



The Sun of the Beach

People, Places and Satire by RICHARD TUFARIELLO

Greg Miglino And Carol Bissonette Not Intimidated, They Do The Right Thing

Councilwoman Carol Bissonette put people over politics when she broke away from the herd and supported the local ambulance companies to overcome Supervisor Foley's proposed deep budgetary cuts to nine ambulance companies. Miglino, the fiery boss of Southaven Ambulance, stood up to Foley and filed a lawsuit so South Country Ambulance Company would get what it was promised in order to protect the safety of the 41,000 people served by this district. Carol Bissonette supported the ambulance companies, breaking away from tax and spend Democrat Foley, who is leaving many voters questioning why they should support him again. Foley, who has earned a reputation for not returning phone calls to those who supported him, including members of his own political party, has seemingly mocked the people with some of his recent actions and now he is imposing tax increases and will/can not explain whatever happened to a \$60 million dollar surplus his administration was left with going into the year 2006. Councilwoman Bissonette asked the most important question during this ambulance company fiasco. She wanted to know "what about the patients." Her break with Foley on this issue is a good thing. Obviously she is putting the concerns of her constituents over the gorilla-like stranglehold Foley has on the Brookhaven Town board. What Carol Bissonette did, took integrity and courage. Good for her. As for Miglino's stand, he is to be applauded. This, too, took guts. He stood up to Foley at a time when it is not such a good idea to anger the Godfather of the Murphia who have taken over Brookhaven Town Hall.

Simply The Best. Eileen McCallion

The toughest and most courageous woman I have ever met, Eileen McCallion of Gazzola Brothers

Trucking, is back in the news. Eileen was the Sun of the Beach Woman of The Year awhile back along with the unsinkable Laura Gazzola. Laura was very sick with a liver problem. Her daughter-in-law Eileen offered her liver to save Laura's life. The women went through the life threatening surgery. However the skill of the Doctors, the spirit of the women and the help of the Lord pulled both Eileen and Laura through. Today they are both well thanks to the courage of this amazing Irish girl. Laura said when she came out of surgery she wanted to sing Irish songs. Now that's a beautiful story.

Judy Pascale For County Clerk

In the past I have gotten into political knife fights with Judy Pascale. She's tough. She once wanted me fed to the fishes because I made fun of her haircut. She got back at me, when I was involved in a war concerning newspaper people, by telling me, "There are friends and there are friends." During a Legislative race, she came to my house with coffee and jelly donuts. I am a diabetic. A discreet assassination attempt. That's our history. In reality Judy has done so many things and has received so many awards that it would be impossible to list them here. She is an excellent administrator and was raised right here in Mastic Beach. She is old school with old school values. She is an expert when it comes to the County Clerk's office. She is by far the candidate of choice based on ability. Her opponent cannot touch her when it comes to the qualifications needed for this most important of jobs. Some of my readers will be questioning my endorsement, those that remember my relationship with Judy Pascale in the long ago time. As a lunatic recently told me, "That was then, this is now." One thing I always respected was a worthy opponent. I consider Judy a friend. She is not a crook. How many elected officials can I say that about with any sense of conviction?

Judy Pascale should remain County Clerk. She's a fighter. I know. I fought her on and off for years. Most of my closest friends I met for the first time while engaging them in a fight. It's the human spirit that followed me from the old country. Brooklyn.

Elvis Gavoon Impersonator Goes Ape

Word has it that a guy who believes himself to be Elvis Gavoon allegedly went ape at Brookhaven Town Public Safety upon reading an article he thought was about him. He made threats to people concerning me. Now that's not nice, even for a Gavoon. He and/or a Gavoonette seemingly emptied people's mailboxes and removed the South Shore Press which is a crime multiplied 50 times over. He/she threw out a stack of South Shore Presses. There were at least 50 people who had the paper hand delivered to them via their private mailboxes. The Elvis Gavoon Impersonator, angered about activities in the workplace he thought described himself, (guilty conscience?) has sworn vengeance. What a moron. Now instead of singing Elvis Presley's Love Me Tender he should take it to the next level. He can sing Neil Sedaka's great tune. "I Go Ape." But not to girls 43 years younger than him. Once a Gavoon, always a Gavoon. But an Elvis Gavoon Impersonator? This guy's really in need of Thorazine. Anyway, if you wanna be a star you have to deal with the critics.

