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One Dollar

DOLPHIN RESURFACES IN NEWLY DEDICATED HAWKINS PARK

By KAREN NANI



Photos by JANE PROTZMAN

With the beloved dolphin sculpture safely in place, the newly renovated Hawkins Park was dedicated on Aug. 30, 2010. The ceremony marked the successful ending of the three-year project, which included new plantings, benches, paving, fencing and safety surfacing. As a result of the outcry and efforts of Islanders, including Skip Giacco (shown above right sitting on the dolphin), the sculpture was preserved in its original place in the front of the park. Cutting the ribbon to commemorate the renovation were (l. to r.) Bronx Parks Commissioner Hector Aponte, Barbara Hoffman and Jacqueline Kall of the Garden Club of City Island, Councilman James Vacca, Wilhelm Ronda representing Borough President Diaz, former Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano, New York City Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe, Community Board 10 Parks Chair Virginia Gallagher, Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and Garden Club board member Susan Strazzera.

It was a fitting day for the long awaited dedication of the renovated Hawkins Park on Aug. 30, 2010. Under bright sunny skies and the cooling shade of the tall sycamore trees, a group of Parks Department officials, City Island Garden Club board members and politicians cut the ribbon to officially reopen the beloved City Island park.

The ceremony marked the happy ending of a drawn-out three-year project, which was interrupted when Islanders protested the removal of the dolphin sculpture from the front of the park in April 2009.

The renovation began when former New York City Councilwoman Madeline Provenzano obtained \$250,000 in capital funding for the project in 2005. Working with the Garden Club, specifically Barbara Hoffman, Barbara Kaye and Susan Strazzera, plans were drawn up by the Parks Department to install new benches, plantings, trees, paving, plumbing work and a handicap-accessible drinking fountain.

In the original plan, the dolphin statue was to be moved to the children's playground next to P.S. 175. Although the plan was voted on at a Civic Association meeting in November 2008, several residents voiced concerns about moving the dolphin, long a source of fun for children and a cherished memory for many adults who grew up going to the park.

When work began, passersby noticed that the dolphin was being removed from its usual spot by Parks Department employees, who gave them the impression that it was being destroyed rather than simply moved. Skip Giacco, proprietor of Lickety Split ice cream parlor next to the park, was so upset that he went and sat on the dolphin to prevent it from being removed. By the end of the day, other Islanders rallied and a huge banner was put on the fence of the park reading, "Don't Take Our Dolphin."

Through the efforts of Councilman Jimmy Vacca, among others, the Parks Department agreed to let the dolphin stay, but with the provision that they expand the safety surfacing around the sculpture.

The dedication on Aug. 30 was led by the New York City Parks Commissioner, Adrian Benepe, who said: "It's always good to escape Manhattan and come to City Island, which reminds me of Cape Cod." He cited the park's namesake, Leonard Hawkins, and the plaque, which lists more than 100 City Island residents who died in World War I, as an important memorial.

"Hawkins Park has received a renovation befitting a park named for one of New York's war heroes, City Island native Leonard Hawkins," said Commissioner Benepe. "The new park features include safety surfaces, pavement, a seating area, landscaping and ADA-accessible amenities. Opening just in time for mild fall temperatures, this new and improved green space will delight City Island residents of all ages."

Councilman Vacca then spoke and graciously acknowledged the efforts of Ms. Provenzano, who was also present for the dedication. "Madeline worked hard to get the money originally. I just made sure it stayed in the budget," he told the crowd of more than 50 who were on hand for the ceremony. He then presented Ms. Provenzano with a small dolphin replica to commemorate her role.

Also present were Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, who called the park "one of the best patches of green in my district," and Hector Aponte, the Bronx Parks Commissioner. Mr. Aponte commended the efforts of the Parks Department workers who completed the refurbishing work during "the hottest summer in the history of the city." Many of these workers were on hand for the dedication and received a heartfelt ovation from the crowd.

Garden Club president Barbara Hoff-



man and Parks Chair of Community Board 10, Virginia Gallagher, also joined in cutting the ribbon to rededicate the 76-year-old park. Hawkins Park was first acquired by the city as a school site in 1860; in 1900, it was transferred to the Police Department, and Parks obtained the property in 1933.

Hawkins Street, originally named Orchard Street, was renamed by local law in 1950 for the Hawkins family, which

has lived on City Island since 1784. The park is named for a member of this family, U.S. Navy Seaman Second Class Leonard Hillson Hawkins, who died while serving on the *USS Delaware* during World War I, just four days before the *Delaware* returned home.

The park contains a granite monument with a bronze plaque that honors Mr. Hawkins as well as the 104 other young men from City Island who served in the war. City Island's American Legion Post is also named for Mr. Hawkins, and its women's auxiliary was responsible for the monument's construction.

The dolphin was put in Hawkins Park by a number of residents in 1972, because there was no playground for children at that time. In recent years, the park became overgrown and unattractive, so the Parks Department, working with the Garden Club, came up with a plan for refurbishing and replanting the area.

As Shakespeare wrote, "All's well that ends well." In fact, as Mr. Vacca said at the dedication: "City Island is now an island of parks, with the beautiful new Hawkins Park, Bridge Park, including the Catherine Scott Promenade, and Ambrosini Field, with its newly renovated playground and ball field."

Archbishop Dolan Visits City Island

By SISTER BERNADETTE HANNAWAY, OSU



Photos by MARGIE McNULTY

On Sept. 18, 2010, more than 400 people gathered in St. Mary's schoolyard to worship with Archbishop Timothy Dolan, who was the principal celebrant at the 5:15 liturgy, an outdoor event that has become an annual celebration of St. Mary Star of the Sea Church.

On Saturday evening Sept. 18, the parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea and many members of the City Island community welcomed His Excellency Archbishop Timothy Dolan to the parish and to the island. Archbishop Dolan was the principal celebrant at the 5:15 liturgy, an outdoor event that has become an annual celebration. More than 400 people gathered in St. Mary's schoolyard to worship and pray with the Archbishop for the church and for the world.

The first archbishop to visit St. Mary's parish in 23 years, Archbishop Dolan seemed genuinely happy to be there, as he remarked on the beauty of City Island and the marvelous backdrop of Long Island Sound. He said he "thought he should have water skied here!" During his homily, he thanked everyone for attending and said how much he loved being with God's faithful people at a parish Mass. Referring to the Gospel of the day where Jesus says "You cannot serve both God and mammon," he told the congregation that Jesus

Continued on page 7

BRIEFLY...

45TH PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON CI:

On Thursday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m., the precinct council will hold its October meeting at the American Legion Hall, 550 City Island Avenue at Cross Street. The new commanding officer of the precinct, Captain Russell Green, and other officers will be present to answer questions, and all residents with concerns are invited to attend.

ANNUAL BREAST CANCER WALK

at Orchard Beach on Sunday, Oct. 17, sponsored by The American Cancer Society. For transportation or more information, call Sonia Torres 718-885-1615 or Patty Grondahl 718-885-1891.

ROBERT MOSES AND ORCHARD BEACH

will be the subject of a talk to be given at the City Island Nautical Museum, 190 Fordham Street, on Sunday, Oct. 17, at 2 p.m. by local historian Douglas Hearle. As Parks Commissioner for New York City, among several other appointed positions, Robert Moses had great power in the city, where he was known as the "master builder." He was responsible for developing Orchard Beach and for making Pelham Bay Park into the beautiful area it is today, but he also demolished several historic mansions along with "Tent City" and incorporated several islands into the mainland to create the beach. Mr. Hearle tells the inside story of this Depression-era project, with fascinating details about what the park was like before and after the transformation.

GRACE CHURCH TO OFFER PARENTING FORUM:

On Sunday, Oct. 17, at 11:30 a.m. the clergy, vestry and parishioners of Grace Church invite all City Island parents to attend "Because I Said So: Loving with Limits," an important and timely forum. Join Jeanne Rollins, M.S., a NY State-licensed marriage and family therapist and parenting coach, for a full and frank discussion of why and how we need to take our power back as parents—today more than ever. Jeanne will share specific examples, practical concepts and effective language for parenting with limits. To learn more about Jeanne, visit her informative and inspirational website: www.ziplinelady.com. Grace Church is located at 116 City Island Avenue, on the corner of Pilot Street. For further information, please call 718-885-1080.

TEENS TAKE THE CITY:

Do you want to get involved with and address issues in your community? If you want to help change the world, YMCA's Teens Take the City leadership program may be right for you. Participants will learn about the history of their community, policies, implement service learning activities and present their findings/resolutions to their peers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lauren Tucker at 212-630-9720 or ltucker@ymcany.org.

LOOKING FOR WORK?

Are you over 18 and looking for work? New York City's Workforce1 Career Centers, which are located throughout the five boroughs, provide job seekers with a full array of employment services, including job placement, career counseling, professional development and access to training opportunities. For Workforce1 Career Center locations, google Workforce1.

NYC LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMM. COMES TO CI:

On Thursday, Oct. 28, at 6 p.m. in the City Island Nautical Museum, 190 Fordham Street, representatives of the Landmarks Preservation Commission will speak about potential landmarks on City Island and answer questions from interested residents. Those who are interested in preserving the historic character of City Island are invited to attend.

POLICE ARREST ISLANDER FOR SEVERAL CRIMES

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Twice during the month of September, Island residents called 911 to alert police that they had seen a young man attempting to steal an automobile, and late in the evening of Sept. 14, Islander Bryan Barry, 20, was apprehended, after a chase that involved a police helicopter, the Emergency Services Unit and several police officers, two of whom reported that they had been injured by Mr. Barry.

The first incident occurred on Sept. 4 at about 2 a.m., when John Lorenzo, a resident of Hunter Avenue, saw a young man, later identified as looking like Bryan Barry, inside his carport pulling on the handles of his car. According to the police report, the surveillance camera caught the suspect on film striking and breaking one of the cameras, and Mr. Lorenzo also noted that one of his entrance doors was damaged.

The second incident took place on Sept. 14 at about 10:54 p.m. at Bowne Street and City Island Avenue, where a res-

ident observed a young man matching Mr. Barry's description inside a Toyota Camry that belonged to a neighbor. When the police arrived, the suspect fled the scene, and a chase ensued, including a police helicopter, which circled the west side of the island, shining a searchlight on the area around Ditmars Street. When the suspect was apprehended by Police Officers William Valentino and Frank Malafronte, who attempted to arrest him, they were knocked over by the suspect. They reported that they suffered injuries, the former with a broken hand and the latter with a sprained hand.

According to the Bronx District Attorney's office, Mr. Barry pleaded not guilty at his arraignment on Sept. 16 to two counts of second degree assault, two counts of third degree assault, resisting arrest, the unauthorized use of a motor vehicle for the Sept. 14 incident and criminal trespass and criminal mischief for the incident of Sept. 4. His next court date is scheduled for Nov. 17, 2010.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during August and September 2010. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 1 – CRIMINAL TRESPASS
- 1 – PETIT LARCENY
- 1 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
- 3 – ASSAULT

Police provided details on the following incidents for the period from Aug. 9 to Sept. 19, 2010.

