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Broklyn Daily Eagle

Rocky Hollow Press's

award-winning new book

Peter Pigeon of Snug Harbor

written and illustrated by

Ed Weiss



Author/illustrator Ed Weiss stands next to a blowup of the cover for his book.

A Ferry-riding Pigeon Inspires Heights-reared Author's Book

Brooklyn Heights-reared writer Ed Weiss is bringing his children's (and grownups') book *Peter Pigeon of Snug Harbor* to local bookstores for the holiday season.

Weiss, the son of our "From

the Brooklyn Aerie" columnist David Ansel Weiss, has had a varied life as playwright, freelance writer, researcher and bartender, and has lived in several of the city's boroughs, currently residing in Staten Island, where most of the action of *Peter Pigeon* takes place.

The book, a winner of the JP Morgan/Poets & Writerssponsored COAHSI literary award, tells of the rescue of a young pigeon who becomes a traveler on the Staten Island ferry (at one point even steering it) and helps a young artist with a painting that wins her a competition prize.

Weiss says he got the idea for the book while living in Cobble

Hill and house hunting on Staten Island, when "on the back of the ferry there was this pigeon just staring back at Staten Island." He and his wife continued house hunting and stumbled on Snug Harbor, the 19th century sailors' home — which suggested to him a pair of characters for the book

script, which won him the award in 2006, he still needed an illustrator for it but lacked the money to hire one. A college major who "hadn't done a line drawing in twenty years," Weiss decided to go to work and eventually pro-



A drawing by Ed Weiss shows Peter Pigeon looking out at New York Harbor from the crook of a tree in Richmond Terrace on Staten Island.

duced his own 40 drawings for the book.

The 90-page, soft-cover *Peter Pigeon of Snug Harbor* sells for \$7.95 at independent bookstores or Amazon.com, but can also be purchased (with free shipping for Brooklynites) at http://www.rocky-