

Prudence Island School

Issue 13 November 2012

The Prudence Wave

Washington Adventure

By Meg, PISF 11th grader

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The school has been a flurry of activity and excitement as we plan for the Big Trip to DC. The Board for the trip's budget (Marina, Julianna and I) have calculated the cost for several options of transportation and decided that renting a humungous van to fit the entire school would be too expensive for our trip, even one as important as this. So the transportation team (Julianna) researched other options and decided the train would be much cheaper as well as less stressful for our licensed drivers. The entertaining six kids on a train committee (Julianna, Eliza, Mr. Monopoly, Dr. Seuss, Whoever Invented Uno and I) has been thinking of games and activities to do on the seven odd hour ride, even practicing Row Your Boat in rounds.

When we arrive at Union station, we will learn how to use the public transportation system, which we will be using every day for the week we are there. The subway will take us to the bus station which will then take us to the back door of where we will be staying. Bob and Ann Lund graciously offered us the use of their abundant floor space for sleeping for the duration of the trip. The Sightseeing Committee (Marina, Julianna and I) has been working on planning our every step as we tour our nation's capital. Since most of the places we have decided we would visit are very conveniently free, the only real costly things anticipated during the entire trip are transportation, and food. Since we have to eat and it would be really uncomfortable to walk everywhere, this is unfortunately unavoidable. But we have been doing everything we can to make it cheaper and less stressful for everyone involved.

Joe and Donna Bains, who have been to DC quite a few times, have been giving us suggestions for where we should go and what to focus on History-wise. They recommended the National Museum of American History (naturally). At that museum I am personally excited to see the American Stories exhibit, as well as the many cultural exhibits. The younger girls are all excited about going to the awesome Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. Shelby is super excited to see the Sant Ocean Hall with its different exciting exhibits pertaining to pre-historic ocean life and is already soaking up sea life knowledge like a sea sponge. Raya can't wait to see the Janet Annenberg Hooker Hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals, to see the Famous Hope Diamond in its \$100 million glory. And of course little Aribella is psyched to see the Dinosaur Hall and to be eyeball to eye socket with many of the fantastic specimens that she knows and loves (I just love to hear her say Iguanodon in her little voice!). Julianna is excited for the International Spy Museum, where we get to become spies and immerse ourselves into secret identities. Marina can't wait for the Go Ape Adventure that we are going to with Bob to traverse all its zip lines and rope swings. I am positively beside myself at the chance to see the National Gallery of Art because they exhibit paintings by El Greco, and Renoir, and Copley's Watson and the Shark, all of which I love, especially El Greco.

See Trip continued on page 6



Hurricane Sandy Hits Prudence Island

**And delays The Prudence Wave: November Edition **

By Meg, PISF 11th grader

My favorite part of the whole storm had to be when my brothers and I went for a ride on Sunday afternoon. It had been a whole day without power and we were all stir crazy and too energized to sit around and play cards, so we set off in Carl's Jeep to check out the storm. We do this for every storm that comes across our tiny Island and it is always interesting to see how the wind and waves will reshape the land and beaches. We started by stopping at Sand point Dock. The waves were crashing on the dock, which was holding steady and the tip of the point was going through some serious remodeling. Even though it was only mid tide, the water was the highest I have ever seen at any high tide in all my sixteen years. It was insane. Next we passed the two white private docks along the front road and they didn't look like they'd make it much longer. The ferry dock was still holding fast, though the waves were doing a number on the beach and the water would definitely flood the parking lot. Luckily a few islanders had worked to move the cars onto higher ground. Next we went to Blount's dock and were shocked to see that the water was already flooding the road, and climbed even higher as we drove through to check out Potter's Cove. From there we headed down the West Side, which was almost pristinely calm, sheltered from the brunt of the storm by the trees.

By Marina, PISF 10th grader

The day of the hurricane was a horrible day for me. Well, unlike most people stuck on island with no power, I was at my sisters cuddled up in bed with power. By this point you're probably thinking why was it horrible for her?? Well I'm gonna tell you why. See, when it comes to any type of storm I am the biggest baby!!!! Now I didn't realize how lucky I was until I came to the island and everyone was living the lifestyle of the Amish: no lights, no internet and NO HOT WATER!!!!!!! It may seem as if I was angry during the first half of this article and that's because I was. But as I was finishing up this blurb about the hurricane, the power returned!!! YAY!!