8/9 – Police responded to a report of an assault and broke up a fight at 459 City Island Avenue between two males. No arrest was made.

8/29 – At 5:30 p.m., police responded to a reported assault at 2 City Island Avenue. No arrest was made.

9/1 – Police from the 45th Precinct arrested a male on Hawkins Street at 1 a.m. for illegal possession of marijuana.

9/4 – On City Island Avenue at 10:45 p.m., police arrested a driver for operating an automobile with a suspended license. The driver was stopped at the police checkpoint and found to have over 14 license suspensions.

9/14 – An Island male, 20, was arrested and charged with several counts of assault (including assault of a police officer) and criminal trespass stemming from incidents on Sept. 4 and 14 (see article this page).

9/18 – Unknown suspects broke into a car at 459 City Island Avenue and removed some property (petit larceny).

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NEW COMMANDING OFFICER AT 45TH PRECINCT

By KAREN NANI



Photo by ANNE MARIE MORRISON

The new commanding officer of the Police Department's 45th Precinct, Captain Russell Green, paid his first official visit to City Island. He is shown above at the City Island Nautical Museum with Barbara Dolensek of the City Island Civic Association and Karen Nani, editor of *The Island Current*.

During his first official week as new commanding officer of the New York City Police Department's 45th Precinct, Captain Russell Green visited and vowed to be actively involved in police efforts on City Island.

Captain Green, accompanied by long-time Community Affairs Officer Anne Marie Morrison, met with Barbara Dolensek of the City Island Civic Association, and this reporter at the City Island Community Center on Aug. 25, 2010.

Although this was his first official visit, Captain Green is no stranger to City Island. He was born in the Bronx and most recently served in the 44th Precinct in the Bronx. He also commanded the Orchard Beach detail during the summer of 2009.

"Having worked at Orchard Beach, I am familiar with City Island's summer traffic issues," he assured Islanders. He also shares many residents' dislike of reckless and inconsiderate motorcyclists. Ms. Dolensek told the new captain about the "perfect storm" that occurred on Memorial Day weekend this past summer when a motorcyclist speeding over the City Island bridge crashed into an outbound vehicle, resulting in one fatality and the closure of the bridge for over four hours.

The captain expressed optimism that situations such as the Memorial Day acci-

dent can be prevented or handled better, but he stressed that community involvement is critical. He announced that four new officers had just been added to the 45th Precinct's 160-strong department. The precinct is one of the largest geographically in the city and concerns about under-staffing had been growing.

Captain Green told *The Current* that he would also tap into additional police resources available within the borough, including the Narcotics Division and other undercover operations, as needed.

He plans to be a presence on City Island and vowed to attend both Civic Association meetings as well as Community Board 10 meetings. He urges Islanders to attend the Community Council meetings at the precinct house on Barkley Avenue at 7:30 p.m. the first Thursday of every month and provide input to the police. In response to a request from the Civic Association, the Community Council will hold its October meeting on City Island, at the American Legion Hall, 550 City Island Avenue, on Thursday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m. (see *Briefly*, page 2).

The captain also urged Islanders to call in complaints or suspicious behavior when noticed. He plans on "targeted police responses" to specific problems, such as traffic and vandalism, but this depends on Islanders alerting police to these issues when they occur.

"Additional policing is both good and bad news to some. We will ticket reckless motorcyclists and speeding cars, but, of course, some of these will be Island residents," he cautioned. Although it is known that some Islanders complain when they get tickets for double parking, for example, the captain explained that "we are not trying to hurt residents; we are looking for the right balance to maintain quality of life."



Photos by JANIE BLANKS

More than 75 City Islanders turned out on Saturday morning, Sept. 18, to clean up City Island Avenue from the bridge to Belden Point, in a program sponsored by the City Island Civic Association, the Garden Club and the Chamber of Commerce. The Department of Sanitation provided tools for the clean-up, and Council Member Jimmy Vacca and some members of his Vacca Volunteer Corps also lent a helping hand. Twenty eighth-grade students offered assistance as part of their community service, and former Borough President Adolfo Carrion (seen here with Mr. Vacca) and his wife, Linda Baldwin, were pleased to take part in this effort to



tid City Island Avenue and the sidewalks of trash, cigarette butts and other discarded items. Sue Strazzera of the Garden Club (middle photo, left) took the opportunity to trim and replant the planter boxes along the Avenue.

THEATER GROUP PRESENTS "SWEET CHARITY"

Starting Nov. 5, 2010, the City Island Theater Group will depart from its usual presentations of drama, comedy and thrillers by presenting the musical "Sweet Charity," its first since "Cabaret" was produced five years ago.

With book by Neil Simon, music by Cy Coleman and lyrics by Dorothy Fields, "Sweet Charity" follows the misadventures of love encountered by the gullible and guileless Charity Hope Valentine, a woman who always gives her heart and her dreams to the wrong man. Coleman's score features such standards as "Hey, Big Spender," "If My Friends Could See Me Now," "Baby Dream Your Dream" and "The Rhythm of Life."

Starring in this production will be CITG newcomer Catt John as Charity Hope Valentine, with Susan Rauh as Nickie, Christina Drake as Helene, Steven Bendler as Oscar, Keith Rodriguez as Vittorio, Justine Costanza as Ursula, Leroy Mobley as Daddy Brubeck and Freddie Lando as Herman. Also featured in the cast are Margaret Cioffi, John Geideman, Sarah Harrold, Ariana Joubert, Elizabeth Paldino, Emily Rodriguez, Frank Siciliano, Lindy Tabano, Annemarie Tomsen and Denis Zepeda.

Originally directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse, "Sweet Charity" premiered at Broadway's Palace Theatre in 1966, where it ran for more than 600 performances, featuring Gwen Verdon as Charity. In 1967 the production opened in London at Prince of Wales Theatre, starring Juliet Prowse. The 1969 film version (also directed and choreographed by Fosse) starred Shirley MacLaine and John McMartin. In 1986 Fosse's production was revived at Broadway's Minskoff Theatre, with Debbie Allen as Charity; the revival won four Tony Awards. "Sweet Charity" was revived again, in 2005, in a new production directed by Walter Bobbie and choreographed by Wayne Cilento, with Christina Applegate as Charity.

This production is being directed and choreographed by CITG president Nick Sala, with musical direction by Bill Magaliff, co-choreography by Emily Rodriguez, costume design by Carol McCabe and Norma Kerner, props by Barbara Dolensek, set design by Con Grondhal, Sam Hernandez and Dorothy Muccio. Maria Provenzano is production stage manager.

For this presentation, the Theater Group has received generous support from the Bronx Council on the Arts, New York State Senator Jeff Klein and New York City Council Member James Vacca through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

"Sweet Charity" will be performed at Grace Church Hall located at 116 City Island Avenue, and the performance dates are Nov. 5, 6, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 at 8 p.m. and November 7 and 14 at 3 p.m. For more information or to reserve tickets, please call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@city-islandtheatergroup.com.

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Pillar of the Community

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

Mr. John Devlin
185 Reville Street
City Island, NY

On behalf of the trustees of Pelham Cemetery, I wish to commend you on a job well done. Because of your hard work and perseverance, we were able to reconstruct the much-needed main gate pillars. The money that you raised enabled us to accomplish this project. I thank you and your family for all the hard work that went into achieving the goals you set for yourself.

We congratulate you on receiving your Eagle Scout badge and offer our best wishes for your future.

Charles A. Vincent
President, Pelham Cemetery

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CITY ISLAND REUNION 2010

By BOB CARMODY

"If you build it, they will come" is apparently a true statement. How do we know this?

Because City Island as a community did just that on Aug. 21, 2010, by helping to build a reunion out of a simple but great idea that Lynn McCluskey dreamed up literally thousands of miles away!

It all started about 18 months ago when Lynn was talking to her old friends and family about a get together via e-mail, text and phone and, of course, Facebook. Even though Lynn and I were just little more than casual friends, I asked if I could join in, and her response was: "What took you so long!" The next thing I found out was that my friend Charlie DiMaggio was part of the reunion crew.

Anyone who knows the three of us knows that we are all thick-headed and, you would assume, a recipe for disaster, but the result this time was completely the opposite. If one of us had an idea, the others would comment whether it was good or bad, leave it alone or tweak it. We really clicked. The amazing part was that Lynn was in California, Charlie was in Texas and I was on City Island; three people, three different states with different sets of ideas coming together as one. What a concept. I should have thought of it sooner! Did you hear that, Congress?

Each day the Reunion (now with a capital R) gathered interest from all parts of

the country, from those who longed to see friends and loved ones, maybe the last time for some. The seed was planted, and soon the Reunion was growing on its own. Everywhere you went, whether you were standing in line for coffee, waiting at the bus stop, having a few at a local establishment or just sitting in the office, the Island buzz was all about the Reunion. The best part was that it was all positive, with many people offering help and advice.

The days leading up to the Reunion were equally amazing: people called to find out about paying or saving a spot; they wanted to know who was coming, how much food or drink they should bring. People were gushing with anticipation, gathering at local hot spots to get a head start on catching up with friends they had not seen in years. Even the people who live on City Island were looking forward to seeing people they had not seen in months or even years.

One of the best things that happened, besides the feat of actually getting everyone together, was, to quote Liz Montablano, that people who were just acquaintances now became friends. That was one of the nicest things I heard during the Reunion. Very nice, Liz.

Now to the thank-you list. Please forgive us if we forget some people, but you know who you are, so here it goes: John Doyle of Senator Klein's staff and the 45th Precinct Community Affairs Officer Anne



Marie Morrison for straightening out the Park-and-Sound Permit "snafu" (only in New York City is it so difficult to do something so easy). A huge thank you from the Reunion organizers and the City Island Little League to the Snug Bar and Restaurant for donating back their winning share (\$360) out of the \$720 50/50 raffle; to Maggie and Aggie of Aggie's Rolls for samples of their delicious fare and for the use of wood pallets for the stage base (which saved us a bunch of money that ended up going to the Little League).

The organizers are also grateful to the Civic Association for a cash donation of \$250; the Sons of the American Legion color guard (Peter Booth, James Livingston, Victor Anderson, Todd Davis and Tim Smyth); the Nautical Museum for setting up an information/souvenir booth; Marguerite Trombetta, Lori Burke, Janie Ferris and Patrice Ferris for collecting fees, giving out wrist bands, name tags, etc. pretty much all day; Kelly and Diane Carmody and Randy Hansen for selling t-shirts and organizing the 50/50 raffle; Vinny Panzarino, our "chaplain," for his from the heartfelt in memoriam; Angela Puco and Ron Ternier for photos; Alaura Imperioli for the video recording event; John McGowan for the memories board; Frankie Strazera, Mike DiMaggio and Jeff Bremen for building the stage and Brian Moloney for painting it; Candy Mancuso for collecting donations from the City Island Diner, Seafood City, Crab Shanty and Lobster House, and Ellen Lynch Patterson for collecting a donation from Artie's; Steve Michaels for supplying trash bags and cans and emptying them all day long; the Ferris Girls Lynn and Janie, Mike Taylor, Tom Vivolo for the end-of-the-day clean-up.

