

# Old Westbury Gardens



Clippings from the Gardens  
Summer, 2015

## Gardeners' Fair

At this year's Gardeners' Fair on May 16, Old Westbury Gardens celebrated the long and exciting history of horses on Long Island. This was the brainchild of Ellen Niven and her co-chair Cornelia Guest. Our honoree was the perfect choice for this theme, Jane Greenleaf.

Jane and her family have been actively involved with the competition equestrian world for decades, especially at the Meadowbrook Hunt Club and at the Meadowbrook Pony Club. Her husband John was an accomplished polo player. Her daughter Victoria earned the honor of "Pony Clubber of the Year" in 1977.

A number of the 320 guests who attended the event were members of Jane's family, including her brother Jim Stebbins and his wife Cynthia, and Jane's daughter Victoria and her husband Mike Kempner. The Stebbins Family Fund was a major supporter of

the Gardeners' Fair as well as the Preservation Project, (appropriately enough) the Barn at Orchard Hill, which was a hay barn during its use by a Hicks family farmer.

The Gardeners' Fair journal, which was truly a work of art, was achieved through an enormous effort by Julie Rinaldini, assisted by Richard Gachot, who shared many historic Phipps family photos of racing horses and polo ponies.



The Live Auction was chaired by Amy Falls and Aimee Eberle. Dina Holiat and Mary Lee Citrino were responsible for the Silent Auction

and plant material. Fred Bancroft was the exuberant auctioneer. This year, both auctions were greatly enhanced by the generosity of Priscilla Gremillion, the owner of Hermes Americana Manhasset. Guests received wonderful individual Hermes soaps and a bottle of Jo Loves cologne. The Honorary Décor Chair was Nina Campbell, and the Décor Chair was Chesie Breen. Kim Bohner served as the Junior Chair, Kirsten Benjamin was the Music Chair, and Tim and Gina DiPietro were the Journal Chairs.



## Kudos for OWG

*"The moment you enter the property, you feel the outside world start to fade away."*

*"The Walled Garden took my breath away. If you are in the area, this place is a must see!"*

*"The gorgeous flowers and landscaping made us feel so serene."*

*"This place is crazy beautiful."*

Those are just a few of the comments posted on TripAdvisor, the largest travel site in the world. This spring, Old Westbury Gardens was awarded a 2015 Certificate of Excellence. The award "honors businesses that consistently achieve outstanding traveler reviews, demonstrate hospitality excellence, and represent the upper echelon of businesses listed on TripAdvisor."

## Bill Cunningham

by Vince Kish

As has typically been the case for many years, media coverage of Old Westbury Gardens' Annual Gardeners' Fair was provided by photographer Bill Cunningham. His Evening Hours column in the Style section of the Sunday, May 31 issue of *The New York Times* included 13 images from the event. I have had the pleasure of working with Bill and getting to know him for over 10 years. To point out that he is an interesting character is an understatement.

Bill Cunningham is 86 years old. Because he always wants to cram in as many photo opportunities as possible, he literally runs around the grounds and is difficult to keep up with. He is also a consummate gentleman who will take his time to chat with virtually everyone, whether a friend for over half a century or a passing acquaintance. Although he doesn't mind covering fundraising events, his real passions are fashion trends and beautiful gardens. His favorite flowers at Old Westbury Gardens include rhododendrons, wisteria, and the Hello Darkness irises in the Walled Garden.

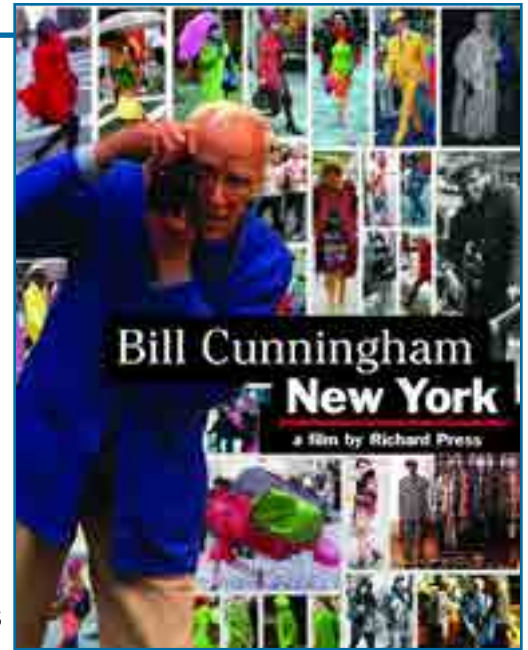
For over 60 years Bill lived at Carnegie Hall Towers, a complex of 170 studio apartments built by Andrew Carnegie in 1896 above his concert hall at 57<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There was no kitchen, and he shared a hallway bathroom. He slept on a cot surrounded by filing cabinets filled with negatives of every photo he has ever taken. (He finally switched to a digital camera about three years ago). His neighbors included Marlon Brando and Leonard Bernstein. In 2010, Bill and the handful of other remaining tenants were relocated to nearby apartment buildings to allow for the conversion of the Towers into an education center. Bill now has his own bathroom, and a kitchen he will likely never use other than for storage. (The landlord agreed to pull out the refrigerator, but declined to remove the oven).

