

Beachcomber, August 6

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Alex Littlefield Columnist



Jimmy Nederlander, Melanie Wambold, Margo Nederlander and John Wambold at the Hospital Foundation Summer Gala.

Gregory D'Elia

As you all know, I love doing my walks in the morning for exercise and just to clear the head — they're fabulous. This past winter, I added a series of very simple exercises, which take about 15 minutes each morning. I've seen an improvement in my balance, and I can see the difference in the waistline!

Recently, I met **Zayden Michel**, who is a personal trainer. I am now working with him to make sure I am doing things correctly. Glad I did this, as he changed my routine and added some new exercises, which have really made a difference.

Zayden asked me a series of questions as to what I wanted to accomplish and crafted a routine that will help me achieve my goal and is also manageable. Thank you, ZM, for your efforts.

Last Monday evening, I went to the final concert in the PianoFest series for the season. This year's talent has been incredible, and the audience has truly enjoyed the performances. Several of the students will be performing this fall, some of them in New York City, and I understand from **Paul Schenly** that he will inform us of these upcoming events.

Seen enjoying the music: **Judy Hadlock, Joan Weltz and Arthur Field, Ana Daniel, Angela and Michael Errico, Ellen Welsh, Susan Knox, Cynthia Warrick and John Folts, Ellen L'Esperance, Ann Grimm, Deborah Pitts, Annette Geddes, Jane Rose and Kent Atkins, Nancy Stone, Anne and Tony Schlesinger, Ann Marie Carr, and Terry and Dede Moan.**

After the concert, there was a dinner held at the Southampton Inn, prepared by the chef at Claude's restaurant. We had the pleasure of having two of the students sitting at our table that evening. It was so interesting to learn their stories and how they came to play piano and what their futures hold for them. Please remember to support this wonderful organization.

The rest of the week was a series of private dinner parties that I wish I could tell you about, but I have been sworn to secrecy by my hosts. Thank you for the lovely evenings with interesting conversation and fabulous food.

Friday evening, it was over to Bridgehampton to the stunning home of **Maria and Ken Fishel** for a cocktail party for the Palm Beach Historical Society. One of the sponsors that evening was Graff, the incredible luxury jewelry brand. Four models were there wearing diamond necklaces, earrings, rings and bracelets, all looking quite dazzling as the setting sun sparkled on them. DJ **Adam Lipson** was spinning and had a lovely selection of background music.

Jeremy Johnson, the president and CEO of the historical society, gave a brief speech explaining to the guests the organization's dedication to preserve, interpret and share the rich history of Palm Beach County. Through their stewardship of archives, exhibitions and educational programs, they connect the community to the past.

Seen enjoying the evening: **Sunni Johnson, Deirdre Byrne, Peter McCracken, Michele and Brooke Heary, David Bush and Timothy McVay, Marni Blau, Janna Bullock, Lucia Hwong Gordon, Frank Morgan, Brent Feigenbaum, Kara Ackerman and Peter Sorriento, Chris Coffee, Chloe Glaser, Serena Woodward, Eric Viner, Catherine Loevner, Kathy Prounis, Vivian and Stanley Picheny, Taylor Materio and Nick Spinelli, Diego Binetti, Lauren Day Roberts, and Alexandra and Bradley Fishel.**

Saturday morning, I headed over to the Peter Marino Art Foundation for the last lecture in the "Brunch With Bob" series. Bob interviewed rising contemporary American visual artist **Robert Nava**, who hails from East Chicago. Robert is an emerging talent whose works of witches, angels, dragons and other mythological creatures combine light and dark, exploring fantasy and folklore. He works with spray paint, acrylics and grease pencil on large-scale canvases, as well as works on paper.

Seen enjoying the lecture: **Stewart Manger, Mary Slattery, Priscilla Rattazzi, Nancy Stone, Robin Brown, Charlie Marder, Gianna Volpe, Mar and William Morosse, Janna Bullock, Peggy Siegal, Arana and Sanford Biggers, R. Couri Hay, Ellen Scarborough, and Kim Heirston.**

That evening, I headed over to Wickapogue Road for the 68th annual Southampton Hospital Foundation Summer Gala. What a fabulous night! The tents looked lovely, the guests were a very sophisticated crowd, and the hors d'oeuvres during cocktails were out of this world, all while vocalist **Christiaan Padavan** performed.

