

# The Water Island Scoop

Published Every Now and Then

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Summer has officially arrived in Water Island. The air seems to hold more water as clouds drift over the face of the sun, drop their contents and move on. We can fry at Home Depot, while back home a sudden squall blasts its way through the open windows to drench our bedding. At night, lightning flashes through the darkness while distant thunder rumbles on the horizon. On Sunday, June 26 a meteor traced a slow trajectory across the eastern sky, amazing those who happened to be looking overhead.

Maybe we need the distractions of the cosmic stage now that we have been hit with the deaths of three neighbors in the prime of life, one after another, with no warning and no time to collect ourselves in between shocks. Even in the Garden of Eden, it seems, mortality is a fact of life.

But there is much to console us on Water Island. We have more than our fair share of natural beauty (the flamboyant trees are still in full bloom), happy children (some of whose faces appear in this issue), and a close community.

## WISAR Update

WISAR now has an emergency cell phone number: (340) 642-5660. The mobile phone will always be carried by the WISAR member on call. This number should only be used for emergencies.

In other news, VI Property and Procurement has approved an ambulance for WISAR. They have been advised that it will be fully loaded with the proper medical equipment, and will be delivered properly serviced and with new tires.

## WELCOME HOME

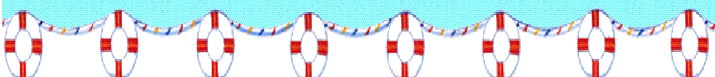


Marion Wilkinson was greeted upon her return to Water Island on Tuesday, June 7, 2005. Marion was returning from the States, to recuperate from successful medical treatment.



## It's Good to Be Home

We want to welcome Jane Niblock back on Island after her medical treatment, and hope she'll be better than new in no time.



# In Remembrance

"Sooooo sorry! Tom, Larry and Dale were all too young to die.  
What a tragedy." Genevieve Alexander

## Tom Nestrud



Thomas Charles Nestrud, Sr., 60, passed away Friday, June 3, 2005, at St. Alexis Medical Center in Hoffman Estates, IL. Tom, nephew

of Genevieve Alexander, enjoyed swimming and boating while on Water Island. He was an accomplished sailor, highlighted by a 2002 crossing of the Atlantic Ocean in a fifty foot sailboat with his sister and brother-in-law.



## Larry Donahue



Water Island lost a man who was known as "everybody's best friend" when Larry Donahue died unexpectedly on Tuesday, June 7, 2005. He was 62.

Larry Donahue was our favorite former ferry boat captain, grill cook and premier Mail deliverer. Larry ran the Water Island ferry for about 10 years, along with being a charter boat captain and mailman. Everybody knew him, in Frenchtown and on Water Island, and, according to his many friends, "Everybody loved him." Heidi Erwig sums it up best: "All I know is that Larry lived every day like it was a party. He enjoyed everything he did. I never knew him to say a bad word. He was always happy."

Donahue sailed into these waters in 1984 on his 44-foot sailboat, the "Barataria," leaving his

business, "Donahue's Tavern," in Winchester, Pa., for bluer waters, so to speak. However, it wasn't his initial foray into the V.I. He had worked for the V.I. Water and Power Authority developing a power plant in the early '60's.



## Dale Applequist

Dale Henning Applequist, 65, died June 22, 2005 at Schneider Hospital in St Thomas, VI. A memorial service was held on Honeymoon Beach, Saturday, July 2, 2005. Rev. Coleman led the large gathering in prayer, and Ginger Bagley shared inspiration thoughts.



Dale was an artist who enjoyed teaching others.



Remember the Monday night art classes, when Dave wouldn't stay with the night's theme, and Steve completed all his work in one color – Red.



"The Water Island community is such a lovely "family"... and, like a family, when one member grieves, all grieve. We do feel blessed to be a part of such a unique, loving community." Mary Lynn & Lee

# Births

Teri Pearsall is proud to announce the birth of her granddaughter, **Alyssa Kristine Pearsall**, to David and Kristina Pearsall.



Introducing: **Alyssa Kristine Pearsall**, Born on Monday, June 6, 2005 at 1:41pm, at a weight of 6lbs.1oz.



Alyssa Kristine Pearsall, held by Great Grandmother Jean T. Robertson



Lucy Gidley became a great-grandmother for the eighth time. **Lea Dawn Holland** was born Tuesday, June 14, 2005 to Lucy's grandson Tad Holland and his wife Ona. The baby underwent heart surgery two days after she was born and is now home with Mom, Dad and big brother Cole, and is doing very well!



