

The Island Current

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City Island's Military History: PAST AND PRESENT



One of three 144' Army Troop/Cargo ships built at Minneford during World War II being readied for launching with aid of all hands in the yard. These were among the largest displacement vessels turned out at City Island.



Photos by EYVONNE BAKER, RICK DeWITT and Courtesy of TOM NYE

City Island and its residents continue to play a role in military history—from the time when World War II boats were built in Minneford's Shipyard in the 1940s (see top left photo) to the men and women of today who serve in the armed forces (see accompanying article). The Memorial Day remembrance began on Sunday, May 22, when members of the Post 156 of the American Legion celebrated the Memorial Service at Grace Episcopal Church (see top right photo). Legionnaires Mike Rau, Tom McMahon and David Carman read the names of all Islanders who died in World Wars I and II and other 20th-century conflicts, including the namesake of the Legion, Leonard Hawkins, who died on board a ship in World War I and is buried in Pelham Cemetery. On Monday, May 30, the traditional Memorial Day parade marched up City Island Avenue, led by some of the Islanders home from duty in the Iraq conflict, including Charles Brill, Joe Goonan, Michael Clancy, Gregory Clancy and Dan Kaiser. Sponsored by Post 156, the march included the Ladies Auxiliary (including a color guard of wives of World War II veterans), Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and City Island Little League, who followed dignitaries: Rear Admiral Waters, State Senator Jeffrey Klein and City Council candidates Steve Kaufman, Joe McManus, Irene Rukaj and Jimmy Vacca. They were joined by a contingent of marines from the 24th Expeditionary Unit off the USS John F. Kennedy in town for Fleet Weekend. The New York City Department of Sanitation bagpipe band provided the music, while the beautiful stars and stripes adorned City Island Avenue flagpoles.

C.I. G.I. UPDATE

By RUSSELL SCHALLER

Since my last report in December, a number of Islanders or their relatives have been on the move in the military. Here is an update on their whereabouts and status as of Memorial Day 2005.

Minneford Avenue resident Joseph Goonan, Chief Warrant Officer, ret., is once again Citizen Goonan. Joe retired from the military in 2005 after serving for over 34 years and in three wars, including Vietnam, Desert Storm and Iraq. He served in both the U.S. Navy on active duty and in the reserves as a member of the silent service, submarines.

Subsequent to his naval service, Joe became an army reservist and was activated during Desert Storm in Kuwait and most recently during the Iraq war, serving in Army Intelligence in Washington, D.C.

Joe's career was not without injury. While walking in Washington, D.C. last year, he was struck by a cyclist and suffered a rotator cuff injury.

A gala surprise retirement party was given for Joe in March by his daughter Ann-Marie, his wife, Eleanor Ann, and his son, James. The party was held at the Morris Yacht Club, and many Islanders were on hand to congratulate Joe on his exemplary military career and his return to civilian life.

Joe's distinguished career in the military and the New York City Police Department deserves its own story. Watch for a complete profile of Joe in an upcoming issue of *The Current*.

Horton Street resident Marine Corporal Charles Brill was wounded in December 2004 in Iraq. Corporal Brill was servicing a helicopter on a U.S. airfield in Iraq, where he was a crew chief. He was hit in the neck and face with some shrapnel following an explosion.

During the Christmas holidays, he recuperated with his family on Horton Street and is now on a military base in North Carolina. Corporal Brill came back to City Island in May to march in the Memorial Day parade. He is a grandson of the late George Deveau.

Lieutenant Chris Muller of Earley

Street is on his second tour of duty aboard the *U.S.S. Kearsarge* in the Persian Gulf.

Major Gregory Clancy, U.S. Marine Corps, ret., is the son of Islander and Legion adjutant Bill Clancy. Greg graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and served in Iraq, attaining the rank of major. His military commitment satisfied, Greg elected to try civilian life and is now teaching at St. Raymond's High School in the Bronx.

Major Michael Clancy, Greg's brother, completed a tour in Iraq. He came home for a brief stay and will be off to Germany in July.

Michael's wife, Major Hailey Clancy, completed a tour at West Point, where she taught. She will be going to Germany with Michael in July. Their unit is scheduled to go to Iraq in October.

Kyle Kuciemba, grandson of Ben and Virginia DiGregorio, has completed his second tour as a U.S. Marine in Iraq and is now at home in Valhalla, New York.

Matthew Murphy, who is in the Coast Guard, is stationed now at Portsmouth, Virginia. His wife, Kerry, is a flight surgeon in the Army Air Force reserve and is home while he is on active duty.

First Lieutenant Tom Woods is back home from Iraq and is a police officer with the 30th precinct in Manhattan. He is still in the Army reserve.

PFC Mary Sadler is in the U.S. Army and is headed for South Korea, after which she will be sent to Afghanistan.

As of press time, I was unable to obtain an update on some other Islanders who were on active duty as of my last report, many of them serving in Iraq. They include Captain John Breen, Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Eberhart, Lieutenant Claire Ganal, Lieutenant Edmund Ganal and Sergeant Michael Joslin. Watch for more about these servicemen and women in upcoming issues of *The Current*.

Officers of the American Legion Post 156 ask all Islanders to continue to support the troops in Iraq and the rest of the world.

Police Officer Honored At Venturelli Corner

The corner of Carroll Street and City Island Avenue will be dedicated on June 24, 2005, to the memory of a police officer, Pasquale Venturelli, who was killed there in the line of duty in 1943.

The New York City Council approved the addition of the name "Police Officer Pasquale Venturelli Corner" to the site on May 24 as the result of legislation introduced by Council Member Madeline Provenzano.

"Police Officer Venturelli made the ultimate sacrifice in serving the residents of New York," Ms. Provenzano said. "I am happy that I am able to honor this hero so many years after his death. He should be remembered in a proper manner, and I believe that adding his name

on City Island Avenue will be a reminder to everyone of his heroism."

Pasquale J. Venturelli, or Pat, as he was known to his loved ones, was born in Corona, Queens, on Feb. 28, 1911, to John and Angelina Venturelli. He had two sisters, Helen and Jenny, and a brother, Louie. He married Helen Kessler in 1932 and moved to East 161st Street in the Bronx. In 1937 they relocated to Bouck Avenue in the Bronx.

Pat joined the New York City Police Department in 1938. According to his wife, "He was a police officer 24/7. He lived the job like a true professional. Pat was a dedicated police officer who wore his uniform with pride."

Continued on page 7

BRIEFLY...

FREE BRONX TROLLEY, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce with the partnership of the Bronx Borough President's office and the Bronx Tourism Council, continues its first Friday of the month tour throughout the spring and summer. Please note that anyone under 18 who rides the trolley must now be accompanied by a parent or guardian because of problems that local kids have caused on previous runs. From 5:30 to 10 p.m., the trolley will travel between Pelham Bay Station, Bartow Pell Mansion and various stops along City Island Avenue. The last pick-up at Pelham Bay Station will be at 9:30 p.m., and the last drop-off at Pelham Bay Station will be at 10:30 p.m. Galleries, shops, restaurants and other businesses on City Island will feature art openings, entertainment and refreshments. Show your free trolley brochure at these establishments for extra-special deals. The trolley is wheelchair accessible. For more details, call the Chamber of Commerce at 718-885-9100, or Paul Klein of Exotiq International Arts at 718-885-3090 or visit www.cityislandchamber.org.

GARDEN CLUB LUNCHEON will be held on Thursday, June 9, at 12 noon, at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street. To make a reservation, call Ruth at 718-885-1361. The price for lunch is \$28. Many wonderful prizes will be raffled, so be sure to attend.

VETERINARY VACCINE CLINIC will be held by Dr. Tom Rogers, DVM, at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, on Sunday, July 10, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Appointments are suggested but walk-ins are welcome. You can sign up and meet the vet at the dog show on June 11, starting at 2 p.m. on the Ambrosini Little League Field or you may call 914-632-1269 for an appointment.

ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, will be held on City Island Avenue on Saturday, June 11, and Sunday, June 12, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Small businesses on the Island, as well as local artists and craftspeople, have been invited to participate by displaying their wares along three blocks of City Island Avenue. Work will include paintings, photographs, stained glass, jewelry, woodworking, face painting, ceramics and more. For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce at 718-885-9100.

COMMUNITY CENTER DOG SHOW will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, at the Anthony Ambrosini Little League Field, or in the Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, in case of bad weather. Judged classes will include Best Trick, Obedience, Owner Look-a-like, Costume and People's Choice. Each class requires an entrance fee of \$10. For more information, call Marcy Brennen at 718-885-9863 or e-mail Cldogshow@aol.com.

LADIES' AUXILIARY ANNUAL FLEA MARKET will be held in the American Legion parking lot, 550 City Island Avenue, on Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Limited vendor tables are available at \$20 per table per day. For table reservations, call 718-885-1753. On sale will be jewelry and giftware, toys and games, odds and ends, fishing equipment and food and beverages.

THE BRONX FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA will take place on Thursday, June 30, at 9:30 p.m. at Orchard Beach. The fireworks display is part of the "Bronx Celebrates America" event sponsored by Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión Jr. and State Senator Jeffrey Klein. The gates open at 7 p.m. for an evening of family fun that will include a musical salute to the American spirit by the Bronx Arts Ensemble orchestra, boardwalk performers and lots of activities for kids. The event is produced by the Bronx Tourism Council in association with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, the Police Department and the Fire Department. For more information, call 718-590-BRONX (2766).

THE BLESSING OF THE FLEET will take place on Sunday, June 12, beginning at 1 p.m. Multi-denominational clergy will bless vessels from the Fenton Marine Dock with the cooperation and support of the City Island Power Squadron and the Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post. Boats are to assemble at 12:30 p.m. at the Hart Island Ferry Dock in City Island Harbor. Communication on VHF Channel 71 begins at 12:30 p.m. For information, call Commander Marie Milillo at 718-885-3757.

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Police Dispel Rumors Surrounding Two Crime Scenes



Photo by HENRY NOE

This yellow sports car was the focus of a police investigation after it crashed into the City Island Bridge as it was speeding off the Island.

Rumors swirled around two incidents on City Island in May, and police are trying to set the record straight.

The first incident was a traffic accident that occurred in the early morning hours on Saturday, May 14. A yellow sports car leaving City Island crashed into the cement embankment just over the City Island Bridge. The car was severely damaged (see photo), but there were no fatalities, according to police from the 45th Precinct.

