

The Island Current

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One Dollar

BLUSTERY BASEBALL WITH SUNNY SMILES

By KAREN NANI



Photos by KAREN NANI

The baseball tradition dating back to 1900 continued on City Island with Little League opening day on April 8. League president, Dom Esposito (second photo), showed off the renovated clubhouse and presented a trophy to coach James Goonan (photo above, right), whose 10-year-old boys were runners-up in the Bronx Invitational Tournament in 2016. New York State Senator Jeff Klein joined other political representatives and the American Legion color guard (top photo) for the season opener.

It was a windy start to the 2017 City Island Little League (CILL) season on April 8, but the boys and girls of summer turned out to meet their new coaches and teammates with enthusiasm. In his second year as president, Dom Esposito welcomed the players, coaches and special guests who gathered on Ambrosini Field to usher in the new season and recognize some recent triumphs.

He led the players in the Little League pledge to begin the ceremony: "I trust in God, I love my country and will respect its laws. I will play fair and strive to win, but win or lose, I will always do my best."

Mr. Esposito then made a special presentation like those when a professional baseball team hoists a pennant or World Series flag on opening day of the following season. He presented the runner's-up trophy to the traveling team coach, James Goonan, for the team's success in the Bronx Invitational Tournament last summer. The team came in second place in the highly competitive tournament

for boys 10 years of age and younger. Another group of City Island 12-year-old boys then went undefeated in the fall season, adding to the success of CILL's traveling teams.

The president then introduced the special guests in attendance on opening day, including New York State Senator Jeff Klein and representatives from Mayor Bill Di Blasio and Congressman Joseph Crowley's offices. He thanked the Leonard H. Hawkins Post 156 flag bearers Mike Jawski, Bob Salerno, Peter Del Debbio and Joe Goonan for providing the color guard for the festivities. Mr. Esposito acknowledged the all-important sponsors and asked that Islanders show their appreciation by patronizing these establishments and causes: JP's Restaurant, Sammy's Fish Box, American Legion Post 156, the Gilder Scholarship Fund, Seafood City, Jacks Bait & Tackle, Local 79 Laborers, Crab Shanty, Seashore Restaurant, Dug-out Sporting Goods, Amanda Bear Party Rentals, and the City Island Theater Group.



"Sponsor funds are used to keep league fees manageable for our parents and give us the means to purchase top of the line equipment and new uniforms," Mr. Esposito explained. In addition, he thanked City Island Insurance for funding the CILL clubhouse improvements.

He then introduced the 2016 CILL board members: Vice President Arturo Mazzeo, Treasurer George Spencer, Player Agent Edward Esposito, Safety Officer Maria Piri, Concession Stand Managers James and Sue Goonan, and Equipment Manager Lou Lomonaco. Several of these board members have served multiple terms on the board.

As the weather warms up and the winds die down, head down to Ambrosini Field next to P.S. 175 and catch some of the exciting games between the following teams:

Minor League Teams and Coaches

Seafood City: Dom Esposito and Arturo Mazzeo

Jacks Bait & Tackle: Robert Riordan and Corley Schaller

Local 79 Laborers: Brian Kenny, Greg Penny and Brian Moynihan

Major League Teams and Coaches

American Legion Post 156: James Goonan and Paul Mazzella

Sammy's Fish Box: John Burton and Brian Kenny

Gilder Scholarship: Anthony Piri and

Continued on page 5

CI COMMUNITY VS. DON COQUI

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

One of the most popular restaurants on City Island is Don Coqui, which opened with great fanfare in early 2014. But some of its practices, especially loud noise after midnight and traffic congestion caused by valet parking, have annoyed, even angered, a large number of residents. Don Coqui's liquor license is up for renewal this spring, and the executive board of the City Island Civic Association, on behalf of its members, has asked Community Board 10 to refuse to approve the renewal unless changes are made at the restaurant.

Don Coqui is located at 565 City Island Avenue, where Anna's Harbor stood for years until it was replaced by the Lighthouse, a sit-down restaurant that had a short-lived run in 2013. When the Lighthouse closed, its management carried over to Don Coqui, which continued to operate on the old establishment's liquor license, thus avoiding a new hearing/review process by the City Island community or Bronx Community Board 10. It also added an outdoor space for customers, where loud music was frequently heard well into the morning hours.

Much to the surprise of City Island residents, John Marano, then chair of the Community Board, wrote to the New York State Liquor Authority approving the renewal of Don Coqui's liquor license in May 2014 without conferring with the rest of the board or anyone on City Island. In that renewal, the name of the restaurant was officially changed to Don Coqui, the use of a DJ was approved, and the hours were extended from midnight to 1 a.m. Sunday night, 2 a.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 3:30 a.m. Thursday through Saturday.

On Sept. 2, 2015, after several noise complaints were conveyed to the City Island Civic Association and posted on social media, the Civic held a special meeting between the then-management and 25 Island residents, who aired their grievances about outdoor parties and excessive noise. Although some changes were promised, the complaints

continued into 2016, and the management did not say that outdoor parties will cease.

Between May 1 and October 31, 2016, there were 84 complaints to 311, most of which related to noise and illegal parking. The police department responded to 19 of the 311 calls regarding noise (39 total).

Unrelated to these issues, both Don Coqui and Portofino were closed for a week in April due to a gas main leak on City Island Avenue that took Con Edison a few days to repair.

On Jan. 20 of this year, the Civic Association notified Community Board 10 that Don Coqui was advertising dancing on the Internet, although dancing is not allowed in establishments that do not have a cabaret license. The post was changed within a month.

When the Community Board held a meeting of its Economic Development Committee to discuss a number of liquor license renewals, about 20 Island residents were in attendance to protest the Don Coqui renewal unless changes were made. These changes include a restriction on outdoor parties, the return to a closing time of 1 a.m. every day and a plan to rectify traffic conditions caused by the inadequate parking in the lot, which is shared with Portofino. Nearly all City Island restaurants close at midnight or 1 a.m., so this is not seen as an unreasonable request. As of press time, the restaurant's website lists the closing hours as 12 midnight Sunday through Thursday and 4 a.m. for Friday and Saturday and offers outdoor dining.

For unexplained reasons, Thomas Accomando, chair of the committee, ignored their complaints and prepared to ask the full Community Board for approval on Thursday, April 20. However, further pressure from the City Island Civic Association and various individuals, plus the fact that the restaurant's certificates of occupancy had expired some years ago, resulted in a delay to a future meeting pending the receipt of additional information from the Department of Buildings and the NYS Liquor Authority.

BRIEFLY...

BRONX MASONS BLOOD DRIVE will take place on Tuesday, May 9, from 3:30 to 7:45 p.m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street. Almost anyone between the ages of 17 and 75, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds and in good general health, can be a blood donor. Photo or signature ID and Social Security Number are required at the time of donation. Refreshments, including pizza, will be provided. Please come and give the gift of life.

BRONX MASONS CLOTHING DRIVE will be held on Saturday, June 3, at 241 City Island Avenue, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If possible, please put men's, women's and children's donations into separate bags for easy distribution. All donations will be going to POTS (Part of the Solution) on Webster Avenue. The Masons will also have a yard sale on June 3 and 4.

AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE, presented by the City Island Sail and Power Squadron, will run for three Tuesdays: May 2, 9 and 16 from 7 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. at the City Island Yacht Club, 63 Pilot Street. The boat and water safety course's topics include boat handling and terminology, navigational rules of the road, sail and motor boating, emergencies. Both state boating and personal watercraft certifications will be issued. Instruction is free. Cost of supplied materials is \$45. For more information, e-mail: cityislandabc@gmail.com.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS! The City Island Nautical Museum will mount an exhibition in June of images depicting the beloved old City Island Bridge. Painters, photographers, sketchers and etchers are all invited to submit their work to the museum. For details, please call Barbara Dolensek at 718-885-0507. In the meantime, don't miss the Mark Whitcombe exhibition, which will be on view through the month of May.

CITY ISLAND STREET NAMES. Which is correct: Minneford or Minnieford Avenue? Are Caroll and Carroll Street the same? Was Rochelle Street named for a girl? Learn the answers by attending a talk on City Island Street names by John Sheridan on Sunday, April 30, at 1 p.m. in the library of the City Island Nautical Museum. Members free; visitors \$5.

"THE PHILADELPHIA STORY," a delightful comedy by Philip Barry, is the next production of the City Island Theater Group. Performances will take place at Grace Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, on Friday, April 28; Saturday, April 29; Friday, May 5, and Saturday, May 6, at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinee performances will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 30 and May 8. For tickets, please call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com. Tickets may also be purchased online by visiting the website www.cityislandtheatergroup.com

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during March and April 2017. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 – GRAND LARCENY AUTO
- 1 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

Police provided details on the following incidents for the period from to March 14 to April 20, 2017.

4/4 – At 6:30 p.m., an Island female re-

ported that her vehicle was stolen after being parked overnight on City Island Avenue. The vehicle was later recovered by the police department in Irvington, NJ.

4/10 – An Island female reported that she was verbally threatened by an unknown male at 10 p.m. on City Island Avenue. The complainant states that the perpetrator threw a rock through the window of her residence in an act of criminal mischief.

Update: The 45th Precinct's Graffiti Removal Coordinator, Officer Frank Malafronte, identified graffiti at numerous locations on City Island and documented them with photos (see the April issue of *The Current*). He is scheduling the sites for graffiti removal and cleanup.

Traffic Plan a No Go

The traffic plan initiated on Easter Sunday, the latest in a series of strategies, met with considerable protests by Island residents who found that it took a very long time to get home. Cars coming from the Orchard Beach Road were not allowed to enter the circle but had to go back to Shore Road and enter the circle after passing by Turtle Cove. After receiving many complaints, police officers were instructed to let drivers through if they could show evidence of their residence on the Island. The best advice for Mother's Day is to stay home or remain off the Island until late in the evening.

Correction

In Judy Rauh's article about Charles August Buhl that ran in the April issue, please note that he had four daughters, not five: Vera, Florence, Marian and Dorothy. *The Current* apologizes for the error.

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 P.O. Box 6
 City Island, N.Y. 10464


 Member
 EDITOR: Karen Rauhauser Nani

Editorial Office: 718-885-0760
 Display Advertising: 718-885-1636
 or: margci@aol.com
 Subscriptions: 718-885-9268
www.theislandcurrent.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: Sara S. McPherson DISTRIBUTION: Emily Leni
 COPY EDITOR/WRITER: Barbara Dolensek SUBSCRIPTION: Rose Kolb
 ART EDITOR: Marguerite Chadwick-Juner ADVERTISING MANAGER: Margaret Lenz
 PROOFREADER: Virginia Dannegger BUSINESS MANAGER: Judith Rauh

STAFF: Maria Swieciki, Ed Heben, Marsha Treiber, Jane Protzman, Bill Stuttgart, Tom Smith, Monica Glick, Maria Sutherland, John Sheridan, and Johanna Paciullo.
 PHOTOGRAPHY: Rick DeWitt and Matt Panza
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CONSOLIDATED SHIPYARD STAYS IN PLACE

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos courtesy of THE CITY ISLAND NAUTICAL MUSEUM and KAREN NANI

Consolidated Yachts is located on Pilot Street and City Island Avenue, where boatyards have been in business since 1856. From 1900 to 1946 it was the site of the Robert Jacobs Shipyard (pictured above), which built large yachts as well as military vessels during World War II. Although the property recently sold, Wes Rodstrom (above, right), whose family has run the business since 1946, will remain in charge of the marina for the foreseeable future.

The famous Nevins yard is now the site of P.S. 175, and the Boatyard Condominium is where United Boat Service used to be. On the Sound condos are being constructed on the former location of International Underwater Contractors (and several boatyards before that), and the east end of Marine Street, once Triboro Shipyard, may one day see the construction of condos that have been in the planning stage for more than two decades.

Because boatyards on City Island have since the 1970s been turning into condominium developments, it comes as a piece of good news that Consolidated on Pilot Street is remaining a boatyard in spite of recent rumors to the contrary.

The fate of the Consolidated yard has been a concern for many City Islanders, because the property has been on the market for some time with offers being made for everything from a Korean spa to yet another restaurant or housing development. Wes Rodstrom, whose family has owned the yard since 1959, is quick to admit that the boat business has suffered hard times, with rising taxes and expenses and a reduced economy. As he succinctly told *The Current*, "Things are no longer what they were."

Like other marinas, Consolidated has suffered in the past from storm damage, but it has nevertheless remained relatively intact. However, after Hurricane Sandy, the bank that had held the mortgage for the property decided not to negotiate a renewal and gave Wes Rodstrom and his partner, Michael Piparo, 90 days to pay the balance. It was at that point they realized they had no choice but to sell the property, which is

zoned for manufacturing and extends over five acres. Because this is one of the largest remaining lots on City Island, several offers were made, but none of them were deemed suitable.

At long last, however, an offer came along that was acceptable. Joseph Briody, a Bronx-born engineer with other properties on City Island, offered to purchase the property, which enabled the mortgage to be paid off, and to lease it back to Wes Rodstrom so that he could continue to do business as usual. According to published records, the sales price was \$5 million, including the upland property and the adjacent underwater lot. Once the sale was final, the official owner of the property was listed as KBJB LLC, and the business became Consolidated Yachts NY Inc., with Wes Rodstrom as the sole owner.

Although Mr. Briody's other properties on the Island have been used for the storage of trucks and automobiles, both are now for sale. He was disappointed that Dr. Mignone was not able to proceed with the plan to build senior housing on his large lot at Schofield Street and City Island Avenue, but he recognizes that the size of the original building project aroused considerable resistance from City Islanders as incompatible with the community. Once the Board of Standards and Appeals approved a reduced version, Dr. Mignone could no longer foresee a profit, so he withdrew his interest in the property.

As to his plans for Consolidated, Mr. Briody told *The Current* that he would like to let Wes Rodstrom run the boatyard indefinitely. The auto body shop that is located on the property will be undergoing some change, but otherwise things will remain much as they have been. He has some ideas about the kind of businesses he might like to see there in the future, should Wes retire from the business, but they would be small industrial shops that would be consistent with City Island's history as a working-class community.

