

# The Island Current

Published on City Island, New York

Periodicals  
Paid at Bronx, N.Y.  
USPS 114-590

Volume 42 Number 1

January-February 2013

One Dollar

## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL TO CLOSE: CITY ISLAND IN SHOCK

By JUDY RAUH, GREGORY CLANCY and VIRGINIA DANNEGGER



Photos by RICK DEWITT

Several members of the Gala Committee who organized the fund-raiser for St. Mary, Star of the Sea School on Dec. 29, 2012 (l. to r.): Ralph Colón, Millie Colón, Grace McGhee, Daniel and Reina Zoquier, Meaghan Clancy, Gregory Clancy, Stacy Livingston, John Livingston, Josy Rice and Chris Rice.

The St. Mary, Star of the Sea community learned on Nov. 6, 2012, that its elementary school was on a list of schools at risk of being closed at the end of the 2013 school year by the archdiocese of New York. "The issue was not that the school had failed," Islander Greg Clancy, the parent appeal coordinator of the effort to save the school, told *The Current*. "The environment here is truly exceptional." He explained that the school was facing a financial predicament. "It costs \$6,000 annually per pupil in the school, but our tuition is only \$3,800." For years, the archdiocese has heavily subsidized its parish schools, but funding from that source has been severely cut.

St. Mary's, like the other schools on the "at risk" list, was given an opportunity to close the gap in its budget. The schools were required to submit to the archdiocese, by Jan. 3, 2013, a three-year business plan outlining how they would obtain additional funds to operate in the black. The news put the St. Mary's school community on high alert. Mailings and e-mails blanketed City Island, and volunteers reached out to school alumni and supporters.

In the middle of the Christmas season, the Save Our School (SOS) Committee quickly put together an all-day fund-raiser on Dec. 29, 2012, which included a daytime Winter Wonderland Carnival and an evening dinner-dance. More than 200 people attended the evening event, and nearly 40 sponsors from the community contributed to the cause. Prominent among them was JP's Restaurant, which donated all of the food for the dinner. "JP is always generous when an island organization asks for his help," Greg Clancy told *The Current*.

The SOS Committee also reached out to local legislators, including Council Member James Vacca, State Senator Jeff Klein and Assemblymen Michael Benedetto and Mark Gjonaj, all of whom offered to help.

Although the SOS Committee was able to raise more than \$60,000 in its first few weeks, it then had to put together a compre-

hensive business plan guaranteeing more than \$400,000 in income for each of the next three years. "We have to close a gap of \$1.294 million," Greg Clancy reported, and he and his committee worked along with Fr. Michael Challinor, pastor of St. Mary's Church, to devise a plan that would keep the school open. This plan included a pledge from every family to tolerate a tuition increase (about \$90 per month) and much more aggressive fund-raising, as well as concessions by the teachers and new leadership in the school itself. Before the Jan. 3 deadline, Islanders learned that Jane Dennehy, the school's principal, had been dismissed and replaced by Robert Garrison, who is now acting principal.

In spite of these tremendous efforts, however, Fr. Challinor received word on Jan. 22 from Dr. Timothy McNiff, the archdiocesan Superintendent of Schools, that St. Mary's school would have to close its doors forever in June. Only four of the original 26 schools on the "at risk" list will remain open. "If people want to know why St. Mary's is closing," Fr. Challinor said, "they should go to the archdiocesan website and read Cardinal Dolan's Pathways to Excellence Plan." That plan, as explained in a letter from Dr. McNiff to school parents, "was developed to help ensure that an academically excellent, fully enrolled Catholic school system will continue to be available in the future. Unfortunately, as part of the process, a number of schools—yours among them—were not able to demonstrate long-term sustainability." As *The Current* goes to press, Fr. Challinor is attending meetings with archdiocesan officials to learn about the process that the school will go through in closing.

The families and faculty of the St. Mary's community are deeply saddened by this decision but will now begin the search for new schools. One parent said that when she read the letter from the archdiocese that had been distributed to parents, she thought she was seeing things and had to put the letter down. "It still isn't sinking in," she said. "I always had the impression that



Concerned alumni and parents gave their full attention to various speakers, among them fund-raising committee chair Gregory Clancy (photo below).



everything was going all right."

The teachers were too distraught to talk, but a shocked and saddened Mr. Garrison told *The Current*: "Many people use the line 'the school is a family,' but this school truly is a family. Most of the teachers have been here for years. We don't teach individual students; we teach different generations of the same families. It's a family that is enduring this pain. We will continue to conduct this school and care for these children as we always have. Our mission has not changed and it never will."

Rose Kolb, a 1974 graduate of the school, said: "St. Mary, Star of the Sea school was one of the true anchors of City Island. St. Mary's not only served us educationally and offered religious guidance and a sports venue, but it was also was a safe and nurturing haven for parents and children to gather for many memorable events. The day that St. Mary, Star of the Sea lifts her anchor will be a sad one for me, my children, our community and our neighboring communities."

St. Mary's opened in 1931 with 30 children in grades K-5 and each year added a grade until it reached eight grades. By 1945 the school had almost 200 students, and a cornerstone for a new school building was laid in 1949. Today St. Mary's has an enrollment of 212. No formal plans for the school building have been announced, although the archdiocese in recent days has signaled its intent to take control of the building away from the parish, indicating to parish pastors that the schools were built not only for their own parishes, but for the system as a whole, and should now be treated as

assets of the entire system. Some residents have expressed concern that the archdiocese may decide to sell the waterfront property, raising fears of condominium development, although special variances would have to be granted for the construction of more than two or three houses on the property. It is possible that the building could be leased, as has happened with other church properties in the city.

The archdiocese has requested that St. Mary's parish and school pay back the subsidy that the school received for the past several years. This would require St. Mary's to pay back \$750,000, plus 5 percent interest, and the archdiocese has asked the pastor of St. Mary's to sign a contract to that effect.

At present, the St. Mary's Home and School Association has approximately \$70,000 in its account, thanks to the recent Save our School fund-raisers. St. Mary's parish has an additional \$217,000 in a scholarship fund for the school. Unless these funds are to be turned over to the archdiocese, the Home and School Association would want to return the \$70,000 to the donors or use the money to provide scholarships to St. Mary's students in search of new Catholic schools. Fr. Challinor has expressed his hope that the \$217,000 scholarship fund be used for the same purpose, although the fate of those funds is still in question. An additional major gift of \$125,000 was pledged to the Save our School campaign, but that donor, who remains anonymous, has withdrawn the pledge.

Senator Klein expressed what many in the City Island community have been experiencing: "I am saddened to learn that the archdiocese of New York has decided to close St. Mary's School on City Island, despite the school's comprehensive fund-raising plan submitted earlier this year. St. Mary has provided a rigorous academic environment for children of City Island and the Bronx, and its service to the community will be missed. However, I support all students who wish to continue their Catholic education and will help ensure that these students have access to a quality Catholic education going forth. Furthermore, in light of the school closure, I am committed to making sure that the community is able to voice its concerns and provide input during this period of transition for the students, as well as the school buildings."



# BRIEFLY...

**AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE** will be offered by the City Island Sail & Power Squadron at the City Island Yacht Club, 63 Pilot Street, beginning March 5 at 7 p.m. The course cost is \$75. For information or to sign up, call Jim Duffy at 718-863-3855 (please do not call after 9 p.m.).

**CITY ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE REGISTRATION.** It's that time of year again. Registration will be held at the American Legion Post 156, 550 City Island Avenue, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on the following Saturdays, Feb. 9, 16 and 23. T-Ball is \$65 per child; Minors and Majors \$140 per child; and Juniors \$200 per child. Bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. Anyone who signs up after Feb. 23 will be charged a \$25 late fee.

**BRONX MASONS BLOOD DRIVE** will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 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.

**FRIDAY NIGHT HOOPS**, a weekly basketball program for kids on City Island, will start again in St. Mary's gym on Feb. 1 at 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Lewis Lamonaco at 718-885-3393. He is also planning a baseball clinic beginning Saturday, Feb. 2, so ask about this program as well if you are interested.

**THE GLASS MENAGERIE**, Tennessee Williams' first play, will be produced by the City Island Theater Group over two weekends at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street. Evening performances will be at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 1; Saturday, March 2; Thursday, March 7; Friday, March 8; and Saturday, March 9, with one matinee performance, on Sunday, March 3, at 3 p.m. For reservations please call 718-885-3066 or e-mail [tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com](mailto:tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com).



**A1 PLUMBING HEATING**  
Boilers & Stoves  
Cleaned, Serviced & Installed  
Eddie Cullen  
300 City Island Avenue  
**917-440-2711**

**CITY ISLAND PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
JANINE MANTZARIS, P.T.  
340 CITY ISLAND AVENUE • BRONX, NY 10464  
PHONE: 917-577-1752 • FAX: 718-885-1191  
WWW.CITYISLANDPHYSICALTHERAPY.VPWEB.COM  
WE NOW HAVE EVENING HOURS

**MODALITIES INCLUDE:**  
THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE, BALANCE TRAINING, MANUAL THERAPY INCLUDING SOFT TISSUE MASSAGE AND MYOFASCIAL RELEASE, MECHANICAL TRACTION, ULTRASOUND, ELECTRICAL STIMULATION AND FCES (FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY EVALUATIONS)

**BRENDAS HOUSE CLEANING**

- Able to clean one room or an entire house
- No job too small or too large

Please contact Brenda at:  
**718-885-1728**  
**917-519-9093**




THE ISLAND CURRENT  
P.O. Box 6  
City Island, N.Y. 10464



EDITOR: Karen Rauhauser Nani

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: Sara S. McPherson  
COPY EDITOR/WRITER: Barbara Dolensek  
ART EDITOR: Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

Editorial Office: 718-885-0760  
Display Advertising: 718-885-1636  
or 718-885-0984 or: [margci@aol.com](mailto:margci@aol.com)  
Subscriptions: 718-885-9268  
[www.theislandcurrent.com](http://www.theislandcurrent.com)

DISTRIBUTION: Emily Leni  
SUBSCRIPTION: Rose Kolb  
ADVERTISING MANAGERS: Joan Ramftl, Margaret Lenz  
BUSINESS MANAGER: Judith Rauh

STAFF: Maria Swieciki, Carol Koschak, Ed Heben, Marsha Treiber, Jane Protzman, Bill Stuttig, Tom Smith, Virginia Dannegger, Monica Glick, Maria Sutherland, John Sheridan, Miriam Kleinberg, Paula Huffell and Teresa Teto.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Rick DeWitt.

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS: Russell Schaller Sr., Stephanie Ribaud, Marge McNulty, Lorraine Nicoletti. Masthead and special artwork by the late Theodore J. Mazaika.

Typeset by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, Witworks Studio Graphic Design, 33 Earley Street, City Island, N.Y. 10464  
Printed by JB Offset Printing Corp., 475 Walnut Street, Norwood, NJ 07648  
The Island Current (USPS 114-590) is published monthly except for January and August by the Island Current Inc., a not-for-profit organization. Subscription rate, \$12.00 per year. Single copies, \$1.00. All subscriptions, editorial, advertising and other correspondence must be mailed to: The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, Bronx, NY 10464. Display advertising deadline is the 10th of the month preceding publication, call 885-0984 or 885-0760. Copyright 2013 by The Island Current, Inc., 724 King Ave., City Island, Bronx, NY 10464. All rights reserved.  
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT BRONX, NY.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464.

# 45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during December 2012 and January 2013. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 - ASSAULT
- 2 - CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
- 1 - BURGLARY
- 1 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 2 - GRAND LARCENY
- 1 - AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT
- 1 - HARASSMENT
- 1 - THEFT OF SERVICES

Police provided details on the following incidents and arrests for the period from Dec. 1, 2012, to Jan. 19, 2013.

12/4 - At 4:45 p.m. on City Island Avenue, the owner of a business reported that an unknown person shot at and broke his store window with a BB gun.

12/13 - Police from the 45th Precinct are investigating an incident of aggravated harassment on Marine Street. A resident reportedly received repeated threatening phone calls.

12/21 - A female walking on City Island Avenue at 3:10 p.m. was struck in the

eye by an unknown perpetrator. Police are investigating the alleged assault.

12/31 - An incident of grand larceny occurred around 4 p.m. on Fordham Street. A 60-foot dock secured at a mooring was taken without permission of the owner.

1/2 - Two off-Island males, ages 41 and 49, were arrested and charged with burglary at 663 City Island Avenue at 4 p.m. The defendants unlawfully entered a building without the permission of the owner and attempted to remove property.


1/3 - An Island female, 22, was arrested and charged with criminal possession of marijuana on King Avenue and Reville Street at 11:16 p.m. Police observed the defendant with marijuana in plain view.

1/9 - On City Island Avenue at 1 a.m., some restaurant patrons ordered and consumed food and then left without paying for the items.

