

# Old Westbury Gardens

#### In This Issue

Gardener's Fair

Plant Sale

<u>Painting Conservation</u> Bees & Brews

Donor Profile

Environmental Education Mother's Day

#### **CALENDAR**

#### **May 4:**

Members Only Plant Sale

#### May 5-7:

Spring Plant Sale and Gardening Weekend

#### May 6:

Early Bird Walk

Soil Testing

Listen up Storybook Strolls: The Lorax

Poetica Musica: American Odyssey

# The Restoration of the South Alleé The Hemlock Hedge

The Hemlock Hedge, encircling the South Lawn and running several hundred feet to the South Gates, is one of the character-defining features of Old Westbury Gardens. For more



than a decade discussions have been ongoing about its eventual replacement, the three-phase process needed to complete this massive undertaking, and the necessary fundraising.

The hedge was intended to be part of a three-tiered planting with an allee of European Lindens acting as the over-story to the Hedge and Flowering Dogwoods planted in regular intervals behind it. Although the Linden Allee exists in almost pristine condition, many of the dogwoods have been in serious decline. Weather events and wooly adelgid infestations in the late 80's and 90's caused damage, and the hedge was out of scale-stretches ranged from 12 feet in some areas to over 20 feet in others.

Then Superstorm Sandy wreaked havoc. Large limbs fell from the Lindens and the damage was devastating, but it did make us eligible for a federal grant allowing Old Westbury Gardens to begin removal and replanting in spring 2015! The second phase began in March 2017, and we plan to have the entire hedge restored by spring 2018.

#### **May 7:**

Porsche Concour

Long Island Flute Club Recital

May 13:

Kids & Family
Programs: Eat Up!
What's Cookin': Edible
Flowers for Mother's
Day

May 14:

Mother's Day

May 17:

Afternoon Tea & Tour

May 18:

Afternoon Tea & Tour

May 19:

Take Flight: Bees and Brews

May 20:

Kids & Family
Programs: Make Up!
Maker Project:
Predator Portrayal

Gardeners' Fair: An Evening in Marrakech

**May 21:** 

Talk & Tour: Fragrance in the Gardens

May 27:

Think Up! Old Westbury Whodunit: Self-guided Scavenger Hunt

May 29:

Memorial Day

#### **Activity Calendars:**

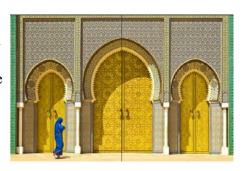
May 2017

The Hemlock Hedge is just one of many planned preservation initiatives. As features of the landscape decline or grow out of scale, future efforts will be planned to preserve the Phipps' vision for the future at Old Westbury Gardens.

#### 2017 Gardeners' Fair:

An Evening in Marrakech

On May 20, 2017, Old Westbury Gardens will hold its largest fundraising event of the year, The Gardeners' Fair. More than 300 guests will enjoy spring's most elegant party,



An Evening in Marrakech, in the magnificent setting of the Gardens. This sumptuous event attracts an incredibly dedicated group of Old Westbury Gardens' supporters, including corporations and private individuals.

We are pleased to honor Long Island residents and famed fashion designers Mark Badgley and James Mischka.

This year, the party will benefit the many children's educational programs offered by Old Westbury Gardens. More than 5,000 school children visit every year to enjoy field trips, camp, events and programs developed just for them. In particular, we are extremely proud to offer environmental education classes to students of the Westbury School District, who may otherwise be unable to visit.

To purchase tickets or contribute to the event, please click **HERE**.





The Old Westbury Gardens Plant Sale, which runs from May 5-7 with a special preview sale for members on May 4, doesn't just offer the same plants that anyone can get at their local nursery or garden center. Our team has curated the sale to focus on plants unique to Old Westbury Gardens. Old-fashioned favorites like Sweet Peas, Delphinium and Foxgloves-all grown right here at Old Westbury Gardens-are just a few of the species that will be for sale.

We know that many of our customers are looking for things to plant in the shade. We have expanded our selection of shade-loving plants even more this year and are confident we have the plant for any place.

With horticulturists and master gardeners on hand to assist our visitors, and free soil testing Friday-Sunday, there's something for everyone with a green thumb at the Old Westbury Gardens Plant Sale! For more information about what will be offered this year at the Old Westbury Gardens Plant Sale, visit our website: <a href="https://www.oldwestburygardens.org">www.oldwestburygardens.org</a>.

