

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY KELLY LAFREY

John Ryan Sr. and Jr. Honored by Rotary



EAST HAMPTON: The East Hampton Rotary has named John Ryan Sr. and John Ryan Jr. as their 2013 Persons of the Year. The father and son lifeguarding team will be honored at the Rotary meeting on April 15.

Ryan Sr. has trained East Hampton Town lifeguards for some 31 years and, together with his son, coordinate the Town's Junior Lifeguard program. Ryan Jr. teaches sixth grade at East Hampton Middle School and he is chief of the Town Lifeguard Corps. Both men are integral members of East Hampton Town's Volunteer Ocean Rescue Squad, they helped get the local YMCA built and, as a result, form the East Hampton Hurricanes swim team. They frequently participate in lifeguarding competitions and take part in many charity events throughout the year. Neither man is a member of the Rotary.

"They just picked me out of the blue," Ryan Sr. said on Thursday, noting that the Rotary chose him and Ryan Jr. primarily for their involvement with lifeguarding and the Volunteer Ocean Rescue. "We're very proud of what we have out here, but it's not just Johnny and I," he added, explaining that the Ocean Rescue Squad is a success because of the hard work of its many volunteers. "I'm embarrassed by all this publicity for me," Ryan Sr. said, "but I'm not embarrassed by the good work we're doing."

The longtime lifeguard also pointed out that their Junior Lifeguard program educates local kids over four months of Sundays during the year, and East End waters are much safer for it.

Greatest Week in Sports Almost Here!



AMERICA: This Monday, April 1, marks the beginning of the most exciting spring sports week, with the Mets and Yanks both opening the season at home that afternoon. No joke.

The games will be especially exciting for Hampton Collegiate Baseball alumni Kevin Heller (Westhampton '10) and Paul Paez (Southampton '12), as this will be the first Big League Opening Day since they were taken in the 2012 draft. Heller was chosen by the Red Sox—the Yankees' Opening Day man—in the 41th round. The Mets picked left-handed pitcher Heller in the 18th round. Both are currently working their way through the farm system, but if preseason predictions hold true, we don't doubt that both teams could use some talented young blood ASAP.

In other sports news of the week, the following Monday, April 8, will play host to the NCAA men's basketball championship game. Is your bracket still set?

Check out HamptonBaseball.com for more information on Opening Day of the Hampton Collegiate Baseball League, which kicks off in early June. Rosters were released this week, with 100 college programs represented across the seven teams. HCBL is currently inviting members of the community to apply to house a player. Visit HamptonBaseball.org for more info.

Down with Punxsutawney Phil!



COLD-ANGRYVILLE: Despite Punxsutawney Phil's optimistic prediction, it's no secret that the East End has yet to experience "spring." Low temperatures continue to grip the area, and has March experienced more snow than sunshine? While Hamptonites carry on, dreaming of warm summer beach days, an Ohio county prosecutor has taken a different approach. He's suing the lying groundhog and calling for the death penalty.

According to court documents posted online, J. Michael T. Gmoser, the Prosecuting Attorney of this County, say by way of information that:

CRIMINAL MISREPRESENTATION OF EARLY SPRING
On or about February 02, 2013, of Gobbler's Knob, Punxsutawney Phil did purposely, and with prior calculation and design, cause the people to believe that Spring would come early. Contrary to the Groundhog day report, a snowstorm and record low temperatures have been and are predicted to continue in the near future, which constitutes the offense of MISREPRESENTATION OF EARLY SPRING, a Unlawful Felony, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Ohio.

SPECIFICATION: The people further find and specify that due to the aggravating circumstances and misrepresentation to the people that the death penalty be implemented to the defendant, Punxsutawney Phil Yikes. We're upset about the cold temperatures, too. But is Phil really any more wrong than the weatherman on a daily basis? Let's hope that the cuddly creature and weird tradition lives on!

Art Southampton Returns This Summer, Benefits Southampton Hospital

SOUTHAMPTON: Premiere International contemporary and modern art fair Art Southampton presented by Art Miami, which came to the Hamptons for its inaugural kickoff last season, will return to the area for its second edition from July 25–29. The fair will again take place in an air-conditioned 100,000 sq. ft. pavilion on the grounds of the Southampton Elks Lodge.

The fair's exclusive VIP Preview on July 25, which allows guests the first opportunity to acquire works, will benefit the Southampton Hospital, as it did last year. The invitation-only evening will also serve as kickoff to the Hospital's 55th Annual Summer Party "Magical Madrid" on August 3, which will move for the first time ever to the Art Southampton pavilion.

"Southampton Hospital is delighted to join with Art Southampton in strengthening the collaboration we began last summer, and we are thrilled that they have again chosen us to be the beneficiary of proceeds from their opening-night VIP Preview," said Bob Chaloner, President and CEO, Southampton Hospital.

Former Hospital Thrift Shop Sells, Douglas Elliman Donates \$100,000 to Hospital Foundation

SOUTHAMPTON: The former Southampton Hospital Thrift Shop has sold for \$3.95 million. Douglas Elliman Real Estate donated \$100,000 of the profit to the Southampton Hospital Foundation.

The space at 29 Main Street was listed with Douglas Elliman Hampton Regional Manager Paul Brennan, who is on the board of the Hospital Foundation. David Schillman of Douglas Elliman Bridgehampton represented buyer Mark Zucchero, owner of Flying Point Surf and Sport.

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