Consolidated History

Many Islanders may not realize that the property where Consolidated is located has been an active boatyard for over 150 years, since 1856, when there was a short marine railway at the east end of Pilot Avenue (now Street), used to move ships in and out of the water for repair and maintenance. The railway was constructed by a New Rochelle man named Underhill, who had been engaged by the property owner,



George Washington Horton, who had purchased 41 acres at the southern tip of City Island in 1819. The Horton family recognized the value of such a venture, since there were many local vessels as well as ships that stopped by City Island on their way to and from New York Harbor.

Shortly after the construction of the railway, the business was taken over by Sam Hart of Northport, who ran an active business repairing boats that had struck the rocks at Hell Gate or around Hart Island and who was soon joined by two Northport friends, shipbuilders David Carll and James Ketcham.

In 1860, David Carll bought the business and expanded the boatyard considerably after obtaining a grant for 442 feet of underwater land off his waterfront. Five years later he won the bid to purchase the decommissioned U.S. naval ship *North Carolina*, from whose live oak timbers he built yachts (including the schooner *Resolute*) and the first bridge from City Island to the mainland. He also built Grace Episcopal Church during the 1860s, and in the 1870s constructed *Atalanta* and *Ambassador* for William Astor Jr. David Carll retired about 1885, when he sold the business to Henry Piepgras, although he is said to have kept an interest in the shipyard.

Piepgras was a German ship's architect and builder who brought iron and steel

ship construction to the yard after having crafted lead keels and hollow masts in Germany and later in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. In 1900, Piepgras sold the business to Robert Jacob, whose yard took care of some of the most famous boats in the world, including those owned by Vincent Astor, J. P. Morgan and Sir Thomas Lipton, as well as several America's Cup defenders and challengers.

The Jacob yard also served as a location for many silent movies that were made in the Bronx during the 1910s and 1920s. In 1924, when the film maker D. W. Griffith sold his studio in Mamaroneck, the huge building that had played a role in *Orphans of the Storm* (1921), was dismantled and hauled to the Jacob yard, which was in need of a bigger and higher shed. During World War II, the yard built 25 minesweepers after a design by the Nevins Yacht Yard, along with many other military vessels.

In 1946, the Robert Jacob yard was sold to Consolidated Shipbuilding, which had been established in the 1890s in the Morris Heights area on the East River. The yard was famous for building large power yachts, and after Consolidated relocated to City Island in 1948, they continued to build yachts, mostly in the 39-foot to 60-foot range.

In 1959, the Consolidated yard was bought by a syndicate headed by Wes Rodstrom Sr., then a 25-year-old Islander who operated a boat yard at the City Island Yacht Club, on the west end of Pilot Street. At first, he ran both yards but eventually gave up the yacht club yard and moved the business to the other end of Pilot Street. Over a two-year period, the name changed to the Rodstrom Shipyard and then in 1961 to Consolidated Yachts, Inc. Wes Rodstrom Jr. and Michael Piparo bought the yard in 1999, and though some of the players have changed, this fabled piece of property will continue in its historic role as a boatyard for the foreseeable future.

Note: Information for this article was drawn from the research compiled by Tom Nye, president of the City Island Nautical Museum, and Blake Bell, author of many historic articles available on Historicpelham.blogspot.com. A video of Tom Nye's history of boat building on City Island can be seen on <https://vimeo.com/158393591>; also visit the City Island Nautical Museum Facebook page for many more images.



Photo by GINGER KOTOFF

City Island's renowned fishing boat *Riptide III* suffered a near disaster on March 30, 2017, when powerful winds caused her to break loose and crash into the dock. Sound Salvage, with Dan Cavaluzzi and Chris McGuire, came to the rescue in time to save her.

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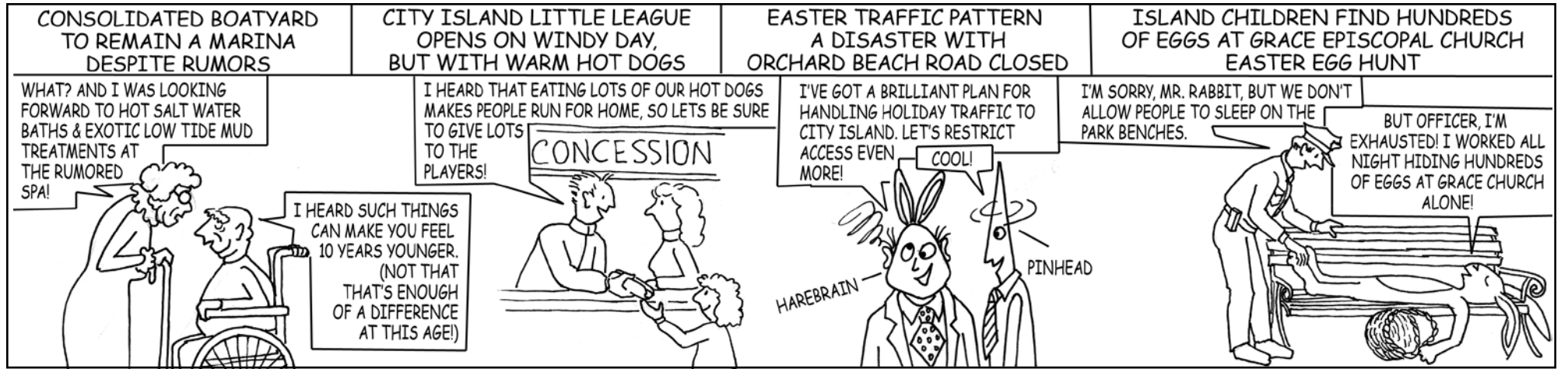
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A Family's Gratitude

To the Editor,

I knew from the first day on arriving in City Island that this was a friendly community, but recent events—the death of my daughter Diana—showed me how much I underestimated that welcoming feeling. The outpouring of love and condolences that this community has given to my family and me is beyond words. All I can really say is thank you, thank you, thank you. I will never forget the comfort that you have given to me and my family.

With love and gratitude,

Violet Smith

Courts Disagree

To the Editor:

The letter to the editor from Maura Mandrano in April's *Island Current* in response to an article published in the March issue questions the credibility of the New York State Supreme Court, the American Arbitration Association and the Environmental Control Board.

Legal action was taken by the Sailmaker Condominium's Board of Managers to redeem the lower lot property, a common element that belongs to the unit owners of the condominium, according to legal documents, which were supplied to *The Current* by three members of the Board of Managers.

The individuals claiming ownership of the lower lot property in their letter to the editor did so under what we believe is a false claim. All of the three legal entities named above, which were involved to adjudicate the dispute, gave their decision to the Board of Managers to reclaim the property for the condominium.

**Board of Managers,
Sailmaker at City Island Condominium**

About Those Barricades

To the Editor:

Regarding *The Current's* photograph of the barricades at the City Island circle on page 3 of the April issue, I can't imagine anyone complaining about how they look instead of praising our Police Department for fixing that dangerous and unsafe area. Everyone I've talked with thinks they are just fine.

If anyone wants serious safety issues to work on, here's a short list:

- faded yellow and white street safety traffic lines
- crosswalks for the elderly, especially at Pilot Street and City Island Avenue
- dangerous potholes and streets that need repaving

- speeding cars on City Island Avenue, especially in the fire lane

To thank the police for the barricades, call 718-885-5411 and select 3 for the community affairs officer.

Toby Z. Liederman

Funding Ideas

To the Editor:

I head up fundraising for the John Gilder Memorial Scholarship Fund, and since 2009 we have been raising money to keep John's name alive while making a positive impact in the community. We currently give an annual scholarship to Fordham University's Business School and a scholarship to John's high school. Additionally, we sponsor a regular season City Island Little League team and have sponsored the travel tournament team for several years.

With our scholarships endowed and the Little League teams in place, we find ourselves with some extra funds that we can either put into the fund or find another way to contribute to City Island. Our hope is to do the latter, but in order to do that, we need a bit of guidance from the community.

Drugs are a big problem on City Island (and all over), and we would like to see what we can do to help with that fight. The problem is that I and the others who help with the scholarship fund haven't fought the battle with addiction ourselves, so we are asking the City Island community to suggest some of the best ways in which we could use funds. We don't have a ton of money, but if we can get something started, I think we could start to see some change. We don't just want to pay a speaker to come in because we can't guarantee that anyone will show up, but we will consider any ideas.

Please reach out to me at jack.jokinen@gmail.com. Thanks for any ideas you may have.

Jack Jokinen

It Takes a Village

To the Editor:

Early in April I was rewarded by "shopping local."

I needed a replacement door knob and had the choice of buying it locally or off the Island. Realizing that I might need help in the installation, I purchased it from Karl at Buddy's Hardware. I did need help and called the store. Within an hour and a half Dan arrived, loosened up a stuck panel and offered to install the door knob, which he did. As he left, I offered him a gratuity, which he would not accept.

Once mobile, I set forth off the Island. As I returned and was passing by Orchard Beach, my dashboard alerted me: "tire needs air." As the car seemed to steer straight, I continued slowly back to the Island. I pulled in to the Sunoco station and saw that a back tire was totally flat. The counter clerk presented me with two quarters for the air machine but couldn't help me as he was the only one on duty. Soon thereafter a large van appeared carrying a man who turned out to be the manager. He and his colleague sprang into action with the air machine but to no avail. The manager suggested that I drive it the short distance home, slowly, which I did.

The next day I called Dave Carman, who suggested that I drive the car very slowly to his service station, he would take a look. Once there, Louis and Dave saw a big hole in the tire. Ultimately four new tires needed to be ordered and installed,

two each on two visits to the station. I was provided with door-to-door service both times.

Shop small, shop local. It pays.

Jane Protzman

CI Little League

Continued from page 1

Lou Lomonaco

JP's Restaurant (senior team): Ginutis Sipas

In addition, the t-ball teams will be coordinated by Greg Clancy.

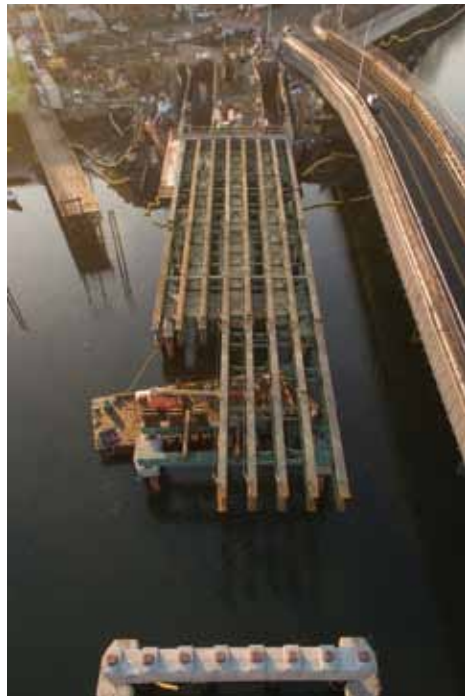
Mr. Esposito summed up the CILL goals: "Our goal from t-ball all the way through the majors is to teach players the game of base-

ball and to instill the values of teamwork, sportsmanship and commitment. Our participants can take these lessons learned and apply them on the field and in the classroom so they can be successful in all aspects of their lives."

If you are interested in volunteering, the CILL can always use extra help so contact them at cityislandlittleleague@gmail.com or visit the City Island Little League Facebook page.



There are major, minor and t-ball teams competing in the 2017 City Island Little League season, thanks to the support of the many businesses and organizations. Head down to Ambrosini Field next to P.S. 175 and catch some of the exciting games in May and June. Don't forget to visit the concession stand and grab a delicious hot dog (above photo)!



Photos by JAMES BREEN and ANGELO BELLOCHIO
The contractor has been installing steel stringers on the piers of the new bridge in preparation for the deck construction and building the abutment on the Park side of the bridge. The Department of Transportation estimates that work will be completed during the summer. Check on the project progress by visiting the Facebook page City Island Bridge or by contacting the DOT liaison, Huascar Robles, at cityislandbridgehbx1164@gmail.com. The Bronx Boy Scouts patch has also undergone a redesign, now honoring the old City Island bridge (below).



Current Editor to be Honored By 45th Precinct Council

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

At the upcoming 45th Precinct Community Council breakfast on May 10, *Island Current* editor Karen Nani will be honored along with four off-Islanders, for their efforts to "bridge police and community together."

The gathering of Bronxites, police brass and elected officials at Villa Barone Manor for eggs, bagels and other breakfast treats will also pay tribute to Michelle Sajous, Director of Community Relations at the Riverbay Fund in Co-op City; Patrick Devine, Bronx Veteran leader; John Bonizio, chairman of the Westchester Square BID; and Sal Grassia of the Spencer Estates Civic Association. A posthumous award will also be given in honor of Joe Oddo from the Pelham Bay Taxpayers Association.

Karen Rauhauser Nani is a clam digger and has lived on City Island all her life. She has been an active volunteer in the Bronx for many years and has worked with the NYPD in a variety of roles. In college, she had an NYC Urban Corps summer internship in the Harbor Division of the 41st Precinct, working with Sgt. Howard Smith, who was a City Island resident and later president of the City Island Civic Association.

After Karen married Bronxite Paul Nani and her sons were born, Karen served as co-president of the P.S. 175 Parent-Teacher Association from 1990 to 1996 with Donna Kinford and Debbie Kall Salacan. She worked closely with Community Police officers, Ron Oliveri among them, to improve safety at the school and prevent vandalism of the newly renovated schoolyard and new playground. She also joined with the 45th Precinct to organize a Saturday morning basketball program at the school, run by volunteer police officers.

In 1997, she took over as editor-in-chief of *The Island Current* newspaper, which started in 1971. Karen has upheld *The Current's* mission to the community: of City Island, by City Island and for City Island. Backed by a dedicated group of volunteer reporters, editors, photographers and advertising managers, she remains committed to maintaining the high quality and integrity of *The Current*, which includes reporting on police efforts toward crime prevention. As edi-

tor, she covers any emergencies and events on City Island and the surrounding areas, which requires working closely with the 45th Precinct, the Bronx Borough commander, the Deputy Commissioner for Public Information (DCPI) and the Highway Patrol.