Police investigating the accident closed off access to and from City Island for about half an hour, according to reports from drivers. Both commercial vehicles, including the mail truck, and personal cars were at a standstill at around 6 a.m.

Several rumors began to circulate about this accident. Some Islanders heard that the accident resulted from a high-speed chase involving two cars. There were also reports of shots being fired at the driver of the sports car. According to some witnesses, who were waiting to pass over the bridge after the accident, police told drivers they could not proceed because it was a "crime scene."

According to Lieutenant Michael Brenyo of the 45th Precinct, these rumors are unfounded. "It was just a serious car accident. There is no evidence of a chase or any shooting," he told *The Current*.

A second incident occurred on May 17 in the vicinity of 232 City Island Avenue near Schofield Street. It was reported in the New York Post that a stabbing had occurred as the result of an altercation between Island resident Damian Dyszler, his girlfriend Maureen Horan and a third man.

Lieutenant Brenyo confirmed that there was an altercation on May 17, but it was not a multiple stabbing as previously reported. "The victim was slashed with an unknown object and received a minor injury to his lip," he told *The Current*. No arrest had been made yet related to the slashing incident, according to police at the 45th Precinct.

However, the Bronx District Attorney's office confirmed that Maureen Horan, of Wellman Avenue, was arrested on May

17 and charged with criminal mischief in the fourth degree and harassment in the second degree. According to the report, "the defendant did intentionally damage property of another person . . . and with intent to harass, annoy or alarm another person he or she strikes, shoves, kicks or otherwise subjects such other person to physical contact."



According to the Bronx Supreme Court report, Ms. Horan approached a vehicle in the vicinity of 232 City Island Avenue and scratched the hood of the vehicle with a sharp metal object. Furthermore, the victim stated that the defendant's actions caused him to "fear for his physical safety."

It is not clear if these charges are directly related to the slashing incident confirmed by police.

Ms. Horan was released on her own recognizance and no bail was set. She is due back in criminal court on June 27, according to the District Attorney's office. Mr. Dyszler was not prosecuted, a representative from the District Attorney's office told *The Current*.

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MUSTANGS OF THE SKY

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Like the wild horses of the Western prairies, monk parakeets are not native wildlife in North America but are feral animals, having escaped from captivity to survive on their own in the wild. And like the mustang, the monk parakeet attracts both public affection and official displeasure. Its beauty and charming ways make it very appealing to those who love animals, but it is also considered a pest by those who call it an invasive species with habits that create possible risks to the communities in which they have settled.

Scientists agree that monk parakeets (their scientific name is *Myiopsitta monachus*) are unique, the only parrots who build complicated nests from twigs and other materials in which they live year round. Other parrots build nests for breeding purposes only, usually in hollow trees or similar sites.

The monk parakeet can be found in the wild in South American—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. They are known by several names, including quaker parakeets or conures and gray-breasted or gray-headed parakeets, but they are the only species in the *Myiopsitta* genus and have no known close relatives. Some people claim that the monks have taken over the biological niche once held by the only North American parrot, the now-extinct Carolina parakeet, but the monk parakeets most likely fill a different niche than the Carolina species held.

Many thousands of monk parakeets were imported into the United States during the late 1960s and early 1970s for the pet trade. Although the story of a truckload letting a flock loose on the way to a zoo is probably apocryphal, it is known that many pet owners, intentionally or not, released captive birds, which quickly managed to establish themselves. By the early 1970s, feral monk parakeets had settled in at least 21 sites in seven states.

The population in Hyde Park in Chicago is the most carefully studied population of monk parakeets, but Florida has the largest group in North America, perhaps because there is more available food in winter. In the north, the birds must rely on supplementary food provided by residents with bird feeders. Scientists and wildlife experts once predicted that the monk parakeet was an invasive species that would cause dam-

age to native bird populations and the agricultural community, but this has not occurred, although according to Todd S. Campbell of the Institute for Biological Invasions, “the potential for at least some negative impacts to agriculture clearly exists.”

According to an article in “Chicago Wilderness Magazine”: “Monk parakeets have an unfortunate habit of building on electrical poles, especially around heat-generating transformers. Commonwealth Edison fears the nests will cause fires or power outages, so the company routinely removes the nests, says company spokesperson Meg Amato. She cites only one instance of damage caused by a nest, a fire in 1996, but says ‘anytime we find a nest on a pole, we take it down.’ The company formed an agreement with the Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club, whereby established members may adopt displaced parakeets.”

The May 2005 issue of “Light and Medium Truck” contains an article about United Illuminating Co., a utility company servicing 17 towns along the Connecticut shore. The firm recently surveyed Milford and West Haven and found about 100 nests on its infrastructure, each containing about four pairs of adult birds. “The utility does not have the resources to simply remove all the nests on its infrastructure, however, and simply doing so only compounds the problem, prompting the residents of the destroyed nest to pair off and build multiple new nests on similar structures. ‘Nest removal actually aggravates the problem, by causing several additional nests to be built . . . so nests are not currently removed unless they cause operational issues or in order to restore service.’”

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service tried to eliminate these monk parakeet populations in the 1970s when their numbers were relatively low, but the populations have grown considerably since then and new colonies have been established in many cities. As the Web site <http://invasions.bio.utk.edu> points out: “Its endearing qualities and status as a persecuted underdog have brought many local citizens, politicians, birders and even professional biologists to the defense of this invader. Further studies are needed to resolve the complex biological and sociological issues surrounding this species!”

City Island’s Most Colorful Residents: Monk Parakeets

By MARGIE MCNULTY and YOLANDA CIRULLI



Photos by KAREN NANI

To the concern of many bird-loving Islanders, one of the nests built by monk parakeets was removed by Con Edison from above a transformer on City Island Avenue between Horton and Rochelle Streets on May 18, 2005 (photo right). The South American birds have learned to live successfully in our area by building their nests next to transformers for warmth during the harsh winters. Despite not having a work order, the parakeets began reconstructing their nest on the same pole the very next day.

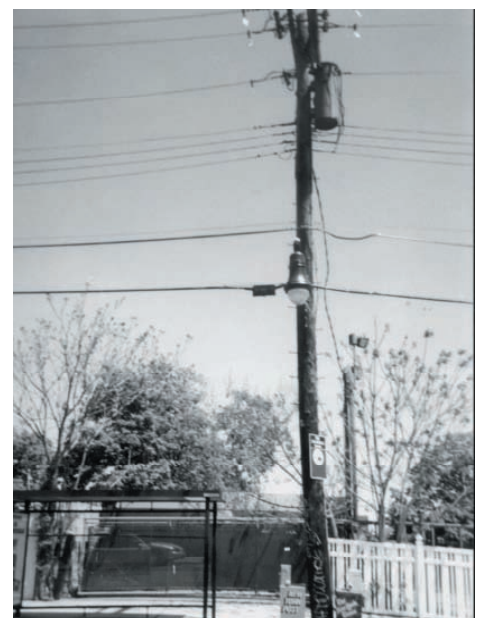
Several years ago a group of monk parakeets, which were once imported in large numbers to the United States as pets, got loose in New York City, and some of them landed here on City Island to build their nests. These South American birds have learned to live successfully in our area, building their nests next to Con Edison transformers for warmth during the harsh winters and dining on birdseed put out by generous residents.

Many Islanders like having the monk parakeets around and enjoy listening to their whistles and chirps. There are now several nesting sites, most of them on utility poles at the south end of the Island.

Unfortunately, Con Edison recently experienced a fire in one of their transformers in Brooklyn that cut out power to 5,000 customers. Although it has not been proven, they believe the fire was caused by the nests made by a pair of monk parakeets. During the week of May 11, Con Edison removed a monk parakeet nest from a transformer located on a utility pole near Tito Puente’s Restaurant.

Margie McNulty noticed that the birds stood perplexed on the electric wires above the nest, presumably wondering where their home had gone. But the female and male monk parakeet immediately started rebuilding, and before Con Edison returned to remove the old transformer the very next morning, half the nest had been built again.

The next morning Yolanda Cirulli, after a call from Margie, met with Dan Miller, a



supervisor for Con Edison, and asked why he had taken the nest down. She also asked him if there had been any eggs in the nest. He told Yolanda that Con Edison had hired a wildlife preservation officer to assist in the nest removal, in case there were any eggs. If there had been eggs, they would have been taken to a sanctuary for hatching. As the two spoke, the monk parakeets were busy rebuilding their nest, chirping frantically as they brought twigs and branches from trees along Rochelle Street and in the back of Tito Puente’s.

Sammy Chernin and his staff stood outside Sammy’s Fish Box shaking their heads. Sammy said, “It is a disgrace what they have done to the monk parakeets in removing their nests.” His wife, Lauren, was very sad about the commotion. John Arminio, the manager of Tito Puente’s, was especially upset, saying that “the monk parakeets are here because it’s tropical. They come from a South American climate and they feel at home here.”

In other areas, such as Brooklyn, Larchmont, New Jersey, and Chicago, the monk parakeets are a tourist attraction and add special interest to the community. If all it takes is a tall pole to keep this little chatty South American transplant safe from dogs and cats, we should look into an alternative nesting solution for them instead of trying to diminish the diversity of wildlife on City Island.

On May 22 Yolanda again went to observe the new nest, which is in full bloom. All is quiet and peaceful, and she believes that the female monk parakeet has now laid her eggs. The birds have made it clear that they are not leaving City Island. It’s as if they were saying: “We love it here, and we thank you all for accepting and protecting us.”

Principal to Leave P.S. 175

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

On May 27, 2005, just before *The Island Current* went to press, the principal of Public School 175 sent a letter to the parents and guardians informing them that, as of July 1, she would no longer be principal of the school.

In her letter, Milagros Efre-Lopez, who succeeded Ena Ellwanger as principal in September 2001, wrote that “P.S. 175 has experienced significant positive growth in the past three years, and I

feel extremely proud to have been part of such an exciting learning community. It is my expectation that each and every one of our students will continue to excel.”

Ms. Efre-Lopez plans to serve as principal at another school in Region 2, but as of press time it was not known where she will move or who will be her successor at P.S. 175.

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Editorial

City Islanders don't have much to complain about—we live in a relatively quiet, safe village of well-kept homes and beautiful views of the water. And when we do complain, we tend to blame our problems on off-Islanders, visitors attracted by our restaurants or developers who buy up our waterfront lots, build as many new houses as they can manage and leave. Traffic, overdevelopment, noise—these are the problems that off-Islanders bring to our community. Or so we like to think. Unfortunately, however, some of the worst problems here are caused by those of us who live here. When the Police Department recently notified residents that officers would start ticketing cars driving illegally in the fire lane, the general response was "Don't ticket us. Get the off-Islanders."

