her work. As we all know, it’s going to take time. We won’t hear about this grant for nine months or something like that.

MR. GLASCOCK:

Just out of curiosity, is this language suggested language through New York State –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes.

MR. GISH:

Can I have a motion to approve?

MR. BEATTIE:

Motion.

MS. OLDRIN MONES:

Second.

MR. GISH:

All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries. (Vote: 11/0/0/4
Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant position.**

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

One other last thing, you have in your packages the proposed Operating Budget for 2011. This is the budget that we submitted to the County. The Executive Board did approve this budget. I'm sorry I left off the front page that has the fund balance deficit and sort of summarizes this. The fund balance deficit – this budget does not eliminate the fund balance deficit, which is around \$280,000. The County Executive's Office isn't going to be very happy about that, but since I have been Director, and with the Board's direction, we've done budgets that are realistic. Rather than inflating the revenue, we've tried to be as realistic as possible.

For the new Trustees, generally this budget has to be in by June for the following year, but obviously a lot can happen in the next six months. Generally in December we will get together, and we will revise the 2011 budget so that the budget that you'll see will be often a revised budget.

MR. GISH:

We need a motion to go ahead with this. Can we have a motion to formally accept the Operating Budget for 2011?

MR. HAHN:

The summary of the structural deficit I think we probably need that before we can approve this, don't you think?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

The information that would have the fund balance deficit, which is on the order of \$280,000, largely that is the Risk Management liability.

MR. HAHN:

Can we table this for a month?

MR. GISH:

Can you scan that and send it to the members?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I have it on a spreadsheet. I'll get it out tomorrow.

MR. HAHN:

Can we table this until then?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I think so.

MR. HAHN:

It doesn't need to be put in until when? It was due last month?

MR. GISH:

We did not meet in June. We decided to meet the following night. It was a Friends' meeting. We had the following night, so we didn't think we could get the Trustees here for both nights. I think it's one of the few times that I cancelled the Trustees meeting. That's the reason why it's taking place now.

MR. HAHN:

So is this expected by the County before August?

MR. GISH:

They had it in June.

MR. HAHN:

So why do we need to vote on it?

MR. GISH:

We need to –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

It should formally be voted on by the Board.

MR. HAHN:

The County already has it, so why don't we wait until the next meeting to vote on it. Motion to table.

MR. MCKAY:

Second.

MR. GISH:

All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries. (Vote: 11/0/0/4
Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant
position.**

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Just also to keep people up to date, the auditors came in the end of June, and did do the audit. The financial part of the audit is done. Right now we just have management discussions to write some other little pieces. Hopefully by the next meeting we'll have a draft that will be ready to go out. This is the earliest we have had the audit done in many, many years.

MR. GISH:

Yes, we are up to date in our audits and are on time. We were at one particular point almost three years behind in our audits. When I came on we needed to move very, very quickly to catch up to date with audits. That also gives us the availability of going out and getting grants. If you don't have the audits up to date, we're not going to be able to do that. There's a timely audit and a timely function. Some of you may have gotten letters from the auditors asking questions about our oversight and how we deal with finances and how we look at things that we have acquired. Answer that absolutely straight forward. Answer that the best you can. There is no recommendation from the Board of Trustees how you answer that. How do you view the finances of having to do that –

DR. GITTELMAN:

Point of information. The reason we were behind two or three years on the audit is that the auditors could not and refused to agree with the County whether we were covered by FASBE or GASBE and whether or not certain balances belong as part of our statement or whether they belonged as part of the County. In other words, whether or not the buildings and grounds belonged to us or to the County. The County finally decided that they belong to them and the auditor refused to go along with that.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Christopher is requesting five years previous 990's and audits. If you're just looking at the 990's, around 2006 it was \$15 million in assets --

MR. GISH:

It's the reason why I put an RFP for a new auditor.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

But that did delay things nine months at one point, just waiting.

MR. GISH:

Anything else, Carol?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

That's probably more than enough for one night.

MR. GISH:

Since Peter is here, I will, since we were talking very briefly and I'll get Steve's out of the way dealing with the weather vane, which is sitting

in the basement. We would love to get that restored. I will tell you that Peter got the clock working at the mansion. Those of you who were here before seven o'clock will hear the last chime I think at seven, and it's not a European clock as some people had thought it was. It's a Seth Thomas tower clock, American made. When it chimes, it's beautiful. We will not upset the neighbors past seven o'clock. It hasn't chimed in about how many years, Peter?

MR. NEWMAN:

I'm not exactly –

DR. GITTELMAN:

About eight or ten years.

MR. GISH:

Now it's functioning very nicely. Thank you, Peter. That was great. We'll have him working on the weather vane probably by tomorrow.

Very quickly, just to give you an update on where we are since there are a number of projects that we have going on. Cell tower RFPs came in the end of June. That was to answer an earlier question. I was required to issue an RFP by the County on the cell tower. There was a private association –

MR. HAHN:

Getting rid of real property –

MR. GISH:

Initially I had engaged in just a contract with one of the providers. We then back-tracked and then issued an RFP. That came in the end of June. Carol and I met, along with Ron, Don and Gretchen, who were on the committee. We met on July 9 with Don from the Office of Technology for the County and also Ron from DPW to analyze the eight responses we got for the RFP. We narrowed it down to two, which is where we are now.

We met with Robert Lipp from the BRO Monday. I believe it was Monday of this week to assess the financial date and how they allotted the money that we would be getting over a period of time. We analyzed it because there were some proposals where we would get money up front and then there was less over the years. There was one proposal where they gave us \$800,000 upfront and nothing forever after.

Remember it's a 30-year contract so we want to make sure that this goes correctly. There will be people following us who will be burdened and strapped by this. We're trying to make sure that we follow all the procedures. We're going through the County oversight with the Department of Information Technology. Again, that's under the auspices of Gary Quinn and also DPW because they're going to be coming here and obviously using this site.

We're down to two now. We're looking to get answers to a licensing agreement that we asked for in the RFP. Neither of them provided that. Carol is checking references, which she spent this week doing. She has almost completed that. She has gone beyond the references that they listed. She's actually gone to the sites where they built the facilities to see what they think rather than just the references. Carol has really been following through on this to make sure that the provider that we pick is one that pays the bills, that is timely and that Suffolk County likes.

There were providers from both Massachusetts and New Jersey that put applications in. There were some questions about whether they could go along with things like Living Wage that Suffolk County has and also the requirements that DPW put forth. Then again that was part of why we brought in both Don and Ray to meet with us. That was done on the 9th.

The meeting was five hours long. We started at nine o'clock in the morning, and we ran for five hours. That was a full day.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

All the pieces are done. As of yesterday, the two companies got back to me whatever changes they might like to see in the licensing contract. I checked all the references. We got the analysis again looking at the different options. Should we take 55 percent and get that much or 60 percent and get that or an upfront – we thought it would be beneficial to have a professional from BRO give us some advice. We did that, so we got all the pieces. We just have to meet again as a committee I guess.

MR. GISH:

Next we have a proposal for the gift shop. The gift shop remains behind us. We have two individuals who are willing to come in to work with us in updating our gift shop and making it more science oriented for our young people and possibly improve the revenue, which is what we're aiming to do. It's going to be on a commission basis. Besides

selling telescopes there will be things that the kids can use rather than stoneware and expensive jewelry, which none of the third graders have bought this year at all. You guys can sort of sashay in there when you get a chance to take a peak. You'll realize that we need an adjustment probably in the gift shop revenue.

MR. HAHN:

Do you still have freeze-dried ice cream in there?

MR. GISH:

Yes, we do.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

It's our best seller.

MS. CAMBRIA:

So what are you doing, getting consultants to –

MR. GISH:

If Michael was here -- initially we tried to get a group from Connecticut to come down. They were a scientific organization. They were going to sell things related to the planetarium that were more educationally oriented. They came down and looked at it, but they have since bailed out. We haven't found anybody willing to come in –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We were, again, in an effort to generate revenue, we feel the shop is under performing. We looked at a variety of ways – when would a shop be going to come in and maybe be a satellite store. We had long conversations, and we thought we were pretty close. Then with the crash, they pulled out. Since then I've talked to a local children's store and haven't found anyone interested in any kind of partnership.

We did talk with vendors and asked them what they thought. We wanted to try to work out something that's mutually beneficial. We did meet as a committee. They were going to come in and on a small commission basis, not only do the ordering for us and handle some of that, but also manage. Part of it is that our staff is not trained in how to sell. We have a young staff.

Having experienced people here teaching them how to sell things – for example, their first suggestion was that we have to have hands-on stuff in the middle of the room. Let the kids play. If they break it, it doesn't matter. So this is a different philosophy. I think it is working.

It's helping to sell things. Peter is going to be building a little table out here, just made for that hands-on kind of thing. We hope this works out. If not, it's a short-term arrangement.

MR. BEATTIE:

But they estimated that our revenue, I believe they said, within three months would rise three-fold.

MR. GLASCOCK:

Did you receive my comments on that?

MR. GISH:

Yes, we did. Thank you.

MS. CAMBRIA:

Who is they?

MR. GISH:

I'm not going to publicly put that on the record, but I can give that information to you later.

MS. CAMBRIA:

No, I don't need it. I would just like a description.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

It's a businessman and his wife who own a camera store and telescopes. They used to own a chain of stores. We've had a long relationship as an institution because of the astronomy. But they also go to different kinds of astronomy days and fairs all over the country marketing and selling children's – and hands-on and other kinds of things. They were here on Astronomy Day, and they sold more than three times what we did that day. I saw how they were selling. Our staff was going over to them. We need help in that area.

MR. GISH:

Initially it was just a conversation.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Yes, they said if I were there, I'd do this and that.

MR. CAMBRIA:

So you're going to give them a shot.

MR. GISH:

Yes.

MS. ANKER:

One other thing that I think will sell really well and sells really well at craft fairs around Long Island is minerals, stones, dinosaur bones. Kids really like that. That would be perfect with what we have here.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We're now entering the phase where the entire Motor Parkway's races and some of Willie's own books are now public domain. They are being copied and sold by someone who is making a profit. Willie's first book was from in 1898 or 1899, and that is historically a very important book because it happens to be considered the template for the AAM guides. That book is being sold on E-Bay. We should do the same thing. We just have to consider it.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

I noticed that for sale on E-Bay, the 1918 book and I've been asking Stephanie, "What can we do?"

DR. GITTELMAN:

We could sell all of his books.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

Stephanie looked into that. I absolutely agree, along with yours.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I can help you with that, if you want, but I'm just suggesting before someone else does it, and they're going to do it, we might as well go into the business of –

MR. GISH:

If we can find out what the prices are on republication –

DR. GITTELMAN:

I'd be glad to help out with this.

MR. GISH:

I don't think we need a motion on that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I just want to say that it's important and it's a curatorial decision. It's like I'm only suggesting it. I think we should look into it. I can't tell

you what the profit will be or what it costs, but the bottom line is that I think we should consider that, as well as photographs. There is no reason why – I wrote a book out of this place. We have fabulous archives. We have historically important photographs that are sitting there and are just not raising any money for us. We could consider that.

MR. GISH:

If somebody else is producing the books that we have in the first edition and making money on it, then obviously this should produce by the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium would probably have a little bit more weight.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We could also write introductions to increase its value. There are lots of ideas that we can do. I'd be glad to help with this.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

In conjunction with what Ron is doing with our website and getting an on-line marketing effort there, our reach would be huge with, as you're saying, the photographs of cars in particular seem to sell. We have the incredible fish prints.

But Stephanie has been researching this.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We would never do this without bringing Stephanie into the picture.

MS. GRESS:

We looked into anything that was published 1976 –

DR. GITTELMAN:

In other words, it's 70 years plus 15, so it's 95 years. This is 1915. I just finished the second book on Vanderbilt when he went down to Lusitania, 1915, so I know what the date is. The stuff is in public domain from 1915 and before. Just about everything we have on the Motor Parkway can be taken from us, published by anyone, and they can go into business. Why shouldn't we do this?

By the way, the Library of Congress is doing this.

MS. ANKER:

Shouldn't we get the rights on them?

DR. GITTELMAN:

We have the rights.

MS. ANKER:

But shouldn't we legally –

MS. GRESS:

It's public domain.

MR. HAHN:

Once it's in public domain usually the Columbia Library will scan it and put it on the web. I'm not saying it's a bad idea. Some people still read books, I hope. I try not to. I have everything right here. If you think about the investment of printing books, it's a lot of --

MR. GLASCOCK:

Google is scanning – I'm kind of familiar with the lawsuit – Google is scanning all of these things and –

DR. GITTELMAN:

But my point is different. We have books that he wrote from 1918 on that are not public domain that are gorgeous that we could probably –

MR. GLASCOCK:

Do we have rights to them?

DR. GITTELMAN:

We have the rights to them.

MR. GISH:

They're still not falling into public domain.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That's a curatorial decision, and you're not so happy with that.

MS. GRESS:

No, I said I'm not sure that they're not in public domain already. We have to check that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I checked it because my publisher busted my chops. That's how I know. I had to go through legal on that.

MR. GISH:

Why don't we look into it? Stephanie, you can just double-check and let me know. Steve, if you have anything from your publisher, let me know. We'll see if we can put something together.

That's the gift shop. We need a motion to approve an agreement with the vendor. Does everybody want to look at the agreement? Do you want to leave it up to the Director?

MR. HAHN:

Can we ask the Director to go into negotiations and we can vote on the contract when it's ready?

MR. GISH:

Motion by Chris.

MS. GLASCOCK:

Second.

MR. GISH:

All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries. (Vote: 11/0/0/4 Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant position.** We'll have that very shortly.

Ron did mention that the brochure was ready to go out. Again, we'll try to get a copy of that for you. That's all that has been accomplished. Also, Gretchen made note of the cover change. That's again something we're attempting a little bit earlier this year than it was last.

We did have a ceremony here on July 16 for a staff member that passed away. If anybody gets a chance to sneak out into the planetarium courtyard, there was a bench that was donated. Jennifer Jimenez was a young lady who was only here a few months. I met her when she started. She was very well liked by the staff. Money was raised by not only staff members but by her family. There is a bench dedicated outside.

We know we have a brick campaign, which Ron began a lot earlier. Two bricks were donated with her name on it that are in the courtyard also. A bench was purchased and the bricks were bought. They also purchased a rose bush that's gone into the garden. It will be taken care of by the Centerport Garden Club near here, also.

By the way, that lady that you thought was casing the place before was Kathy Schneider. Cathy can't come on Mondays when everybody else comes, so she comes after work and picks the weeds. I'm not going to say she can't do that. So she was getting here tonight at seven o'clock.

MR. BEATTIE:

It's not that we purchased it, but the staff raised the money.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

The staff, Jennifer's colleagues – in fact, I talked to Jennifer's aunt today. She called. The event that Lorraine and our planetarium put together was so meaningful – there were about 100 people here who came from Maine. She was only 22. It was so meaningful to be here in this place. They felt such warmth here.

They want to do this every year. They would like to do a fundraiser for us every year on her birthday. That was the day of her birthday. She would have been 23. They'd like to do a fundraiser every year, start a campaign, invite everyone who came and other people to raise money to support something we're talking about, different programs that maybe could be in her name, whether it's an exhibit here or I had suggested maybe a program to support underprivileged – we're still talking about what might work for them.

Just one example of the magic of this place – I thank Noel for coming and saying a few words as well, but Jennifer worked as a projectionist in the booth. She worked well. She used to go out to the rose garden and enjoy the view. Her family had just been here for the mother's birthday. They just said what a wonderful feeling it was. I think this is just the beginning of that kind of memorial for people in a way of remembering her. We definitely look forward to Jennifer's day next year, as well.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Carol, was that the lady that helped me with the –

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

No, she also passed away. Carol Lindsay was a woman who first came to me as a researcher at Smithtown. Her passion was the Titanic and that period. She did wonderful research over there. When I came over here, she fell in love with Lilly Vanderbilt and Alfred. She had the time and the interest of a scholar. She didn't have that background, but she was a scholar. She was a researcher. She had the opportunity to

go to Manhattan and just spend days and days doing research that we all wish we could do. She helped Steve. She was passionate about the Vanderbilt. We will remember her.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Let me put in a brick for her, too.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We miss Carol, another wonderful volunteer.

MR. GISH:

Yes, truly. Any other business?

MR. BEATTIE:

I have one more thing that I should have brought up as part of the Treasurer's Report. My meeting with Legislator Cooper on Monday, Lora looked into this, too. It looks like the endowment is going to – that the contract is going to be signed. It should be any day now.

MS. GELLERSTEIN:

It's been signed.

MR. GISH:

That's great news.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I have old news. I didn't write that book myself. I had help from everybody. It was truly the staff that helped. I just want you to know that it was a labor of love for me. Everybody helped. If I didn't have to dedicate it to my kids, I would have dedicated to the people here. Let me just say it that way.

In one chapter, Stephanie and I sat down and closed our eyes and we dreamt – I just want you to know how intimately the staff helped. We literally closed our eyes, sat in your office, and we dreamt what that room would be like if Willie had gone there with the Astors, which he never did. We did it. That's the way I wrote it.

I just want you to understand that this was really this place's book. I just want you to know that. That's how I feel about it. If you don't read books, you're going to have to.

MR. HAHN:

No, I read books. I will definitely read your books, Steve, without a doubt.

DR. GITTELMAN:

This was truly a labor of love coming from a lot of people. It was one of the reasons why I want to do Living History on Sunday is because I haven't been able to, for the people in the Living History and ask what their taste is and to ask them if they think he was really like that. We have a fabulous volunteers, which is our hidden treasure. It was a wonderful experience.

MR. GISH:

Thank you, Steve. Any other business?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

One more thing. September 25 is our Centennial Celebration, our annual fundraiser. We're very proud to be honoring Legislator Jon Cooper. He is nearing the end of his term at the Legislature. How many years, Lora?

MS. GELLERSTEIN:

Ten years.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

He's certainly been a friend to the Vanderbilt through many ups and downs. It's appropriate that at this time, as he ends that role that we stop a minute. It's appropriate.

Again it's the centennial of the estate. Vanderbilt first arrived on the Neck in 1910. It's going to be a great, fun event. The invitations will be going out next week. If anyone has a mailing list of people they would like to see the invitations go to, please let me know. I will also be probably mailing at least ten invitations to each of you so that you can personally address and send them along to your friends.

MR. HAHN:

Is there a corporation that they're honoring? Somebody that would be writing a check? I love Jon, and I know he probably writes a check out, too but --

MR. GISH:

I'm not going to give you the name but I had a corporate honoree on for one month and Monday they pulled out. Thinking that their

recognition would bring them too much notoriety, people asking them for money. I was under the assumption that they were going to be there. We were ready to send out the invitations. I'm telling you it was a month that they were on board, and then at the last second, they pulled out.

MS. ANKER:

Are we going to have a mystery guest?

MR. GISH:

No, I'm not going to do that because they have supported efforts that I have made, and I expect them to be on-board again. Maybe next year we'll have them on. It's just not going to happen this year. There are things that we can have control over. Jon was nice enough to come on board very early. In fact, Lora took the phone call and the email from me and got back to me with 40 minutes and said he would be honored. Unless Jon pulls out tomorrow, Jon will be our honoree. I think that's fine. I would like to be able to do that, because we're not going to be – there will be no issue relating someone running for re-election. He has supported me in the last two years, and I think that's key.

MR. BEATTIE:

I'm sure there will be a lot of corporations that will want to be there for Jon.

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We do have sponsorships. You will see that on the invitation different levels. We have a nautical theme.

MR. GISH:

There will be very little talking. It will be a night where we will do our honoring very quickly. We expect a band and dancing and dinner. We expect it to be a fun filled evening. It will not just be a talkathon, as it was tonight.