We also thank Pat "Chef" Dolphin for the grill; Lori Burke and Candy Mancuso for obtaining decorations and supplies; Laury Hopkins for face painting; Billy Lee and Tom Vivolo for doing a little bit of this and little bit of that before, during and after the Reunion; Charlie and Keith Krieg for the loan of the volleyball net and for setting it up; Liz Montalbano and Bill Lee for filling 300 water balloons that we never had a chance to use (everyone was just too busy

talking to old friends, so we did not want to ruin the moments); Jimmy Kolb, Mike Vaughan and Randi Hansen for inflating and tying balloons along fences; our local establishments for food or drink specials for Reunion-goers; Amanda Bear Party Rentals for an extreme discount on tents; Island Café for staying open late.

We were delighted with all the volunteer performers: Lenny DiOrio, Chris McGowan, Angela Puco, Elliott Glick, Nick Butterworth, Frankie Strazera, George Mascia, Frank Greco, Kenny Kraus, Eric Svalgard, PJ Kraus, Mike DiMaggio, Charlie DiMaggio, Tracy Ford, Barry Gunzl, John Cummings, Bobby Miano, Mary Miano, Louis Andronico, Randy Borra, Donny Fury, Karl Gibbons, Carl Lundgren, Kenny McCormick, Charlie Palmieri, Dr. Janine Robison, Alan Stewart, Tommy "The Chief", Troy Vogel, Thomas Vogel, Mark Ward, Mike Young. Also Robby Vogel for the sound stage; Bill Lee for lights; Marcy Brennen for the use of electricity from her building; the Little League for use of the club house to store supplies; the City Island community for coming together at the end of the day and picking up debris, leaving the park cleaner than when we started, and *The Island Current* for promoting the event and taking pictures (Rick DeWitt).

We were delighted that the City Island Little League received a check for \$2,500, representing proceeds from the event.

Congratulations to Caleigh Patterson for winning the Hula Hoop contest and, most of all, congratulations to everyone who made the Reunion such a success.

Another Reunion is already in the works for 2012, and we hope that everyone who attended the 2010 Reunion will come back with all of their family members and friends. All those who live far away can start putting \$5 a week into an empty water bottle to save up for transportation and hotels; if we start planning now, we could even reserve a block of rooms at one of the hotels in New Rochelle.

In the meantime we would like to get all of the Island groups together to support an annual Community Day with events to keep the community spirit alive and kicking.

STILL IN TOUCH 54 YEARS LATER!



Photos by KATHY FINK

'Tis the season for reunions! Members of the 1956 classes of both P.S. 17 and St. Mary, Star of the Sea schools reunited during June 25 and 26, 2010, on the Earley Street beach and at the Touring Kayak Club on Beach Street. They also enjoyed reminiscing during a trip to the City Island Nautical Museum. Shown above are the former classmates from P.S. 17: (front row, l. to r.): Jeane Payne Ryan, Ruth Moebius Gurry, Holly Hild Vincent, Marie Lachman Knapp and Eleanor Sadler Goonan. Middle row: Donna Cook LaValle, Will King, Bobby Gilbert, Evy Reutershan Patrick, Joe Fink and John Ulmer. Back row: Jerry Paulis, Ron Knigge, Barb Lemke O'Donnell, Barbara Rolfe Waters, Diana Nye Murphy, Phil Tomsen and Heinz Laue. Not pictured: Rose Casale Coine.



The former St. Mary's classmates (and guests) who attended the reunion were (front row): Mrs. Jack Venturini and Vince Bellino. Middle row: Pat Bagon Edelson, Carol Sullivan Giacovelli and Jane Genovese Gelsi. Back row: Charlie Vincent, Tom Sheridan, Tom McKenna, Jack Venturini and Lynn Hubner Daly.

New POTS Menu for 2010-11

For more than 10 years, the parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea and other residents of City Island have been cooking up delicious dinners once a month for needy neighbors served through POTS (Part of the Solution), a not-for-profit program on Webster Avenue in the Bronx. The program offers the less fortunate good food, social services and basic essentials for day-to-day living. Their message is that each individual must be treated with respect and dignity.

Island residents who have become involved with POTS have made a commitment to provide enough food to feed 400 people a month. This means that each Island cook is asked to prepare enough to feed 10 people. The October POTS menu is beef stew, and the delivery date is Oct. 30.

Volunteers are asked to deliver food that is cooked but not hot, and placed in 8 x 11 tins with covers (or wrapped in

foil) and placed in plastic bags. Delivery time is between 4:30 and 5 p.m. on the last Saturday of each month (except December and May) at the entrance gate to St. Mary's schoolyard. No pork products may be used. Those who wish to donate desserts (cookies, pies or cakes) will be much appreciated, and bottles of juice, canned vegetables, coffee and sugar are always welcome. Other items that POTS will distribute to the needy include diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6), formula with iron, cleaning products, paper plates and paper cups.

Times are hard for many people these days, and those Islanders who have more than enough for themselves will make a great contribution to the well-being of their neighbors by getting involved in POTS. Those who would like to help out and be added to the calling chain should call Rosetta Woods at 718-885-0926 or Jane La Scala at 718-885-2137.



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.

Join an ongoing and free-wheeling discussion of the joys and pains of parenting led by **Teacher John** (parent, grandparent, school psychologist, parent educator). Learn to stop yelling, get what you want from your family life and create opportunities for your children to become responsible, loving and independent. Eight sessions (once a month) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$20.00 per session. Contact John Scardina at 718-885-9305 or through his website www.ThinkLaughLearn.com. Dates will be Monday, Oct. 18; Tuesday, Nov. 16; Wednesday, Dec. 15; Thursday, Jan. 20; Tuesday, Feb. 15; Monday, March 14; Monday, April 18; Thursday, May 19.

October highlights at **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) include three Sundays with "jazz" on the menu: Newbern & Co. debut on Oct. 3, and MJ Territo, on Oct. 10, both at 3 p.m.; the "jazz man" himself, Lou Volpe, is with us on Oct. 17, at 4 p.m. We'll be closed on Halloween, Oct. 31, but on Sunday, Oct. 24, there's flamenco guitar music and dance to fill the house with

Lisa & Josue, starting at 3 p.m. Saturday nights—all starting at 8 p.m.—include a return of the Japanese gypsy rock of Kagero on Oct. 2; an acoustic jazz duo, Two Guitars (Brian Conigliaro and Gus Wieland), on Oct. 9; Irish tunes with the Liverpool edge from Kenny Cunningham on Oct. 16, and the awesome harmonies of Project Mercury on Oct. 23. Friday nights, also at 8 p.m., include Jon and Lynn (Oct. 8) and the Freakin' Ricans (Oct. 22). There's always the next-to-last Friday of the month "Open Mic" with musicians, songwriters, poets, actors, comics on Oct. 29. For more information on music "on the menu" Thursdays through Sundays, visit www.starvingartistonline.com.

The Dark Side is the name of the new exhibition at the **Focal Point Gallery**, 321 City Island Avenue, which opens on Oct. 1 and closes, appropriately, on Oct. 31. There will be an artists' reception on Friday, Oct. 1, from 7 to 10 p.m.

Homeowners: Don't Waste Your Money!

By CORMAC MCENERY

If you own real property or a condominium, you have probably received a letter in the mail telling you that it is important you have a certified copy of your deed. Well, it isn't and you don't. The company sending you the letter is only trying to get you to pay them for something you don't need.

As long as your deed has been filed with the registrar of the county in which the real property is located, you do not need any other proof of ownership. In the City of New York, you can review your recorded real property records online at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dof/html/jump/acris.shtml>. Click on "Begin Using ACRIS." You can then search for records by name or by block and lot. Images of all documents filed from 1965 are available for viewing online.

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At The Library

Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays 1 to 6 p.m. Fridays 12 noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

October Children's Programs

Lapsit Program: Wednesdays, Oct. 6 and 20; 10:30 a.m. Birth to 18 months. All welcome for story time and music.

Reading Out Loud: Thursdays, Oct. 7 and 21. at 3:30 p.m.

Arts and Crafts for Columbus Day: Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 3:30 p.m.

Arts and Crafts for Halloween: Tuesday, Oct. 19, at 3:30 p.m.

Preschool Program: Please call 718-885-1703 for up-to-date information.

Special Programs for Halloween: Spooky stories to tingle your spine, Wednesday, Oct. 13, at 4 p.m. Ages 4 and up.

Halloween Make-up Face Mask, Saturday, Oct. 30, 1 to 3:30 p.m. All are invited.

Young Adult Programs

Graphic Novel Re-write: Every Monday at 3:30 p.m.

Manga Overdrive: Every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

Yu-Gi-Oh: Every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

Game On: Every Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

Special Program: Game Strike, Saturday, Oct. 23, at 1 p.m.

Adult Programs

Introduction to the Internet: Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register in advance.

Resumé Writing Workshop: Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register.

Special Music Program: Fernande Caruso will present a concert of Big Band Music of the 1930s and 1940s. Saturday, Oct. 2, at 2 p.m.

Please check our flyers for additional programs or last-minute changes. We are located at 320 City Island Avenue at Bay Street. For information about any of the programs above, call the City Island branch at 718-885-1703.

MikeRendino.com

MIKE RENDINO FOR ASSEMBLY

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City Island Library Retirements

By MIRIAM KLEINBERG

Editor's Note: The September issue of The Current included a story by Miriam Kleinberg about Evelyn Gerges, who retired in August after 18 years as branch librarian. The second half of the story, which was inadvertently omitted, appears below.

The second librarian to retire from the City Island branch this summer was Dennis Owen Desiderio, who is known to colleagues, friends and even library users simply as Dennis. He was born in Brooklyn and currently lives in Jamaica, Queens. He attended Queensboro and Nassau Community Colleges and Fordham University and has been with the New York Public Library system for 29 years.

While Dennis was looking for a job after college, he heard that the Macmillan Publishing Company had a private library. Macmillan at that time published the Colliers Encyclopedia, and they offered 10 coupons to every encyclopedia buyer. The company informed customers that it had a staff of "Nobel Prize Winners," and if someone had a question that couldn't be answered in the encyclopedia, he or she could call Macmillan and use one of the coupons to have the question answered privately. As one of the "Nobel Prize Winners," Dennis quickly learned how to do research to answer all those questions.

