

The Island Current

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One Dollar

ED SADLER WAY DEDICATED

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by RICK DEWITT

Councilmember James Vacca, flanked by Jeanne Pezone and Russell Schaller (photo above), was joined by friends and family of Captain Ed Sadler on Oct. 5, 2013, to unveil the new street sign "Ed Sadler Way." Ed Sadler Jr. stands behind Mr. Vacca, and Jackie Kall stands at Russell's side. Dick Sadler joined Mr. Vacca in acknowledging the honor on behalf of the Sadler family (photo below).



At noon on Saturday, Oct. 5, Councilmember James Vacca, Assemblyman Mike Benedetto and about a hundred Islanders, including Ed Sadler's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, gathered on the southeast corner of Schofield Street and City Island Avenue for an informal ceremony honoring the memory of Captain Ed Sadler, a resident of Schofield Street for 95 years, until he passed away in November 2011.

Mr. Vacca enumerated many of Captain Sadler's accomplishments and contributions to the City Island community, including the significant roles he had played at Trinity United Methodist Church, the City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum and the Bronx Masons. He also recalled how Ed was untiring in his

efforts to fight for the Ladder Company 53 every time the city threatened to eliminate it for budgetary reasons. Mike Benedetto also spoke in praise of Captain Sadler and his family, and Barbara Dolensek remembered how he had been the star attraction at the Nautical Museum for so many years.

Ed's son Dick gave a very moving tribute to his father, but he reminded everyone that his mother, Laura Sadler, had also contributed a great deal to the City Island community and that the family and those who knew her well recognized that this honor belonged to both of his parents.

Then Mr. Vacca pulled off the covering over the new sign "Ed Sadler Way," although he did require a bit of assistance from firefighters who were also in attendance.

Islanders Rebut Latest Plans from Italian Hospital Society

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

In September, Jordan Most, the attorney for Dr. Domenico Mignone, president of the Italian Hospital Society, submitted a revised plan to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) in an effort to obtain a zoning variance for the property at 222 City Island Avenue, at the corner of Schofield Street. The revisions are in response to the numerous objections raised by residents

and BSA at the hearing on June 11, 2013 (see July-August issue of *The Current*).

Although the revised application indicates that there would be only three rather than four floors, the height of the building (39 feet, including a four-foot roof wall) would be the same. The number of beds was reduced to 150 but so was the size of each apartment, and the number of park-



Schematic for the latest revision of the east and west elevations of the proposed senior residence.

ing spaces in the basement was reduced from 100 to 50. The new design calls for the building to be set back on the sidewalk and for more recreational facilities on the ground floor.

Nevertheless, the building still far exceeds the floor-area ratio (FAR) of other buildings on the Island and would definitely be out of character with the community. Therefore, the attorney for the City Island Civic Association provided a

lengthy rebuttal to the project relating to existing community character, flaws in the financial analysis requested by BSA, and issues of environmental remediation. Dr. Mignone's attorney came forth with additional arguments only three business days before the public hearing, which had been rescheduled from Nov. 19 to Oct. 29, although the Civic was not notified of this until a few days before the hearing.

BRIDGE UPDATE: A FIGHT DOWN TO THE WIRE

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

As *The Current* goes to press, signs of impending bridge construction are becoming apparent, as community liaisons for the Department of Transportation (DOT) are making their way around the Island, introducing themselves to business owners, obtaining office space (261 City Island Avenue), renting space for equipment and vehicles and otherwise preparing for the construction of the temporary bridge, which will begin once Con Edison completes its work with utilities.

In the meantime, the Civic Association is working with State Senator Jeff Klein and other local elected officials to explore the possibility of filing a legal action in an effort to delay construction until all legally required reviews have been completed.

Paul Nani, executive committee member of the City Island Civic Association, met mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio when he was making a campaign stop in Manhattan at the beginning of October. He was able to explain to Mr. de Blasio about the issue that the City Island community was having with the proposed new City Island bridge. Mr. de Blasio put him in touch with the General Counsel of the Public Advocate's office and told Paul to send him a summary of the issues with the bridge.

With the assistance of the Civic Association board, Paul sent the General Counsel a timeline of events going back to 1998, a copy of the most recent issue of *The Island Current* reporting on the meeting with DOT and a copy of the letter sent to Mayor Bloomberg by Congressman Joseph Crowley, State Senator Jeffrey Klein, State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and Councilmember James Vacca. After reviewing the materials, the counsel's office responded to Paul, who met with two of their policy associates on Thursday, Oct. 24, Ben Furnas and Paul Costa, to discuss the various issues that the

proposed new design presents for the City Island community.

After answering many of their questions, Paul was told that the next step would be meeting with the Public Advocate's chief of staff and presenting him with the issues, which they agreed were numerous. It is expected that the Public Advocate's office will not be able to respond to the issue for a few weeks, because they will need time to review the DOT contract and any land-use issues, as well as the history of the project and the budget. In the meantime, they agreed to have Paul follow up with them in three to four weeks to check on the status of the review.

At the public meeting held at P.S. 175 on Sept. 23, DOT representatives told residents that they would answer any questions that were submitted in writing. Ken Kearns, district manager of Community Board 10, collected these questions and forwarded them to DOT, whose Bronx Commissioner, Constance Moran, responded on Oct. 19 with some answers (see page 4). Several members of the City Island Civic Association told *The Current* that these answers were incomplete and did not begin to address the basic issues regarding the bridge design: Why were the City Island community's objections to the cable-stayed design ignored for over a decade? Why was the character of City Island, a low-rise community, ignored in the selection of an oversized, modernistic design? Why were issues of climate change not addressed?

A close reading of the answers will reveal that DOT continues to believe that cable-stayed bridges are the only style that can avoid piers in the water, that FEMA rules about flooding don't apply to DOT, and that the dramatic increase in cost was apparently not a cause for concern.

BRIEFLY...

ST. MARY'S THRIFT SHOP CHRISTMAS FAIR will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at two locations: the Thrift Shop for slightly used items and St. Mary's school gym for new items.

FREE FURNITURE GIVEAWAY: It didn't sell at the tag sale, so they're giving it away. Large entertainment center with side piers; two wall units; armoire; small breakfast; two small bookcases; large coffee table; three-shelf stand; two 27-inch color TVs (old style); one 14-inch color TV (old style); old rocking chair; large Weber barbecue; large wooden picnic table with benches. No cash; just carry. Call 845-216-6726.

BRONX MASONS BLOOD DRIVE will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 12, from 3:30 to 7:45 p.m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street. Almost anyone between the ages of 17 and 75, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds and in good general health, can be a blood donor. Photo or signature ID and Social Security Number are required at the time of donation. Please come and give the gift of life.

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK by Neil Simon will be presented by the City Island Theater Group during two weeks in November at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue. Evening shows will begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 15 and 16, and on Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 21-23. A matinee performance will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17. For tickets, call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com. Tickets may also be purchased online by visiting their website: www.cityislandtheatergroup.com. Free valet parking is available at Sammy's lot #3 just south of the Chinese restaurant on City Island Avenue. Please consider bringing a pair (or more) of brand-new men's socks to the theater. These will be donated to POTS (Part of the Solution), which distributes food and other supplies to needy families. Your gift of a pair of socks will make a real difference to someone this winter.

MICHAEL PROIETTI, City Island's own clam digger chef, will share recipes, show how to prepare them and let everyone taste several dishes at Grace Church, 116 City Island Avenue, on Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. Michael is an award-winning chef and has appeared on the Food Network, Chopped and Rachael Ray. Don't miss it!

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during September and October 2013. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 3 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 2 – BURGLARY*
- 1 – ASSAULT*
- 2 – ROBBERY*
- 3 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A WEAPON*
- 1 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA*
- 1 – LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

Police provided details on the following arrests (*) and incidents for the period from Sept. 24 to Oct. 22, 2013.

9/26 – Police from the 45th Precinct are investigating the burglary of a commercial building on Fordham Street at 5 p.m. Unknown perpetrator(s) broke two locks, entered the premises and removed property from a storage container.

10/1 – At 1 p.m. on Fordham Street, an Island resident heard a loud noise and discovered the rear window of her car was shattered by an unknown perpetrator in an act of criminal mischief.

10/9 – Three Island males, ages 17, 17 and 19, were arrested and charged with criminal possession of a weapon on Pilot Street at 9:53 p.m. The defendants were found in possession of a gravity knife and two air rifles.

10/8-9 – In separate incidents, the windows of two parked cars on City Island Avenue and on Pilot Street were smashed by unknown perpetrators.

10/10 – An Island male, 19, was arrested and charged with robbery and assault at 4 p.m. The defendant allegedly struck a female victim and stole her cell phone. Police apprehended the suspect on City Island Avenue and charged him with felony assault and robbery.

10/12 – On City Island Avenue at 9:51 p.m., an off-Island male, 28, was arrested and charged with criminal possession of marijuana. Police found the defendant in his car with a lit marijuana cigarette in plain view.

10/17 – Police arrested two 19-year-old Island males and charged them with burglary after they allegedly stole the motor off a boat on City Island. The motor was recovered by police at a boat club in Queens.

10/21 – At 8 a.m. on Carroll Street, an off-Islander found that his parked car had been sideswiped causing damage and that the perpetrator had fled the scene of the accident.

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Chamber to Honor Assemblyman, Actors, Activists and Others

On Friday, Nov. 15, 2013, the City Island Chamber of Commerce will hold its 103rd annual Awards Dinner Dance honoring an impressive group of Islanders and friends.

The Tom Cerreta Award for Community Service will be presented to Assemblyman Michael R. Benedetto. Mike was born in the Bronx in 1947 and has lived his entire life in the Northeast Bronx. He attended local Catholic primary and secondary schools, and in 1969 graduated from Iona College; in 1971 he earned an MA in social studies education and spent 35 years teaching elementary and secondary school. He ran the first "very special" Olympics for multiple handicapped children, taught special education to other teachers, and taught in the talented and gifted program, receiving numerous awards for his achievements in education. In addition to outstanding accomplishments in his career, he has made a huge impact on his community. In 1969 he started the Throggs Neck Community Players theater group and served as a member of Community Board 10 from 1975 to 1979. In 1981 he started the *Bronx Times Reporter*, now the largest community paper in the Bronx. Mr. Benedetto served on the staff of Councilmembers Michael DeMarco and Madeline Provenzano and has worked tirelessly with local civic and community groups. He was elected to the New York State Assembly in 2004 representing District 82; as a legislator, he has focused on educational and child protection issues and has been an ardent supporter of union rights. Since 1989 he has been a member of AHEPA (a Greek-American organization) and has served on the Iona College Alumni board of directors.