Every month, Bill receives hundreds of requests to attend fundraising parties in the metro area. He tries to cover as many events as he can, though he is drawn primarily to non-profits and other organizations he feels can best benefit from the publicity he can provide. He ignores guest lists and cares nothing about celebrity status, most particularly his own.

Bill is one of the most well know and sort after

photographers in the world, but he thinks of himself strictly as a journalist, one who uses a camera in lieu of words, to witness and record fashion trends and other societal changes. His preferred mode of travel is his bicycle. He generally wears a blue jacket that is part of the uniform of Parisian street sweepers that sells for about \$20. Rips in his clothing are mended with gaffer's tape. He always eats dinner prior to attending any events, usually at the local Papaya King. Other than a glass of water, he will never accept any food or drink at a party.

Several years ago, much to Bill's annoyance, a camera crew followed him around for a few months filming for a documentary titled "Bill Cunningham New York." When I asked Bill what he thought of the film, he told me that he had better things to do with his time and hadn't seen it. He then went back to something he obviously felt was very much worth his time, taking pictures of the wisteria on the wall of the South Terrace.



## What's in a Name

By Vince Kish

One of the highlights of early summer in the Walled Garden is the many varieties of David Austin English Roses. Much acclaimed for their delicate charm, intense fragrance, and repeat flowering, these plants are also known for their unique names, which are based on real historical figures and fictional characters alike, some easily recognizable, and others quite obscure. Although I agreed with Shakespeare's Juliet, "that which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet," I was still curious about who some of these people were. So I did some digging.



*St. Swithun Rose*

**Abraham Darby** (1678-1717), an English Quaker, was a key figure in the early days of the industrial revolution. He invented a process by which pig iron could be produced in a blast furnace fueled by coke as opposed to charcoal.

**Benjamin Britten** was named for Edward Benjamin Britten (1913-1976), an English composer, conductor and pianist. Along with Puccini and Richard Strauss, Britten's operas continue to be performed worldwide more than those of any other composers from the 20th century.

**Crown Princess Margareta** is named for Margaretha Désirée Victoria (born 1934), a Swedish princess who is a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. Since her 1964 marriage to British businessman John Ambler, her title was "downgraded" from Royal Highness to Princess Margaretha, Mrs. Ambler. Although she likely doesn't care, neither she nor her descendants can inherit the Swedish throne.

**Gertrude Jekyll** (1843-1932) was a very well-known and highly influential horticulturist, landscape/garden designer, and writer. During her long career, she designed over 400 gardens in Europe and the United States. Her younger brother, Reverend Walter Jekyll, was a good friend of Robert Louis Stevenson, who further immortalized the family name in his novel, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

**Graham Thomas OBE** (1909-2003) was an English garden designer known primarily for his work with roses and his restoration and stewardship of over 100 National Trust Gardens.

**James Galway** (born 1939) is a flutist from Northern Ireland, much appreciated by flute fans, including our friends at the Long Island Flute Club for having exposed the music of that instrument to a mass audience.

**Munstead Wood** in Surrey, England was home to Gertrude Jekyll from 1897 through 1932. Jekyll designed the gardens. The house was built by her friend and frequent collaborator, Edwin Lutyens. The estate has since been subdivided into six plots, each with a different owner.