1/9 - At 7:45 p.m., police arrested a female Islander, 22, and a male Islander, 20, and charged them with criminal possession of marijuana. The two defendants were observed to be smoking marijuana in plain view.

1/14 - Police received a complaint of harassment at 4:45 p.m. on City Island Avenue. Upon entering her building, the complainant stated that an unknown male had threatened her with physical harm, and she feared for her safety.

**Huguenot Yacht Club**  
**Summer 2013 Junior Sailing Program**



Full day, sailing & racing instruction for kids & teens 8-16 years old. Lunch & pool time included.

**Intro to Sailing Class**  
July 2 - 5  
(A great chance to try out the Program)

**July 8 - July 26: Session I**  
**July 29 - Aug. 16: Session II**  
(Choose one or both 3-week Sessions)

**Open House Feb. 10, 2013 and March 10, 2013**  
4 - 6 p.m.

Full program details, prices & photos:  
[www.huguenotyc.com](http://www.huguenotyc.com)

The HYC is located at @ Harbor Drive West, New Rochelle  
(914) 636-6300 (near Glen Island Park)

**Car Rentals Available**

**CITY ISLAND AUTO BODY INC.**

- Collision Specialists
- Body Work & Mechanical Repair Technicians
- All Makes - Foreign & Domestic
- Insurance Estimates
- Unibody Specialists
- Frame Straightening
- Direct Repair Shop for Insurance Companies
- Color Matching
- Windshields & Windows
- Fiberglass

**TOWING**

- 24 Hour Towing Service Available
- Free Towing Available On First Party Insurance Claims

138 City Island Avenue • City Island, New York 10464  
**Office: 718-885-1856**  
**Fax: 718-885-1572**



# Fire Guts Terrace Street Bungalow and Injures Owner

By KAREN NANI



Photos by LAILA MOUKHTAR

Firefighters, including those from City Island's Engine 70, brought a house fire at 191 Terrace Street quickly under control on Dec. 6, 2012. The tiny bungalow was filled to overflowing with stuff collected by the owner, Wayne Cochrane, who suffered burns to his hands during the blaze.

On Dec. 6, 2012, at about 2 in the afternoon, fire broke out at 191 Terrace Street. The owner, Wayne Cochrane, was inside and sustained burns to his hands; the interior of the house was destroyed.

Because the bungalows along Terrace Street are extremely close together, neighbors smelled the smoke immediately. Ralph Merigliano, who lives around the corner on King Avenue, ran outside and saw thick, black smoke coming out of the windows of his neighbor's house. He yelled to another neighbor, Sal Merante, to call 911, and then he immediately started hosing water onto the roof of his house, which closely borders the back of Mr. Cochrane's house on Terrace Street.

The call went in at 2:12 p.m. and Engine 70 from the City Island firehouse responded within minutes. It was eventually joined by six off-Island fire trucks and ladders to fight the blaze. Ladder 53, which City Islanders have fought for the last four years to keep from being cut, was not among the responders.

*The Current* learned that Ladder 53 was out of service that day, off the Island being refitted, and its crew was in training on Randall's Island, according to an FDNY source at the scene. No other ladder was relocated to City Island to cover the

missing 53 and this might have had serious consequences but for the fact that the fire was in a one-story frame bungalow that could be accessed quickly. "The fire, which started in the rear of the house, was contained within 15 minutes, and the absence of Ladder 53 did not affect the operation," Battalion Chief Thomas Dunne told *The Current* at the scene. However, he admitted that the absence of Ladder 53 "had to affect response time a little."

Thankfully, there was little wind that day, for the flames could easily have spread to the surrounding homes. Thanks to the quick work of firefighters, there was no fire damage to the nearby bungalows to the relief of Terrace Street and King Avenue neighbors.

It was Mr. Cochrane's immediate neighbors, Bob and Susan Kraemer and their daughter Amanda who realized he was home when the fire broke out and screamed for him to get out. Mr. Cochrane left the blazing house through the back door but not before his hands were severely burned. He was taken by ambulance to Jacobi Hospital for treatment and spent several weeks in a rehabilitation facility.

Neighbors have worried for years about the condition of the home and Mr. Cochrane's behavior. "He is a hoarder and



Firefighters working on the rooftop of the Terrace Street bungalow.

very disorganized," one neighbor told *The Current*. Since he acquired the house in 2002 (according to NYC Property Records), Mr. Cochrane has lived alone and has been a quiet neighbor who pleasantly greets other residents when out walking.

However, some years ago he began frequenting the Island thrift shops and collecting all kinds of "newspapers, junk and other stuff," which slowly began to fill the small bungalow to the point where the windows were covered.

Three years ago, neighbors, including the Kraemers and Elizabeth Alston, tried to help Mr. Cochrane. They worked for months cleaning out his house and fixing up his property. When he returned, they encouraged him to stay healthy and stop hoarding. The Kraemers even included him in family events, such as Thanksgiving dinner.

He was stable for a while, but eventually the collecting began again and his mental health and personal hygiene apparently deteriorated. The Kraemers sadly watched as stuff inside the small house began to rise above the windows again. According to neighbors, Mr. Cochrane never turned on the heat or lights, and they speculate that the fire may have started because he was warming his hands over the stove burners.

Once again, Mr. Cochrane's neighbors, like Mary Power, have stepped up to support him. After he was released from the rehab facility, they helped him find a temporary apartment on City Island while his house is being repaired. As *The Current* went to press, no restoration work had begun yet on the tiny bungalow, but neighbors are hopeful that the clearing of the house and property will begin soon.

## Shabbat Gifts for Mexico

By PAUL KLEIN



Photo by PAUL KLEIN

Ken Binder and Steve Roth of Bay Street getting ready for their annual sojourn to Puerto Vallarta, this time taking with them a collection of Jewish items for their Mexican friends who cannot easily obtain these things on their own.

During the winter months, Ken Binder and Steve Roth of Bay Street head south to Puerto Vallarta in Mexico, where they have discovered a monthly Shabbat (Sabbath) service conducted by "gringo" Jews from the United States and Canada. They look forward to these services and seeing the wonderful people who attend them, including several Mexican families who have discovered their Jewish roots.

Ken and Steve have developed a friendship with these Mexican families, who welcomed them into their homes and invited them as guests to their Passover seder. Ken says, "They are warm, wonderful people who take being Jewish very seriously. There is little Jewish culture available for them there, and much of their learning takes place via the Internet. We feel honored to have become their friends."

Occasionally, an expat rabbi on vacation in Mexico for a few weeks will attend services, but when a rabbi is not available, the Mexicans conduct their own weekly Shabbat service in one of their homes.

In preparing for this year's return to Mexico, Ken and Steve e-mailed their friends in Mexico and asked if there was anything "Jewish" they could bring with them. The response was a long list of items, which Ken and Steve took to the board of directors of Temple Beth-El on City Island, and as a result 'Your Shul By the Sea' developed a Chanukah tzadaka (charity) project to collect Jewish items that our Mexican friends could use. The response was wonderful, and a collection of items on the list and other meaningful objects was quickly put together. Ken and Steve are grateful to the Temple Beth-El community for finding this a worthy cause.

**Property**

**Appraisal**

**Services**

Real Estate Appraisers

261 City Island Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10464  
718-885-3800

**We are proud to be a part of City Island**





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

**Shelter from the Storm**

To the Editor:

My wife and I recently returned from a holiday trip, which was spent sailing through the blue Bahamian waters on my parents' sailboat *Podjo*. Taking the boat to the Bahamas had been on my dad's bucket list during our 20 years of sailing throughout Rhode Island's waters.

With my parents finally in retirement, they both set sail in October from East Greenwich, Rhode Island. After a few days of sailing, they decided to make some repairs to their boat at a place they will never forget, City Island. While the work was being done, Hurricane Sandy was quickly approaching. As the waves grew, they got in their dinghy and headed ashore. They found out that most of the docks had been pulled in, and they were assisted by two young men at Barron's, who helped my mother climb up an old ladder as the waves came crashing in.

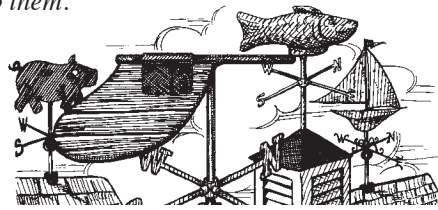
Once onshore, they had no place to stay overnight and went into the City Island Diner to make their plans. Overhearing their story, Diner owners Jim and Donna McGowan graciously opened their house to my parents for the duration of the storm. Throughout the storm, my parents received much support and company from several other locals at City Island restaurants.

This vacation of ours to the Bahamas would likely not have happened without the support and open arms of many from City Island during the hurricane. We don't have

the names of everyone who helped, but you know who you are and we are so grateful to you. It is amazing to see how welcoming a town is to strangers. We appreciate everything the City Island community did for my parents, David and Barbara Gow.

**Burgess and Jeanine Gow**

*Editor's note: On Saturday, Oct. 27, Barbaras Hoffman and Dolensek welcomed two visitors from New England to the City Island Nautical Museum. The Gows were planning to stay on their sailboat in the lee of Hart Island, but they were concerned for their safety in light of the forthcoming storm. Needless to say, the Barbaras were relieved to learn from the above letter that the Gows had weathered the storm and delighted that City Islanders were so helpful to them.*



**In Remembrance**

To the Editor:

Thank you for printing the obituary for my wife, Violet Ellis, in the December 2012 issue of *The Current*.

The day Violet Marlene and I were married, I felt like the luckiest guy in the world. I am grateful for every day we had together, and I hope I made her as happy as she made me.

Violet had both an inner and outer beauty and was a true lady in every sense, always conducting herself with class, grace and taste. She was a very special human being, the finest and bravest person I have ever met. She was my best and dearest friend, so kind, caring and sincere.

I am so thankful for all the wonderful things she did for me. I will always be so proud of all she accomplished in the brief time she was with us.

I love and miss Violet Marlene more than ever. I feel that she is still inspiring me to be a better human being.

**Mort Ellis**

**Ultra Automotive Center, Inc.**  
 Quality Auto Collision Repairs  
 Insurance Estimates & Claims  
 3551 Webster Avenue  
 Bronx, NY 10467  
 Phone (718) 655-9756  
 FAX # (718) 798-8410

"We offer free pickup and delivery"

OWNED AND OPERATED BY A CITY ISLAND RESIDENT

LICENSED & FULLY INSURED  
 MASTER ELECTRICIAN  
 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
 NO JOB TOO LARGE OR SMALL

**KEE** . INC.

**ELECTRICIAL CONTRACTING**  
 Quality Work is our "KEE" to Success!

Office (718) 885-0824  
 Emergency Service (914) 760-1106

**CITY ISLAND REAL ESTATE, LTD.**

**LICENSED REAL ESTATE AGENTS**

**Betty Lavelle-Esola, Sue Kawczynski, & Maureen McEnery Hraska**

Residential  
 Commercial  
 Rentals

Houses  
 Condos  
 Co-ops

City Island ♦ Country Club ♦ Throggs Neck ♦ Pelham Bay

*A City Island business serving City Island*

**562 City Island Avenue, City Island, NY 10464**  
**718-885-9600**  
**www.cityislandrealestate.com**  
**agent@cityislandrealestate.com**

proud member NY STATE MLS

Since 1951

**New Rochelle Animal Hospital**  
**Veterinary Associates**

**Myles Leeds, DVM and Naomi Ueda, DVM**

- Puppy & Kitten Spay/Neuter
- Evening Hours
- Emergency Care
- Laboratory • Ultrasound
- 2nd Opinions • Dental
- Boarding & Grooming

All Major Credit Cards Accepted  
 Se Habla Español

**914-636-8106**  
 98 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801  
 www.newrochellevet.com



# AFTER THE STORM, A PEACEFUL HOLIDAY



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER, RICK DeWITT, PAUL KLEIN and PAUL NANI

Still cleaning up from Hurricane Sandy, Islanders set about to celebrate the 2012 holiday season. It was particularly busy for members of all the Island houses of worship. On Nov. 30, at Grace Church's Friday Night Fellowship, local chef and former Next Food Network Star Michael Proietti (top photo, second from right) demonstrated how to prepare holiday appetizers and a yule log for upcoming parties. On Dec. 8, the Hanukkah menorah was lit by members of Temple Beth-El in Hawkins Park and the candles "burned" throughout the festival of lights. Trinity United Methodist Church held its Children's Christmas Pageant on Dec. 16. The wonderful cast included Laci Howard (Mary), Tyler Gustas (Joseph), Ryan Gustas (Gabriel), Alice Jung, Lydia Jung, Vienna Zeppieri and Lilliana Brown (angels), Nicholas Zeppieri, Marc Brown and Jayden Clark (shepherds), Ben Chadwick, Olivia Chadwick and Miles Jung (kings), and George Melicharek, Jeremy Filomio, Anthony Zeppieri (narrators). After the pageant, the kids were rewarded with a special visit from Santa Claus. Then on Dec. 23, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church held its 15th annual Christmas carols and lessons concert under the direction of resident organist Ken Farnum. The joyous singers included members of both St. Mary's and Trinity United Methodist choirs (bottom photo, front row): Anne Cox, Jane La Scala, "Missy" Corti Jr., Marjorie Kos, Phyllis Whitehouse, John H. Davey, Martin Bartolomeo and Edwin Santayana. Back row: Arthur Lundquist, George Cavalieri, Sr. Margaret Anne Meyer, Emily McSpadden, Elizabeth Farnum, Kenneth A. Farnum Jr., Marisa Corti, Deborah Erickson, Erik-Peter Mortensen, Sebbly Massa and George L. Wyman. All those who participated in these celebrations did a great job reminding Islanders of the reasons for the season.