Tony Palumbo Jr. of Tony's Pier Restaurant will be honored with the Catherine Scott Award for Perseverance. About 60 years ago, his father, Tony Palumbo Sr., had a vision. He went to the south end of City Island with his three brothers to look at the Chris Craft boat operation owned by Norma and Al Larsen. Tony asked the Larsens if he could lease the property to open a fast-food seafood restaurant, and thus Tony's Pier was born. Tony was a workaholic by nature, putting in five days a week with the NYC highway department and five nights at Tony's Pier, plus both day and night at Tony's on the weekends. Tony Jr. worked at the Pier on all holidays and weekends from an early age, working alongside his father to learn everything he needed to know to run the family business. When Tony Sr. passed away, Tony Jr. took over as president and has continued to make Tony's Pier one of the top institutions in the Bronx. The family was devastated when Hurricane Sandy's winds caused a transformer to fall on the roof, starting a fire that quickly burned out of control. A lot of keepsakes were lost when the building was destroyed; the family is starting over with a new building but they are keeping the fundamentals their father instilled in them. They look forward to opening again soon and serving their loyal patrons.

The City Island Theater Group will be honored with the Sam Bierman Award for Business and Community Service. Since it was founded 15 years ago, the group has offered City Island and neighboring communities a wide variety of theatrical productions, including main stage performances of comedies, dramas, thrillers, and musicals; staged readings and one-act festivals, as well as special programs for young people. The group has showcased its wide range of talent in free performances of Shakespeare in Hawkins Street Park; show tunes at the Stuyvesant Yacht Club; Christmas caroling on the Bronx Cultural Trolley, and spooky Halloween readings at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum. Last year CITG donated part of the proceeds from its fall production of "The Man Who Came to Dinner" to the NYC fund for Superstorm Sandy relief. The talented performers and artisans of the CITG are all volunteers, many of them residents of City Island, and productions have been made possible from grants and generous contributions from the community. The theater group's board members are Nick Sala, President; Carol McCabe, Vice President; Susan Rauh, Secretary; Elizabeth Paldino, Treasurer; Mary McIntyre, Marketing Director; Joseph Burck Jr.; Barbara Dolensek; Vanessa Javier-Zepeda; Amanda Johnson; Joan Mamara; and Maria Provenzano.

Fred Ramftl Jr. will receive the Community Service Award. A lifelong City Islander, Fred lives on Carroll Street at the same property that his great-grandfather first purchased back in May 1921. As a youngster, Fred attended P.S. 175 and grew up playing with his friends behind the school, in Hawkins Park, and in the Tier Street lot. Fred has earned two master's degrees, one in history and the other in social studies education, and is looking for a social studies teaching position, in the hope of making our borough a better place to live. Fred first began to play an active role in his community at the age of 12, when he was riding his bike and hit a pothole. Instead of complaining, Fred started a letter-writing campaign to all of the local officials, and later that year, the street was resurfaced. Since then his involvement has grown. Many remember him as one of the individuals who worked for many years for the Garden Club of City Island to keep our streets clean. He is also involved in many community organizations, as Vice President of the City Island Civic Association; President of the City Island Republicans and District Leader for the 82nd Assembly District; Part I; Treasurer and Trustee of the City Island Historical Society; and Vice Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. In his spare time, Fred enjoys swimming, traveling, and attending sporting events.

New Business Awards will be presented to the Light House Restaurant and Magickal Realms. The dinner will be held at the Pelham / Split Rock Golf Course, beginning at 7 p.m., with music by the Lickety Split Band. For reservations, call 718-885-9100.

FALL CLASSIC!



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

The Legion's pumpkin pickers selected the best pumpkins and mums for City Islanders, including children in P.S. 175's Kindergarten class (top) and Hannah Gannon (photo, right), during the Legion's sale on Oct. 4, 5 and 6. The well-dressed and helpful Legion crew included (bottom photo, l. to r.) John Ulmer, Tom Lynch, John Muhlfeld, Joe Goonan, Ed Shipp, Keith Shipp, Jimmy Livingston and Peter Zvara.



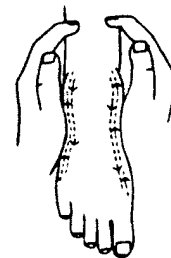
Chowder Contest Revisited

Below are the correct results of the Chowder Contest held on Sunday, Sept. 22: State Senator Jeff Klein gave first place for the best New England (white) chow-

der to Sammy's Fish Box and first place for Manhattan (red) chowder to the Sea Shore. Senator Klein also gave first place in the People's Choice Award to the Lobster House. Chamber Award winners for People's Choice were the Lobster House for first place for New England chowder and To Go Express for first place for Manhattan chowder. The second place Chamber awards went to the Harlem Yacht Club for its New England chowder and to Stuyvesant Yacht Club for their Manhattan chowder. Awards will be presented at the City Island Chamber of Commerce Dinner Dance on Friday, Nov. 15. The Chamber offers congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all who participated in this event, as well as gratitude to all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly in serving chowder samples to almost 400 tasters!

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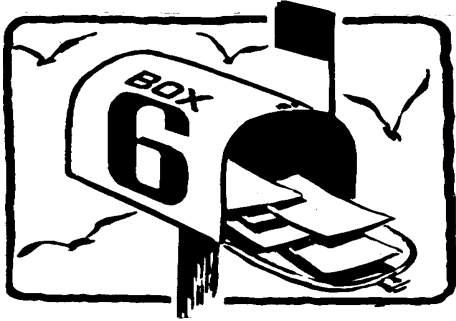
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Grand Old House Lives On

To the Editor:

I was glad to learn that the beautiful white house at 65 Schofield Street has been given a new lease on life. This home is truly one of the architectural gems of the Island. It was owned by the Bruno family for decades (until Mary Bruno's passing some years ago), and it had personal significance for me. When I first moved to the Island in 1979, Mary invited me to dinner, and I was treated to her famous "gravy" and pasta. After dinner she showed me the ancient wine press used by the family back in the 1930s and '40s. Over the years (I lived on City Island until the mid-1980s), I spent several hours in Mary's kitchen, chatting over coffee.

Although she was no architectural historian, Mary knew that the house was special. Once or twice the exterior was used by advertising companies to make TV commercials, and you could see the part of the house that had been repainted for the occasion. Mary wanted very much to have the place repainted, but it was beyond her means.

The caption in *The Current* noted that 65 Schofield was the oldest intact structure on the Island. Indeed, it even had its original front door from the 19th century. The recent bridge controversy has proved that Islanders care about the aesthetics and atmosphere of City Island; it is my hope that special care will be taken to preserve all of the remaining historic buildings—and that new and existing buildings will acknowledge the Island's unique character.

It is heartening to learn that 65 Schofield will be restored to its original beauty. I send my best wishes to the current owners and to the architect in charge of reviving one of City Island's landmarks.

Steven Vickery

DOT Responds to City Island

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

Below are some of the answers that the Department of Transportation (DOT) gave in response to answers posed by City Island residents regarding the new bridge project.

How can it be cheaper to build two bridges capable of withstanding hurricanes than one slightly longer bridge that might require some minor wetlands remediation?

To build on a new alignment, the city would have to acquire parkland and remove extensive natural vegetation. If the NYC Parks Department supported this approach, there would be significant costs associated with acquiring parkland and removing

numerous mature trees and remediating the site. In addition, under state law the acquisition of parkland would require the approval of the New York State Senate and Assembly and authorization by the Governor. On the City Island side, the approach roadway would fall outside the limits of current NYCDOT Right-of-Way and would require the acquisition of privately-owned land under water.

Over the past decade, new materials and bridge designs have been implemented that are far more efficient and easier to install and maintain than cable-stayed bridges, which require several years of on-site construction and costly measures to prevent corrosion and wind resistance. Why have you not considered a more appropriate low-rise causeway-type bridge that would be more economical?

The use of concrete and steel in bridge design is still the conventional practice. Prior to making a decision as to which alternative to use, life cycle costs and other factors were considered and presented. The construction duration will not vary significantly among the alternative bridge types. Many activities will be common to any bridge replacement project such as foundation work and roadway paving. Just as concrete bridge elements can be precast and assembled onsite, steel elements are also prefabricated and assembled onsite. Any causeway type structure would require the construction and maintenance of new piers in the water. The cable-stayed design permanently eliminates this cost.

Why did you select Tutor Perini, a contractor that has a long history of litigation and cost overruns, including allegations of fraud and racketeering, some of them in New York City?

Per the Charter of the City of New York, the contract was procured by competitive sealed bid. Tutor Perini presented the lowest bid and met all other criteria for experience, responsiveness and responsibility. The City of New York performed all required background verifications of the contractor. The Resident Engineering consultant, as well as the Division of Bridges staff will monitor all work and progress during construction to ensure compliance with all contract requirements.

How can DOT justify proceeding with a design of its own choosing and ignore or dismiss all of the protests from the City Island community for 12 years?

DOT met with local stakeholders approximately 8 times throughout the design process between 2002 and 2009 and incorporated several significant design changes that were requested by the community. Additional scope changes were made at the request of the community including rehabilitation of the seawall and improvements to Legion Triangle. At the conclusion of the design process the agency moved ahead with final design and procurement of the construction contract.

The federal government may be providing most of the money, but it is still our tax money you are squandering. Why didn't DOT rethink the bridge design when the budget went from \$25.5 million to \$150 million?

Regardless of the bridge type, a temporary bridge and demolition of the existing bridge were required contract components. Rehabilitation of the esplanade, the seawall and Legion Triangle can be eliminated from the contract to reduce costs without impacting the bridge construction. Turtle

Cove culvert replacement and other environmental remediation is required. The construction cost estimate increased which is not unusual as a bridge design progresses from the preliminary stage. During the period between preliminary and final design there were significant global increases in raw materials and labor which increased the final construction cost.