Karen has interviewed and profiled several captains of the precinct, including Captains Russell Green and Danielle Raia, as well as the past NYPD Commissioner William Bratton. She is responsible for the police blotter in each issue of *The Current* and has collaborated with different officers over the last 20 years to document any arrests and incidents on City Island. Among them were Officers Oliveri and Viggiano, and most recently Officers Vicky Alier and Anne Marie Morrison.

Karen also worked with Lt. Paul Trapani to support police efforts to reduce traffic congestion and motorcycle noise during summer weekends. Karen, along with her news editor Barbara Dolensek, have tirelessly documented the ongoing issues at the Rodman's Neck police firing range for the past two decades.

Karen believes that the relationship between the local press and the NYPD should be productive in helping to reduce crime and bringing those who commit crimes to justice. By reporting on events and police activity on City Island, she feels that it is important to recognize the efforts of NYPD officers and strongly encourage residents to assist them in catching criminals.

Like other City Islanders who have been honored by the 45th Precinct Council, including John Doyle and Ms. Dolensek, Karen wears several hats. She is a longtime consultant to the pharmaceutical industry, having started her professional career at Pfizer in Manhattan, and a past president of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association. She is a lifelong member of Grace Episcopal Church on City Island and is currently the Sunday School teacher. She and Paul have two sons, Roger and Mark.

Islanders and guests can attend the breakfast on May 10. Call Robert Bieder at 718-828-4400 for information and reservations or e-mail John Doyle at doylejc1@gmail.com.

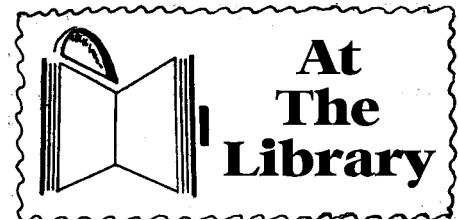


What's Going On In There?
 Celebrating 20 years on City Island in May 2017, **Starving Artist** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) serves up jazz and rock-a-billy, a funky jam and a 20th anniversary extravaganza. On Saturday, May 13, at 8 p.m. owner/proprietor and songwriter Elliott Glick takes his own stage with John Guth on lead guitar and a host of musical guests who have graced the stage at the Artist during the past two decades. Other highlights include jazz guitar master Lou Volpe, on Sunday, May 7, 4 p.m.; The Potato Heads, with Randy "Sax" Borra and City Island's Mike "Harps" DiMaggio, Friday, May 12, 8 p.m.; rock-a-billy debut with Rob A. Lou, Friday, May 19, 8 p.m., and a funky time with the Days of Wild led by City Island's Papa Guyo Guyocious, Sunday, May 28, 3 p.m. For more on the schedule for the 20th anniversary month of May, visit www.StarvingArtistOnline.com.

Calling all artists to be in "Artist's Choice," the next exhibition at the **Focal Point Gallery** (321 City Island Avenue). The show will extend from May 5 through May 28, with an opening reception on Friday, May 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. Call 718-885-1403 for further information.

"Try Watercolour"! Have you ever wanted to paint with watercolors? Come and try your paintbrush with **Francine Alheid**. She will supply paper, brushes and paint for three classes, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., on Tuesday evenings May 9, 16 and 23 at the City Island Yacht Club, 63 Pilot Street. Limit: 10 people; \$15 per class. To register, call Francine at 201-306-2867 or e-mail wc3941@hotmail.com.

Free American Flags (4" x 6") at **Burck's Boat Store** on Memorial Day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.



At The Library
PROGRAMS AT THE CITY ISLAND LIBRARY
 718-885-1703
 Our hours are: **Monday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

MAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS
Growing Healthy Eaters: This six-session series curriculum was created by the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene and aims to educate young children and their caregivers about the importance of eating well through a series of interactive, entertaining and delicious sessions. Workshop series is free. Space is limited, so please register in advance at the library. Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17 and 24, at 3:30 p.m.

Lego League: Bring your imagination and join us for fun with Legos! Blocks of various sizes will be provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 5 through 11. A limit of 10 children with their caregivers. Every Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.

Circle Time: Children from birth to 3 years old and their caregivers can enjoy stories, songs and finger plays while spending time with other toddlers. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. Every Tuesday from 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Read & Play: Children from birth to 3 years old and caregivers can take part in wonderful stories, discover amazing toys and meet new friends in this fun, informal program. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. Every Friday from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

It's Bin Fun!: Toddlers and preschoolers can play and explore our various sensory bins that will encourage curiosity through touch, sight and sound! Parent and child participation required. Ages 2 through 4

years old. Saturdays, May 6 and 20, at 10 a.m.

Craft-A-Way: Drop in and participate in creating projects related to a theme or holiday. Ages 2 through 5. Friday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m.

MAY TEEN AND TWEEN PROGRAMS

Podcasting at NYPL: Have you ever wanted to learn how to create your own podcast or radio show? In each of these four podcasting programs, you will learn a different skill to make a fun and professional-sounding podcasting using a free tool called Audacity. Record an awesome hook, become an interviewing pro, learn high-tech editing skills and put it altogether. Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16 and 23, at 3 p.m.

After School Lounge: Come to the library after school for studying and a chance to unwind. Monday through Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m.

City Island Chess Club: Chess is widely considered the oldest game in the world, and has been played by people of all cultures for centuries. Now we're encouraging families, friends and people of all ages to come and learn how to play like a professional. Saturdays, May 6 and 20, at 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

Friday Afternoon Activities: On Fridays at 3 p.m. we plan a series of special activities to celebrate the beginning of the weekend so check out this month's events and come hang out with us! May 5: Wii and Board Games; May 12: Mother's Day Crafts; May 19: Wii and Board Games; May 26: Make a Duct Tape Wallet

MAY ADULT PROGRAMS

Heroin Awareness Program: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Learn the facts about heroin addiction, what are the signs and what to do when someone you know is addicted. A health educator presents this program from the New York Department of Health. Saturday, May 6, at 1 p.m.

Thursday Writing Club: Each week a theme is chosen and stories are written in a group setting. It is amazing how the words flow onto your pages from the stimulation and encouragement of others writing. Gail Hitt guides the action. Every Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

Growing Together: A group for people who want to improve and develop themselves and help others to do the same by providing motivation and support as a group to the individuals in it. We seek to provide a comfortable atmosphere for people to explore goals they want to achieve and self-improvement ideas, and be a network of people willing to listen, help and motivate them. Wednesdays, May 10 and 24, at 2 p.m.

City Island Scrabble Club: If you're looking for some friendly competition, then join our Scrabble Club! Come in and flex your vocabulary muscles. You may even learn a thing or two while you're making some new friends. Note: Limited to 12 participants; registration is required. Call or stop by the branch to reserve your spot! Thursdays, May 4 and 18, at 1 p.m.

City Island Book Club: Mondays, May 8 and 22, at 5 p.m.

The Island Writers: This is a group for all who are interested in writing professionally or personally. Come check us out! Every Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Intro to Computers: Come to the library, ask questions about how to use computers and sharpen your skills through computer use. "How do I turn the computer on?" "How do I set up my own e-mail account and e-mail family and friends?" Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Resumé Workshop: Designed to assist in creating a new or updated resumé. Topics include cover letters and resources for job opportunities. A flash drive is required. Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

One-on-One: Computer Training: Stop by or call to make an appointment for one hour of instruction that focuses on your questions and interests.

Saturday Afternoon Movies at 1 p.m.: May 13: "Collateral Beauty"; May 20: "Loving"; May 27: "Bleed for This"

Some programs require advance registration, which can be done in person, or by phone. All programs are free!



As a service to our readers, *The Island Current* will periodically list recent sales of residential and commercial property as found in the public record. This feature is designed to give a general idea of the fair market values of property on City Island. An update will be published every few months at our discretion. The listings below, supplied by Janie Blanks, represent some of the recent sales. *The Current* is not responsible for errors or omissions in the data.

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
176 Schofield Street	12/22/16	\$565,000	1 family
205 Kirby Street	12/27/16	\$415,000	1 family
57 Island Point	1/4/17	\$527,454	condo
71 Island Point	1/30/17	\$596,232	condo
155 Pilot Street	2/2/17	\$5,000,000	marina
447 King Avenue	2/6/17	\$490,000	1 family
300 City Island Ave.	2/13/17	\$340,000	store
21 Deepwater Way #39	2/14/17	\$447,500	condo
51 Island Point	2/14/17	\$802,381	condo
61 Buckley Street	2/22/17	\$650,000	1 family
151 Bowne Street	2/24/17	\$695,000	1 family
100 Hawkins Street	3/1/17	\$467,000	1 family
45 Winters Street	3/2/17	\$730,000	2 family
152C Tier Street, #111C	3/2/17	\$228,150	condo
630 Minneford Ave.	3/13/17	\$410,000	1 family
152A Tier Street, #102A	3/20/17	\$243,360	condo

JGL Wines & Liquors Inc.
 358 City Island Avenue
 City Island, NY 10464
jgl358@verizon.net
 718-885-0200

SHOP THE ISLAND!

The Black Whale
 Garden Dining - Sunday Brunch
 279 City Island Ave, City Island, NY 10464
 Tel: 718-885-3657

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 718.885.1840
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City Island Yacht Club Sailing School

In its second year, City Island Yacht Club Sailing School is an ASA (American Sailing Association) certified school open to members and non-members. Interested sailors can register for beginner classes, such as Basic Keelboat Sailing, Basic Coastal Cruising, Coastal Navigation and Docking Endorsement, using curriculum provided by the American Sailing Association.

ASA instructors and CIYC members Jeff Goldfarb, Robin Ricca, and Ed Woolsey bring decades of experience sailing and teaching. Jeff Goldfarb says that "all our students need to bring with them for the three-day courses is a passion to learn the art and science of sailing. We supply all of the materials necessary to successfully complete each course."

The first course of Basic Keelboat Sailing (ASA 101) begins on May 6 at the yacht club. Students will engage in classroom and hands-on training using the yacht club's

Catalina 25'. Other courses offered include Basic Coastal Cruising (ASA 103), Bareboat Cruising (ASA 104), Coastal Navigation (ASA 105), Advanced Coastal Cruising (ASA 106) and Docking Endorsement (ASA 118). Most courses are \$595, including all ASA materials and registration.

Contact Ed or Jeff at DiscoverSailingCIYC@gmail.com or call the CIYC Club Office at 718-885-2487 for more information and registration.

The City Island Yacht Club, 63 Pilot Street, was established in 1904 and since then sailors have participated in many club-sponsored events. The club is an active member of the Yacht Racing Association of Long Island Sound (YRALIS) and the Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association (EBYRA), which provide regular, frequent racing opportunities during the summer months. For more information, visit www.cityislandyc.org.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

As a service to his constituents, Assemblyman Michael R. Benedetto sponsors AARP Driver Safety classes on a monthly basis. The course is held at Fort Schuyler House, 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway, Bronx 10465.

Please call Assemblyman Benedetto's office at (718) 892-2235 for available dates and to reserve a seat. The cost is

\$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members.

This 6-hour course will refresh your driving knowledge with a review of time-tested safe driving tips. Those who complete the course will receive a reduction of approximately 10 percent from the base rate of automobile and motorcycle liability premiums each year for three years.

CITY ISLAND YACHT CLUB
SAILING SCHOOL
 63 Pilot Street, City Island, NY 10464



ASA AMERICAN SAILING ASSOCIATION

An ASA Certified Sailing School offering...

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- Private Instruction • Yacht Club Membership • Club Boat Program

Call: 718-885-2478
 or visit www.cityislandyc.org

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SUNDAY MAY 14th
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\$25/Per Person*
 *TAX & GRATUITY NOT INCLUDED

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RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

PALMS AND PRAISES!



Photos by RICK DeWITT, KAREN NANI and MATT PANZA

Holy Week activities took place under mostly sunny skies this year. The congregation at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church blessed and processed with palms on Sunday, April 2 (top photo), and members of Grace Episcopal Church's Sunday school read the Passion According to Matthew. On April 8, many Island children hunted for treats at the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Grace Church (third photo). Finally, the solemn sunrise service led by Trinity United Methodist Church was held at Pelham Cemetery on Easter morning (bottom photo).



Photo by JUDY JUDSON

Garden Club members, including (l. to r.) Kathy Gibbons, Barbara Dolensek and Boo Dennis, were busy on April 8 putting pansies in the planters to brighten up City Island Avenue.



Bartow-Pell Events

The First Friday & Trolley of the season will kick off on May 5, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., with City Island's own Lickety Split Band. Come explore the mansion, stroll the gardens and enjoy some light refreshments while listening to music from 6 to 8 p.m. The trolley makes an hourly loop starting at 5:25 p.m. from the #6 Pelham Bay subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration suggested. Cost: BPMM Members \$5; Not-Yet BPMM Members: Adults \$15; Seniors/Students \$10.

The mansion's famous Kentucky Derby Party will take place on Saturday, May 6, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Watch the 143rd running of the Kentucky Derby and support the museum in style! Jazz, juleps and prizes for the most elegant and original hats add to the excitement. Information about tickets and more information available at www.bpmm.org. Reservations required.

On Friday, May 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., discover the buzz about bees with NYC beekeeper Ruth Harrigan and her presentation "A Taste of Honey". Sample local honeys, nibble on honey-centric edibles and sip a Bee's Knee gin cocktail (made with Ruth's honey), while learning about city dwelling beekeeping. Registration requested. Cost: BPMM Members \$20; Not-Yet BPMM Members: \$30.

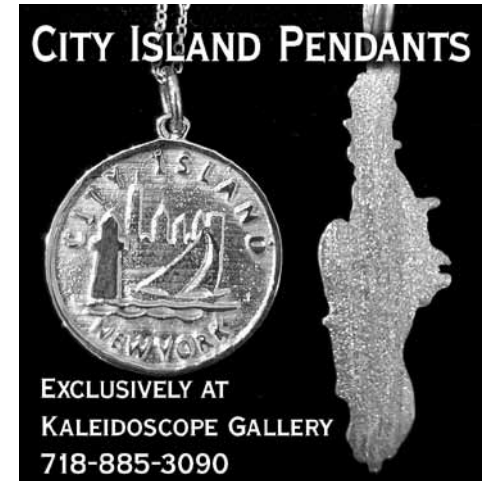
Bartow's Literary Elevenses will take

place on Saturday, May 20, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Join Museum guides Laura DeRiggi and Caitlyn Sellar as they lead a historical fiction book club, where literature and tea blend for a savory adventure. Contact BPMM for the current book being explored. Tea and light refreshments will be served; please bring a sweet or savory snack for the group to enjoy! Come be part of the fun. Registration requested. Cost: Free.

