
The Trehy-Dipelesi Gazette

Volume 2 Issue 4

SEASONS GREETINGS

(The New Millennium Edition) Dec. 2005

LOCAL

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INTERNATIONAL

At a Glance...Commentary

Author unknown: *"George Bush has started an ill-timed and disastrous war under false pretenses by lying to the American people and to the Congress; he has run a budget surplus into a severe deficit; he has consistently and unconscionably favored the wealthy and corporations over the rights and needs of the population; he has destroyed trust and confidence in, and good will toward, the United States around the globe; he has ignored global warming, to the world's detriment; he has wantonly broken our treaty obligations; he has condoned torture of prisoners; he has attempted to create a theocracy in the United States; he has appointed incompetent cronies to positions of vital national importance. Would SOMEONE please give him a b_w job so we can impeach him?"*

I couldn't have said it better.

At least Nov 8th felt good. Election Day on a local level was victorious! We gained a seat on the Town Board with the election of our good friend and candidate Pat Biancaniello. After a year of intense campaigning, I look forward to seeing Pat sworn in on January 1st, 2006. We also won at the highway department, and won a majority on the Suffolk County Legislature. So locally government is getting better.

I have been both praised and chastised for including my political views in a holiday newsletter. If this offends you, I apologize, and warn you to skip this first column next year as it will most likely happen again.

Our country is still at war and our guys are spending another Christmas getting killed, and for what? The terrorists responsible for the attack of 911 have not been caught. The economy and environment is being trashed, and now we have been told that we can be ease dropped on or tortured, and it's legal.

I urge you all to learn about the issues, and get involved on both the local and national level...(Even if you disagree with my politics!)

It's hard to narrow our focus, but I'll say that in our little world, we again enjoyed vacations, business was good, we celebrated milestones and special occasions more passionately with family and friends, and we closely watched current events, and got more outspoken

😊 & involved with local issues and our community. So here's the wrap up...

Pooch Update

Where in the past, this has been an update on our kids, Charlie, Sammy, Rudy and Eddy, they were safe and well cared for, while a different group of animals were in a desperate situation, fighting for their lives. I'm speaking of the animal victims of Hurricane Katrina.

In October, Sandy, along with her friend Jamie, from Adopt A Boxer Rescue, traveled to Louisiana, to aid in the rescue of the animals. Their destination... St. Bernard's Parish, one of the hardest hit areas of Katrina's devastation.

The mission was obvious and it didn't take long to fit in. Find as many animals as possible and get them help before they died. The venue was two large tents set up in the middle of an athletics field known as Rebel Field. Trucks would pull up both day and night with animals that were found either still in homes, or running in the streets. Some animals were easy to catch and came running up to the search teams looking for help. Others ran in the opposite direction and had to be caught in traps or by catch poles. Most came in emaciated and starving, many with injuries and illnesses. All came in scared.

The intake desk filled out paperwork on each animal, careful to take down any information from the search team that would help them reunite the animals with their families. Sandy and Jamie were part of the triage team that looked at the incoming to see which needed treatment first.

They came in caked with dried mud, some had deep lacerations; some had cuts on their paws from the hard mud and climbing over debris. Most didn't have ID tags or microchips. They scanned and photographed each animal. The lucky ones were those whose families planned ahead and used phone numbers that led us to their cell phones. Many home phones didn't exist anymore, so engraving cell phone numbers on the ID tags or keeping microchip databanks updated with current phone numbers is very important."

There were also reunions when people didn't give up and kept coming to the tents to look for their pets. One day, Sandy was busy reinforcing a crate that a Black Lab had just been put into. He had broken out the night before, and had been recaptured. From a distance, a man was looking at him. He asked Sandy what the Lab's story was. When she said he was an escape artist he yelled 'That's Junior, that's my dog! He's an escape artist!' Family reunions were the best!

They spent ten days working with volunteer vets treating animals, in a make-shift treatment area in the dog's tent. They fed the dogs, walked them, and scrubbed the dirty bowls and made sure the crates were clean.

When their time was up, Sandy and Jamie turned in their plane tickets for a 35 hour ride back to NY in an eighteen-wheeler. The transport was for the 24 animals brought back for long term foster or adoption in the northeast. Three of the 24 animals have since been reunited with their owners; the others have all been adopted.

Sports Update

Another "hard winter", OK so those warm winters and paddling in Jan. are a thing of the past. It has been running and working out on the paddling trainer for Jim. In January he and friend Larry went down to race some outrigger races in the Florida Keys. Had a blast, padding in the middle of a northern winter. Left Sandy and Maria to clean up a 14" snowstorm. Sorry about that.



Jim did some traveling to race outrigger races this year. He went back to Florida to compete with friend John Edwards in two races against a group of teams including a team from Costa Rica. Raced the Liberty cup in NY harbor and was invite to do the 35 mile race from Catalina Island to Long Beach in Ca. in Sept. A huge event with 100+ boats with in-water changes while you are moving. What a beautiful trip, also got to visit with Joe, Sue, Sean and Kaylie.

Jim did not get to paddle much with friend Larry who seriously hurt his arm in spring while cutting down a tree. From all accounts could have been a lot worse, just thankful it was not. Larry spent 5 days in the hospital, did not paddle until just before nationals. Minus his traveling companion, Jim did fewer races but kept in shape paddling early mornings. The river is spectacular at sunrise.

Jim raced with other partners this year. He had a great finish in Canton, NY where in C-2 had a photo finish second in the doubles race. The two boats were over 3½ minutes ahead of the other 25 boats. Jim did his 3rd General Clinton 70 mile Race with Judy Jeanes from Pa. Last year the river was flood stage this year was a record low. Hard to paddle in 6 inches of water. What a brutal race.