By Julianna, PISF 8th grader

My experience of the hurricane was quite intense...you could hear the sound of the trees cracking and the shingles flying off the roof! All I know is that hurricane Sandy definitely brought her A Game! I think that the scariest yet coolest part was that I live right near Narragansett Ave so I could see all the waves and the high tide and it was seriously incredible! Over the past five days of the power outage I had a lot of fun taking classes at Jens house, making hilarious videos and hanging out with everybody. It was a big relief when the power FINALLY came on but I was disappointed that the week was over...One thing is for sure, we will definitely be having no power parties sometime soon!

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This is the story of Eddy's pumpkins. His pumpkins are amazing! He had a very weird pumpkin. It looked like a giant peanut, and it weighed 997 lbs. There was a picture in the newspaper of Eddy's prettiest pumpkin. He won third place for his prettiest pumpkin in a contest in Plainfield, CT. His biggest pumpkins this year were 997 lbs, 1040 lbs, 1077 lbs, and 1422.5 lbs. He won five pretty ribbons and two plaques. In Maine he won first place with the 997 lb. pumpkin, his smallest this year. In the RI State Contest he placed fifth. Roger Williams Park buys Eddy's pumpkins to carve them and put them in the Jack-o-Lantern Spectacular. The world record pumpkin was 2009 lbs. It was grown in Rhode Island! But Eddy's pumpkins are the best pumpkins in the world to me!



Pigeon on a Plane By Raya, PISF 2st grader

In mid-September Eliza got a phone call from Pat Rossi. She said she had a friend named Dom who wanted to give us a pigeon. The pigeon flew into his yard after a storm and she was very hungry. He is a Vet, so Dom helped her. We all got into Eliza's van and went to Pat's Farm. We drove up the Air Strip. We looked for the plane for a little while. When the plane finally came in we were so excited! He let us go into the plane (it was amazingly cool). We got to put on the headset and see that there are two steering wheels so both seats are driver's seats. When Shelby turned the steering wheel, the one on my side turned the same way, so they must be connected somehow.





Wednesday Activities By Marina, PISF 10th grader

On Wednesdays we all go off island as a school to do our Wednesday routine. When we get off the island the first thing we do is visit Silver Creek Manor, which is a nursing home in Bristol. That is my favorite part of the day. Last year we were assigned a resident to write to. I got a man named Roger, but this year I actually got to meet him. I get to see him every Wednesday and hang out with him. He is very fun to be around. He is always smiling and he knows how to make everyone around him smile too. I definitely look forward to seeing him every Wednesday. After visiting the nursing home we all bring our lunches to Glenn's mom's house and we have lunch with her, that's real fun too! After lunch we split up. Meg and Linda go to swim at the YMCA in Middletown and the rest of us go to gymnastics in Tiverton. We all love it. We get to do very cool fun things. I was never able to do a cartwheel before until Miss Kathy helped me out, I can almost do a full one now. But if you're Julianna you have already done gymnastics and can do all that fancy stuff. For Meg, I already know she loves swim, that's because she is a mermaid in disguise. After our hour of gymnastics or swim we all finish our day by meeting at the Bristol Library and just kind of chill out for a bit or get a book and read. This is what we do every Wednesday.

<u>POA Halloween Party</u> By Meg, PISF 11th grader

I entered the PIA a wee bit late because my sister had a wardrobe malfunction. The place was packed, and we were surprised because the Halloween Potluck isn't usually so humongous. There was loads of delicious food which I immediately pounced on after greeting my fellow PYO members. There were tons of classic, as well as uncommon costumes, from Mermaids (yours truly) to Batgirl (Aribella) and three genuine Care Bears (Marina was Fall Bear, Julianna Share Bear, and Raya was Funshine Bear) there were angels and fairies and superheroes and vampires (including Shelby), and everyone looked crazy awesome! First, like always, we played Musical Chairs, which was a lot of fun as well as very competitive, and our very own Raya Claire Young won!! Next we played a confusing and hysterical game of Pass the Pumpkin. I can't even really explain that one, but it was really funny. Next was the donut eating contest, which is very fun to watch, but ask someone else who won, because I was laughing so hard I can't remember. Then the much anticipated event: Bobbing for Apples!!! Water flew through the air, soaking spectators, and apple chunks riddled the floor. It was an epic battle that eventually stewed down to the younger ones swimming in the freezing water. It was tons of fun and I hope that we have as many people next year, and many more.



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The Prudence Wave

P. J. Museum By Meg, PISF 11th grader

The Prudence Island Historical Society opened their new museum to the public on September first. Set in what used to be the Sand Point Coffee Shop, owned by the Delpapa's before it was donated to the Historical society. This past year there have been many renovations done to restore the Diner to its former glory to showcase artifacts from Island history. There is a painting on the wall, which was painted by an artist who came short on his tab. The painting was restored by Johan Bjurman and placed back where it had been on the south wall of the Diner. Though the original stools are gone, a lone cushion was found and the stools were replicated by memory. The museum also features an exhibit about old island ferries and also one about the many hurricanes our island has survived. There is also a display of Marj Delpapa's basket weavings donated by her husband, Lou.