Till Next Time. Rich.

Remember Paul Bernstein

Any comment? E-Mail Me At sunofthebeach@optonline.net

Editor's Note:
The opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer, and not necessarily the opinions of the South Shore Press.



■ by VINCENT T. PICA, II Flotilla Commander, 18-06 (1SR) United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

When I teach seamanship courses to private boaters on the South Shore, I note that, if you boat in our local waters and maintain you have never run aground, you're lying. Even USCG regulars have been known to "touch bottom" at times in these waters. So, the issue is not if you run aground but what you do afterwards.

There are a couple of things to do right away. First, determine if the grounding has caused a leak. Even sand, if you hit it hard enough, will stave in a hull (or a through-hull fitting or a drive shaft fitting through a stuffing box.) While the water obviously isn't very deep right where you are, if your boat starts to fill with water, she may slide into deeper water, and problems will escalate. At roughly the same time, get everyone into life jackets. You're the skipper and are responsible for the safety of everyone on that vessel. Secondly, check your tide charts and determine if time is an ally or an enemy, i.e., if the tide is rising or falling. If it is falling,

time is now working against you.

If the boat has sprung a leak get right on VHF-16 and hail the USCG. You have everyone in life jackets and you know if you will be helped by time or not. This should have taken you less than one minute. If the hull isn't leaking, try backing away the way you came in. Increase throttle moderately and keep turning the wheel back and forth, port to starboard and back again. Why? Well, to some degree, it is like rocking a car in the snow. Sand and boats can get into a very powerful embrace caused by suction of the wet sand and the smooth surface of a boat's hull. But, secondly and perhaps more importantly, you are sending sand from the stern directly forward - increasing the "hump" that you have to float over. By turning the wheel, you'll break the suction and spread the sand around. Be conscious of what is behind you because if you suddenly break free, you don't want to go flying into a busy seaway. Assuming this is working, it is quite possible that you will find yourself making more progress when the wheel is to one side or the other. Once you see the stern making more way

down one exit path than the other, make that your new centering path. In short, don't waste time and fuel trying to back down a path that isn't getting you anywhere - but don't fail to sway the helm back and forth down your new exit path or you may fill it with sand and ruin your escape.

Most times, this will get you out. If it does, unless you got out pretty quickly and easily, I would head for the marina and get a hose on that engine and start to wash out the sand. I'd also have somebody look at the running gear. A small nick in a prop can do a lot of damage to an engine's "innards" because the running gear is no longer balanced. At a minimum, get the boat somewhere where you can get a water hose on the engine and flush it - with the engine OFF. If there is sand in there, don't grind it out of your engine. Wash it out.

What if you are at this for 4-5 minutes and nothing is happening? Well, if the tide is against you, and you have towing insurance, call for help. Any more time wasted and you might be spending the night. The commercial towers are well equipped and largely well trained. (If you don't have towing

insurance, think again! It is the cheapest insurance that you will use.)

But what if the tide is with you? Well, you can still call for help but you also have an opportunity to engage in some seamanship that might hold you in good stead sometime in the future when you are in more difficult circumstances. How about putting an anchor out towards the deeper water and "kedging," i.e., pulling yourself along it from the bow? You are introducing a new angle of pressure and that might pull you free or at least loosen the bottom-suction. At a minimum, as the tide rises, it will keep you from being blown higher on to the beach by the wind. If your boat is big enough to have a tender (dinghy), get it to work pushing the boat. Think like what you are. A sea captain.

If you are interested in becoming a member of US Coast Guard Forces through the USCGAux, email me at USCGAUX2006@aol.com or go direct to MaryJo Cruickshank, who is charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."



Hard Aground! Now What?