Seen enjoying cocktails: **Margo and Jimmy Nederlander, Jamee and Peter Gregory, Laura and Jim Freeman, Lisa and Rome Arnold, Susan and Phil Cocke, Janna Bullock and R. Couri Hay, Barbara and JC Gilbert, Stuart Sklar and Mark McIntire, Kingsley Crawford, and Christian Feline, Dede and Terry Moan, Carolina and Oscar Molina, and Sheila and Steve Landsberg.**

Afterward, it was into the main tent for a delicious dinner prepared by Elegant Affairs. We enjoyed a tomato and watermelon appetizer, followed by filet mignon and seabass that were both cooked to perfection.

The program that night was short but very effective and informative.

Jim Forbes, president of the board of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, spoke and introduced **Emily Mastaler**, the hospital's chief administrative officer. Emily spoke about the elevation of care at the hospital and how we have become an acute care facility and a Level 3 trauma center. Thanks to the partnership with Stony Brook Medicine, the East End now has access to incredible healthcare.

Seen enjoying the evening: **Nancy Stone, Barbara Zweig, Quinn Pofahl and Jamie Jimenez, Jon McAuliffe, Jessica Mezzacappa and John Zieman, Lisa Crawford, Elena Ford and Mitch Seldin, Melanie and John Wambold, Lydia and Rudy Touzet, Teresa Melhado and Dane Neller, Hollis Forbes, Andrea Goldsmith, Jennifer and Stephen Errico, Cindy Willis, Marlene Brown, Jenya and Richard Stumacher, Elizabeth Mohtares, Sally Van Erk, Jay Lieberman, Sheila and Joe Fuchs, Crystal and Ken Meszkat, and Lydia and Jim Wallis.**

After dinner, auctioneer, author and speaker **Lydia Fenet** led the live auction of a fabulous safari trip to Africa. She then had the crowd raising their paddles to support the hospital. **Lynn Scotti**, the chairperson of the event, closed out the remarks by thanking everyone for being there and for their incredible support of the hospital, which is vital to our community.

The Frank Simmons Band had the dance floor packed as the guests spent the rest of the evening celebrating. Congratulations to Southampton Hospital Foundation President **Julia McCormack** and her team for making this the best hospital party we have had in years.

Sunday morning, I walked over to Pond Lane for the 11th annual run/walk for Hope for Depression. **Robert Barwick** of the Barwick Group did an amazing job organizing the event. **Audrey Gruss** addressed the large crowd that was gathered to participate in the race. She spoke of the pillars of mental health, which includes sleep, exercise, nutrition, mindfulness, and social interaction. One hundred percent of all money raised from the event goes directly to research development. Thank you, Audrey, for your dedication to this cause.

Seen: **Ellen Welsh, Tatiana and Campion Platt, Lis Waterman, Martin Gruss, Janna Bullock, R. Couri Hay, Scott Schneider, Kelly Ford, Kim Heirston, Mirella Cameran, Meg and James McCartney, Louisa Benton, Susan Mortimer, Margo Nederlander, and Javier Macaya.**

Congratulations to **Jordan Daniel**, the men's first-place winner, with a record time of 14 minutes and 42 seconds, and to **Katelyn Jabban**, the women's first-place winner, with a time of 19 minutes and 40 seconds.

Friday evening, St. John's Episcopal Church will hold its annual Art Fair and Cocktail Party. In East Hampton, Guild Hall will have its annual Summer Gala, which is always a fabulous party.

Saturday evening, the Southampton Rose Society will host its annual Garden Party, titled "Golden Rose Gala," at a private estate in Southampton. Also that evening, the Northwell Health Katz Institute will host a "Summer Hamptons Evening" at a private estate in Water Mill.

On Saturday, August 15, the Southampton Fire Department will be hosting its annual Chicken and Rib Dinner. The event has moved this year to the fire station on Hampton Road. This is a great way to show your support for this incredible group of volunteers.

Hope to see you there!