

NOVEMBER 2008

Day Tripping, Part 2

This is the second and final article in the series.

If you are itching to enjoy the fall foliage and would like to tune out depressing news of the faltering economy, a day trip to **Grounds for Sculpture** may be your perfect escape.

Grounds for Sculpture

Growing up in London, England, Pat Spencer had a deep appreciation for the arts. While the administrative coordinator of dialysis services relished music, ballet and oil paintings, she particularly savored sculpture: 3-dimensional forms in all types of mediums, from wood and wire and wax to metal, iron and copper.

After she moved to the States, the Hicksville resident learned about sculpture parks, which are outdoor museums for sculpture. One such park, Grounds for Sculpture, set on 35 "aesthetically pleasing" acres, is a favorite of Ms. Spencer's.

"It's a place where I can touch the art; you are actually encouraged to touch," said Ms. Spencer who has worked at South Nassau since 1998. "In museums, I look to see if the guard is not watching and then I touch the sculpture. I haven't been thrown out of a museum yet."

A collector of art, especially abstract and figurative, she especially enjoys the



cal concerts. Admission for adults is \$10, seniors \$8, children \$6 and children under 5 are free.

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Pat Spencer, administrative coordinator of dialysis services, standing second from left, "mingles" with diners in J. Seward Johnson's sculpture, "Were You Invited?" which is based on Pierre-Auguste Renoir's painting titled "The Luncheon of the Boating Party."

park's contemporary collection, which includes works by leading sculptors J. Seward Johnson Jr. and George Segal.

"I am impressed with the quality of the sculpture and the surroundings," said Ms. Spencer, who usually makes a day of her visit by packing a picnic lunch and lingering for dinner at one of the park's three restaurants.

Open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., the park, which is about 90 miles from South Nassau, also offers indoor seasonal exhibitions, lectures, workshops for adults and children and events such as classi-

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