Have you consulted with FEMA regarding the ability of this decade-old bridge design to handle climate change, rising sea levels, and major storms, and if not, why not? DOT claims this bridge will last 100 years but no cable-stayed bridge has been around that long. Why are you so sure?

From their website, "FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards" As such FEMA is not an engineering entity. NYCDOT uses AASHTO, a nonprofit, non-partisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for guidance in bridge design. It represents all five transportation modes: air, highways, public transportation, rail, and water. Its primary goal is to foster the development, operation, and maintenance of an integrated national transportation system.

The GW Bridge closes periodically for ice dropping from cables. The City Island Bridge has no alternatives. What are your plans for ice forming on the cables and dropping on passing cars, as happens with the Leonard Zakim Bridge in Boston?

In rare instances ice dropping can occur, but closing the bridge to emergency vehicles is not expected during any event, including ice. It would be possible to close the sidewalks and outer travel lanes but keep the center emergency lane operational in an extreme situation. There are also de-icing techniques that have been developed such as noncorrosive sprays and mechanical cable sweepers.

All of our elected officials have written the mayor supporting City Island's position on this bridge design because they understand that it is inappropriate. Why does DOT, which spends precious little time in this community, think it is appropriate?

It is appropriate because it is a functional, durable and utilitarian design that has the advantage of removing the piers which will reduce maintenance and remove obstructions to navigation on the waterway.

If the present bridge's condition was an urgent issue, why haven't you been in touch with the community during the past

six years? And why are there no weight restrictions for the big trucks?

DOT met with the community during the preliminary and final design phases of the project. At the conclusion of the design phase, the agency moved into the review and approvals and procurement phase. During these phases, the agency continued extensive maintenance of the bridge to prevent the need for lane closures or weight posting. There is currently a height restriction in place that prevents tall vehicles from passing under the truss which will be alleviated by the new design.

In view of hurricane Sandy, the new bridge as well as the temporary bridge must be guaranteed to withstand 120 miles an hour winds and the accompanying waves from the North East fetch from Long Island Sound. What were the wind speeds in the wind tunnel?

We can assure that the bridge is designed to stand hurricane force winds as per AASHTO requirements. The wind tunnel is used to get coefficients based on the shape of the bridge which do not require such high wind speeds to obtain. The analysis, which is based on the bridge specific coefficients, did include 120 mph winds.

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“THE SEA IS ALL I KNOW”

By JOANNE BROGAN

An award-winning 30-minute film, “The Sea Is All I Know,” was filmed on and around City Island in 2010 but is not in distribution, so Grace Episcopal Church, 116 City Island Avenue, where much of the film was made, will screen the film on Sunday, Nov. 10, at 1 p.m.

The film was written, produced and directed by Jordan Bayne, who will be present at the screening and will talk about how it was made. The story brings an estranged couple back together at the time of their daughter’s imminent death and deals with the controversial issue of assisted suicide.

There are only three main characters in the film. Melissa Leo, who portrays the mother, has extensive film and television credits, including an Academy Award, a Golden Globe and a SAG Award for her tour de force performance in “The Fighter.” She also received Oscar and SAG nominations for her starring role in “Frozen River,” for which she won an Independent Spirit Award for Best Female Lead and a Spotlight Award from the National Board of Review among countless other

accolades. She recently received an Emmy for her guest starring role in the comedy “Louie.”

Peter Gerety, who plays her husband, has had a prolific career in more than 30 movies, including Clint Eastwood’s “Changeling,” Mike Nichols’s “Charlie Wilson’s War,” Robert Redford’s “Legend of Bagger Vance,” and more. He has also appeared in several television shows and Broadway plays.

Kelly Hutchinson (their daughter Angelina) made her Broadway debut in “Macbeth” with Kelsey Grammer and Peter Gerety. She has worked extensively on the stage, both on Broadway and off.

The film is being shown at Grace Church as a courtesy because of the cooperation that Jordan Bayne received here on City Island. The film has been shown at film festivals around the world and has been very well received by critics. One critic, Olisa of “HeyDoYou,” wrote: “Intimate, gripping and heart-wrenching, with raw and powerful performances from Leo, Gerety and Hutchinson. This was a beautiful film, which I recommend you see if you have the opportunity.”

The Differences Between Litigating a Will and a Trust

By CORMAC MCENERY

Just as wills and trusts are two distinct types of estate-planning documents, there are also differences in the ways each document can be challenged by disgruntled persons hoping to lay claim to the assets contained therein. Here’s a look at the ways that each document can be litigated or challenged:

Wills are more commonly challenged than trusts. The most common reasons a will is litigated over (or challenged) include:

- The will was not executed properly. In New York, certain procedures have to be followed and the signing must be witnessed by two people who won’t be beneficiaries under the will.
- The maker of the will was mentally incompetent when the will was signed.

- The maker of the will was under the undue influence of another person such that his choices were no longer his own.

- The will was procured by fraud. For example, if a person hoping to inherit under the will inserted pages into the will after the maker signed it, and the maker had not reviewed those pages.

Trusts are more difficult to challenge than wills. Two of the primary purposes a trust is established are for the creation of an orderly disposition of assets and the reduction of costly litigation. A carefully drafted trust provides peace of mind to the grantor (the maker) for this very reason. The grantor is required to transfer assets into the trust, so a person wishing to litigate over the trust might need to show that every time an asset transfer was made, the grantor did not know what was happening. Nevertheless, a trust may be challenged in the following circumstances:

- The grantor was forced to sign the trust against their will (similar to undue influence)
- The grantor was mentally incompetent at the signing
- The trust was later revoked or amended
- Improper execution of the trust
- The trust was procured by forgery or fraud
- The trustee is not performing as a proper fiduciary

Cormac McEnery, Esq., is an attorney whose office is at 562 City Island Avenue; his website is www.cormacmcenery.com.

PRAYERS FOR PAWS



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGER and SANDY DUNN

City Island’s pets have been blessed for another year as the various churches commemorated the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. On Oct. 6, 2013, Father Augustus Onwubiko presided over a blessing in the St. Mary, Star of the Sea schoolyard (top and middle left photos) and Reverend Ruth Anne Garcia welcomed cats, dogs and gerbils to Grace Episcopal Church (middle right and bottom photos).

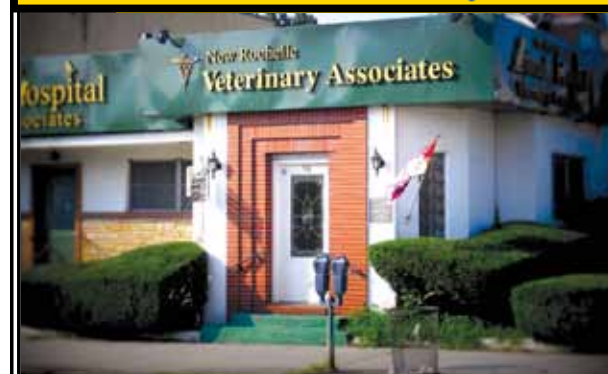
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A photograph by Mary Colby, which will be a part of the December exhibition at Fe Fi Faux Gallery.,

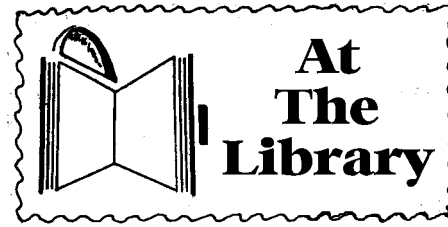


If you have a new business, or if your old business is offering a new service, write to The Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464 by the 10th of the month.

Fe Fi Faux Gallery (276 City Island Avenue) will have a holiday exhibition featuring the photographs of Vinny Campisi, Paula Schifano and Mary Colby during the month of December. The opening reception for the artists will be on Dec. 6, from 7 to 10 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Give the gift of art! Don't forget the opening reception for the "A Painting a Day" exhibition of works by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner on Nov. 1! **Carpet One of New Rochelle** (607

Main Street New Rochelle, New York) is having a "got you covered" autumn sale on carpet, vinyl, laminate and wood floors through November. For information, call Dan D'Allara at 914-654-8000.

Physical therapist Janine Mantzaris (340 City Island Avenue) is pleased to announce that the facility has added new equipment, including a treadmill, an elliptical and a recumbent bicycle, which are all being used in a new wellness program. The program is designed for patients of all ages who do not require physical therapy but are interested in starting or maintaining a therapeutic exercise program. Patients pay per visit. Call the office at 917-577-1752 for more information or to set up an appointment. The office is now open four days a week, Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon, and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



City Island Branch Library

Mondays and Thursdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

November Children's Programs

Please call the branch for any upcoming children's programs, such as read-aloud, toddler, etc.

November Teen Programs

Relax with Wii: Play Wii, bring a book, do your homework and sneak in a snack. Monday through Friday from 3 to 5 p.m.

November Adult Programs

Introduction to the Internet: This workshop is designed to introduce anyone who has never been on the internet before. Gain proficiency in using e-mail, utilizing social media and finding resources on the NYPL web site. Every Tuesday morning from 10 to noon.

Resumé Writing Workshop and Online Job Search: Staff will be here to help you look for employment and get your resume into top form for the competitive job market. Pre-registration is encouraged but drop-ins are fine. It is recommended you bring along a flash drive to save your work. Every Wednesday morning from 10 to noon.

Saturday Afternoon Movies: Every Saturday that we are open, we will present a movie or a lecture/discussion. Please check the flyers in the library or call for Saturday movies or lecture programs. All events begin at 1 p.m.

Tablet Group: Learn how to borrow and download library e-books, discuss your favorite apps and ask questions about how

to use tablets in your day-to-day life. Every Thursday afternoon from 2 to 3.

Island Writers: This is a creative writing workshop that meets in our community room once a week. "When we write, we find ourselves writing answers to questions we didn't know we had." Every Tuesday afternoon at 1 p.m. Presented by Ms. Gail Hitt.