MR. HAHN:

When is it?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

September 25, a Saturday night.

MS. ANKER:

Will we have a special guest, like Billy Joel or someone?

MS. GHIORSI-HART:

We'll talk about that at a future date.

MR. BEATTIE:

Motion to adjourn.

MS. OLRDIN MONES:

Second.

MR. GISH:

Any other new business? All in favor? Opposed? **Motion carries.**
(Vote: 11/0/0/4 Absent: Mr. Olivieri, Mr. DeLuise & Mr. Bottomley. One vacant position. We'll have that very shortly.

(Mr. Noel Gish adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.)

Ng:ap

Attachments



June 30, 2010

Ms. Stephanie Gress
Director of Curatorial
Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum
180 Little Neck Rd.
Centerport, NY 11721

Dear Ms. Gress:

We hope you enjoyed taking part in June 11 PSA Day, your opportunity to deliver your message to our community via cable TV. Enclosed is a DVD copy.

Your PSA is scheduled to air cross-channel on a variety of cable networks from July 26 through August 29.

Networks on which your PSA campaign may air include: ABC Family, AMC, Animal Planet, BET, Biography, Bravo, Centric, CMT, CNBC, Comedy, Discovery Science, E!, ESPN Classics, ESPN2, ESPNNews, Food, Fox Soccer Channel, Fuse, FX, G-4, Golf, Great American Country, Game Show, Hallmark, Headline News, HGTV, History International, Investigative Discovery, Logo, Military, MSG, MSG Plus, MSNBC, MTV, MTV2, National Geographic, Oxygen, Planet Green, Soap, Spike, Syfy, SNY, Speed, Learning Ch, Travel, TV Land, TruTV, Versus, VH-1, WE, Weather Ch or Yes.

In September we will send you an affidavit, stating the exact number of times your PSA aired and the value this represents. We would appreciate your forwarding a copy of any printed materials mentioning our partnership with you.

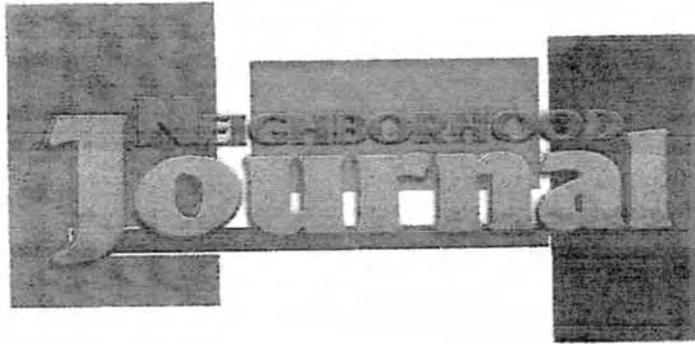
We hope our PSA campaign will help you further your mission, and we offer our best wishes for continuing success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Bocchieri Gilroy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Joan Bocchieri Gilroy
Director, Government Affairs

enclosure



June 14, 2010

Dear Ms. Gress,

On behalf of Cablevision's Neighborhood Journal, I would like to thank you for your enthusiastic participation in our show. Your involvement certainly enhanced our program and helped us to carry out our mission of providing viewers with fun, exciting, and informative local programming.

Neighborhood Journal is a half-hour magazine format show that features Long Island and its various people, places, and events. Because our show airs seven days a week and several times each day, we have a unique opportunity that allows us to keep our audience constantly informed. We believe it is important for our viewers to be aware of the many wonderful things happening in their own backyards.

Enclosed please find a copy of our last edition of Neighborhood Journal, highlighting the Vanderbilt Cup Races. I hope you enjoy the final product that our entire crew here at Neighborhood Journal helped to put together.

Thank you again for helping us complete another chapter in our Neighborhood Journal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joanna Venditto".

Joanna Venditto
Neighborhood Journal Producer



SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM
Board of Trustees Meeting
July 21, 2010
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|--|-----------------|
| I. | Introduction of Guests | |
| II. | Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting | |
| III. | Treasurer's Report/ Finance Committee | R. Beattie |
| IV. | Development/Strategic Planning Committee | R. Beattie |
| | Public Relations | P. Keeffe |
| | Grants | E. Wayland |
| V. | Education Committee | G. Mones Oldrin |
| VI. | Buildings and Grounds | D. McKay |
| VII. | Executive Director's Report | C. Ghiorso Hart |
| VIII. | President's Report | N. Gish |
| IX. | Old Business | |
| X. | New Business | |
| XI. | Adjourn | |

SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM

Treasurer Report

May 2010

	Actual May	Budget May	Variance
Revenue			
Admission	\$ 60,904	\$ 61,000	\$ (96)
Membership	\$ 1,310	\$ 3,830	\$ (2,520)
Museum Store	\$ 8,231	\$ 9,000	\$ (769)
Special Events	\$ 1,304	\$ 8,000	\$ (6,696)
Suffolk County Funds	\$ 115,416	\$ 57,791	\$ 57,625
Endowment	35,000	20,833	\$ 14,167
Site Use	\$ 19,730	\$ 33,000	\$ (13,270)
Donations & Gifts	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ (5,000)
Other General	\$ 112	42	\$ 70
Total Revenue	\$ 242,007	\$ 198,496	\$ 43,511
Expenses			
Salaries & Wages	\$ 76,408	\$ 77,333	\$ (925)
Benefits	\$ 16,773	\$ 21,625	\$ (4,852)
Maintenance & Equipment	\$ 4,344	\$ 8,583	\$ (4,239)
Insurance	\$ 5,800	\$ 6,833	\$ (1,033)
Professional	\$ 14,257	\$ 20,416	\$ (6,159)
Museum Store	\$ 2,291	\$ 4,000	\$ (1,709)
Telephone	\$ 2,296	\$ 2,500	\$ (204)
Utilities	\$ 14,092	\$ 14,000	\$ 92
Supplies, Programs, Gala	\$ 853	\$ 8,000	\$ (7,147)
General Expenses	\$ 2,089	\$ 4,210	\$ (2,121)
Total Expenses	\$ 139,203	\$ 167,500	\$ (28,297)
Excess / Deficiency	\$ 102,804	\$ 30,996	\$ 71,808

**SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM
PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2011**

		UNADJUSTED		
		ACTUAL	ESTIMATED	Request
		2009	2010	2011
DEPARTMENT INCOME				
08 2089	Special Events	89,534	140,000	140,000
08 2090	Museum Admissions	239,530	275,000	300,000
08 2091	Planetarium Admissions	352,632	385,000	400,000
08 2093	General Membership Fees	16,266	36,000	40,000
08 2094	Corporate Membership Fees	4,900	10,000	15,000
08 2095	Site Use	127,544	150,000	160,000
TOTAL DEPARTMENT INCOME		830,406	996,000	1,055,000
USE OF MONEY & PROPERTY				
08 2401	Interest & Earnings	155	500	500
08 2655	Minor Sales	46,089	60,000	80,000
08 2705	Gifts & Donations	53,396	60,000	40,000
08 2755	Endowment Income	45,500	250,000	250,000
	Suffolk County / Hotel/Motel Tax	705,074	693,500	705,000
08 2770	Other	1,992	0	
TOTAL USE OF MONEY & PROPERTY		852,206	1,064,000	1,075,500
TOTAL REVENUE		1,682,612	2,060,000	2,130,500

		UNADJUSTED	ESTIMATED	AUDIT
		2009	2010	2011
4000	CONTRACTED SERVICES			
4010	Telephone & Telegraph	28,230	30,000	30,000
4020	Light, Power & Water	102,383	130,000	115,000
4310	Employee Misc. Expense	120	500	500
4330	Travel, Employee Contracts	715	1,000	1,000
4560	Fees for Service, Non-employees	238,170	245,000	170,000
4830	Auto Liability			
4890	Insurance Premiums	85,764	82,000	90,000
	TOTAL CONTRACTED SERVICES	455,382	488,500	406,500
8000	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
8280	Retirement	28,803	24,000	30,000
8330	Social Security	63,487	68,000	68,000
8340	Workmen's Compensation	13,249	22,000	20,000
8350	Unemployment Insurance	8,433	10,000	10,000
8360	Health Insurance	114,812	115,000	120,000
8380	Benefit Fund Contribution	16,916	17,500	18,000
	MTA	3,000	3,000	3,000
	TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	248,700	259,500	269,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	1,843,121	2,060,000	2,085,500

**SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM
TREASURER REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2010**

	Actual January	Actual February	Actual March	Actual April	Actual May	Budget June	Budget July	Budget August	Budget September	Budget October	Budget November	Budget December	Project Year End	Business Plan	Dollar Variance
REVENUE															
EARNED INCOME															
Admissions	42,185	55,980	55,539	61,151	60,904	47,000	71,500	74,500	36,000	40,000	57,000	37,000	638,759	660,000	(21,241)
Membership	1,065	10,299	510	2,592	1,310	3,830	3,830	3,830	3,830	3,830	3,830	3,870	42,626	46,000	(3,374)
Museum Store	2,259	6,037	5,558	4,919	8,231	6,000	5,000	6,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	5,000	58,014	60,000	(1,986)
Special Events	1,403	18,376	4,235	2,314	1,304	8,000	20,000	20,000	50,000	4,000	8,000	8,000	145,633	150,000	(4,367)
Suffolk County Funds	0	0	0	0	115,416	57,791	57,791	57,791	57,791	57,791	57,791	57,799	519,961	693,500	(173,539)
Endowment	0	20,000	55,000	0	35,000	20,833	20,833	20,833	20,833	20,833	20,833	20,837	255,835	250,000	5,835
Site Use	6,520	6,947	2,091	3,363	19,730	15,000	15,000	14,000	18,000	6,000	8,000	5,000	119,651	140,000	(20,349)
Donations & Gifts	0	485	0	356	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	35,841	60,000	(24,159)
Other General	116	98	204	175	112	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	999	500	499
Total Earned Income	53,558	118,222	123,138	74,870	242,007	163,496	198,996	201,996	194,496	140,496	163,496	142,548	1,817,319	2,060,000	(242,681)
EXPENSES															
Salaries & Wages	67,211	60,571	68,086	71,782	76,408	77,333	77,333	77,333	77,333	77,333	77,333	77,337	885,393	928,000	(42,607)
Benefits	17,362	15,648	19,226	15,455	16,773	21,625	21,625	21,625	21,625	21,625	21,625	21,625	235,839	259,500	(23,661)
Maintenance & Equip	4,987	2,523	3,736	5,762	4,344	8,583	8,583	8,583	8,583	8,583	8,583	8,587	81,437	103,000	(21,563)
Insurance	6,800	8,129	6,982	6,982	5,800	6,833	6,833	6,833	6,833	6,833	6,833	6,837	82,528	82,000	528
Professional	11,629	14,355	13,153	8,057	14,257	20,416	20,416	20,416	20,416	20,416	20,416	20,424	204,371	245,000	(40,629)
Museum Store	340	3,247	3,554	2,986	2,291	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,000	30,418	35,000	(4,582)
Telephone Communic.	2,883	2,386	2,358	2,362	2,296	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	29,785	30,000	(215)
Utilities	13,875	11,382	15,865	9,601	14,092	15,000	19,000	18,000	19,000	19,000	15,000	17,000	186,815	200,000	(13,185)
Supplies, Pigrm., Bail	1,554	12,614	3,451	6,988	853	8,000	8,000	13,000	23,000	15,000	11,000	14,000	117,460	127,000	(9,540)
General Expenses	1,178	5,947	3,478	12,691	2,089	4,210	4,210	4,210	4,205	4,205	4,205	4,205	54,833	50,500	4,333
Total Expenses	127,819	136,802	139,889	142,666	139,203	167,500	171,500	175,500	185,495	177,495	169,495	175,515	1,908,879	2,060,000	(151,121)
Excess / Deficiency of Revenue	(74,261)	(18,580)	(16,751)	(67,796)	102,804	(4,004)	27,496	26,496	9,001	(36,999)	(5,999)	(32,967)	(91,560)	0	(91,560)



Media Coverage – March-July 2010

JULY

- Feature with photo on “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” at the VM (*Newsday*, July 19, 2010)
- “Tango in the Courtyard” listed in Long Island events calendar (*The New York Times*, July 17, 2010)
- Wizard University details in Long Island business magazine calendar (*Networking*, July 2010)
- Vanderbilt featured in Long Island “staycation” story (*Examiner.com*, July 14, 2010)
- Feature and photo slide show on VanderFest (*Huntington Patch*, July 7, 2010)
- Feature on the Vanderbilt and other Gold Coast mansions, with large photo of Vanderbilt mansion (*Newsday*, July 2, 2010)
- VanderFest feature and photos (*The Long Islander*, July 1, 2010)
- VanderFest details in *Pennysaver* publication (*Town Crier*, July 1, 2010)

JUNE

- Televised announcement of VanderFest, other Fourth of July events on local television (*News 12 Long Island*, June 30, 2010)
- Program details and mansion photo in Summer 2010 Fun Guide (*Newsday*, June 2010)
- VanderFest article and photo (*Huntington Patch*, June 30, 2010)
- Feature, photo on Vanderbilt Centennial (*Huntington Pennysaver*, June 30, 2010)
- Article on VanderFest (*American Towns*, June 28, 2010)
- VanderFest article, photo (*Village Tattler*, June 24, 2010)
- Wizard University (*Huntington Patch*, June 2010)
- Short article, part of longer feature on Long Island travel in United Airlines magazine (*Hemispheres*, June 2010)

- Article, photos, event details in *Village Connection's* seasonal guide (*Summer in the Village*, Summer 2010)
- Feature on Gold Coast Mansions Historic Long Island group with photo of the Vanderbilt (*Newsday's Explore LI.com*, June 10, 2010)
- Wizard University article *Newsday* publication (*What's Happening on Long Island*, June 2010)
- First-person comments on the museum, plus lots of photos (*Rainy Day Destinations*, June 8, 2010)
- Vanderbilt Centennial (*Village Tattler*, June 7, 2010)
- Museum details plus T Pool photo in *Newsday* publication (*What's Happening on Long Island*, June 2010)
- Vanderbilt featured in Summer Fun on Long Island guide (*The New York Times*, June 6, 2010)

MAY

- Feature with photos on the Vanderbilt summer car-show lineup (*The Long Islander*, May 13, 2010)
- Item plus image on Ed Kranepool's appearance at StoryTime (*Newsday*, May 13, 2010)
- Article on NY Mets' Ed Kranepool and StoryTime program (*Huntington Patch*, May 11, 2010)
- NY Mets' Ed Kranepool/StoryTime event (*American Towns*, May 2010)

APRIL

- Vanderbilt Museum announcement seeking volunteers (*Huntington Patch*, April 21, 2010)
- Article and photo on the Vanderbilt's Astronomy Day (*American Towns*, April 2010)
- Detailed article on museum and programs, on field-trip resource site (*Are We There Yet?* April 2010)
- Details on child-related programs, including Wizard University (*NY Metro Parents*, April 2010)
- Detailed program info on Planetarium shows (*NY Metro Parents*, April 18, 2010)
- Easter Bunny Breakfast (*NY Metro Parents*, April 3, 2010)
- Easter Bunny Breakfast article and photo on events site (*Who Fish*, April 3, 2010)
- Short Bunny Breakfast article (*Long Island Parent*, April 3, 2010)

MARCH

- Easter Bunny Breakfast article (*Newsday.com*, March 31, 2010)
- Easter Bunny Breakfast (*Village Tattler*, March 31, 2010)
- Brief article on Image Cycling program (*Little Apple.net*, March 30, 2010)
- Easter Bunny Breakfast (*NY Charities.org*, March 2010)
- Museum collections mentioned in Obscura Day item (*The New Yorker*, March 22, 2010)
- Easter Bunny Breakfast details on parent-kid events website (*Mommy Poppins*, March 16, 2010)
- Laser Beatles show article (*Newsday's Explore LI.com*, March 15, 2010)
- Bunny Breakfast, part of feature on Easter events on Long Island (*Associated Content*, March 2010)

ADVERTISING

- Vanderbilt featured in Summer Fun on Long Island guide (*The New York Times*, June 6, 2010)
- Vanderbilt ad in Summer 2010 Fun Guide (*Newsday*, June 2010)
- Wizard University on back cover (*Huntington Pennysaver*, May 26, 2010)

MISCELLANEOUS

- VanderFest in Pennysaver publication (*Town Crier*, July 1, 2010)
- Planetarium show details in New York City publication (*City Guide NY*, March 28, 2010)
- Brief description of the Vanderbilt on official NYS Tourism site (*I Love NY*, April 2010)
- Led Zeppelin laser show (*Upcoming*, March 26, 2010)
- General info listing in newspaper and on website (*The Long Islander*, March 4, 2010)
- Bunny Breakfast (*Newsday's Explore LI.com*, March 30, 2010)
- General museum details (*eHow*, May 2010)
- Mission and museum details (*Life on Long Island*, Summer 2010)

Under the stars, all the Island's a stage

Originally published: July 16, 2010 11:59 AM

Updated: July 19, 2010 12:35 PM

By STEVE PARKS steve.parks@newsday.com

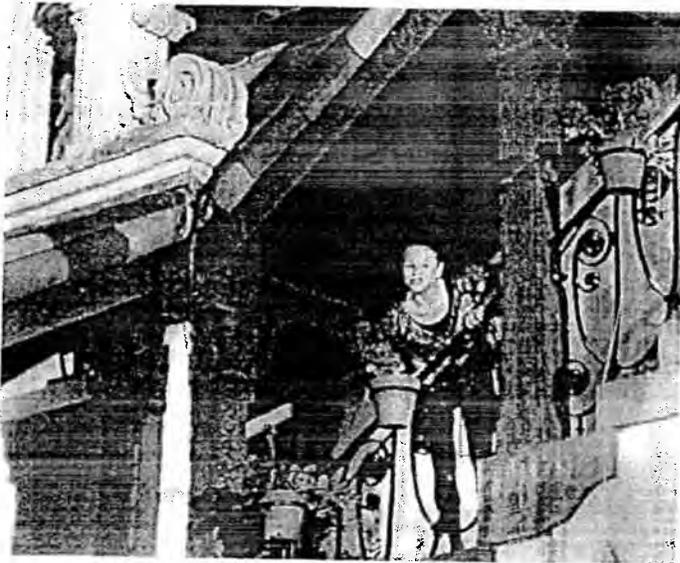


Photo by Danielle Finkelstein

Actors play in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," on Friday night at the Vanderbilt Museum Mansion in Centerport as part of the Arena's Players Shakespeare festival in the courtyard. (July 11, 2010)

"Outdoors is the cool thing about it," said Melissa Amarianos of Holtsville, who brought a new friend - Zachariah Cowen of Dayton, Ohio - she met at a party.

"I'm very happy she suggested it," said Cowen, sipping wine and munching strawberries. Picnickers enjoy a rich-man's view of Northport Harbor, glimpsed from the sloping lawn outside the courtyard's back entrance.

No fools these mortals be.

WHEN | WHERE 8 p.m. Fridays and 7 p.m. Sundays, through Aug. 29, at Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport

GOOD TO KNOW Although folding metal chairs are set up, bring a lawn chair for comfort. (No rain location.)

INFO \$15, arenaplayers.org, 516-293-0674

It's summertime, and outdoor theater is easy: The lighter side of Shakespeare, lush romantic musicals, singing and swinging comedies - they all play out under the stars on a Long Island stage.

THE BARD HOLDS COURT

What fools these mortals be!

Foolishness is confined to the stage in Arena Players' rendition of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Mortals who attended a July 4 performance behaved quite sensibly. For 15 years, Frederic De Feis has directed Shakespeare in the courtyard of the Spanish Revival Vanderbilt mansion where, in summers past, Romeo ardently climbed the stairs to Juliet's yonder clock tower perch. As the sun sets and the moon rises, you'd swear the heavenly orbs are moving to the director's cues.