After Macmillan Dennis worked at a furniture factory, and then he heard that the New York Public Library was hiring people to work with young adults. After he was hired, he discovered that "young adults" meant teenagers, but he also discovered that he enjoyed helping people and being a reference librarian. He came to the City Island branch in June of 1994, when it was still a small structure, after working at the Pelham Bay, Allerton and Mosholu branches.

When the City Island Library first



Dennis Owen Desiderio

acquired computers, Dennis found himself giving computer lessons here, but he says that you can't really teach people on public machines. As time went on, more and more people were computer literate, so less instruction was necessary. Now he compiles contact lists for people who are doing research, putting them in touch with such resources as Fort Schuyler.

Dennis also assisted people who presented programs in the library's auditorium. For a program on the Civil War, he wore a Confederate Military greatcoat and found a movie loop that played "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." For a program on World War II, Dennis provided theme songs such as "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Lili Marlene" and "When the Lights Come on Again All over the World." He put World War II pictures all over the library, including the famous Iowa Jima flag-raising photograph.

Like Mrs. Gerges, Dennis would not be leaving now except for the buyout. He has brought in his own property for library use. He has made many friends on City Island and has been guests in their homes. What will he miss? "I will miss just being on City Island. It's nice to be here and to know people." He mentioned especially Jack Smith, editor of *Yachting* magazine; Bob Branizza, who was shot down over Berlin and landed in the Berlin Zoo; and Jerry McCue, who does many history programs.



Pictured l to r: Diane Pena and Ethel Lott bring up the eucharist.

Archbishop Visits CI

Continued from page 1

was warning us about the use of money. Money is not bad; it becomes so only when we make it a god. We should use it to glorify God, to take care of our family and to share with others."

Archbishop Dolan was named Archbishop of New York by Pope Benedict XVI on Feb. 23, 2009, and was installed on April 15 of last year. Before coming to New York, he served as Archbishop of Milwaukee since 2002.

Born and brought up in St. Louis, Missouri, Archbishop Dolan began his seminary education there and then studied at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Later, his education would include a doctorate in American church history from the Catholic University of America. His priestly ministry has included several years in parish work, a five-year term as secretary to the Apostolic Nunciature in Washington,

D.C., and seminary education both in St. Louis and at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

When Archbishop Dolan was first appointed bishop, he chose as his episcopal motto the profession of faith of St. Peter: "Lord to whom shall we go?"

This motto was engraved on a crystal sailboat, which was presented to the Archbishop by Rosetta Woods on Saturday evening as a remembrance of his evening on City Island, along with a basket of mementos presented by Teri Kurtz and Ann Livingston. In acknowledging the gifts, the Archbishop wanted to know if he could become a "clam digger."

During a light supper that was served to all, Archbishop Dolan enjoyed a few hot dogs and wandered from table to table mingling with people. His outgoing personality and good humor were experienced by everyone. Many took photographs, which will serve as reminders of a memorable evening here on City Island.

FALL KICK-OFF!



Aggie's Roll offered their delectable lobster rolls.



City Island Gold had live bees at the table where they sold their honey.



At 16 years old, entrepreneur Jake Ratner may have been the youngest exhibitor at the fair.

Photos by RICK DeWITT

The annual Fall Arts and Crafts Fair, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, was held on Sept. 11 and 12 along City Island Avenue. This year, more than 20 vendors displayed photography (Ron Terner, George Callas), art, jewelry, and woolen goods, among many other offerings, including face painting and live music. The City Island Nautical Museum had a fund-raising table where Islanders and visitors could sign petitions to reject the current design for the new bridge. The Hutchinson River Restoration Project also had a table encouraging visitors to join their clean-up campaign for the river. The fair draws many visitors and showcases the talents of Islanders and off-Islanders alike.



A display that went up just days before the fair showcases the "Painting A Day Project" by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner. She will continue the practice for one year at the end of which will be an exhibition. The pieces are not for sale until then as her intent is to keep the body of work intact until then. Dibs have already been placed at Fe Fi Faux on many of the pieces, however.

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

OCTOBER

Fri., Sat. and Sun., Oct. 1 to 3, **American Legion Pumpkin Sale.** Legion parking lot at City Island Avenue and Cross Street, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 2, **Bake Sale,** Trinity United Methodist Church, 10 a.m. - 2p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 7, **45th Precinct Community Council Meeting,** American Legion Hall, 550 City Island Avenue, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 21, **Community Board 10 meets,** Schuyler House Lounge, 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway, 7:30 p.m.

Tues., Oct. 26, **City Island Civic Association meets,** 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street. Candidates night.

Sat., Oct. 30, **POTS Program,** St. Mary's Schoolyard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: beef stew (see article this issue).

Sun., Oct. 31, **Halloween Parade,** starting at the corner of Fordham Street and City Island Avenue, 5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

Tues., Nov. 2, **Election Day,** P.S. 175, 200 City Island Avenue.

Sat., Nov. 13, **Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner,** Lido Restaurant, City Island Avenue at Pilot Street.

PSS Healthy Senior Exercise Program

Even with the excessive heat, we are all sad to see the green days of summer come to a close. Did you know that New York Public Library has been hosting a City Island Movie Festival for program participants in the Pilot Cove dining room for the past three months? In September everyone enjoyed "The Doughboys," which was filmed in Morris Park.

Some highlights from August include an exciting trip for 25 participants on Aug. 17 to Yankee Stadium to see the Yankees defeat Detroit. We had a beautiful picnic on Aug. 11 at the Morris Yacht Club, where our teen volunteers Emily Correia and John Eric Valenti served watermelon and made root beer floats for everyone. Farmers Market Coupons were distributed, and participants truly enjoyed the fresh corn, tomatoes and produce purchased at the Jacobi Hospital Farmers Market.

Next month we will go to the Botanical Gardens Farmers Market and see the Mets play the Phillies at CitiField.

October is a great time to exercise. Please join us for: Zumba with Stephanie on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Center; Cardio Fitness with Mary on Tuesdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall.; Sittercise with Patty on Tuesdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Orchard Beach Walk on Wednesdays (leave Pilot Street at 9:30 a.m.); Yoga Stretch with Michael on Thursdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Arthritis Exercise with Patty on Thursdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Indian Folk/Zumba with Adelaide on Fridays at 10 a.m. at Grace Church Hall.

Remember that you can attend all classes for \$20 per month, or all classes for \$6 per week. Or you can contribute to individual classes at \$2 for exercise and \$4 for dance. Call Anthony Mazzella at 347-834-6466 a day ahead for transportation on Island and off-Island. Regular afternoon shopping trips are: Monday, Bay Plaza; Thursday, A&P; every other Wednesday: Shop Rite in New Rochelle. Trips are also made to Fairway, Target, Trader Joe's, the Christmas Tree Shop, Key Food, Stop & Shop, Empire

City and more. Suggested contributions for round trips is \$1 on the Island and \$2.50 off-Island.

For further information, call Patty at 718-885-1891. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services, the NYC Department for the Aging and the NYC Arthritis Foundation.

Pat Grondahl

Trinity United Methodist Church

Our weekly worship service and Sunday school are at 10 a.m., and Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Prayer service is held every weekday at 9:15 a.m. We encourage you to bring your children to Sunday school to further their knowledge of the teachings of Jesus Christ. Sunday school will begin on Sept. 12. Trinity often has a coffee hour after the service; come join us for worship and fellowship.

Be on the lookout for our annual Food Sale on Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Fall Group Bible Study will begin Sunday, Oct. 24, and run for five consecutive Sundays, ending Nov 21. Each session will begin at 11:30 a.m., with Bibles and refreshments provided, and will end at 12:30 p.m. No registration or fee is required.

The study begins with chapter 6 of the Acts of the Apostles, which was written by Luke, a Greek physician, companion of the Apostle Paul and author of the Gospel. Acts gives us the earliest record of the first Christians who were all Judeans and became known as the followers of "The Way" and takes us to the inclusion of Gentiles into the early church. George Cavaliere, Trinity's Lay Leader/ Speaker, will be moderator.

The Budget Corner will reopen Sept. 14. Will someone out there please volunteer to lead Budget behind the scenes? Myra Martin will work right along with you to help and train you for this responsibility, which basically involves contacting the established crew for work dates and help with the gleaning and pricing. We need your help; call Myra at 718-885-1049.

Rick DeWitt

AARP Chapter 318

AARP Chapter #318 will hold its annual penny auction on Oct. 20 at Trinity Methodist Church on Bay Street. The doors will open at 12 noon, and admission is \$5, which includes lunch and 25 free tickets. All are welcome.

Carmelia A. Ramftl

Grace Episcopal Church

Weekly worship schedule: Grace Church celebrates Holy Communion every Sunday at 10 a.m., with child care available on the first Sunday of the month. We also offer Evening Prayer in the Church every Monday at 7 p.m. and Morning Prayer on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. For more information, please contact Mother Patty Alexander at 718-885-1080 or RevPPA@aol.com.

Here is an overview of what's happening at Grace Church during October:

Sunday, Oct. 3, 12 noon: The Blessing of the Animals. In keeping with tradition, all pets (furry, winged, scaled and finned) are invited to the Grace courtyard for a special blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. In the interest of peacekeeping, we ask that attendees be leashed, caged, or otherwise appropriately restrained!

Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m.: Bible Study (Acts of the Apostles) in Grace Parish Hall. "Hearts and Hands," our knitting ministry for patients at Calvary Hospital, meets at the same time.

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m. Bible Study and "Hearts and Hands" ministry.

Sunday, Oct. 17, 11:30 a.m.: Parenting Forum: "Because I Said So: Loving with Limits" (Parish Hall). Join special guest speaker Jeanne Rollins, M.S., and other concerned City Island parents for an honest and mutually-supportive discussion of the particular joys and challenges of parenting



Photo by BOB BERENT

After their day of fasting and seeking forgiveness on Yom Kippur, members of Temple Beth-El of City Island set to work in building a booth behind the synagogue in preparation for the Festival of Booths, the weeklong holiday of Sukkot. Seen here are Ken Binder (extreme left), Paul Klein and Jerome Back (upper left), Ed Rothschild, Norman Orenstein and Bob Steinberg. Other members of the crew (not pictured) were Rose Spector-Back, Mike Eiron, Robyn Lobe, Bob Berent, and Anke and Joshua Davidowitz.

in the 21st century. All are welcome to join in this important conversation.

Tuesday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m.: Bible Study and "Hearts and Hands" ministry.

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.: Bible Study and "Hearts and Hands" ministry.

Sunday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m.: "All Hallows' Eve" service. All City Island ghouls and goblins—and their parents!—are invited to come to Grace in costume for a special service particularly geared toward young people, with teaching about the Christian roots of Halloween.

Rev. Patricia Alexander

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El is an all-inclusive, egalitarian, multiethnic Jewish congregation for all ages at 280 City Island Avenue, between Beach and Bowne Streets. We conduct Sabbath services on Friday nights at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 1, Rabbi Shohama Weiner will lead a wonderful Simchat Torah Service.