Every month, the Civic Association hears complaints about cars running red lights or driving in the fire lane on City Island Avenue, racing down Minneford Avenue through stop signs or double-parking in front of the school. But these offenses don't take place on weekends. They occur on weekday mornings and afternoons when residents are rushing to work or home and saving their kids the trouble of walking a few feet to and from the school.

As we look ahead to years of new housing development, sewer replacement and bridge construction, our problems aren't going to improve if we continue to blame our traffic accidents and congestion on others. Of course, we should complain about those who disturb our peace with unnecessary noise, speeding, double parking and violations of the zoning and building codes, but let's not always assume that off-Islanders are the ones at fault.



We welcome letters and opinions. Letters longer than 250 words will be edited, with every effort made to preserve their substance. We reserve the right not to print letters that are copies, libelous, inaccurate or in bad taste, or those that cannot be verified. Include your phone number. Anonymous letters will not be printed, but names will be withheld upon request.

Nipping Vandalism in the Bud

A copy of the following letter was received by The Current.

The 45th Precinct
2877 Barkley Avenue
Bronx, NY 10465
May 3, 2005

Dear Officers Morrison and O'Connor:
It was suggested that we write to inform

you of some potential vandalism in our area. We share a common driveway with 177 Carroll Street and have had to place a "No Parking" sign to make it clear that the driveway cannot be blocked.

This is the third time the sign and its post have vanished. Since the signs and posts have not been found, we are ruling out the wind as a cause.

We have had the property line staked out by a surveyor, and last night we installed yet another sign, in concrete, well within our private property and clear of the access path. A wood post lying on our property under our hedge was moved out of the way as a consequence.

We have many friends and neighbors aware of the situation and they are eagerly monitoring the area. Everyone is concerned about the quality-of-life risk that lowborn vandals can spread. As you know, this type of behavior tends to degrade further if it is not corrected.

This is obviously not a high-priority issue, given all your other responsibilities, but we wanted to ask for your attention to

this whenever possible.

Nancy Keane and Raydel Hernandez

Sincerest Thanks

To the Editor:

I just want to thank each and every one of you for all your prayers, cards, calls and well wishes during my time of need.

I am recovering now from my surgery, which went well. All your prayers helped me get through this ordeal.

Thank you all again and God bless you all and your families.

Lynne O'Brien Savarese

Sewer Update

To the Editor:

We run the Sailmaker Marina, 190 Schofield, Street, and we want to follow up on the article you ran in last month's *Current* about the now-delayed sewer replacement project.

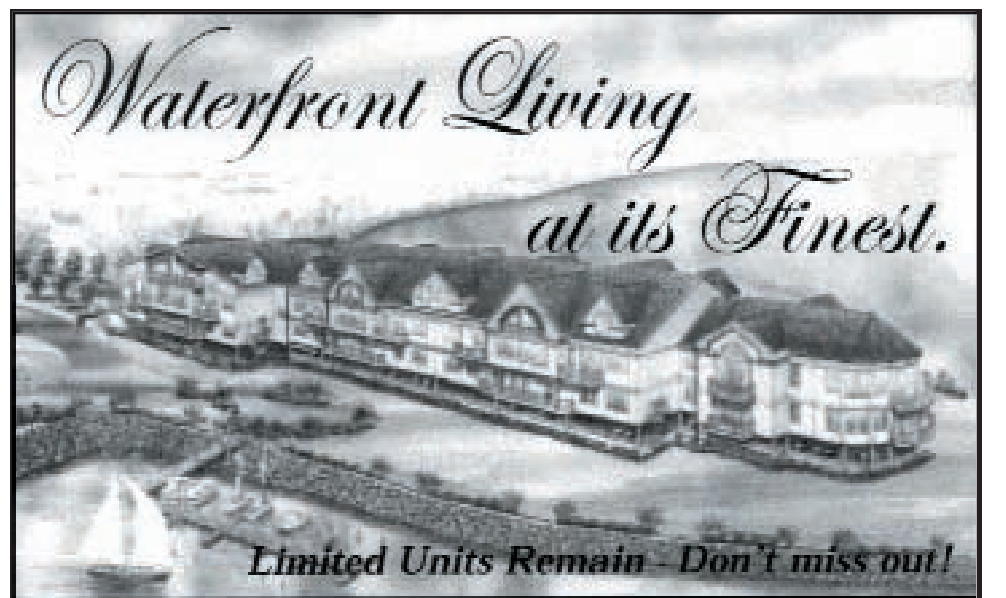
The work was originally to begin on Schofield Street in April 2005, the only portion of the project not subject to the "summer

moratorium." We were justifiably concerned at that time that our customers would not have access to their boats by car during the already short boating season and that the work would effectively hamper or shut us down.

Little did we know that even though the project has now been delayed, word-of-mouth on our small island travels with the speed of light and our business is down at least 30 percent so far. Apparently, the rumor of "Schofield closing down every day for eight hours to car traffic" was enough to send our clients to other marinas. We lost several of our largest boat customers and have had to fill their slips with much smaller boats; since we charge by the foot, this has resulted in a significant financial loss.

There is nothing we can do about this, and the city's Department of Design and Construction couldn't care less. The city's attitude toward this project has been erratic and cavalier at best, in our opinion. It doesn't bode well how they will handle this whole project, if they ever do move forward.

**Maura Mandrano
and Paul P. Laddomada**



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P.S. 175's 'FIDDLER' GOES ON THE ROAD!

By KAREN NANI

Continuing in the tradition begun in 1998 by teachers Pepper Jano Fateman and Karen Mazzella, the fifth grade at Public School 175 performs a full-length musical in the spring semester of the school year. This year's production of "Fiddler on the Roof Jr.," which was presented at the school on May 16 and 17, 2005, has received such acclaim that the cast is going on the road for the first time in the history of the class play.

The enthusiastic performers were selected to present highlights of the show again at Lehman College on May 24 to hundreds of fourth- and fifth-graders from around the Bronx. This encore performance resulted from a competition of sorts, in which the P.S. 175 students were selected as one of eight performances out of 140 viewed by representatives from the regional superintendent's office. The audience response was terrific, reflecting the cast's professionalism and broad appeal.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts issued an even more flattering invitation to the enthusiastic fifth-graders, who will perform outside Lincoln Center on June 1 in front of an audience that includes Board of Education Chancellor Joel Klein and Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the late President John F. Kennedy. Ms. Kennedy is a longtime supporter of the arts and art education in public schools.

What makes this "Broadway Junior" production of Harold Prince's musical, based on the book by Joseph Stein, so special? According to teachers, parents, friends and the staff of P.S. 175, it's the talented young cast and the outstanding efforts of all the fifth-graders involved in the staging, choreography and music.

For those who haven't seen the play, the story of "Fiddler on the Roof" centers around Tevye, a dairyman with five daughters who lives in the Russian village of Anatevka in the year 1905. He tries to live a normal life, adhering to Jewish tradition as he searches for appropriate husbands for his three eldest daughters, Chava, Tzeitel, and Hodel.

In a break from tradition, however, his daughters refuse to accept the wishes of their father and the matchmaker, Yente, wishing instead to marry men whom they love. Meanwhile, Russians are instigating terrible pogroms against the Jewish people in Russia, and in the end, the

Jews of Anatevka are forced to leave their homes. Tevye is determined to start a better life in a new land.

Leading the engaging young cast is Horton Street resident Kyle Williams, who plays Tevye. Although his only previous stage experience was playing a reindeer in his kindergarten's version of "The Night Before Christmas," Kyle is wonderful as the harried father. His voice is "surprisingly strong for such a young boy," said one audience member, especially surprising since he had never sung in public before this show.

After Kyle auditioned and was selected for the lead, his parents treated him to a few voice lessons. His natural ability coupled with this training enabled Kyle to pull off the leading role with confidence and stage presence. His parents were so excited about the show that they held a "pre-theater supper" at their house on the night of the first performance and invited friends and neighbors on Horton Street to join them.

When asked what his favorite part of the show is, Kyle told *The Current*, "singing 'If I Were a Rich Man,' which is his solo in Scene II.

Tevye's wife, Golde, is played by the enchanting Julia Hayes. According to the playbill, "Julia has been looking forward to the play since first grade." Her wish has come true, and Julia performs sweet renditions of "Sunrise, Sunset" and "Do You Love Me" with Tevye.

The daughters are wonderfully portrayed by Leah Weber, Aimee Zambrana, Elizabeth Vacca, Natalie DePaz and Kaitlin Masiello. Although this was their first performance in a musical, these wonderful young actresses say that they enjoy singing and dancing all the time. Aimee admits to being "afraid of messing up on stage," but the songs she sang with Leah Weber "blew everyone out of the water," according to one observer.

The other principal roles are performed by Taylor Cole, who keeps the audience laughing as Yente; Mitchell Santiago, who plays a convincing beggar; Dayvon Walker, who has the most romantic role as Fyedka; and Alex Giaccon, as the poignant Fiddler. Danny Masterson is hilarious as the tailor Motel and "stole the show," according to several audience members, with his rendition of "Miracle of Miracles."

Perchik, played by Kevin Whelan, joins the other main characters in singing the beautiful "Sunrise, Sunset" and Lazar, portrayed by Eddie Lopez, joins in singing the crowd-pleasing "To Life," which is also sung by the entire ensemble as the final encore.

The choruses of Papas, Mamas, Sons, Daughters, and Russians fill the stage



Photo by Christine Williams

The fifth grade at P.S. 175 presented their play "Fiddler on the Roof" on May 16 and 17, 2005. The show received such rave reviews that the students have been invited to perform at Lehman College and Lincoln Center.

with joyful voices and clever choreography during several different numbers. In particular, the Bottle Dancers had the audience marveling at their agility as they danced during the wedding scene balancing bottles on their heads.

The musical direction was provided by another P.S. 175 teacher, Joyce DeGrasse, whose piano skills and conducting make a challenging job look very easy. Danielle Ramos, P.S. 175's music teacher, created the musical arrangements and added "wonderful harmonies," Mrs.

Fateman told *The Current*.

Both Mrs. Fateman and Mrs. Mazzella acknowledge the fabulous costumes and scenery created by the parents of fifth-graders. The hard-working parents painted a beautiful backdrop representing the village and also built the fiddler's house, complete with the roof from which the fiddler played the well-known theme.