It took 9 hours 32 min to complete. Even with a few difficulties, finished in

the middle of the mixed group, had a lot of fun (OK as much as you can paddling 9+ hrs). In a sprint to the finish was only 3 second behind the first senior men's team. When Larry got back they took 1st in the Empire State games for C-2s. Nationals were good this year. Jim took home medals in 7 of 8 events.

Jim made a new friend this year named Bill Flemming. Bill is a *really* good runner he met when they officiating two running races. Bill asked Jim to come out and race a few times on his Ensign. What a blast getting back on a sailing Ensign. Sandy even came out once. In Sept. Sandy and Jim raced Ray's club's commodore cup. Wind died but was wonderful to race with Ray again. Certainly is easier (no wind issues) and cheaper to paddle early in the morning than to get a group of people to race a sail boat. Bill and Jim have been running together a bit, Bill and his group have taken it easy on the old man.

Tracking System Update

The WISN Radar system, short for "Where is she now?", found Mom this year in Dove Canyon, CA, back in New York, and down in Baltimore, MD, on business.

The tracking system will get a real work out in a few weeks when Mom heads south to Antarctica! That will be reported on in the 2006 Gazette... 😊

Milestones...

*January 30, 2005

Nephew Ricky Jr.

married sweetheart Lisa



*July 2, 2005 Sister Sheri married sweetie David

*July 15, 2005 –Baby Milan born to Ricky and Lisa

* August 17, 2005 – Brother Joe hit the Big 40!

* September 28, 2005 Aunt Dell passed away at 96yrs old. She will be missed.

*November 8, 2005 –Friend Pat wins seat on Smithtown Town Council.

* October 18, 2005 –Jim and Sandy Celebrated 25 years of Marriage

* December, 7 2005 – Friends Sid and Karen Celebrated 25 years of Marriage

2005 Wrap Up

The winter was cold and snowy on Long Island. We had a lot of good sized snow storms which gave Jim a good base to cross-country ski on.

The spring was warm and rainy, the summer was warmer than last year, and we've had plenty of early snow which fell before winter was officially here.

Jim and Sandy combined a New Years visit to Joe, Susan, Kaylie and Sean, and Mom who was also there in California for

the holidays, with a canoe conference in Reno, with friends Maria and Larry. They also managed to fit in a few days of skiing at South Lake Tahoe, between two 9 ft snow storms.

At the end of January, Jim's nephew Ricky Jr and Lisa exchanged vows in a beautiful ceremony. We all enjoyed Jim's brother Robert singing at both the ceremony and the reception.

The spring and summer was full of canoe, outrigger, and running events. (see Sports Update Page 1)

In April, Jim flew to Florida to paddle in an outrigger canoe race in the Keys, and in May he again paddled the General Clinton 70 mile race in upstate NY.

In June, Sandy traveled to Tampa, FL with friends Dee and Ann to visit Kathy and Isi. Good food, cocktails, and good company was the order of the weekend.

July was busy with Sheri and David's wedding. Again Robert sang beautifully, and Jim read some wedding blessings in Italian. Connie and Jim became great grandparents, Joan and Ricky became grandparents and Ricky Jr and Lisa became parents on July 15th with the birth of their first child, Milan Elise Mancini.

Life with Jim, Sandy, Charlie, Sammy, Rudy & Eddy too!

Rudy turned two years old on July 31st. He is a wonderful little guy who is both fun and a challenge to train, as he is deaf. I have kept an online journal of experiences with Rudy. The location is:

<http://www.adoptaboxerrescue.com/Galleries/Rudy/RudysJournal.htm>

In time for the big summer party, Sandy and Jim built a pergola by the pool and installed solar heating for the pool.

The pond inhabitants, koi, goldfish, and golden orfs are all thriving, and the frogs have rebounded from last year's scarcity.

On August 17th, Sandy's brother Joe turned 40 yrs old. Unfortunately, this milestone was overshadowed by the bad news that Susan his wife had cancer. The good news is that now, after many months of chemo, we are optimistic about Susan's recovery. Our thoughts are always with her.

On August 29th, Hurricane Katrina hit the gulf coast. Volunteers were needed in the disaster area, and animal rescue organizations were called upon for help. Sandy and friend Jamie, a licensed veterinary technician and owner of an animal hospital, signed up to help. On Oct 5th, after much red tape and planning, they left for Louisiana where they spent ten days helping to rescue the animal victims. (See related story Page 1)

November 8th was the culmination of another long political campaign. This time, we made a substantial dent in the

strong hold on local government with the election of our friend Pat, to town council.

We end this year's newsletter with a follow up to last year's strange fish story. We reported finding it last year in our upper pond where no fish should be. We haven't gotten any closer to discovering what species it is, but it's still healthy and gets along fine with the other fish so it has a home.

And of course Adopt a Boxer Rescue keeps Sandy busy all year long. Along with her friends Joanne and Christel, they check references and do home visits of adoption applicants on Long Island, in search of good homes for homeless dogs. This group is committed to hands-on rescue of Boxers, educating the public about the realities of pet ownership, promote neutering, and encourage responsible care.

Please visit our new website at:

<http://www.adoptaboxerrescue.com>

Please let us know if you have a new email address. Reach out and touch someone today, send e-mail.

We've closed a chapter on another year. It keeps things in perspective to revisit the old year. We appreciate the many good times we've had with friends and family. (Again, too many to fit here.)

We look forward to sharing a great 2006 with all of you; both near and far, those we love and never get to see often enough, no matter how often we see you.

We hope this letter finds all of you in good health, happiness, & celebrating this holiday season with those you love.

SEASONS GREETINGS

GOOD HEALTH

& BEST WISHES

FOR 2006!

Love always,

Sandy, Jim,

Charlie, Sammy, Rudy & Eddy Too!



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