Bartow-Pell's annual Plant Sale will be on Saturday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Unusual annuals, perennials, herbs and roses for sale, plus demos and potting plants. Bring your favorite container and we'll help you plant it (rain date: Sunday, May 21).

"Beyond the Oak Tree Treaty, part I" will be held Sunday, May 21, from 2 to 3 p.m. As part of BPMM's Native American initiative, Grace Bulltail of the Montana Crow Indian Nation will perform traditional Crow dances on the front lawn of the mansion, followed by a discussion on the historical significance of the dance style and dress. Cost: Free.

The museum is open to the public Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 12-4 p.m. Group tours of ten or more and school class trips are available daily with advance reservations. Call 718-885-1561.



Cormac McEnery, Esq.

Kerry A. Dinneen, Esq.

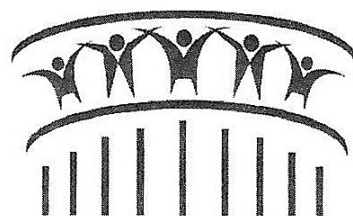
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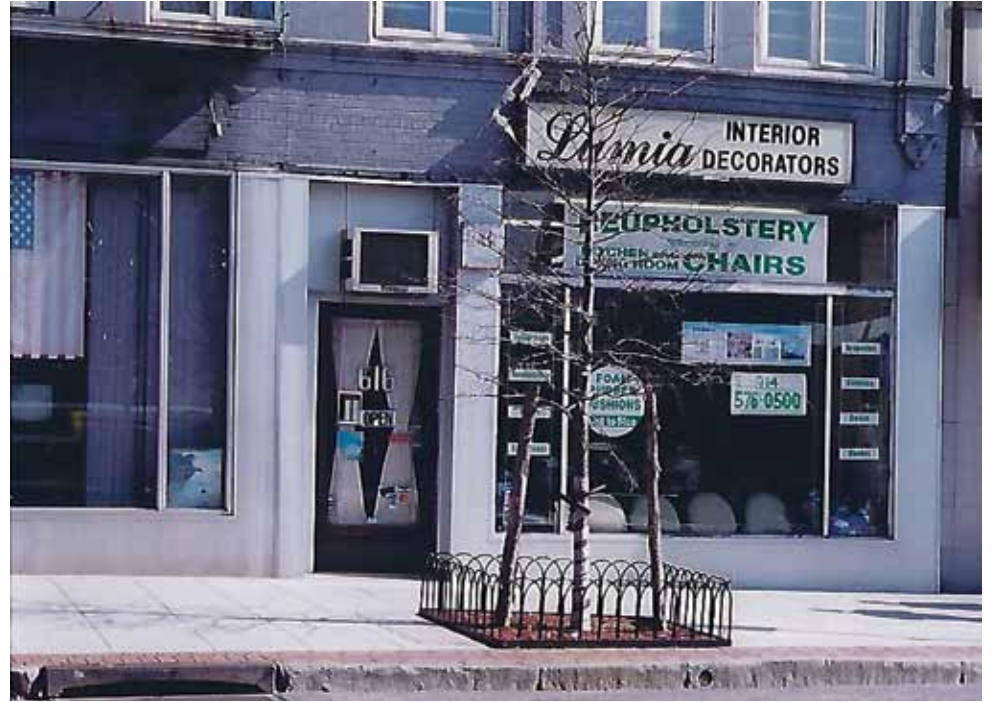


Photo by KAREN NANI

City Island's Boy Scout Troop 211 held its annual plant sale from April 12 to 15, 2017. The hard-working young horticulturists are shown above (l. to r.): Ginutis Sipas, Benjamin Chadwick, Colin Kenny, Matthew McGaughan, Jayden Kenny, Bandon McGaughan and Assistant Scoutmaster Brian Kenny. Funds raised enable the scouts to attend summer camp at Ten Mile River in upstate New York.

Decorating City Island

By BILL STUTTIG



The following is the latest in a series of business profiles of long-time advertisers in The Island Current.

For more the 40 years, Joe and Paula Florio (shown above) of Lumia Decorators have been decorating homes throughout Westchester and the Bronx, many of them on City Island.

Joe, who runs the New Rochelle-based business with his wife, says that City Island has long been a key part of their business, thanks to word of mouth and regular advertisements placed in over many years.

"We love City Island," Joe says. "They are usually nice customers, and they know what they want."

Lumia Decorators was started by Joe's maternal grandfather, Joseph Lumia, more than 50 years ago. The business was operated by his parents, Joe and Ann Florio, for several years before Joe and Paula took over. The decorating business was originally located on Castle Hill Avenue in the Bronx but moved to 616 Main Street in New Rochelle more than 35 years ago.

Clients run the gamut from commercial businesses throughout the metropolitan area to homeowners in Scarsdale, New Rochelle, Pelham and many other high- and middle-income communities in Westchester and the Bronx.

"City Island has a different feel than other communities we work in," he told *The Current*. "The homes are older, and the people have a different outlook on life. Most of

our customers there are easy to work with, and they tend to prefer a maritime feel, given the location and the atmosphere of the community."

Lumia has sometimes worked with three generations of homeowners, designing for couples there in the 1970s and then their sons and daughters; in a few cases the firm has even decorated the homes of the grandchildren of those original customers.

The products that Lumia provides, often designed and produced by them, include upholstery, slipcovers, curtains, draperies, valances, blinds and a host of many other items that make a house a home. The business provides a wide variety of styles suitable for many different types and tastes.

Those interested in contacting Lumia Decorators to sample the range of the products available through the half-century-old business can arrange for a home visit and consultation. "The whole process will take three to four weeks," Joe says, "from the time we first discuss ideas and samples to the time finished product is completely installed in the home."

"We have been advertising in *The Current* for years, and as a result we get regular business from City Island. We have always enjoyed working in City Island's many distinctive homes. We always look forward to working with them."

Lumia Home Decorating can be reached by calling 914-576-0500 or by visiting the store in New Rochelle on Main Street near the intersection of Maple Avenue.

MrChimney.com
Cleaning & Repairs
718-329-3296
800-834-3155

Remember June's long days, and wild strawberries, drops of wine, the dew.
 Adam Zagajewski, a Polish poet

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 ndereksen04@earthlink.net

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www.youcanhelpkids.org
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Organization News

News on this page concerning organizations, and events listed in, are submitted by representatives of those organizations. A limit of 150 words is requested for all news items submitted. In most cases news will be edited and every effort will be made to preserve the substance of longer items. News and calendar events must be received by no later than the 20th of each month except December and July. If the 20th falls on a holiday or Sunday, the deadline is the 19th. Mail submissions to P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464. YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER MUST BE INCLUDED.

Current Calendar

MAY

Tues., May 9, **Blood Drive**, sponsored by the Bronx Masons, Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street, 3:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Thurs., May 18, **Garden Club Luncheon**, City Island Yacht Club, Pilot Street, 12 noon.

Sat., May 20, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: ziti or rotini with meatballs or meat sauce.

Mon., May 29, **Memorial Day Parade**, 2 p.m., sponsored by the American Legion. Starts at Pilot Street and City Island Avenue and ends at the Legion Post on Cross Street.

Tues., May 30, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

JUNE

Sat. and Sun., June 3 and 4, **Spring Arts and Crafts Fair**, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., City Island Avenue.

Sat. June 3, **Clothing Drive**, sponsored by the Bronx Masons, 241 City Island Avenue, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

Mid-season sales: Clothing, linens, bric-a-brac, shoes, bags. Come and join us for some refreshments.

Arlene Byrne

AARP 318

We meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month at Trinity Methodist Church Hall on Bay Street at 1 p.m. On May 3, we will celebrate Mother's Day with a luncheon at the church hall at 1 p.m. Be sure to sign up for this festive afternoon. On May 17, our chapter members will put on a fashion show. Come and enjoy a fun day with our friends.

Rosetta Woods

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Episcopal Church, located at 116 City Island Avenue on the corner of Pilot Street, a place of worship and fellowship, warmly welcomes you to the following:

Worship Schedule: Sundays at 10 a.m. led by Father John Covington. Holy Eucharist Rite II. After the service, we offer coffee hour, a time for refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome. New to Grace: We now do birthday and anniversary prayers during the service and healing prayers after the service on the first Sunday of each month.

Sunday School: It's never too late (or too early) to join our enthusiastic group of children. During May, the Sunday School will be working on Mother's Day surprises and plans for a Children's Service in June. Sunday School meets on the first and third Sunday each month and is led by Karen Nani. The students range in age from 2 to 12, and newcomers are welcome. No extra time is needed; students begin the service with the entire congregation at 10 a.m. and then leave with Mrs. Nani for lessons and activities, including arts and crafts, for 30 to 40 minutes during the service. They then rejoin the congregation after the exchange of peace.

Music Ministry: The Grace Tones is starting its second year! With members of the church choir and singers from on and off City Island, we perform at area nurs-

ing homes and rehabilitation centers. We now rehearse on the second Sunday of the month and the Monday before the show. Our next performance will be at Eastchester Rehabilitation and Health Care Center in the Bronx. If you would like to join us, remember that you don't have to sing like an angel; you only need the desire to help lift the spirits of those in need. Interested? Please call Sandy Dunn at 917-566-1296 or e-mail accentfix@gmail.com.

Sandy Dunn

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island (TBE), "your shul by the sea," 480 City Island Avenue, is a stimulating non-denominational place for observance of Jewish traditions. Jewish renewal is the style of our deeply spiritual, innovative, all-inclusive and open-minded worship. Twice a month Rabbi Shohama Wiener and Rabbi David Evan Markus lead services with music by Your Band by the Sea. At other times the services are led by congregants in a joyful celebratory manner. Events begin promptly, so please come 15 minutes before listed times. Services are followed by a celebratory oneg (refreshments). Reminder: for the health and comfort of all, please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne. We look forward to seeing you at our services.

Temple Services Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. the Sea and celebratory oneg after the service.

May 5: Community-led

May 12: Rabbi David

May 19: Community-led

May 26: Rabbi David

Join us for new Shabbat Morning services on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 20: Rabbi David.

Adult Education: May 23 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Rabbi David leads: "Seeking and Spirit: Re-Introducing Judaism for the Renewal Age."

TBE invites the City Island community to our yoga class on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Daniella Haney (Patresha Sat Inder Kaur), a certified instructor in spiritual disciplines of breath and body, continues our weekly Monday series in transformative breath, body and spirit for deep healing in body, mind and soul. Suitable for all persons, ages, body types and experience levels. Dress in loose-fitting clothes: participants can take session on the ground (mats and pillows provided) or sit in a chair. Tea and cookies are served after sessions. Suggested freewill offering \$10 per session. RSVP to Daniella at kyncyc@aol.com.

Oneg sponsorships: Special events to honor others or celebrate your own special occasion (e.g., birthday, anniversary, new job, achievement, yahrzeit or memorial) can be a joyful moving community celebration as we warmly invite you to sponsor a Friday night oneg. To sponsor an oneg or for more information, please contact Violet Smith at 718-885-0978 or violetsmi@aol.com.

For additional information, check out our website at www.yourshulbythesea.org.

Dr. Ellen Ruth Topol

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #156

Dues (\$30) are now past due. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. Nominations for officers will be made. At last month's meeting we swore in several new members.

New members are always welcome. If you are a male descendant, step-descendant or adopted descendant of a veteran set forth



Photo by MATT PANZA

Proceeds from the Queen of Hearts game at the American Legion paid for the installation of the handsome new awning in front of the building.

in the dates established by Congress, we would love to have you as a member. Stop by the Post to pick up an application. We will also need a copy of a DD-214 from your relative.

The SAL is conducting a 50/50 raffle to raise money for Bill Clancy III's state commander campaign. Chances are \$5 per ticket or \$20 per book. Stop by the Post to pick some up. Chances will be going out to the mailboxes of all Squadron members.

Mark your calendars. We have some exciting events coming up this month. The Kentucky Derby party will be held on Saturday, May 6, from 3 to 7 p.m. The price is \$20 per person and will include food and the race.

The annual Golf Outing will be held on Friday, May 26, at 12 noon at Pelham Golf Course on Shore Road. The cost of sponsoring a hole is \$100. Golfing and BBQ tickets \$140 per person. If you plan to attend just the BBQ, the cost is \$50.

The Spring Fling will be held on Saturday, May 27, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. The price is \$20 and will include music and dancing. These proceeds will go toward Bill Clancy's campaign for state commander.

Monday, May 29, is the annual Memorial Day parade. We would love to get a large SAL turnout this year. Please make an effort to attend.

All retired flags should be deposited in the red, white and blue mailbox next to the flagpole.

It's party time! When booking your next party, consider the Legion Post. Members receive a discount rate on all hall rentals

Fred Ramftl Jr.

City Island Republicans

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 7, at 7 p.m. at the Legion Post on City Island. Petitions will be going out. Poll workers must attend. It is important that everyone eligible to sign the petitions actually signs them because that allows us to get the candidates on the ballot, including candidates for mayor.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Our weekly worship service and Sunday school are at 10 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Trinity often has a coffee hour after the service. Come and join us for worship and fellowship. Children's Sunday school takes place during the 10 a.m. service. This season the children are studying the story of Joseph in Egypt and progressing through the story of Moses. All children are welcome to attend.

Please visit Trinity's new home on the web (www.trinityofcityisland.org), where you will find all things Trinity, including the texts of Reverend Yew's sermons.

The Budget Shop is open. Winter is over

and that means spring cleaning, so please think of Trinity for donating all your gently used items! Stop in and see what is new. The shop is open the first and third Tuesday of each month and occasional Saturdays. Trinity is thankful for City Island's continued support, both in volunteering of time, and the generosity of the donations.