The New York Times

July 15, 2010

Events on Long Island

CENTERPORT Vanderbilt Museum “Tango in the Courtyard: A Milonga.” Nelson and Madalyn Avila will tango to the music of the Maurizio Najt Tango Trio and teach dance steps to audience members. July 31 at 6 p.m. \$20. Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Road.

vanderbiltmuseum.org; (631) 854-5555.

Networking[®]

M A G A Z I N E

July 2010

Fifth of July, a funny and moving play written by Sag Harbor's own Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lanford Wilson. Reunites a group of friends and former activists drawn together again to scatter the ashes of a relative and friend who has died. \$55 and \$65. www.baystreet.org, 631-725-9500 or in person at the Box Office on the Long Wharf, Sag Harbor, open daily from 11 am to 6 pm.

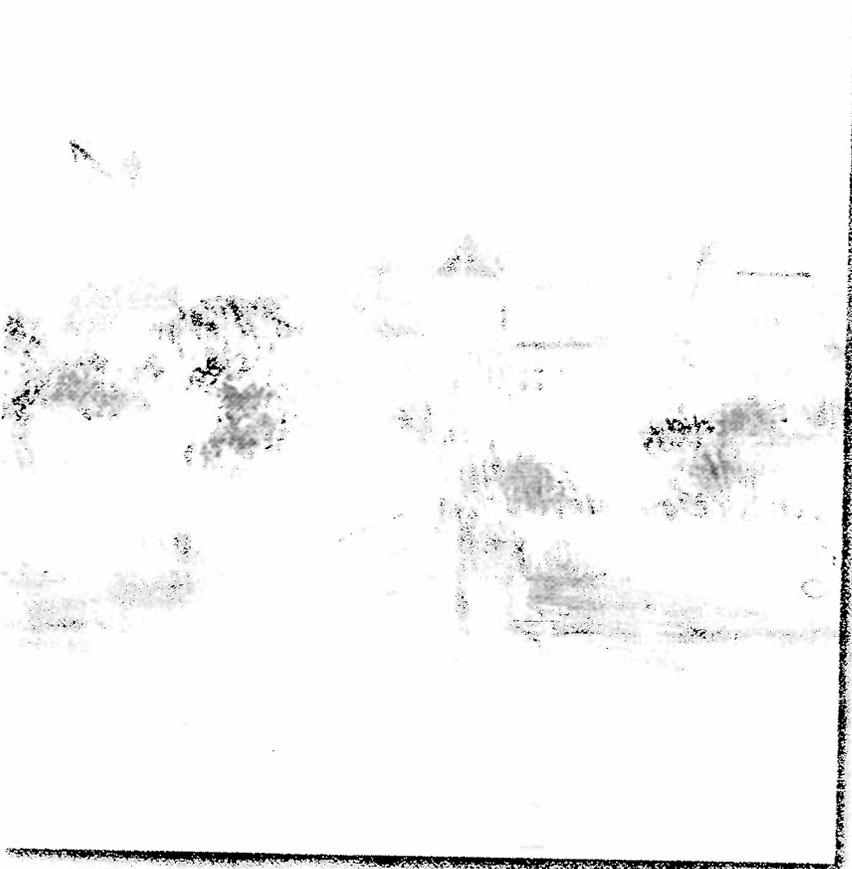
Great South Bay Music Festival. 3 stages, 46 bands, 3 days. July 9, 10, 11. Shorefront Park, Patchogue. Free parking, kids free. www.greatsouthbaymusicfestival.com

Briarcliffe College announces opening of a permanent art gallery at Bethpage location on Stewart Avenue. Gallery open to the general public during the College's regular Monday to Saturday business hours, with free admission and parking. Faculty exhibit runs through July 8, followed by The Living Classroom scheduled to begin July 15. Email galleries@bcl.edu.

Wizard University: A Summer of Mystery, Adventure and Fun at the Vanderbilt Museum. Second Annual Summer Program for kids ages 6-12. Four, one-week courses from 9 am to 3 pm. Explore the planetarium, marine-life museum, bird and ethnographic-artifact room, animal habitat room, the historic mansion and the rolling, wooded grounds of the 43-acre estate. Hands-on fun include music, stories, games, slimy experiments to take home. www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

Arts & Entertainment

JULY AND AUGUST
ACROSS LONG ISLAND



Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center 7th Annual House and Garden Tour Fundraiser. Friday, July 16, 11 am to 4 pm

Surprising sightseeing staycations

July 14, 10:43 AM Long Island Travel Safety Examiner Grettel Deane



Enjoy entertaining summer events at the breathtaking Vanderbilt Mansion and Planetarium.

Enjoy a sightseeing vacation right on Long Island's humble backyard. Visit an era gone-by, a period of opulence that will never return. The amazing mansions on Long Island's Gold Coast are open for sightseeing and entertainment throughout the summer season.

Tango, Beatles, Shakespeare, and more at the Vanderbilt Mansion.

Eagle's Nest is a magnificent Spanish Revival style mansion, perched above Northport Harbor, built for William K. Vanderbilt II as a bachelor's retreat. This beautiful structure has everything one would find in historic buildings in Europe and includes lavish furnishings, art, family portraits, even gargoyles.

The breathtaking grounds are "a must see" and include a cobblestone courtyard, lawns meadows, ponds, and shoreline enough to stroll an entire day, enjoy a picnic and more.

Enjoy a laser show to the tunes of the Beatles, Pink Floyd, or Led Zeppelin at the Vanderbilt Planetarium located on the grounds. Tango in the courtyard with legendary Argentinean dancers or Salsa to a highly acclaimed Latin orchestra. For a calendar of events and other details visit [Vanderbilt Museum](#).

Tour a mansion, stroll through the gardens, enjoy "al fresco" dining, and relax under a blanket of stars at Old Westbury Gardens.

Explore the splendid, Charles II-style mansion, former home of magnate John S. Phipps. The 70-room mansion dates from 1906 and it contains fabulous fine furnishings and art.

Stroll 200 acres of pristine gardens, landscaped grounds, woodlands, ponds, and lakes. Stop for a picnic in the beautiful picnic area or sit at the Cafe in the Woods, which offers an array of delicious meals.

Bring a blanket and enjoy a musical evening under the stars with free performances that include classical music, tango, jazz, and more. For details, check the [Summer Concert Series](#).

Attend a wedding exhibition, taste cake and champagne, visit the formal gardens, and enjoy outdoor performances at Coe Hall, Planting Fields Arboretum.

Visit Coe Hall, the former estate of tycoon William Robertson Coe and Standard Oil heiress Mai Rogers Coe. Built in 1921, the 65-room Tudor style mansion contains original exclusive furnishings and art.

Admire the original 409 acres referred to as Planting Fields Arboretum with greenhouses, rolling lawns, formal gardens, woodland paths, and dazzling plant collections. Stop at the Garden Café for a delicious gourmet meal.

Partake in “Unlimited Champagne & Wedding Cake” or an outdoor Jazz Performance. For details, check the calendar of events at [Planting Fields Arboretum](#).

HuntingtonPatch

Business, Arts

Families Celebrate the Fourth at Vanderbilt

Vanderfest, a day-long Independence Day, included activities for children and adults across the estate.

By Paul Squire | Email the author | July 7, 2010, 8:03am



Hundreds of families braved the blazing heat on Sunday to celebrate the Fourth of July at the second annual Vanderfest, a fair held at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum in Centerport.

The all-day event included hayrides, an inflatable moon bounce, musical performances, tours, and face-painting.

Emily Gittelman takes a break at Vanderfest to paint a child's face. Gittelman, who started the fair two years ago, said "it was just an idea I had floating around." *Photo: Paul Squire*

At night, visitors were invited back to the grounds to watch the fireworks display set off at Asharoken Beach.

Vanderfest was created two years by New York University senior Emily Gittelman, whose father Steve is a trustee of the museum. Gittelman said she only had five weeks to set up this year's celebration, even though the first was a success. She spent the day walking the ground with a walkie-talkie glued to her hip, introducing musical acts and organizing volunteers.

"I've never had a child, but I think it'd be a similar experience," she joked.

Vanderfest featured a series of musical acts throughout the day, ranging from Alexa Jones, a 12-year-old who belted songs from Annie and Journey, to a theatrical troupe/ alternative rock band called the Living Dead Mafia.

Formed by Adam Ginsberg (better known as his alter-ego name "The Deadfather" Salvatore Rizzo) and his wife Elsie, the costumed performers played a half hour set of songs by Joan Jett, Blue Man Group, and a Who medley as well as a few original songs.

"We had a great time," Elsie Ginsberg said after the band performed.

Several canopy tents were assembled on the estate's golf course, with vendors selling hot dogs, snow cones, and hand-made crafts.

Rose Moore, finance director for the Bethlehem, Pennsylvania YMCA and part-time hat maker, was selling her wares with her husband at a booth under the main tent. This was Moore's second year at Vanderfest, and proved just as successful as the first.

"We didn't even set up all the way and we sold a hat," she said.

Moore, a frequent traveler, also sold jewelry and art made by women she met in Nigeria, Peru, India, Morocco, and Bali. Moore said she works with these women to resell their goods in the United States.

"I'm supporting women while making them fashionable at the same time," she said.

Guided history tours were also offered around the estate during the event, where guests could view the late William K. Vanderbilt's collection of curiosities.

"We took them back in time to 1935," museum guide Barbara Nelson said.

Nelson said the tours not only educate visitors, but help keep the museum open. The estate was given to Suffolk County by Vanderbilt, who dictated the grounds be turned into a public museum in his will. But the Vanderbilt Museum receives little funding from the state, especially after recent budget cuts.

"Everything we do is fundraising," Nelson said as a tour group walked by. "Every ticket I collect is another donation."

Gittleman, who has volunteered at the museum since childhood, said she is still surprised by the exhibits she finds.

"Everything has a really great story," she said during a quick break.

As for the crowds of children who swarmed the grounds, they were equally amazed.

"I love it here," Katarina Obermaier said while taking a break under the craft tent. Her friend Cailan Polishook, who had her portrait drawn by a local artist, agreed.

"It's amazing," she said.

<http://huntington.patch.com/articles/families-celebrate-the-fourth-at-vanderbilt#photo-617231>



JULY 2, 2018

weekend!

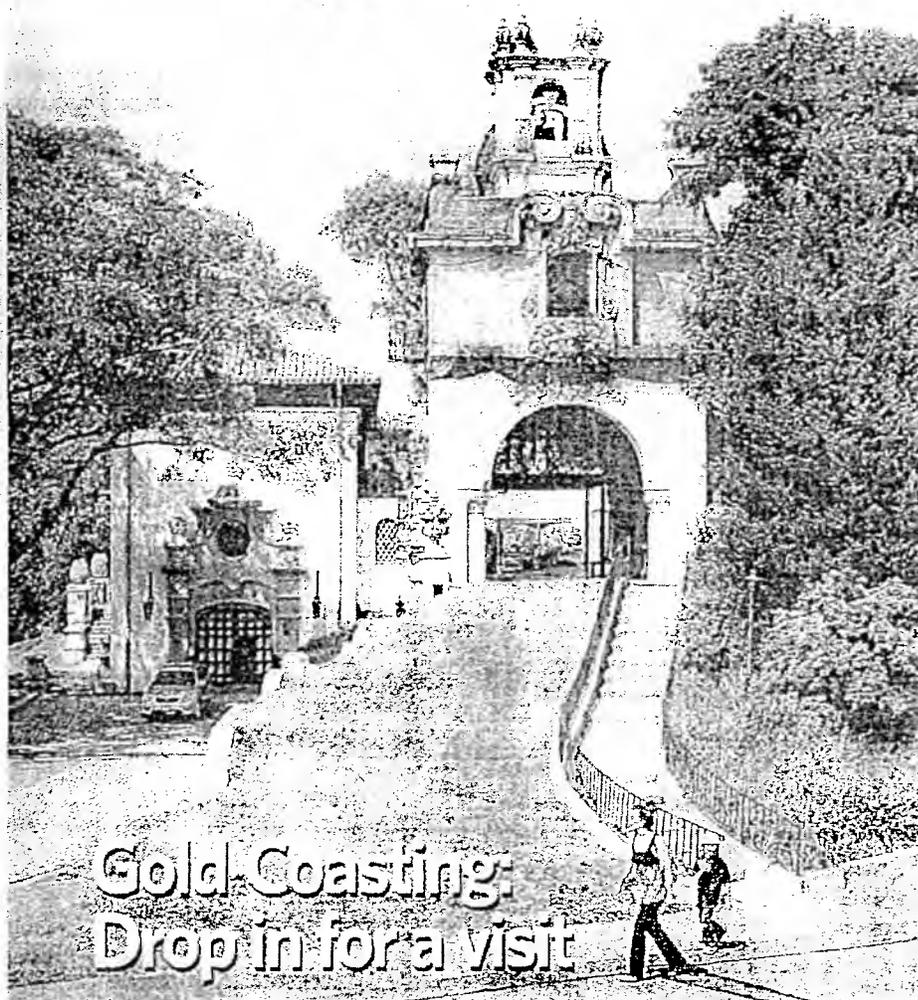


PHOTO BY JOHN DUINN

The Vanderbilt Museum, or Eagle's Nest, in Centerport offers history with a view.

BY SYLVIA E. KING-COHEN
sylvia.king-cohen@newsday.com

If you long for the days of afternoon teas, cocktails on the lawn and dressing for dinner, a trip to one of Long Island's historic Gold Coast mansions will give you a taste of high living — if only for a few hours.

Many of the North Shore's grandest sites recently have banded together to launch historiclouisland.com, a one-stop website with information on mansion tours and special events.

"The Gold Coast of Long Island has such rich history," says site founder and marketing director Nancy Melius-Murton, who is based at Oheka Castle Hotel & Estate. "We want people to visit the sites, to keep them alive."

While the opulence of the homes is reason enough to visit, some sites have added special touches this summer.

1. Coe Hall at Planting Fields

1395 Planting Fields Rd., Oyster Bay

INFO 516-922-8682

ADMISSION \$3.50 (Coe Hall) plus \$8 parking

A BIT OF HISTORY Built for English-born William R. Coe and his wife, Mai, between 1918 and 1921.

HIGHLIGHTS After a 10-year renovation, Coe Hall is opening an Italian-style garden with statues and a pool — a re-creation of the original, says marketing director Jennifer Lavella. The site's biggest summer event will be a garden gala grand opening hosted by



NEWSVIEW PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREY C. TEBERIAN

The round, 18th century breakfast room at Chelsea Mansion in Muttontown

chef Lidia Matticchio Bastianich (6 p.m. June 19, \$250 a person). It also will host a concert of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" in the garden July 11.

2. Chelsea Mansion at the Muttontown Preserve

34 Muttontown Lane, East Norwich
INFO 516-571-8551

TOUR HOURS Group tours by appointment (minimum 15 people).

ADMISSION \$15 a person for tour; free self-guided tour of grounds

A BIT OF HISTORY This Norman French-style mansion was built in 1924 for Alexandra and Benjamin Moore.

HIGHLIGHTS Recent work to the grounds include a rose garden and refurbishment of the home's original topiary garden. Several interior rooms have been refurbished and are now shown during group tours, says director Michael Butkewicz. Elegant touches include interior decor purchased on the newlywed couple's year-long honeymoon through Europe and Asia.



PHOTO BY JOHN DUHN

A costumed Carmen Collins portrays Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney on the museum's living history tour.

3. Eagle's Nest/Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport;
631-854-5579

TOUR HOURS Noon-5 p.m. Tuesday, Friday and Sunday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

ADMISSION \$12 (\$8 ages 12 and younger), includes guided or audio tour

A BIT OF HISTORY It's the 100th anniversary of the land purchase by William K. Vanderbilt II, who took 20 years to construct the house as a summer retreat.

HIGHLIGHTS On summer weekends, the museum stages "living history" tours with costumed actors portraying Vanderbilt family members and staffers. It's an experience designed to take visitors back in time, says executive director Carol Ghiorso Hart. A new self-guided audio tour is narrated in a similar theme.

4. Oheka Castle

135 West Gate Dr., Huntington
INFO 631-659-1400

TOUR HOURS By appointment

ADMISSION \$25 (\$5 ages 12 and younger) includes coffee, tea and cookies

A BIT OF HISTORY Built in 1919 by Otto Hermann Kahn and his family, the mansion fell into disrepair until Long Island developer Gary Melius engineered a \$30-million renovation. It reigns as the second-largest private home in the United States.

HIGHLIGHTS The mansion's monthly "Restaurant Night" is a different way to experience Oheka — it includes a three-course meal with your choice of appetizer, entree and dessert prepared by the mansion's chefs. Reservations required (July 21, \$125 a person). On June 30, Oheka will host a jazz bar night with an a la carte appetizer menu (\$10 cover).

Watch video from
Vanderbilt Museum



explore **LI**.com

FOURTH OF JULY

Celebrating The Fourth In Gold Coast Style

Second annual VanderFest to send guests back in time to businessman's beginnings

By Kaellen Hessel

info@longislandernews.com

July 4 is one of the most celebrated days in America's history, but the Vanderfest at Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is also celebrating one of the most famous times in Long Island's history.

Visit William K. Vanderbilt II's Centerport summer home on Independence Day and you'll be transported back in time to the Gold Coast of the 1930s. Visitors can take a tour of the mansion with actors dressed in period costumes and make believe they're attending one of the notorious parties thrown by the many millionaires who resided on the North Shore.

The festival will run from 12-5 p.m. with visitors able to return to watch the Asharoken fireworks - which begin at 9:20 p.m. - on the estate's hillside.

The event will feature period games, such as croquet, potato-sack races, a bean-bag toss and a lasso toss; live musical entertainment; a belly-dancer at 5:30 p.m.; a free yoga class at 6 p.m.; an inflatable bouncer; face painting; arts and crafts; hayrides around the estate; and the opportunity for a photo shoot by a 1931

Model A Ford.

Visitors can see live theater with "Alice in Wonderland" or "A Midsummer Night's Dream" performed by the Arena Plays. "Alice" will be performed at 2 p.m. in the Education Center. Tickets cost \$10 for people of all ages. "Midsummer" will take place in the mansion's courtyard at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and children 12 and younger.

Making visitors feel like they're living in history is the purpose of the day, said Event Coordinator Emily Gittelman.

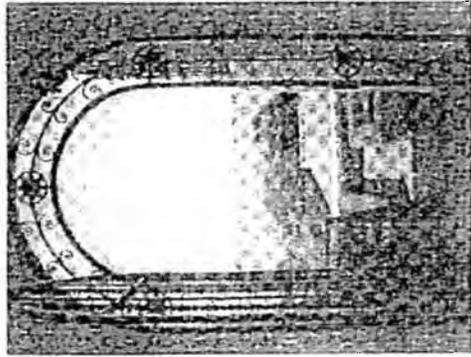
When visitors run across the missing Amelia Earhart, get charmed by Errol Flynn and watch boxing champion James Broddock's fancy footwork, they'll know they've arrived in 1935.

"My ultimate goal is to turn it into a Renaissance fair for the 1930s," Gittelman said.