**St. Swithun** is my personal favorite, (rose not saint). Swithun Wells (1536-1591), a Catholic martyr from the reign of Elizabeth I, was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1970. But the rose is actually named for an earlier Swithun, a Saxon Bishop of Winchester from the 9<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Tess of d'Urbervilles** is named for the 1892 Thomas Hardy novel, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles: A Pure Woman Faithfully Presented*. Although d'Urbervilles sounds like it's a town in Appalachia, it's the name of the family with whom the book's heroine, Tess Durbeyfield, finds some kinship.

**William Shakespeare** (1564-1616) was...well, we know.



*Munstead Wood*

## Save the Tiger

As previously presented in a preservation article in the Spring, 2013 issue of this newsletter, Old Westbury Gardens is restoring the tiger in the Entry Hall of Westbury House. The tiger, with his lifelike features and fierce expression, is a favorite attraction among visitors, especially children. Unfortunately, his fur has faded, he is losing hair, his teeth are loose, and his display case needs attention. The Gardens would like to bring this beautiful Indian tiger back to his original glory by hiring conservator George Dante to restore his fur, coloration, claws and teeth.

This specimen was created by a world class taxidermist, Roland Ward, who Mr. Dante has described as “the greatest taxidermist in history. The quality of his work on this tiger is fantastic. The issues facing the tiger are common for an animal of this age.”

Mr. Dante will have to make a series of careful repairs to address a number of conditions. The animal’s hair color has faded due to exposure to excessive light levels. The skin has become brittle as a result of improper temperature and relative humidity during his many prior years on display. The hair has experienced slippage in many areas. The hair on the paws is loosely attached as the join with the skin has been compromised. Some of the claws on both front paws are missing. The two upper canines have experienced breakage and loss. Some fills may be required once they are reattached.

The dried grasses, indigenous to the grasses that camouflage Bengal tigers, are brittle and covered in a layer of dust and dirt. The green felt panel at the back of the case needs to be replaced. Temperature and humidity controls have been installed in several

rooms on the first floor making the conditions in the house vastly improved for the tiger and the rest of the Westbury House collections. But much more needs to be done. Old Westbury Gardens has raised \$6,500 for this project. Because of the extensive fur refurbishment needed, it is estimated by a third party conservator that the Gardens will need an additional \$13,500 for the conservation work to be fully complete.

For anyone who wishes to support this important project there are several benefits you may receive depending upon the amount of your donation. These include free passes to Old Westbury Gardens, tiger lily bulbs to plant in your garden, or a hat with a ferocious but adorable tiger logo. But perhaps the greatest reward will be the satisfaction of preserving this exhibit to be viewed by many thousands of visitors in the decades to come.



For information regarding how to contribute to this project, click on the Help Restore Our Tiger link on our website ([www.oldwestburygardens.org](http://www.oldwestburygardens.org)) or contact our Development Director, Doreen Banks at [dbanks@oldwestburygardens.org](mailto:dbanks@oldwestburygardens.org).



## Unique Spring Visitors

Old Westie the turtle, who we think is over 80 years old, typically comes out of his hiding spots for a day or two in April and takes a leisurely walk to the West Pond. This year, as a change of pace, he decided to stretch his legs on the South Lawn in mid-June. Charlie the Falcon however, seen here with his fashionably dressed handler, was at the Gardens on official business as part of a shoot for a commercial for a phone app.

## Volunteer Focus

Geraldine Goldner began volunteering at Old Westbury Gardens working in the Walled Garden in March, 1999. In more recent years, Geraldine has been a fixture at Westbury House, greeting visitors at the front hall reception guest.

Earlier this year, writer Domenica Farishian from The Westbury Times wrote a feature article about Geraldine, "95 Years Young And Still Growing Up." The following are excerpts from that article, reprinted with permission.

To say Geraldine Goldner is age defying is putting it mildly. The Westbury resident has an irrepressible and unstoppable zest for life. Ask any one of her friends in attendance at her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday party, who unanimously and laughingly agree they want to be just like their beloved friend Gerry

when they "grow up."

"To me the secret to a long life is friends, staying active and being positive," said Goldner. "Do something every day and whatever you do enjoy it." Enjoy life she does. The ever-active Goldner keeps a schedule that could wear out someone half her age. In addition to volunteering at Old Westbury Gardens, Goldner keeps active at two senior centers.

First and foremost on the list for Goldner though is helping out others. "Every week I drive senior citizens who need help getting to their medical appointments or need assistance with shopping," she explains. Many of the "seniors" Goldner is referring to are chronologically younger than she is.

