

**CITY OF RYE
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Scott D. Pickup, City Manager

SUBJECT: Enclosures - Council Packet

DATE: September 24, 2010

Enclosed with this memorandum are the following items:

- 9-14 Notice from The Friends of Read Wildlife Sanctuary regarding a dedication ceremony to be held on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.
- 9-15 Notice from the Rye Historical Society regarding the *Annual Historic Walking Tour* to be held on Sunday, October 17, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 9-16 Litigation Update from the Corporation Counsel dated September 24, 2010.
- 9-17 Meeting notice for the week of September 27, 2010 is available on the City website www.ryeny.gov under Calendar.

SDP/emm
Encs.

Edith G. Read Dedication Ceremony

The Friends of Read Wildlife Sanctuary will dedicate a plaque in honor of Edith G. Read at a ceremony at the park on Saturday, October 16. The unveiling will take place at the end of the Annual Open Members Meeting of the Friends group, which begins at 11am. Following the dedication, lunch will be served.

The large, bronze plaque, to be mounted on a stone placed near the Visitor's Center building of the Sanctuary, is a bust of Mrs. Read in bas-relief. The sculpting was done by Mike Keropian, an award-winning New York artist. He was assisted in the planning by Rye sculptor Bob Clyatt. The creation of the plaque was made possible through fund raising efforts by the Friends, which totaled nearly \$7,000. The Friends would like to thank all the generous donors that contributed to this effort, including many Friends of Read Wildlife Sanctuary members, as well as the family and close friends of Mrs. Read.

The Sanctuary was created in 1985, and is named after Edith Read in honor of her strong conservation work in the City of Rye, Westchester County, and New York State. It was through her efforts that the 170 acres of the Sanctuary were set aside. Mrs. Read, a lifetime Rye resident, died at the age of 102 in 2006.

The children and grandchildren of Mrs. Read are invited to the event, as are a number of county and city dignitaries, and conservationists. The dedication is open to the public and all are invited. Access to the park is via the entrance to Playland, continuing to the rear where a road leads to the Visitors' Center Building and parking area.

The Edith Read Wildlife Sanctuary is a Westchester County park. The Friends of Read Wildlife Sanctuary is a volunteer group of users of the park who lend oversight to its operation and occasionally finance specific projects. President of the group is Dr. Joy Reidenberg, a Rye resident and scientist. Curator of the Sanctuary is Michael Gambino. New members are always welcome, and those interested in joining or volunteering should visit the website: www.friendsofreadwildlifesanctuary.org or call 914-967-8720 for more information.

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Historic Walking Tour

Walk 2 miles and 350 Years

On Sunday, October 17th, the Rye Historical Society will present its popular fall history tour. This year's tour – *Rye 1660 – 1848* - is part of the 350th anniversary celebration of Rye's founding and settlement in 1660. Tour guides and docents will discuss the history of Rye's development, from early settlement by the English to the arrival of the railroad in 1848.

The tour will cover Rye center within walking distance from the Square House Museum on Purchase Street and will include a house on Grace Church Street; one of Rye's three mile markers, and the site of the Old Rye Fort. Tour participants will learn about life in this area of Rye during the 18th and early 19th centuries, they will hear about the early churches of Rye, the impact of the Revolutionary War, and also learn about Rye's economy up until the arrival of the railroad. With the arrival of the railroad Rye began its transition from being a farming community to becoming the New York City commuter suburb it is today.

Sunday, October 17, 2010 ~ 9:30am – 2:30pm

Check- in will be on the front porch of the Square House at 1 Purchase Street, Rye, NY. Tours take approximately 2 hours and depart every 20 minutes, with the first tour starting at 9:30am and the last tour departing at 2:30pm. Please check in 10 minutes before your scheduled start time.

Tour participants can park in the Library parking lot or in the Rye High School lot at Parsons St. A free shuttle bus will run between the Library and RHS lots.

Mail this form along with your payment to: RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1 Purchase Street, Rye, NY 10580. Call (914) 967-7588 for more information.

Members \$40

Non-members \$50

Students \$15

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Please indicate your requested start time: _____ Number in Group: _____ Total \$: _____

Payment can be made by check to the *RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY* or by credit card

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

**CITY OF RYE
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor and Rye City Council
FROM: Kristen K. Wilson, Interim Corporation Counsel
SUBJECT: Litigation Update
DATE: September 24, 2010

TAX CERTIORARI

Notices of Petition on behalf of property owners seeking judicial review of their property tax assessments under Article 7 of the Real Property Tax Law are being served on the City. Petitions seeking reduction of assessments must be filed within 30 days of the final completion and filing of the assessment roll prepared annually by the Assessor. The deadline for service is October 15th.

LITIGATION

OSBORN v. CITY OF RYE

No new developments.

BEAVER SWAMP BROOK – (DEC Administrative proceeding)

Harrison submitted a response to DEC staff's questions dated July 22, 2010.

151 PURCHASE STREET ASSOCIATES V. CITY OF RYE, ET AL.

No new developments.

SCHUBERT V. CITY OF RYE, ET AL.

No new developments.

R.B. CONWAY V. CITY OF RYE

No new developments.

DELLI PAOLI V. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

No new developments.

SHEW v. CITY OF RYE

No new developments.

MOLLOY v. PLANNING COMMISSION

No new developments.

TOWNSEND v. BOARD OF APPEALS

The oral argument in front of the Appellate Division, Second Department has been calendared for Tuesday October 12, 2010. The matter is 12th on the calendar out of 21 cases. It appears

that the Second Department will be sitting in White Plains on October 12, 2010 but the location will be confirmed closer to the argument date.

PANETTA v. PLANNING COMMISSION

No new developments.

HEAL the HARBOR v. CITY OF RYE

No new developments.

SCHUBERT v. PLANNING COMMISSION, et al

No new developments.

CITY COURT

Routine calendar with no unusual dispositions.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen K. Wilson

Kristen K. Wilson
Interim Corporation Counsel

KKW/dfn