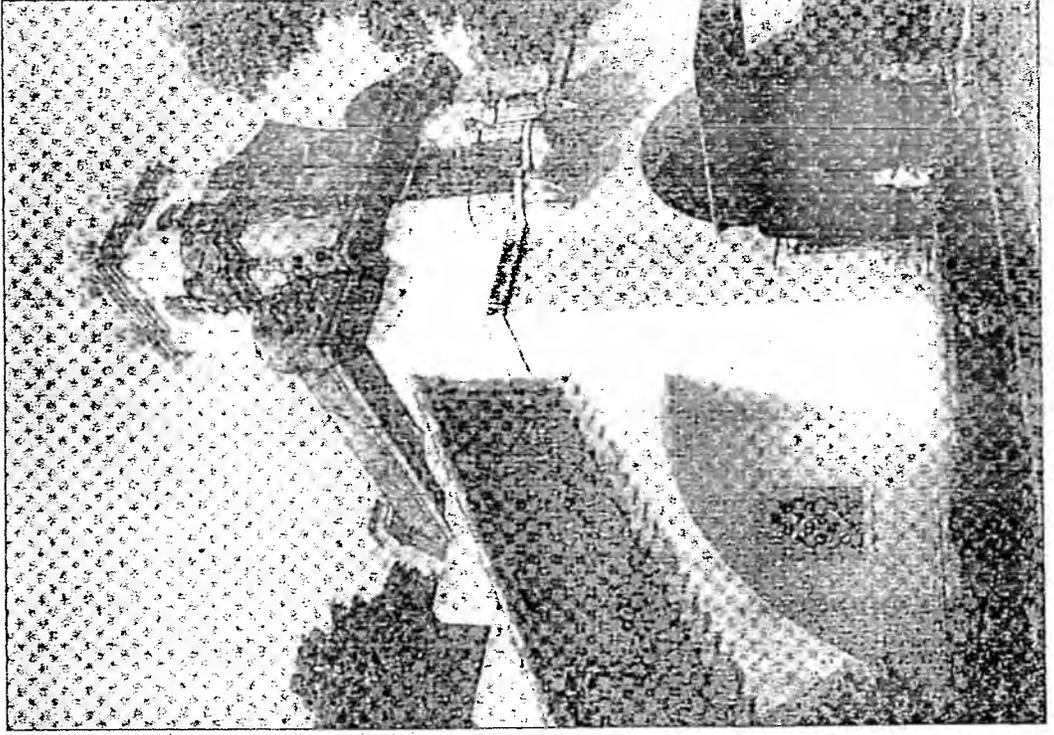
With volunteers staffing the festival, money raised goes directly to the museum, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the estate's beginnings this year.

"[The Vanderbilt estate] is Long Island's history," Gittelman said. "It's a beautiful piece of life from the 1920s, 30s and 40s."

The Vanderbilt Museum is lo-



Watch the Asharoken fireworks on the hillside of the Vanderbilt Museum overlooking Northport Harbor on July 4.



cated at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors (62 and over), and \$3 for children 12 and younger. Attendees will receive a wristband allowing them in again at night for the fireworks. Admission is \$5 for people who only want to see the fireworks.

Visitors to the Vanderbilt Museum Sunday will celebrate July 4 in style at a party fitting for the Gold Coast.

liPennysaver.com
TOWN CRIER

Vol. 52 No. 27 Long Island, NY 30¢

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215 - Huntington-Cold Spring Harbor Edition

July 1, 2010

Community Calendar

Friday, July 2



Opera Night

Long Island singers perform at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 270 Main St., Northport, at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation: \$7. For further details, call 631-261-8808.

Sunday, July 4

VanderFest: Independence Day at Eagle's Nest
Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, celebrates July 4, from noon-5 p.m. Vendors, live entertainment, food, hayrides, face painting and much more featured. Games from the 1930s will be included, in conjunction with living history tours. Visitors are welcome to stay on the grounds to watch fireworks across the harbor at Asharoken. For information, call 631-854-5562; or e-mail info@vanderbiltmuseum.org.

Free Concert

The Long Island Senior Pops Orchestra, under the direction of Stephen Michael Smith, performs patriotic medleys, showtunes, popular classics and standards, at Heckscher Park, Huntington, at 8 p.m. Vocalist Tomm Stallone is guest artist. For more information, visit www.seniorpops.org.

NEWS **12**
LONG ISLAND

MORNING EDITION

JUN 30 2010 6:00AM ET

[**06:23:12 AM**] THERE ARE FREE EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY THE WHOLE DAY. YOU CAN WATCH THE ROUGH RIDERS REENACT BATTLES FROM THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR, OR LISTEN TO PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT TALK ABOUT SPENDING SUMMERS HERE ON LONG ISLAND. IF HISTORY IS NOT FOR YOU AND THE FAMILY, CHECK OUT VANDERFEST AT THE **VANDERBILT MUSEUM** AND PLANETARIUM. THERE WILL BE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, FACE PAINTING, ARTS & CRAFTS AND EVEN HAYRIDES. OR ENJOY A HOLIDAY WEEKEND BBQ, BELMONT STYLE.



2010

NEWSDAY'S
CLIMATE GUIDE
LONG ISLAND
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MUSEUMS



VANDERBILT MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport, 631-854-5555, vanderbiltmuseum.org. **Hours:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tue.-Sat., noon-5 p.m. Sun. July-Labor Day. noon-5 p.m. Tue.-Sun. September-November. closed Mon. (except holidays). Planetarium closed weekdays to the public when school is in session (open summer, holidays, weekends and school breaks). Call for winter hours. The former home of William K. Vanderbilt II, a 24-room Spanish-Moroccan mansion and marine museum with exhibit areas containing marine science specimens, natural history dioramas, a 3,000-year-old Egyptian mummy, dinosaur replicas and other artifacts. Events include plays, concerts, theatrical brunches, telescope viewings, laser shows and all year planetarium shows (Fri. evenings, Sat. and Sun. daily). Living history mansion tours, weekends, May 29-Sept. 26. **Fees:** \$7, \$6 seniors and students, \$3 younger than 12; \$5 additional for mansion, (\$3 children) viewing planetarium or daytime laser shows. Evening laser: \$10, \$9 students and seniors, \$8 younger than 12. Evening Planetarium: \$7, \$6 students and seniors, \$3.50 younger than 12.

MY LI

The Spanish Revival mansion at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum in Centerport, once home to William K. Vanderbilt II.

Photo by **Linda Asparro** of Dix Hills



June 30, 2010

VanderFest: Come Celebrate the Fourth of July at the Vanderbilt Museum and Estate

Where: Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd, Centerport, NY 11721

Date: July 4, 2010

Time: 12:00pm–5:00pm

Independence Day Fun: Fireworks, Hayrides, Arts and Crafts, Live Entertainment, Vintage Games, World-Famous Visitors from the 1930s



VanderFest, the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum's Fourth of July celebration from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., will be a day of family fun on the scenic, 43-acre Vanderbilt estate.

This year's event marks the centennial of the museum's beginnings. On May 27, 1910, William K. Vanderbilt II—adventurer, naturalist and global explorer—purchased the first parcel of land for his Eagle's Nest summer estate, long listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

VanderFest Program

The Sunday, July 4, event will include live entertainment, vendors of food and of arts and crafts, hayrides around the estate, multiple raffle prizes, and games from the 1930s: croquet, lasso toss, potato-sack races, a dinosaur bean-bag toss, and throwing a ball to knock over wooden milk bottles. Visitors may shoot photos against the period backdrop of a 1931 Model A Ford. For kids, the day will feature children's theater, face painting, hands-on arts and crafts, stick-on tattoos and a huge inflated bouncer.

General admission: \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3 for children 12 and under. Daytime visitors will receive wristbands that allow them to return for the fireworks without purchasing another ticket. Admission for those who wish to attend only the fireworks will be \$5.

Each summer, the Vanderbilt offers Living History tours that recreate a particular summer from the 1930s for mansion visitors. Actors portray mansion staff and famous guests of the Vanderbilt family. Visiting VanderFest this year will be aviator Amelia Earhart, actor Errol Flynn and boxing champion James Braddock.

The Arena Players will perform Lewis Carroll's children's classic, "Alice in Wonderland," at 2:00 p.m. in the Education Center and William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," comedy about the humorous aspects of love, at 7:00 p.m. in the mansion's cobblestone courtyard.

A vendor will sell picnic food (hot dogs, burgers, etc.) until dark. Visitors are invited stay on the grounds to watch the evening fireworks across the harbor at Asharoken. As the fireworks begin, Debbie Carbone, a U.S. Navy veteran, will sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

One Hundred Years on the Gold Coast, Sixty Years as a Suffolk County Museum

A century ago, William K. Vanderbilt II purchased 20 acres on a rolling hillside above Northport Harbor and began building Eagle's Nest, one of the grand Long Island Gold Coast estates. In 1947, the Vanderbilt family bequeathed the estate to Suffolk County, which began operating the museum in July 1950.

The Vanderbilt Planetarium with its domed, 60-foot Sky Theater opened in 1971. It is the largest facility of its kind on Long Island. The 43-acre museum complex includes the Gold Coast-era mansion (1910-1936), a marine museum, natural-history habitats, curator's cottage, seaplane hangar, boathouse, house furnishings and fine art, photographs and archives, and an extensive collection of ethnographic objects that comprise the estate of William K. Vanderbilt II.

- Features: Families, Kids, Open to All, Outdoor, Seniors, Teens
- Website: <http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org>
- Phone: 631-854-5579
- Email: info@vanderbiltmuseum.org
- Price: General admission: \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3 for children 12 and under

About This Location

Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Rd, Centerport, NY
631-854-5579

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history, planetarium and park, is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. Its mission is achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era and build upon William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural history, and ethnographic collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures and scientific knowledge.

Other events here

- Wizard University: A Summer of Mystery, Adventure and Fun for Kids at the Vanderbilt Museum Weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9:00am–3:00pm
- Centennial Summer at the Vanderbilt Museum Weekly on Thursdays,
- Latin Music Heats Up the Summer Night in the Vanderbilt Mansion's Elegant Spanish Courtyard Sat, Jul 31, 6:00pm–10:30pm

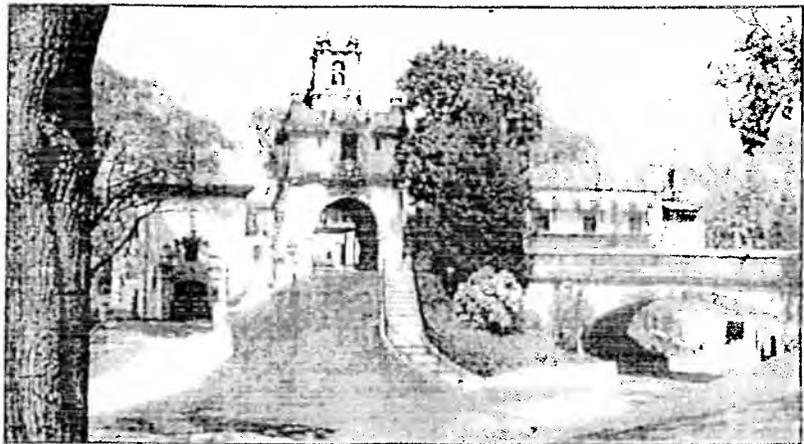
The Huntington Pennysaver®



Locals Travel Back in Time Vanderbilt Museum Begins Celebrating Centennial

A century ago, explorer, adventurer and railroad heir William K. Vanderbilt found a beautiful rolling hillside above Northport Harbor and made it his home. He bought 20 acres of that hill on May 27, 1910, and hired a famous architect to design and build a bachelor's bungalow, a long wharf and the foundation for a boathouse. Vanderbilt's "cottage" expanded over the years, and eventually became one of the grand, historic Long Island Gold Coast estates that he called "Eagles' Nest."

This summer, the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is celebrating the centennial of its beginnings. The agenda includes an Independence Festival on July 4; performances of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the mansion courtyard; a night of dancing to Alex Torres and his Latin Orchestra; the mystery, adventure and fun of Wizard University; a



The Vanderbilt Museum, the "Eagles' Nest," celebrates 100 years.

July-August program for children ages 6-12, and weekend Living History Tours of the mansion.

Carol Chiorsi Hart, executive director of the museum, said, "People are still staying closer to home and they want to find fun, local outings for their families. We're looking forward to a very good summer."

Vanderbilt Museum
180 Little Neck Road
Centerport
631-854-5555
www.vanderbiltmuseum.org



AmericanTowns.com

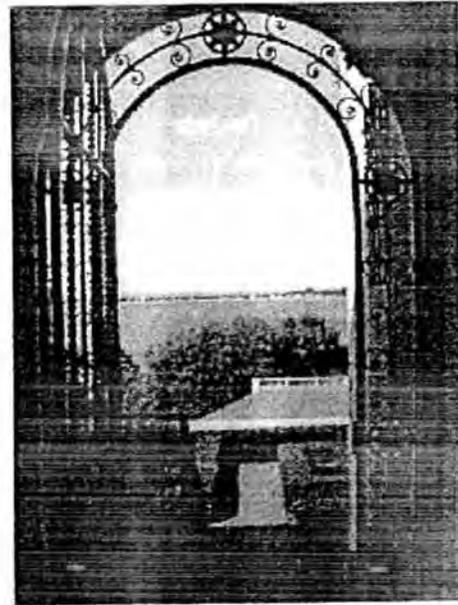
VanderFest: Come Celebrate the Fourth of July at the Historic Vanderbilt Estate and Museum

June 28, 2010

Independence Day Fun: Fireworks, Hayrides, Arts and Crafts, Live Entertainment, Vintage Games, World-Famous Visitors from the 1930s

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One Hundred Years on the Gold Coast, 60 Years as a Suffolk County Museum

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The Vanderbilt Planetarium with its domed, 60-foot Sky Theater opened in 1971. It is the largest facility of its kind on Long Island. The 43-acre museum complex includes the Gold Coast-era mansion (1910-1936), a marine museum, natural-history habitats, curator's cottage, seaplane hangar, boathouse, house furnishings and fine art, photographs and archives, and an extensive collection of ethnographic objects that comprise the estate of William K. Vanderbilt II.



Village Tattler

VanderFest: Celebrate the Fourth of July at the Historic William K. Vanderbilt II Estate

By Village Tattler, on June 24th, 2010



Vanderbilt Archway

VanderFest, the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum's Fourth of July celebration from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., will be a day of family fun on the scenic, 43-acre Vanderbilt estate. This year's event marks the centennial of the museum's beginnings. On May 27, 1910, William K. Vanderbilt II—adventurer, naturalist and global explorer—purchased the first parcel of land for his Eagle's Nest summer estate, long listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

VanderFest Program

The Sunday, July 4, event will include live entertainment, vendors of food and of arts and crafts, hayrides around the estate, multiple raffle prizes, and games from the 1930s: croquet, lasso toss, potato-sack races, a dinosaur bean-bag toss, and throwing a ball to knock over wooden milk bottles. Visitors may shoot photos against the period backdrop of a 1931 Model A Ford.

For kids, the day will feature children's theater, face painting, hands-on arts and crafts, stick-on tattoos and a huge inflated bouncer.

General admission: \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3 for children 12 and under. Daytime visitors will receive wristbands that allow them to return for the fireworks without purchasing another ticket. Admission for those who wish to attend only the fireworks will be \$5.

Each summer, the Vanderbilt offers Living History tours that recreate a particular summer from the 1930s for mansion visitors. Actors portray mansion staff and famous guests of the Vanderbilt family. Visiting VanderFest this year will be aviator Amelia Earhart, actor Errol Flynn and boxing champion James Braddock.

The Arena Players will perform Lewis Carroll's children's classic, "Alice in Wonderland," at 2:00 p.m. in the Education Center, and William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," a comedy about the humorous aspects of love, at 7:00 p.m. in the mansion's cobblestone courtyard.

A vendor will sell picnic food (hot dogs, burgers, etc.) until dark. Visitors are invited stay on the grounds to watch the evening fireworks across the harbor at Asharoken. As the fireworks begin, Debbie Carbone, a U.S. Navy veteran, will sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

The Vanderbilt: 100 Years on the Gold Coast, 60 Years as a Suffolk County Museum

A century ago, William K. Vanderbilt II purchased 20 acres on a rolling hillside above Northport Harbor and began building Eagle's Nest, one of the grand Long Island Gold Coast estates. In 1947, the Vanderbilt family bequeathed the estate to Suffolk County, which began operating the museum in July 1950.

The Vanderbilt Planetarium with its domed, 60-foot Sky Theater opened in 1971. It is the largest facility of its kind on Long Island. The 43-acre museum complex includes the Gold Coast-era mansion (1910-1936), a marine museum, natural-history habitats, curator's cottage, seaplane hangar, boathouse, house furnishings and fine art, photographs and archives, and an extensive collection of ethnographic objects that comprise the estate of William K. Vanderbilt II.

The Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium are located at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY. Directions and updated details on programs and events are available at www.vanderbiltmuseum.org. For information, call 631-854-5579.

Huntington Patch

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Wizard University: A Summer of Mystery, Adventure and Fun for Kids at the Vanderbilt Museum

Posted by Patrick Keaffe

Where: Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd, Centerport, NY 11721

Date: Weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

Next on: Tuesday, July 6, 2010

The Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium Plans

Second Annual Summer Program for Kids Ages 6-12

Slimy potions and galactic exploration, giant sea creatures and Egyptian mummies. These and other summer enchantments await the adventurous kids who enter the fascinating world of Wizard University at William K. Vanderbilt II's Eagle's Nest Estate.

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum will offer its second annual Wizard University summer program for kids ages 6-12, from July 6 through August 27. The popular program will begin enrollment immediately. To register for the Class of Summer 2010, please call the museum at 631-854-5579. Applications and details are available on-line: www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

JULY Wizard University Courses

In July, Wizard University will offer four, one-week courses, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students are divided into age groups and will explore the planetarium, marine-life museum, bird and ethnographic-artifact room, animal habitat room, the historic mansion and the rolling, wooded grounds of the 43-acre estate on a spectacular hill above Northport Harbor. The hands-on fun will include music, stories, games and slimy experiments, plus many fun craft projects to take home.

Students will be divided into houses named for the men and woman who helped shape the Vanderbilt Museum. (Students can influence their choice of house, too.) Weltfish House focuses on anthropology, world cultures and exploration. Yellin House emphasizes history, crafts and the arts. Boone House looks at ichthyology and natural history. Sharp House deals with astronomy and science.

AUGUST Wizard University Courses

In August, Wizard University will feature weekly programs (half-day, three-hour sessions), 9 a.m. to Noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Students can sign up for a week of half days or for a week of full days with a monitored lunch. Students who attend the week-long university in July are welcome to come back for in-depth study.

"Astronomy: Peering into the Past, Figuring the Future"

Week 5, August 2-6, mornings

Week 7, August 16-20, mornings

"Potions: Slimy Science"

Week 5, August 2-6, afternoons

Week 6, August 9-13, mornings

"Almost Magical Creatures"

Week 7, August 16-20, afternoons

Week 8, August 23-27, afternoons

"Ancient Worlds: Mummies, Myths and Marvels"

Week 6, August 9-13, afternoons

Week 8, August 23-27, mornings



Features: Kids

Website: <http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org>

Phone: 631-854-5579

Email: info@vanderbiltmuseum.org

ABOUT THIS LOCATION

Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum
1091 US 108th Rd. Eastport NY 11931-8511 631-854-5579

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history, planetarium and park, is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. Its mission is achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era and build upon William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural history, and ethnographic collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures and scientific knowledge.

UNITED HEMISPHERES

June 2010

Three Perfect Days: Long Island

From the tony South Fork to its rustic northerly counterpart, Long Island is both a playpen for the well-to-do and a calming, cozy respite.



Image – Courtesy of Vanderbilt Museum

GATSBY COUNTRY THE NORTH SHORE'S GREAT ESTATES

Families of the Gilded Age chose to build their mammoth estates on Long Island's North Shore. Several are now open to the public, giving a look into the curiously outsize lives of William K. Vanderbilt II, Teddy Roosevelt and the like. At Sagamore Hill, the Roosevelts' retreat in Oyster Bay, walls are decked with buffalo heads and the great room is flanked by two tusks of an elephant once owned by the emperor of Abyssinia. At the Vanderbilt Museum in Centerport, there are shrunken heads from the South Pacific and jellyfish preserved in formaldehyde. Look out across the water from the veranda, and you'll swear you see the light twinkling at the end of Jay Gatsby's dock.