Her positive attitude and love of life started at an early age, growing up in Brooklyn as the oldest

of three children. Her parents were extremely encouraging, especially when she attended New York University. Goldner's first career was as a physical education teacher. Never one to sit still, she went back to NYU, earning her Masters in Physical Therapy. Soon after graduating, she landed a job at Fort Dix in New Jersey during World War II, aiding soldiers.

By the early 1950s Goldner, her husband Harold, and their two young daughters settled in the Westbury home she still lives in today. She stayed home to raise her girls until returning back to work, this time in her third and final career as a social worker, a job she held from 1963 until retiring in 1984.

One of the questions Goldner is asked most frequently is people wondering where she gets her boundless

energy. "She is an inspiration. She has a smile that doesn't quit. You're looking at the eighth wonder of the world," said Goldner's friend, Irene Casagrande.

Besides her positive attitude and busy lifestyle, Goldner attributes her long life to good genes, both her parents lived into their nineties, and a healthy lifestyle of good food and exercise. "My motto is: why stand when you can walk."



*Geraldine greets a visitor in the Westbury House Lobby*

## You like us, you really like us

And now we know! We extend our deepest gratitude to the 2014 visitors who leant their insight and opinions to Old Westbury Gardens' *Visitors Count Survey*. This research program, designed, analyzed, and reported by the American Association for State and Local History, provided the Gardens with an insider's view of the true visitor experience. Results revealed that both first time and return visitors value our National Historic Site as an important contributor to community life that has consistently exceeded expectations and positively impacted families. Visitors appreciate the opportunity the Gardens pro-

vides to connect with others in a perfectly preserved setting.

We were thrilled to learn that visitors would highly recommend our site for its excellent value and would plan to return in the future. As for our improvement opportunities, we hear you and we look forward to developing new programs to meet changing interests and technology. Smaller scale surveys will be offered in 2015 to better understand results and pinpoint ways we can meet and surpass visitor needs. We hope you will continue to take part and express your opinions, as your comments will help shape future Gardens' experiences.

## Preservation News

by Lorraine Gilligan

Later this year, the intricate wrought iron balcony over the front entrance of Westbury House will be restored in order to preserve the intricately designed florets and leaves and center cartouche. The focal point of the balcony is a shield embossed with John Shaffer Phipps's monogram. This feature and the elaborate bracketing on either side are repoussé work, a labor intensive method of using steel as a base metal and working from the back of the piece to create a raised design or relief. Areas of the relief are rusting and blurring the raised detail. The features will be stabilized to preserve their crispness and regilded and the black wrought iron features will be cleaned and recoated. The balcony will once again grace the entrance to Westbury House, an elegant harbinger of the treasures within.



*The front entrance balcony*

The painting collection continues to be conserved thanks to the generosity of the Friends of Old Westbury Gardens and trustee, Arthur Levine. Two genre scenes by English painter George Morland that are displayed in the Entry Hall have been cleaned, stabilized and revarnished. Thomas Gainsborough's Portrait of Prince William Henry over Derwent Wood's marble mantelpiece in the Dining Room will also be conserved. Prince William Henry is depicted as a young midshipman (ca. 1781) who spent years in the Royal Navy, supposedly to escape the corrupting influences of his two older brothers. He spent years in the West Indies and New York and ultimately was made Duke of Clarence in 1789 and eventually Lord High Admiral. At age 72, he succeeded his father, King George III and ruled as William IV, the

"Sailor King," for seven years. He was succeeded by his niece Victoria. A second portrait (1759), Richard Boyle, from the studio of Sir Joshua Reynolds, will also be conserved. Richard Boyle, the Second Earl of Shannon was also nicknamed the "Colossus of Castlemartyr" for his ability to jerrymander election districts for his personal gain. JS Phipps purchased the painting, along with Stephen Slaughter's Portrait of Viscountess Ikerrin, at a Christie's auction in 1905. The paintings had been displayed in Marston House, a Boyle family estate in Somerset, England.

Two important masonry projects were undertaken last autumn to stabilize and restore the appearance of two terrace features to the south and west of Westbury House. A decorative medallion directly outside of the Red Ballroom and composed of brick laid in a herringbone pattern and framed in limestone had become unstable from water infiltration and hydrostatic water pressure. The medallion was dismantled, the bricks relaid with a soft mortar and the limestone curbing reinforced to deter the ever present momentum of water pressure to move hard-landscape elements towards the East Lake.