Our Fancy New Swing Set



Thank you so much to the following people who donated our beautiful new swing set: Glen Maclaughlin Sakonnet Auto SUC. Inc. 560 Main Road Tiverton, RI 02878 (Refurbished & Delivered it)

> Scott Humphrey Humphrey's Building Supply 590 Main Road Tiverton, RI 02878 (Supplied the swing set)

Roger Alves Alves Construction Inc 0133 Alden Ave. Prudence Island, RI 02872 (Disassembled & Transported the Swing Set)

The Prudence Wave	page 6
	Word Scramble er and Shelby, PISF 3 rd grader
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By going to	<i>pies of the Prudence Wave!!</i> them for all your printing needs.
P	
Trip continued from page 1 I don't really know how to ask for money but if you would like to help sponsor our educatio trip here are some ways to help us out One per train ride costs \$120, one person's entire trip to D to send our entire tiny school to DC all expenses \$3,500. Of course giving us ANY money would b helpful, from five dollars to five hundred. Thanks to Joe's Ghost Talk on Friday, our sponsorship C out very successfully!!	nally stimulating rson's round trip C its \$400, and covered it is e extremely to all who came C
	www.Rossifarm.com

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The Prudence Wave

What is this??

Dear Raya!

Every month we will continue to do a Dear Raya Advice Column, where islanders submit anonymous questions and Raya will give her best second grade advice. Please submit your questions to the Dear Raya box inside of the Prudence Variety Store or E-mail them to ThePrudenceWave@aol.com.

Dear Raya,

Why are Pumpkins called Jack-o-lanterns when they are carved?

From,

Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Here's my idea, maybe a guy named Jack was the first person to discover they could be carved, and 'o' because they are shaped like an 'o', and lanterns because there are candles in them. That is why they are called Jack-o-lanterns.

Happy Carving,

Raya

Dear Raya,

If Prudence had a theme song, what would it be and why?

Sincerely,

Tone Deaf

Dear Tone Deaf,

I have two theme songs, because the island is so special it needs two, the first is Island in the Sun by Weezer because it's such a great happy song, and it is in one of our movies. The second one is Far Away by Ingrid Michaelson because it talks about the blue bay and the island is in a blue bay.

What is this????

We will give you the answer in the December edition of The Prudence Wave!

Last month's 'Who is This?' :

This was a picture of Raya's massive blue eyeball!!

PISF Wish List

- Computer Paper
- <u>**VOLENTEER TO CLEAN THE</u> SCHOOL **

(The kids do an amazing job with all of their chores, but we need an adult to deep clean once a week.)

- garden gate builder
- Paper Towels
- A new printer
- Tacky Glue
- Cozy Rug
- Expo markers

Love,

Raya



Under the Sea with Shelby

By Shelby, PISF 3rd grader

*This month Shelby researched a remarkable animal called a coelacanth. This is what she discovered:

The coelacanth is a prehistoric fish. It was alive before big dinosaurs and even before reptiles.

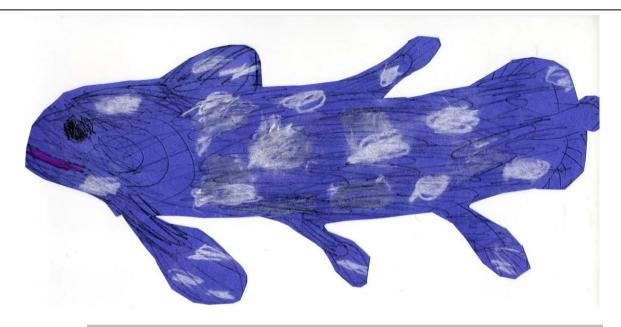
The Coelacanth baby is called a pup. The coelacanth pups do not hatch out of eggs. The pups are born live. This is how they are born: First they start out as an egg. Then the eggs grow very big - actually, they are the biggest fish eggs that scientists have ever found. Then the membrane starts to disappear, but the yolk stays there because it is on the pup almost like a lunchbox. When the baby is born, it is more than a foot long.

The coelacanth lives in South Africa and Indonesia and the Comoro Islands. Most of the sightings were around the south coast of Africa. Then one was found in Indonesia and there was a surprise. It was goldish-gray, not bluish-gray like the other ones.

Coelacanths have eight fins – four of them look like stubs. They can grow as big as 2 meters. They move very weird. They flap their pectoral and pelvic fins up and down in a way that no other fish does. They move very slowly, but when they get startled they can swim a little faster.