Sunday, Oct. 24, will be a free, nonpartisan discussion of hot political topics led by David Marcus, Senior Counsel for the leader of the New York Senate. Coffee and Danish pastries will be served.

Sunday, Nov. 7, Rabbi Shohama will lead a discussion of a book of Jewish spiritual guidance entitled "Ways to Feel Closer to God and All That is Sacred," which was compiled in her honor by her colleagues. Coffee and Danish will be served.

Friday, Nov. 12, Shabbat Service will be led by Rabbi Shohama.

Ken Binder

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

Both St. Mary's School and our Religious Education program have begun well. Our students seem engaged and enthusiastic about the new school year.

We have resumed our monthly Holy Hour beginning on Friday, Oct. 1, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are invited to attend this special period of prayer.

In honor of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we will have the Blessing of the Animals on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 3, at 2:00 p.m. in St. Mary's schoolyard or in the school gym in case of rain.

All are welcome to attend our coffee hour on the second Sunday of the month, Oct. 10,

after the 10 a.m. Mass in the rectory.

During this month, there will be a special meeting for the parents of students in our confirmation program. Parents and students will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 13, at 7:15 p.m. in St. Mary's school gym.

Oct. 24 is designated as World Mission Sunday, a day of prayer that all may grow in their awareness of the work our missionaries do in third world countries. We all are called to assist in the mission of the Church in spreading the Gospel.

On Sunday, Oct. 24, there will be a special Enrollment Mass at 10 a.m. for all those who are preparing to receive the sacrament of confirmation in May. Parents and students will participate in this initial event in preparation for the sacrament.

Our Parish Council will meet on Monday evening, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. in the rectory.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

City Island Republicans

Turnout was not bad in this year's Republican primary election. The new machines were simple to use, and no major problems were reported on City Island. There were some minor troubles with the closeout at the end of the night, which was the same in most sites around the city. Carl Paladino is the nominee for governor; Greg Edwards will be the nominee for lieutenant governor nominee and Joe DioGuardi and Jay Townsend are nominated for the two U. S. Senate seats.

The last day to switch your party registration to Republican for 2011 is Friday, Oct. 8, 2010. All forms must be postmarked by that date.

Bronx Republican Chairman Jay Savino reports that the Bronx Republican Judicial Convention is to be held on Sept. 27. No names were mentioned as of press time as to who will run for the vacancy on the Bronx Supreme Court created by Judge Barry Salzman, who has reached the mandatory retirement age.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue.

Our Assembly and Senate candidates are traveling around the district and will be stopping by City Island to meet the voters.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Russell Schaller

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

Open Monthly Meetings of the Board are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend. For up to date information visit www.cityislandcommunitycenter.com or call 718-885-1145.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

Irish Dance: The Deirdre O'Mara School of Irish Dance teaches step dancing in a fun, competitive environment for all ages. A confidence-building and cultural experience for all who participate. Wednesdays after school. Call Deirdre at 201-679-1450 or visit www.deirdreamara.com.

Mommy and Me Fitness: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m. A high-energy aerobics class that allows you to bring your children along up to the age of 6. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-

9122.

Fall Art Classes by Laury Hopkins:
Storytime Art for PreK ages 2 ½ and up. Must be accompanied by responsible adult. Monday or Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. **Story and Picture for Grades K-2.** Mondays 3:15 to 4:15 or 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. **Animal World for Grades 3-4.** Tuesdays 3:15 to 4:15 or 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; **Portfolio Prep for Grades 5-8,** Thursdays 3:15 to 4:30 or 4:45 to 6 p.m.; All classes limited to six students; no exceptions. Ten classes beginning in September; the schedule to be determined by school/holiday calendar. \$100 per class. For more information or to sign up, call Laury at 718-885-3202.

ADULT PROGRAM

Gentle Yoga-Qi Gong Class with Norma: Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Get into shape, relax the body and mind and have some fun doing it! This class is a combination of low-impact Hatha Yoga and Qi-Gong (free form Tai Chi) and mild stretches. Although this class is geared to those who have not exercised in a while, all levels are welcome. Price per class is \$7. Please bring a yoga mat, yoga strap and yoga blocks. Most of these items are available at Barnes & Noble, Modell's, Target or K-Mart. Straps and blocks will be available for purchase on the day of the class. For more information, please call 718-730-3442. Namaste.

Fit for Life with Sarah: Hi-Lo impact aerobics, strength training/toning, kickboxing and more. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

Zumba Gold: A fun-filled dance/exercise session with a salsa beat. Geared for ages 50 and up. Fee for the class is \$4.

Rhythmic Movement Exercise Class: A fun way to combine exercise with various styles of dance. Mondays from 6 to 7:15 p.m. \$15 per person. If you have questions, please call Judy Farnum, Group Fitness Instructor, at 914-548-4184 or e-mail judyfarnum@aol.com.

Belly Dancing: Shimmy by the Sea. Theresa Mahon (a.k.a. Salacia) teaches the oldest documented dance in the history of mankind—Egyptian belly dancing. It is a low-impact way to get in shape and tone your body while having lots of fun. Terry has been a professional belly dancer for 23 years and a teacher of the art for 15 years. Classes are held every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. The fee for each one-hour class is \$15. Call 845-358-0260.

Aerobics with Mary: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Half-hour low impact at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 10 a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793. New class added: Saturday 9 a.m.

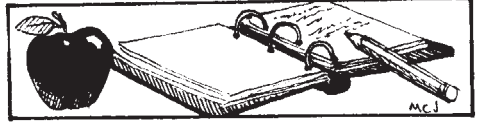
Tai-chi: Please join us at 9 a.m. on Saturdays for gentle Tai-chi and yoga sessions. Using bamboo props, balls, straps and partnering to increase flexibility and strength. For more information, please call Marc Kaplan at 718-885-2445.

Parenting in the 21st Century: Talks with Teacher John: Join an ongoing and free-wheeling discussion of the joys and pains of parenting led by Teacher John (par-

ent, grandparent, school psychologist, parent educator). Learn to stop yelling, get what you want from your family life and create opportunities for your children to become responsible, loving and independent. Eight sessions (once per month) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$20 per session. Contact John Scardina at 718-885-9305 or through his website www.thinklaughlearn.com.

City Island Civic Association: Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month (except December).

Amy Gottlieb



Legion News

It's hard to believe it, but the last time I was hospitalized was in 1944, when I spent about a week in an Army field hospital at Normandy with a bad case of dysentery. There were 12 of us too sick to travel by convoy or air to our next destination, Versailles. Our CEO did not want to lose us, so we were given two small trucks and maps and sent on our way. The trip took several days with frequent stops.

My stay at Sound Shore lasted seven weeks, and most of it was spent in the rehab facility. With the exception of a few jousts with the staff, my stay was bearable.

The big event coming up at the Post is the annual Pumpkin Sale, which will be held from Friday, Oct. 1, through Sunday, Oct. 3. Volunteers are needed.

Don't forget: Tuesday, Nov. 2, is Election Day. Get out and vote early and often.

Comrades Clancy and Goonan attended the National Convention and enlightened the membership with a scintillating talk on progress. Jim Foster was elected National Commander.

There are two deaths to report: Sylvester Leonard, a former police officer who resided in New Jersey, and George "Vinnie" Plaeger, who had been a member of our Post for 35 years.

There will be two meetings in October: a regular meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 4, and the executive meeting will be Monday, Oct. 18.

Until November, at ease. . . .

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus

Rotary Club of the Bronx

The Rotary Club of the Bronx is proud to have been the sponsor of 11 children for Gift of Life surgeries. These children have been from 8 months to 13 years of age and from countries such as Albania, the Dominican Republic, Nigeria, Guyana, Russia and the Philippines. These children would not have survived without the attention of talented cardiac surgeons Dr. Samuel Weinstein from Montefiore Children's Hospital and Dr. Suvro Sett from the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital in Westchester Medical Center. Both doctors volunteer their services, as do their incredible, respective support staffs. These children arrive in listless and frail condition, often with blue pallor and leave inside of two weeks with rosy cheeks, a new vigor and healthy appetites.

In the coming months, we are expecting our latest Gift of Life child, a little girl from Albania. A Gift of Life team also went to El Salvador this past spring and identified 98 children there who need heart surgeries. This means that the Bronx Club will sponsor one of these children soon after our Albania girl.

This past year, the Bronx Club, and indeed, the Bronx as a whole, suffered the

loss of Megan Charlop. Although she was not a Rotarian, she had the heart of one and hosted five of our Gift of Life children and their guardians. It was a service she and her family loved dearly.

The Bronx Club is in need of host families for our Gift of Life children. You do not need to be a Rotarian. Hosts would accommodate the child and one parent for up to two weeks, during which time the child has pre-op exams, surgery, hospital recovery time and post-op exams. Rotarians take care of all transportation to and from the hospital and airport.

Do you have "empty nest syndrome" while your own children are off in college or are starting their own lives and are out of the house? Hosting a child is one of the most rewarding, life-expanding experiences you will ever have.

To see more about Bronx Rotary's Gift of Life children, go to www.bronxrotaryclub.org and look under the Program menu for Gift of Life. To get involved or learn more, please call Rev. Susan Chadwick at 718-885-3658 or Jim Romeo at 917-865-7640.

The Bronx Rotary Club meets at the Harbor Restaurant every Tuesday at 12:15 p.m. for lunch. Come join us!

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 156

Commander Walter Natiw reported at the last meeting that we have had several successful events over the past few months. He hopes to have more great activities as the weather starts to cool down, including a possible Yankee playoff game and a Halloween party.

Our 2011 dues will once again be \$30. Dues can be mailed or dropped off at the Post. We have continued our rapid growth throughout 2010 and want to continue this pace into 2011. Any male descendant or step-descendant of a veteran who served during any wartime period set by Congress may join. Those interested should stop by the Post or call 718-885-0639.

Vice Commander for Americanism Ed Shipp has announced that the annual pumpkin sale will be held from Oct. 1 through Oct. 3. Come on down and gets those pumpkins for Halloween before they sell out.

Ed Shipp also reports that all of our old and torn flags should be retired with dignity. Drop them off in the red, white, and blue mailbox next to the flagpole by the front entrance.

I am happy to report that the Post's reporter for *The Island Current*, Russ Schaller Sr., is out of rehab and once again reporting on all the news from the Post.

It was just reported that longtime member George "Vinnie" Plaeger has died. He was interred at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne, New York, on Saturday, Sept. 25.

On a much happier note, it has also been reported that Jack "Pop" Sullivan is also out of rehab and back at home. Tom McMahon Sr. is also resting comfortably at home after a recent hospital visit.

Now that football season has begun, every Sunday there will be wings and drink specials at the Post! Come on down and cheer your favorite team on!