This year's play also marks another first: both Mrs. Mazzella and Mrs. Fateman are pregnant and due to deliver in

Island Resident and Her Dog Graduate from Guide Dog Program

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Island resident Lorraine Constantine, who became blind at the age of 65, recently graduated from the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, a 25-day residential training program in Smithtown, New York. She and her new constant companion, Nicki, a female golden retriever, learned the skills required for a successful working team, and the two are now at home on City Island.

Ms. Constantine told *The Current* that the staff of the Guide Dog Foundation was wonderful, and she feels very fortunate to have Nicki by her side. Before attending the foundation's training program, she first learned how to use a cane, along with other skills, at the Lighthouse for the Blind in Manhattan.

She said that one of the few problems she faces is that many people don't realize that guide dogs are working dogs and must be treated as such. Everyone knows that golden retrievers are a very friendly breed, but when they are in harness, they should not be petted or spoken to except by the owner.

The Guide Dog Foundation has developed the following list of Don'ts for those who live in the same neighborhood as a guide dog and his owner:

- Don't touch, talk, feed or otherwise distract the guide dog while he is wearing his harness; the dog must concentrate on his owner and perform for his or her safety.
- Don't pat the dog on the head; stroke him on the shoulder area only but only with the owner's approval.
- Don't treat the dog as a pet; give him the respect due a working dog.
- Don't give the dog commands; allow the master to do so.
- Don't walk on the dog's left side as this may confuse or distract him. Walk on the owner's right side, several paces back.
- Don't attempt to grab or steer the person while the dog is guiding, and don't hold the dog's harness. Ask if the owner needs your assistance and, if so, offer your left arm.
- Don't give the dog table scraps;



Island resident Lorraine Constantine recently graduated from the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind. She and her new constant companion, Nicki, a female golden retriever, are now at home on City Island.

respect the master's need to give the dog a balanced diet and to maintain good habits.

- Don't allow children to tease or play with the dog; allow him to rest undisturbed.
- Don't allow your pets to challenge or intimidate a guide dog. Allow them to meet on neutral ground when all parties can be carefully supervised.
- Don't allow the dog on your furniture; ask the master to correct any errant behavior or trespassing.
- Don't let the dog out of the house unsupervised, and do understand its value to the master.

Anyone wishing more information about the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, a not-for-profit organization that provides guide dogs free of charge to those who are blind or visually impaired, may call 631-930-9000 or visit the Web site www.guidedog.org.

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Photo by BARBARA DOLENSEK

Niru Terner, former City Island resident, was happy to greet the Bronx Borough President, Adolfo Carrion Jr., at the exhibition of her recent paintings held at the Starving Artist Gallery. Niru is now happily settled in Virginia, but she enjoys her occasional visits to City Island.



If you have a new business, or if your old business is offering a new service, write to The Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464 by the 10th of the month.

The month of June starts right in with jazz at the Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery (249 City Island Avenue) with Robin Radus offering jazz keyboard and vocals on Sunday, June 5, starting at 3 p.m. The following Sunday, June 12, City Island's own Jazz Quartet takes stage, starting at 3 p.m., and on Friday, June 17, the rock-folk trio Works in Progress, featuring City Islander Lucille Rivin, returns for a performance at 8 p.m. On Saturday, June 18, Islander Dr. Chris Wertenbaker and his band, Port O' Monkeys, are back at Starving Artist with two performances, at 8 and at 9:30 p.m. On Sunday, June 19, stop by at 3 p.m. for the perfect pitch of singer-songwriter Theresa Sareo. On Saturday, June 25, the City Island Theater Group will present a special afternoon for children, starting at 3 p.m., and that evening, at 8 p.m., will feature a performance by singer-songwriter Sam Leopold. Finishing off the month will be jazz in the afternoon on Sunday, June 26, starting at 3 p.m. and featuring City Islander Cameron Greenlee. Meanwhile, all through June, the nautical watercolors of former Islander Niru Terner remain on exhibit. Always on the menu at Starving Artist are handmade jewelry by Elliott Glick and the fine art / craft of numerous artists; tasty treats for meals and desserts. Reservations suggested for musical performances; no cover or minimum but contributions are accepted.

The Kathlyn Moses Gallery at 327 City Island Avenue will present "Two Women One Show," paintings by Cheryl Brinker and Lois Weingarten, during the month of June. Everyone is welcome to attend the opening reception on Friday, June 3, from 7 to 10 p.m.

Lickety Split Ice Cream, 295 City Island Avenue, is under the new management of Skippy and Louise Giacce. They

are planning a grand opening in June, when the new patio and service area will be finished. The Giacces plan to serve coffee, espresso and cappuccino and will offer a new dessert menu, in addition to the traditional ice cream and malts menu.



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 represent some of the recent sales. *The Current* is not responsible for errors or omissions in the data.

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
47 Bay Street	8/18/04	\$488,000	2 Family
238 Bowne Street	2/22/05	\$620,114	Condo
4 Carroll Street	3/9/05	\$340,000	1 Family
2 Bay Street	3/15/05	\$1,200,000	1 Family
238 Bowne Street	3/24/05	\$495,846	Condo
94 Pilot Street	3/30/05	\$640,000	2 Family
170 Schofield Street	4/7/05	\$360,000	Condo
159 Carroll Street	4/25/05	\$636,000	3 Family



Photography by Ron Terner
Local Artist Gallery 321 City Island Avenue
(718) 857-1487

Ed Heben Now Accredited Estate Planner

City Island resident Edward D. Heben was recently certified as an accredited estate planner (AEP) by the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils (NAEPC).

Mr. Heben, a certified public accountant (CPA) and a certified valuation analyst (CVA), with offices located in Rye and White Plains, received the AEP credential in April 2005.

The AEP designation is a graduate-level specialization in estate planning available to attorneys, CPAs, chartered life underwriters, certified financial planners and certified trust officers. The NAEPC offers the award to recognize estate-planning professionals who meet stringent requirements of education, experience, knowledge and skill, as well as professional reputation and character.

The NAEPC requires all of its mem-

bers to embrace the team concept of estate planning and to adhere to its professional code of ethics. It is a national organization of professional estate planners and affiliated estate-planning councils focused on establishing and monitoring the highest degree of professional and educational standards.

Mr. Heben sits on the board of directors for the Estate Planning Council of Westchester County and the National Conference of CPA Practitioners and is currently president of the New York State Chapter of the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts.

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Photo courtesy STARVING ARTIST

On Saturday, May 21, Lis Wiehl of FOX News visited the Starving Artist Cafe and Gallery to sign her book "Winning Every Time: How to Use the Skills of a Lawyer in the Trials of Your Life." On hand to mark the occasion were (l. to r.) Starving Artist's Elliott Glick; his daughter, Hannah; Lis Wiehl's daughter, Danielle; Ms. Wiehl, and Island resident Barbara Ferrara, who just purchased a book for Wiehl to sign. Copies of the "Winning Every Time" can be purchased at Starving Art-



Photo by BARBARA DOLENSEK

The official launch of the Bronx Seaside Trolley, which runs the first Friday evening of each month from Pelham Bay Station to Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum and several stops on City Island and back to Pelham Bay, was held at Starving Artist Café and Gallery on Friday, May 6, 2005. Standing left to right are: James Vacca, district manager of Community Board 10; State Senator Jeff Klein; Paul Klein, representing the City Island Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the trolley; Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.; and Majority Leader of the City Council, Joel Rivera.

N.Y.S. HEALTH INSURANCE AND MEDICARE RX: NBWNRA Can Help You Apply

The North Bronx Westchester Neighborhood Restoration Association (NBWNRA) offers free help to individuals and families interested in applying for Family Health Plus or Child Health Plus, public health insurance programs available from New York State.

Family Health Plus is available to adults between the ages of 19 and 64 who do not have individual or employee-sponsored health insurance and do not qualify for Medicaid. It is open to single adults, couples without children and parents with limited income who are residents of New York State and are U. S. citizens or who fall under one of many immigration categories. It provides comprehensive coverage that includes prevention, primary care, hospitalization, prescriptions and other services. There are no costs for Family Health Plus, and health care is managed through participating managed care plans in the area.

Child Health Plus is a health insurance plan for kids. Depending on your family's income, your child may be eligible to join either Child Health Plus A (formerly Children's Medicaid) or Child Health Plus B. To enroll, children must be under the age of 19 and be residents of New York State. Eligibility depends on gross family income.

To find out if you qualify for one of these public health insurance programs, schedule an appointment with an enrollment facilitator by calling 718-823-7704.

Medicare News

NBWNRA has important news for Medicare beneficiaries. Beginning this

summer, the association will join with the Social Security Administration as a local partner to roll out the new Medicare Prescription Drug Program to the community.

Watch for an announcement when applications will be available through their office at 1136 Neill Avenue in the Bronx. The friendly staff is always ready to help.

NBWNRA is a not-for-profit organization serving communities located in the northeast Bronx and lower Westchester. Its mission is to identify and provide services and programs that influence neighborhood stabilization and improve the quality of life of people living in the neighborhoods it serves.

Venturelli Corner

Continued from page 1

His life was cut short on a snowy day in 1943, after just five years on the job. He and his partner observed a car traveling at high speed on City Island Avenue. As he approached the car near Carroll Street, he stepped onto the running board of the car. It sped away as he held on and crashed into a telephone pole, throwing him to the ground. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Former Police Commissioner Michael Codd said: "The death of a police officer is never in vain, because policemen die while coming to the aid of individuals or attempting to better society."

TEACHERS ON LINE




Photos by KAREN NANI

A group of 40 teachers from P.S. 175 formed a picket line before school hours on May 11, 2005, to protest having to work without a contract from the Board of Education. Teachers throughout New York City joined protest lines that morning to urge Mayor Bloomberg to come to the bargaining table and negotiate a new contract (the last expired in 2003). United Federation of Teachers chapter leader Deborah McManus told The Current that they are asking the mayor and Chancellor Joel Klein to hear their concerns and objections, including to the practice of involuntary transferring teachers from one school to another. They carried signs that read, "Invest in the Future, Invest in Teachers." The faculty returned to the City Island School in time for morning exercises, and there was no disruption to the school day.




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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

JUNE

Thurs., June 9, **Garden Club Spring Luncheon**, 12 noon, City Island Yacht Club, Pilot Street.

Sat., June 11, **Community Center Dog Show**, 2 p.m. Ambrosini Little League Field.

Sat. and Sun., June 11 and 12, **Arts and Crafts Fair** sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. City Island Avenue.

