



Beachcomber, July 16

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It was another busy week!

Monday, July 6, I headed over to the Southampton Cultural Center for the second concert in the PianoFest series. What a delight, as these young students performed works by Bach, Chopin and Liszt. The final number for the evening was John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever," played by four pianists on two pianos — it was absolutely magical. Hats off to **Paul Schenly** for these wonderful master classes.

By the way, I want to mention that the Cultural Center was gifted a concert grand piano. It is now the only venue on the East End with two Steinway & Sons concert grand pianos.

Seen enjoying the music: **Sam Orleans and Kevin Hansley, Annette Geddes, Jane Rose, Judy Hadlock, Sissy Diaz Cruz, Arthur Field and Joan Weltz, Barbara Reuter and Bill Williams, Susan Knox, Diana Eck, Sophie Hiltner, Cynthia Warwick and John Folks, Anne McIlvaine, Susan Nappa** and husband **Phil Cocke, Kirsten Lonnie, Angela and Michael Errico, Ana Daniel, Anne and Tony Schlesinger, and Emily and Tom Mahoney.**

The next night, I went to the Southampton Playhouse for a night of comedy hosted by **Caroline Hirsch**. She had three comedians for the first standup comedy show at the Playhouse. **Billy McCuddy** was the warmup act and announcer for the evening.

The audience enjoyed hearing from **Maddy Smith, Jaye McBride** and **Jason Choi**, who all had the audience laughing the night away.

Seen: **Sue Court, Nancy Stone, Beth and David Wittig, Andrew Fox, Jimmy Mack and Brian Mott, Danielle Ganek, Angela LeGreca, Shariee Calderone and Mark Saladino, and Melissa Geiger.**

Thursday morning, it was off to the Maidstone Club for the annual luncheon to benefit the East Hampton Emergency Room. **Emily Mastaler**, the chief administrative officer of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, spoke about the ER, the only freestanding ER department in Suffolk County. She talked of the incredible success the ER has had — an increase of 25 percent in patients being seen in both Southampton and East Hampton, clearly marking the need for the new facility.

Liz Lange, one of the co-chairs of the event, told the audience that the luncheon has raised over \$1.5 million in the last six years, all to benefit the ER department. The event included **Katie Couric** interviewing **Christy Turlington-Burns**. Christy has become an international advocate for maternal health and founded Every Mother Counts 16 years ago. Included in the talk was a trailer for an upcoming HBO documentary that Christy has been working on that will be airing soon.

Seen listening intently: **Sheila Rogers, Lisa McCarthy, Jackie Mitchell, Kathryn Steinberg, Ellen Cromack, Sarah Wetenhall, Barbara Gilbert, Patricia Gathers, Mike Murphy, Hilary Ross, Liz Carey, Alex Scott, Julia McCormack, Ginny Schwerin, Dr. Mark Halsey, Kathy Reilly, Nancy Stone, Michele Heary, and Jeff Tarr** with his daughter-in-law **Amy**.

I had the pleasure of meeting, in Bridgehampton, the new director of The Retreat, **Cate Carbonaro**. She actually has been working there for 18 months and is doing a wonderful job at The Retreat. A very big thank you to the co-chairs of the luncheon, which included **Hollis Forbes, Mary Margaret Trousdale, Jill Davis, Kristin Douglass, Liz Lange** and **Kate Davis**.

That evening, I made my way to the Elks Lodge on County Road 39A for the annual Hampton Fine Art Fair. The organizer of the event is **Rick Friedman**, and this year he brought together an incredible 150 galleries representing multiple artists in the pavilions on the grounds.

One of the highlights of the evening was meeting **MaryAnn Giella McCulloh**, co-owner, with **Mei Fung**, of One Art Space in Tribeca. They were the reps for **Shepard Fairey's** artwork, which was recently on the cover of Time magazine. I also ran into **Greg Sharp**, the owner of Vera Neumann Inc., with a wonderful collection of Vera's personal scarves.