*Masonry work on the South Terrace*

The historic beech tree located outside the West Porch and at the entry to the steps leading to the West Pond is a mature tree whose roots had lifted portions of the limestone balustrade on either side of the steps making the railing unstable. The project entailed dismantling the balustrade, re-establishing a secure foundation for the base and reinstalling the components. In both projects, we were fortunate to be able to retain most of the historic material to be reused to ensure the integrity of our preservation efforts and to guarantee the safety of our many visitors.

## Glory behind the Wall

by Kim Johnson

One of the signature plants of the Walled Garden is the Glory Bush or Princess Flower. Botanically speaking *Tibouchina* is a woody plant mostly native to tropical South America. The *Tibouchina* most commonly grown in gardens is *Tibouchina urvilleana*. Around July and August our visitors start taking notice of these eye-catching plants. Depending on how they are pruned, they are loosely branched shrubs. We train ours to be around 4-5 feet, which is a good height for the back of our borders. Their 3-6" oval leaves are covered across the surface with velvety hairs and turn a nice autumn orange color. The main attraction, the flowers, start appearing mid-summer and are a deep velvety purple color not commonly seen among other annuals. The display culminates well into October with leaves and flowers contrasting beautifully with other fall flowers and foliage. A tricky aspect of growing these plants in our area is that they are not hardy. Being native to Brazil they are a zone 10 plant. They can tolerate a light frost, but not prolonged temperatures of below 40 degrees.

One of the goals, and challenges, of the Walled Garden is to be a beautiful showcase for visitors to enjoy over a period of seven months. This requires plants being changed out of the borders on a regular basis. Glory Bushes in combination with our large planting of Dahlias give us height and color for an extended length of time in the back of many of the borders. After the Foxgloves are finished in June, those plants are removed. June begins digging up 7000 bulbs and planting of a large variety of colorful summer annuals. That's when we pull out the large pots of Glory Bushes that have been overwintering in one of our greenhouses that stay cool yet don't freeze. The plants have gone semi-dormant, dropped their leaves, but are still alive. Once they have sun and warmer temperatures they start rapidly growing. When the temperatures are warm enough to start putting out the summer annuals the Glory Bushes go into the Walled Garden. After a good dose of fertilizer (optimally every 2-3 weeks in summer), they are well on their way. At the end of the season after the first frost, usually around first of November, we dig up all the plants, pot them up, lightly prune them

back, and store them once again to overwinter in the greenhouse. We get away with treating this tender tropical plant like a big summer annual.

Last summer two new types of Glory Bushes were planted with positive reviews. *Tibouchina grandiflora* produces larger, wider round leaves. Flowers still are very impressive, yet they differ from *T. urvilleana* in the way they are formed. Plants produce flower stalks up to 2 feet long and numerous small 1" flowers are formed along the stalk. Clusters of flowers are still the same stunning purple. The plants grew rapidly and continued to produce many flowers stalks opening over a long period of time. *Tibouchina lepidota* is a shorter plant with a more compact habit and smaller linear leaves. It ended up flowering later in the season and by the end of the fall it provided a show stopping display with fall chrysanthemums and other seasonal plants.



Above, *Glory Bushes* just prior to mid-June planting, below, *Tibouchina grandiflora* in early September





## One Room at a Time

by Vince Kish

**W**estbury House, for all its size and elegance, shared one important characteristic with other houses on Long Island – it was very much a home. Essentially everything that the visitor sees was here during the residence of the family of Jay, Margarita, Ben, Hubert, Peggie, and Michael Phipps between 1907 and 1958. The furniture that is no longer touched, except by highly trained restorers, was being used, and perhaps occasionally abused, by four children and their various playmates. And like any home, as kids grew up, went to college, and got married, or other aspects of the family's life progressed, its rooms underwent a series of changes.

The room that we now use for our gift shop has an interesting past. In 1907 the area included a butler's pantry and the west end of the original kitchen. In 1910, when a servants' wing was added to the house, the kitchen moved downstairs and eastwards, and a perambulator room was created. Although some people assume this means some sort of nursery, a pram room is more typically a storage area for prams, and often bicycles and other wheeled vehicles, to prevent mud from being tracked throughout the house, (a policy we continue to maintain by not allowing strollers inside). The next documented room change didn't occur until nine years later. Michael, the youngest of the children, was born in 1910, and obviously the need for any family prams in the house would have been long gone years prior to 1919. So it is likely that the room continued to be a storage area/mud room of some sort. In any event, the perambulator room and butler's pantry were combined to create a smoking room. Construction included the removal of a fireplace and an east wall, although a south wall still

separated this area from the rest of the house.

