YONKERS, N.Y. -- One hundred twenty people crossed a gang plank from the Science Barge on Yonkers' waterfront June 15 to board the Majestic Princess for a scenic Hudson River cruise.

The cruise, offered by Vista Yacht Cruises, with dinner and cocktails, was a fundraiser for Groundwork Hudson Valley to benefit the Science Barge.

The Science Barge is a prototype sustainable urban farm and environmental education center funded by grants.

The three-hour sailing to the Tappan Zee Bridge included Barge Captain Bob Walters pointing out highlights along the way.

The ship passed Hastings-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, and Irvington.

In Tarrytown, Craig Teepell, Deputy Construction Engineer for the New New York Bridge Project, gave details of the new Tappan Zee Bridge under construction.
Its towers will ultimately be 419 feet, he said, pointing out the massive cranes, one called the "I Lift NY super crane," long approach spans, and girders for the project a mile long.

Westchester County Legislator MaryJane Shimsky was aboard that evening.

“The cruise was fantastic. Looking at the existing Tappan Zee Bridge and the New New York Bridge project from water level, and listening to the commentary (Teepell’s) greatly increased my understanding of the project."

"Looking at our communities from the river provided an invaluable new perspective on how they relate to the river and how they’ve been situated within their natural setting." she said.

The Science Barge is located at 99 Dock St., Yonkers, N.Y.