Sat. and Sun., June 11 and 12, **Flea Market**, American Legion, 550 City Island Avenue.

Sun., June 12, **Blessing of the Fleet**, 1 p.m. off Fenton's Marine Dock, VHF Channel 71 beginning 12:30 p.m.

Thurs., June 16, **Community Board 10 meets**, 7:30 p.m., Schuyler House, 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway, Bronx.

Sat., June 25, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: Chef's salad (lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, cubes of cheese, ham, turkey, etc.)

Tues., June 28, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

Thurs., June 30, **Bronx Fireworks Celebration**, Orchard Beach, 9:30 p.m. Festivities begin at 7 p.m.



Chapter 318 AARP

Our next trip to Atlantic City is on Tuesday, June 14. The bus departs at 9 a.m. from 113 Bay Street. For reservations, please call Jean Ringel at 718-885-1479 or John Bonicoro at 718-885-1844.

Our end-of-the-season luncheon will be held at the Lido Restaurant on City Island on Friday, June 10. It will be buffet style, with beer, soda and wine on the table. We will also have a DJ. Please come and join the fun, for this will be a wonderful afternoon with friends and good food. Also, the Lido is a local restaurant so no one can say they have no transportation!

AARP Safe Driving Course is set for June 15 and 17 at our meeting place (113 Bay Street). This is an eight-hour course, and the instructor requested that we do it in two days. We normally have the hall on Wednesday, so I have also requested the use of the hall on Friday from 9 to 1. The middle of June can get pretty warm, so it's better to get an early start and be out before the sun gets really hot. Bring a blank check (the instructor will advise how to make it out), and also bring a stamped, self-addressed envelope and your driver's license. The cost will be \$15 per person, and the class will be limited to 33 people.

Marie Tirelli

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Chapter 3303 AARP

The members of the Minneford Chapter 3303 were recently informed by AARP that Social Security has always been a binding obligation between generations. For decades Social Security has kept the promises made to current and future retirees that the system they paid into all their working lives would be there for them when they retired or faced an unforeseen disability or death in the family. And despite the doom and gloom emanating from many in Washington, there is no reason to believe that Social Security can't continue to keep those promises for generations to come. Social Security needs to be strengthened now for our children and grandchildren. But the solution shouldn't be worse than the problem.

Private accounts that drain money out of Social Security clearly are a solution that is far worse than the problem. Private accounts will inevitably lead to cuts in guaranteed Social Security benefits while passing a huge bill on to future generations. The sooner we turn to a national debate about what changes best meet the needs of all generations, the sooner we can get to a solution that meets the needs of all Americans.

The members were asked to call our senators and representatives today at the toll-free number 1-800-335-6946 and tell them that we do not want private accounts with Social Security dollars.

On Thursday, June 23, the chapter celebrates its 24th annual dinner dance at the elegant Davenport Beach Club in New Rochelle. It will include a cocktail hour, open bar, dinner, dancing and entertainment.

Prices and more details for all events will be discussed at our meetings, or you may call Tina De Cristofaro at 718-885-0865.

Lucy Puglia

City Island Theater Group

Life certainly was a cabaret last month! The City Island Theater Group is proud to announce that during its last weekend "Cabaret" played to sold-out audiences, including an added Thursday night performance. We would like to thank the residents of City Island for their constant



Photo by BARBARA DOLENSEK

Council Member Madeline Provenzano was made an honorary Kit Kat Girl by Nick Sala, president of the City Island Theater Group at its production of "Cabaret" on Saturday, April 30, 2005, in recognition of her contributions to the community and to the advisory board of the theater group.

support, as we continue to bring challenging theater to the Island. We are also pleased to announce our upcoming summer events.

The City Island Theater Group will kick off the summer on June 5, when we celebrate Broadway's biggest night, the Tony Awards, at the Snug. Come join us at 7 p.m. and watch the awards on a big screen TV. There will be ballots for you to use in picking your favorites. This is guaranteed to be a fun theatrical night.

If you want to hear more songs sung by the talented Cabaret cast and CITG members, join us on Friday, June 27, at the Stuyvesant Yacht Club for our second annual Piano Bar Night. Last year's event provided lots of fun, and this year will definitely be the same. Don't miss it! The singing starts at 9 p.m.

Last year's "Midsummer Night's Festival" was a major success, and we will once again be dazzling you in Hawkins Street Park with a starry new production. We are currently in the planning stages and can't wait to bring it to you. Look for this outdoor extravaganza at the end of July.

In August we will once more present the Battle of the Bands concert. This rocking event lets City Island's youngest talents strut their stuff!

Hope you have a theatrical June!

Nick Sala

Garden Club

The next meeting of the City Island Garden Club will be Monday, June 6, at 10 a.m. at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street. At this meeting we will finalize plans for our spring luncheon, which will be held on Thursday, June 9, at 12 noon. The price is \$28. Prepaid reservations should be made by calling Ruth at 718-885-1361. Many wonderful prizes will be given at our raffle.

Gardening hint: June is a good month to plant roses. Roses like full sun with good air circulation, so allow three or more feet between plants. Also, select a site with good drainage. Before planting, add peat moss and other organic matter to the soil and blend well.

Phyllis Goodman

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If you wish to submit, for inclusion in this column, information regarding events and activities at the City Island Community Center, please call Laury Hopkins at 885-3202 no later than the 15th of each month, except December and July. Leave a message, including your name and phone number.

Announcements

Please help us improve the Center by making a donation to our campaign for a new floor. Our goal is \$6,000 for a new floor. Your support is appreciated!

Ongoing Events

Monthly Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

To schedule events at the Center, call Laury Hopkins at 885-3202.

Teen Center: Saturday evenings. To volunteer your time so that we can keep the Teen Center open, please call Jay Howard at 885-2192.

Martial Arts Class: Ba Gua Zhang Dragon Style: Exceptional Instructor Saturdays 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m, for ages 16 and up. For more information call Florence at 718 885-3551.

Beginner Knitting Classes for ages 8 and up! Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Call Carol at 718-885-3190 for more information.

Dance Classes: Preballet, jazz and tap for kids: Thursdays after school. Call Linda at Dance Connection, 914 576-5515.

Millennium Babies: A Moms and Babies Playgroup. Call Brenda Prohaska at 885-9040.

Irish Dance: call Deirdre O'Mara at (201) 947-8535

Adult Tap Classes: Call Corinne Grondahl at 718-309-8041.

Photography Classes: for adults and teens. Call Ron Turner at 885-1403 or inquire at Focal Point Gallery.

Step Aerobics Classes: Sun. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.; Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and Mon. & Wed. 7 to 8:00 p.m. Babysitting available Mon. and Fri. a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 885-0793.

Chess Club: Monday evenings from 7- 11p.m. For ages 13 and up. No need to register, just show up!

Legion News

The month of June is important to Americans. We celebrate Flag Day on Tuesday, June 14. The day is believed to have been originated in 1885 by B. J. Cigrand, a Wisconsin public school teacher. Subsequent to the first observance of Flag Day, celebrations were held across the country each year and on Aug. 3, 1949, President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 each year as National Flag Day.

June 6 is important to my generation as it marked the landings on the beaches in Normandy, France, of the Allied armies during World War II. Just a few years later, in 1950, the Korean War began on June 25.

A number of Post activities will be held in June. The outgoing Bronx County Commander's dinner will be on Thursday, June 2, at 7 p.m. at JP's Restaurant. There will be a choice of 10 dinners. The menu will include lobster, shrimp, veal parmigiana, etc, an appetizer of your choice, garlic bread and coffee, soda, wine and beer, all for \$35. Just bring your appetites.

The Blessing of the Fleet will be on Sunday, June 12, at 1 p.m. at Fenton's Marine. Rowboats welcome.

Post Pooh-Bahs and their faithful minions labored long to decide a topic for the annual essay contest at P.S. 175 and St. Mary's. In keeping with the theme, Americanism, it was decided that the subject should be "How the war on terrorism affects me as an American." Last year, it was difficult to choose a winner because of the high caliber of work submitted.

The Bronx County Caucus will be held Friday, June 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sam Young Post.

Installation of Post 156 officers will be at the second regular meeting of the month, Monday, June 20. The following is the slate selected for the coming year, June 2005 to June 2006:

- Michael Rauh, Commander
- Michael Treat, First Vice Commander, Membership
- Richard O'Keefe, Second Vice Commander, Activities
- Russell Schaller, Third Vice Commander, Americanism
- William Clancy, Adjutant
- Dave Carman, Sergeant at Arms
- Joe Goonan, Historian
- Lawrence Lane, Finance Officer
- Robert Mennona, Service Officer
- Jack Hartigan, Judge Advocate
- Thomas McMahon, Chaplain
- Executive Committee: Dr. Fred Hess II, Anthony "Buddy" Pontecorvo

For an update on Post servicemen and women, see the separate article in this issue.

John Ulmer, a past commander, requested that his name be removed from the executive committee. John is the superintendent of the Pelham Cemetery and is acknowledged by the Chamber of Commerce as having more people under him than any other. John said that it has been a very busy year, but that he will still work with the Post on the annual pumpkin sale in October.

The Memorial Service at Grace Episcopal Church was held on Sunday, May 22.

Unfortunately, I missed the service, having put the wrong date on my calendar, but I was told that it was a moving and solemn tribute to Islanders who died in past wars. I also heard that the delicious refreshments following the service attracted a number who have, over the years, strayed from their religious obligations.

A Post everlasting service will be held at the June 6 meeting. The service honors the recently departed who are transferred from the Leonard Hawkins Post to the Post Everlasting. The service is brief but impressive. The deceased are Raymond Hamilton, George Singler and Joseph Cunningham.

A flea market will be held on Saturday, June 11, through Sunday, June 12, at the Post. Stop by.

I talked to Vincent Hecker, commander emeritus, who told me that returns on the chance books were coming in at a brisk pace.

Thanks are due to the Ladies Auxiliary, who made a very generous donation to the Post to help cover the Memorial Day parade expenses. For a while it looked as though the only music available would be DJ Ray perched on the tailgate of Armando's pick up truck. But retired General Robert Mennona was able to lure the Department of Sanitation bagpipe band for the event. You might say that things are picking up.

You probably have noticed how nice the triangle park at the bridge looks. Thank the Garden Club and Jane Blanks, who put in a four-year hitch in the Army before being hired by the club to help beautify our Island. Local realtor of repute Jackie Kall informed me that Jane will do plantings for residents too. Contact the Garden Club for more information.