Rick DeWitt

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

Our monthly Holy Hour will be held on Friday, May 5, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome.

On Mothers' Day, Sunday, May 14, we will honor all our mothers with a special blessing at all our Masses.

Because Mothers' Day falls on the second Sunday of the month, we will not have a coffee hour in May. The next coffee hour will be on June 11, following the 11 a.m. Mass.

On Saturday, May 20, at 1 p.m., here at St. Mary's, our children from the religious education program will receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion. This is a very important day for them as they begin a lifelong friendship with Jesus.

The following day, May 21, these children will participate in a special procession at our Sunday, 11 o'clock Mass when our parish will honor Our Blessed Mother. After the Mass, our first communicants and their families will partake of a communion breakfast in our school gym.

Happy summer!

Rose Dietz

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

Fridays at 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, City Island Avenue near the Bridge.

Thursdays at 8 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church hall, 113 Bay Street.

Alcoholics Anonymous:

Mondays at 8 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church hall.

Tuesdays at 8 p.m., St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church.

Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church.

Saturdays and Sundays at 7:30 a.m., AA open meetings at City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church: 718-885-1440

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Overeaters Anonymous:

Saturdays at 11 a.m., Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080



For additional information about the Community Center, or if you are interested in conducting classes here please call 718-885-1145.

It was an exciting month for the Community Center: Our President, Brenda Prohaska, was honored by Temple Beth-El for her steadfast volunteer work at the Center, with the Girl Scouts and organizing the Annual P.S. 175 Card Party. The Pysanki Egg Decorating Workshop on April 9 had more than 30 adults and children, who made beautiful eggs under the guidance of Jay Howard. Many families enjoyed Bunny Bingo on April 7 with wonderful treats provided by the Culinary Club.

Annual membership to the City Island Community Center is only \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Members can rent space for family events and parties at very reasonable rates. To join the Center, to request our brochure and for up-to-date information, visit www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org, call 718-885-1145 or like us on Facebook and check FB for any changes in classes.

The Center is run by a volunteer board of directors who meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend this open meeting. We always welcome and really need volunteers and donations. We want to thank volunteer Gerry Breen for fixing and updating our locks.

COMING EVENTS

City Island Indivisible: Tuesday, May 9, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. (with pot luck dinner). Join other concerned citizens to discuss actions such as letter writing, marching and phoning that can help preserve American ideals. For more information, like City Island Indivisible on Facebook.

Beach Blanket Bingo: Friday in June. Fun for the whole family with fabulous prizes.

NEW PROGRAMS

Art Camp: July 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children 7 to 12. Register now for this innovative summer camp program and explore drawing, painting and sculpture. To enroll contact Lorraine Cantori at 914-552-5268 or ceasardante@optonline.net.

Spanish Classes for Children: New sessions began in April, weekdays after school and Saturday afternoons. Enroll now for this exciting new educational program for children at the Center. Taught by experienced school teachers, The Español Experience teaches conversational Spanish to children grades K-5 through fun-filled activities and visits by performing artists. The Español Experience enables children who know a little Spanish to speak more fluently and introduces children who don't know any Spanish to a whole new cultural experience. For more information, call 917-889-4938, or visit www.espanolexperience.com.

Yoga with Ryan: Thursdays, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. In this class expect a series of yoga poses with emphasis on alignment, coordinated with breath to build strength, increase flexibility and balance, and ending with deep relaxation to integrate the practice. Good for new students or students with limited experience. For information, contact Ryan at 914-356-6673 or ryangillyyoga@gmail.com

Healing Service: Francesca Vitale, Board Cert/Registered Polarity/CranioSa-

cral and Raindrop Practitioner formerly of the NY Open Center, is offering healing. A person can heal and become empowered receiving clarity of mind and balance within. A portion of services given back to the Community Center. Visit www.thehealingforce.net. For free consultation or an appointment call 914-837-6830.

Ballroom Dance: Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Welcome the month of May with the tango and the cha cha with instructor Maurice Bonilla. It's lots of fun and soon you may be "Dancing with the Stars." For information, call 347-920-3127.

Bollywood Dance: Saturdays, Tweens, 12 and under, 2:30 p.m. Teens/Adults, 3:30. Join Lalitha Cosme to explore the dance, energy, movement and culture of India and Indian films. To register or for more information call 646-269-2033 or e-mail lalithadance@gmail.com.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Irish Dance for Children: Mondays, Step dancing for all ages. Tiny tots 6 to 6:30 p.m., Beginners 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Intermediate 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. All classes are taught by Caitlin Nora Kelly. For information, e-mail caitlin.nora.kelly@gmail.com or call 914-262-4517.

Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep: For high school prep or just for fun! To enroll, call Geri Smith at 718-885-1503.

Jill's Playgroup: Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Preschool children are invited to have fun and socialize with other children. No charge, but donations are appreciated. Call Jill at 917-330-0922 for information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Aerobics with Mary: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 to 10 a.m. Stay strong with cross fit/aerobic strength training. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793. AFA Certified.

Belly Dance/Shimmy By the Sea with Kristin, aka Gypsy Curves. Saturday or Sunday. To enroll, call Kristin Amezquita 646-625-1575.

Chess & Card Club: Tuesday at 7 p.m. Come play cards. Wednesday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid TV. Have fun. If you plan to attend, call Bill at 718-541-3995.

City Island Civic Association: Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month. Join your community in action.

City Island Community Supported Agriculture: The CSA provides fresh organic fruits and vegetables. It will begin again in the late spring. For information, contact laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com or call 917-238-0529.

City Island Culinary Club: Mondays, May 1 and 15, 7 p.m. Focus on Mexican foods. Share recipes and have fun with other Islanders who like to cook. Pick up some new cooking skills as well. For information, call Kenny Selesky at 917-533-7873.

City Island Drawing Society: Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find your inner da Vinci and enjoy the art of drawing with Joshua Glick. For information, call 917-721-1419.

Weight Watchers Meetings: Tuesday evenings, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. with Deborah Weiss. Trim down and be healthy with the support of a great group. Now is a good time to join. For more information, call Emily at 718-885-3420 or Patty at 718-885-1891.

Yoga with Jo Ann: Tuesday, 7 to 8:15 p.m. and Saturday, 8 to 9:15 a.m. \$10. Gentle level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and if possible, a yoga blanket. For information, e-mail joannngny@aol.com or call 917-853-4719.

Zumba with Julia and Lettie: Saturday, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Want to lose those extra pounds and that belly fat? Well, here is your chance. Join this high energy 90-minute workout with toning. For infor-



Photo by PATRICIA GRONDAHL

The Pysanki Egg Decorating Workshop held at the Community Center on April 7 by Jay Howard was a great success with more than 30 adults and children decorating beautiful eggs for Easter.

mation, call Julia at 917-601-5514.

Zumba with Lettie: Thursday, 6 p.m. Lettie's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. Classes are \$10. For information, call 917-292-4228.

Patty Grondahl

PSS City Island Center

The mission of PSS City Island Center is to provide neighborhood adults 60 and over with the tools to live life to their fullest, keeping them healthy, engaged and connected through innovative programs and classes. We are not your everyday senior center!

The center is located at 116 City Island Avenue in Grace Church Hall and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. A delicious lunch is served every day from 12 to 1 p.m. Suggested donation: \$2. Programs are funded by PSS and the NYC Department for the Aging.

All programs and events are subject to change. Please call ahead to check if you have not attended before. To receive our newsletter and calendar of events send your email to pat-tis@pssusa.org.

Highlights

Reserve a table! Gather five or more friends and reserve a table for lunch especially for you.

May 2, Tuesday, 10 a.m.: Medicare presentation

May 9, Tuesday, 11 a.m.: First Aid, Part 2, CPR

May 11, Thursday, 12:30 p.m.: Nutrition presentation

May 12, Friday: Mother's Day celebration with DJ Lexs and United Health Care. Lunch starts at 12, with hors d'oeuvres; DJ and dessert at 1.

May 16, Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Advisory Council Elections and Root Beer Float Day after lunch

May 26, Friday: We close at 1 p.m. Lunch is served from 11:30 to 12:30.

May 29, Monday: Closed for Memorial Day

Please note: The PSS City Island van will not be available from Thursday afternoon May 18 through Monday, May 22.

May Physical Exercise: The exercise program offers classes at various levels of fitness. Drop in and try one of our classes for yourself. Mondays: Tai Chi for Arthritis at 9:15 a.m.; Tuesdays: Cardio Fitness at 9:15 a.m. and Yoga Stretch at 1 p.m.; Wednesdays: Arthritis Workshop at 10:15 a.m.; Thursdays: Tai Chi for Arthritis at 9:15 a.m.; Fridays: Fit for Life at 9:15 a.m., Yoga Stretch at 10:30, Balance Class 1 p.m. The suggested donation for the Arthritis Workshop, Yoga Stretch, Balance and Tai Chi classes is \$1 each. The suggested donation for other exercise classes is \$3 each.

May Programs: Mondays: Card Games and Canasta at 10:15 a.m.; Individualized Computer Instruction at 1 p.m.; Tuesdays: Blood Pressure Monitoring 10 to 11:30 a.m.; May 9 and 23: Crafters Corner at 1:45; Wednesdays: 11 a.m. Board Games,

including Rummy Q and more; Calligraphy at 1p.m.; Haircuts by Brenda at 1 p.m. on May 10 and 24 for \$10; Thursdays: Acrylic Painting at 10 a.m.; Mah Jongg at 11; Birthday Party on May 18 at 12:30.

Information, Referrals and Assistance. Need help with filling out forms or applying for certain benefits? Don't know if you are eligible for benefits? We can help. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the Center.

Caregivers Support. If you are caring for someone or if you know someone who is caring for another, we have some supportive services that might be helpful, including respite, escort assistance and help with shopping. Please call Patty at 718-885-0727.

Transportation Services. Off-island shopping trips leave at 9:30 and include Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Target, Farmers Market, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. All shopping trips require you to sign up ahead of time as we have limited seats. Sign up is available starting the Thursday before, for the following week's trips. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-island shopping trips. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Roe at 347-834-6466 for pickup or trips.

Patty Attis

City Island Indivisible

On the night of the presidential election last November, a group of friends, stunned by the unexpected win by Donald Trump, vowed to work together to ensure that what we believe are real American values would not be undermined. These values include equal rights for all people, strong environmental laws, the pursuit of clean energy, the development of strong educational systems that teach people to think and ask questions, healthcare as a right for all people, fair labor practices and decent pay, to name a few.

We learned of a newly formed organization called Indivisible, started by a group of congressional aides who developed an organizing handbook in the style of the successful Tea Party. Indivisible turned into a coalition for the many local groups throughout the country that formed almost immediately in reaction to the election, giving people with the same goals a means to organize and communicate. We call our group City Island Indivisible. We have been meeting every two to four weeks at people's homes, but we've been growing each week and have moved our biweekly meetings to the City Island Community Center at 190 Fordham Street. We invite all people interested in helping to promote a more progressive and cohesive America to participate.

Continued on page 16



Second Annual Binge-worthy Television

As I said this time last year, with the advent of streaming movies and television series via Netflix, Amazon Video and Hulu, plus on-demand options, many people are staying home to watch TV series they've heard about but never had the time to see. So this month, I'm continuing with my Second Annual "binge-worthy television" column. My main parameters are that they are excellent and have completed their run. This time, I've put them in the order of the number of total episodes, so people can decide how much of a time commitment fits into their schedules. All are 45 minutes to an hour, unless otherwise specified.

We begin with the fascinating and timely drama, **Sleeper Cell** (2005–2006/18 episodes over 2 seasons), each season of which was aired over several consecutive nights, i.e., the series was intended to be binge-watched. It is the story of a group of Muslim terrorists who are members of a cell located in Los Angeles. The cell functions under the brutal leadership of Farik (Oded Fehr) and includes Darwyn (Michael Ealy), Ilija (Henri Lubatti), Alex (Christian Aumont) and Tommy (Allen Emerson). One of the group is an undercover FBI agent whose handler at first is Special Agent Ray Fuller (James LeGros) and subsequently Special Agent Patrice Serxner (Sonya Walger). What makes this show unique and fascinating are the varying backgrounds of the cell members and the philosophical discussions they have about what the Koran really says, all against the background of impending terror. Melissa Sagemiller is featured as Darwyn's love interest, Gayle Bishop, who unwittingly gets pulled into harm's way. I highly recommend the first season, the second season, not so much.

Written by Aaron Sorkin (who penned my favorite, **West Wing**; see my column of May 2016), **The Newsroom** (2012–2014/25 episodes over three seasons, with episodes ranging from 52 to 73 minutes in length) is a political drama that takes us behind the scenes of the fictional Atlantis Cable News (ACN) channel. The program revolves around anchor Will McAvoy (Jeff Daniels); his new executive producer, MacKenzie McHale (Emily Mortimer); newsroom staff Jim Harper (John Gallagher Jr.); Maggie Jordan (Alison Pil); Sloan Sabbith (Olivia Munn); Neal Sampat (Dev Patel); Don Keefer (Thomas Sadowski), and the head of ACN, Charlie Skinner (Sam Waterston). Jane Fonda appears sporadically as Leona Lansing, media company owner. This absorbing drama uses current events to demonstrate issues of concern.

Set in 16th-century England, **The Tudors** (2007–2010/38 episodes over four seasons) is the PBS rendition of the story of Henry VIII and his six wives. It stars Jonathan Rhys-Meyers as the king; Henry Cavill as the king's best friend, Charles Brandon; Sam Neill as Cardinal Wolsey, and James Frame as Sir Thomas More. His wives include Maria Doyle Kennedy as Catherine of Aragon, Natalie Dormer as Anne Boleyn, Annabelle Wallace as Lady Jane Seymour, Joss Stone as Anne of Cleves, Tazmin Merchant as Katherine Howard and Joely Richardson as Catherine Parr. Court intrigue permeates the

entire four years.