<http://www.hemispheresmagazine.com/2010/06/01/three-perfect-days-long-island/4/>

SUMMER

In the

Villages

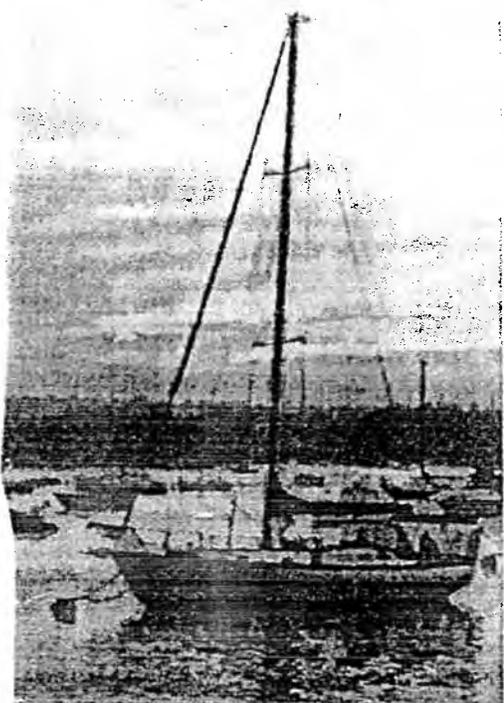
HISTORIC CENTERPORT

The Vanderbilt Museum And Planetarium

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located on William K. Vanderbilt II's spectacular 43-acre, "Gold Coast" estate. The Vanderbilt Museum - a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history museum, planetarium and park - is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. Acquired in 1947, the museum opened in 1950. A planetarium was built by the county in 1970 where visitors can enjoy trips through our Solar System as well as past, present and future missions carried out by NASA. The facility is the legacy of a man with the resources to conduct collecting expeditions worldwide. The great-grandson of railroad tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt, William K. collected natural history specimens, ethnographic artifacts, fine and decorative arts.



180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport.
Please visit website for hours or call
631-854-5555, vanderbiltmuseum.org.



Free Guide - 2010 TO HUNTINGTON'S VILLAGES

MAY 2010

AROUND THE VILLAGES

continued from page 80

August 6- Alex Torres Orchestra- Spicy Sounds For A Hot Night. 6-8pm. The Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport. vanderbiltmuseum.org, 631-854-5579.

August 6 – 27 Summerfest! Thursdays 8pm at Robert W. Krueger Bandshell Village Park. nrthportny.com.

August 8, 15, 22- Jazz Brunch at Grasso's. 11am-2pm, 134 Main St., Cold Spring Harbor. 631-367-6060.

August 8- Happenings on Main Street- Miller's Crossing – Bluegrass. Northport Village Park. 7-8:30pm, northportarts.org.

August 15- Parading Down Main Street. The tour group meets at 1:30 pm on the front steps of Museum, 215 Main St., Northport. 757-9859, northporthistoricalsociety.org.



August 15- Happenings on Main Street- Constant Wonder – Original music for children /interactive. Northport Village Park. 7-8:30pm, northportarts.org.

AROUND THE VILLAGES

continued from page 86

August 22- Happenings on Main Street- Rain date (TBD). Northport Village Park. 7-8:30pm, northportarts.org.

August 29- Happenings on Main Street- Glenn Baldwin & Friends of Jazz – Jazz, singers and guest artist. Northport Village Park. 7-8:30pm, northportarts.org.

Sept. 25- Greenlawn Pickle Festival- Hand-held pickles, gourmet pickles, jarred goods, baked goods, hay rides, corn maze, farm produce, potato digging demonstration and pickle industry exhibit. Rain date 9/26. \$3/children free. John Gardiner Farm, 900 Park Ave., Huntington. gcha.info.



180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport vanderbiltmuseum.org

Arena Players Children's Theatre

at the Vanderbilt Museum Carriage House

180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport
vanderbiltmuseum.org



Alice in Wonderland
Saturdays & Sundays at 2:00PM
July 3 - August 29

exploreLI
L.I. EXPLORE

What's new at five Gold Coast mansions

June 11, 2019 by SYLVIA B. KING ONLINE / sylvia.king@nassau.com



If you long for the days of afternoon teas, cocktails on the lawn and dressing for dinner, a trip to one of Long Island's historic Gold Coast mansions will give you a taste of high living - if only for a few hours.

Many of the North Shore's grandest sites recently have banded together to launch historiclolongisland.com, a one-stop website with information on mansion tours and special events.

"The Gold Coast of Long Island has such rich history," says site founder and marketing director Nancy Melius-Murton, who is based at Oheka Castle Hotel & Estate. "We want people to visit the sites, to keep them alive."

While the opulence of the homes is reason enough to visit, some sites have added special touches this summer.

1. Coe Hall at Planting Fields

1395 Planting Fields Rd., Oyster Bay, 516-922-8682

Admission: \$3.50 (Coe Hall) plus \$8 parking

History: Built for English-born William R. Coe and his wife Mai between 1918 and 1921.

Highlights: After a 10-year renovation, Coe Hall is opening an Italian-style garden with statues and a pool - a re-creation of the original, says marketing director Jennifer

Lavella. The site's biggest summer event will be a garden gala grand opening hosted by chef Lidia Matticchio Bastianich (6 p.m. June 19, \$250 a person). It will also host a concert of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" in the garden July 11.

2. Chelsea Mansion at the Muttontown Preserve

34 Muttontown Lane, East Norwich, 516-571-8551

Admission: \$15 a person for tour; free self-guided tour of grounds. Group tours by appointment (minimum 15 people).

History: This Norman French-style mansion was built in 1924 for Alexandra and Benjamin Moore.

Highlights: Recent work to the grounds include a rose garden and refurbishment of the home's original topiary garden. Several interior rooms have been refurbished and are now shown during group tours, says director Michael Butkewicz. Elegant touches include interior decor purchased on the newlywed couple's yearlong honeymoon through Europe and Asia.

3. Eagle's Nest / Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport, 631-854-5579

Admission: \$12 (\$8 ages 12 and younger), includes guided or audio tour. Tours offered Noon-5 p.m. Tuesday, Friday and Sunday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

History: It's the 100th anniversary of the land purchase by William K. Vanderbilt II, who took 20 years to construct the house as a summer retreat.

Highlights: On summer weekends, the museum stages "living history" tours with costumed actors portraying Vanderbilt family members and staffers. It's an experience designed to take visitors back in time, says executive director Carol Ghorsi Hart. A new self-guided audio tour is narrated in a similar theme.

4. Oheka Castle

135 West Gate Dr., Huntington, 631-659-1400

Admission: \$25 (\$5 ages 12 and younger) includes coffee, tea and cookies. Tours by appointment.

History: Built in 1919 by Otto Hermann Kahn and his family, the mansion fell into disrepair until Long Island developer Gary Melius put in a \$30 million renovation. It reigns as the second-largest private home in the United States.

Highlights: The mansion's monthly "Restaurant Night" is a different way to experience Oheka - it includes a three-course meal with your choice of appetizer, entree and dessert prepared by the mansion's chefs. Reservations are required (July 21, \$125 a

person). On June 30, Okeha hosts a jazz bar night with an a la carte appetizer menu (\$10 cover).

5. Hempstead House at Sands Point Preserve

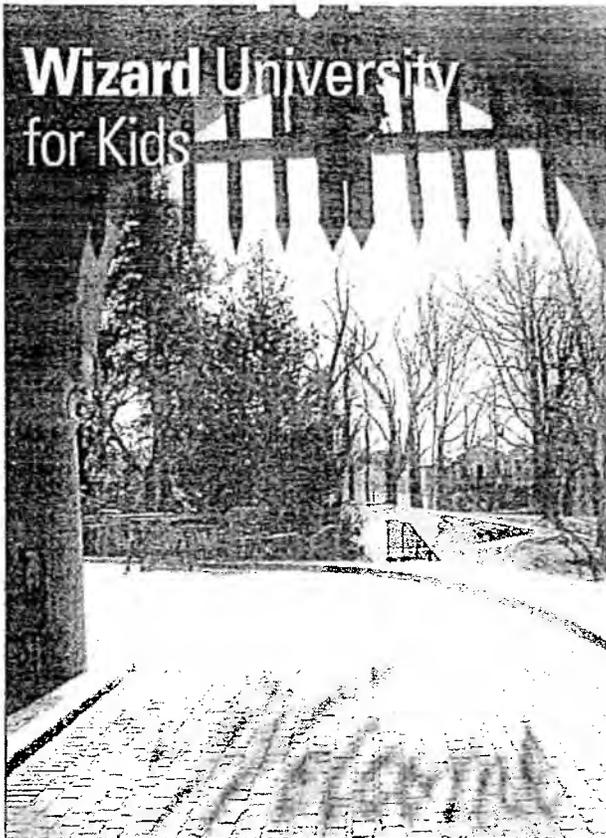
127 Middle Neck Rd., Sands Point, 516-571-7901

Admission: \$5 for guided tour, under 16 free; the house also will be open for tours from 12-3 p.m. June 13; cost is the same, plus \$5 per car or \$2 walk-in (free on Wednesdays). Tours offered 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesdays

History: Patterned after Ireland's Kilkinney Castle, the 50,000-square foot estate was built in 1910 by Howard Gould and later purchased by Daniel and Florence Guggenheim in 1917.

Highlights: The gothic-style estate overlooking the Long Island Sound is marked by stonework and dramatic details - such as organ pipes high in the grand entry, above the chandelier. The property has nature trails and visitors can also tour Falaise, the home of Harry Guggenheim and Newsday founder Alicia Patterson.

<http://www.exploreli.com/venues/what-s-new-at-five-gold-coast-mansions-1.1996833?print=true>



A summer of mystery, adventure and fun awaits children, ages 6-12, partaking in the Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium's second annual summer program — Wizard University. Slimy potions and galactic exploration, giant sea creatures, Egyptian mummies and other summer enchantments await the adventurous kids who enter the fascinating world of this university.

Wizard University is held from July 6 through August 27, in Centerport at the Vanderbilt Eagle's Nest Estate. To register for the Class of Summer 2010, call 631-854-5579. Applications and information are available on-line at www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

JULY Wizard University Courses

In July, Wizard University will offer four one-week courses, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Students, divided into age groups, will explore the planetarium, marine-life museum, bird and ethnographic artifact room, animal habitat room, the historic mansion and the rolling, wooded grounds of the 43-acre estate on a spectacular hill above Northport Harbor. The hands-on fun will include music, stories, games, slimy experiments and craft projects.

AUGUST Wizard University Courses

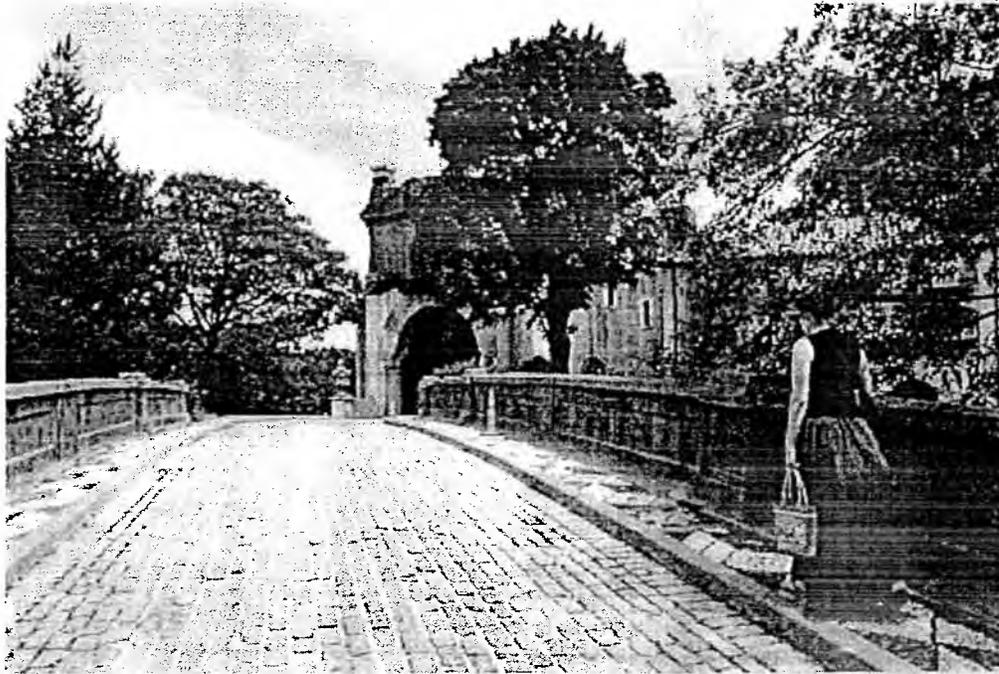
In August, Wizard University will feature weekly programs (half-day, three-hour sessions), 9 a.m.-noon, and 1-4 p.m. Students can sign up for a week of half days or for a week of full days with a monitored lunch. Students who attend the week-long university in July are welcome to come back for in-depth study.

Rainy Day Destinations

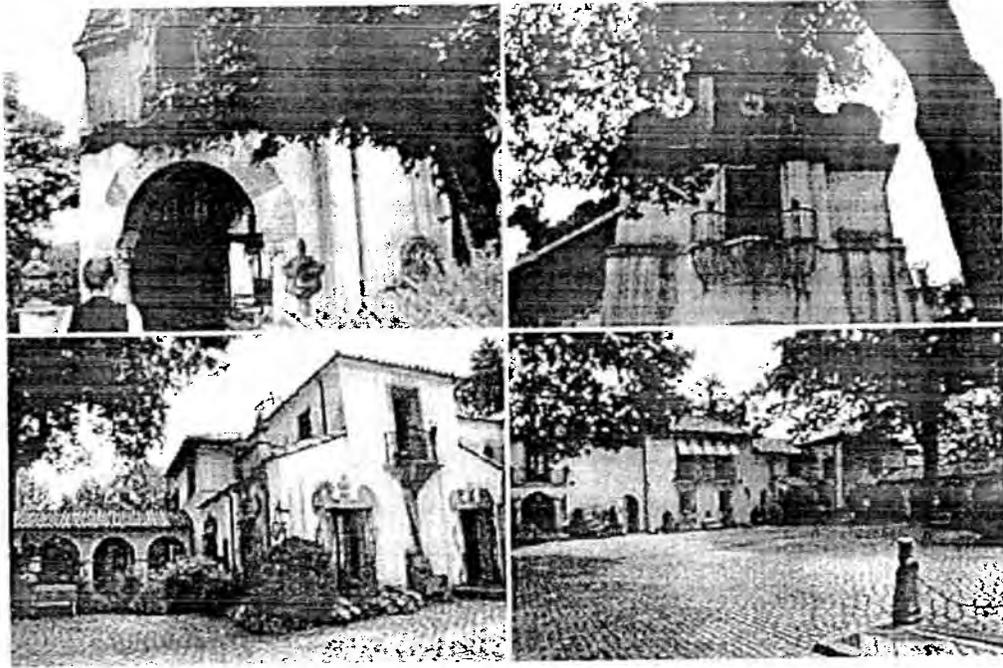
"We Entertain When It Rains"

June 08, 2010 - Vanderbilt Museum ...

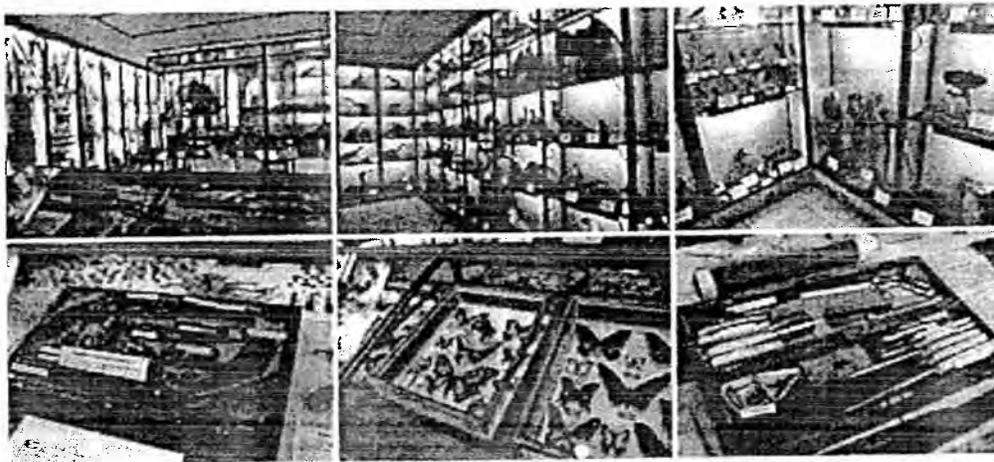
We were down in NYC last weekend for the [World Science Festival](#). The 90° temperature in the city had us looking for cooler diversions on Saturday. After a bit of searching, we came up with the [Vanderbilt Museum](#) in Centerport, Long Island. It was less than an hour's drive from NYC, and 43 acres of rolling hills was a nice escape from the "concrete jungle."



This museum was built by William K. Vanderbilt II on his Eagle's Nest Estate. The 24-room Spanish-Revival mansion was built in three stages off and on from 1900s to 1930s. We did not have time to take the house tour or see all of the grounds on this visit, but managed to hit many of the museums and some of the gardens.



As a person of means, William Vanderbilt II (he was the great-grandson of Cornelius Vanderbilt) fed his curiosity of natural history by mounting specimen-collecting voyages to the Galapagos and other exotic destinations. He opened his personal museum to the public in 1922. The photos here are just a small sample of the artifacts from his extensive travels and expeditions. On display were an impressive and varied array of ethnographic objects (firearms and swords, ship models, and European, Asian and African objects) from around the world. There were also thousands of specimens, both from birds to mammals to tiny crustaceans.



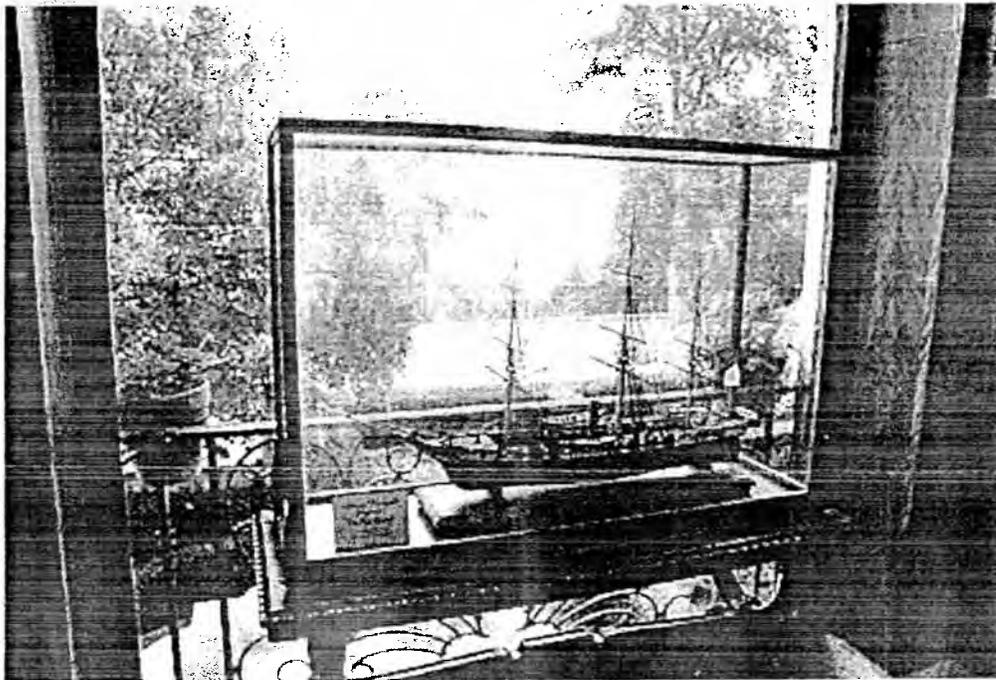
We found the style of the exhibits almost as interesting as the items themselves. The collections brought us back to a time when nature was starting to yield its secrets. A time when the world was a lot less accessible, was a lot more mysterious, and science was on the verge explaining everything. Maybe it was the wooden cases, maybe it was the specimens preserved in jars, but those rooms conveyed a sense of wonder, curiosity, and fascination. It is something we don't always feel in today's more computerized and high tech museum exhibits.