Bronx History and Maritime Lovers: Joseph Governali presents "Salvage of the *H.M.S. Hussar*." Mr. Governali will talk about his continuing efforts to salvage the *H.M.S. Hussar*, a vibrant piece of Bronx nautical history, dating back to the Revolutionary War. The ship was a sixth-rate frigate of the Royal Navy, built in England in 1761-63. She was a 28-gun ship of the Mermaid class, designed by Sir Thomas Slade. In early 2013, a cannon from *Hussar* was discovered stored in a building in New York's Central Park still loaded with live gunpowder and shot. *Hussar's* remains, if any survive, are now believed to lie beneath landfill in the Bronx. Saturday, Nov. 2, at 1 p.m.

Please check our flyers for any last-minute additional programs, cancellations or unscheduled changes. All our programs are free. We are located at 320 City Island Avenue and Bay Street. For more information about any of the programs above and our hours, please call the City Island Branch Library at 718-885-1703. You may also check our website at www.nypl.org for more information.

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Gratitude and Happiness

By JOHN SCARDINA

“In daily life we must see that it is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy.”

Brother David Steindl-Rast

It is an old adage: you cannot pursue happiness, but you can become happy in the midst of activities that fulfill your soul and make the world a better place. Happiness is a by-product of good works and gratitude and does not stand alone. Like the concept of self-esteem, it comes from the process of living rather than any mental formation.

Thomas Jefferson said that “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” were inalienable rights for all of us. And yet if we set out to “get happy” and try to capture it like some rare exotic insect or bloom, we find that it fades away in captivity.

Gratitude remains the best way for me to realize that the conditions for my happiness are already and always present in my life. As we enter this season of Thanksgiv-



ing, might we practice gratitude as a daily discipline.

John Scardina is a school psychologist, child development specialist, and parent educator. Check out his website www.ThinkLaughLearn.com. His parent group discussions will resume in the fall at the CI Community Center.



Photos by SANDRA CANDINALI

Christopher Bean, Executive Director of Part of the Solution (POTS) and Grace Church parishioner Lori Travers (top photo) help other community members make over 500 sandwiches for the guests at POTS, a food pantry serving the needy in the Bronx. Students from P.S. 175 also lent their eager hands to sandwich making at Grace Church on Oct. 18. Fifth-grader Joe Goonan (bottom photo) was a happy helper.



Cast members of Neil Simon’s “Barefoot in the Park,” which will be presented over two weekends in November at Grace Church Hall, here demonstrate the three-day phenomenon that follows the consumption of ouzo (front row, l. to r.): Thomas Losito, Camille Kaiser and Laura Shelly; back row: P. J. Garfinkel, Steven Bendler and Kevin Ian Gordon.

Bartow-Pell Events

Bluegrass with the Birdhive Boys will be featured on the First Friday, Nov. 1, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments are available. The free Bronx Seaside Trolley makes a continuous loop from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost: \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and students; members free.

On Thursday, Nov. 7, at 7:30 p.m., BPMM will present “Tree Talk: One Year Later—Restoring the Treescapes in the Hurricane’s Wake” by master arborist Dan Dalton, who will discuss the effect of Hurricane Sandy on the urban forest and how to best replace what was lost. Specific species, both native and non-native, will be explored. Registration is requested. Free.

Volunteer Garden Clean-Up Day will take place on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Roll up your sleeves and don your gardening gloves to help get the garden and grounds of BPMM ready for winter. Light breakfast will be available. Please bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Registration is requested. Free.

Birding at Bartow will be on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. As the trees turn, the fall migration enters its final stage. Assorted sparrows, warblers, juncos, and hawks stop at BPMM to grab seeds to fuel their flight. Migrating orioles, blackbirds, grackles, flickers, finches and more will fill the fields and pick berries off the shrubs along the paths. Take a bird walk with naturalist, writer and photographer Debbie Becker to watch our avian friends feast al fresco. Registration requested. Cost \$10; seniors, students and members \$8.

A terrarium workshop will be offered on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 12 to 2 p.m. Winter is coming! Join horticulturalist Maria Colletti to learn how to make a miniature garden—and take it home. Tropical plant terrariums, hanging glass globes with air plants, succulent and moss dish

gardens, and more will get you through the long winter months. Registration required. Cost: \$10; seniors, students and members \$8, plus \$20 materials fee.

On Dec. 6, the holiday celebrations begin at BPMM, which will feature a storybook Christmas with Christmas trees throughout the mansion decorated by artists and designers inspired by contemporary children’s storybooks.

The festive BPMM holiday luncheon will be on Friday, Dec. 6, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Start off the holiday season by enjoying delicious food, shopping for gifts and home-baked goods and catching up with friends. Reservations required.

Later that day, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., the Holiday First Friday will feature the Metropolitanones. Experience the mansion decked out for the holidays and delight in the festive, a cappella sound of the Metropolitanones. Do a little holiday shopping and enjoy refreshments. The free Bronx Seaside Trolley makes a continuous loop from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. For information, call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and students; members free.

The annual BPMM Holiday Family Day will be Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Holiday spirit abounds during this fun-filled day. Children (and parents) will delight in holiday storytelling and crafts, professional photographs with Santa, holiday shopping and more. Storytelling at 10:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.; holiday crafts and photos with Santa are on-going. Space is limited, registration required. Cost: \$20 children one year and up; member children \$15 (adults and children under one year free). Photos with Santa additional \$20 fee.

The Holiday Evening Celebration will be on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 7 to 10 p.m. Celebrate—and support—the mansion in holiday splendor. Enjoy cocktails, holiday fare, caroling, auction and more!

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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.org, call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Weekly Weight Watchers Meetings: Thursday evenings at 5:30 with Debbie. Join us and we can make it through the holiday season together. For more information, call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Monthly Teen Dances: Dances for teens in 6, 7 and 8th grades. Come join your friends for a night of fun. The dates for the dances are Nov. 23 and Dec. 14, 7 to 10 p.m. The dances are free.

Monthly Parenting Discussions with John Scardina. We laugh, we cry, and we learn from one another: join us as we each share our experience, strength, and hope on this journey of parenthood! The next meetings will be Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

Family Bingo Nights: Come join us for a great night filled with laughter, joy and great prizes for the family. Friday, Nov. 15. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Bingo cards are \$5 and Community Center members get one free card.

Feng Shui will be returning soon. For more information on this great program, call Barbara at 914-315-6556.

Scrapbooking classes and paper-crafting events with Desiree are coming to the City Island Community Center soon! Feel free to check out our website at www.demahandcrafts.com or call 914-562-5857 for details.

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.

Jill's Playgroup: for pre-school children on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 12:30 p.m. No charge but donations are appreciated. Call 917-330-0922 for more information.

Art and Craft Classes: For pre-school and kindergarten through third grade. For information and registration, call Eileen Stodut at 914-633-1695. Six classes for \$125, including materials. Classes will feature painting, collage, paper sculpture, print-making and many other projects that will ignite the imagination! The classes are designed to improve cognitive skills, confidence and creativity. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914-633-1695.

Introduction to Acting: Grades 3-6. These classes are designed for children to express themselves in a fun and warm environment with theater, songs and dance. Using lines from their original play, they will learn how to create characters, giving them an outlet to bring their imaginations to life. The unique combination of dancing, singing and acting classes for children gives them a newfound confidence and fosters a love of the performing arts. A final performance for family and friends. For more information or to sign up, call Eileen at 914-633-1695. Leave a message! Don't wait until the last minute!

Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep: For high school prep or just for fun! Taught by Geri Smith, former Laguardia High School teacher and exam auditioner. \$90 for five-week session, \$25 materials fee (after session ends students bring materials home). For registration or more information, call

718-885-1503.

ADULT PROGRAM

Zumba with Julia: Want to lose that belly fat? Well here is your chance to Zumba with Julia. It's a high energy Zumba workout with me for an hour. Saturday mornings from 10 to 11 a.m. \$10 per class. Call 917-601-5514. It's fun!

Zumba with Letti: Letti is a fantastic Zumba instructor who brings a lot of creativity and energy to her classes. Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Classes are \$10 or 5 class card for \$40.

Yoga Stretch with Norma: Thursdays at 7 p.m. This is an easy hatha vinyasa class suitable for all fitness levels. These Yoga Stretch poses helps remove any fears or challenges in doing these exercises, while it also assists with stress reduction and weight management. This class focuses on stretching and toning muscles that are often neglected, but so important to keeping you healthy and mobile. And best of all, Yoga Stretch is easy and fun enough for beginners, or those who just haven't exercised in a while. \$10 a class. Call 718-885-0535.

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

Aerobics with Mary: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9 to 10 a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793.

Chess Club: Meets each Thursday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid T.V. Have fun.

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

Sarah Persteins

American Legion Post #156

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m. The executive board meeting will be on Monday, Nov. 18, at 7:30 p.m.

Thank you to all of the volunteers, businesses and patrons who made this year's pumpkin sale a success.

Save the date! The Military Ball will be held on Friday, Nov. 8, at the Villa Barone Manor. The Post and the SAL will each reserve a table!

On Sunday, Nov. 10, the 29th annual Bronx County Veterans Day Parade will start at Tremont Avenue and Lafayette Avenue and end at the Throggs Neck Post.

On Friday, Nov. 15, there will be a fundraiser for a local serviceperson who has just returned from the Middle East. The evening will offer good music and fun starting at 7 p.m.

The annual Servicemen's Dinner will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m. This event will include the usual roast pork and chicken dinner with all of the trimmings, live music and open bar. The price is \$35 per person. Sign up early, because seats are limited.

Turkey Raffles will be available soon! Look for them in your mailbox. The drawings will take place at the Servicemen's Dinner.

The VA accepts clothing donations for our veterans. Donations can be dropped off at the Post or brought over to the fourth floor of the VA hospital in Kingsbridge. Female clothing is especially needed.

Vice Commander Mike Treats reports that membership dues are now due. They are \$45. They can be mailed or dropped off to the Post.

Football season is here. Come and watch your favorite teams on our many televisions. Also, come and check out our new floor.

The 2014 calendars are on sale at \$20 each. Proceeds go toward maintaining the Post. We have many new shirts on sale. Stop by the Post and check out our new styles.

We are now on the Internet at leonardh-hawkinspost156.com.