Six Feet Under (2001–2005/63 episodes over five seasons) is a quirky black comedy about the members of the Fisher family, who run a funeral home in Los Angeles, and their friends and lovers. The ensemble drama stars Peter Krause as Nate, the oldest son; Michael C. Hall as David, the middle child; Lauren Ambrose as Claire, the youngest daughter; Frances Conroy as Ruth, their mother; Richard Jenkins as Nate Sr., the dead father who appears from time to time; Freddy Rodriguez as Federico, a young partner in the family business; Mathew St. Patrick as policeman Keith Charles, David's significant other; Rachel Griffiths as Brenda, Nate's on and off depressed girlfriend; and Jeremy Sisto as Billy, Brenda's bipolar brother. At first, the show seems to be a conventional family drama, dealing with relationships, infidelity and religion, but it is characterized by its focus on death, which begins each episode, providing opportunities to explore its impact on families and the Fishers themselves. The show also is full of dark humor and is often surreal.

Another extremely quirky selection in the fantasy horror genre is **True Blood** (2008–2014/81 episodes over seven seasons). Set in Louisiana, the series stars Anna Paquin as Sookie Stackhouse, a waitress who has been cursed with the ability to read minds. The series, adapted from a series of books by Charlaine Harris, is based on the premise that vampires and otherworldly creatures actually exist. Sookie is a waitress at Merlotte's Bar and Grill, owned by Sam Merlotte (Sam Trammell), a secret shapeshifter. Sookie prefers the company of vampires because she cannot hear their thoughts, especially Bill Compton (Stephen Moyer-whom Paquin married in real-life), a 173-year-old vampire. The other prominent personality is Eric Northman (Alexander Skarsgård), a 1,000-year-old vampire who owns a vampire bar in Shreveport called Fangtasia, which he runs with the help of his progeny, Pam Swynford de Beaufort (Kristin Bauer van Straten). Other characters include Sookie's womanizing brother Jason (Ryan Kwanten); her best friend, Tara Thornton (Rutina Wesley); and the gay short-order cook at Merlotte's, Lafayette Reynolds (Nelsan Ellis). Although part of the horror genre, the show explores serious issues such as equal rights, discrimination and violence against minorities and homosexuals, the problems of drug addiction, the power of faith and religion, and the importance of family.

Richard Dean Anderson played the title role in the original **MacGyver** series (1983–1992/139 episodes over seven seasons), a fun action adventure show the

whole family can enjoy. The main character uses ingenuity rather than violent means to overcome his opponents. MacGyver works for the fictional Phoenix Foundation in Los Angeles, supervised by Pete Thornton (Dana Elcar), and as an agent for a fictional United States government agency, the Department of External Services (DXS). A physicist and Vietnam War bomb technician veteran, he solves complex problems by making things out of ordinary objects, such as a paper clip, duct tape and his trusty Swiss army knife. Bruce McGill is on hand as his friend, soldier-of-fortune bush pilot Jack Dalton. Teri Hatcher appears periodically as Penny Parker, a woman who drives MacGyver crazy.

The Good Wife (2009–2016/156 episodes over seven seasons) is a legal and political drama starring Julianna Margulies as Alicia Florrik, wife of the Cook County State's Attorney, Peter Florrik (Chris Noth). When Peter goes to prison on corruption and prostitution charges, Alicia goes to work as a first-year associate lawyer at Stern, Lockhart, Gardner, which hired her because she was a college friend of Will Gardner (Josh Charles). She is mentored by Diane Lockhart (Christine Baranski); befriended by the firm's enigmatic investigator, Kalinda Sharma (Archie Panjabi); and is in competition with Harvard lawyer Cary Argos (Matt Czuchry). Alan Cumming appears as Peter's campaign manager, Eli Gold, and Mary Beth Pine plays Peter's intrusive mother, Jackie.

The Golden Girls (1985–1993/188 half-hour episodes over seven seasons) has been running in syndication since the show's final episode. It is the story of four older women who live together in a house in Florida. The stellar cast includes Bea Arthur as Dorothy, a Brooklyn-born divorcee; Betty White as Rose Nyland, a Norwegian-American widow from St. Olaf, MN, who tells peculiar stories about life back home; Rue McClanahan as Blanche, a man-hungry Southern belle in whose house they all reside; and Estelle Getty, Dorothy's Sicilian mother Sophia, who says whatever comes into her mind, no matter how inappropriate. This show continues to maintain its place as one of the most popular

comedy series ever produced.

An original series that lasted longer than the Korean War itself, the comedy show **M*A*S*H** (1972–1983/251 half-hour episodes over 11 seasons) also has been running in syndication on TV for the past 34 years. It stars Alan Alda as trauma surgeon Hawkeye Pierce, who along with fellow surgeon Trapper John McGuire (Wayne Rogers) and subsequently B. J. Hunnicut (Mike Farrell), perform crazy antics to stay sane amidst the blood and gore while stationed at the 4077th mobile army surgical hospital in Korea. Characters who appear in all 11 years of the show include Head Nurse Margaret Houlihan (Loretta Switt), who is driven crazy by those antics; Corporal Max Klinger (Jamie Farr) who tries desperately to be declared crazy so he can be sent home; and Father Francis Mulcahy (William Christopher), who always tries to be of comfort. The inept surgeon Frank Burns (Larry Linville) is Hawkeye and Trapper John's roommate and a love interest for Margaret in the show's early seasons. He was later replaced by Charles Emerson Winchester III (David Ogden Stiers), an effete snob from Boston. The company commanders were Lt. Colonel Henry Blake (McLean Stevenson) and Colonel Sherman T. Potter (Harry Morgan). The beloved company clerk, Radar O'Reilly (Gary Burghoff), who could always predict when a helicopter bringing badly injured patients was about to arrive, ostensibly sent an entire army Jeep home, one piece at a time.

Although I had only two parameters to meet, I recently binged on an amazing new show, which is so good that it is already been renewed for two seasons. **This is Us** (18 episodes in season 1 and currently available for free on-demand on NBC) is the story of the family ties and connections between several people who share the same birthday. There is an unusual plot twist that makes for the best character development I've ever seen. To try to explain the plot would take away the impact of the twists, so I'll just give it my highest recommendation. See it; you'll be glad you did.

If you have any favorite series, let me know for next year. Happy spring, and until next time, happy viewing. . .



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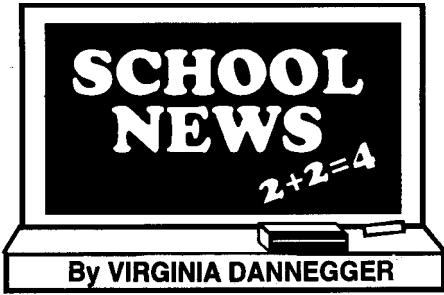
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PROGRESSIVE



FOREMOST



Public School 175

Spring has arrived, and our students are in full bloom!

Our educational trips this month included a trip that our fourth grade made to the Morris Jumel Mansion in Manhattan as part of the social studies units; the kindergarten and first grade visited the City Island Library.

P.S. 175's school-wide Community Service Program is getting ready to go! Some projects being considered are making bookmarks to be given out at the City Island Library; a math-a-thon to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital; a children's book drive for Jacobi Hospital Pediatric Unit; a walk-a-thon to raise funds for Hackensack Hospital Children's Cancer Center; baking for POTS and work with the Bronx River Alliance to clean up and beautify the river and surrounding area. The eighth-graders did many individual and group projects, which included assisting with various Community Center events, helping the PTA at the card party, an Orchard Beach clean-up; and cleaning the Community Center. We thank Brenda Prohaska for coordinating many of these activities!!

The P.S. 175 tradition of going to Camp Greenkill will continue this year in May. Our sixth-graders will spend three days

learning about the environment and themselves. Ms. Shea, Ms. Ramos, Ms. Dunmire and Ms. Minor will accompany the students for what will be an enriching experience for all!

Please keep in mind these important dates:

- Families whose children turn five on or before Dec. 31, 2017, who have not already used the online tool to pre-register their children for kindergarten should call the school and speak with our secretaries, Sally Veltri or Gabby Pirraglia, as soon as possible. The DOE website also has registration information.
- Seventh-graders will be going to Boston in May.
- Eighth-grade graduation will take place on Friday, June 23, at 9 a.m. The Eighth-Grade Dance will take place the same evening from 7 to 10 p.m. The Eighth-Grade Awards Night Dinner will take place on Wednesday, June 14, at 6 p.m.
- The kindergarten moving-up ceremony will take place on Wednesday, June 21, at 9 a.m., followed by a family celebration in the gym with a DJ and Sunny the Clown.

April Citizens of the Month were: Gina Marie McLennan and David Barbosa (kindergarten); Daniel Decicco and Isabella Portella (first grade), Janyse Richardson and Oisín Daly (second grade), Jayden Kenny (third grade), Xioriana Torres and Erin Crowe (fourth grade), Abigail Hayes (fifth grade), Mikalah Cancel and Katherine Mashchenko (sixth grade), Jackson Wepler and Johanna Doyle (seventh grade), Cyrstal Mariette and Ivonne Clara (eighth grade).

TEN "GOOD" WAYS TO SPOIL YOUR CHILD

By JOHN SCARDINA

1. Don't have them do chores. They expect you to pick up after them, don't they?
2. Bail them out with their teachers. You know your child better than the teacher, don't you? Johnny couldn't possibly act that way.
3. Be inconsistent about consequences. Who can keep track of all those details? Did I ground her for one day or two? Oh, just forget it.
4. Make them their own special foods for dinner. Who doesn't want their own chef and server at home?
5. Allow them to use poor manners with other adults. Hey, life is too short to be formal, isn't it?
6. Allow their friends to be impolite and fresh with you; you want their friends to like you, don't you?
7. Forget about them giving gifts for

- others in the family at holiday times and birthdays. They're just kids, right? They'll figure that out someday.
8. Allow them to repeat inappropriate jokes and comments at home without correcting them. They are just trying to fit in with their friends.
9. If their friends have a new game system or the latest phone, just get them one, too; you make good money, so why shouldn't your kids have the best?
10. Save a lot of money for your retirement, because spoiled kids grow into spoiled adults who really won't want to take care of you!

City Islander John Scardina is a child development specialist, school psychologist, and parent educator. Check out his website at www.ThinkLaughLearn.com and join his parent support groups at the CI Community Center (usually the last Tuesday of the month).



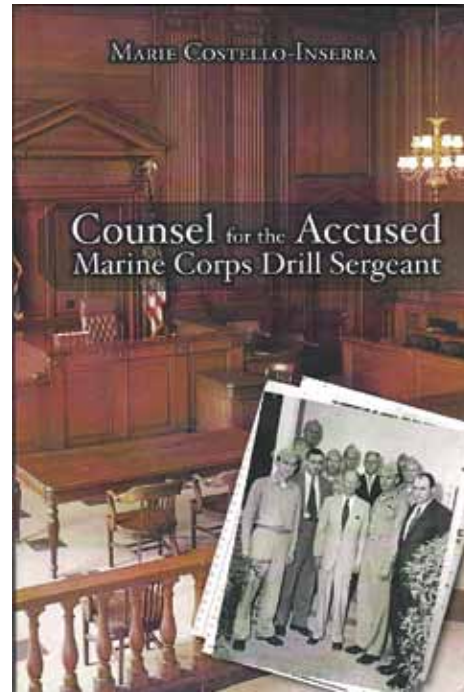
Photo by REINA MIA BRILL

239 PLAY! is celebrating its first anniversary with a party at 239 City Island Avenue on Friday, May 19, from 5 to 9 p.m. Come celebrate the beautiful restoration of one of City Island's historic buildings. Music, food and drinks will be provided. All are welcome. Just come wearing a smile.

A Current Review

"Counsel for the Accused: Marine Corps Drill Sergeant"

by BARBARA DOLENSEK



Many Islanders will remember Tom Costello, who lived for over 50 years on the west side of Tier Street, or his children, who grew up here. The youngest, Marie, a true clam digger, lived on the Island for many years, though she now lives with her husband, Paul Inserra, in North Carolina. Marie has been an attorney for nearly 30 years, following in her father's footsteps, and in this book, she tells a fascinating story that combines family and a famous trial that made headlines in 1956, when Marie's uncle was accused of causing the death of six Marines in training.

That tragic event, known as the Rib-

bon Creek incident, took place on April 8, 1956, when Drill Instructor Sergeant Matthew McKeon led a night-time march of his assigned platoon of 74 into a swampy tidal creek on Parris Island in South Carolina. Sgt. McKeon was court-martialed by the Marine Corps and accused of manslaughter and other offenses.

Enter Tom Costello, a young attorney then working in Manhattan. His wife, Anne McKeon Costello, was Matt McKeon's sister, and she insisted that her husband get involved in defending her brother. Tom was joined by a number of prominent New York attorneys, all of whom worked pro bono, and they were successful in getting the charges considerably reduced.

This book, compiled by Marie Costello, consists largely of Tom Costello's recollections of the trial, drawing on transcripts and other documents. Although much of the text involves detailed legal commentary, the book is surprisingly readable, perhaps because Tom Costello was a natural writer and because of his personal connection to the trial.

At the time the incident occurred, the Costellos were living in their waterfront home on Tier Street, and in at least one case, Tom was able to comprehend the issue of tidal wetlands better than most of the others involved. Many personal details about Tom and his wife, Anne, who died in 2013 and 2004 respectively, will be of great interest to Islanders who knew them both. But anyone interested in military history, especially that of the Marines, will find the story compelling.



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Times and heights of high and low water (Daylight Saving Time)

Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Island. Times shown are nautical times. For times on the table beginning with 1300, subtract 1200 to get ordinary PM time (e.g., 1625 - 1200 = 4:25 P.M.). Times less than 1200 are A.M. times (e.g., 1154 = 11:54 A.M.).