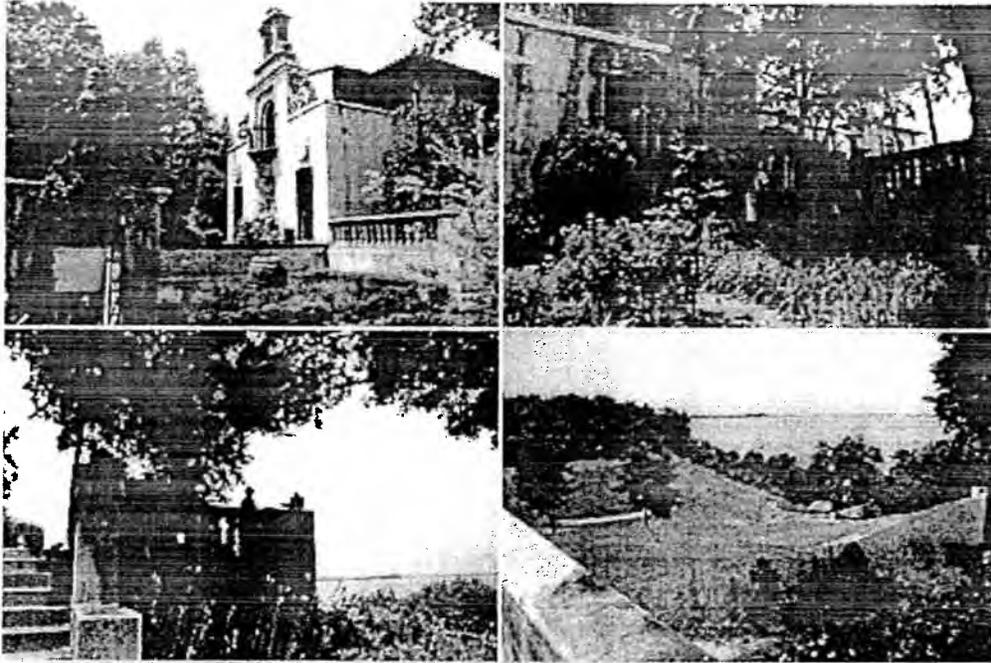
Other gems on our tour were:

- Taxidermied African animals
- 32 foot Whale Shark
- Polar Bear, Lion, Jaguar
- Shark, Galapagos Island diorama
- Giant Blue Lobster
- 3000-year old mummy

We would have taken more photos, but we realized photography was not allowed inside the rooms. Oops!



We got there early so we pretty much had the run of the place. The balconies, gardens, and fountains around the main house were all open and accessible. Our copyeditor pretended that she owned the place and was overseeing the staff's preparation of that evening's gala. The fantasy ended when she realized she was hungry and no one was going to bring lunch out to the veranda.



Willie Kissam Vanderbilt II died in early 1944 of a heart ailment. The Eagle's Nest property was given, along with a \$2 million upkeep fund, to Suffolk County, New York to serve as a public museum. We would definitely stop by again the next time we are in the area. [\[Permalink\]](#) - Vanderbilt Museum

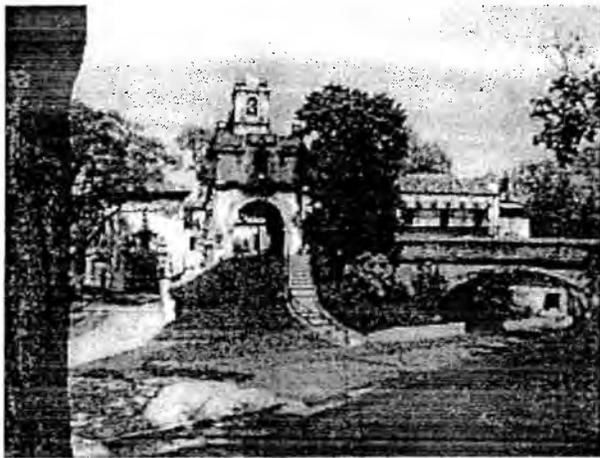
<http://www.rainydaymagazine.com/RDM2010/June/Week2/RDMHomeJun0810.htm>



Village Tattler

Vanderbilt Museum Begins Celebrating Centennial Year on Long Island's Gold Coast

By Village Tattler, on June 7th, 2010



A century ago, explorer, adventurer and railroad heir William K. Vanderbilt II found a beautiful rolling hillside on Little Neck above Northport Harbor. He bought 20 acres of that hill on May 27, 1910, and hired a famous architect to design and build a bachelor's bungalow, a long wharf and the foundation for a boathouse. Vanderbilt's "cottage," expanded over the years, was the beginning of one of the grand, historic Long Island Gold Coast estates, which he called "Eagles' Nest."

Ahhh, simple cottage life!

This summer, the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is celebrating the centennial of its beginnings. The agenda includes an Independence Festival on July 4, performances of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the mansion courtyard, a night of dancing to Alex Torres and his Latin Orchestra, and the mystery, adventure and fun of Wizard University, a July-August program for kids 6-12, and weekend Living History Tours of the mansion. (All program details to be announced.)

Carol Ghiorso Hart, executive director of the museum, said that although the past few years have been difficult for museums and other non-profit institutions, including the Vanderbilt, the future looks brighter. "We're seeing more visitors and a steady flow of school field trips," she said. "The improving economy is helping all museums and attractions on Long Island. People are still staying closer to home and they want to find fun, local outings for their families. We're looking forward to a very good summer."

The Vanderbilt—built in three stages from 1910 until 1936—is a unique combination of historic estate and mansion, marine and natural-history museum, planetarium and park. Eagles' Nest, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and home to the Vanderbilt Museum, annually welcomes 100,000 visitors and 50,000 schoolchildren.



William K. Vanderbilt II

Hart noted that the Vanderbilt receives strong capital-program support from Suffolk County and is in the process of acquiring a new star projector for its planetarium. (The current projector was installed when the planetarium opened 40 years ago.) The museum is an active member of Gold Coast Mansions—Historic Long Island, a new organization that promotes tourism to prominent north shore estates. The Vanderbilt's dedicated corps of volunteer docents, guides and gardeners enhances the experience of visitors to the mansion and estate, a "living" museum of the country life of the privileged in the early 20th century.

Suffolk County acquired the museum in 1947 and opened it to the public in 1950. Vanderbilt's 24-room Spanish Revival mansion was designed by the New York architectural firm Warren & Wetmore, whose Grand Central Terminal in New York City (1903-13) was designed and built for the New York Central Railroad, one of several Vanderbilt family enterprises. Later additions to the mansion and other estate buildings were executed by the architect Ronald H. Pearce.

The Vanderbilt Planetarium with its domed, 60-foot Sky Theater opened in 1971. It is the largest facility of its kind on Long Island. The 43-acre museum complex counts among its collections the Gold Coast-era mansion (1910-1936), a marine museum, natural-history habitats, curator's cottage, seaplane hangar, boathouse and marine and natural-history specimens, house furnishings and fine art, photographs and archives, and an extensive collection of ethnographic objects that comprise the estate of William K. Vanderbilt II.

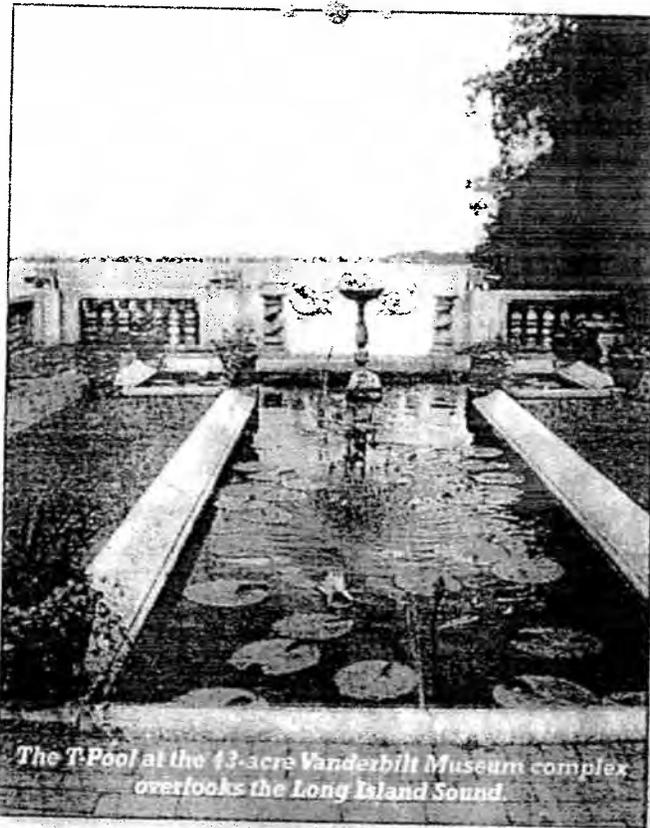
Check out the Vanderbilt website for information on their great programs which include these Summer Programs: Shakespeare, Latin Orchestra, Independence Festival, Wizard University for Kids, and Living History Tours

The Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium are located at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY. For information, call 631-854-5579.

Admission

General museum admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3 for children 12 and under. For daytime planetarium/laser shows, visitors pay the general admission fee, plus planetarium admission of \$5 for adults, \$4 for students and seniors, and \$3 for children 12 and under. For evening laser shows, admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for students and seniors, \$8 for children 12 and under. For evening planetarium shows (no general admission is charged) – visitors pay \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3.50 for children 12 and under.

<http://villagetattler.com/2010/06/07/vanderbilt-museum-begins-celebrating-centennial-year-on-long-island%E2%80%99s-gold-coast/>



A View From the **Garden**

SUFFOLK: The Vanderbilt Museum is a combination of mansion, marine and natural history museum, planetarium and park. The 43-acre museum complex counts among its collections the Gold Coast-era mansion [1910-1936], a marine museum, natural history habitats, curator's cottage, seaplane hangar, boathouse and numerous other estate features, such as the gardens, fountains, balustrades and pools. Additionally, the marine and natural history specimens, house furnishings, fine arts and other objects make up the former William K. Vanderbilt II estate.

Vanderbilt Museum • vanderbiltmuseum.org
180 Little Neck Road, Centerport 631-854-5555

The New York Times

Sunday, June 6, 2010

Summer Fun on Long Island

Whatever your definition of summer bliss — heading to the beach with family and lounge chairs in tow, floating the afternoon away on a rubber raft in your own backyard pool, soaking up culture at the latest art exhibit, digging into an elegant dinner on the waterfront, treating yourself to a night of margaritas and acoustic jams, or all of the above! — you'll find your share of fun at these restaurants, galleries, shops and museums, all conveniently located on Long Island and nearby.

FANTASTIC FOOD, FASHION, ART, CULTURE — AND FUN — FOR ALL

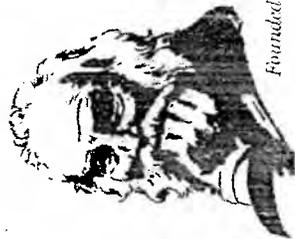
Culture and science buffs have a field day at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum in Centerport, a 43-acre complex boasting William K. Vanderbilt II's Gold Coast-era Spanish Revival summer mansion on Eagle's Nest Estate, a marine museum, natural history habitats, ethnographic collections, planetarium and more.

Reach for the stars with weekend planetarium programs such as Journey Through the Solar System and exciting Laser Beatles and Laser Pink Floyd Dark Side of the Moon shows. Sign up for Image Cycling, a new take on "spinning" class featuring planetarium effects — or just observe the celestial heavens on Friday nights using the museum's new Meade LX200R 16-inch reflector telescope. Time travel to 1935 with a living-history mansion tour — or sign the kids up for the museum's Wizard University summer programs. Slimy potions, sea creatures, Egyptian mummies — who could ask for more?

Set off the boardwalk in Long Beach's historical West End section near charming restaurants and boutiques, the Beech Street Gallery lures collectors and day-trippers of all stripes. Laying claim to some of Long Island's finest beaches, Long Beach also boasts a "rich history in the arts," explained Sonja Arnold, who owns this year-old gallery with her husband, Brian. "It's easy to embrace this community's city-and-surf culture."

Working with other galleries nationwide, the Arnolds curate compelling exhibits such as the upcoming meet-and-greet with world-renowned Steve Tracy on June 23 and 24, and represent more than 30 multicultural artists from California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii and New York, plus Canada, the Caribbean and France. Many of the works, Arnold noted, have an "island-style theme"; fittingly, the gallery, with its white-washed boathouse flooring, has a beachy decor. "We're like a candy store for art lovers," enthused Arnold.

For night owls, dining or dancing at the Sugar Dining Den & Social Club in Carle Place may be one of the sweetest ways to spend a starry evening. Owner Brian Rosenberg, formerly of Posh in the Garden City Hotel, said that his new hotspot appeals to all appetites with a global menu of small-dish delights and sinfully indulgent desserts, including cupcake sliders. From 11 p.m. until 4 a.m., the



Founded by Walt Whitman

SINCE 1838, NOBODY COVERS HUNTINGTON NEWS BETTER THAN THE LONG-ISLANDER.

75¢

The Long-Islander

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Online at www.LongIslanderNews.com

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 17

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2010

36 PAGES

LEISURE

Buicks Rev Up For Vanderbilt Showcase

Long Island auto club prepares to kick off car show season at historic mansion

By Danny Schrafl

dschrafl@longislandernews.com

A May 23 car show at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium will highlight classic examples of one of America's longest-lived automotive names.

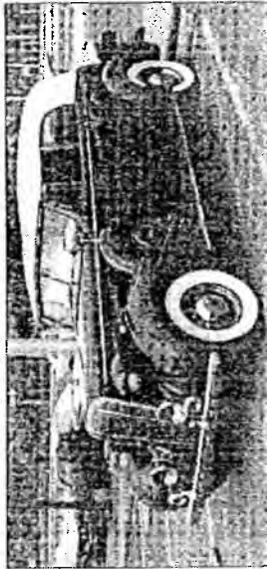
Hosted by the Long Island Buick Club, it will be the first all-Buick show that has graced the museum's grounds, museum Director Carol Ghiorsi Hart said.

"Cars are all over the property," she said. "They're very popular and each [show] has a very different character aside from the cars that are there."

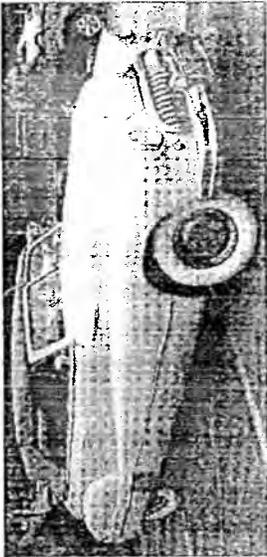
Former Long Island Buick Club activities director Howard Schneider said approximately 150-200 Buicks will be on display during the Vanderbilt from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the peer-judged event. Trophies will be awarded in 14 categories with a prize for best in show. Long Island Buick Club members will showcase pre-World War II Buicks in the mansion's Spanish Revival-style courtyard, including a 1932 Buick Marquette.

The show isn't restricted to pre-war classics, though: Newer offerings are expected, and Schneider is dusting off his '89 Regal GS for the big day. Buick enthusiasts from up and down the eastern seaboard participate, he added.

"Our tradition is to have an antique classic car show, but people may bring their old one as well as their new one," Schneider said. "We carry a whole collage of different years."



The Long Island Buick Show's all-Buick showcase at the Vanderbilt museum is set to feature a diverse collection of cars, including a 1936 Roadmaster Phaeton and a 1947 Super convertible.



And modern Buicks are exciting enthusiasts, like the 2011 Regal provided by Fort Jefferson's O'Rourke Buick that will be on display at the Vanderbilt months before it goes on sale. General Motors has revived the Regal nameplate in an Opel Insignia-sourced sport sedan that is already garnering rave reviews. Opel is General Motors' major European nameplate.

"I'd like to see that. I've looked at it online and it looks beautiful. Beautiful interior, engine and exterior - it looks different than other cars with nicer lines," Schneider said.

Buick's recent resurgence started in America with the Enclave crossover SUV, which, starting at more than \$35,000, has been a brisk and profitable seller. In China, Buick is one of General Motors' hottest properties, a marquee the emerging middle class and executives

aspire to.

"The Enclave is not a cheap one, and they're selling them... [the brand] is regaining," Schneider said. "Perceptions of Buick today are better. It used to be your old man's car, a car for the mature driver... with all of the changes, Buick is doing well."

Additional car shows scheduled for the summer and fall at the Vanderbilt include programs featuring Corvettes, Jaguars, Porsches and MGs; the Corvette show is slated to close the season in October. Ghiorsi Hart said.

Admission is free with general museum admission. A train date is scheduled for June 13. For more information, entry fees and details for show participants, visit www.longislandbuickclub.webs.com.

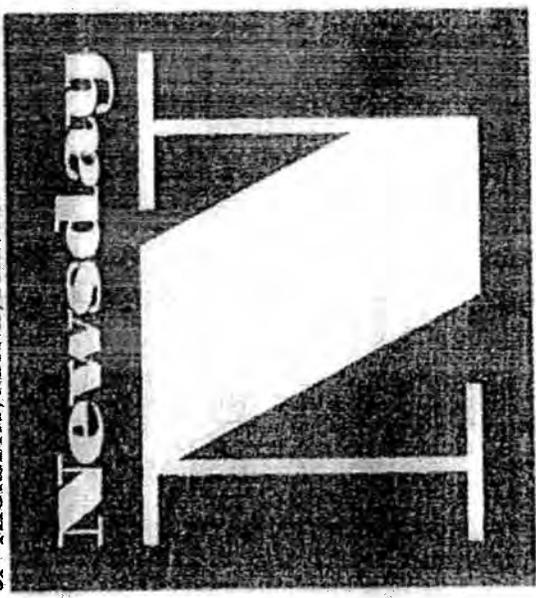


meetamet



Meet Ed Kranepool of the 1969 Mets at a baseball-themed children's event. One-hour sessions at 5:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday, Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport; \$7, autographs are \$5 extra; reservations at 631-854-5579. vanderbiltmuseum.org.

SI THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010 | SUFFOLK EDITION





May 11, 2010

Ed Kranepool of '69 Mets to Sign Autographs at Vanderbilt Museum Kids' Baseball Storytime Event

- Where: Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd, Centerport, NY 11721
- Date: May 16, 2010
- Time: 5:30pm
- **Baseball-Themed Children's Event Also Features Authors of New Kids' Book, "The Deal is on Strike Three"**

Sunday, May 16

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum will welcome first baseman Ed Kranepool of the legendary 1969 New York Mets on Sunday, May 16, at its popular, multi-generational program "Our Night Out: Storytime Under the Stars." This month's theme is baseball, and the museum also has invited authors Rudy Saviano and Peter Fertig, whose new book, "The Deal is on Strike Three," is about baseball.