Fred Ramftl Jr.
 Vice Commander, Membership

Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post No. 156

Our new officers are Susan Vaughan, president; Marguerite Sessa, treasurer; Carol Mennona, membership; Nilda Nye, recording secretary, and Regina Murphy, corresponding secretary. Our first meeting was well attended, and our next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 7:30 p.m. On that night, our mock baby shower will be held and all new gifts (infants to toddlers) will be donated to charity.

Our November meeting will be held on Nov. 3. Please call the Post at 718-885-0639 if you are interested in becoming a Ladies Auxiliary member.

Regina Murphy

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous: Sundays at 2 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.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church: 718-885-1440
 Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218
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On the Air

There are many uses of the airwaves on the silver screen. In **Play Misty for Me** (1971), Clint Eastwood's directorial debut, he stars as Dave Garver, a California late-night disc jockey who is stalked by Evelyn (Jessica Walters), who wants more than a one-night stand. This thriller is a precursor to **Fatal Attraction** (1987).

Woody Allen's **Radio Days** (1987) is a charming autobiographical story seen through the eyes of a young boy, Little Joe (Seth Green), who lives with his parents (Julie Kavner and Michael Tucker), his Aunt Bea (Dianne Wiest), Uncle Abe (Josh Mostel), Aunt Ceil (Renee Lippin), Cousin Ruthie (Joy Newman) and grandparents (William Magerman and Leah Carrey). Their lives revolve around the radio, in this vignette-driven film that ranges from the wonderful music of the 1950s to serials that captivate the imagination of young boys.

Good Morning Vietnam (1987) stars Robin Williams in his Oscar-nominated role as DJ Adrian Cronauer, who broadcasts over the Armed Forces Radio in 1965. He instantly becomes the most popular DJ in country, much to the consternation of Lieutenant Steven Hawk (Bruno Kirby) and Sergeant Major Dickerson (J.T. Walsh). This is a brilliant tour-de-force role.

In **Pump up the Volume** (1990), Arizona high-school student Mark Hunter (Christian Slater) is quiet and studious by day, but at night he transforms into the very angry anonymous "Hard Harry" on an underground radio station he broadcasts from his basement. He opposes the policies of high-school principal Cresswood (Annie Ross). Student and love-interest Nora (Samantha Mathis) figures out his secret in this above-average, intelligent, teen angst film.

Tune in Tomorrow (1990), set in 1951 small-town USA, is about radio soap operas. The film stars Keanu Reeves as station news writer Martin Loader, who falls for his divorced Aunt Julia (Barbara Hershey). Peter Falk is on hand as Pedro Carmichael, who has been hired to boost the station's falling ratings in this very quirky farce.

Straight Talk (1992) is a delightful comedy about Shirlee Kenyon (Dolly Parton), an Arkansas receptionist who is mistakenly hired as the host of an advice radio show. Reporter Jack Russell (James Woods) suspects she is not who the station says she is, but she captivates him.

In **Sleepless in Seattle** (1993), widower Sam (Tom Hanks) and his son, Jonah (Ross Malinger), move to Seattle to start a new life. When Jonah calls a radio talk show host and says "my father needs a new wife," the pro-

gram is heard by Annie Reed (Meg Ryan), a reporter from Baltimore who is smitten by the story and the family and won't let mere geography get in her way. A wonderful supporting cast includes Rosie O'Donnell as Annie's boss, David Hyde Pierce as Annie's brother and Bill Pullman as Annie's fiancé.

Another advice genre radio film is **The Truth about Cats and Dogs** (1996), which features Janeane Garofalo as Abby, who helps people with their pets. She falls for Great Dane owner Brian (Ben Chaplain), who calls her show. However, low self-esteem causes Abby to ask her neighbor Noelle (Uma Thurman) to impersonate her to meet Brian in person, and silliness results.

Private Parts (1997) is the surprisingly good, though at times rather raunchy, biopic comedy/drama about controversial radio personality Howard Stern, played by himself. As he persistently pursues his ambition, this freaky guy astonishingly wins the heart of a beautiful social worker named Alison (Mary McCormack), who marries him. Stern regularly clashes with studio brass, especially the apoplectic Kenny Rushton (Paul Giamatti).

Pirate Radio (2009) is the story of rebel British broadcasters in 1966 who transmit heavy duty rock and roll over the air while government official Sir Alistair Dormandy (Kenneth Branagh) does everything in his power to stop them. The cast includes Philip Seymour Hoffman, Bill Nighy, January Jones and Emma Thompson in this high-spirited musical feast.

Shifting to airwave stories that span the universe and time, we encounter **Contact** (1997), a film based on the novel by Carl Sagan. It tells the fictional story of Dr. Eleanor Arroway (Jodie Foster), who has dedicated her life to the cosmological field of SETI (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence), listening for signs of life in outer space. When "contact" is finally made, there is a race to meet the beings that have sent instructions. This is an intelligent film, with philosophical discussions between Arroway and brief love interest Palmer Joss (Matthew McConaughey) about God and the universe. Arroway struggles with her superior, David Drumlin (Tom Skerritt), who first ridicules her and then wants to take credit for her work.

In **Frequency** (2000), when the aurora borealis northern lights appear in the sky over New York City in 1969, ham radio operator Frank Sullivan (Dennis Quaid) starts a conversation with a fellow Brooklynite, John (Jim Caviezel), who turns out to be his very own son, living in 1999. Paradoxes abound as firefighter father and policeman son work together to solve a crime, and in so doing change the future and the past.

The Dish (2001) is a lovely, light Australian comedy about how the people "down under" assisted NASA in 1969. In the little town of Parkes in New South Wales, a radio telescope the size of a football field is the pride of Australian astronomy. The scientists there, led by Cliff Buxton (Sam Neill), help by tracking Neil Armstrong and his shipmates and by relaying the television signals from that side of the world to show Armstrong's moonwalk.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .



Public School 175

The following faculty members are being welcomed by principal Amy Lipson for the 2010-2011 school year. Mrs. Miskimmon and Ms. Bellon are teaching kindergarten, and Mrs. Cambria and Mrs. Stelman will be working with the first-graders. Grade 2 teachers are Mrs. Carter-Spencer, Mrs. Eisen and Ms. Palazzo; Mrs. Mazzella and Mrs. McManus will teach the third grade. Home-room teachers for fourth- and fifth-graders are Ms. Forman, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Minor and Ms. Ramos. The sixth grade will have Ms. Fretwell and Ms. Tang; seventh- and eighth-graders will be taught by Mr. Lafreniere, Mr. Scopp, Ms. Heil and Ms. Marron.

Mrs. Moscone will head the art depart-

ment; Mr. Fecht will run the health education program; the guidance counselor is Mrs. McDonald; speech services is Ms. Wallace and the parent coordinator is Mrs. Gisante.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

Principal Jane Dennehy and assistant principal Robert Garrison are pleased to start the 2010-2011 academic year with the following teachers: Ms. Ocasio will teach pre-K and Ms. Nesheiwat is the kindergarten teacher. Aides for these grades are Mrs. Torres, Ms. Ellen Moises and Ms. Laiz Moises. The first-graders will be taught by Sr. Joan McKinney; the second grade will have Ms. Garcia; Mrs. Bivona will teach the third grade. Mrs. McMahon and Mrs. Moore will teach Grades 4 and 5, respectively. The sixth-graders will have Mr. Garrison; the seventh grade will be taught by Ms. Zangaglia and Ms. Mirabito will teach Grade 8.

Mrs. O'Halloran will head the computer program; the art instructor is Ms. Moises; Ms. Cannizzaro will teach physical education, and the band is being instructed by Paul Effman Inc.



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CITY ISLAND STYLE

By JERI STARK

City Island, where the water is only a couple of minutes walking distance from every address, may remind visitors of a small fishing village, but it is actually a culturally, politically and economically diverse community that boasts a range of available goods and services. There is a great deal of talent here on the Island, and in this my first column, I would like to describe a project that came together very nicely, thanks to the efforts of some local contractors and artists.

This project was a relatively modest bathroom renovation for which I served as the project manager. With a small project, many home owners may not feel that a project manager is necessary, but in fact it can mean the difference between disappointment and satisfaction, between going over budget and saving money. Let's take a look at how one City Island couple utilized a project manager, who in this case happened to be me.

First, I helped the couple crystallize their vision of the bathroom they wanted to end up with. Often a homeowner will have a general idea of what he or she wants but

not a detailed or specific plan for achieving it. As project manager, I listened and responded to their questions and was able to provide various options based on my experience and knowledge of the construction business as well as interior design.

Although the pre-demo bathroom was functional, it had a dated look and seemed almost disconnected from the house that had been created around it. The goal of the renovation was to modernize the space and have it complement the rest of the house, which is situated just a few steps from the water and is full of light.

Although we jointly determined the vision and plan for the renovation, the owners of the house had no time to supervise the work, so my role as project manager was crucial. I was able to eliminate the guesswork in obtaining cost estimates by setting up a specific scope of work, so that the estimates would be based on the same information. I figured out what fixtures and materials we would need to purchase and set up a schedule for the project.

I then solicited estimates from several firms that had proper licenses, insurance and

good references, and we decided to engage two local contractors, John McGowan of Extreme Closet Makeovers and Phil Mazzella, an Island electrician. We also agreed to ask the local artists Mary Colby of Fe Fi Faux and Marguerite Chadwick-Juner to create a mural on the wall of the bathroom.

After making these crucial decisions, the owners and I then went off to visit suppliers. We had to choose and order plumbing and lighting fixtures, flooring tiles, cabinetry, a countertop and a mirror and get them delivered according to the work schedule that I had devised with the contractors. That is where the project manager's relationship with area vendors came into play, since I was able to purchase all of the goods and supplies using my professional discount.

John was able to start the demolition almost immediately. Demolishing a bathroom, regardless of how necessary, is never pretty, but we were able to manage the work skillfully enough to minimize its impact on the household. Renovating a house isn't brain surgery, but it can be likened to performing some form of surgery while the patient is wide awake. That's just how invasive a project can be without the right people doing the job. Phil, John and I seemed to become extended family, given that we were in and out of the house so much!

We decided on a classic wainscot as the basis for the design. The original purpose of wainscoting was to cover the lower part of walls that would be affected by

dampness in waterfront houses. Its purpose now is simply decorative, but its presence evokes the feeling of being near the water. Custom-made cabinets were necessary in order to optimize the limited space, and they enabled us to achieve a quality and attention to detail that would not have been possible with stock cabinets. A friend of mine is fond of saying that excellence is in the details, and our clients wanted to achieve that level in every aspect of their new bathroom.

We finished the crisp white cabinetry with buoyant turquoise Corian® tops and with a vibrant wall mural that covered all four walls. In fact, the mural was a perfect reflection of City Island. The artists used a blend of imagination and Island reality to create waterfront scenes in hues of pale blue, green and beige, depicting foliage, sand and sailboats in a style that is both nostalgic and fanciful, like City Island itself.