HH = hours; MM = minutes

Tide chart by Tom Smith

MAY 2017

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Mon	0340	7.95	1059	-0.26	1651	7.25	2317	0.55	Mon 01
02 Tue	0509	7.55	1209	0.00	1812	7.22			Tue 02
03 Wed	0034	0.65	0638	7.39	1315	0.12	1920	7.36	Wed 03
04 Thu	0142	0.54	0748	7.42	1416	0.13	2020	7.61	Thu 04
05 Fri	0244	0.29	0848	7.54	1512	0.07	2114	7.87	Fri 05
06 Sat	0340	0.01	0942	7.67	1603	0.01	2204	8.08	Sat 06
07 Sun	0431	-0.23	1031	7.74	1650	0.00	2250	8.20	Sun 07
08 Mon	0517	-0.38	1117	7.74	1733	0.07	2333	8.21	Mon 08
09 Tue	0601	-0.40	1159	7.67	1812	0.21			Tue 09
10 Wed	0011	8.14	0640	-0.30	1238	7.54	1846	0.41	Wed 10
11 Thu	0045	7.99	0716	-0.12	1313	7.37	1909	0.63	Thu 11
12 Fri	0108	7.83	0745	0.11	1341	7.22	1913	0.77	Fri 12
13 Sat	0118	7.74	0756	0.32	1355	7.11	1936	0.85	Sat 13
14 Sun	0142	7.71	0812	0.44	1417	7.10	2012	0.94	Sun 14
15 Mon	0217	7.68	0845	0.55	1452	7.11	2055	1.05	Mon 15
16 Tue	0258	7.62	0926	0.66	1534	7.14	2141	1.17	Tue 16
17 Wed	0343	7.53	1012	0.76	1621	7.18	2232	1.23	Wed 17
18 Thu	0435	7.41	1103	0.82	1713	7.27	2328	1.21	Thu 18
19 Fri	0530	7.32	1157	0.80	1809	7.43			Fri 19
20 Sat	0029	1.06	0630	7.29	1255	0.69	1907	7.68	Sat 20
21 Sun	0134	0.76	0733	7.36	1355	0.47	2006	8.00	Sun 21
22 Mon	0245	0.32	0836	7.50	1456	0.17	2103	8.35	Mon 22
23 Tue	0353	-0.19	0936	7.69	1556	-0.13	2157	8.68	Tue 23
24 Wed	0455	-0.67	1034	7.87	1653	-0.38	2251	8.91	Wed 24
25 Thu	0552	-1.03	1130	7.98	1749	-0.52	2343	9.02	Thu 25
26 Fri	0647	-1.22	1226	8.01	1845	-0.53			Fri 26
27 Sat	0037	8.96	0743	-1.22	1323	7.94	1943	-0.39	Sat 27
28 Sun	0132	8.73	0841	-1.05	1424	7.81	2046	-0.14	Sun 28
29 Mon	0232	8.38	0941	-0.76	1531	7.65	2155	0.14	Mon 29
30 Tue	0342	7.97	1043	-0.42	1642	7.54	2306	0.37	Tue 30
31 Wed	0503	7.63	1145	-0.11	1751	7.52			Wed 31

JUNE 2017

01 Thu	0014	0.48	0617	7.43	1247	0.12	1854	7.60	Thu 01
02 Fri	0118	0.46	0721	7.35	1345	0.27	1952	7.74	Fri 02
03 Sat	0218	0.34	0820	7.36	1441	0.34	2046	7.89	Sat 03
04 Sun	0313	0.18	0914	7.39	1532	0.38	2136	8.02	Sun 04
05 Mon	0404	0.02	1004	7.43	1619	0.42	2223	8.09	Mon 05



Finally, the Sound of a Loon

While watching a nearby fisherman reel in a flounder that was way beyond the 12-inch keeper limit, we were reminded of some of the old accounts of fishing City Island waters where the striped bass and bluefish would frequently weigh in at 40 pounds plus. The duck hunting then wasn't so bad either: In Reginald Bolton's *History of Pelham*, the author recounts one six-hour period of time in 1846 when something like 1,000 wild ducks were shot in the water between City Island and the mainland.

These days, local waterfowl have less to worry about. They are much more likely to be admired from afar or even rescued than they are to be hunted. On a recent bird walk to mark the progress of the great horned owlets—who, by the time this article goes to print will have fledged and, hopefully, developed the strength to fly from danger—we were treated to a horned grebe, a great egret, buffleheads, red-breasted mergansers and a red-throated loon.

What made this loon sighting espe-



Photo by NANCY CARO-SANCHEZ AND FELIX SANCHEZ-CARO

cially noteworthy was that it was the first time we had the opportunity to hear the loon's famous call in the wild. It is indeed a big sound—big like the bird itself, compared to the others around it, anyway—and otherworldly, a very otherworldly sound that we will not be forgetting anytime soon.

We were not the only ones with a story to share about the loons of City Island last month. Nancy wrote to us about her experience involving an immature red-throated loon in trouble that she came upon while walking across the City Island bridge.

She said that she stayed with the bird for three hours, trying to get in touch with someone to help. She needed help, too, because when she tried to offer it water to drink, it either mistook her finger for a fish or thought it needed to protect itself. Next thing you know, she's got a cut finger that required the attention of EMT workers. Nancy said that she wished the response she was trying to get from 311 had been as prompt as the response she got from EMT.

From the picture, we can surmise that the young loon missed its mark as it attempted to fly over the fence. It may have been stunned, definitely confused and, after three hours, a little bit desperate. In the end, Nancy's husband, Felix, arrived with thick gloves, a box and blanket. Together they were able to safely transport the loon to a nearby beach, where it plopped back into the water and almost immediately commenced fishing (maybe it really did think Nancy's finger was a fish).

We have had better success seeking help for wildlife in the Park by calling the office of the Pelham Bay Park Administrator, Marianne Anderson. If you have a "loons of City Island" story to share, or any other tale involving an encounter with City Island sights and sounds, feel free to contact us at jdsstrat@msn.com.

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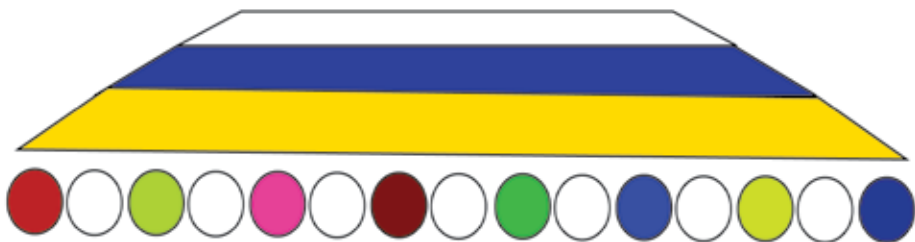
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I received the 2016 Five Star Award, and was featured in the October issue of the Westchester Magazine for a second year in a row!

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IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY

Planting by the Moon

Moonflowers are a mysterious addition to the garden. Aside from bringing verticality to the landscape, they open at dusk with huge saucers shining pure white. How lovely to come home from work and watch them illuminate the gathering darkness.

In light of planting these seeds, which need soaking, I thought about the old adage of planting by the moon's phases.

Farmers have been doing it for at least a century, and so does the Prince of Wales in his vegetable garden. But is this just a superstition? Vegetables that crop above the ground are planted during the waxing moon. Root crops are planted when the moon wanes. Supposedly this makes for stronger, healthier plants. We know that the moon affects the tides and our own bodies, which are made primarily of water, so why not plants?

Mysterious things like falling in love or prophetic dreaming cannot be explained, yet most think moon planting is lunacy. Then why does the moonflower itself seem to open when the night is imminent, as does the evening primrose, the night-blooming water lily, four o'clocks, and the night-blooming cereus?

Mysteries abound. Birth, death and nature are all wondrous and unexplained. So it just may be that there is something to this old trick.

Mary Colby is an artist and gardener whose studio is at 276 City Island Avenue. She can be reached at 917-804-4509 for consultation and design. www.theartistgardener.com.



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Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Organization News

Continued from page 11

Many of us are saddened by the strong ideological split happening in America and want to open dialogue with all kinds of people who have a spirit of cooperation, in order to find the common ground we need to heal this country. We work on local as well as national issues and also learn together about charities that are helping people cope with our new reality. Each meeting we donate money to causes as a group that we choose to support. Our purpose is to educate ourselves, become activists, raise awareness and make ourselves heard through meetings with elected officials, attending marches and writing letters and editorials.

We have a Facebook page, City Island Indivisible, which anyone can request to join, and we have meetings one Sunday and one Tuesday a month. In May, we will meet at the Community Center on Tuesday, May 9, at 8 p.m., and on Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. Our e-mail address is cityislandtrg@gmail.com. Please e-mail us if you would like to join in the effort or receive information that is gathered from many sources between meetings. One need not come to meetings to be part of the group, and any way that one wants to participate is helpful, even if it is by staying informed and talking with people you know about the issues.

We feel it is important to remain vigilant and keep the pressure on our government, which is supposed to represent us and not just the big businesses and wealthy people who have too much control now. We want to take back our country and, if you agree, please join us.

Susan Bellinson

American Legion Post #156

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7, at 12 noon. It is important for members to attend since there will be a Post Everlasting and election of officers. Dues (\$50) are past due and can be dropped off at the Post.

Thanks to Mike Jawski for everything that he does, and thanks to Mike Treat for all of his hard work managing our membership. Thanks to all those who do for Post 156.

We have space for your next party. We can accommodate up to 80 people. Members receive a discount on all hall rentals. Call Joe Goonan at 718-885-1637.

Remember to play the Queen of Hearts game each week. The weekly drawing is held at 7 p.m. on Saturday night. The jackpot grows each week until someone hits. The game is open to all. Proceeds from the game already paid for our new portholes in the side doors, safety bars in the bathroom and the new awning in the front of the building, which looks great. Thanks to Acme Awning Company for making and installing it.

The annual Memorial Day chances will be hitting local mail boxes soon. The annual parade will be held on Monday, May 29. It will commence at Pilot Street and City Island Avenue at 2 p.m. and will end at the Post for much needed hot dogs and cold drinks.

Thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion for all their help. Unfortunately, we cannot do it all ourselves anymore.

Thanks to Jimmy Immediato for caring for our pipes and drains; his work is greatly appreciated.

We would also like to thank Calliope Rigos from the Black Whale for donating several wooden folding tables. In addition, a big thanks also goes out to the City Island Nautical Museum for donating folding chairs to the Post, as well as the nice chair holder. Thanks to SAL members Bill and Gier Clancy for delivering the holder to the Post.

This month we learned that Tom McShane and Frank Hoffman are on sick call.

All retired flags should be dropped off at the Post in the mailbox by the flagpole.

Any retired veterans willing to help out around the Post should contact John Muhlfeld at 718-885-0639. Help is greatly appreciated.

We are always in need of new members. The Post pays the dues of members who are on active duty. Younger people are necessary for the continuation of the Post.

Thank you to the entire City Island community for all of your support over the past 98 years.

John Muhlfeld

American Legion Post #156 Auxiliary

The Auxiliary hosted a St. Patrick's Day event on Saturday, March 12. Guests were treated to a corned beef and cabbage dinner with all the trimmings. Greg Clancy entertained the crowd with his bagpipe and Irish melodies. It was a fun-filled day and we hope to continue the tradition. Many thanks to all who attended and volunteered for this event.

We are very sad to announce that our beloved Auxiliary member Lily Bryant passed away peacefully on March 16 at Sunrise Assisted Living in Yonkers, where she was loved by staff and surrounded by family. The Auxiliary and Legion Commander, Peter Del-Debbio attended services at Ralph Giordano Funeral Home, where a poppy memorial service was held. Lily will be sorely missed by the members for her friendship, volunteerism and love of life. A donation was made in her honor to Sunrise Assisted Living.

Our new member Viki Trifari is also a member of the My Brother Vinny program, a non-profit organization that assists veterans by collecting household items through community support and donations. Viki organized an Auxiliary team for the My Brother Vinny Walk to be held at FDR Park on Sunday, April 30, a great cause for our veterans.

The Auxiliary is also sponsoring a sheet and blanket drive at the Legion Post for the My Brother Vinny program. Bins are in the vestibule for donations, such as sheets, blankets, towels and toiletries (any size). We hope to become more involved with this organization in the coming months. If you would like to make a donation or need further information, contact Viki via e-mail at wik99@me.com.

The Auxiliary is bringing the GI Josh Program to the City Island Library on Monday, May 22, thanks to the efforts of Tiffany McCrae, library manager, and Joanne Valletta. This program chronicles the journey of Josh (a dog) and a young family whose father is sent abroad during our nation's military operations in the Middle East. Together they find coping tools that help the family during this trying and difficult time. A story hour will take place at 11 a.m., and a therapy dog will be on hand for the children to pet and interact with. We are very excited about the start of this program and appreciate the library's efforts in making this happen.

Legion members participated in the Pelham Cemetery cleanup along with Bill Clancy, SAL Vice Commander, on Saturday, April 8, and residents who took the initiative to keep our cemetery beautiful. It was a successful event and we were happy to assist the community in clean up.

Happy 98th birthday to the American Legion on March 15! For 98 years, the Legion has continued to advocate on behalf of veterans and to effect change throughout America. As part of the American Legion family, the Auxiliary is proud to support the Legion.

The Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for Monday, May 29, at 2 p.m.

New members are always welcome. If you would like further information on membership, contact Doreen Wall at americanlegionmembership156@gmail.com.

Joanne Valletta

Garden Club of City Island

At its April meeting, the Garden Club remembered the joy-filled life of our beloved Hospitality chairperson, Lily Bryant, whose generous and inspiring dedication remains with us.

Spring has sprung! The Garden Club's planter boxes on City Island Avenue now have colorful pansies, purple, blue, red and yellow. Thanks go to Kathy Gibbons, Beautification committee co-chair, for budgeting, planning, organizing, cleaning, and purchasing the plants. Thanks also go to Boo Dennis, Susan Strazzera, Charline Evers, Barbara Dolensek, Cheryl Brinker, Judy Judson and Maurice Richard for all their work in cleaning the old plantings out and putting in the pansies on April 8. The morning turned out to be sunny and warm on the Avenue, perfect for working in the garden. The pansies will stay in until the weather turns too warm for them, and then the club will install plants that will survive the summer heat.

Club members are in the process of distributing annual Beautification Fund drive letters to businesses and residents on the island. These letters outline the Beautification Funds's revenues and expenses for 2016 and include a tear-off slip for making a tax-deductible donation to the 2017 drive. These funds are used for cleaning City Island Avenue, the upkeep and planting of the Avenue planter boxes and special projects, such as the creation of the brick planter box at the front gate to Pelham Cemetery.