By 1924, the room was referred to as Mr. Phipps's study. In 1928, the same area was called the billiard room. Finally, at some point in the late 1930s, in anticipation of accommodating a number of Grace family cousins and other relatives from England during World War II, the wall was removed and the space was redesigned, as a children's dining room.

Adjacent to the cash register area of the shop, under the main stairway, there is a small room presently used for storage. Some people believe that this was a telephone room. It is possible that such a room existed and that there were, in pre-cell phone days, manners regarding sharing personal conversations with anyone within earshot. But if so, there is no documentation to support this. Furthermore, there is a pedestal sink and other fixtures in the area, obviously indicating that this was a bathroom.

As most regular Gardens' visitors are already aware, Jay Phipps chose George Crawley and Grosvenor Atterbury for the original design of Westbury House, but opted to use other architects for the many alterations and additions that followed after the house was completed in early 1907. Peabody, Wilson, and Brown designed most of the work in the gift shop area. Some of their other local projects included Pond Hollow Farm in Old Westbury (the estate of Julian Peabody), Westbury High School, and the Children's Library in Westbury. The servants' wing was designed by Horace Trumbauer. Some of Trumbauer's other projects included The Elms and other mansions in Newport, Rhode Island, much of the campus of Duke University in North Carolina, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which regrettably is now more closely associated with its steps filled with selfie-taking tourists doing lame Rocky impersonations than its fine art collections.

## Kings County Cajuns

One of the bands that will be appearing for the first time at our Picnic Pops Series is Dr. Zsa's Powdered Zydeco Band. Their July 22 performance will feature the hot sounds of traditional Louisiana Creole and Cajun favorites reinterpreted to represent the musicians' local roots with a touch of Brooklyn hipster cool. What may appear to be a bulletproof vest on the fellow second from the right is actually his percussion instrument, a frottoir, or Zydeco rub board.



*Given that Old Westbury Gardens is the middle of a construction project renovating a Quaker barn at Orchard Hill that was formerly owned by members of the Hicks family, some insights into the history of the Quaker farmers who settled and lived in this area would seem especially timely. The following are excerpts from an article written by Ester Hicks Emory in 1977.*

## **Gleanings from the Past**

When “Henerie” Willis chose a home site in Westbury in 1674, he looked for good soil, water for his cattle, and protection from the north wind. This he found just to southeast of the present Phipps Mansion at Old Westbury Gardens. Edmond Titus, who took up land nearby a few years previously in that same time called Plainedge or Woodedge, found similar advantages. His home stood on the west side of the present Hitchcock Lane. The slight rise of ground to the north and the series of ponds below are the last vestiges of the ancient glacier as it melted and swept towards the sea, forming an outwash plain, the Hempstead Plains.

These two men and their families were members of the Religious Society of Friends, or Quakers, and had suffered persecution for their beliefs in England. It was Willis who gave the new settlement the

name of Westbury, after a town in his native county of Wiltshire, England.

A Quaker meeting had been established here as early as 1671. The “minute” setting it up is the earliest Quaker record extant in this country. This same “minute” also established a meeting in Matinecock and in Oyster Bay. Friends met in their homes, and even in the barns and in the fields. By 1700, it was apparent they needed a special building for the purpose. The search ended when William Willis tendered an offer of part of his land south of the Yeacois Path (Jericho Turnpike). He sold three and a half acres for four pounds, where a meeting house was erected in 1701. Two other meeting houses have been built on this spot, in 1800 and in 1902, thus making it one of the oldest religious sites in continuous use in this country. Farmers cleared land for their crops but reserved some wooded acres for timber and firewood. The present Post Road was opened by Henry Willis as “ye cartway from ye highway to ye north woods.” Another trail or road in early use was the Harbor Path leading to Roslyn, which is now Shore Hill Road. Probably, farmers took their grain to be ground at the mill there. The Harbor Path joined Tincock Hollow, now Old Westbury Road.