Meetings for the month of June will be as follows: regular meetings, Monday, June 6 and June 20; executive board, June 13.

Remember our sick and homebound veterans.

And finally for you World War II buffs: a popular meat product savored by servicemen during the war was Spam. This delectable foodstuff was shipped as part of Lend Lease to our Russian allies, who nicknamed it "Roosevelt sausage."

Until next month, at ease.

Russell Schaller

Trinity United Methodist Church

May feels as if it has finally arrived, and we all look forward to Memorial Day and the start of summer!

Trinity holds its worship service at 10 a.m. each Sunday. For those of you who have children, we have our Sunday school at the same time. All are welcome!

Our Budget Shop is open on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and on the first Saturday of each month. Check us out for bargains galore.

Trinity will be teaming up with Grace Episcopal Church and Saint Mary's to hold a vacation Bible School. It will be held at Trinity from July 5 to 8, starting at 9 a.m. and ending at 12 noon. For more information, please call Reverend Sue at 718-885-1218.

Anne Sill

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Star Wars III: Revenge of the Sith

On July 4, 1977, I stood in line in sweltering heat, pregnant with my son Josh, waiting to see a new sensation known as **Star Wars** (Chapter IV: A New Hope). It was unlike any movie seen before, and it changed the course of motion-picture history. Now, 28 years later, it seemed rather fitting that my son Josh, his fiancée, Casey, and I together saw the midnight premiere of **Revenge of the Sith**, the true prequel to the original film.

To quote Roger Ebert in a review of an earlier film in the series, "George Lucas has done it again. He has shot the new **Star Wars** film on location . . . in outer space." Such were the masterful achievements of Lucas that made the impossible possible on the silver screen, even before the technology was there. His special effects remain unparalleled, sights dazzling to the eyes, and his company, Industrial Light & Magic, continues to set the standard for sci fi entertainment.

Aficionados will be very happy to hear that this installment in the series is a vast improvement over the past two disappointing entries (**Phantom Menace** and **Attack of the Clones**). The story line does set the stage for what is to come in the subsequent films. Unfortunately, however, the scenes of Anakin Skywalker (Hayden

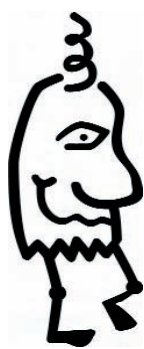
Christensen) with his wife, Senator Padme Amidala (Natalie Portman), are poorly written. Although he is concerned about Padme's welfare, Anakin's descent to the dark side in his transformation into Darth Vader is perhaps the most ineffective scene in the movie. However, one does not go to a film in this genre for its performances or script.

Happily, Ewan McGregor returns with great energy and enjoyment as young Obi-Wan Kenobi. He and Anakin are sent out to rescue the smarmy Supreme Chancellor Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid), who gives the strongest and most malevolent performance in the film. The chancellor has been captured by the rebel General Grievous (a mechanical figure). It's almost uncanny how the hordes of Grievous's army are completely ineffective against Anakin and Obi Wan's light sabers.

Also in the cast are Samuel L. Jackson as Jedi master Mace Windu and Jimmy Smits as Senator Bail Organa. Jedi Master Yoda is also in evidence (featuring Frank Oz's voice again) and is the most believable he has ever been on screen. Chewbacca (Peter Mayhew) is also back, and this time we get to see his jungle planet and his compatriots. And no such film would be complete without C-3PO (Anthony Daniels) and R2-D2 (Kenny Baker).

A little bit of trivia regarding the name of the film: The original, working title of Episode 6 was **Revenge of the Jedi**, so that Lucas could determine if there was any bootlegging going on with film products. However, it was never his intention to use that name because as any knowledgeable **Star Wars** fan would know, a Jedi would never seek revenge, hence the title **Return of the Jedi**. The Sith, however, are cruel and ruthless creatures, so the title works in this case.

Revenge of the Sith is a dark film, the first of the series to receive a PG-13. There is an astounding scene on a planet awash with molten lava, which even outdoes Peter Jackson's **Lord of the Rings** technocraft. But what happens to one of the characters is the stuff of which nightmares are made.



All in all, it is a film with sad moments, as the Empire rises and characters face different sorts of demise. It is also a dazzling vision, with great energy and many breathtaking action scenes. It is a reminder why some of us got hooked in the first place.

And until next time, happy viewing . . .



St. Mary, Star of the Sea School

Best wishes to all the eighth-grade graduates, who will be attending the following high schools in September: **Academy of Mount St. Ursula**: Keyarah Jones, Cassandra Reyes. **Aquinas**: Jean Flick, Marae Thompson. **Blessed Sacrament/ St. Gabriel**: Tara Waring. **Cardinal Hayes**: Jorge Nieves. **Cardinal Spellman**: Jobeth Arceo, Kristiana Brooks, Michael Gutierrez, Arisu Mouri, Raven Perkinson, Jasmine Roman, Brannon Snowball, Jolle Thomas. **Monsignor Scanlan**: Aaron Davis, David Quick. **Mount St. Michael**: Damon Clyburn, Julius Greene, Isaac Joshua Mercado. **St. Barnabas**: Deidre English. **St. Vincent Ferrer**: Jasmin Crowder. **Salesian**: Fernando Vergara. **Talent Unlimited**: Venicia Harrison. **Timberland Creek (Fl.)**: Ariana Rodriguez.

In addition Jobeth Arceo received a scholarship to Aquinas High School. Congratulations and good luck to all!

Public School 175

Best wishes to all the eighth-grade graduates, who will be attending the following high schools in September: **Adlai Stevenson**: Franchesca Orellana. **Aquinas**: Olympia Condoluci. **Blessed Sacrament/St. Gabriel**: Alyssa Brogli, Lisa Butler, Nicole Cody, Scott Connell, Raymond Figueroa, Nicholas Harty, Jessica Lombardo, Zach-

ary Mirabito, Maeve Prendergast, Anthony Valentino, Robert Vivolo. **Bronx High School for Contemporary Arts**: Jahaira Escarraman. **Bronx High School of Science**: John Devlin, Daniel Henning. **Cardinal Spellman**: Christian Fernandez, Kelly McCabe, Marie Louise Nangle, Julia Walker. **Choir Academy of Harlem**: Hannah Agyeman. **Christopher Columbus**: Ricky Biqiri, Jihad Mahmud. **Concord Academy**: Kristen Loudermilk. **DeWitt Clinton**: Jonathan Andino. **Edgemont**: Jacinda Economas. **Fashion Industries H.S.**: Nailah Hinton. **Fiorello La Guardia H.S. of Music and Art and Performing Arts**: Sue Panurach. **Fordham Preparatory**: Lawrence Boothroyd, Jake Connell, Anthony Gaudio. **Harry S. Truman**: Jeremiah Anderson, Anthony Maimone, Jilian Torres. **Herbert H. Lehman**: Bianca Bastone, Michael Brown, Sung Hun Kim, Anthony Lauria, Lan Pali. **High School for Environmental Studies**: Michael Jaffe. **High School of American Studies at Lehman College**: Andrew Michalski. **High School of Computer Technology**: Ariani Pali. **Iona Preparatory**: Thomas Lott. **Lower Manhattan Arts Academy**: Amanda Figueiredo. **Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics**: Stefan Halstead, Alyssa Williams. **Maria Regina**: Emily Eckman. **Monsignor Scanlan**: Omar Garcia, Rosa Perez (\$800-a-year scholarship). **Morris Collaborative High School for Technology**: Nicholas Williams. **Mount St. Michael**: Keith Costanza. **Our Lady of Good Counsel**: Dana Faulkner, Sophia Piscitelli. **Preston**: Delia Berger, Maria Swieciki (\$3500 a year scholarship). **Public School Repertory H.S.**: Stephanie Zambrana. **Renaissance High School of Music, Theater and Technology**: Alanna McIntyre. **Sacred Heart**: Frank Ross. **Salesian**: Steve Delgado, Michael Doarti, David Mooney. **Sports Professions H.S.**: Jonathan Rosa. **St. Barnabas**: Tonasia Jines. **St. Catharine Academy**: Angelina Mazzella. **St. Raymond**: Anthony Giocondo. **Wings Academy**: Shenequa Rashford.

The students who are still undecided are Samantha Di Nome and Joshua Roman.

In addition Lawrence Boothroyd received a \$3,500 scholarship to St. Raymond High School and was also accepted to the High School of Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City College. John Devlin received a \$6,000 scholarship to Iona Prep. Emily Eckman was accepted to the High School of American Studies. Andrew Michalski received a \$1,500 a year scholarship to Mount St. Michael. Congratulations and good luck to everyone in September!