Seen enjoying the night: **Ashley Medici, Cindy Lou Wakefield**, artist **Oscar Molina, Katlean de Monchy, Vered, Melissa Pordy and Leo Lefkowitz, Richard Lefkowitz, Donna Rubin, Andrew Smith, Jill Brooke, Pat Sanders, Greta Waterman, Diane Fein, Jennifer Adams and Ben Segal, Bruce Bockman, Melanie and John Wambold, Carmen D'Alssio, Leila Pinto, Justin Taylor Ward, Michele Heary, Ruth Miller, Irene Albright, Elena Gibbs, Bart Halpern, and Lawrence Kaplan.**

I started my evening on Friday stopping by the J. McLaughlin store for a special trunk show of The Monogram Collection by **Mark Sikes**. Mark has an incredible eye for design and has selected some amazing fabrics for the collection. The evening included nibbles and drinks. A portion of the proceeds of sales went to benefit the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons.

Seen shopping the night away: ARF Executive Director **Kim Nichols, Greg Unis and David Kratz, Ellen and Chuck Scarborough, Katie and Mike Bell, Rose Dios** and her daughter **Gloria, Jamie Berger, Jack Lynch, Paget Stanco, Carrie Bassel, Patricia Machado, Lachlan Spence, Morgan and Marshall Whalen, Hadden Powell, Stephen Gay, Lorena Donovan, Kathy Prounis, and Alicia Galitzin**. Special guests that night included Martini and Mimosa, brother and sister lab mix puppies, and Winki, a Catahoula leopard mix.

Afterward, it was off to one of the golf clubs for a lovely dinner with very dear friends. The club went through some renovations over the winter, and it looks fabulous. Hats off to **John**, the chef, who did an outstanding job that night with an incredible menu — our dinner was delicious.

Saturday night, the place to be was the South Fork History Museum in Bridgehampton for its 37th annual summer gala. The cocktail hour was delightful and included numerous hors d'oeuvre stations provided by various restaurants from the East End. Lunch did lobster rolls; the East Hampton Grill

did a tuna tartare and deviled eggs, while the Golden Pear offered lobster mac & cheese. Springs Tavern and Grill had chicken, avocado and bacon sandwiches on focaccia, Sen offered yellowtail rolls and avocado rolls, and Page Sag Harbor did duck confit, caviar bellinis and foie gras served on fried rice, to mention just a few of the offerings.

On that night, SOFO honored **Louise and Stephan Pesce, Fabien Cousteau, Jean Shafiroff** and the lovely **Bernadette Castor**. **DJ Danja** did a wonderful job and had the crowd enjoying the night. Designs by **Mark Masone** did an outstanding job with the table décor — the table clothes looked like works of art. The caterer for the gala was Events by **Peter Ambrose**, who created a culinary delight for the guests to enjoy. **Angela LaGreca** was the auctioneer for the live auction, which included various trips, a golf outing and tickets for the U.S. Open tennis event in September.

Seen: **Margaret Cortty, Andy Sabin** and his son **Shawn Sabin, Susan Rockefeller, Marsin Mogielski, Amy and Jeff Tarr, Barbara Washkowitz, Patsy Tarr and Jeff Tarr Sr., Alexia Kalfas and Ian Shapolsky, Rob Cole, Martin Shafiroff, Frank Quevedo, Andrea and Torr Marro, Bradley Latham, Sisi Bohlen, Elyn and Jeff Kronemeyer, Claudia Wagner, Victoria Siemens, John Catsimatidis, Alice and Wayne Whitmore, Kimberly Goff, Greg Lippmann, Pam and Jim Ash, Kenneth Ramos, Patricia Paladines and Carl Safina, and Kim Nichols and Steve Lamson.**

This weekend has some great events. First up on Friday night is the French Heritage Cocktail Party at a private home in Bridgehampton. If you are only going to one cocktail party this summer, this is the one — very upscale, wonderful food, great entertainment, and for a worthwhile cause.

Saturday morning, the **Peter Marino** Art Foundation will host the next “Brunch with Bob.” The series of talks are educational; the current display at the foundation is spectacular. Hopefully, you can still get a ticket, as the talks always sell out fast.

Of course, that night, the place to be is the Parrish Art Museum for its annual Summer Gala. Another great event and wonderful evening, and I am truly looking forward to it.

Hope to see you there!