The one-hour program is set for 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. in the Vanderbilt Planetarium. Admission is \$7.00 per person. Reservations are strongly suggested, as this program frequently sells out. Please call 631-854-5579.

Kranepool will meet families in the Planetarium lobby and sign autographs. Baseball memorabilia will be available. Saviano and Fertig will introduce the reading of their book, which will be for sale.

Children are invited to wear pajama or their Little League uniforms. Lorraine Vernola of the Public Programs Department said the program is also popular with grandparents: "You often see grandfathers in their bathrobes."

Storytime readings take place during a Planetarium star show. This program will include a seventh-inning stretch and the singing of "Take Me out to the Ball Game."

- Features: Families, Kids, Open to All
- Website: <http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org>
- Phone: 631-854-5579
- Email: info@vanderbiltmuseum.org
- Price: \$7.00 per person

About This Location:
Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum
180 Little Neck Rd, Centerport, NY
631-854-5579

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history, planetarium and park, is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. Its mission is achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era and build upon William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural history, and ethnographic collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures and scientific knowledge.

Other events here

- Wizard University: A Summer of Mystery, Adventure and Fun for Kids at the Vanderbilt Museum Weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9:00am–3:00pm
- Centennial Summer at the Vanderbilt Museum Weekly on Thursdays,
- Latin Music Heats Up the Summer Night in the Vanderbilt Mansion's Elegant Spanish Courtyard Sat, Jul 31, 6:00pm–10:30pm



AmericanTowns.com

Ed Kranepool of '69 Mets to Sign Autographs at Vanderbilt Museum Baseball Storytime Event

Sunday, May 16, 2010

5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Road Centerport, NY

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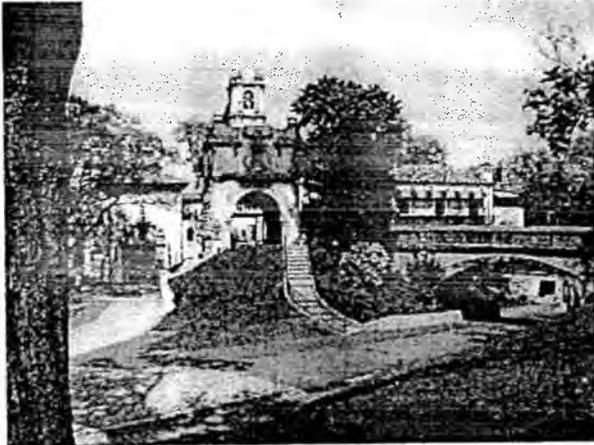
Storytime readings take place during a Planetarium star show. This program will include a seventh-inning stretch and the singing of "Take Me out to the Ball Game."

Cost:\$7.00 per person



April 21, 2010

Vanderbilt Museum Seeks Volunteers



The Vanderbilt Mansion and Museum in Centerport

- Organization: Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
- Causes: Educational
- Contact person: Carol Sperandeo, Volunteer Coordinator
- Phone: 631-854-5568
- Email: siteuse@vanderbiltmuseum.org
- Website: www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

The Vanderbilt Museum seeks volunteers to work as greeters and to join its corps of volunteer gardeners

The museum also welcomes inquiries from potential volunteers with skills related to Long Island history, astronomy, architectural preservation, and natural and marine history.



AmericanTowns.com

Celebrate National Astronomy Day at the Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium

Saturday, April 24, 2010

Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY 11721



Outdoors, model rockets will soar through the sky. Indoors, the wonders of the solar system will dazzle visitors seated beneath the darkened Planetarium dome.

These are a few of the highlights of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum's celebration of National Astronomy Day on Saturday, April 24, from 11:00 a.m. to midnight. (General admission fees will be charged.)

The program will include:

- Model rocket demonstrations (at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.)
- Safe viewing of the sun through solar telescopes
- Planetarium astronomy shows, live sky talks
- Children's games, and craft projects to take home
- Storytelling related to astronomy and space
- Telescope demonstrations
- Night sky observing with telescopes (including a huge, 32-inch Dobsonian model) until midnight

- Camera Concepts, a telescope vendor

The Astronomical Society of Long Island (ASLI) and the Long Island Advanced Rocketry Society (LIARS) will co-host the event and answer visitor questions. ASLI members will demonstrate telescope use and LIARS will launch model rockets. Safe "stomp" rockets for kids will be available for \$15.00 in the Planetarium gift shop and on the estate grounds. ASLI members will set up 15 telescopes focused on different stars and will invite visitors to view the night skies until midnight.

Cost: General museum admission is \$7 for adult category:



Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Road
Centerport, NY 11721-0605
(631) 854-5555 • 854-5538 Planetarium • 854-5539 Groups/Schools
www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

Places Nearby:

[Cold Spring Harbor
Whaling Museum](#)

[Cold Spring Harbor
Fish Hatchery](#)

[DNA Learning
Center](#)

More in:

[New York](#)

Other States:

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[Maryland](#)

[New Jersey](#)

[Pennsylvania](#)



[Search](#)

The stately mansion, *Eagle's Nest*, was the summer home of William Kissam Vanderbilt II, whose family fortune was created by his grandfather, "Commodore" Cornelius Vanderbilt, shipping and railroad tycoon. A remnant of Long Island's famous Gold Coast, the mansion is part of a 43-acre complex that now includes a museum and planetarium.

Eagle's Nest is a beautiful Spanish Revival structure. The interior is decorated with Vanderbilt's original furniture, paintings, books, and other personal effects. Throughout the house visitors will find exquisite examples of the finest furnishings from around the world.

The first floor of the **Hall of Fishes**, a two story structure located northwest of the mansion, displays a large collection of mounted animals and marine specimens. The second floor contains hundreds of marine vertebrates and invertebrates. Many of the displayed marine forms are the only such specimens in existence, collected, identified, and named by Vanderbilt and his staff.

The **Habitat Wing** displays dioramas of animals in their natural habitats, and is dominated by a huge whale shark suspended from the ceiling. The **Memorial Wing**, built to commemorate the life of Vanderbilt's son, contains various trophies and mementos of his exploits. The **Moth and Butterfly Room** contains a collection of rare and beautifully colored moths, butterflies, and beetles, some of them unusually large.

There is also a diorama depicting the growth of railroading in America.

The **Planetarium**, erected in 1971, is among the dozen best equipped in the country, featuring the largest public-use telescope in the New York City area (available on clear evenings when shows are scheduled). The Sky Theatre has a 60-foot diameter, 238-seat dome "sky" onto which a customized GOTO projection instrument reproduces the sun,

moon, stars, and the imaginary coordinate lines used to map the heavens. This amazing system can create the heavens as they would appear from any point on Earth, at any time up to thousands of years into the past or into the future. Hundreds of special projectors and effects supplement this device and combine with a four channel sound system to create fantastic educational and esthetic visual and audio effects.

A full schedule of shows is offered throughout the year, and those interested should call for a calendar. Youngsters under six are invited to special presentations on Saturday mornings. Adult education courses are available in astronomy, meteorology, and navigation in all except the summer months. Courses include both theoretical and practical sessions.

Throughout the year families can enjoy special presentations such as concerts, lectures, etc. A calendar is available upon request. The Vanderbilt Museum has expanded greatly over recent years and continues to do so. There is an obvious commitment to provide an unequaled educational resource for its communities.

The Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium offer great educational opportunities for **School Groups**. A wide variety of Historic House and Natural History Programs, for grades K through 12, cover subjects like animals and their traits; endangered species and ecology; the Gold Coast era; different cultures from around the world; and many others. Planetarium Programs, for grades Pre-K through 12, explore the heavens in many of its aspects, including meteorology, astronomy, and the mysteries of outer space. Special workshops for educators are available in spring and fall.

Hours: Museum Winter Hours: Tuesday, 11:30am - 5pm, Saturday & Sunday 12-5. Last admission is one hour prior to closing. Closed Mondays. Call for Sky Show Schedule. *Call for extended summer hours.

Admission:

General (Daytime) Admission

Adults \$7.00
Seniors (62+) \$6.00
Students \$6.00
Children under 12 \$3.00

Add a Mansion Tour or Planetarium Show for

Adults \$5.00
Seniors (62+) \$4.00
Students \$4.00
Children under 12 \$3.00

Evening Admission - Planetarium/Observatory

Adults \$7.00
Seniors (62+) \$6.00
Students \$6.00
Children under 12 \$3.50

Evening Laser Show

Adults \$10.00
Seniors \$9.00
Students \$9.00
Children under 12 \$8.00

Groups of 20 or more:

Call for Group Rates.

Group Reservations: At least 4 weeks in advance.

Lunch: Picnic areas available.

Handicapped Access: Planetarium is accessible, mansion is not.

Directions: From the LIE Exit 51, the Northern State Parkway Exit 42N, or the Southern

State Parkway Exit 39N: Drive north on Deer Park Ave., bear left at fork (traffic light), onto Park Ave. At 3rd light, turn right onto Broadway, continue for 4-5 miles to Rt. 25A. Cross 25A (to left of Shell gas station) to Little Neck Road. Museum is 1.5 miles on the right. About 90 minutes from the George Washington Bridge.

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April 2010

Parents' Resource Category: Sub Category: Camps

Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Rd | Centerport, NY | (631) 854-5555 |

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

The Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium is offering several new birthday party packages including: Galactic Journey, Story Book Theater, Dinosaur Adventure, Laser Magic, Whale of a Party, Tea Party and Treasure Island. Packages include use of a private classroom for two hours, a planetarium show, laser show, performance, or special museum tour. Fees range from \$225-\$300 for up to 20 guests. For more information, please call Carol Sperandeo at 631-854-5568 or go to www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

MEET THE CAMP DIRECTOR 2010

Dear Student, We are pleased to inform you that you have been invited to attend Vanderbilt Museum's Wizard University. You may begin your one-week summer session in July or August. Each day will begin at 9 and end at 3, and include classes in astronomy, potions, almost magical creatures and crafty crafts. You may also sign up for half-day week-long programs. For information please call 631-854-5579 or check vanderbiltmuseum.org. Yours Sincerely, Carol Ghiorso Hart, Headmistress.





Family Planetarium Show – Vanderbilt Museum

Date: April 18, 2010

Hours: 6pm

Ages: Young elementary, Adult

Price: \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3.50 for children 12 and under

Address:

180 Little Neck Road - 631-854-5579

Centerport , NY

www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

Description: The Vanderbilt Museum will present a planetarium show for parents and children ages 2-6, "Our Night Out: Story Time Under the Stars." The March theme is "Spring Surprises."

Venue Description: The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located in the former summer estate of William K. Vanderbilt II. The 24-room mansion was built in the Spanish Revival-style from 1910 to 1936. It was designed by the New York architectural firm Warren & Wetmore, which also designed Grand Central Station in New York City. Many of Vanderbilt's possessions remain in the mansion, including antique furnishings, ceramics, paintings, portraits, original dinnerware, and family photos. There are 1,369 pieces of fine and decorative arts on display and 5,698 miscellaneous and natural history specimens. The museum offers unique "Living History" tours, where visitors can see actors playing the roles of different family members, friends, and guests running about the house. The tours are meant to give a taste of life on Long Island nearly 100 years ago, as well as the history of the Vanderbilt family and their estate. The Natural History portion of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum has been called a "museum of museums." It displays much of William K. Vanderbilt II's collection, including a 3,000-year-old mummy from Egypt. By the main building is the Vanderbilt Planetarium, the largest of its kind on Long Island. The planetarium, open since 1971, has a 60-foot-wide Sky theater. The lobby outside has a space-related exhibit, to educate and entertain visitors as they wait for their show to begin. The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located at 180 Little Neck Road in Centerport. The grounds and mansion are open Tuesday-Friday and Sunday noon-5pm, Saturday 11am-5pm. The Planetarium shows are on Friday evenings at 8, 9, and 10pm; Saturday and Sunday evenings at 7, 8, 9, and 10pm; and Sundays at 12, 1, 2, 3, and 4pm. For more information, call 631-854-5555 or visit www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

<http://www.nymetroparents.com/neweventinfo.cfm?id=56822>



April 2010

A Trip to the Planets - Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
Through December 31, 2010 - Centerport

Children and adults take a cosmic trip through the solar system, beginning on Earth with a sunrise. Visitors experience a thunderstorm, rainbow and sunset. After a discussion of the moon and its phases, the audience travels to, and learns about, every planet in the solar system. Recommended for children 8 and under. Weekends through December 31.

Journey through the Solar System - Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
Through December 31, 2010 - Centerport

This exciting show looks at the solar system and at past, present and future NASA missions. See planets fly by, view pictures from the Mars Rover missions, and even experience a tornado! This new program was produced in-house by the Vanderbilt Planetarium staff using amazing effects, fantastic music and excellent narration. This show inspires and amazes visitors. Weekends through December 31.

Long Island Skies - Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
Through December 31, 2010 - Centerport

This live presentation uses the Planetarium's star projector to its fullest capabilities. Learn about the nighttime sky as seen from your own backyard and explore the current night sky, including the seasonal constellations, stars, planets, deep sky objects, and much more. This show is a wonderful introduction to the brilliant night sky that can be seen on Long Island. Weather permitting, the Planetarium staff will also open the 16" Meade telescope located in the Vanderbilt's sky observatory to look at all the objects discussed during the show. Fridays through December 31.

One Small Step - Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
Through December 31, 2010 - Centerport

This journey uncovers secrets of the ancient past and reveals how and why the U.S. finally landed a man on the moon. Families experience an adventurous lunar mission and discover the complex process of getting to the moon and returning safely. Worldwide, space agencies are gearing up for a return to the moon by the year 2020. A new era of lunar exploration is about to begin. This presentation is the first public offering on the latest insights. For ages 8 and up. Weekends through December 31.

<http://www.nymetroparents.com/newarticle.cfm?colid=24441>



Easter Bunny Egg Hunt – Vanderbilt Museum

Date: April 03, 2010

Hours: 9-11:15am

Ages: ALL

Price: \$30 adults; \$18 children

Address:

180 Little Neck Road - 631-854-5579

Centerport , NY

www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

Description: The Easter Bunny and Li'l Chick invite kids to join them for breakfast, followed by an Egg Hunt in the Rose Garden (weather permitting); games; Basket and Bonnet Parade; a breathtaking Planetarium show, "A Trip to the Planets"; and photo-video opportunities with the Easter Bunny and Li'l Chick. Pre-registration required by call or online.

Venue Description: The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located in the former summer estate of William K. Vanderbilt II. The 24-room mansion was built in the Spanish Revival-style from 1910 to 1936. It was designed by the New York architectural firm Warren & Wetmore, which also designed Grand Central Station in New York City. Many of Vanderbilt's possessions remain in the mansion, including antique furnishings, ceramics, paintings, portraits, original dinnerware, and family photos. There are 1,369 pieces of fine and decorative arts on display and 5,698 miscellaneous and natural history specimens. The museum offers unique "Living History" tours, where visitors can see actors playing the roles of different family members, friends, and guests running about the house. The tours are meant to give a taste of life on Long Island nearly 100 years ago, as well as the history of the Vanderbilt family and their estate. The Natural History portion of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum has been called a "museum of museums." It displays much of William K. Vanderbilt II's collection, including a 3,000-year-old mummy from Egypt. By the main building is the Vanderbilt Planetarium, the largest of its kind on Long Island. The planetarium, open since 1971, has a 60-foot-wide Sky theater. The lobby outside has a space-related exhibit, to educate and entertain visitors as they wait for their show to begin. The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located at 180 Little Neck Road in Centerport. The grounds and mansion are open Tuesday-Friday and Sunday noon-5pm, Saturday 11am-5pm. The Planetarium shows are on Friday evenings at 8, 9, and 10pm; Saturday and Sunday evenings at 7, 8, 9, and 10pm; and Sundays at 12, 1, 2, 3, and 4pm. For more information, call 631-854-5555 or visit www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

Upcoming Events at Vanderbilt Museum:

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny



Date: 4/3/2010

Address: Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY 11721-1145

Hours: 9:00am

Cost/Cover: Adults \$30, \$25 for members; children \$18, \$15 for members

Web Page: [Event Web Page](#)

Contact Info: Tickets may be purchased by phone (631-854-5579)

Details: The Easter Bunny and his friend Li'l Chick are inviting children of all ages from across Long Island to join them for breakfast and fun at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum on Saturday, April 3.

The Vanderbilt's long-standing spring event draws multi-generational family groups each year. The morning offers lots of fun as well as a good opportunity to shoot delightful video or



For, by & about LI Moms & Dads

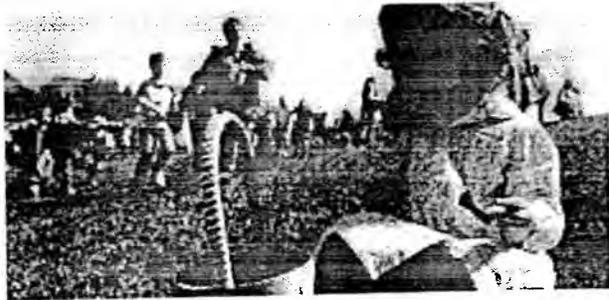
Saturday, April 3, 2010

VANDERBILT BUNNY BREAKFAST. Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport. 631.854.5579 (info). Tickets can be purchased at www.vanderbiltmuseum.org, 631-854-5579. 9 am. All ages. Fee: Adults, \$30/\$25 members, children \$18/\$15 members. Join Bunny and Lil' Chick for a spring-themed family brunch at the Vanderbilt Planetarium, located on the historic Vanderbilt estate. There will be children's games, an egg hunt, participation in a bonnet and basket showcase and plenty of photo opportunities with the Vanderbilt Bunny and Chick. A special presentation of the planetarium sky-show, Trip to the Planets, completes the morning fun.

http://www.liparentonline.com/events_calendar.html

Wed 31 Mar 2010

SYLVIA E. KING-COHEN



The Easter Bunny has a basketful of stops to make this weekend - he's going to be in so many places his puffy tail will be dragging. He's even enlisting some help from real bunnies and a chick or two to get it all done.

If you hop over to the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium "You'll get to meet the Easter Bunny and sit on his lap," says Carol Ghiorso Hart, museum executive director.

Don't expect any "Harvey"-esque, 6-foot-tall bunnies at Connetquot River State Park Preserve in Oakdale . "You'll see a for-real Easter Bunny," says Molly Hastings, who's bringing her pet bunny, Buttons.

EGG HUNTS & FAMILY FESTIVALS

VANDERBILT MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM : 9 a.m. Saturday, Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport, 631-854-5579, vanderbiltmuseum.org

Cost: \$30 (\$25 members) \$18 children; preregistration required

Goodies: Breakfast with the Easter Bunny is followed by an egg hunt in the Vanderbilt Rose Garden (weather permitting); 40-minute screening of "A Trip to the Planets" at 10:15 a.m., planetarium.

MAIDSTONE GUN CLUB : 10 a.m. Saturday (rain or shine), Maidstone Gun Club, Daniel's Hole Road, East Hampton, 631-728-7832

Goodies: Bring a bag or a basket to this free annual event for ages 1-8 that includes prizes, hot chocolate and cookies.