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ISLAND CURRENT JUNE 2005 TIDE CALENDAR						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
H-High Tide L - Low Tide			1 L 2:17A H 8:10A L 2:30P H 8:43P	2 L 3:16A H 9:11A L 3:32P H 9:31P	3 L 4:10A H 10:07A L 4:22P H 10:24P	4 L 5:00A H 10:56A L 5:02P H 11:09P
5 L 5:47A H 11:42A L 5:52P H 11:52P	6 L 6:31A H 12:28P L 6:31P	7 H 12:11A L 7:12A H 1:06P L 7:08P	8 H 1:06A L 7:50A H 1:44P L 7:40P	9 H 1:56A L 8:22A H 2:18P L 7:51P	10 H 2:51A L 8:44A H 2:46P L 8:22P	11 H 2:32A L 9:02A H 3:19P L 9:01P
12 H 3:09A L 9:34A H 3:48P L 9:46P	13 H 3:52A L 10:12A H 4:27P L 10:38P	14 H 4:09A L 10:56A H 5:11P L 11:28P	15 H 5:11A L 11:44A H 6:03P	16 L 12:24A H 6:36A L 12:38P H 6:54P	17 L 1:28A H 7:24A L 1:31P H 7:47P	18 L 2:29A H 8:23A L 2:26P H 8:39P
19 L 3:33A H 9:21A L 3:22P H 9:32P	20 L 4:13A H 10:17A L 4:19P H 10:28P	21 L 5:31A H 11:24A L 5:24P H 11:18P	22 L 6:24A H 12:07P L 6:14P	23 H 12:11A L 7:20A H 1:02P L 7:18P	24 H 1:08A L 8:16A H 2:00P L 8:18P	25 H 2:07A L 9:11A H 3:01P L 9:28P
26 H 3:11A L 10:09A H 4:06P L 10:24P	27 H 4:44A L 11:09A H 5:13P L 11:44P	28 H 5:44A L 12:10P H 6:18P	29 L 12:50A H 6:10A L 1:11P H 7:20P	30 L 1:54A H 7:53A L 2:10P H 8:18P	Tide Calendar by Tom Smith	
TIDE CALENDAR JULY 2005 ISLAND CURRENT						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
H-High Tide L - Low Tide					1 L 2:53A H 8:51A L 3:08P H 9:22P	2 L 3:49A H 9:41A L 3:58P H 10:03P
3 L 4:40A H 10:56A L 4:46P H 10:51P	4 L 5:27A H 11:23A L 5:27P H 11:58P	5 L 6:11A H 12:04P L 6:12P	6 H 12:14A L 6:51A H 12:47P L 6:47P	7 H 12:51A L 7:27A H 1:33P L 7:14P	8 H 1:19A L 7:58A H 1:52P L 7:51P	9 H 1:37A L 8:10A H 2:19P L 7:58P
10 H 2:02A L 8:26A H 2:32P L 8:34P	11 H 2:36A L 8:57A H 3:08P L 9:18P	12 H 3:16A L 9:35A H 3:43P L 10:08P	13 H 4:00A L 10:17A H 4:27P L 10:49P	14 H 4:49A L 11:04A H 5:18P L 11:42P	15 H 5:43A L 11:54A H 6:08P	16 L 12:42A H 6:42A L 12:49P H 7:08P
17 L 1:49A H 7:48A L 1:49P H 8:08P	18 L 2:48A H 8:53A L 2:48P H 9:07P	19 L 4:22A H 10:00A L 4:40P H 10:18P	20 L 5:24A H 11:04A L 5:23P H 11:11P	21 L 6:19A H 12:02P L 6:18P	22 H 12:30A L 7:11A H 12:57P L 7:48P	23 H 1:07A L 8:02A H 1:48P L 8:17P
24 H 2:05A L 8:53A H 2:48P L 9:45P	25 H 3:05A L 9:48A H 3:42P L 10:46P	26 H 4:08A L 10:40A H 4:42P L 11:39P	27 H 5:15A L 11:38A H 5:45P	28 L 12:44A H 6:42A L 12:50P H 6:49P	29 L 1:27A H 7:24A L 1:31P H 7:51P	30 L 2:28A H 8:24A L 2:39P H 8:49P

ISLAND CURRENT AUGUST 2005 TIDE CALENDAR						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 L 3:55A H 9:22A L 3:39P H 9:43P	1 L 4:17A H 10:14A L 4:24P H 10:52P	2 L 5:04A H 11:01A L 5:10P H 11:37P	3 L 5:47A H 11:44A L 5:51P H 11:57P	4 L 6:28A H 12:23P L 6:26P	5 H 12:32A L 6:59A H 12:56P L 6:53P	6 H 12:58A L 7:21A H 1:19P L 7:48P
7 H 1:11A L 7:32A H 1:31P L 7:33P	8 H 1:54A L 7:51A H 1:53P L 8:03P	9 H 2:06A L 8:22A H 2:26P L 8:48P	10 H 2:44A L 9:00A H 3:08P L 9:28P	11 H 3:27A L 9:42A H 3:49P L 10:18P	12 H 4:15A L 10:26A H 4:30P L 11:09P	13 H 5:10A L 11:20A H 5:33P
14 L 12:10A H 6:11A L 12:19P H 6:32P	15 L 1:28A H 7:21A L 1:26P H 7:42P	16 L 3:02A H 8:29A L 2:48P H 8:58P	17 L 4:18A H 9:56A L 4:11P H 10:08P	18 L 5:13A H 10:59A L 5:19P H 11:22P	19 L 6:05A H 11:52A L 6:17P	20 H 12:09A L 6:54A H 12:42P L 7:11P
21 H 1:02A L 7:41A H 1:11P L 8:04P	22 H 1:54A L 8:28A H 2:20P L 8:57P	23 H 2:47A L 9:18A H 3:11P L 9:52P	24 H 3:42A L 10:08A H 4:06P L 10:51P	25 H 4:49A L 11:00A H 5:08P L 11:53P	26 H 5:51A L 12:02P H 6:18P	27 L 12:57A H 6:57A L 1:07P H 7:22P
28 L 1:59A H 7:59A L 2:10P H 8:23P	29 L 2:57A H 8:56A L 3:08P H 9:18P	30 L 3:49A H 9:48A L 3:59P H 10:08P	31 L 4:45A H 10:34A L 4:48P H 10:53P		H-High Tide L - Low Tide	
TIDE CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2005 ISLAND CURRENT						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
H-High Tide L - Low Tide				1 L 5:16A H 11:56A L 5:29P H 11:52P	2 L 5:53A H 11:53A L 6:09P	3 H 12:06A L 6:22A H 12:22P L 6:28P
4 H 12:29A L 6:40A H 12:36P L 6:44P	5 H 12:42A L 6:52A H 12:50P L 7:02P	6 H 1:08A L 7:17A H 1:17P L 7:40P	7 H 1:57A L 7:50A H 1:52P L 8:18P	8 H 2:44A L 8:28A H 2:32P L 9:00P	9 H 3:02A L 9:11A H 3:17P L 9:49P	10 H 3:49A L 10:00A H 4:08P L 10:44P
11 H 4:46A L 10:58A H 5:06P L 11:50P	12 H 5:51A L 12:00P H 6:13P	13 L 1:21A H 7:11A L 1:21P H 7:32P	14 L 3:00A H 8:46A L 3:08P H 9:02P	15 L 4:00A H 9:54A L 4:11P H 10:14P	16 L 4:57A H 10:49A L 5:16P H 11:11P	17 L 5:46A H 11:57A L 6:08P
18 H 12:01A L 6:32A H 12:23P L 6:57P	19 H 12:50A L 7:16A H 1:07P L 7:46P	20 H 1:57A L 7:59A H 1:42P L 8:38P	21 H 2:58A L 8:42A H 2:38P L 9:28P	22 H 3:44A L 9:36A H 3:27P L 10:20P	23 H 4:12A L 10:18A H 4:28P L 11:19P	24 H 5:17A L 11:11A H 5:36P
25 L 12:22A H 6:44A L 12:30P H 6:47P	26 L 1:24A H 7:27A L 1:37P H 7:51P	27 L 2:31A H 8:24A L 2:36P H 8:48P	28 L 3:33A H 9:16A L 3:28P H 9:39P	29 L 3:58A H 10:01A L 4:13P H 10:22P	30 L 4:30A H 10:42A L 4:52P H 11:08P	

City Island

AN INFORMAL HISTORY

By BERNARD WITLES

SUMMER SPORTS

At a time when boxing was illegal, prize fights (which were then only bare-knuckled) took place at hard-to-reach locations, such as City Island, which made it easy for spectators and pugilists to escape from the plainly visible approaching police.

So we read that a Jack Dempsey (not the great heavyweight champ of the 1920s), "who has been training at City Island for some time, engaged in a prize fight with Tom Henry at Far Rockaway, on Wednesday. Henry it will be remembered is the man who fought and whipped Jimmy Murray at Pelham Bridge some [time] ago. Murray is in Albany Penitentiary serving out his sentence, and Henry is out on bail and engaged in breaking the law. The authorities will doubtless send him to keep Murray company, when the courts open in September" (*New Rochelle Pioneer*, July 12, 1884).

As for turning a blind eye to these illegal goings-on, "Three men, one of whom is a Negro, are staying at Bob Brown's hotel [on City Island], and it is rumored about that they are Tom Kean, Jack Dempsey, and 'Black Star,' pugilists training for prize fights" (*Pioneer*, June 14, 1884).

In the midst of this illegal activity, the national pastime was digging in at the plate. "A B.B. [baseball] club has been organized on City Island, styling themselves the 'Beldonites.' The club are [going] about with a subscription list to obtain the necessary means to procure uniforms, and the gentleman after whom the club was named headed the list with \$20. It is expected the club will prove worthy of the name it bears (*Pioneer*, June 14, 1884). Note that this article was written before the

real estate and stock shenanigans of millionaire Wall Street broker William Belden landed him in the slammer.

The sponsorship campaign succeeded, for a month later this notice appeared: "The base ball club, Beldonites, send a challenge to any junior B.B. club in Westchester Co. to play a game of base ball for a Snyder dead ball [no juiced-up home-run hitting then] and bat on their grounds at City Island. All communications to be sent to Mr. George Boster, City Island" (*Pioneer*, July 26, 1884) Note that City Island would be part of Westchester County for at least another decade.

And the same *Pioneer* article has this notice: "A match game of ball was played between the Rivals of City Island and the Muffers of the same place, resulting in a victory for the latter, by a score of 13 to 4. The Muffers challenge any club to play them a match game for a Peck & Snyder dead ball. All correspondence to be addressed to John Brady, City Island, N.Y."

Another summer sport—boat racing—appears to have captured the passions and gambling instincts of City Islanders. Some news reports are downright innocent and others reek of foul winds.

The innocent: "On Saturday a five-mile race took place between two cat-rigged boats, *Uncle Dave* and the *Florence*. A splendid breeze was blowing from the northeast. The *Uncle Dave* came in thirty seconds before the *Florence*. The latter is a very fast boat, but the *Uncle Dave* is faster, so there is no use of the *Florence* trying to sail with the *Uncle Dave*, for she can beat her too easily" (*Pioneer*, May 13, 1882).

The suspicious: "The boat race on Saturday between Ayres and Nelson (colored) was not a very satisfactory affair. Nelson took the lead from the start and kept it throughout. The race was for \$25, checks undoubtedly. These checks are the same as cash. But as a general thing it is a bad practice to pull an eight-mile boat race for any man's check" (*Pioneer*, June 24, 1882).

The "do you smell a rat?": City Islander Frank Bell, a Hell Gate pilot, had a challenge race against Alfred H. Moore, a Westchester fisherman. "Before a half mile of the course had been gone over, Bell's boat suddenly upset, throwing him out of the race and the \$500 stake money. The water was exceedingly rough at the time, but the referee ordered the race to be pulled without any adjournment. The sudden termination of the race was a great disappointment to a crowd of spectators, but it is believed to have been purely accidental, although Moore was some eight lengths ahead at the time. Courtney [apparently a local bookie] was in no way interested" (*Pioneer*, June 3, 1882).



NIGHTS & SOUNDS

By JOHN SHERIDAN and MARIA SUTHERLAND

Mail Order Honeybees

A colleague of ours has a home upstate, where she and her husband keep honeybees. To maintain the population, they sometimes order bees to be delivered from a supplier through the mail. (Apparently, mail-ordering honeybees is a big business in the United States and not as unusual as it sounds.) Our friend told us recently about a shipment that sprang a leak in transit, which resulted in her being called away from work by the post office to take care of the mess—at six in the morning!