We have space for your next party and can accommodate up to 100 people. Members receive a discount on all hall rentals. Call Joe Goonan at 718-885-1637.



Photos by BARBARA DOLENSEK

The Boy Scouts of Troop 211 installed planters (photo below) that they built in front of the Nautical Museum on Oct. 5, 2013, as part of Michael Bellocchio's Life Project. Pictured above, front row (l. to r.): Jeremy Filomio, Jack Green, Michael Bellocchio and Brandon McGaughan; back row: Cris Tomsen, Jaiden Torado and Joseph Kramer.

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

We are in need of flag stewards to help put up the flags this year. Anyone interested should contact the Post at 718-885-0639.

Peter Del-Debbio is still recovering from complications that resulted from several recent surgeries.

The Post would like to thank everyone for their continuous support throughout the year!

Thomas Lynch

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island, Your Shul by the Sea, an unaffiliated, all-inclusive synagogue, offers a stimulating place for observance of Jewish traditions. The spirited congregation is led by our innovative rabbi, Shohama Wiener, our joyful musical associate spiritual leader, Reb David Evan Markus and our multi-talented rabbinic intern, Reb Eva Sax-Bolder. For 80 years, Temple Beth-El has welcomed all who come to celebrate and pray here as our services embrace diversity at 480 City Island Avenue. We extend an invitation to the City Island community and beyond to join us at these events.

Friday night Sabbath services commence promptly at 7:30 p.m. Please come at 7:15 to enjoy the welcoming music and an opportunity to meet and greet before services begin. We use a prayer book written primarily in English with some text in Hebrew, transliterated allowing all words to be easily sung and read. Your Shul by the Sea Band provides a delightful quality to our services, inspiring some of us to dance as we welcome the Sabbath.

Every Friday evening Temple Beth El of City Island opens its doors for Shabbat services, and when the clergy is not there, services are led by congregants. Often our own Bob Berent and his wonderful accordion grace our celebration.

Our special events and services for November are as follows: Friday, Nov. 8, led by Rabbi Shohama and Reb Eva; Nov. 22 led by Reb David with an Oneg provided by Paul Klein, our Temple president, in celebration of his birthday. Happy birthday, Paul; we wish you a wonderful year ahead. The entire congregation and clergy are so grateful for all you do for Our Shul by the Sea. Thank you.

Spirit of the Year class: led by Reb David, second Wednesday of each month, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Reb David's class on Chanukah will be Nov. 13.

The Chanukah Menorah lighting will take place in Hawkins Park on Wednesday, Nov. 27, led by Reb David, at 6 p.m. There will be singing at the park and refreshments at Paul Klein's Kaleidoscope Gallery across the street. Please join us for this festive occasion the day before Thanksgiving. Chanukah and Thanksgiving will not occur again this close for 70,000 years, and this has never occurred before, as Thanksgiving has only been a holiday since 1863.

We are looking forward to: Shabbat



Morning Learner's Minyan, led by Reb Eva, starting early 2014 and a theater party event in November or December 2013.

Dates are subject to change and those interested should check our website, www.yourshulbythesea.org, for the latest updates. You can also call or e-mail Mike Eiron for further details at Michaeleiron@optonline.net. Rabbinic sermons and teachings (blogs), as well as calendar updates, are now on our website and our Facebook page. Temple Beth-El is trying to become a fragrance free zone in consideration of those with allergies.

Ellen Ruth Topol

PSS Healthy Seniors

Program Services

All programs, classes and services are available to anyone 60 or better. Morning activities feature our fitness program (see below). Afternoon activities include computer classes, acrylic painting, holiday card crafting, balance class, movies and more. Blood pressure screening, health and nutrition talks are also available on a monthly basis. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 to receive our detailed monthly calendar featuring trips, events and activities. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services and the NYC Department for the Aging.

Fitness Program

Exercise is an important key to good health, especially for older people. Our fitness program offers classes with various levels of fitness. Drop in and try one of our classes for yourself. **Zumba Gold with Paul**, Mondays at 10:15 a.m. at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street; **Cardio Fitness with Mary**: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue; **Arthritis Exercise with Patty**: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. at Grace Church Hall; **Yoga Stretch with Michael**: Thursdays at 9 a.m. at Grace Church Hall; **Fit for Life with Sarah**: Fridays at 9 a.m. at Grace Church Hall. All exercises classes are \$3 each, or \$30 for unlimited classes for the month. Arthritis Exercise class on Tuesdays will continue to be free.

Volunteering

We are pleased with our many volunteers and appreciate their help in many areas, including clerical, computer, arts and crafts, and help with parties and events,

Continued on page 11



Woody's Best

Woody Allen has won four Academy Awards: three for Best Original Screenplay: **Annie Hall** (1978), shared with Marshall Brickman; **Hannah and Her Sisters** (1987) and **Midnight in Paris** (2011), along with one for Best Director **Annie Hall** (1978). Mr. Allen has been nominated 23 times: 15 as a screenwriter, seven as a director and once as an actor. He has more Original Screenplay Academy Award nominations than any other writer, and he is tied for third all-time with seven Best Director nominations.

Woody Allen first came to my attention in 1973 with the release of **Sleeper**. When health-food store owner Miles Monroe (Woody) enters the hospital for a routine gall bladder operation, he dies on the operating table and is cryogenically frozen. Defrosted 200 years later, Miles awakens to an oppressive world where androids serve as household help. Pretending to be an android to escape detection, he is sent to work at the home of Luna (Diane Keaton), a composer of greeting cards who thinks that the world of the future is perfect just as it is.

Allen's most famous film, for which he won Oscars for Best Director and Original Screenplay, and for which received his only nomination in the Best Actor category, is **Annie Hall** (1978). Allen plays Alvy Singer, a stand-up comic who is introduced to the ditzy would-be nightclub vocalist, Annie Hall (Diane Keaton) by his best friend, Rob (Tony Roberts). When Alvy's insecurities sabotage their relationship, Annie leaves him for a new life and lover (Paul Simon) in Los Angeles. The use of the split-screen device is excellent in showing their mutual thoughts about each other and some very funny stereotypes. Allen also "breaks the fourth wall" by speaking directly to the audience. The story is told as a flashback about a man who attained happiness but couldn't accept it.

Manhattan (1980), which received a Best Screenplay nomination, is an homage to New York City. The dazzling opening sequence is set to Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," played over powerful black-and-white images of Manhattan. The subsequent Gershwin songs set a romantic tone, which serves as a counterpoint to the neurotic characters and their affairs. Isaac (Allen) is twice-divorced, most recently from Jill (Meryl Streep), a lesbian who is writing a book that will tell all about their marriage. He is infatuated with Tracy, a 17-year-old girl (Mariel Hemingway). His married best friend, Yale (Michael Murphy), is tired of the affair he is having with a girl he met at a party, Mary (Diane Keaton), and would like Isaac to take her off his hands. This film exhibits the finest cinematography of any of Allen's films.

Zelig (1983) is a conceptually brilliant newsreel-style mockumentary. It stars Allen in the title role of Leonard Zelig, a "human chameleon" who becomes famous because of his extraordinary ability to transform into anyone he meets. He has so little sense of self that he can gain an identity only by absorbing one from the people around him. We see him blend into all sorts of outrageous situations ranging from being with Babe Ruth in the Yankee dugout to standing behind Hitler at a Nazi rally. Public outrage sends him for help from psychiatrist Dr. Eudora Fletcher (Mia Farrow).

Another conceptual wonder is found in **The Purple Rose of Cairo** (1986), which stars Mia Farrow as Cecelia, a dreary lonely housewife married to the cruel Monk (Danny Aiello). Her only relief is her passion for movies. She sees one particular film so many times that the film's hero, Tom Baxter (Jeff Daniels), literally comes down off the screen to be with her,

much to the dismay of the audience, the theater owner, the film studio moguls and the other actors still on the screen. He wants Cecilia to run away with him, but he only knows what his movie character knows, and his experience is literally limited to what happens to his character in the film-within-the-film. This is an insurmountable problem.

Hannah and her Sisters (1986) is one of my favorite Woody Allen's films. He was nominated for Best Director and won an Oscar for Best Screenplay along with Supporting Actors Dianne Wiest and Michael Caine. This is a classic tale about three New York City sisters: Hannah (Mia Farrow), Holly (Dianne Wiest) and Lee (Barbara Hershey). It begins with a festive Thanksgiving dinner, during which Hannah's husband, Elliot (Michael Caine), realizes that he is falling in love with Lee, who lives with an artist, Frederick (Max von Sydow). Allen plays Mickey, Hannah's hypochondriac ex-husband, a neurotic producer whose initial relationship with Holly is disastrous, but sometimes there are second chances in life.

Also nominated for Best Screenplay is another of my favorites, **Radio Days** (1987), 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.

Nominated for Best Screenplay, Director and Best Supporting Actor (Martin Landau) is the philosophical dramedy **Crimes and Misdemeanors** (1989). The ensemble cast includes Allen as filmmaker Cliff Stern, who falls for TV producer Halley Reed (Mia Farrow) while shooting a documentary about arrogant comedian Lester (Alan Alda). Another plot concerns respected ophthalmologist Judah Rosenthal (Martin Landau), whose mistress Dolores (Angelica Huston) threatens to tell Judah's wife, Miriam (Clare Bloom), about their affair. With guilt, he turns to his Mafia-connected brother Jack (Jerry Orbach) for help. Then there is Judah's patient Ben (Sam Waterston), a rabbi who is slowly going blind, which is symbolic of the blind eye that people need to assuage a guilty conscience. Allen uses flashbacks to establish the childhood of both Rosenthal brothers, whose father solemnly promised them that God saw everything and that, even if he didn't, a good man could not live happily with an evil deed on his conscience. This film is a fascinating investigation of the truth of that statement.

Dianne Wiest won another best Supporting Actress Oscar for her role as Helen Sinclair, a fading stage star, in **Bullets over Broadway** (1995). The film also received nominations for Best Director and Screenplay. Set in 1929 New York City, it is the story of David Shayne (John Cusack), an aspiring playwright who is struggling as his play is ruined by Olive Neal (Jennifer Tilly), the hideously talentless shrill-voiced mistress of the play's backer, gangster Nick Valenti (Joe Viterelli). Cheech (Chazz Palminteri), Olive's sinister and intelligent bodyguard, comes to David's rescue by helping rewrite various scenes and becomes personally invested in the play's success.