In 1895, William E. Hawxhurst, a

surveyor, prepared a map of Old Westbury on which he showed the ownership of all parcels of land from 1658 to that date. In his accompanying notes he described a bridle path cutting on a diagonal from approximately the Old Westbury Gardens entrance on the southeasterly course, joining the Jericho Turnpike at about the town line. He stated that, ‘school children have the right to pass and repass on this trail and that right still exists.’ The first school which children would have attended was built previous to the Revolutionary War, for the British soldiers occupied the building and “broke up the school.” By 1781, it was repaired and school resumed. This small building stood on the west side of Post Road north of the Turnpike until it burned about 1850. At various times, there were other schools maintained by the Friends. A public school was not started until 1845.

The life of the farmers here continued quiet and self-sufficient for almost 200 years. The only store was that established by Elias Lewis and Charles Post about 1840 on the site of the present Old Westbury Post Office. As the present Village of Westbury developed, it was known as Westbury Station. But after about 1912, it carried the name in use now and the older settlement to the north was officially designated Old Westbury.



*The barn renovation as of early December, far left, and late May, left*

## Friends' News

The Friends Central Park Tour on May 27 proved to be a wonderful event. Thanks to devoted efforts of Liz Boylan, Paul Mateyunas, and the generosity and kindness of Amy Falls, the day was planned and executed impeccably. The event consisted of a tour of Central Park, a luncheon at the magnificent apartment of Amy Falls, and a lecture by our honored guest Henry



Stern, the former Commissioner of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. With the help of the devoted Friends of Old Westbury Gardens, and the graciousness of Henry Stern, the Friends' Central Park Tour was a great success.

For anyone interested in joining the Friends of Old Westbury Gardens, or if you would like to find out more about upcoming Friends' trips and other events, please contact Kristen Temkin at [ktemkin@old-westburygardens.org](mailto:ktemkin@old-westburygardens.org).

## The Diane Wittlinger Memorial Tree Fund and The Volunteer Tree Fund

Donations to both funds have been received from April, 2014 through April, 2015 in memory of the individuals as follow. The names were read at a Tree Dedication Ceremony on Arbor Day, April 26, 2015.

Stephen Agostini  
Karl Alm  
Robert H. Arnesen  
Stanford H. Brainerd  
Thomas William Brody  
Teresa Bruzzese  
Pamela Byrnes  
Theano Callas  
Mary Carew  
James Anthony Celauro  
Sloane Chapman  
Marjorie Coffey  
Alan L. Corey  
Bobby Cox  
Anna Creegan  
Cecilia Dannenberg  
Robert B. Deans  
George L. Engelke  
Anne Fish

Charlene Fortunas  
Murray Ginsberg  
Julio Goncalves dos Reis  
Angela Gordon  
Christine Wise Guelbart  
Dolores Hardwick  
Hal Bowen Howard  
Gloria Kempner  
Carolyn Levy  
Peter Libman  
Helen Lipkin  
Ryan Lupo  
Elena J. Maggi  
John Manos  
Helen McSweeney  
Amanda Lauren Meis  
Nanny Melesh  
Rocco R. Mongelli  
Verdell Myrick

Paul R. Nardella  
Daniel Archibald Nesbett  
Marion Netzer  
Kay Bea O'Donnell  
Jack Radgowski  
Bea Roggenkamp  
Richard Romano  
Steven Romanotto  
Gladys Rossini  
Yu San Kan  
Karen H. Schmidt  
Ellen M. Simonetti  
John W. Sinon  
Mary Stabile  
Rosemarie Totaro  
John Vinciguerra  
Robert Vinciguerra  
Nancy Viola  
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*Thinking of sticking around later this summer? The Long Island Scottish Festival and Highland Games returns on August 22. Enjoy music from pipe bands galor and MacTalla Mór, kids events, Scottish foods, fabrics, and gifts, the Highland competitions, and much more. Admission for Old Westbury Gardens members is a Scottish bargain at \$8.*

Mrs. Etienne Boegner  
(1906-2006)  
*Founder*

Mary S. Phipps  
*Chairman Emeritus*

Carol E. Large  
*Chairman*

John Norbeck  
*President and CEO*

Anne B. Byers  
*Secretary*

John M. Deignan  
*Treasurer*

Vincent Kish  
*Editor, Photographer,  
and Graphic Designer*

Paul Hunchak  
*Calendar of Events*