Coelacanths eat meat. I will give you some examples: squid, skates, snapper, cardinal fish, lantern fish, eels, small sharks, and beardfish. They catch their food by opening their mouth very fast and very wide and almost suck in their food – similar to the way whales eat when they suck shrimp into their mouths. The Coelacanth can go a long time without eating, because they digest very very slowly, like lions.

They are very cool fish. I hope people will find more and learn more about them. Hopefully, they don't go extinct, because they are an amazing fish.



Mmmm - the smell of FRESH-CUT CHRISTMAS TREES! Your choice of Balsam Fir, Fraser Fir, Meyer Spruce, White Pine, or Douglas Fir DELIVERED to your Prudence Island home - \$50

Place your custom order by calling the PI School at 683-1857 or by e-mailing us your order at: <u>theprudencewave@aol.com</u> or by picking up an order form at Marcy's

Proceeds will help pay for the PISF class trip to Washington DC (for more info see the article on the front page of The Prudence Wave)

Thank you Pinecrest Tree Farm of Westport! Pine Hill Road, Westport, MA 02790





This month's intriguing islander is Paulina Elser! We had a crucial and candid chat with Paulina uncovering cool Halloween costumes and cooking secrets.....unfortunately the cooking secrets are confidential.

So we found out that Paulina isn't originally from RI; actually her life started out in a small coal-mining town in Pennsylvania where she attended elementary, middle and high school. She went on to attend college at Empire State and Harriman studying to become a paralegal and stockbroker.



You may have been wondering...how was Mrs. Elser introduced to Prudence? Well a friend's nephew told them about the island and, although this may sound a bit cliché, she stepped off the boat and knew she was home. Jack Barrett brought her and her husband on a tour of the island where he quoted Walt Whitman and that's when Paulina fell in love with the island. Paulina has seven grandchildren Ben, Maggie, Peter, Myles, Maeve, Tommy, and Ava. They all love Prudence and to cook and fish with their grandmother. Paulina's **CRAZIEST** Halloween costume ever was when she and her husband dressed as a milkmaid and a cow...her as the milkmaid of course! Something many people don't know about Paulina is that her grandmother was from Lithuania and her grandfather was from America, but here's the cool part: they were actually in an arranged marriage that happily ended in 9 children!

One thing is for certain, Paulina definitely lives up to her title the Intriguing Islander of the month!





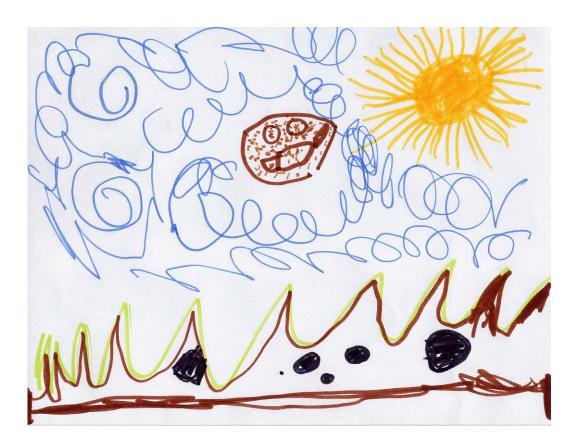
Sandy continued from page 2

By Raya, PISF 2nd grader

By Shelby, PISF 3rd grader

When I heard about Hurricane Sandy, they said it was going to be really bad, and I got scared. But then, when it came it was fun. When it blacked out, we lit candles and used flashlights and we played games. After the storm, I got to go to the beach and look for what washed up. I found 2 balls and a marble.

By Aribella, PISF kindergartener



This is last year's jack-o-lantern. During the storm the wind blew it over to the house with lots of dirt. When we were watching it, we thought it was an alien's head.

Scenes from Our Classroom



Marina and Meg's first chemistry lab





Julianna hard at work



Julianna and Meg enjoying some amazing PI maitake mushrooms generously donated by Billy Silvia Jr. Thanks so much Billy!!



Shelby and Raya sewing Halloween bats



Studying the wind at the beach

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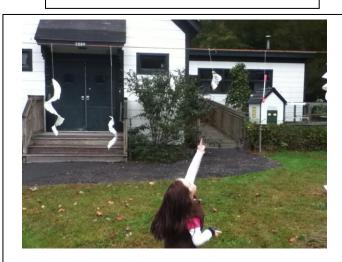
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Memphis making home-made play dough pumpkins



Chores



Wind project

The Prudence Wave



Exploring chemical and physical changes during chemistry class



Rock stars with their new guitar



Grapefruit safety