While not critically acclaimed, I thoroughly enjoyed the one and only Woody Allen musical comedy, **Everyone Says I Love You** (1996). This charming, goofy experiment has all the actors singing with their own voices. A family of rich liberal Manhattan Upper East Siders learn life lessons as though it were a 1930s musical. The extended family of lawyer Bob (Alan Alda) and his wife, Steffi (Goldie Hawn), include five children: D.J. (Natasha Lyonne), Skylar (Drew Barrymore) Lane (Gaby Hoffman), Laura (Natalie Portman) and Scott (Lukas Haas). Also featured are Allen as Steffi's ex-husband, Joe; Julia Roberts as Joe's married love-interest, Von; Edward Norton as Skylar's fiancée, and Tim Roth as a convict who piques Skylar's interest.

Allen returns to slapstick comedy in **Small Time Crooks** (2000), which has

some laugh-out-loud moments. Hugh Grant plays David, an opportunistic art dealer who tutors nouveau riche Frenchy (Tracey Ullman) in culture, language and art. Frenchy is married to Ray (Allen) who is always scheming with get-rich-quick ideas. Elaine May is hilarious as Frenchy's cousin May.

Another screenplay nomination was given for **Match Point** (2006), a thriller with a theme similar to "Crimes and Misdemeanors." When ambitious tennis pro Chris Wilton (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) is befriended by the upper class British Tom Hewett (Matthew Goode), he wins the heart of Tom's sister, Chloe (Emily Mortimer), with the concomitant perks of becoming the son-in-law of a wealthy British businessman. Complicating matters is Chris's affair with Tom's fiancée, aspiring American actress Nola Rice (Scarlett Johansson). When Nola threatens to expose the truth, Chris is faced with a difficult decision.

Midnight in Paris (2011) centers on Gil (Owen Wilson), a Hollywood screenwriter and his fiancée, Inez (Rachel McAdams), who are on vacation in Paris with her disapproving parents (Mimi Kennedy and Kurt Fuller). Inez wants to spend time with her pseudo-intellectual friend Paul (Michael Sheen), whom Gil detests. So Gil takes midnight strolls alone and is picked up by a classic car that takes him back in time to the 1920s. There he meets Cole Porter (Yves Heck), Josephine Baker (Sonia Rolland), Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald (Alison Pill and Tom Hiddleston), Ernest Hemingway (Corey Stoll) and Gertrude Stein (Kathy Bates), and becomes infatuated with the mistress (Marion Cotillard) of Pablo Picasso (Marcial Di Fonzo Bo). Gil and Adriana subsequently travel in time to the 1890s, where they encounter the artists Toulouse-Lautrec (Vincent Menjou Cortes), Paul Gauguin (Olivier Rabourdin) and Edgar Degas (François Rostain). This is a delightful film in which Owen Wilson does a credible job of playing a character Woody Allen once would have played himself. Allen won Best Screenplay and was nominated for Best Director.

Though it is too early for Oscar nominations, the buzz is that Cate Blanchett is practically guaranteed a shot at Best Actress in the recent **Blue Jasmine** (2013). She portrays a Ruth Madoff-type character, Jeanette "Jasmine" Francis, whose financial situation leaves her no choice but to move in with her sister, Ginger (Sally Hawkins), much to the consternation of Ginger's auto mechanic fiancé, Chili (Bobby Cannavale). Moving back and forth in time, we see the ultra-wealthy lifestyle Jasmine lived with

her husband, Hal (Alec Baldwin), when he was at the top of his ponzi scheming. Other featured actors include Peter Sarsgaard as Jasmine's potential love interest, wealthy diplomat Dwight Westlake; Andrew Dice Clay as Augie, Ginger's ex-husband; and Louis C. K. as Al, Ginger's lover. This is the story of the demise of a person's sanity, and while it is not a pretty sight, the film is brilliantly acted.

Woody Allen granted unprecedented access to filmmaker Robert Weide in the making of **Woody Allen: A Documentary** (2011). The film includes a tour of his Brooklyn childhood haunts and footage of him at home and on a movie set. Weide chronicles Allen's career from his days writing for Sid Caesar in the 1950s to the present. There are interviews about him from such notables as Antonio Banderas, Josh Brolin, Dick Cavett, Penelope Cruz, John Cusack, Larry David, Mariel Hemingway, Scarlett Johansson, Julie Kavner, Diane Keaton, Martin Landau, Louise Lasser, Sean Penn, Tony Roberts, Chris Rock, Martin Scorsese, Mira Sorvino, Naomi Watts, Dianne Wiest and Owen Wilson. For those interested in the life and career of this uniquely imaginative and talented writer/director, this documentary is a must-see.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .

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Organization News

Continued from page 9

to name a few. We welcome all new volunteers in helping make this senior center the absolute best for our seaside community.

Information, Referrals and Assistance

If you would like more information regarding benefits applicable to seniors, we would be more than happy to help out. We also provide assistance with filling out forms and applying for certain programs. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the center.

Caregivers Support

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

Transportation Services

Call Anthony Mazzella at 347-834-6466 for morning trips on City Island and pickup for exercise programs or lunch. Afternoon shopping trips include Shop Rite, Bay Plaza, Stop & Shop, Target, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. Suggested contributions for round trips is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-Island. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services.

Patty Attis

City Island Theater Group

The City Island Theater Group is thrilled to present Neil Simon's "Barefoot in the Park" over two weekends in November this year at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue. Evening shows will begin at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 15 and 16, and on Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 21-23. A matinee performance will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17. This delightful play tells the story of newlyweds Paul and Corrie and the first few days of their marriage in a very small, five-floor walk-up apartment in New York City. Paul is a conservative lawyer, and Corrie's only goal in life seems to be to have fun. Members of the cast are Steven Bendler, Phil Garfinkel, Kevin Ian Gordon, Camille Kaiser, Thomas Losito and Laura Shelly. The play is directed by Maria Provenzano.

CITG is pleased to sponsor a new sock drive at P.S. 175 during the two weeks leading up to the show. All students are being asked to donate a pair of new socks at school, and the class that brings in the most socks will receive a pizza party as a thank-you from CITG. The socks will be given to POTS (Part of the Solution), which distributes food and other items to needy families.

Information about the sock drive and the production will go home with the students at the beginning of November. Every flyer that is returned to CITG with the purchase of a ticket to the show will result in a \$1 donation to P. S. 175's fund.

There will be a box in Grace Hall during the run of the play where new socks may be placed for donation to POTS, which is in particular need of men's socks.

Please visit CITG's FaceBook page and be part of their photo contest, "A Kiss in the Park." Winners will receive free tickets to the production, as well as a bottle of wine.

For tickets, call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com. Tickets may also be purchased online by visiting our website: www.cityislandtheatergroup.com. Free valet parking is available at Sammy's lot #3 just south of the Chinese restaurant on City Island Avenue.

Mary McIntyre

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

The first two days of November mark two special days: Nov. 1 is the feast of All Saints and Nov. 2 is the Commemoration of All Souls. We remember all those who have passed from this life to the next.

Nov. 1 is also the First Friday of the month, and we will hold our monthly Holy Hour from 4 to 5 p.m. with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

On Sunday, Nov. 3, there will be a special Enrollment Mass at 10 a.m. for all those who are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on May 6, 2014. Parents and students will participate in this initial event in preparation for the sacrament.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, we will have our monthly coffee hour in the rectory after the 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome.

Please be sure to join us on Friday, Nov. 22, for our St. Mary's Annual Turkey Bingo. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and we will begin promptly at 7 p.m. As always, we look forward to a fun-filled night! Prizes will include turkeys, wine and gift certificates to local shops and restaurants, as well as 50/50 and raffles.

Our annual Thanksgiving Mass will take place on Tuesday evening, Nov. 26, at 7:30 p.m. At the Mass we will collect canned and dried goods, which will be distributed to the poor. All are welcome. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

As we approach the month of December, we mark the first Sunday of Advent on Dec. 1. This is the beginning of the new church year, and the season is a time of preparation for the coming of Our Savior to live among us as a man. We will place our Advent candle in a prominent place in our church as we mark off the weeks in anticipation of Christ's coming. We pray for peace in our troubled world as we await the celebration of the coming of the Prince of Peace.

During the first weekend of December, Dec. 7 and 8, we will hold our annual Christmas Fair in the gym and in the Thrift Shop from 9: a.m. to 3 p.m. Come, browse and shop for bargains.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Garden Club of City Island

"Trees and Bushes of the Fall," the program at our October meeting, was presented by Susannah Strazzera, horticulturalist from Wave Hill Gardens and Cultural Center. The talk was very informative and greatly enhanced by her beautiful photographs. On tap for the November meeting is a plant exchange for the members, which will include indoor and outdoor plants and cuttings, gently used books and garden paraphernalia, and seeds. In addition, Susan Strazzera and Barbara Harrison will do a short presentation on their recent safari to South Africa. There will be lots of videos and beautiful pictures of the animals they saw up-close and personal.

On the calendar for future Garden Club meetings are talks on flower arranging and a trip to the New York Botanical Garden for a rose tour in the spring, as well as planning for our annual activities, such as making holiday wreaths for the Island's public buildings and starting arrangements for our annual luncheon in the spring.

In addition, our Beautification Committee, club members and Helping Hands will be winterizing the planters along City Island Avenue, as well as dressing them up for the holidays. The committee has also started plans for additional planters to be positioned along the Avenue in the spring with a focus on adorning the streets where local businesses have contributed so generously to our Beautification Fund drive. All in all, a busy year has gotten under way for the club, and we welcome prospective new members to attend a meeting, learn what we do and how they can participate, and perhaps join us in our beautification efforts.

Barbara Harrison



Photo by LISA MOORE

Children from the newly opened Early Childhood Program at St. Mary, Star of the Sea are shown above decorating the pumpkins they bought at the Legion sale in October.