We are grateful to the businesses and residents who have so generously donated in past years, and we urge the whole City Island community to support our continuing projects, including the flower-filled planter boxes on the Avenue. The planters provide a "welcome home" to residents and a pleasant, courteous greeting to visitors.

Publicity committee member Vicki Tramountana created our Beautification Fund Drive poster and the poster for our annual luncheon, which have been distributed to businesses and other locations.

The club's trip to Wave Hill in Riverdale and the Untermyer Gardens Conservancy gardens in Yonkers is planned for April 26, thanks to program committee co-chair Carol Wilkinson. Over a century old, the Wave Hill estate is one of New York City's most beautiful parks. Members will welcome the season with a tour of both gardens' spring plantings. Later this spring, club members will be given a tour of the Bartow-Pell Mansion and grounds in the Bronx, which will include tea and pastries served by their volunteer hostesses in the Orangerie. In addition, a trip is planned to the New York Botanical Garden to view world-famous artist Dale Chihuly's blown-glass sculptures on display throughout the grounds.

Luncheon Committee chair Francine Alheid has selected "Azaleas" as the theme for our annual spring fundraiser luncheon. All are welcome to join us Thursday, May 18, at 12 noon, at the City Island Yacht Club. The cost will be \$55. Prizes include many wonderful gift baskets prepared by club members and great gift certificates from businesses all over the island. Registration and payment ahead of time are required. Please call Vivi at 718-885-1442 for registration information. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Our next meeting will be held Monday, May 1, at 10 a.m. at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street. Refreshments will be served. Join us if you are interested in beautifying the City Island community and interested in horticulture. Happy spring-time wishes.

Carol Hansen

Avoiding the Nursing Home

By JENNIFER KATZ

Growing older while endeavoring to stay well and live independently is a journey we will all face. As access to resources for seniors continues to improve, it is becoming increasingly easier to gracefully maneuver the hardships of aging. However, despite the technological and medical advances being made, the availability of high-quality and affordable home-based care remains problematic for many seniors. People crave independence and do not want to be confined to nursing homes. The perfect solution for these people might be Community Medicaid.

Community Medicaid refers to services delivered "in the community," in a home-based setting or an assisted-living facility. Some of the benefits offered by Community Medicaid include a home health aide, who can come to your home and provide services ranging from housekeeping and companionship, or skilled nursing services provided by a registered nurse. You may also qualify to receive no-cost or low-cost medical supplies, transportation to doctor's appointments and even meal services.

To become eligible for Community Medicaid, an individual must meet certain medical and financial criteria. To fulfill the medical requirement, you must be "disabled," as defined by the Social Security law. Many people in the aging community would qualify under this definition; the word "disabled" is not to be understood in its common form. Ailments such as diabetes, heart disease, anxiety or even arthritis could qualify an individual to receive Community Medicaid. Younger people who are developmentally disabled are also qualified to receive this type of Medicaid. For more information about whether you medically qualify, please consult a qualified elder law attorney or Medicaid specialist.

In order to financially qualify to receive

Community Medicaid services, an individual's monthly income must be below \$825 with assets below \$14,850. If an individual's monthly income or assets exceed those strict limits, a pooled trust is the best way to protect that money and remain eligible to receive Community Medicaid services. The purpose of the pooled trust is to shelter your money from Medicaid and still allow you to use those funds to pay your own bills. Establishing a pooled trust does not affect eligibility for SSI, food stamps, Section 8 or other governmental benefits. By simply making a deposit of your surplus income into a pooled trust every month, you are automatically eligible for Medicaid.

There is a common misconception that in order to qualify for Medicaid a person must give away all their money, which quite understandably is something an individual might be hesitant to do. But the pooled income trust acts only as a flow-through for the money. The money doesn't remain in the trust, illiquid, or out of your reach. As soon as the surplus is deposited in the trust account, the funds are immediately accessible for use. It can be used to pay bills such as rent/mortgage, taxes, utility bills and even credit card bills. The money also rolls over each month, so there is no pressure to spend more money than necessary in any given month.

There are two types of pooled trusts— income and asset. Both can be utilized to shelter money from Medicaid. The more common type is the pooled income trust. For consistent monthly income, from sources such as Social Security, pension, IRA distribution and so on, Medicaid allows an individual no more than \$825 per month, and a married couple (with both spouses on Community Medicaid) \$1,209 per month. Any income above those limits is referred to as "surplus income," "excess income" or

"spend down."

Income Trust

Depositing the surplus income into the trusts every month ensures that you remain eligible for Medicaid. And the best part is you don't have to forfeit those funds to Medicaid. You can use your money to pay your own bills. The funds in the trust account can pay for a rent or mortgage, utility bills, taxes and even credit card bills. The trust simply acts as a pass-through for your money.

Here's an example to illustrate how a pooled income trust operates. John, a widower, receives \$1,300 every month from Social Security and a pension of \$700 a month for a total monthly income of \$2,000. Abiding by the Medicaid guidelines, John is allowed to keep \$825, and therefore must deposit \$1,175 into the pooled trust account. (Please note that are administrative fees associated with all pooled trusts, so make sure you speak with a trust representative before enrolling. For the purpose of this example, we will not consider the fees.)

From that \$1,175, John can instruct the trust to pay his bills. For instance, if John's rent is \$800, cable bill is \$100 and phone bill is \$50, John will ask the trust to make three payments on his behalf, totaling \$950. Because John's bills for the month did not equal his surplus amount, he has \$225 remaining in his account at the end of the month. One of the great features of pooled trusts is that the money rolls over month to month, so when John deposits \$1,175 into the trust the following month, he will have a total of \$1,400 available to him.

Asset Trust

The pooled asset trust functions in a similar way. Medicaid allows individuals to keep resources up to \$14,850. If an individual has assets (i.e., cash in the bank) above that amount, the surplus can be deposited into the asset trust to shelter it from Medicaid. The most common situations where an asset trust is necessary is when an individual is already

receiving Medicaid services and receives a lump sum of money, usually from an inheritance or a lawsuit settlement. The funds are deposited as a one-time deposit, and distributions may be made from the account in whatever frequency the client desires.

Clients may make expenditures from their asset trust in the same way they do from the income trusts. For both trusts, the list of allowable expenses is wide ranging. The guiding principle is that the expense must be "for the benefit of the client." Practically, this means that the expenditure cannot be for a friend or family member. There is a short list of items that cannot be paid for through the trust: life insurance, health insurance, tobacco products, liquor, firearms, gifts, charity, gambling and illegal activity (i.e., parking tickets).

The most common expenditures made from the trust are rent/mortgage, utility bills, cable bills, and credit card bills. However, there are many types of expenses that fall within the definition of "for the benefit of the client," including luxuries. The trust funds can pay for a beneficiary's vacation—flight, hotel and eating out.

But remember, only the beneficiary's vacation can be covered—not any accompanying friends or family members. You can use the funds in the trust to pay for the hair salon, nail salon, sporting events and shopping at department stores without jeopardizing your Medicaid benefits.

Staying at home in a person's later years can be the best thing to keep them happy, active and productive people. Having home-health aides and the other benefits of Community Medicaid is a perfect way to help people remain independent and at home. Pooled special needs trusts are an integral part of this process.

Jennifer Katz is with Labor & Industry for Education, Inc. (LIFE), a non-sectarian, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been providing an array of social services to the people of Nassau County and New York City for over 25 years.

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A candlelight vigil was held on April 9 at the City Island Little League field in memory of Danny Barry. It was organized by his brother John Barry and his cousins, Lauren and Kim Nye.



Photos by CANDY MANCUSO
City Island Community Pride would like to thank Michael DeRosa and Izzi Maria (left) for having pride in the community and organizing the cleanup at the cemetery on April 15, 2017. Volunteers included Joanne and Anthony Valletta, Joe Burck, Candy Mancuso, Florence Ann Neilson, Jennifer Woods, Sheridyn Melendez, Annie Boller, Bill Clancy, John Doyle, Viki Trifari and Michelle Torrioni. The group also gives a shout out to Bill Clancy for keeping the grounds of the cemetery looking beautiful.

Obituaries

The Current will print obituaries free of charge upon notification by a member of the deceased's immediate family. Call 718-885-0760 or write to P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464, including your telephone number.

Barry; his mother, Elizabeth Barry; and the entire Nye and Barry families, including his aunts, uncles, cousins and a niece.



Daniel Barry

Lifelong Island resident Daniel Harrison Barry passed away on Friday, April 7, 2017, at the young age of 31.

Dan (or Barry, as he was often called) attended P. S. 175 and Mount St. Michael High School.

From early on in his life, Dan enjoyed playing and watching sports. He excelled in baseball and maintained the reputation throughout his life for being the only kid on the City Island Little League to hit four home runs in one season. Dan frequented CitiField often to watch his Mets, and on any given Sunday during the football season, you could find Dan (with his booming, energetic voice) leading the chant "J-E-T-S JETS JETS JETS!"

As an Island kid, Dan's favorite season was summer. He loved to spend his days at the beach or out on the water, fishing or swimming with his many friends. As an adult, he also enjoyed summer nights, sitting down the beach with a glass of cognac, a fine cigar and good company.

Dan is survived by his brother, John



Ellen Kelly Goulden

Ellen Goulden passed away peacefully on April 12, 2017. She was 90 years old and died in her beloved home on Bay Street.

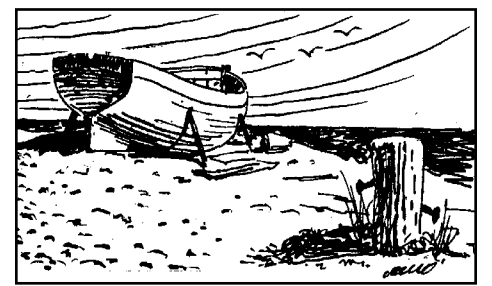
Ellen was born in 1926 in Manhattan to parents who had immigrated from Leitrim and Limerick in Ireland and attended Cathedral High School. In 1941 the family moved to Throggs Neck. Ellen graduated from Episcopal Hospital School of Nursing in Philadelphia. She returned to New York and married her high school sweetheart, Joseph Goulden, in 1949. They had three daughters and moved to City Island in 1959, where they added a son to the clan in 1970.

Ellen was a devout member of St. Mary, Star of the Sea parish and found great solace in her Catholic faith.

She is survived by Estelle Goulden Menon and her husband, Chandra, of City Island; Alice Goulden Jamba and her husband, John, of Ridgefield, CT; Laura Goulden and Martin Seif of Stamford, CT; Joseph Goulden and his wife, Ann, of Cortlandt Manor, NY. Her grandchildren include Chandra and Joseph Menon, Erik Jamba, Emily Pollock, Ellen Jamba, Ava and Joseph Goulden. Ellen's great grandchildren include Andrew and Julia Jamba and Maurice Menon.



Photo by JAMES T. BREEN
Tony Italiano (left), a clam digger, passed away on April 13, 2017. A sailmaker on City Island for most of his life, he could be seen daily observing the construction of the new City Island bridge.



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Photo by MARY MCINTYRE

The actors are busy rehearsing for the next production of the City Island Theater Group (l. to r.): Frances Suro, Steven Pearce, Greg Morra (seated), Thomas Worden, Casey Marie Ecker and Elizabeth Paldino. "The Philadelphia Story" is an American comedy written in 1939 by Philip Barry about a wealthy family in Philadelphia on the eve of hosting the second wedding of their daughter Tracy. See BRIEFLY on page 2 for performance dates and ticket information.

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ART PRINTS OF CITY ISLAND BRIDGE by Island artist Marguerite Chadwick-Juner are available at: marguerite-chadwickjuner.pixels.com. Seasonal panoramic views of the bridge as well as iconic portions of the bridge can be purchased as prints on archival paper, aluminum, acrylic and canvas, but here you can purchase the images on iPhone and Galaxy cases, pillows, duvet covers, tote bags, and t-shirts! Show your bridge love!

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Information for the Talebearer must be received in writing no later than the 15th of the month except July and December. Mail to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464; include your name and telephone number.



Mike Kelly

Birthday greetings on May 9 from Carolyn Foley Peters to her friend and former Fordham Street resident Barbara Haas Lynch. The ladies met as girls in Mrs. Berg's first-grade class and have remained friends ever since. Congratulations also to Heather Peters, who will graduate this month from Columbus Georgia State University as a physical therapist.

Happy 27th wedding anniversary wishes on May 12 to the Sailmaker's John and Judy Iovieno, with love from the Swieciki and



Photo by MATT PANZA

It was another joyous celebration of the 83rd anniversary of Temple Beth-El on April 8, 2017, at Pelham/Split Rock. Rabbi Shohama Weiner and Dr. Alan Dattner welcomed the many guests and presented a special blessing for the wedding of David Stark and Rachel Singer. The temple also honored Islander Brenda Prohaska, who received her award from board member Paul Klein (above).

Iovieno families.

Happy birthday on May 28 to Patrice Ortega of To Go Express, with love from your family, friends and customers.

Best wishes for continued happiness to King Avenue's Brian and Kim Moore, who will celebrate their fifth anniversary on May 12.

Speedy recovery to Minneford Avenue's Hans Dannegger, who had recently had successful heart surgery at Einstein hospital. Get well soon!

Great job! to City Island's own Mike Kelly, who recently competed in the Wheelchair Nationals in Louisville, KY, last month. Ranked Number 1 in the country all season long, Mike's team, the Nassau County Kings, failed to win the championship but finished the season with 34 wins and 4 losses. We're all proud of you and your teammates!

Birthday wishes on May 1 to Diane Duryea from the gang at Atlantic Emeritus Realty.

Keep up the good work to Bobby Swieciki, who will mark 11 years with the U.S. Coast Guard on May 1.

Happy belated birthday Phil with love from Mom and Dad.



Photo by PATTY ATTIS

And a very happy Mother's Day to all our hardworking mothers and grandmothers. We love and appreciate you

Maria Swieciki

Councilmember James Vacca (center) treated PSS City Island members to a trip to the New York Botanical Garden in April, covering the cost of admission, a guided tour of the Orchid Show and an out-of-this-world lunch at the café.

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