# HALF MOON SAILS AGAIN

By KAREN NANI



Photos by KAREN NANI

On Dec. 11, 2012, the repaired model of Henry Hudson's ship, *Half Moon*, was recommissioned in front of P.S. 175. Robert Adams (above) led the repair work and joined (top photo, back row, l. to r.) Dusty Prohaska, Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, Kathy Lonergan Rothschild, principal Amy Lipson and P.S. 175 students to re-dedicate the ship in time for the holidays.



the replacements. Even the maidenhead was given a facelift.

Once the refurbishing was complete, the PTA set a date for the re-launch. "We decided on December so it would be a holiday card to the community," Bob told *The Current* at the evening ceremony in front of the school. "We even added solar lights around the new crow's nest and mainstays!"

Lisa Fein, PTA president, addressed the crowd of over 50 people and noted some historical connections to City Island. "In 1909, on the 300th anniversary of Hudson's voyage, a full-size replica of the *Half Moon* was hauled in Nevins Shipyard, the very site where P.S. 175 now stands."

She also thanked parents Han Yu Hung and Eric Sanderson for landscaping the planter around the ship with deciduous holly in keeping with the season.

New York State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto was on hand for the re-dedication. "This is a wonderful symbol of City Island and the caring people who have worked on the upkeep of the boat," he told *The Current*.

Mr. Benedetto is on the Education Committee in the state assembly and he spoke candidly after the ceremony of the continuing fight to insure that New York City gets its fair share of education dollars. "The formula favors Long Island and upstate districts at the expense of New York City Schools. We presented the case for fiscal equality in the 1990s and won. But the fiscal crisis of the last few years has created new deficits and funding problems."

Budget issues aside, Mr. Benedetto applauded the volunteer spirit on display that evening. So for the rest of 2012, it was "smooth sailing" at P.S. 175 on the *Half Moon*.

Wouldn't you think December is too cold for a boat launching? Not for the dedicated crew at P.S. 175 who refurbished the model of Henry Hudson's ship *Half Moon* and recommissioned it on Dec. 11, 2012.

The model boat was originally built in 2009 by Islanders Robert Adams and the late Ed Rothschild for the quadricentennial celebration of Henry Hudson's voyage up the river that would eventually bear his name. Both Bob and Ed had daughters in the school and were involved in the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at the time. Teachers and students were studying Hudson's voyage and learning about the explorer's life and impact on New York.

In June 2009, the *Half Moon* was "launched" in front of the school in the planter area north of the main entrance.

After two and a half years, the wonderful model still stood firmly in front of the school, but the elements had taken their toll. With the support of school principal Amy Lipson, Bob took the ship to his woodworking shop in March 2012 and began repairs. He and Sam Richman replaced the fore-deck, which had broken planks and repaired the water damage to the hull.

Although the rigging was still in good shape, the *Half Moon* needed new sails, and Tom Nye from UK Sails handmade





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.

In January **Sugar & Spice** (536 City Island Avenue) opened its doors to serve dinner from Wednesday through Sunday from 5 to 10 p.m. The menu includes a choice of soups, salads and appetizers, followed by a selection of seven entrees. For reservations, call 718-885-9229 or e-mail [chefnyc82@aol.com](mailto:chefnyc82@aol.com).

### Bartow-Pell Events

A Victorian Valentine Workshop will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. Show that you care—not with a boring, store-bought card, but by creating a hand-made, full-of-charm, sure-to-woo original creation. Learn about the history of valentines and the use of printed “scraps” used to make them in the 19th century, while you craft your own memorable valentine. To register, call 718-885-1461. Cost \$8 per person.

A Valentine’s Day concert will be presented on Thursday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. The ensemble *As You Like It* will perform romantic 19th-century and earlier music—in costume—during an hour-long concert in the mansion’s enchanting double parlors. If the spirit moves you, enjoy classic French bistro fare afterward at *Bistro SK* on City Island. Concert registration requested. Cost \$20; \$15 members. For dinner reservations, call the bistro directly at 718-885-1670.

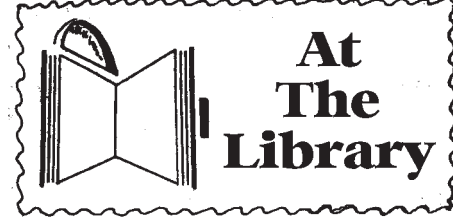
## Community Board Supports City Island on Assisted-Living Project

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

At its January meeting, Community Board 10 voted unanimously to reject applications made by the Italian Hospital Society to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) for a zoning variance to build an assisted-living facility and for permits to build part of the structure below the base flood elevation at the corner of Schofield Street and City Island Avenue.

The committee had held a public hearing on City Island on Nov. 29 and heard many Island residents protest the proposed development as inappropriate for City Island, largely because of the density of the structure, which is out of character with City Island Special District Zoning.

Now that the Community Board had voted not to support the project, the Bureau of Standards and Appeals is likely to cal-



### City Island Branch Library Events for February 2013

Hours: 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.

#### February’s Children’s Programs

**Story Time:** Read-aloud picture books: Every ongoing Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 10.

**Children’s Homework Lounge:** Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

**Bi-Lingual Birdies:** Tuesday, Feb. 12 and 19 at 11 a.m.

#### February Young Adult Programs

**“Yu-Gi-Oh”:** Every Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

**Teen Homework Lounge:** Every Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

**Sing Star! and other afterschool activities:** Weekdays at 3:30 p.m.

#### February’s Adult Programs

**Introduction to the Internet:** Ongoing Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register in advance. NEW! Microsoft Word will be briefly touched upon.

**Resumé Writing Workshop and Online Job Search:** Ongoing Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register in advance. A flash drive to save

your work is highly recommended.

**Introduction to Facebook:** Find lost friends and make new ones. Call the branch to learn which day this program will be presented.

**Lecture: Prof. Victor Mastro presents “Heartthrobs of the Bronx”:** During the week of Valentine’s Day, travel with us back to the golden age of the Bronx when famous Bronx-born singers and actors graced the screens of America. This is an encore program by audience request. Saturday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m.

**Film: ARGO:** True story of a little-known event during the Iranian hostage crisis of 1979–80. Starring Ben Affleck and featuring Alan Arkin, John Goodman and Bryan Cranston. (Rated R; 120 minutes). Saturday Feb. 23, at 1 p.m. **SOLD OUT!** Second and final showing Saturday, March 2, at 1 p.m. You must register either in person or over the phone for limited seating.

**March Event (A First for the City Island Library): Ms. Gail Hitt Presents: How to Write Your Memoirs.** Memoirs are very popular topics for reading. Just check any biography section in a library or bookstore, and there are always some books on the bestseller list. Why not write

your own experiences? This creative writing workshop will give you ideas and tools to create a unique memoir of your life, in the form of a lively story. Saturday, March 23, at 2 p.m.

We are located at 320 City Island Avenue & Bay Street. Please call the branch at 718-885-1703 for any unscheduled changes, additions or cancellations. You can visit us at [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org) for more details and for programs in other branches throughout the city.

**Hull Inspections & Cleaning  
Prop & Zinc Replacements  
Search & Recovery Experts**

**530 City Island Avenue  
885-1588 • 1-800-540-7386**

**GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST IN  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

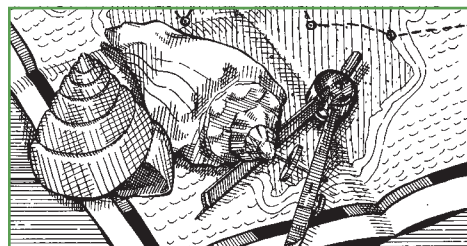
**MONTESSORI SCHOOL  
IN PELHAM MANOR**

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE  
SINCE 1973

- Montessori - Ages 3-6
- Toddlers - Ages 2-3

**CALL NOW FOR  
TOUR & REGISTRATION**

Christ The Redeemer  
1415 Pelhamdale Ave. (at Shore Rd.)  
Pelham Manor, NY 10803  
**(914) 738-1127**



endar a public hearing at which residents and elected officials, among others, may express reasons for not supporting the project. In the meantime, the New York State Department of Health has failed to grant the Italian Hospital Society a license to operate an assisted living facility, on which the BSA applications are based.

**BUDDY'S  
HARDWARE & MARINE**  
a full service hardware & marine supply store

**WINTER HOURS**  
Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • Closed Sunday

**KARL HOEDL**  
[hoedlk@buddyshardware.com](mailto:hoedlk@buddyshardware.com)

260 City Island Ave.  
Bronx, New York 10464

(718)885-1447  
Cell: 914-474-5007  
[buddyshardware.com](http://buddyshardware.com)

**GRAB SHANTY**

361 CITY ISLAND AVENUE  
**885-1810**

**OPEN 7 DAYS  
(11a.m.-2a.m.)**

**DAILY  
LUNCH &  
DINNER  
SPECIALS**

**PARKING AVAILABLE**

**2013  
P.S. 175  
Card Party**

**MARCH 8  
6:30 pm  
THE LIDO  
101 City Island Ave**

A mere \$50 could get ye the treasure Argh!

**Tix & Info  
718-885-1093 x1300**

*Treasure the Night*



# THE BOAT SHOW 2013

By GREGORY CLANCY



Photos by GREGORY CLANCY

## Bill Clancy Jr. showing off his dream yacht

To the best of my knowledge, “The Boat Show” has run as an annual piece in *The Island Current* since the paper’s inception in 1971. For every one of those 40-odd years, the article was written by my dad, Bill Clancy, until now. We lost my father to a heart attack this past year, and I pledged to carry on the mantle, but picking up a 40-year running commentary is a tough act to follow, so bear with me as I attempt to bring you the next installment of “The Boat Show!”

The first question I had was where to begin. I consulted several wise sages, including my brother Bill Jr. He told me just to read last year’s article, cut and paste, change the names and voilà! “You don’t even actually have to go to the show,” he advised. “No one ever knew what the heck Dad was talking about in that article anyway.”

As interesting as Bill’s idea was, I opted instead to tackle the Boat Show as my dad would have. I picked the coldest day in January, put on my boat shoes and *Island Current* nametag, and headed fearlessly downtown. Knowing that the legacy of Sally McCheap remains in full effect at the *Current*, and that I had no hope of having my expenses reimbursed, I endured the usual search for cheap parking before walking the last 10 blocks to our mid-winter boaters’ extravaganza. As I walked through the front door with my brother Bill, the mood threatened to turn a bit melancholy, but I still began the show by uttering the exact same words my dad used to say upon entering the Javits building: “Billy, get us a beer!”

After sucking back a couple of \$6.50 Buds, we headed bravely onto the floor. The first thing that struck us was the size of the show. It had shrunk dramatically even since last year. Years ago the Boat Show used to take up two floors in the Javits Center, but in recent years it was contained to the upper level. This year, however, the show only filled about half of the upper level. Upon investigation, we realized that the main reason for this contraction was

the disappearance of the sailboats. Aside from the little Hobies, there was not a single sailboat manufacturer in attendance. We had a laugh at the expense of my uncle Kevin Clancy, a real sailboat snob who had over the years complained about my father’s obvious bias toward power boats. This year, since we didn’t even have the option of looking at a sailboat, Kevin will have no basis for making a complaint.

Our first stop was with Formula, whose 45 Yacht was clearly one of the queens of the show. This 45-footer boasts a massive aft cockpit, a retractable sun roof, twin staterooms (each with their own head) and a swim platform large enough to carry a Jet Ski. The galley was larger than the kitchen in my house, and the interior saloon could sit 10 for dinner. The tour guide for this beauty was none other than Formula’s owner, a rather unassuming gentleman who usually lists this model at \$1.15 million, but today he was willing to settle for a mere \$759,900.