Thanks to everyone's careful planning and hard work, the project was completed on budget. As is often the case, there were a couple of hiccups, but they were addressed immediately and never became major issues. Needless to say, I was delighted to learn that the owners are so proud of the outcome they ask guests if they would like to use the bathroom the moment they step into the house!

Jeri Stark, an Island resident, is a professional interior designer and consultant. She can be reached at 914-760-3834 or by e-mail at www.jeristark.com.

FIVE SIMPLE WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH

By THERESA PIRRAGLIA

What do a parent, construction worker, chef, triathlete and speed walker all have in common? They each need the systems that make up their bodies (heart, lungs, muscles and joints) to be in top form in order to perform effectively throughout the day and to prevent injuries.

1) Sleep. Did you know that your body heals itself when you sleep? Healing is critical for peak performance, and the human body requires a minimum of seven to nine hours of sleep each night. It is common for men and women these days to work a full 40-plus-hour work week, followed by attending or coaching children's sporting activities, running errands, preparing meals and catching up on chores at home and getting everyone settled in for the night. The weekend can be just as busy, if not more so. Try to give yourself more time to sleep by going to bed early or by learning the art of the power nap (napping 20 minutes at least once a day) or by meditating. The inability to achieve deep sleep can also be a sign of overtraining, and that can lead to injuries!

2) Get stronger. Not surprisingly, a strong body can withstand more physical stress than a weak one. Strengthening your arms and back may help you hold your toddler without pain or when you are hauling groceries; it will also help your posture so that you can sit at your computer without experiencing shoulder pain. It does not have to take hours a day to strengthen your body, and you don't need complex, bulky pieces of equipment. A few resistant

bands and a properly sized core ball may be all that you need. Consult a good physical therapist or a personal trainer, who can show you how to exercise without causing injury.

3) Eat well. Do you feel at your best after having lunch at a fast food restaurant? Imagine how your muscles feel when you eat processed foods or don't consume the right combination of fat, carbohydrate and protein. It is amazing how our bodies can run throughout a busy day when they are fed the proper fuel. Consult a good sports nutritionist, who will help you organize your menu and shopping list, plan your balanced meals and understand the best times to eat them.

4) Drink water. Did you know that your muscles are made up mostly of water? If you leave a piece of chicken uncovered for a few days, it tends to become dried out. If you try to break it, it will tear apart easily. But a fresh chicken cutlet is filled with fluid, and it will be more difficult to tear or to break it with your hands. A well-hydrated muscle will work more efficiently and be difficult to injure. It is important to drink at least eight glasses of water a day. If you have trouble drinking water, you can make water more enticing if you add a bit of flavor with a squeeze of lemon or lime or a dash of fruit juice.

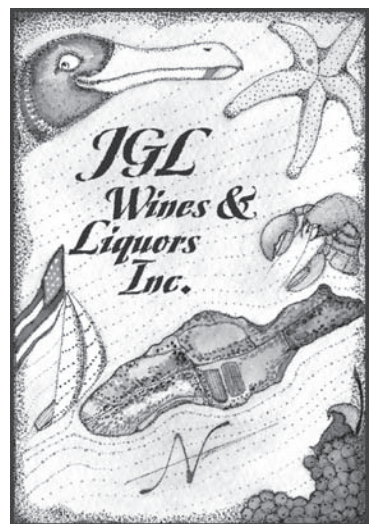
5) Take care of the little aches before they become big ones. When you get up in the morning, do you walk slightly bent over for a while and then somehow get loosened up and can stand straight until you go back to bed? When you carry the baby with one arm, do you feel a pinching pain near your shoulder blade? Why not see a licensed healthcare provider who can treat what you have and show you how you can stretch and strengthen your body so these little issues don't distract you from performing your everyday activities.

Dr. Theresa L. Pirraglia is a licensed chiropractor in Pelham who specializes in musculoskeletal injuries and sports performance.



Photos by JERI STARK

Above and right: the powder room before renovation and below, after renovation.



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jgl358@verizon.net
718-885-0200





From EDWARD D. HEBEN, C.P.A.

**Empty Storefronts:
Some Reasons Why**

I have recently been asked why so many landlords on City Island seem content with their empty storefronts, a question that I have pondered many times in the past. I can only presume that landlords may typically prefer to leave vacant properties unrented rather than reduce the rental charge.

Perhaps the property owner can afford to hold off renting until a more desirable figure is offered because their income from other sources may provide sufficient cash flow and the owner will be able to enjoy the current tax write-off benefits derived from the carrying charges.

Real estate pricing or valuations are in many situations based on a multiple of rent or net rents, and in some cases potential revenues from unrented properties. For

example, if a rental charge of \$3,000 per month is anticipated, an unrented property may actually be worth more to a potential buyer than a property locked into a long-term lease at, say, only \$2,000 a month. Therefore, landlords or property owners who can afford to do so will choose not to lock into long-term leases at lower rates. The risk, of course, is that unoccupied properties could be subject to vandalism, burglaries and decay.

These reasons may not make sense to you or me, but to landlords with cash flows from other sources sufficient enough to sustain them, it may make perfect sense. That being said, it is currently a renter's market and, as such, potential tenants have the upper hand in negotiations with landlords who need the cash flow from unrented properties. This is currently especially true in the commercial areas like White Plains, where there is a lot of empty space in all of those corporate parks outside of the main part of town.

Because home sales are down and mortgages are currently difficult to obtain, the residential rental market is actually doing much better than the commercial rental market, at least in the Westchester County area. The New York City commercial and residential rental markets are another animal altogether, but for the most part the above theory, at least for the moment, remains intact, even in N.Y.C.

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.

Ruth Boyd Kroepke

Former City Island resident Ruth Boyd Kroepke of Beaufort, North Carolina, died on Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010, at the age of 81.

Ruth is survived by her daughter, Jeane A. Hall, and her sons La Forest Arnold Hall, Wayne Allen Hall and Bruce Arthur Hall.

Ruth was predeceased by her husband, Walter G. Kroepke Jr., and her daughter Cheryl Hall.

A private family service will be held at a future date.

George V. Plaeger

George Vincent Plaeger, known to many as Vinnie, passed away peacefully at the age of 90 on Monday, Sept. 20, 2010, at the Wayne Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation.

He was born in the Bronx on Nov. 13, 1919, and worked for many years for the Penn Central Railroad. He served with the Air Force during World War II.

Mr. Plaeger moved to City Island after the war and built his home on Tier Street, where he and his wife of 65 years, Genevieve Lindley Plaeger, raised two children, Mitchell and Christine.

He loved City Island and was an enthusiastic sailor and fisherman. He was well known for his ability to fix virtually anything, and Tier Street residents are still grateful for the dock that he built for the street beach.

He is survived by his wife, Genevieve; his daughter, Christine Aracil, of the Bronx; and his son, Mitchell, of Florida, as well as three grandchildren, Richard and Audrey Aracil and Adam Plaeger; his niece Kim Soucy and her husband, Any, and daughter, Malei.

He was interred at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

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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

OCTOBER 2010

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Fri	0506	6.96	1120	1.44	1726	7.54			Fri 01
02 Sat	0011	1.13	0615	7.04	1233	1.37	1838	7.47	Sat 02
03 Sun	0141	0.94	0734	7.32	1408	1.00	1959	7.59	Sun 03
04 Mon	0259	0.53	0849	7.79	1528	0.36	2116	7.85	Mon 04
05 Tue	0357	0.05	0948	8.29	1629	-0.30	2218	8.12	Tue 05
06 Wed	0449	-0.37	1040	8.71	1722	-0.85	2311	8.29	Wed 06
07 Thu	0538	-0.64	1128	8.98	1814	-1.19			Thu 07
08 Fri	0001	8.32	0624	-0.72	1215	9.06	1904	-1.27	Fri 08
09 Sat	0050	8.20	0710	-0.60	1302	8.95	1954	-1.10	Sat 09
10 Sun	0140	7.95	0756	-0.30	1350	8.67	2045	-0.73	Sun 10
11 Mon	0232	7.63	0845	0.13	1441	8.27	2140	-0.23	Mon 11
12 Tue	0330	7.29	0940	0.64	1540	7.82	2239	0.30	Tue 12
13 Wed	0434	7.02	1045	1.10	1653	7.41	2340	0.75	Wed 13
14 Thu	0541	6.89	1155	1.42	1806	7.17			Thu 14
15 Fri	0041	1.05	0645	6.93	1301	1.53	1912	7.11	Fri 15
16 Sat	0139	1.18	0743	7.09	1402	1.45	2010	7.16	Sat 16
17 Sun	0232	1.18	0836	7.31	1456	1.24	2102	7.26	Sun 17
18 Mon	0320	1.11	0924	7.53	1544	0.98	2150	7.35	Mon 18
19 Tue	0403	1.01	1008	7.70	1627	0.72	2233	7.39	Tue 19
20 Wed	0441	0.92	1046	7.79	1706	0.51	2311	7.37	Wed 20
21 Thu	0512	0.86	1117	7.82	1740	0.35	2343	7.31	Thu 21
22 Fri	0531	0.81	1134	7.85	1806	0.24			Fri 22
23 Sat	0002	7.24	0546	0.72	1147	7.95	1827	0.16	Sat 23
24 Sun	0018	7.24	0614	0.65	1215	8.10	1853	0.10	Sun 24
25 Mon	0047	7.27	0650	0.63	1251	8.20	1928	0.12	Mon 25
26 Tue	0125	7.29	0731	0.68	1332	8.22	2009	0.22	Tue 26
27 Wed	0208	7.28	0817	0.81	1418	8.12	2055	0.38	Wed 27
28 Thu	0256	7.23	0907	0.98	1509	7.90	2148	0.57	Thu 28
29 Fri	0350	7.16	1004	1.13	1606	7.62	2247	0.74	Fri 29
30 Sat	0451	7.15	1111	1.20	1711	7.35	2358	0.80	Sat 30
31 Sun	0601	7.24	1236	1.06	1826	7.19			Sun 31

NOVEMBER 2010

01 Mon	0124	0.67	0721	7.51	1412	0.61	1954	7.23	Mon 01
02 Tue	0237	0.37	0833	7.90	1520	0.00	2109	7.43	Tue 02
03 Wed	0336	0.02	0933	8.29	1618	-0.57	2209	7.63	Wed 03
04 Thu	0430	-0.28	1025	8.60	1711	-1.00	2301	7.76	Thu 04
05 Fri	0520	-0.45	1114	8.77	1802	-1.23	2351	7.80	Fri 05
06 Sat	0607	-0.48	1201	8.79	1851	-1.24			Sat 06



LICENSE TO CATCH AND KEEP

The rules have changed a lot since we used to fish the summers away long ago. First off, these days fisherman are required to have a license. Having a license has always been the case for freshwater fisherman, but since 2009 licenses have also been required for fishing marine waters (i.e., saltwater). Obtaining a license is not difficult to do; they can be purchased online for as little as four dollars.