**Amanda Carvalho** missed her fifteen minutes of fame only because she was born prior to the creation of *The Water Island Scoop*. So, we want to rectify this by placing her beautiful smiling face here for all to see. Kathleen informed the Scoop staff that she has printed every page of past issues and filed them in order. Sounds a bit compulsive/obsessive, but we appreciate the fact she finds the Scoop worth of such special treatment.



Amanda Carvalho with her mother Kathleen

# Road Warriors

On Saturday, June 18, 2005 a Water Island version of a Road Crew filled potholes on the Main and South Limestone roads.



The group consisted of volunteers, except for a few individuals doing mandatory community service following convictions for gossiping outside authorized rumor zones (e.g., "The Beach" or "The Ferry"). Others not shown in the photographs were either taking the photos, or were working behind the main contingent.



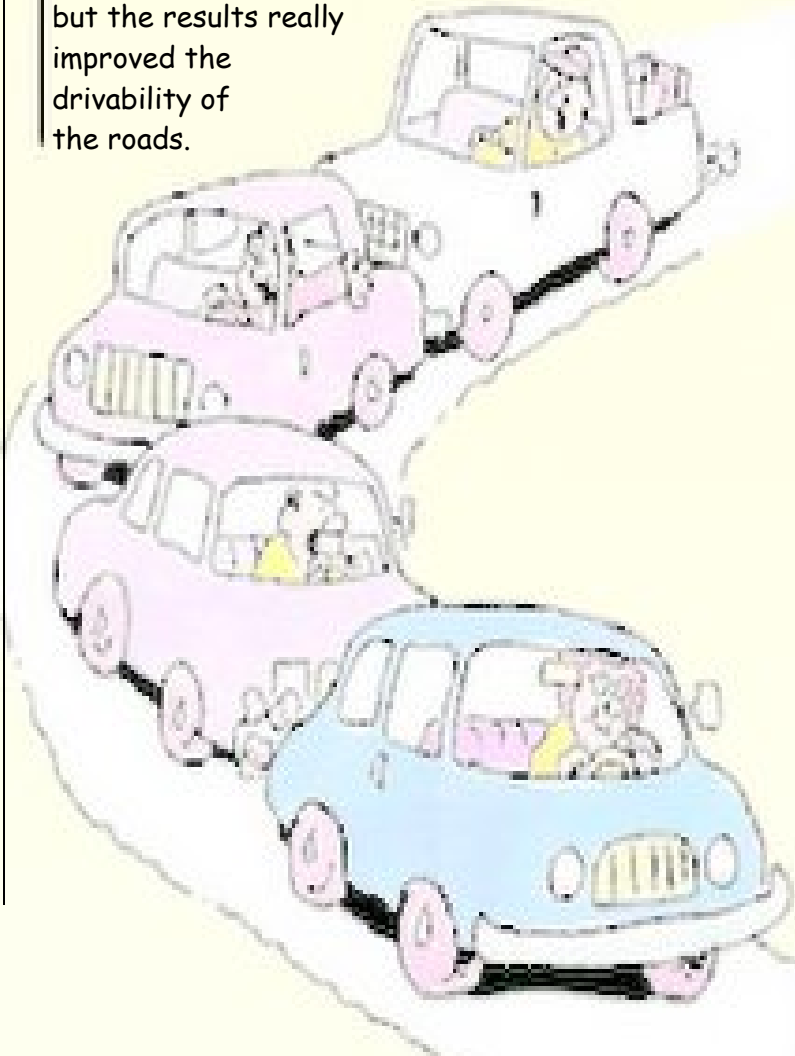
More volunteers would have shown up but X couldn't convince his wife that she really wanted to spend her birthday sitting on Brad Monroe's backhoe, and Y, who really wanted to work, said he was told to go home because there were too many already. (Yeah! I'd really like to believe that!)



## *Lady and the Tamp*

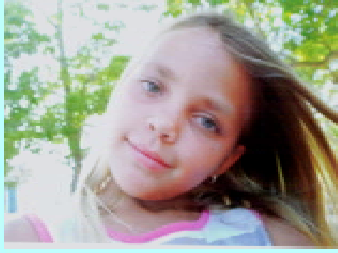
Since Judy Learmont was the first lady to show up for duty, it was only proper that she be provided with an assistant, Bob Bohr, to carry her tools as she packed each hole with a tamper, and cleaned away the loose gravel.