St. Mary's Early Childhood Program

St. Mary, Star of the Sea is happy to announce the opening of the Early Childhood Program, "Little Stars of the Sea." We offer a safe, comforting, learning environment for children 3 to 5 years old, with group play, outdoor exploration and exercise, technology (use of smart board), music, art and so much more! We provide quality childcare in a calm and nurturing environment with experienced teachers.

Little Stars have been busy pumpkin picking, dressing up as super heroes, learning the seasons, rhyming words, colors and the letters A, B and C. We all enjoyed our Halloween party with a parade around the neighborhood. The children are making friends as they enjoy reading at the City Island Library.

Parents of Little Stars and the community of City Island enjoyed our first event "The Roaring Funnies" on Oct. 19. A great time was had by all!

Little Stars also offers an aftercare program to accommodate working parents. Children from kindergarten through eighth grade are welcome. Aftercare is available from 2:30 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. This program provides certified teachers to assist with homework and the use of the gym for exercise, games, and various other activities. Individual tutoring is also available.

There is still time to register your children. Please call Lisa Moore at 718-885-1527, or stop by the school if you are interested in any of our programs.

Public School 175

Our school year is off to another wonderful start. In addition to the academic work students do each day, teachers are planning wonderful trips to supplement curriculum. Future trips include the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, the Bronx Zoo and performances at Hostos Center for the Performing Arts and at Queens College.

Student government elections have taken place in grades four through eight and Penny Harvest is just getting started. Elected fourth- through eighth grade students will work with student government leader Andy Scopp to decide where to donate the money that is collected during the harvest.

Thanks to the generosity of Councilmember James Vacca, we are once again

collaborating with the Bronx Arts Ensemble to provide musical and theatrical arts to our students. Fifth-grade students will put on a spring performance of "Annie." In addition, thanks to the generosity of our PTA, we are able to continue our work with Lincoln Center Institute in grades K through three. This year's units of study are Alvin Ailey dance and blues music. The PTA's generosity is also enabling us to provide an after-school choral program for our many talented student vocalists.

The building continues to buzz after regular school hours. In order to provide middle school students with the instructional time needed to cover our rigorous curriculum, 50 instructional minutes have been added every Monday through Wednesday. Our Extended Day Program continues to provide students in grades one through six with academic support. The Sports & Arts Program, which serves students in grades six through eight, includes a sports component that changes throughout the year, homework help, art and games. Another component of the Sports & Arts Program is the many exciting trips that students attend during school holidays.

Several exciting events will be taking place in the weeks to come. They include a Halloween festival morning for students in grades K through three, Halloween movie and snacks for fourth- and fifth-graders and the Halloween Dance for our students in grades six through eight. The PTA is also having its annual Election Day Sale on Nov. 5. We hope to see many of you there. As always, we are greatly appreciative for all of the support we get from our community.

Please keep in mind these important dates: Nov. 5-Election Day (school closed for students); Nov. 14-Parent-Teacher Conferences, 1 to 3 p.m. and 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Citizens-of-the-Month

September Citizens-of-the-Month are Jayden Kenny (kindergarten); Mikayla Murphy and Gabriella Gierum (first grade); Briana Ufret (second grade); Nicholas Baratta and Ryan Whelan (third grade); Joseph Burton and Oona Foxe (fourth grade); Ivonne Clara and Carmine Testa (fifth grade); Maddox Pedroza and Jack Morrissey (sixth grade); Wilson Tiburcio and Anthony Masella (seventh grade); Christopher De Santis and John Tomsen (eighth grade). October Citizens-of-the-Month are Michael Burton (kindergarten); Paul Lachman and Marshall Persteins (first grade); Sonya Doyle (second grade); Matthew McGaughan and Patrick Livingston (third grade); Samantha Kucerak and Mikelle Backman (fourth grade); Francis Padagas and Isabel Whelan (fifth grade); Albieris Sosa and Joseph Cruz (sixth grade); Leena Peloso and Carolina Clara (seventh grade); Jennifer Carina and Lydia McElroy (eighth grade).

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Obituaries

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

Robert D'Allesandro

Robert "Jesse" D'Allesandro, 61, passed away at home on Oct. 8, 2013, after a courageous battle with cancer. Jesse grew up on City Island and moved to Maryland with his family in 1976. He served in the Navy as a helmsman for four years, and after moving to Maryland, he worked as a master carpenter.

Jesse loved to work in his beautiful yard, building things, and spending time outdoors with his family, hiking, kayaking and camping. He overcame many obstacles in his life but was most proud of conquering his addiction to alcohol.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; his mother, Pat Brown, and stepfather, Denver; his stepmother, Jean D'Allesandro; his daughters and their husbands, April and Ray Eldridge and Crystal and Matt Spade; his stepchildren and their spouses, Erich and Melissa Fiederlein and Heidi and Erick Kesper; his brother and best friend, Howard and his wife, Barbara; his sisters and their husbands, Pattiann and Hank Gilcher, Susan Snyder and Dwayne Farrar, and Teresa and Paul Hartsoe; his stepsister, Brenda

and Jeff McKew; his grandchildren Austin, Dakota, Alyson, Damien, Matthew, Nicholas, Zach, Autumn and Warren; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father Robert "Bob" D'Allesandro.

Jesse was loved by all who knew him and will be greatly missed.

Helen King Stolk

Helen King Stolk, who lived on City Island for many years, passed away in Vancouver, Washington, on Oct. 15, 2013, at the age of 88.

She was born Helen Emily Rackow on Jan. 26, 1925, in New York City to Adalbert Rackow and Emily Wetzel, both German immigrants. She grew up in Germantown on the Upper East Side but moved to City Island about 1970. She moved out west in 2010 to be near her son, Mark Hails.

She spoke fondly of her work as a hat check girl at the Drake Hotel in New York, where she prided herself on not handing out numbers but instead, memorizing people's faces and the hats and coats they left with her. Frank Sinatra was a regular. She was also an avid gardener and sailor and spent much of her free time outside in her yard or at the Morris Yacht club, sailing as chief mate on the *Huggy Bear*. She was a true animal lover, always with a dog and sometimes even a pet squirrel.

She was predeceased by husbands Nicholas Doherty, Peter Hails, Elliot King



Helen King Stolk

and Gerard Stolk, as well as her parents and her brother Albert. She was also predeceased by dear friend and companion, Roberto Vernenghi, who had a tremendous impact on Helen's children.

Helen is survived by her siblings Louise Swenson and Phillip Mangis and will be tremendously missed by her children, their spouses and her grandchildren: Mark Hails (Peg) of Portland, Oregon, and Cheri

Salerno (Nick) of City Island. She leaves behind four grandchildren: Ben and Lilah King-Hails and Nicole and Sarah Salerno, who will never forget all of her colorful stories of growing up in Manhattan during the Depression and later. She leaves a true legacy on how to live your life with joy and gusto, and to appreciate all the small things.

She was an extraordinary woman, who overcame tremendous odds to live a rich and adventurous life, full of passion, love and joie de vivre.

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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

NOVEMBER 2013

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Fri	0347	0.52	0951	8.11	1635	0.02	2221	7.54	Fri 01
02 Sat	0430	0.19	1031	8.45	1717	-0.38	2303	7.74	Sat 02
All times are Eastern Standard Time beginning Sunday, November 3									
03 Sun	0414	-0.07	1013	8.72	1701	-0.67	2247	7.88	Sun 03
04 Mon	0459	-0.22	1058	8.87	1746	-0.81	2333	7.92	Mon 04
05 Tue	0546	-0.24	1145	8.86	1834	-0.77			Tue 05
06 Wed	0022	7.86	0636	-0.11	1234	8.67	1927	-0.58	Wed 06
07 Thu	0115	7.70	0731	0.13	1328	8.32	2028	-0.29	Thu 07
08 Fri	0213	7.49	0835	0.44	1428	7.86	2142	0.02	Fri 08
09 Sat	0325	7.29	1004	0.66	1542	7.41	2300	0.20	Sat 09
10 Sun	0500	7.27	1133	0.62	1729	7.18			Sun 10
11 Mon	0010	0.22	0615	7.46	1245	0.35	1847	7.22	Mon 11
12 Tue	0113	0.12	0718	7.74	1347	-0.04	1949	7.37	Tue 12
13 Wed	0210	-0.03	0814	8.03	1444	-0.42	2044	7.51	Wed 13
14 Thu	0303	-0.16	0904	8.24	1536	-0.71	2134	7.60	Thu 14
15 Fri	0351	-0.22	0952	8.36	1624	-0.86	2221	7.63	Fri 15
16 Sat	0436	-0.19	1035	8.36	1709	-0.85	2305	7.58	Sat 16
17 Sun	0518	-0.05	1116	8.25	1752	-0.69	2346	7.48	Sun 17
18 Mon	0556	0.17	1154	8.07	1831	-0.42			Mon 18
19 Tue	0025	7.34	0627	0.43	1225	7.85	1906	-0.09	Tue 19
20 Wed	0100	7.19	0643	0.68	1246	7.63	1931	0.25	Wed 20
21 Thu	0127	7.06	0700	0.85	1309	7.45	1940	0.51	Thu 21
22 Fri	0150	6.98	0734	1.00	1342	7.28	2006	0.68	Fri 22
23 Sat	0220	6.93	0816	1.14	1423	7.11	2045	0.82	Sat 23
24 Sun	0300	6.92	0904	1.25	1508	6.93	2130	0.93	Sun 24
25 Mon	0346	6.94	0955	1.30	1559	6.77	2219	0.98	Mon 25
26 Tue	0436	7.02	1052	1.25	1655	6.68	2312	0.96	Tue 26
27 Wed	0529	7.18	1153	1.07	1754	6.67			Wed 27
28 Thu	0007	0.84	0624	7.42	1258	0.75	1854	6.77	Thu 28
29 Fri	0104	0.63	0717	7.72	1404	0.32	1952	6.96	Fri 29
30 Sat	0200	0.35	0809	8.07	1504	-0.15	2047	7.20	Sat 30

DECEMBER 2013

01 Sun	0255	0.06	0900	8.39	1558	-0.59	2139	7.44	Sun 01
02 Mon	0349	-0.21	0950	8.63	1650	-0.92	2231	7.65	Mon 02
03 Tue	0443	-0.40	1041	8.76	1741	-1.11	2322	7.77	Tue 03
04 Wed	0537	-0.48	1132	8.72	1834	-1.15			Wed 04
05 Thu	0015	7.80	0634	-0.43	1226	8.52	1929	-1.03	Thu 05
06 Fri	0111	7.74	0736	-0.28	1323	8.16	2029	-0.79	Fri 06
07 Sat	0214	7.61	0847	-0.09	1427	7.71	2133	-0.51	Sat 07



FALL FOLIAGE

The colors of leaves in fall come from the pigments of three naturally occurring chemicals found in trees. Two of the three are present throughout a tree's growing season. The other occurs mostly in autumn.