WILDLIFE RESCUE CENTER : 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Wildlife Rescue Center, 228 W. Montauk Hwy., Hampton Bays , 631-728-9453, wildliferescuecenter.org

Cost: \$5 ages 2-12 (\$3 adults) preregistration required

Goodies: Live hawks and owls; find eggs in Munn's Pond County Park.

http://mobile.newsday.com/inf/infomo;JSESSIONID=D9FF0305164E8BDB5D17.2234?site=newsday&view=explore_li_item&feed:a=newsday_1min&feed:c=exploreli&feed:i=1.1839863&nopaging=0



Village Tattler

Easter Eggs and Easter Bunnies Around Town This Week



Mr. Bunny finds a connection to fresh Easter eggs

This is a list of all the public Easter Egg hunts in and around Huntington known to the Village Tattler. If we've missed yours and you'd like it added, send us a note.

publisher@villagetattler.com

Saturday, April 3

EASTER BUNNY PLANS BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT AT VANDERBILT MUSEUM

The Easter Bunny and his friend Li'l Chick are inviting children of all ages from across Long Island to join them for breakfast and fun at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum. The Vanderbilt's long-standing spring event draws multi-generational family groups each year. The morning offers lots of fun as well as a good opportunity to shoot delightful video or photos for the family album. The day includes: Bunny Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Egg Hunt in the Vanderbilt Rose Garden (weather permitting) Basket and Bonnet Parade, Games, Photos and video with Bunny and Li'l Chick. Special, breathtaking Planetarium show, "A Trip to the Planets," at 10:15 a.m. Tickets: Adults \$30, \$25 for members; children \$18, \$15 for members. Pre-registration is required and seating is limited. Tickets may be purchased by phone (631-854-5579) The Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium at 180 Little Neck Road Centerport, NY 11721

<http://villagetattler.com/2010/03/31/easter-eggs-and-easter-bunnies-around-town-this-week/>

Little Appointments



Spinning is So Last Year

30 Mar 2010, written by Susan o Comments



Picture a conventional spinning class: heart-pumping music, perhaps some ambient lighting, a bit of guided imagery (“picture yourself riding along the shore with the sun in your face and the wind at your back...”)

Now picture not having to *picture*. Image Cycling takes indoor cycling and adds to it visually stunning images and planetarium effects – spinning under a dome! Local classes are held at Vanderbilt Planetarium.

If this is as intriguing to you as it is to me, you’d better hurry and sign up, because these spots are filling up very quickly.

The next classes under the dome with openings left are June 24 at 6:30pm and 8pm: Kilimanjaro – Ride to the Top of Africa.

There are also outdoor classes in the planetarium courtyard on May 16.

For more information and to register online, [click here](#).

Contact Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum for event information
Bunny Breakfast



BUNNY BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT AT VANDERBILT MUSEUM

*Fun for Children of All Ages: Annual Bunny Breakfast,
Easter Egg Hunt, Basket and Bonnet Parade*



CENTERPORT, NY (March 11, 2010)—The Easter Bunny and his friend Li'l Chick are inviting children of all ages from across Long Island to join them for breakfast and fun at the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum on Saturday, April 3. The museum is located at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY 11721. Directions are available on the website.

The Vanderbilt's long-standing spring event draws multi-generational family groups each year. The morning offers lots of fun as well as a good opportunity to shoot delightful video or photos for the family album.

The day includes:

- Bunny Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.
- Egg Hunt in the Vanderbilt Rose Garden (weather permitting)

- Basket and Bonnet Parade
- Games
- Photos and video with Bunny and Li'l Chick
- Special, breathtaking Planetarium show, "A Trip to the Planets," at 10:15 a.m.

Tickets: Adults \$30, \$25 for members; children \$18, \$15 for members. Pre-registration is required and seating is limited.

Tickets may also be purchased by phone (631-854-5579)

Name	Description	Price	Tax Deductible	Quantity
Adult Non-Member	Bunny Breakfast Adult	\$30.00	\$0.00	<input type="text"/>
Adult Member	Bunny Breakfast	\$25.00	\$0.00	<input type="text"/>
Children's Non-Member	Bunny Breakfast	\$18.00	\$0.00	<input type="text"/>
Children's Member	Bunny Breakfast	\$15.00	\$0.00	<input type="text"/>

Date: 4/3/2010 9:00 AM to 4/3/2010 11:15 AM
[Google Calendar](#) | [Yahoo Calendar](#)

Location: Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum
 180 Little Neck Road
 Centerport, NY 11721

[Get Directions](#)

Contact: [Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum](#)

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Goings On About Town

ABOVE AND BEYOND

MARCH 22, 2010

≡

OBSCURA DAY

This collaborative global project, taking place on the same day in more than seventy cities and towns worldwide, is an unconventional curatorial experience offering access to buildings, structures, and locations that are off the beaten path. Events in the New York area include a visit to Dead Horse Bay and a trip down into the long-lost Atlantic Avenue subway tunnel, in Brooklyn, as well as a run out to the Vanderbilt Museum Hall of Fishes, in Centerport, Long Island, which “contains a mounted whale shark believed to be the largest piece of fish taxidermy in the world,” according to the event organizers. (March 20. For more information, visit atlasobscura.com.)

<http://www.newyorker.com/arts/events/above/2010/03/22/100322goab>
[GOAT above](#)

Mommy Poppins

Get More out of NY with Kids

March 16, 2010

Spring Festivals and Easter Egg Hunts on Long Island

Vanderbilt Bunny Breakfast

Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Road, Centerport N.Y. 11721

For info., 631.854.5579

Tickets can be purchased on line at www.vanderbiltmuseum.org, or by calling 631.854.5579.

Event Time: 9 a.m. All ages.

Tickets: Adult \$30/\$25 members, Children \$18/\$15 members.

Join Bunny and Lil' Chick for a spring-themed family brunch at the Vanderbilt Planetarium, located on the historic Vanderbilt estate. There will be childrens' games, an egg hunt, participation in a bonnet and basket showcase, and plenty of photo opportunities with the Vanderbilt Bunny and Chick. A special presentation of the planetarium sky-show, *Trip to the Planets* completes the morning fun.

Bringing classic rock stars to life, sort of

March 15, 2008 by SYLVIA E. KING COHEN / [View All Photos](#) | [Print Page](#)



James Brown, The Rolling Stones, The Beatles . . . the classics never get old. Various Long Island venues are finding ways to pay tribute to these nearly immortal performers and bands.

Here's a look at unusual ways to relive the glory days.

LASER BEATLES

When / Where: 9 p.m. Friday, March 19, 3 and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 20 at Vanderbilt Museum Planetarium, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport, 631-854-5555, vanderbiltmuseum.org

Admission: \$12 (\$3 younger than 12) daytime fee includes museum access and laser show; \$10 evening show only (\$8 kids)

"I guess you could call it a psychedelic experience - without the drugs," says director Carol Hart. Classic Beatles songs ("Yesterday," "Help!") play in the theater and colorful laser lights dance in geometric patterns across the 60-foot dome. It's a multisensory experience.

"You feel the music with your whole body," she says. "It is probably as close to a concert kind of experience you can get without having the musicians there."

Up next: "Led Zeppelin: Lased and Confused" plays Fridays at 10 p.m. A Pink Floyd-themed laser show, set to "Dark Side of the Moon" plays at 10 p.m. Saturdays.

Links:

<http://www.exploreli.com/going-out/music/bringing-classic-rock-stars-to-life-sort-of-1.1808045?print=true>

<http://www.newsday.com/long-island/huntington-local-1.812006?month=7&year=2008>

associatedcontent

The people's media company

Five Great Places to Visit the Easter Bunny on Long Island, New York



Patricia A Ziegler

On Long Island, NY you can always visit the Easter Bunny at your local mall. But why not do something different this year? Here are five great alternatives for Easter, 2010:

CENTERPORT: Have Breakfast with the Bunny at the Vanderbilt Museum

DATE: Saturday, April 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

The Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Road

Centerport, NY 11721-1145

(631) 854-5555; (631-854-5579

ADMISSION: Adults \$30, children \$18

Have breakfast and get a picture with the Bunny himself and Lil' Chick. Admission includes an egg hunt, basket and bonnet decorating contests, and a special show in the planetarium at 10:15. Walk the grounds and enjoy the views of Centerport Harbor.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED! (631) 854-5579 for more information.

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/2757079/five_great_places_to_visit_the_easter.html?cat=25

The New York Times

Sunday, June 6, 2010



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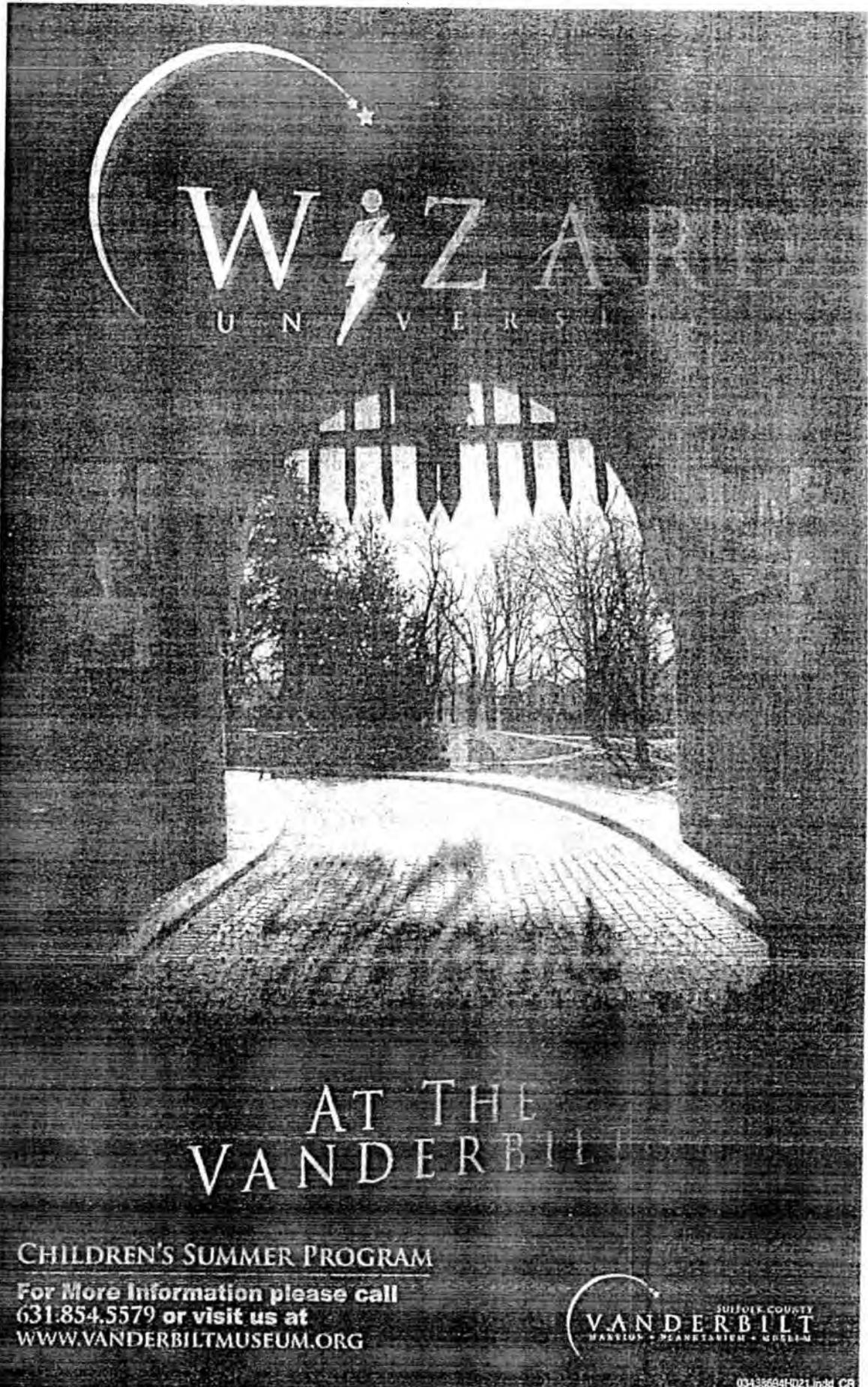
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631.854.5579
www.vanderbiltmuseum.org
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631.854.5579 or visit us at
WWW.VANDERBILTMUSEUM.ORG

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Vol. 52 No. 27 Long Island, NY 30¢

215 - Huntington-Cold Spring Harbor Edition

July 1, 2010

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See Ad Inside

Community Calendar

Friday, July 2



Opera Night

Long Island singers perform at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 270 Main St., Northport, at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation: \$7. For further details, call 631-261-8808.

Sunday, July 4

VanderFest: Independence Day at Eagle's Nest
Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, celebrates July 4, from noon-5 p.m. Vendors, live entertainment, food, hayrides, face painting and much more featured. Games from the 1930s will be included, in conjunction with living history tours. Visitors are welcome to stay on the grounds to watch fireworks across the harbor at Asharoken. For information, call 631-854-5562; or e-mail info@vanderbiltmuseum.org.

Free Concert

The Long Island Senior Pops Orchestra, under the direction of Stephen Michael Smith, performs patriotic medleys, showtunes, popular classics and standards, at Heckscher Park, Huntington, at 8 p.m. Vocalist Tomm Stallone is guest artist. For more information, visit www.seniorpops.org.

Family Planetarium Show - Vanderbilt Museum

Date: 03/28/10

Ages: Young elementary, Adult

Price: \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$3.50 for children 12 and under

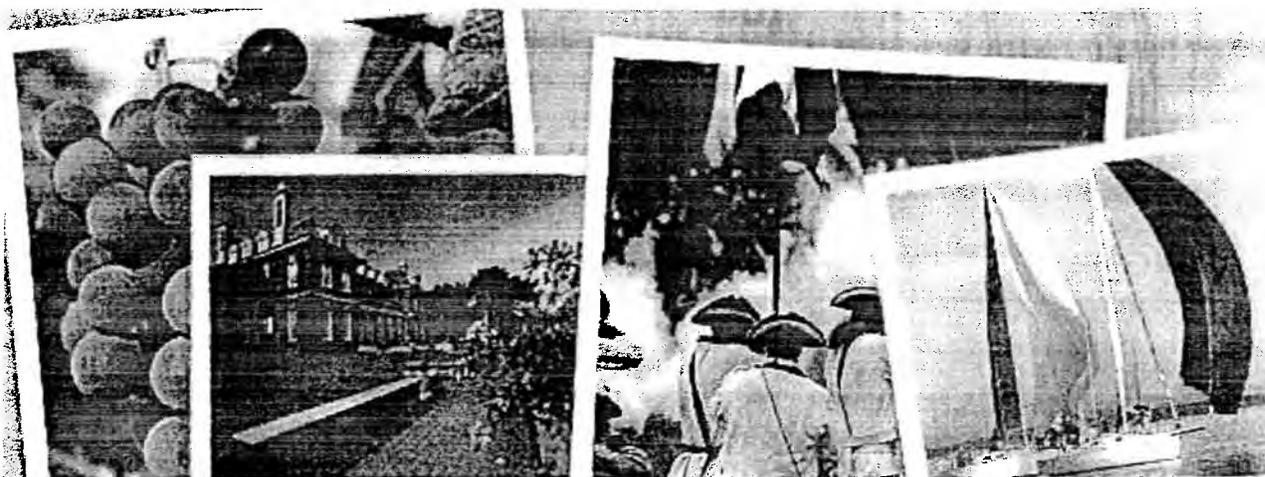
Address: 180 Little Neck Road - 631-854-5579

www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

Description: The Vanderbilt Museum will present a planetarium show for parents and children ages 2-6, "Our Night Out: Story Time Under the Stars." The March theme is "March Madness."

I ♥ NY

www.ILOVENVY.com BETA



Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum

Centerport, Long Island

Description:

Historic 24 room Spanish Moroccan summer home of WK Vanderbilt II overlooking Northport Harbor and LI Sound. Site includes marine and natural history collections, a 3000 year old mummy, animal habitats and a 238 seat 60 ft. domed Planetarium.

Location & Contact Info:

180 Little Neck Rd

Centerport, Long Island, NY, 11721

Directions: Exit 51 N, drive N on Deer Park Ave, bear left at fork at traffic light onto Park Ave, 3rd light make right onto Broadway; continue 4-5 miles to Route 25A; Cross 25A to left of gas station Little Neck Road; 1.5 miles on right. Greenlawn Sta on the LIRR.

Phone: 631-854-5579

Fax: 631-854-5594

Email: scvmsiteuse@optonline.net

Website: www.vanderbiltmuseum.org

upcoming
EVENTS AND THINGS TO DO

Laser Zeppelin: Lazed & Confused

Friday March 26, 2010 at 10:00pm

Vanderbilt Museum - Planetarium

180 Little Neck Rd
Centerport, New York 11721

This exciting laser light concert features the music of Led Zeppelin; believed by millions to be the greatest rock n' roll band in the history of music. The featured play list includes: 'In the Light,' 'Ramble On,' 'Communication Breakdown,' 'Livin' Lovin' Maid,' 'Gallows Pole,' 'D'yer Maker,' 'Black Dog,' 'Good Time,' 'Bad Times' and 'Stairway to Heaven.'

The Long Islander
March 4 – 11, 2010

Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium

180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport. Museum hours: Tuesday - Friday, 12 - 4 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 12 - 5 p.m.; closed Mondays except for holiday weeks. Grounds admission: \$7 adults, \$6 seniors, students, and \$3 children under 12. Museum tour, add \$3 per person. 631-854-5555. www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

- Planetarium sky shows are shown year-round. Visit the website for holiday hours and showtimes.

Events

Explore LI > Events

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and egg hunt

Event Date(s)

Saturday, April 3 at 9:00 AM.

Location

Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
180 Little Neck Rd.
Centerport, NY 11721-1145
Phone: 631-854-5555
Website: <http://vanderbiltmuseum.org>

Description

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny is followed by an egg hunt in the Vanderbilt Rose Garden (weather permitting); 40-minute screening of "A Trip to the Planets" at 10:15 a.m., planetarium.

Price

\$30 (\$25 members) \$18 children; preregistration required

Event category:

Children's events

Community

Event affinities:

Easter

<http://www.exploreli.com/events/breakfast-with-the-easter-bunny-and-egg-hunt-1.1842106#&>

photos for the family album.

The day includes:

- * Bunny Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.
- * Egg Hunt in the Vanderbilt Rose Garden (weather permitting)
- * Basket and Bonnet Parade
- * Games
- * Photos and video with Bunny and Li'l Chick
- * Special, breathtaking Planetarium show, "A Trip to the Planets," at 10:15 a.m.

Tickets: Adults \$30, \$25 for members; children \$18, \$15 for members. Pre-registration is required and seating is limited.

Tickets may be purchased by phone (631-854-5579) or below.

Event is on: One day only

Audience: Kids and Up

Category: Holiday Events

Location: Centerport, NY

Sponsored By:

Submitted by: contributed

Middleville, New York Area Attractions



Contributor

By Kat Long, eHow Contributing Writer

Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium

- The 43-acre former estate of William Kissam Vanderbilt II (great-grandson of Cornelius Vanderbilt) overlooks Long Island Sound and is open to the public for self-guided or docent-led tours of the house and gardens. Also on the grounds is a state-of-the-art planetarium, a sky theater with celestial objects projected onto the domed roof and an astronomical observatory powered with a reflector telescope capable of revealing sunspots and other solar activity.

Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium
180 Little Neck Road
Centerport, NY 11721
631-854-5555
vanderbiltmuseum.org

Life on Long Island

Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum

180 Little Neck Rd
Centerport, NY 11721-0605
tel: 631-854-5555

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum - a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history museum, planetarium and park - is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. This mission shall be achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era and upon William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural history, and ethnographic collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures, and scientific knowledge.

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum is located in Centerport, New York on William K. Vanderbilt II's spectacular 43-acre, "Gold Coast" estate. Acquired in 1947, the museum opened in 1950. Vanderbilt's will stipulated that the estate was to be dedicated to the "education and enjoyment of the public" and "enhanced" as a museum. A planetarium was built by the county in 1970. The facility is the legacy of a man with the resources to conduct collecting expeditions worldwide. The great-grandson of railroad tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt, William K. collected natural history specimens, ethnographic artifacts, fine and decorative arts. Today's museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Hours of Operation

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 - 5:00 PM
Sunday - 12:00 - 5:00 PM