The entire procedure took less than one hour, but the results really improved the drivability of the roads.



### Kid's Corner

The following information was provided by Cassandra Bitterwolf. Due to production time constraints we were unable to corroborate this information with three other sources, as is our standard procedure. But, Cassandra has always been a reliable source in the past so we have no reason to doubt the authenticity of her submission.



## The Magic Chalk

One day a little girl went to school and when she got there she saw a stick of chalk on the floor. She picked it up and put it in her pocket. When she returned home that evening, she put the chalk near her chalkboard in her room.

The next day was Saturday, and then came Sunday. On Sunday, she went to her chalkboard, picked up the chalk she found and drew a picture. The chalk drew everything she wanted. She thought that this was rare and wondered if it was magic chalk. She wondered if that chalk had been lost by a magic witch.

She drew a treasure box with the chalk and a lock for the box with a key. She left her room and went to play with her friends. That afternoon when she went back to her room, she found a real treasure box with a lock and a key and inside was the chalk.

The next day she went to school and saw a witch at the same spot where she had found the chalk. The witch was looking for the chalk. The witch saw the little girl but didn't care. She did not know that the little girl had the magic chalk.

The girl got scared. So the next day after school, the girl went to the river and threw the chalk in it. But when she got home, the chalk was back in her treasure box. She didn't know what to do and just left it alone.

The next day at school she went to the library and went to the magic section. She found a book that talked about the chalk. The book said the chalk had a bad spell and that only the witch had the magic that could take the spell away. She left the book at the library and went home.

The next day, she went to a store called "Magic Creek" and inside she saw the same witch. The little girl saw that the magic chalk was on sale but she did not want to go closer because of the witch. She left and went home and her friend came over to play. They both went up to her room and she told her friend about the magic chalk and drew a cat with the magic chalk. Immediately a cat appeared and began to meow. She put the cat in the closet so her mother would not hear it. She did not want to tell her mother about the magic chalk.

The next day she went to school and overheard her friend tell others about her secret magic chalk. She was very upset but did not talk to her friend about it. She had a plan.

The next day she went to the park and took her magic chalk. At the park, she drew an ice cream truck and ice cream cones. It all came to life. It appeared! People at the park came to buy ice cream. They all really liked the ice cream, especially her friend and the magic witch. The witch got suspicious because she saw the chalk in the girl's pocket. The witch knew she needed to break the magic chalk's spell. So, the witch went home and made a potion that would break the spell. She came back and asked the girl for the chalk. The girl gave the chalk to the witch and went home. The witch set off her spell. The little girl knew it was the end of the magic chalk because the treasure box and the cat disappeared. The little girl was happy that the chalk was gone and her plan had worked.



## Newsflash!

### WICA Membership Breaks Record

WICA thanks all of you for joining. As of July 1, WICA had more members than ever: 106 paid memberships! That's so great because now more than ever, we need to work together for the good of Water Island, and if we have a good time while doing it, so much the better.

A special welcome to these new members who joined in June:

- Kevin Ryan and Marjorie Shields
- Dan Sandwisch, VIVE LLC
- "Buzz" Barker and Wade Hannum
- Glenn McBrearty and Terri Swain
- Ike Northup and Beth McConnell

## Look Who's Visiting This Summer



Bill and Jeanette Coleman are filled with joy to have their grandson Austin stay with them for the entire summer.

Austin has found that swimming at Honeymoon Beach is enjoyable, but snorkeling near the area where the Kon Tiki was moored is even more fun and can be extremely profitable.

Being the honest kid that he is, he will return any recovered cash to its rightful owner — once he or she recites the bill's complete serial number to Austin's satisfaction.



Iris Martinez brings her grandson, Romie, to work with her. They spend a lot of time swimming and relaxing at Honeymoon Beach.



Mercy Blosser's parents and several family members came to Water Island during the week of June 19, 2005 to celebrate her mother's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.



Mercy between her sister Gloria and parents.



Mercy's parents, sister-in-law and twin brother Pepe.



Bob and Joanne Bohr were able to convince their granddaughter, Samantha, that Water Island would be an ok place to spend the summer.

Tom and Barbara Archibald have had a continuous flow of children, and grandchildren visiting them. Tom is thinking of removing the front door and installing a revolving door to cut down on the turnover time.



Coco and Lulu with mother Lydiaemily Blakeley. Granddad, Tom Archibald seems to be saving Lulu from the shark.