Next to Formula we found Carver with two big Flybridge Cruisers, a 34-footer built for mere mortals and listed at just about \$300,000, and the 420 Sport-bridge Marquis at an even one million. Far from sporting the classic lines of yesteryear, the Marquis isn’t quite a Clorox bottle shape either; it was somewhere in between. The aft cockpit wasn’t huge, but the inside was lavish, though decorated more like a condo in Soho than a yacht, and it was powered by twin 600hp Volvo diesels. The Carver team from Wisconsin beamed, clearly hoping to snag a rich Manhattanite whose spouse has no interest in boats. The only real surprise on the Marquis was up on the bridge, where next to a tiny plastic steering wheel we found the GPS centered on Bordeaux, France, an odd choice for a team of Wisconsin cheeseheads.

In between a few of these big boys, we ran into Steve Lott, the chairman of the Morris Yacht & Beach Club, and Ron Watson, a fellow City Island legionnaire. After a quick hello, we headed off to see a few non-boat exhibits. Our biggest thrill here



Connor Fenn and Bill Clancy Jr. pose with the Formula 45 yacht.

came from Beadiver.com, which had a full size diving pool with a SCUBA class happening right on the show floor. We never saw that before.

Next we headed over to see a few smaller boats starting with the Boston Whaler. The thing about the Whaler, however, is that it no longer qualifies as a small boat brand. Whaler’s flagship was a 37-foot center console with three 300hp Mercury outboards on the back. A gentleman from Dubai had just bought one for a mere \$540,000 as we entered. Bill asked the beaming salesman where the 13-footers were, but they only laughed. The lowest-end Whaler these days is a 17-footer for \$41,000.

Down the aisle from the Whalers we found Glastron, a sturdy old brand that a middle-class family might be able to swing. The Glastron dealer from Patchogue, Long Island, showed us a bunch of boats, including an 18-foot bow-rider that seats eight. Powered by a 190hp i/o, you could take this boat, with a trailer, for \$28,000 all in. They did warn that demand is on the rise and advised us to order now to guarantee delivery by June!

Wanting to find an affordable larger boat, we next boarded the 28-foot Cutwater Pocket Cruiser. With classic lines and a deep blue hull optional, Cutwater is one of the few manufacturers building boats with classic nautical finishes, teak, vinyl and fiberglass blended together for a good clean look. A big aft cockpit punctuated this single-screw diesel, which cruises at 22 knots. And the MSRP: \$167,000. I need to send this one on to my uncle Dr. Tom Clancy, who’s a fan of the trawler style from which Cutwater derives. He has been shopping for a new boat for about 25 years now and has yet to find one, but I think this would be up his alley.

Not far from Cutwater we found the crew from the Harlem Yacht Club. Peter Trufino, Steve Odierna and Mark Cetta invited everyone to a series of open houses on March 2, March 24 and April 13, from 1 to 5 p.m. The Harlem was the only City Island club in attendance at the show, and despite a significant amount of Hurricane Sandy damage, they assured us that they would soon be back in business, bigger and better than ever.

Wandering back through the show, Bill and I met our cousin Connor Fenn, in from Ireland. With Connor in tow, we headed off to see Chris Craft and Grady White. Chris Craft’s corsairs are beautiful, but untouchable, and Grady gave us a bit of a shock. Believe it or not, all of their boats actually looked like Grady Whites. In a market where Chris Craft has gone small, Whaler has gone big, and the classic builders like Hatteras, Egg Harbor and Bertram don’t even show up, the Grady Whites are one of the very few brands that still produce the old stand-bys that made them great. While

everyone else is busy reinventing themselves, Grady seems to be sticking with their winning recipe.

For many other manufacturers, however, we experienced a distinctly non-nautical feel. The shapes and finishes on many boats just didn’t seem boat-like, although some of the niftier inventions included multilevel swim platforms and lots of variations in exterior vinyl furniture. Many boat builders are experimenting with window-laden hulls of many shapes and sizes and retractable sunroofs. Fly bridges are in short supply, but everyone seems to highlight new and compact electronics packages. Technology is in full effect; one only needs to find a good crew of mechanics to keep up with it. One such technician is John Giantelli, the owner of Five G’s Marine Services in Pelham. John had a booth at the show, and he often works on City Island. You can find him at [fivegsmarineservices.com](http://fivegsmarineservices.com).

At this point of the show, Bill started to get nervous (thirsty). Given that our dad used to spend hours talking to the most random people, we had now seen far more than we were accustomed to. I think our speed derived from the fact that we had skipped the Erie Canal exhibit, the German Glue exhibit, and the Backyard Teak Furniture exhibit, which were each worth an hour of Dad’s time. So to take the edge off Bill’s anxiety, we sent Connor for another round of Buds, and Bill headed into West Marine, where he bought an 8-foot inflatable for our kids. The generic dinghy can hold a 2.5hp outboard and is selling for just over \$300 dollars—not bad. Now we might have to go to Buster’s Marine from Broad Channel Queens for their line of outboards at the show, which included a 2.5hp Merc for \$849—not bad either.

On the way out of the show, we swung by a 26-foot Regulator sport fisher named *Queen Bee*. The owner of this boat was chucked overboard in a storm off the coast of Massachusetts a few years back, and though he made it, the boat disappeared. Two years later, his boat beached itself on the coast of Spain. It was fully intact and had both engines still mounted on the transom. Regulator had her mounted front and center at the show. Talk about sturdy.

Despite the show’s size, there was still a lot to see this year. Now, as I sit and write this article, my wife, Meaghan, is asking, “What are you going to write about?” I am puzzled by this question. I’m writing about the Boat Show—what else? “But your dad never wrote about the actual Boat Show,” she says. Wow, were his articles really that eccentric? Give me 40 years and I’m sure I’ll spend half the article rambling about sturgeon fish and the locks of the Erie Canal too, but for now I’ve got my boat shoes ready, and I can’t wait for spring. See you on the water!



**Pelham Bay  
Home Center, Inc.**

Kitchens • Bathrooms  
Major Appliances  
Plumbing Supplies • Air Conditioners

Tel: 718-863-7529  
3073 Westchester Avenue

One Stop Personal Service  
Family Owned & Operated

Thank you City Island for 19 years of support!  
The Scanlon Family



## Organization News

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

### Current Calendar

#### FEBRUARY

Fri., Feb. 1, **Friday Night Hoops**, St. Mary's Gym, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, 8:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 9, 16 and 23, **City Island Little League Registration**, American Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Tues., Feb. 12, **Blood Drive**, Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street, 3:30 to 7:45 p.m.

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

#### MARCH

Fri., March 8, **P.S. 175 Card Party**, Lido Caterers, 101 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street.

#### Grace Episcopal Church

Located at 116 City Island, Grace Church is a historic Episcopal parish, which has served the nautical community of City Island for over 160 years. We welcome you!

##### Worship Schedule:

Holy Communion Rite II, Sundays at 10 a.m. Lambs Babysitting available first Sundays (Feb. 3 at 9:50 a.m.) in Grace Church Hall.

Evening Prayer, Mondays at 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday service, Feb. 13, 7 p.m.

##### February Events:

Hearts and Hands: Monday, Feb. 11, 7:15 p.m. in Grace Church Hall. This knitting group provides caps, shawls and lap robes for Calvary Hospital patients.

Friday Night Fellowship: Feb. 1 (Please note this is a date change), 7 p.m., Grace Church Hall. John Scardina will discuss "Parenting as a Spiritual Journey."

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: Feb. 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$5.

All are welcome. Please join us.

**Rev. Ruth Anne Garcia**

#### Trinity United Methodist Church

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

The Sunday school held the annual Souper Bowl of Caring a week early this year with a skit put on by the children during the service on Jan. 27.

A group Bible study for Lent will begin Sunday, Feb. 17, and run for five consecutive Sundays, concluding on March 17. The sessions will begin at 11:30 in Trinity's Fellowship Hall; all are welcome. This year's study of the New Testament's Letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul's magna carta of Christian faith. It is called the letter that changed the world and continually reforms the church. The letter to the Romans is timeless and relevant for the church and all peoples.

These studies consist of roundtable-like discussions on the text of the Scripture being studied, under the leadership of George Cavaleri, one of Trinity's lay leaders and speakers.

The Budget Corner is open for the new year and stuffed full of newly donated items. The winter schedule is Feb. 2, 8, 12, 16, 22 and 26; March 2, 8, 12, 16, 22, 26 and 30. As always, Trinity United Methodist Church is thankful for the City Island community's continued support of the Budget Corner.

**Rick DeWitt**

#### St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

Our monthly Holy Hour will be held on Friday, Feb. 1, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 3, is National Scout Sunday. St. Mary's will recognize the scouts at a liturgy at 10 a.m. that morning. All scouts should see their leaders for more details.

On Thursday, Feb. 7, there will be an important meeting of all parents whose children are preparing to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist this year. The meeting will be held in St. Mary's School gym at 7 p.m. All parents are urged to attend.

All are welcome to attend our monthly coffee hour, which will be held in the rectory after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Feb. 10.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the holy season of Lent, a time of prayer and fasting. Masses on that day will be at 7 and 8 a.m., 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all the Masses.

The Lenten devotion of Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday evening during Lent at 7 p.m.

Because the mid-winter vacation has been cut short owing to the time lost during Hurricane Sandy, our Religious Education classes will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the regular times. We ask all parents to please adjust their calendars.

**Sr. Bernadette, osu**

#### AARP CHAPTER 318

AARP Chapter 318 will not meet during the month of February. In March we will meet on Wednesday, March 6, at 1 p.m. in Trinity United Methodist Church Hall on Bay Street. Our March 20 meeting will be a St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's celebration to begin at 12:30 p.m. in the church hall. Plans for future meetings include a possible Atlantic City trip, speakers and, of course, our wonderful June luncheon.

A special thanks to our members for their generous monthly donations to POTS (Part Of The Solution), a not-for-profit organization located at 2763 Webster Avenue in the Bronx. POTS serves families, children and homeless, mentally ill, and single adults by providing meals for the less fortunate seven days a week, at their community kitchen in addition to providing many services to the Bronx community. AARP 318 has donated pantry items to this organization for the past few years. Thanks to all.

We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

**Rosetta Woods**

#### City Island Theater Group

The City Island Theater Group is excited to open its 2013 season with "The Glass Menagerie." Tawney-Joy Bedkofer, Nic Anthony Calabro, Basia Zak and Denis Zepeda take the stage in this classic Tennessee Williams play about a highly dysfunctional family and their escapes from reality. The play is directed by Susan Rau, a CITG veteran, who says: "I have been interested in 'The Glass Menagerie' for many years and am excited to be working on it behind the scenes, a new phase of the theater experience for me."

Performances will run the weekends of March 1 and 7. The group will hold auditions in the beginning of March for their May production of Marc Camoletti's farce "Boeing Boeing." Production rights have been requested for the rest of the season and will be announced as soon as they are obtained.

**Nick Sala**



Diocesan Bishop Mark Sisk (at right above) visited Grace Episcopal Church on Dec. 9, 2012, and was thanked by members of the Vestry for his support of the parish during the "rebuilding years." Reverend Ruth Anne Garcia presented the bishop with an historical painting of the church flanked by (l. to r.) Bruce Weis, Joanne Brogan, Scott Meyer, Peter Klopfer and Paul Nani.

#### American Legion Ladies Auxiliary

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 5.

At the Post, a Super Bowl Party will be held on Sunday, Feb. 3, at 5:30 p.m. The annual Pig's Knuckle Party will take place on Saturday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy year and get-well greetings for those with the flu or a cold. Remember your sweetheart on Feb. 14, and Happy Valentine's Day to all.

**Maryann Occhicone**

#### Sons of the American Legion

We would like to remind all members that dues are now past due. The amount is \$30 and can be mailed or dropped off to the Post and placed into the SAL Box.

Our next meeting will be a special meeting held on Monday, Feb. 18, at 8 p.m. We will have a massive swearing-in ceremony. All members should attend and get sworn even if they have already done so.

New members are always welcome. If you are a male descendant or step-descendant of or adopted by a veteran set forth in the dates set by Congress, we would love to have you as a member. Stop by the Post to pick up an application. We have 12 new members since July 1.

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

Just a reminder! When booking your next party, consider the Legion Post. We are here for all of your party needs. Members receive a discount rate on all hall rentals.

**Fred Ramftl Jr.**

#### St. Mary's Thrift Shop

St. Mary's Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In February the shop will be open on Feb. 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21 and 23. After Feb. 23, the thrift shop will close until Thursday, March 14, when the spring collection will debut. During February, watch for end-of-the-season winter sales and specials. Browse for gently used men's, women's and children's clothing, shoes and bags; linens and household appliances; CDs, tapes, records, books, toys, games and bric-a-brac, while enjoying the company of fellow shoppers and a complimentary cup of coffee. And remember that donations are greatly appreciated.