We tend to think of raising bees as an activity for upstaters, that is to say, for country folk. But the truth is that there are folks right here in our own city raising bees in rooftop gardens everywhere—and selling their product on city streets. We are not aware of any involved City Islanders, but we can easily imagine the possibilities. As long as there is water nearby and gardens in need of pollination, honeybees are capable of survival.

What we're more likely to see on City Island are carpenter bees and bumblebees. Bumblebee queens hibernate in winter, emerging in the spring from their holes in the ground to begin the hive-making process anew. A close look around your own backyard may turn up a bumblebee hibernating hole or two (or three or four . . .). Our cats have found their share.

Carpenter bees are not uncommon on our Island either. They nest in holes that

they bore in older, softer woods (also not uncommon on City Island). Look for the small piles of saw dust that they leave behind if you want a closer look. Not too close a look, though, especially at the females. As with the honey bee and bumble bee, it is only the female carpenter bee that is equipped with a stinger.

Yellow jackets, wasps and hornets are not the pollinators that their bee cousins are. These insects feed primarily on other insects, meat and—how often have you seen this on City Island?—dead fish. Cicada killers feed on cicadas, as their name suggests. Look for them in August. Or, rather, look out for them.

Another completely unrelated population that may be on the rise on City Island is the downy woodpecker. We understand that there is a very persistent member of the species making his (or her?) presence known in a certain tree near a certain new construction site on City Island Avenue. We'd like to believe that he is indeed a newcomer, but, of course, wherever there is new construction there is also the chance that old nesting sites have been compromised. Fortunately there are City Islanders such as Barbara and Vinny who take notice of this sort of thing and who are willing to go out of their way to make the lives of our feathered friends here a little bit more comfortable.

Thanks to you all for sharing your stories. As always, we can be reached at jdsstrat@msn.com.

CITY ISLAND, NEW YORK
Times and heights of high and low water (Daylight Savings Time)
 Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Island. Times shown are local times. For times on the table beginning with 1300, subtract 1200 to get ordinary P.M. time (e.g., 1330 = 1:30 P.M.). Times less than 1300 are A.M. times (e.g., 1154 = 11:54 A.M.).
 HH = hours; MM = minutes. Tide chart by Tom Smith

JUNE 2005										
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY	
	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET		
01	Wed	0217	0.9	0818	7.2	1438	0.3	2043	7.9	Wed 01
02	Thu	0318	-0.1	0915	7.3	1532	0.2	2136	8.1	Thu 02
03	Fri	0410	-0.4	1007	7.5	1622	0.2	2224	8.2	Fri 03
04	Sat	0500	-0.8	1059	7.3	1706	0.2	2308	8.3	Sat 04
05	Sun	0547	-0.6	1142	7.3	1762	0.3	2352	8.2	Sun 05
06	Mon	0631	-0.5	1225	7.2	1811	0.5	2435	8.1	Mon 06
07	Tue	0703	8.0	0712	-0.2	1306	7.1	1908	0.7	Tue 07
08	Wed	0105	7.9	0760	0.1	1344	7.0	1930	1.0	Wed 08
09	Thu	0138	7.7	0802	0.4	1416	6.8	1951	1.1	Thu 09
10	Fri	0201	7.5	0844	0.7	1448	6.9	2022	1.3	Fri 10
11	Sat	0232	7.4	0902	0.9	1514	6.9	2101	1.4	Sat 11
12	Sun	0309	7.2	0934	1.0	1549	6.9	2146	1.5	Sun 12
13	Mon	0352	7.0	1013	1.1	1629	7.0	2235	1.5	Mon 13
14	Tue	0439	6.9	1059	1.1	1714	7.1	2329	1.4	Tue 14
15	Wed	0531	6.7	1148	1.2	1803	7.2	2418	1.4	Wed 15
16	Thu	0626	1.9	0829	6.6	1238	1.1	1854	7.4	Thu 16
17	Fri	0128	1.1	0724	6.6	1331	1.0	1947	7.6	Fri 17
18	Sat	0229	0.8	0829	6.7	1426	0.9	2039	7.9	Sat 18
19	Sun	0333	0.4	0821	6.8	1522	0.7	2132	8.2	Sun 19
20	Mon	0434	0.0	1017	7.0	1619	0.6	2225	8.4	Mon 20
21	Tue	0531	-0.3	1112	7.2	1719	0.4	2318	8.6	Tue 21
22	Wed	0626	-0.5	1207	7.4	1814	0.3	2411	8.8	Wed 22
23	Thu	0703	6.8	0720	-0.6	1309	7.6	1915	0.2	Thu 23
24	Fri	0105	6.6	0816	-0.6	1400	7.8	2018	0.2	Fri 24
25	Sat	0207	6.3	0911	-0.5	1501	7.7	2125	0.3	Sat 25
26	Sun	0311	6.0	1009	-0.5	1606	7.7	2234	0.3	Sun 26
27	Mon	0434	7.7	1109	-0.1	1713	7.7	2344	0.3	Mon 27
28	Tue	0540	7.4	1210	0.2	1818	7.8	2454	0.3	Tue 28
29	Wed	0650	6.9	0850	7.2	1311	6.9	1920	7.8	Wed 29
30	Thu	0154	0.1	0753	7.0	1410	0.4	2018	7.9	Thu 30

JULY 2005

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY	
	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET		
01	Fri	0259	0.0	0851	7.0	1506	0.6	2112	8.0	Fri 01
02	Sat	0348	-0.1	0945	7.0	1608	0.6	2209	8.0	Sat 02
03	Sun	0440	-0.2	1038	7.0	1644	0.8	2251	8.0	Sun 03
04	Mon	0527	-0.2	1123	7.1	1731	0.7	2336	8.0	Mon 04
05	Tue	0611	-0.1	1206	7.1	1812	0.8	2424	8.0	Tue 05
06	Wed	0658	7.9	0851	0.1	1247	7.1	1847	0.9	Wed 06

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Obituaries

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

Gustave A. Gallowitz

Gustave A. Gallowitz passed away on April 24, 2005. A lifelong boater and City Island denizen, he was 77.

He proudly served in the Navy during World War II and the Korean War, and he

belonged to the American Legion Post 156 on City Island.

Gus was a long-standing member of the Stuyvesant Yacht Club on Centre Street. He and his father were honored as father-and-son commodores of the Stuyvesant Yacht Club.

In the pre-computer days of *The Island Current*, Gus was the trusty repairman for the staff's typewriters and adding machines.

Gus leaves behind his wife, Natalie; sons Glenn of Florida and Eric of New York City; daughter-in-law, Monique, and grandchildren Nicole, Eddie and Grace Ann.



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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.

Congratulations to Katie Roche on her graduation from St. Ursula Learning Center. Katie, who will attend Blessed Sacrament High School in New Rochelle, is the daughter of Jackie Roche and the late Tommy Roche of Minneford Avenue. Katie, I am so proud of the beautiful young lady you have become. Always know that Daddy is smiling down from heaven. Love, Mom.

Happy June 23 birthday to the Sailmaker's John Iovieno, with love from your family.

Happy birthday on June 1 to Tier Street's Marion Rosenfeld, with love from Barney (woof!) and the gang at Atlantic Emeritus Realty, Inc.

Congratulations to Minneford Avenue's Mary Danegger, who is graduating from Maria Regina High School and will attend Sacred Heart University in Connecticut. Mary will pursue a degree in art.

Happy first birthday on June 16 to Centre Street's Travis Prohaska, with love from Aunt "M," Uncle Chris and Mitchell; Aunt Lou and Uncle Mike and Grandma Ulla.

A wonderful time was had by all who attended the 75th birthday party held at the Lido for Pilot Cove's Terry Carmody. Terry enjoyed good wishes from all, especially her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

City Islanders have been rubbing elbows lately with cast and crew of "The Groomsmen," which is currently filming here on the Island. King Avenue's Dr. Mamdouh Moukhtar was seen with actor Edward Burns, and Helen Vaughan and Virginia McGuire chatted with John Mahoney (the father from "Frasier").

Happy June 9 birthday greetings to Connie's Sara Kim who turns 25, with

love from your family and friends.

Birthday wishes go out to Fred Ramftl on June 20, with love from Mom, Dad, Frank and Grandma.

Happy birthday on June 6 to a very special Nana, with love from Edwina, Kenny, Toni, Don, Heather, Frank, Kesley, Justin, Joseph, Frankie, Brianna, Onyx and Tucker.

Congratulations to former Bay Street resident John Quinn and his wife, Marilena, who are the proud parents of Matthew Joseph, born April 23. The happy family now resides in Brooklyn. Thrilled uncle and aunt are Brian and Rarita and proud cousins are Rasamee and Priya from New Jersey.

Best wishes for continued success to Bay Street's Bobby Swieciki, who is graduating from Blessed Sacrament High School, and to his little sister, Maria Christina Swieciki, who will graduate from the City Island School. We are so proud of you; love from Mom and Dad, Stephen, Nana, Aunt Toni, Uncle John and Aunt Judy.

Congratulations to Jason Jawski on his graduation from Salesian High School on June 4, and happy 18th birthday wishes on June 19. We love you and are so proud of you! From Mom, Dad, Michael and Nana.

Happy June birthdays to Judy Rauh, John Wright and their mother, Vera Thompson. John and his wife, Linda, are moving to a beautiful new home in Tucson, Arizona, this month. They will be missed by Judy and her husband, Mike, Linda's brother.

Congratulations to Erica (Natiw) and Mike Sherman on the birth of their new daughter, Olivia Lisa. She was welcomed home by big sister, Victoria.

And a very happy Father's Day on June 19 to all our dads and granddads.



Photo by KAREN NANI

The friendly cast members of the movie "Groomsmen," which is being filmed on City Island, were hobnobbing with King Avenue residents during May 2005. Actor-writer-director Edward Burns (bottom photo, right) posed with Dr. Mamdouh Moukhtar during a break from filming, while actor John Mahoney (well known as the father in the television series "Frasier") met with (l. to r.) Helen Vaughan, Alessandra Natale and Virginia McGuire. Both the Moukhtar and McGuire homes were used as locations for several scenes in the film, which is due for release in the spring of 2006. Even Otis Salacan was seen rubbing pug paws with Edward Burns's dog.



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