Coco and Lulu ready for the beach.



Barry and Sybil Echtman, with 4 year old Harry sitting across from Barbara Archibald at Tickle's.



Tamara Gould and Baby Hannah Thier



Linda Gidley with her daughter and family: John and Karolin Suhr, and their children Kurt and Zoe



The Suhr's invited friends to share the wonders of Water Island and Honeymoon Beach.

Steve and Jenny Goforth with their two sons, Logan and Zach being held by his mother.

Erick and Kim Hecksher, along with Erick's parents, own on Hibiscus Lane. While holding real jobs prevent them from being here full-time, all of them, including Erick's brother have been able to spend time here this summer.



Kim Hecksher with son Kaleb - now 7 months



Elizabeth Aubin, along with many of her family, spent the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend camping at Honeymoon Beach. They come over from Frenchtown several times a year to camp over long holiday weekends. Mrs. Aubin says she first came to Honeymoon Beach as a child with her father when she accompanied him on fishing trips. Much like the rest of us, she and her family have found a place they like to return to again and again.



## Who's not on island?

Peggy Bennett writes to say that she and Wally Henshaw have been spending time with their children and grandchildren. Peggy's children, David and Heather, have visited with their families, including Heather's children: Suzanne, 5, and Blake, 16 months. Wally Jr. and his five boys, all under 11, just spent eight days with Peggy and Wally, and it was a time for reunion with Wally's other children, Missy and Tyler.

It sounds like this would probably be a great time to visit P/W, if you're in the neighborhood.



Where is little Ben Lee, grandson of Shaff and Anne Shaffer? He was here in the spring and promised to come back. We even saw him throw flowers in the water from the ferry. Tia is missing you!



On Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> there was a fishing contest held on St Thomas. The Colman's grandson



Austin, along with medium Arthur La Franchise, and Micky Dooley were at the event. Fish were caught, and prizes won by all three.

# WICA Update

"As you all know, the Department of Interior recently transferred the remaining 200 acres on Water Island to the Government of the VI. VI Senator White's Committee on Housing, Sports and Veterans Affairs, recently sent a bill on to the VI Legislature Rules Committee (and if it passes Rules, it will go to the full Legislature) which proposes to transfer 60 of the 200 acres to the VI Housing Finance Authority for the construction of affordable housing. The proposed bill calls for: (1) The Governor to conduct a Land Use Study and develop a plan for the use of the 200 acres within 180 days, (2) \$75,000 was appropriated to pay for the study, and (3) VI use of lands to be subject to the restrictive covenants, easements, etc imposed by the Interior Deed to the VI. We will continue to watch this very closely as it moves thru the VI Legislature. We hope to find out who will perform the Land Use Study and get on board if we can. All of us need to stay in the loop on this. If you would like to serve on a WICA Land Use Committee, let me know. We would like to begin detailed research on the various documents which may be used by the VI Land Use Study so that we may contribute in a positive manner. WICA has stayed silent on this issue and feel it serves no purpose at this time to get into a discussion until we know more. The press has asked for comments numerous times, but think it best to be silent until we know the facts."

Chuck Gidley

**June 1 - November 30  
is Hurricane Season  
Be Prepared!**



*The Water Island Scoop* contains information of events on, and about, Water Island. Distribution is made to anyone wanting a copy that has some link or connection to Water Island. The Water Island Civic Association (WICA) sponsors, and funds this production effort. So, it is only right that we recognize those individuals, who by joining WICA, are making production of *The Water Island Scoop*, and many other worthwhile projects a reality.

## "New" WICA members for 2005 (not having been members previously)

Doug and Rachael Ackley  
"Buzz" Barker & Wade Hannum  
Giorgio and Lisa Bertrand  
Carl and Valerie Blume  
David and Lynn Clouse  
William and Jeanette Coleman  
Jesus and Karen Diez Canseco  
Erick and Kimberly Hecksher  
Jerry and Mary Jones  
Robert and Barbara Kehler  
Arthur and Wendy La Franchise  
Robert Lechner & Mercedes Dullum  
Edward and Patricia Marin  
Glenn Mc Brearty and Terri Swain  
Ike Northup and Beth McConnell  
Marge Shields & Kevin Ryan  
Dan Sandwisch  
Barry and Jane Wherren

## Kid's Corner

A special thanks to Cassandra Bitterwolf for her original creation, "The Magic Chalk". We hope other creative kids will submit their work in the future.