### What's Happening in Westbury House: Conserving Thomas Stothard's Painting "Scene from the opera Nina"





This painting by English artist Thomas Stothard (ca. 1800) was cleaned and conserved by a graduate student at NYU's Institute of Fine Arts Conservation Program. Sarah D. Mastroangelo conserved the painting under the supervision of Lucie Kinsolving, painting conservator at Old Westbury Gardens.

The painting is displayed in the White Drawing Room along with other women's portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Angelica Kauffman. Nina was an Italian opera written in 1789 about a young woman going mad but it appears that Nina has regained her sanity in this scene.

Ms. Mastroangelo so enjoyed learning about Stothard and conserving the painting and

#### Take Flight: Bees & Brews

With 5/19's Take Flight: Bees and Brews event buzzing on the horizon, we get candid with our guide Citifield's Landscape and Horticulture



Manager Ann Marie Breyer.

**Q-** Where did you get your love of backyard beekeeping?

**A-** I'm a gardener first so I originally wanted to get involved in beekeeping because of pollination. I was intrigued by the "who, what, where and how" of the floral process as a whole. And I love honey.

**Q-** And your love of beer?

A- I stared to really enjoy craft beer and the different varieties when I met my husband. It was a beer bonding experience - something to chat about and plan dates around. Fermentation is this whole other biological process that takes place. Just another way the natural world gives us good things to eat and drink.

**Q-** Not to drone on, but I hear you have some sweet toddlers at home. Do you ever call your kids "honey"?

A- Yes! They are my honeybunches.

**Q-** What truly fascinates you about bees? **A-** I think...

Find out the answer to this question and more at Take Flight: Bees and Brews.

cleaning the frame that it became the topic of her Master's thesis which she will share with us in the fall. Register today to enjoy a twilight bee tour and beer tasting by clicking HERE

#### **Donor Profile: Laureen Knutsen**

Congratulations to the newly elected Vice Chairman of the Old Westbury Gardens Board of Trustees, Laureen Knutsen. Laureen has been involved with the Gardens since 1992, and she has been a member of the Board since 1993. With her personal focus on education, Laureen, and her husband Ragnar, made a lead gift last year to the restoration of the Quaker-era barn, also known as The Barn at Orchard Hill. We proudly reopened our restored barn in April of 2016 as the setting for our summer camp, fundraising events, school visits and other programs, including the North Shore Garden Club's incredible flower show and a *Sanctuary of Beauty* book signing by Jim Large. Laureen will be honored at the Children of Bloom Luncheon this October 17th for her work and dedication to environmental education. From the entire Gardens family: Thank you to Laureen and Ragnar!



#### **Environmental Education**

OWG welcomes the pitter patter skip and stomp of some 5000+ school aged students annually- over 10,000 little feet if you're counting. Many make a stop at our newly renovated Education Barn while others tread straight out into the Gardens.

The Environmental Education Department's busiest season is spring and with it comes the opportunity to showcase our love of the outdoors to a whole new generation. Can You Dig It? A Soil Science Discovery is one of the best programs to unearth on our grounds. I hear you already, "Ugh. The science of dirt?" but yes! We teach that dirt is a dirty word and soil is a medium for life filled with beneficial organisms, nutrients and a constant balance of nature circulating through its pore spaces. Not to mention that earthly aroma after a rainfall. Horticultural therapy at its finest.

And the hundreds of little feet who pick this program? They run an acre race, complete an on-site dig to learn the detriments of compaction and leave tiptoeing not through the tulips, but around our tree circles. Lesson learned. Preservation through education

## Join Us For Mother's Day

Honor Mom on her special day with a visit to the Gardens. Stroll the grounds, tour Westbury House, and enjoy time with your family in a beautiful setting. All women, 18 and older will receive a complimentary lavender plant, while supplies last.

Sunday Brunch, prepared by Polka Dot Pound Cake, will also be available in the Cafe in the Woods beginning on Mother's Day! Brunch starts with mini chocolate and plain croissants, and includes a Sandwich or Salad, Fruit, and beverage. Sunday Brunch will be 15% off for all members of Old Westbury Gardens.



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