**Arlene Byrne**

#### City Island Republicans

We will be starting up our eighth year on City Island later this year. Our next meeting will be in March or April. Stay tuned for details.

**Fred Ramftl Jr.**

## REGULAR MEETINGS

### Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

#### Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

#### Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

#### Overeaters Anonymous:

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



**Chef Rafael's  
TO-GO  
EXPRESS**  
415 City Island Ave.  
**718-885-9656**  
~Lunch & Dinner~  
Open Monday thru Saturday

### Carmine W. DeDonato

*Certified Public Accountant*

284 City Island Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10464  
718-885-9081

[www.cityislandcpa.com](http://www.cityislandcpa.com)

*Income Tax Preparation  
Rapid Refunds  
Electronic Filing  
Certified Audits  
Financial Statement Preparation  
Accounting and Bookkeeping  
Financial and Tax Planning  
Business Incorporation and Startup  
IRS Problems and Representation  
Payroll Services*

*Carmine W. DeDonato, CPA  
www.cityislandcpa.com  
718-885-9081  
Appointment Only*

*"The friendship of those we serve is the foundation of our progress"*





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](http://www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org), call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

**Uptown Coffeehouse:** The Uptown has brought traditional and contemporary folk music to the Bronx for 26 years. As we enter our second season on City Island, we present live performances from some of the very finest artists in the folk genre. We host a show on either the first or second Saturday of each month. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 unless otherwise noted. We are a 501(c)3 organization run entirely by volunteers. Please visit [www.uptowncoffeehouse.org](http://www.uptowncoffeehouse.org) or call 718-885-2955 for our latest schedule and details.

**City Island Parenting Group:** An ongoing topic-oriented discussion group for parents with John Scardina. All are welcome; come once or every month. We try to meet the fourth Tuesday of the month in the dance studio at 7 p.m.

**Teen Dances:** The Community Center will be hosting a number of teen dances for grades 6-8 on Friday nights. The DJ will be Bowie Stivala and chaperones will be provided. There is no cost for these events. The dances will be on the following dates: Feb. 1 from 7 to 10 p.m., and Feb. 22 from 7 to 10 p.m. Please come!

#### NEW CLASSES

The Community Center is interested in hosting a Weight Watchers meeting, but in order to have a meeting we need to meet the minimum attendance. If interested in being part of the group, please call the Community Center at 718-885-1145 and leave a message.

#### 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](http://www.deirdreamara.com).

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

**Art and Craft Classes:** How to Make a Comic: Grades K-3, Wednesdays starting Jan. 30 to March 13, from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m., and Thursdays starting Jan. 31 to March 14, from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Introduction to Comic Book Creation: Grades 4-6, Thursdays starting Jan. 31 to March 14, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Introduction to Fashion Design: Grades 6-8, Wednesdays starting Jan. 30 to March 13, from 5 to 6 p.m. All classes are \$125 and include all materials. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914-633-1695.

**Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep:** For high school prep or just for fun! Started Monday, Sept. 24. Taught by Geri Smith, former LaGuardia High School teacher and exam auditioner. \$90 for five-week session; \$25 material fee (after the session ends, students may 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 for an hour. Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30. \$10 per class. Call 917-601-5514. It's fun!

**Zumba with Letti:** Thursdays at 6 p.m. Letti is a fantastic Zumba instructor who brings a lot of creativity and energy to her classes. Classes are \$10 or a five-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, and it also assists with stress reduction and weight management. This class focuses on stretching and toning muscles that are often neglected but are so important to keeping you healthy and mobile. And best of all, yoga stretch is easy and fun enough for beginners or those who haven't exercised in a while. \$10 per class; call 718-885-0535.

**Zumba Gold:** A fun filled dance and exercise session with a salsa beat, geared for age 50 and up. Classes are \$3 each. Meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

**Belly Dancing: Shimmy by the Sea.** Theresa Mahon (a.k.a. Salacia) teaches the oldest documented dance in the history of mankind—Egyptian belly dancing. It is a low-impact way to get in shape and tone your body while having lots of fun. Terry has been a professional belly dancer for 25 years and a teacher of the art for 17 years. Classes are held every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. The fee for each one-hour class is \$15. Walk-ins are very welcome, as are spectators interested in seeing what the class is all about. Questions can be directed to Salacia at 845-358-0260.

**Aerobics with Mary:** Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 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 are 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

#### Boy Scout Troop 211

Troop 211 was busy last fall, and our activities show the different kinds of great opportunities and challenges our scouts enjoy. In late October our scouts toured SUNY Maritime Academy at Fort Schuyler. Our older scouts got the chance to see Fort Schuyler as a leading educational institution and possible college choice. All the scouts learned more about the unique historical items scattered around the facility, including bronze reliefs that mark the progression of maritime trade over hundreds of years.

Two weeks later the troop received a special guided tour of the U. S. Military Academy (USMA) at West Point. Led by Cadets Aaron Beyer and Devin Long, the scouts learned about cadet life, military history and various school traditions and myths. Our many thanks to these cadets for spending their limited free time with us. And as if that was not special enough, Troop 211 scouts were also guided by LTC Hailey Clancy, West Point instructor, and LTC Michael Clancy, Troop 211 Eagle Scout and USMA graduate. They gave us a look behind the scenes at USMA facilities and took us to a cemetery on the grounds where we saw not only the graves of Civil War leaders but also young soldiers who died recently in Afghanistan who were not much older than our oldest scouts. It was both inspirational and sobering. Thank you, Clancys and cadets.

In December several scouts accepted the challenge of the Second Annual Troop 211 Cook Off, which is loosely based on popular Food Network cooking challenges. Troop 211 adult leaders watched the scouts as they prepared two large meals of sausage and peppers and chicken stew, using Dutch

ovens on an outdoor campfire. The adults judged the meals on their preparation, presentation and, of course, taste. Make sure you ask a 211 scout next time you see one how it all turned out.

In between all these activities, our scouts found time to prepare for Boards of Review for promotion up the ranks in scouting. Congratulations to all our scouts who earned the first three scouting ranks of Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class. Of particular note is Scout Nicholas Bellocchio, who earned the second highest rank in scouting, Life Scout. He completed a two-stage project that included leading a group of scouts who taught knot-tying at the City Island Nautical Museum and completing repairs to the St. Mary's Thrift Shop entrance.

If you are a young man between 11 and 17 or know someone that age and are interested in the above types of activities, consider joining. For more information, please e-mail [trop211ideas@yahoo.com](mailto:trop211ideas@yahoo.com).

Waldo Persteins, Scoutmaster

#### PSS Healthy Seniors

##### Fitness Program

Exercise is an important key to good health, especially for an older person. We hope more people will join our wonderful and affordable exercise classes as listed below.

Zumba Gold with Sarah: Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

Cardio Fitness with Mary: Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street.

Arthritis Exercise with Patty: Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at Grace Church Hall.

Orchard Beach Walk: Wednesday; we leave Pilot St. at 9:30 a.m. (must have three walkers).

Yoga Stretch with Michael: Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at Grace Church Hall.

Fit for Life with Sarah: Friday at 9:30 a.m. at Grace Church Hall.

*Note: To make ends meet a little better, all classes will be \$3, except Arthritis Exercise, which will continue to be free.*

##### Senior Writing Group

What is your favorite family story—the one that makes everyone smile? Come turn those memories into wonderful stories. Every Tuesday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Grace Church Hall. Call Gail for more information at 718-885-0444. There is no charge and everyone is welcome.

##### Volunteering

Please think about volunteering for one of our senior programs. We need help in many areas including clerical and computer, reception, telephoning, visiting and help with parties and events to name a few.

##### Telephone Reassurance

If you live alone or know someone who lives alone, a telephone call everyday might be of benefit. Please call Debbie at 718-885-0727.

##### Caregiver Support

If you are caring for someone or 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 Debbie at 718-885-0727.

##### Transportation Services

Call Anthony Mazzella at 347-834-6466 a day ahead for Island and off-Island trips. Regular afternoon shopping trips are Monday, Bay Plaza or Stop & Shop; Thursday, Shop Rite in New Rochelle. Trips are also made to Fairway, Target, Trader Joe's, Home Depot, Cross County Shopping Center, the Christmas Tree Shop, Key Food, Empire City and more. Suggested contributions for round trips are \$1 on Island, and \$2.50 off-

Island. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services in our beautiful new van.

#### Program Services

Call Debbie at 718-885-0727 to receive our detailed monthly calendar featuring trips and events, including group theater discounts to shows such as "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Westchester Dinner Theater on Nov. 8 (\$53). Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services and the NYC Department for the Aging.

Debbie Erosa

#### Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island, an unaffiliated, all-inclusive and egalitarian synagogue, has provided an exciting place for observance for Jews of all ages who come from many different communities and cultures for 78 years. We are a spirited congregation that gathers together under the leadership of the stimulating and innovative Rabbi Shohama Wiener and Reb David Evan Markus, our associate spiritual leader.

Located at 480 City Island Avenue, between Beach and Bowne Streets, we conduct Sabbath services each Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Our doors are open to all, and we follow the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, primarily in English, with easy-to-read typeface and singable Hebrew.

Our special events and services this month are as follows:

Friday, Feb. 8, Feb. 22, and March 1: Kabbalat Shabbats with Rabbi Shohama, Reb David and Reb Eva (and the Shul Band).

All other Friday night services will be community led, usually with Bob Berent and his accordion. Please come celebrate the Sabbath with us!

Sunday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. Celebrate Purim with a Megillah reading and study session led by Reb David and Reb Eva.

The monthly class called "Spirit and Song: The Liturgy and Spirituality of Welcoming Shabbat," led by Reb David, will be held on Thursday, Feb. 7, at 7:30 p.m. To register or ask questions, please e-mail Reb David at [davidevanmarkus@gmail.com](mailto:davidevanmarkus@gmail.com).

Save these dates: Thursday, March 28: Community Seder on the second night of Passover, and Saturday evening, May 4, our annual Dinner Dance (celebrating the temple's 79th anniversary) at the Pelham Split Rock Golf Course.

Ellen Ruth Topol

#### American Legion Post #156

Our next general meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 4, at 8 p.m. The next board of directors meeting will be held on Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

Our annual Super Bowl party will be held on Sunday, Feb. 3, at 5 p.m. Details are in the works but everyone will have a great time.

Now that hockey season is back, stop by the Post and have a drink while enjoying the game.

All old flags should be deposited in the red, white and blue mailbox next to the flagpole. They will be retired with dignity.

Just a reminder! When booking your next party, consider the Legion Post. We are here for all of your party needs. Members receive a discount rate on all hall rentals.

Dues are now past due. The amount is \$45 and should be dropped off at the Post as soon as possible.

Currently, Bob Branizza is on sick call while he is recovering at a care facility. We regret to report that longtime Legionnaire Jack Doyle died.

Tom Lynch





## The Best Movies You Never Heard Of

**Grand Canyon** (1991) is a film that juxtaposes the mundane events of everyday life with major incidents of the life-changing variety. Kevin Kline stars as Mack, whose marriage to Claire (Mary McDonnell) is missing something. The film is filled with miracles, including Mack's life being saved by a stranger, Simon (Danny Glover); Mack's well-intentioned interfering in Simon's life by introducing him to Jane (Alfre Woodard); Mack's best friend, Davis (Steve Martin), being shot by a robber; and Claire saving the life of an abandoned infant. Although society seems to be disintegrating, life can be truly wonderful if we recognize the miracles that surround us every day.

**What's Eating Gilbert Grape** (1993) stars Johnny Depp in the title role as a young man who serves as breadwinner and caretaker for his mother and siblings. Momma (Darlene Cates) is a morbidly obese shut-in who hasn't left the house in seven years. Her children include retarded Arnie (Leonardo DiCaprio in a stunning screen debut), who is about to turn 18. When Becky (Juliette Lewis), a young woman who has been escorting her grandmother on a road trip, arrives, Gilbert begins to consider his own happiness for a change.

**Lone Star** (1996) is the acclaimed drama by writer-director John Sayles about the investigation of a 25-year-old murder in a Texas border town. It stars Chris Cooper as Sheriff Sam Deeds, the chief law officer of the town of Frontera. He is the son of the late Buddy Deeds (played in flashbacks by Matthew McConaughey), who succeeded the previous sheriff, vicious corrupt Charlie Wade (Kris Kristofferson). The discovery of Wade's decades-old skeleton forces Sam to investigate. Sam must come to terms with his own troubled emotions about his father and his still-lingering romantic feelings for Pilar (Elizabeth Peña), an Hispanic woman. The film addresses Pilar's difficulties as a schoolteacher, the conflict between incoming immigrants and border patrol officers, and the troubles faced by Delmore (Joe Morton), the rigid black colonel recently put in charge of the local Army base.