First and most importantly, there is chlorophyll, which is the chemical that not only gives leaves their green color but also enables them to capture sunlight for photosynthesis. In trees, chlorophyll is so dominant that no other color-producing chemicals seem to be present in leaves at the same time. But there is another chemical present, called carotenoid. Your Halloween pumpkin was colored by carotenoid. So are carrots and corn.

In autumn, leaves begin to turn orange and yellow because trees are producing less and less chlorophyll, which means less and less green. This allows the orange and yellow that were always present to show through, finally, as if they had been hiding from view. For the tree, carotenoid exists side by side with chlorophyll as a kind of sunscreen, to protect it from the harmful effects of overexposure to the sun.

Red pigment is caused by the pres-

ence of anthocyanins, a naturally occurring chemical that appears mostly in the fall. Not surprisingly, apples get their shades of red from anthocyanins. Leaves that turn red do so in response to the especially cool temperatures of an autumn evening. Because of this coolness, vital nutrients that are carried by sap are less likely to find their way to tree branches and trunks. Wherever red is present in the leaves of trees, a rescue operation is in fact under way. Those trapped nutrients are literally saved by anthocyanins before the leaves fall off to become nutritious soil some day for new plants. In this way, a tree stores its own nutrition for the following spring.

The needle-like leaves of evergreen trees are different from their deciduous cousins in another way besides shape. They are coated by a waxy-like substance that protects them from cold at the same time as it allows the tree to conserve water. This adaptation allows evergreens to stay green throughout the year. Individual leaves can last up to 10 years before they drop, depending on the species of tree or shrub.

On the subject of leaves dropping, chances are that you have noticed whole deciduous trees whose leaves still cling to their branches, even in winter, when others have long since been blown or raked away. These would probably be the leaves of oak trees. Oaks are unique in the deciduous family because the special layer of plant cells known as the separation layer, which forms for all other deciduous trees, never fully forms for an oak tree. A fully formed layer allows the endpoint of a leaf's stem to easily separate from the part of the branch to which it was attached.

Enjoy the foliage!

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SAILING LIFE ON CITY ISLAND

By JOYCE MULCAHY

As the 2013 sailing season comes to a close, here are a couple of my favorite photographs taken on my last regatta at AYC (American Yacht Club), and a last leisurely City Island sail on a relatively warm October night. A toast to another season of wins, losses and great sailing memories!



Photos by JOYCE MULCAHY

Richard B. Chernaik, M.D.



I have been in solo Internal Medicine practice in neighboring Co-Op City for over 35 years and have lived on City Island for twenty years. I am seven minutes away by bus and there is free parking available.

I have many years of experience in Primary Care as well as consulting at Montefiore Hospital. I have taught medical students and residents at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and am a Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine there. I have been recognized in Connolly's Book of "Top Doctors".

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IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY

SEED SAVING AND GIVING THANKS

Spring is undoubtedly my favorite season in the garden, but the winter landscape shares a special place in my heart. The starkness of winter shows the evergreens to their best advantage and as tender plants die down, seeds ripen in the sun and are ready for gathering.

It is so satisfying to collect seeds, store them and eventually plant them from our own gardens. I save mine in small brown paper packets and label them with their names and dates. I pick them when they are ripe, and if they are not totally dry, I leave them on a sunny window or cut the whole stalk with the flower and hang them upside down in a paper bag to ripen.

Putting brown paper bags around the seed heads while the plants are still in position is another way of gathering, but don't do this in damp weather. Collect on a sunny day. Avoid plastic and don't overstuff your envelopes. Clean your seed before storing by separating any loose material from the actual seed. You can use a sieve if seeds are large and white paper, so you can see the seed better, as some are very tiny. You can begin planting immediately, and this way you can have spring begin in the depths of winter.

I don't condone pinching seeds from botanical collections, but if a seed head has fallen, you may pick it up. I found the seeds of a plane tree blowing on a breeze and settling at my feet at the cafe Les Deux Magots in Paris. They now have two sets of leaves and are sitting on my windowsill reminding me of my trip. In 20 years there may be a sibling of these great trees somewhere in the Bronx.

Once you have your seeds, look up their propagation requirements and mark this too on the packet. If you plan to save them for more than one year, put them in the vegetable bin. You won't have the same percentage of germination but some will sprout. I have the double black hollyhock



Seeds on Nantucket

"Black Prince" and the silvery grey cardoon on save for next year.

Old-fashioned hollyhocks are biennial, meaning that the first year plants grow from seed. The plant will then bloom, set seed and die in year two. Biennials often have flowers that are spectacular, like salvia turkestanica sclarea. Even in its first year the rosette is silvery, fuzzy and cool. Cardoon, the artichoke thistle, is a tender perennial. Hollyhock, salvia and cardoon need full sun.

Now I am busy cutting down all the perennials to reveal what I had planted specifically for winter. I will leave the grasses and add more bulbs to the species I already have, making larger clumps and drifts. The larger the drift, the bigger the visual impact on your backyard landscape. The evergreen spruces, boxwood, holly, and yew begin to take center stage. Fiery red twig dogwoods blaze amidst the back lit grasses. I am thinking about adding small cyclamen coum to my woodland walk under the trees. Their starry flowers will be ready to appear come winter. Cyclamen coum looks lovely with snowdrops.

Other bulbs to try would be the species daffodils, narcissus psuedonarcissus, and the late narcissus poeticus recurvus known for its sweet scent and superior beauty. These bulbs will naturalize around and the squirrels won't eat them.

To harvest your seeds, put your gardens to bed and make ready for your Thanksgiving feast. With the beauty of Pelham Bay Park as a backdrop, City Island is unique. To be surrounded by a sanctuary of plants and animals is rare in an age of fast-paced technology. As my car veers off the Hutchinson River Parkway onto the road to City Island, I always sigh with relief. There is much to be thankful for in this small Island community. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mary Colby is a gardener and fine artist, whose studio and gallery, Fe Fi Faux, is on City Island.


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Julia Kate McGonegal

Earley Street's newest resident, Julia Kate McGonegal, was born on Sept. 10 to proud parents, Eileen and Larry, and big brothers, Will and Michael. Her Nana and Pop-pop, Julia and Frank DiMaio of Buckley Street, and Grandma and Grandpa Kathy and Jack Abele of Southold, New York, are ecstatic about Julia's arrival. Uncle Michael, Aunt Christina and cousins Trevor, Ryan and CJ are delighted to have a girl in the family!

Happy birthday to our grandson, Joseph Penny, who turned 5 on Oct. 24. Lots of love from Grandma and Grandpa Penny.

Happy 26th birthday wishes on Nov. 12 to Winter Street's Bobby Swieciki, with love from Mom and Dad, Stephen and Maria. Enjoy your special day!

It's a girl! Welcome to the world, Fiona Dorothy Riordan, born Oct. 3 to thrilled parents Thomas and Margaret Riordan. Happy grandparents are Mary and Kevin Casey of City Island and Sue Riordan, and Richard and Rita Riordan of Westchester.

Kristy Marie Rinaldi is proud to announce the Oct. 4 birth of her daughter, Stella Luna Rinaldi. Thrilled grandparents are Anna Marie and Tom Rinaldi of City Island and Yonkers.

Happy 26th birthday on Nov. 4 to Richie Ferris, with lots of love from your family. We wish you all the best!

A very grateful thank-you on Nov. 11 (and every day) to all our veterans who have served proudly. We appreciate your service!

Happy birthday wishes on Nov. 15 to King Avenue's Paul Nani.

And birthday greetings on Nov. 16 to Minnieford Avenue's Ken Farnum, with love from your family and friends.

Best wishes to Minnieford Avenue's Nick Ruggiero, who turns 19 on Nov. 21. With lots of love from your family and friends.



Midge Lewis

Congratulations to Anthony and Meredith Ribaldo of North Salem, New York, who welcomed a new addition to their family, daughter Scarlett Siena, on Oct. 19. Proud grandparents are Anthony and Stephanie Ribaldo of City Island and Marilyn and Michael Regan of Yorktown Heights; two proud great-grandmothers are Shirley Weinman of Yorktown Heights and Josephine Regan of Howard Beach.

A fond farewell to Pilot Cove's Midge Lewis, who is now residing at Providence Rest in the Bronx. Midge was recently



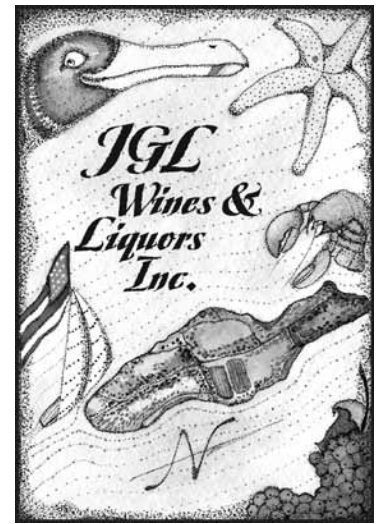
James Daniel Immediato and daddy.

honored at Providence Rest for her military service in the WAVES during World War II when she served as a secret decoder in Washington, D.C. We are so proud and thank her for her service. With love from your daughter Kathy and family.

A bundle of joy for former Islander Jimmy Immediato and his wife, Daniella! James Daniel Immediato was born Aug. 28, 2013. Grandparents are Mary and Jimmy Immediato of Marine Street. Proud grandma Mary passed around photos of her new grandson during her aerobics classes

at the Community Center.

And a very blessed and happy Thanksgiving to all our neighbors and friends
Maria Swieciki



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