But why? It's an impossible law to enforce; and even if it were not, the costs associated with enforcement would easily outpace any revenue generated by the new licensing requirements. For the answer to the question, then, we turned to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's website (www.dec.ny.gov). There we learned of the Magnuson-Stevens Act of 1996. This was the law from Washington D.C. that essentially forced state hands. Either anglers would have to sign up and pay for a new federal survey coming in 2011 or obtain licenses from their home states *if states had them to be obtained*. New York State began requiring licenses in response to this act. The thinking in Albany was that the money would be better spent in New York than Washington, D.C.

At the risk of offending the sensibilities of some during the run-up to what promises to be a very interesting midterm election, we can only add the following: Isn't it

just like a politician to think that he or she knows how to spend our money better than we do? We could say a lot more on the subject too, but we'll leave that to our readers. As always, we await your thoughts on this or any other subject concerning the sights and sounds of City Island at jdsstrat@msn.com.

The DEC's website is a treasure trove of information about New York's great outdoors. For instance, we had been hearing again and again that there was a 10-fish limit per day when it came to catching and keeping snappers. Actually, it turns out that there is a 15-fish limit, no more than 10 of which can be less than 12 inches long. To snapper fisherman everywhere that's a meaningful difference! Another limit we learned on the website is the 50-a-day limit for blue claw crabs. That's a lot of crabs, or so it seems to us, but then again there have been a lot of crabs to be had this year. John insists that the crabbing on City Island hasn't been this good for 30 years. Incidentally, there is no limit on the number of crabs one catches and keeps for all other species of crab.

Make a wish on a monarch butterfly if you see one this October. This is the generation of butterflies that is making the trek all the way back to certain mountains in Mexico. It took three generations before them to get from Mexico, but only this last one to get back to Mexico. So make a wish and make it count; these guys are special.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

BE WARY OF SCAMS

These days, everyone needs to be cautious of scams—Internet, mail, and even phone scams—which can damage your credit score and pocketbook. Any time someone asks for your personal information, you should be wary. Particularly cruel are swindles that target Social Security beneficiaries.

Recently, Social Security became aware of a scam targeting beneficiaries in the Southern California area. Scammers telephoned beneficiaries to tell them they were due a “stimulus payment.” The scammer offered to deposit the payment to each beneficiary’s account once the personal and bank account information was provided. The scammer then contacted Social Security by telephone to request the benefits be deposited into a new account—the scammer’s account, to steal the payments. In a similar version of this criminal ploy, the scammer calls the beneficiary to “confirm” the beneficiary’s personal and financial information.

As a rule of thumb, Social Security will not call you for your personal information, such as your Social Security number or banking information. If someone contacts you and asks for this kind of information, do not give it.

You should never provide your Social Security number or other personal information over the telephone unless you initiated the contact or are confident of the person to whom you are speaking. If in doubt, do not release information without first verifying the validity of the call by contacting the local Social Security office or Social Security’s toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Another way to protect yourself is to keep your Social Security card and other important documents locked away in a safe place. Do not give personal information to just anyone. Also, check your Social Security earnings record. You can request a Social Security statement online at www.socialsecurity.gov/statement. When you receive your statement in the mail, you can verify the accuracy of the reported earnings and request correction if necessary.

If you’ve fallen victim to fraud or identity theft, be sure to file a report with the local police or the police department where the identity theft took place, and keep a copy of the police report as proof of the crime. Information on how to prevent scams and protect yourself can be found at www.ftc.gov/idtheft. You can also read Social Security’s publication “Identify Theft and Your Social Security Number,” available online at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10064.html and “Your Social Security Number and Card,” available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10002.html.

Be alert when dealing with people who want your personal information, such as your bank account number, date of birth and Social Security number. By using a little caution, you can protect yourself from scams. Learn more about Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Bartow-Pell Events

First Friday! and Bronx Seaside Trolley: on Friday, Oct. 1., from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Join us for an evening visit featuring music by the Pelham Jazz Ensemble, self-guided tours of the mansion, a stroll in the garden and light refreshments. The free Bronx Seaside Trolley makes a continuous loop from the Pelham Bay subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost: \$8 adults, \$5 seniors & children 6–17; members free.

Author Willene B. Clark will speak on “Tender Piety and Monumental Strength: The Stained Glass Art of William Jay Bolton and John Bolton” at Christ Church, Pelham, on Sunday, Oct. 3, at 4 p.m., with a reception to follow at the mansion. Registration requested. Free.

BPMM Adventures will take place on the holiday Monday, Oct. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. offering a school break program for children entering grades 1 through 4. Visit www.bpmm.org for details. Registration required. Cost: \$30 per child.

This fall the Bartow-Pell hosts a personalized yoga class limited to 12 people in our sunlit Orangerie. The classes will be held on Wednesdays, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17, and Dec. 1. Beginner level 9–10:15 a.m.; intermediate Level 10:30–11:45 a.m. The benefits of yoga are well known: de-stress, get strong and flexible and have fun! Taught by certified Anusara yoga® teacher Ann Casapini. Registration required. Cost: \$136; members \$120

Garden Clean-Up Volunteer Day will take place on Saturday, Oct. 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Help us keep the garden and grounds of the mansion looking beautiful. Roll up your sleeves and don your gardening gloves at this program. Light breakfast is offered. Please wear long sleeves, pants, sturdy shoes and work gloves. Registration requested. Free.

On Sunday, Oct. 17, at 4 p.m. local architectural historian Arthur Scinta will give a talk on “The Reverend Robert Bolton: A Gothic Revival Missionary and his Influence on American Architecture.” Registration requested. Free.

Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come enjoy Native American storytellers Leaf Arrow, a mansion mouse hunt, autumn arts and crafts, harvest goods for sale and more. Rain or shine. Registration requested. Visit www.bpmm.org for costs.



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HUGE TAG SALE/BLOCK SALE: Marine Street (West Side) Saturday, October 16th from 10am to 5pm. Dining set, new clothes, jewelry, electronics and much more.

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REMEMBER WHEN...



Photo courtesy of THE CITY ISLAND NAUTICAL MUSEUM

This restaurant and saloon was located at 557 City Island Avenue (then Main Street), where Portofino is now. It was operated in 1901 by Michael J. Kelly, who lived on City Island with his wife, Nellie, and their seven children. A descendent of Mr. Kelly is looking for information about him and his family, so if anyone knows anything of the Kelly family or of the New Bridge Hotel, please write to *The Current*.



The New Bridge Hotel operated in 1901 by Michael J. Kelly, who is standing at the far left.

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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.

Good luck to Norma Kerner, who is opening her own yoga studio in Manhattan. The grand opening is Saturday, Sept. 25.

Happy second birthday on Oct. 24 to our adorable "little redhead" Joseph Penny, with love from Grandma and Grandpa. xoxoxoxox

Happy October anniversaries to the cousins: Judy and Mike Rauh, John and Linda Wright, and Mike and Roseann Bunyan.

Rob, Tina and Nick send happy birthday wishes with love to son Christopher on his 32nd birthday.

Congratulations to the P.S. 175 Class of 2000, which celebrated its reunion at the Legion on Sept. 3. Islanders Justin Rodstrom and Stephen Swieciki organized the event and a good time was had by all.

Happy 24th birthday on Oct. 22 to Mark Nani with love from his family.

Congratulations and three cheers to our nephew Rick Shalvoy, founder of "Row for a Cure," for completing the 300-mile USCG DC3 Nate Bruckenthal Memorial Row Around Long Island on Aug. 25. Rick raised thousands of dollars for the Wounded Warrior Project. With much love and admiration from Paula and Walter.

If you are running in the ING New York City Marathon in November, please call Judy Rauh at 718-885-2079. We'd like to take a pre-race photo for *The Current*.

It's a boy! Klaus and Vicki Weidemann proudly announce the arrival of Daniel Sorvillo on July 16. Big sister, Abigail, is ecstatic with her little brother, Danny.

Happy 14th birthday wishes to Hawkins Street's Bob Carmody, who will celebrate his big day on Oct. 10. And more birthday wishes to Bob's sister Kelly, who turns 20 on Oct. 20. We love you both! Mom, Dad, Cricket and Tiki.

Happy 25th wedding anniversary on Oct. 12 to Bay Street's Bob and Maria Swieciki with love from your family and friends.

Happy 12th birthday greetings to Fordham Street's Emmett Shanley, who will be blowing out his candles on Oct. 26.

Birthday wishes to Chris Kolb on Oct. 27 from his family and friends.

Keep up the good work to John Scardina, who will be featured in an article on parenting in the December issue of *Good Housekeeping* magazine: Look for "Five



Ryan Patrick DiMaio was born on Sept. 10, 2010.

Tips For Raising A Resilient Child." John will also be giving a workshop for the New York City Association for the Education of Young Children on developing emotional intelligence in pre-schoolers on Oct. 16 in Manhattan.

Happy birthday to Helen Vaughan on Oct. 9.

Happy 24th birthday wishes on Oct. 29 to former Islander Sunjay Sebastian, with love from the Swieciki family.

There is a new member of the DiMaio clan. Congratulations to Christina and Michael DiMaio on the birth of Ryan Patrick who arrived on Sept. 10, 2010. He weighed 5 lbs. 14 oz. and was 19 3/4 inches tall. Big brother Trevor is thrilled with his new baby brother. The proud grandparents are Dr. Paul Brenner of California and Julia and Frank DiMaio of Buckley Street. Aunt Eileen, Uncle Larry and cousin Will of Earley Street and Aunt Erika of California are also delighted with Ryan's arrival.

Happy 16th wedding anniversary on October 21 to Joe and Margie Cioffi.

Maria Swieciki




Photo by ETHEL LOTT
Senator Klein congratulating Ellen Cribben, long time City Island resident, on her 90th birthday during his visit to AARP Chapter 318 on September 15th.



Photo by SOPHIA CRUZ

2010 seems to be the year for City Island reunions! The P.S. 175 class of 2000 gathered to celebrate its 10-year reunion at the Post 156 Legion Hall on Sept. 3, 2010. Organized by class members Stephen Swieciki and Justin Rodstrom, the group enjoyed celebrating, reminiscing and watching their graduation video. Shown above at the reunion in their "class picture old school" are (first row, seated, l. to r.) Justin Rodstrom, Stephen Swieciki and Tim Pavlacka. Middle row: Nicole Cahill, Michele Immediato, Christina Rossi, Krystle Corredor-Diamond, Virginia Nye, Christina Ricci and Lindsey Kinford. Top row: Linh Vo, Mark Nani, Bobby Cavinee, Courtney Cole, Jameson Shadwick, Julie Payne, Danny Barry and Jeremy Ulma.



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