In **Déjà Vu** (1997), a Los Angeles store owner Dana (Victoria Foyt) is shopping in Israel and has a mysterious encounter in a café with a beautiful older woman (Aviva Marks). The woman leaves behind a beautiful ruby pin, which leads Dana to Paris and the White Cliffs of Dover, where she meets and falls in love with an English painter named Sean (Stephen Dillane). When Dana reluctantly arrives in London to rejoin her business-partner/fiancé Alex (Michael Brandon), she discovers Sean is there with his wife. This film is a contemporary version of a 1940s supernatural romance, enhanced by wistful music such as the World War II ballad "The White Cliffs of Dover."

**Smoke Signals** (1998) is a dramatic feature written, directed and co-produced by Native Americans. In 1976 an infant survived a fire that killed his parents and grew up to become a nerdy adult, Thomas (Evan Adams), who lives on Idaho's desolate Coeur d'Alene Indian reservation with his grandmother (Monique Mojica). When stoic athlete Victor Joseph (Adam Beach) learns about the death of his father (Gary Farmer) in Phoenix, Thomas offers to pay for the trip if he can accompany Victor. The odd pair travels by bus to Arnold's

small trailer in the desert, where they meet Arnold's friend Suzy Song (Irene Bedard), who provides unsettling truths about him.

Set in 16th-century Venice, **Dangerous Beauty** (1998) is the story of beautiful Veronica Franco (Catherine McCormack), trained by her mother Paola (the stunning Jacqueline Bisset), to take her place as Venice's premier courtesan. Veronica is in love with Marco Venier (Rufus Sewell), whose parents forbid their marriage. Oliver Platt appears as Maffio Venier, who gets into a memorable dueling match with Veronica, substituting poetry for swords. When Veronica is accused of witchcraft by Vatican emissaries, support comes from unexpected places.

Based on the true story by Homer H. Hickam Jr., **October Sky** (1999) stars Jake Gyllenhaal as Homer who has grown up in a poor West Virginia mining town. Inspired by the Sputnik launch to start building rockets of his own, Homer is encouraged by his teacher, Miss Riley (Laura Dern). This angers his father, John (Chris Cooper), who expects Homer to be a miner like himself. This is a story of how education can be a ticket out of poverty and is a film with family values.

**The Contender** (2000) is a film about the possibility that a woman, Senator Laine Hanson (Joan Allen), might be appointed to replace a deceased Vice President by President Jackson Evans (Jeff Bridges). At first Governor Jack Hathaway (William Petersen) seems to be a shoe-in for the appointment, but that is nixed when he becomes entangled in an accident that generates some negative publicity. Hathaway is favored by GOP Representative Sheldon Runyon (Gary Oldman), who embarks on a campaign to ruin Senator Hanson's reputation. To everyone's dismay, she refuses to defend herself. This is a thought-provoking and surprising film.

**Finding Forrester** (2000) stars Sean Connery as William Forrester, a reclusive writer who befriends a black teenager, Jamal Wallace (Rob Brown). Jamal, though brilliant and a fine writer, has been an underachiever in high school, but his athletic prowess and high SAT scores cause him to be offered a scholarship to a private academy, where he is a challenge to his snobbish English professor (F. Murray Abraham). How old man Forrester and the teen-aged Jamal learn from each other is truly inspiring.

**The Dish** (2001) is a lovely, light Australian comedy based on how the people "down under" assisted NASA in 1969. In the little town of Parkes in New South Wales, a radio telescope the size of a football field is the pride of Australian astronomy. The scientists there, led by Cliff Buxton (Sam Neill), help by tracking Neil Armstrong and his shipmates and by relaying the television signals that will show the first man to walk on the moon.

**Bread and Tulips** (2001) is an Italian film set in Venice. When Rosalba (Licia Maglietta) is accidentally forgotten by her tour bus at a roadside restaurant, she decides to hitchhike home, but on a whim she goes to Venice instead. Stranded, without enough money to buy a ticket home, she is taken in by a cheerless waiter named Fernando (Bruno Ganz), who lives next door to Grazia (Marina Massironi), a "holistic beautician and masseuse." Soon Rosalba is gainfully employed by an old florist, Fermo (Felice Andreasi), while her husband Mimmo (Antonio Catania), grows increasingly agitated at the interruption in his routine. He hires the bumbling Costantino (Giuseppe Battiston), a plumber and amateur detective, to track her down, with entertaining results.

The story of the making of **Antwone Fisher** (2002) is almost as interesting as the film itself. Derek Luke is outstanding in the title role of a young sailor whose terrible bouts of temper have him sent to the naval base psychiatrist, Dr. Jerome Davenport (Denzel Washington). Washington was so impressed by a screenplay written by the real Antwone Fisher about his history of abuse that he chose it for his directo-

rial debut. Also on hand is Joy Bryant as Cheryl, another sailor and Antwone's love interest, who helps him learn what normalcy can be. This is an extremely moving film about a man whose triumphant spirit is a true inspiration.

**The Station Agent** (2003) is a quirky comedy set in New Jersey, starring the excellent Peter Dinklage as Finbar McBride, a four-foot-tall man who chooses to live the life of a hermit in an abandoned train station he has inherited. He unexpectedly meets and befriends a couple of fellow loners. Troubled Olivia (Patricia Clarkson) is an artist devastated by the loss of her son and subsequent separation from her husband, and carefree and verbose Joe (Bobby Cannavale) runs a hot dog stand. The three unlikely friends each deal with their need to connect, in contrast to their individual need for isolation. This film won the Audience award at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival.

**In Her Shoes** (2005) stars Toni Collette as Rose, a dowdy lawyer who is plagued by the antics of her gorgeous alcoholic sister, Maggie (Cameron Diaz). After the two have a huge fight, each embarks on a new life. Watching them blossom in their own ways is enchanting. Shirley MacLaine is terrific as the grandmother they never knew they had in this poignant and well-written film.

Will Ferrell stars in **Stranger than Fiction** (2006) as Harold Crick, a socially isolated IRS agent whose every move is documented by a disembodied female voice. With the help of college professor Jules Hilbert (Dustin Hoffman), Harold discovers that his life is the subject of a book currently being written by best-selling author Kay Eiffel (Emma Thompson), whose creative block has stymied her repeated efforts to kill him off. Kay's efforts to kill her perplexed subject finally provide him with the incentive needed to fully experience life and to seek out the source of the voice that plagues him. Also featured are Queen Latifah as Penny Escher, Kay's assistant, and Maggie Gyllenhaal as Ana Pascal, Harold's love interest who is a baker of cookies.

**Man on Wire** (2008) is a documentary account of the most astonishing performance stunt of the 20th century. On Aug. 7, 1974, a 24-year-old French high-wire artist named Philippe Petit strung a thin cable in between the two towers of the World Trade Center and not only walked across from one building to another, but also did a nerve-racking series of knee-bends and acrobatic movements on the cable, before he was arrested by Port Authority policemen. James Marsh's documentary of these events some 34 years after they occurred is riveting.

**Up** (2010) is the computer-animated adventure of Carl Fredrickson, a 78-year-old balloon salesman, who has spent his entire life longing to wander the wilds of South America. One day, he shocks his neighbors by tying thousands of balloons to his home and finally taking flight. Carl is unaware that he has a stowaway on his front porch, Russell, an excitable eight-year-old wilderness explorer. When the house touches down on the world's second largest continent, Carl and his unlikely traveling companion step outside to discover that not only is their new front lawn considerably larger, but that the predators are much more ferocious than anything they ever faced back home. It is a wonderful film that adults can really enjoy.

Inspired by a true story that touches on legal and social issues that are more relevant now than ever, **Any Day Now** (2012) tells a story of love, acceptance and creating your own family. In the late 1970s, when Marco (Isaac Leyva), a teenager with Down's syndrome is abandoned by his mother, he is taken in by a committed gay couple, Rudy (Alan Cumming) and Paul (Garret Dillahunt). He finds in them the family he has never had, but when their unconventional living arrangement is discovered by the authorities, Rudy and Paul must fight a biased legal system to adopt the child they have come to love as their own.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .

## Insuring City Island families and businesses since 1965.



Homeowners

Auto

Flood

Landlord Packages

Business Owners Policies

Liability

Workers Compensation

Life, Health & Long Term Care

Call or stop by for a quote.

[www.islandinsuranceagency.com](http://www.islandinsuranceagency.com)

(718) 885-1050

498 City Island Ave.

City Island, NY 10464

[info@islandinsuranceagency.com](mailto:info@islandinsuranceagency.com)







**St. Mary, Star of the Sea School**

The children have settled down after the holiday break. Grades 5 through 8 completed their midterms and continue to work on their studies. The eighth-graders have received their high school acceptance letters and are making decisions.

The lower grades will see a production of "Charlotte's Web" in February. Grade 2 is reading the chapter book and doing reports.

A sweetheart dance is scheduled for February, along with many other interesting and fun activities that are planned for Catholic Schools Week. The theme this year is "Catholic Schools Raise the Standards!" Activities will include an international luncheon, and the annual school science fair.

For more information about the closing of the school, see page 1.

**Public School 175**

December was filled with exciting and educational activities. Our kindergarten students attended a multicultural holiday celebration at Hostos Center for the Performing Arts. First-graders visited Arts on Stage to see the Circus Holiday Show. Third-graders visited the Bronx Zoo to do an animal study, and the sixth grade went to Liberty Science Center to do hands-on science explorations. In addition, as part of our collaboration with Lincoln Center Institute, which is generously funded by our PTA, the kindergarten through the third grade students attended an in-school Lincoln Center performance of "Tu Maraca" as part of their first aesthetic education study on international music.

The "Hollyrock Game Show" returned for its annual trivia competition. The students in grades K-8 were asked trivia questions in various subject areas and participated in physical challenges. It was great fun and very informative.

Finally, on Dec. 20, P.S. 175 got into the holiday spirit with our annual holiday sing. Children in grades K-8 sang some of the great holiday classics as part of our rich tradition at the school. This ended our year on a high note!

January was just as exciting. Our fifth-graders began rehearsals for their spring performance of "A Year with Frog and Toad," and, by the sound of things, this is going to be another fabulous P.S. 175 production! The Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation After School Program has resumed for sixth through eighth grades. Students are participating in a variety of activities, including art, athletics, games and homework help.

Our Character Education program continues to thrive. Community service projects geared to help victims of Superstorm Sandy will be taking place in the coming weeks, and eighth-graders will once again be doing individual projects to meet their graduation requirement. Based on the success of our seventh- and eighth-graders "Rewards Trips" program, which acknowledges students with exemplary behavior every six weeks, we have implemented in-class rewards incentives in the lower grades as well. We are pleased that so many students get to participate each month!

The P.S. 175 family is excited about all of the opportunities that we are able to offer our students that enable them to explore educational as well as enriching pursuits.

**Registration Information**

Kindergarten registration for the 2013-14 school year has begun. Between Jan. 22 and March 1, parents are to come into the school to submit an application of interest. Parents must submit the child's birth certificate and two proofs of residency (a current Con Edison bill and either a current deed or a lease).

Pre-registration for kindergarten will officially begin on April 8 and end on April 26 between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m. The child must accompany the parent on the day of pre-registration, and parents will once again be required to submit up-to-date proof of residency, as well as proof of immunization.

All registration questions may be directed to Mrs. Veltri, Secretary at 718-885-1093.

January Citizens of the Month are Alyssa Fusco and Jenan Zezula (kindergarten); Dilyn Branch and Ryan Branch (first grade); Nicholas Baratta and Adam Garforth (second grade); Samantha Kucerek and Oona Foxe (third grade); Crystal Mariette and Leianne Taclibon (fourth grade); Lauren Russell and Nicholas Kola (fifth grade); Leena Peloso and Bakara Hope-Felix (sixth grade); Joseph Kramer and Emma Ramos (seventh grade); Elena Kola and Julia Ejli (eighth grade).



Photo courtesy DRAGON'S PATH ACADEMY

These Tae Kwon Do students at Dragon's Path Academy, working with Master Edwin Castro (standing at left in back row) represented City Island on Jan. 25 and 26 at the World Cup Martial Arts Tournament in Virginia: Dima Berezniuk, Joseph Plaza, Joseph Burton, Christopher Tomsen, Manuel Oquendo, Ezra Oquendo, Valentin Salas, Serena Balassi, Georgi Melicharek, Owen Kenna, Krishn Maystray, Arjun Maystray, Jalynn Richardson, Gabriel Toribio, Rosie Kotlowics, Christine Rice, Samantha Hernandez, Lily Pecoraro, Samuel Rosa and Dillon Bernard. The team did brilliantly, winning a total of 19 trophies, with 7 first places, 4 second places and 8 third places.

**IN THE GARDEN**

By MARY COLBY

**Recipes for the Doldrums**

Spring is the most favored season among gardeners, yet it is with excitement that I count autumn's last leaves as they fall. New vistas open up and the garden takes on magical color combinations: grays, violets, siennas and browns. But mistakes that are masked by foliage and flower now take center stage. This is the time to note if any corrections in structural plantings are needed. Duly noted, they will be a reminder come spring.

Having pared the garden down to its very bones, winter in its simplicity, with its tracery of tree branches, seed heads backlit by the slumbering sun, and the hummocked shapes of dark green capped with snow must make one love the season. The transformative trick that frost and ice play on a landscape has no equal. But what more can we do to satisfy the hunger for growing things? We can festoon our outdoor pots with evergreen branches, holly, twigs, cones or whatever is available. I love yellow and blue conifers, so I grow them; they give me nice material to build my wreaths and pot planters.

To illuminate the night I make ice candle votives. You will need a large bucket, a smaller bucket that will fit into the first bucket and some stones to weigh the smaller receptacle down. Fill the space between the two buckets with water and leave them overnight outdoors until it freezes. Remove the ice from the mold, add a candle and light it. You can float holly, evergreens and berries in the ice. I make at least five to light the walkway.

Feed the birds, throw a party, make your list for perennial and annual seeds

from Chilternseeds, Thompson and Morgan, and the old stand by Parks. Have you potted an amaryllis? Did you get those tulip and daffodil bulbs sunk in pots to be ready to break out of the earth at the first thaw? After a snowfall, knock the snow off the evergreens with a broom to prevent branch breakage. Apply evergreen branches from your Christmas tree to tender plants, or mulch if needed after the ground is frozen.

Other winter activities include reading books on garden design by great garden writers like Henry Mitchell, Vita Sackville West and Christopher Lloyd. I make sure my pots for seeds are clean, my tools sharpened and my wood pile stocked.

Visiting the conifer collection at the New York Botanical Garden in winter is brilliant, and it is also an important learning experience. Take a notebook and a camera, because you can see the eventual height of the trees and how they look together in their splendid maturity. I remember being there on a snowy day with a friend watching the flakes begin slowly and then whirl in the gathering wind as the flakes crystallized the land. With our boots crunching softly, we walked ahead into the stillness. Our eyelashes prickled with snow, we gazed at the trees, big blue and little green, tasseled and weeping.

I love this season, for it affords us time to plan and read and keep each other company. The solstice has brought the return of the sun and we await spring in patience.

I would be happy to answer any gardening questions at [FeFiFauxNY@gmail.com](mailto:FeFiFauxNY@gmail.com).

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

**HAILING PORT SERVICE INC.**  
 19 Schofield St.  
 City Island, NY 10464

**Jane La Scala**

Vessel Documentation (800) 634-0361  
 Insurance (718) 885-2137  
 Commercial & pleasure Fax (718) 885-2427

**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". I am in the office 5 days a week and make rounds at Montefiore Hospital daily including weekends. I am also on call twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. I provide a "Medical Home" for my patients (I am willing to help make all significant medical decisions). I have excellent consultants available whom I have vetted over the years and work well with them. Good Primary Care requires the Primary Doctor to know his patient thoroughly and guide them through our chaotic medical system.

100 Elgar Place, Building 35  
 Telephone (718) 320-2188 • [rchernaik@aol.com](mailto:rchernaik@aol.com)

*Free Shop at Home*

**Lumia Decorators**

**REUPHOLSTERING, SLIPCOVERS & DRAPERIES**

- ★ Kitchen & Dining Chairs Recovered
- ★ Table Pads ★ Foam Cushions Cut to Size
- ★ Complete Selection of Blinds & Shades

*All Work Done On Our Premises*

Showroom at 616 Main Street, New Rochelle, NY  
 (914) 576-0500 • (718) 822-8003



## 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.

### Wilford J. Brasack

Wilford J. (Bill) Brasack, one of City Island's last surviving veterans of World War II, died on Nov. 28, 2012, at the age of 99. Bill was a longtime resident of Ditmars Street.

Bill was born in Milwaukee in 1913. He married Violet Kutchenreiter of City Island in 1944 while he was an ensign in the Merchant Marine. He and Violet were married for 62 years until her death in 2006.

Bill had joined the Merchant Marine during World War II because, as he put it, he did not want to be in the Army. Instead, he did something even more dangerous by serving on Merchant Marine ships that ran convoys to England past U-boats. After he received some additional training, the Merchant Marine asked Bill if he wanted to be sent to the Atlantic or the Pacific. Bill said he preferred the Atlantic so, of course, he was sent to the Pacific, where he was put on an ammunition ship on what was supposed to be the safe side of Iwo Jima. Needless to say, there was no safe side. From Iwo Jima, he went to the battle of Okinawa, where dozens of American ships were sunk by kamikazes.

After the war, Bill continued at sea as an engineer through 1966. After that, he worked in maintenance at Fordham Prep and the Villa Maria Academy.

Bill was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Robert Travers, also of City Island, and is survived by his niece, Lori Travers, and his nephew, Reid Travers, of Hawkins Street.

### Rosemary Guardia

Rosemary Guardia, 91, died peacefully on Dec. 21, 2012. She and her late

husband, Edward, spent many summers on High Island before eventually settling on City Island.

Mrs. Guardia was a homemaker while her husband was an engineer for the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

She was an active member of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church. She was an avid gardener and treasured her roses and marigolds.

Mrs. Guardia is survived by her two grandsons and two great-grandsons.



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

### Tax Changes for 2013

The Internal Revenue Service this month announced annual inflation adjustments for the tax year 2013, including tax rate schedules and other tax changes resulting from the recently passed American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012.

The tax items for 2013 of greatest interest to most taxpayers include the following changes.

Beginning in tax year 2013 (generally for tax returns filed in 2014), a new tax rate of 39.6 percent has been added for individuals whose income exceeds \$400,000 (\$450,000 for married taxpayers filing a joint return). The other marginal rates—10, 15, 25, 28, 33 and 35 percent—remain the same as in prior years.

The standard deduction rises to \$6,100 (\$12,200 for married couples filing jointly),

up from \$5,950 (\$11,900 for married couples filing jointly) for tax year 2012.

The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 added a limitation for itemized deductions claimed on 2013 returns of individuals with incomes of \$250,000 or more (\$300,000 for married couples filing jointly).

The personal exemption rises to \$3,900, up from the 2012 exemption of \$3,800. However, beginning in 2013, the exemption is subject to a phase-out that begins with adjusted gross incomes of \$250,000 (\$300,000 for married couples filing jointly). It phases out completely at \$372,500 (\$422,500 for married couples filing jointly).

The Alternative Minimum Tax exemption amount for tax year 2013 is \$51,900 (\$80,800, for married couples filing jointly), set by the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which indexes future amounts for inflation. The 2012 exemption amount was \$50,600 (\$78,750 for married couples filing jointly).

The maximum Earned Income Credit amount is \$6,044 for taxpayers filing jointly who have three or more qualifying children, up from a total of \$5,891 for tax year 2012.

Estates of those who die during 2013 have a basic exclusion amount of \$5,250,000, up from a total of \$5,120,000 for estates of those who died in 2012.

For tax year 2013, the monthly limitation regarding the aggregate fringe benefit exclusion amount for transit passes and transportation in a commuter highway vehicle is \$245, up from \$240 for tax year 2012 (the legislation provided a retroactive increase from the \$125 limit that had been in place).

Details on these inflation adjustments and others are contained in Revenue Procedure 2013-15, published in Internal Revenue Bulletin 2013-5 on Jan. 28, 2013; to access this information, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

### HOME INSPECTION SERVICES

885-1068



Robert J. Leavy  
Engineer  
NYS Licensed

### Heating & Central Air Conditioning Installation & Service



24 Hour Priority Service

718-885-3328 • [www.cottamhvac.com](http://www.cottamhvac.com)  
No Service Call Charge or Diagnostic Fee for Our City Island Clients!

*Cormac McEnery, Esq.*

*Elder Law  
Estate Planning  
Wills & Trusts*

**(718) 885-1234**

*562 City Island Avenue, City Island, NY*

*cormac@cormacmcenery.com*

*www.lawyers.com/mcenery*

Member of

**Academy of Special Needs Planners  
and**



**NAELA™**  
National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.

MEMBER



**CITY ISLAND, NEW YORK**  
**Times and heights of high and low water (Eastern Standard 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*

**FEBRUARY 2013**

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	HH:MM	FEET	
01 Fri	0159	7.94	0825	-0.21	1423	7.34	2041	-0.24	Fri 01
02 Sat	0248	7.86	0917	-0.01	1516	7.00	2132	0.03	Sat 02
03 Sun	0342	7.68	1018	0.23	1616	6.66	2230	0.32	Sun 03
04 Mon	0443	7.48	1139	0.38	1726	6.41	2339	0.53	Mon 04
05 Tue	0554	7.35	1331	0.20	1859	6.42			Tue 05
06 Wed	0126	0.50	0724	7.42	1441	-0.23	2029	6.76	Wed 06
07 Thu	0251	0.11	0849	7.70	1539	-0.69	2131	7.20	Thu 07
08 Fri	0353	-0.36	0951	7.99	1633	-1.08	2225	7.61	Fri 08
09 Sat	0448	-0.78	1045	8.20	1721	-1.32	2314	7.92	Sat 09
10 Sun	0539	-1.06	1134	8.25	1808	-1.37			Sun 10
11 Mon	0001	8.07	0627	-1.14	1221	8.15	1852	-1.24	Mon 11
12 Tue	0045	8.07	0713	-1.03	1306	7.90	1935	-0.95	Tue 12
13 Wed	0129	7.94	0759	-0.75	1351	7.56	2015	-0.53	Wed 13
14 Thu	0213	7.71	0846	-0.35	1437	7.16	2054	-0.05	Thu 14
15 Fri	0258	7.41	0934	0.11	1527	6.77	2129	0.43	Fri 15
16 Sat	0349	7.11	1027	0.55	1625	6.44	2205	0.87	Sat 16
17 Sun	0449	6.86	1127	0.90	1729	6.24	2301	1.23	Sun 17
18 Mon	0554	6.73	1227	1.09	1832	6.21			Mon 18
19 Tue	0025	1.43	0656	6.74	1325	1.11	1930	6.33	Tue 19
20 Wed	0129	1.43	0752	6.82	1417	0.98	2022	6.54	Wed 20
21 Thu	0222	1.28	0841	7.03	1503	0.78	2109	6.78	Thu 21
22 Fri	0309	1.02	0924	7.21	1544	0.53	2150	7.02	Fri 22
23 Sat	0348	0.71	1000	7.37	1620	0.28	2221	7.23	Sat 23
24 Sun	0420	0.36	1022	7.51	1647	0.03	2239	7.46	Sun 24
25 Mon	0449	0.02	1041	7.68	1709	-0.21	2258	7.75	Mon 25
26 Tue	0520	-0.30	1111	7.83	1736	-0.43	2330	8.03	Tue 26
27 Wed	0557	-0.54	1149	7.90	1811	-0.56			Wed 27
28 Thu	0008	8.23	0637	-0.65	1231	7.87	1850	-0.57	Thu 28
<b>MARCH 2013</b>									
01 Fri	0051	8.32	0721	-0.60	1317	7.69	1934	-0.42	Fri 01
02 Sat	0137	8.25	0809	-0.40	1406	7.40	2022	-0.14	Sat 02
03 Sun	0227	8.03	0904	-0.07	1501	7.04	2116	0.24	Sun 03
04 Mon	0324	7.70	1012	0.28	1604	6.68	2219	0.61	Mon 04
05 Tue	0429	7.36	1203	0.44	1729	6.48			Tue 05



**MUTE SWAN SURPRISE**

One of the cutest sights we have recorded in these pages was the mute swan cygnets riding their mother's back on the way into the beach for their daily dose of bread this past summer. They were hidden at first, small as they still were, and so there was a moment or two of grave concern, as if our unspoken fears about their vulnerability had been realized. And then, as if on cue, they reared their tiny heads, as if to say, "Surprise! Fooled you! We're here and we're hungry!"

Our experience with this family of mute swans has taught us many things about the natural world we share here on City Island. First off, the family: male mute swans are called *cobs* and are usually a bit larger and a lot more aggressive than their female companions, which are called *pens*. And if that is not foolproof enough for you, then check for the cob's knob during breeding season. The knob, which is the black, fleshy protrusion on an otherwise orange bill, becomes noticeably larger for a mature cob in spring than it does on a pen.

Mute swan cygnets may appear in a gray/brown or white phase, as was the case with our family. It is not the case, as we once believed, that all mute swans begin their lives gray and gradually become white. Surprise: there are two distinct mute swan types that interbreed regularly, those with black feet and legs are known as Royals; those with tan feet and legs are known as Polish—and no, we are not joking. It is only Royals, then, whose plumage becomes gradually whiter with age.

Something else that we learned about the diet of mute swans is that they are not fussy at all. They will eat aquatic plants, insects, fish, frogs, worms, horseshoe crab eggs and, of course, bread, but not pum-

pernickel. And it has been our experience that they prefer their bread wet. Some will even take bread from our hands only to bring it to the water themselves. It seems to help with digestion. Something else that mute swans will do to facilitate digestion is to eat gravel. If you have ever seen one reaching for what you thought was a drink of salt water, well, it was probably a drink of sand instead.

Perhaps the most important lesson we have learned through our interactions with mute swans is about the resilience of nature. Mute swans are not native to New York. They were introduced from Europe, as ornaments for grand estates. From the first few that were brought in the 1800s, it has been estimated that about 3,000 live within a 100-mile radius of our area. In fact, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has collared some of them for further study and invites us all to contact them should we locate any.

When we witnessed the break-up of our family of swans, we were struck at first by the timing and apparent cruelty of it. One by one, the cygnets, now juveniles, who used to ride their mother's back, were forced out onto their own. It was done in a very intimidating manner, too. Ornithologists call it busking. For days, the dispossessed juvenile would follow the family from a distance, only to be scared away again and again when it dared get too close. Then one day they were all gone. Being that it was cold and getting colder and that hypothermia is one of a mute swan's leading killers, we, of course, feared the worst.

And then, about a week later, as if on cue, the same three cygnets appeared, together again, without cob and pen, as if to say, "We're still here and we're hungry!"



**"Mortgage Solutions"**  
**ARLINGTON FINANCIAL**

Serving the Tri-State Area

Purchase Refinance No Credit Bad Credit Low Rates	Home Equity Loans No Tax Returns No Consultation Fee Low Down Payment Finance Closing Costs	Residential Multi Family Commercial Mixed Use Investment
------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------

FHA, FannieMae, VA & FreddieMac Loans Available

Need To Run A Deal By Us? Call For A Free Analysis

Sean O'Sullivan/Cork ..... President x222  
 Ray Galluzzo ..... Vice President x223

35 East Grassy Sprain Road, Yonkers, NY 10710  
 Tel. (914) 793-1122 • Fax: (914) 793-4774  
 "Se Habla Espanol" x224

**www. MortgageBreak.com**  
 Info@ArlingtonFinancial.com

**Legal Disclaimer**  
 Registered Mortgage Broker - NY, CT & NJ Banking Departments  
 All Loans Arranged Through Third Party Providers  
 Arlington Financial Corporation License: NMLS-5722  
 Sean O'Sullivan License: NMLS-26742  
 Ray Galluzzo License Number: NMLS-11010

## INCOME TAX RETURNS

**Personal And Corporate Income Tax Returns  
 Professionally Prepared**

Proudly Serving The City Island Community For Over 10 Years  
 All Forms • Reasonable Rates

**Please Call (914) 738-3329 To Schedule An Appointment**  
**Catherine Schaller, C.P.A.      Vincent Mazzaro, C.P.A.**

**NYIC Contracting**

"Where integrity matters" • ALL MASONRY WORK  
 Specializing in Foundations • Concrete • Stucco • Brick Work • Brick Pointing •  
 Sidewalks • Blacktop • Bluestone • Tile • Marble  
 Commercial - Industrial - Residential - Interior Remodeling - Carpentry  
 Fully Licensed and Insured - Proudly Serving the Tri-State Area  
 New York - Westchester - New Jersey - Connecticut \* Call today for a free estimate!  
 Daniel Pervizi - Cell: 347-821-6380 • Carmella Pervizi - Office: 718-885-0694  
 www.NYIContracting.com

**ISLAND Property Care, llc.**

LAWN CARE • HEDGES & SHRUBS • CLEAN UP	CONAL SCHALLER
GUTTER MAINTENANCE • PRESSURE WASHING	CASCHALLER315@AOL.COM
PLANTING • TOP SOIL • MULCH • GRAVEL • SAND	CELL: 646.772.7681
	OFFICE: 646.785.9093



# SAILING LIFE ON CITY ISLAND

By JOYCE MULCAHY



Sailing is never the same experience twice. The wind, the weather, the current and the crew all make for a unique sail each time you push off the dock or cast off a mooring. Sailing is an experience that sets your senses in motion. Sight to guide your way. Smell, awakened by the salty air. Hearing the harmony of the wind and water propelling you ahead. Touch, to steer you or hoist a sail.

I remember the first time someone taught me to see the wind on the water, observe the direction of the current, tie a new knot or feel the magic of the "groove" when at the helm. Whether you are a new sailor or a seasoned salt, if you give in to all your senses, you will always discover something new in the joy of sailing. So many activities in life can be monotonous or feel redundant at times, but never sailing.

Sailing teaches you a lot about life, other people and yourself. While racing downwind toward a mark, you may be slicing through the water at a steady speed or see your sails slapping against themselves with little wind. Not only might you inch along, nearly windless, you may very well be going backwards! Patience is the name of that game.

Yet sailing upwind with 15+ knots filling your sails, every muscle in your body

is aware. You feel the pulsation of the boat beneath you. The rudder cuts through the water as you brace yourself at the helm. The wind thrusts you forward. The boat heels, 20, 25, 30 degrees, and the power is present! You feel it, around you and within. Your heart beats faster. You, the boat, the wind and the current all meld into a perfect union of momentum.

These are the thoughts that get us through the long winter as we wait for spring to experience all of these sensations again.

**Gun Hill Fence**  
EST. 1959

**CREDIBILITY, RELIABILITY & PERFORMANCE**

**EXPERT REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS**

- Chain Link / All Types & Colors
- Custom Wood & Stockade Fence
- PVC Vinyl Fence
- Ornamental Iron & Aluminum Fence
- Non-Climbable • Privacy Slats
- Movie Locations • Automatic Gates
- Wood & Steel Guard Rail
- Roof Security • Razor Ribbon

**FENCING FOR:**

- Patios • Yards • Pools
- Tennis Courts

4171 Boston Road, The Bronx, NY  
1-800-660-FENCE  
(3362)  
[www.gunhillfence.com](http://www.gunhillfence.com)

# Understanding the "Quiet People" in Our Lives

By JOHN SCARDINIA

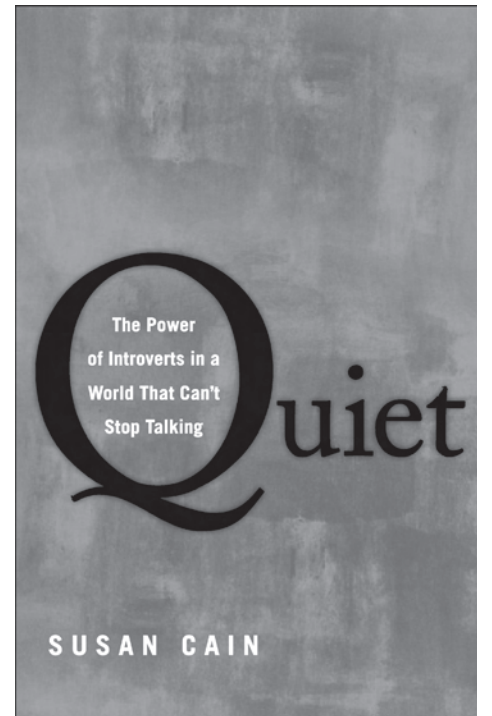
Susan Cain's book "QUIET: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking" is an important study of the reflective, humble individuals who make up at least one-third of the general population (and very likely a larger portion of the Quaker population).

Casting off such terms as "shy" and "socially anxious" and "isolating"—which are often used to label children as well as adults—she instead frames those of us who fall into the "introverted" personality temperament (first outlined by Carl Jung) as promoters of "soft power" through careful listening, intense solo thinking and deep reflection. She cites a list of introverts who have changed history, from Moses to Isaac Newton, Eleanor Roosevelt to Rosa Parks, Mohandas Gandhi to Vincent van Gogh.

Her research suggests that the "extrovert ideal" often seen in American culture—outgoing, talkative, "people people"—doesn't do so well without the steadying influence of the "quiet people." It is these "quiet" individuals who are hard at work bringing their rich inner landscapes and brilliant creative constructs into the reality of the world.

How do schools make life difficult for introvert children?

- by overemphasizing the value of group projects and cooperative learning (great for some kids, not for others);
- by failing to distinguish between children who want to be "alone" (and are content with the richness of their inner experience) and children who are "lonely" (and crave social acceptance but lack the tools to receive it);
- by valuing "discussion for discussion's sake" over periods of silent reflection while someone might formulate something truly valuable to contribute;



• by using labels such as "shy" and "socially awkward" when describing student behavior in school.

In our attempts to be "progressive" and "academic," we must be careful not to overlook the quiet student who may need a variety of other outlets—time alone in the middle of the day, journaling, one-on-one conversations, solo independent projects and the like—to truly express their talents. We might also discover that our own "quiet" nature" or that of our life partner might deserve some down time for reflections and rejuvenation.

It truly takes all types to make a world!

*City Islander John Scardina is a school psychologist, parent educator, and child development specialist. Check out his parent group at the CI Community Center and his website [www.ThinkLaughLearn.com](http://www.ThinkLaughLearn.com).*

**Edward D. Heben**  
CPA/ABV/CFE, CVA, AEP

Accounting, Taxes, Business Valuations, Financial Forensics, and Litigation Support

135 Bedford Road, Armonk, New York 10504  
(T) 914.273.8300 x 121 \* (F) 914.273.8301  
(C) 914.925.1120

**City Island Deli & Pizza**

Catering For All Occasions  
Up to 8 Foot Heroes  
Try Our Full Line of Pizza, Calzones & Take Out Dinners  
WE DELIVER!  
520 City Island Avenue  
718-885-1083

Nick & Yousef's

**FIRE HOUSE CORNER DELI GROCERY CORP**

240 CITY ISLAND AVENUE  
BRONX, NY 10464  
(718) 885-1101

**SCHUYLER HILL**  
FUNERAL HOME

James E. McQuade • Owner

3535 East Tremont Avenue • Bronx, NY 10465  
718-792-0270 • fax: 718-823-4770  
[www.schuylerhill.com](http://www.schuylerhill.com)



# CLASSIFIED

al maintains an excellent redressing and retraining service whereby the contours of the face are restored at a nominal charge. The process is inspected and dressed in a radius and arcured at nominal charge. Each generator is etched for correct toughness and texture. Contour of cutting face is returned to original impregnation suffices. Each generator corrected for proper taper and...

**All classified ads must be prepaid. Rates: \$6.00 minimum for 20 words or less. Over 20 words—30 cents per word. Type or print your ad and mail with check or money order to: The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, N.Y. 10464. ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE 20th OF EACH MONTH except December and July.**

**MINNIEFORD AVENUE CHILDCARE A FUN PLACE TO BE!** 4 hour drop ins welcome for moms who need time for errands, school trips, etc. Call Candy Mancuso 718 885-9277.

**385 KING AVENUE FOR SALE:** Cedar shaker-style home with direct water views on two levels. This nautical charmer has 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths with original hardwood floors and wrought iron railings throughout. Skylights with vaulted ceilings in two bedrooms, along with an attic loft for extra storage. Finished basement with washer/dryer and separate outside entrance completes this picture perfect home. \$419,000. MLS#3230728. Joan Lake Cummings. By appointment only. 914-441-2454.

**CITY ISLAND! NEED A DJ for your next event?** Give Big Town Productions a call. We're right here on the Island! From weddings and parties, to trivia and karaoke, our DJ's, MC's and hosts are the best! 203-496-2444. [www.bigtownproductions.com](http://www.bigtownproductions.com).

**CHRIS BUTTERWORTH, EXIT REALTY SEARCH:** [Chrisbutterworth38@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisbutterworth38@gmail.com) 347-992-0312 Come to me with all of your real estate needs.

**BUYING U.S. COINS,** gold, silver, mint and proof sets, collections, paper currency and stamps. Member ANA. Call Robert at 646-533-2469. E-mail [cityislandcoins@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandcoins@gmail.com).

**ISLAND CARPENTER** does renovations, restorations and repairs. Painting, locks, decks, weatherizing, plaster repair, windows, doors, handy-work, etc. Michael 718-885-1580.

**VOICE LESSONS:** Ages middle school through adult. My home studio. Suffering from sleep apnea? Singing strengthens your throat muscles, which helps eliminate the effects of apnea. Flexible hours. Call Diana 718-885-2091.

**PAINTING AND PLASTERING:** Clean professional work at affordable rates. Call for a free quote. Dave 1-646-548-8573.

**PARENTING CONCERNS? SCHOOL CHALLENGES? ADHD? LD?** Child development expert/certified school psychologist/parent educator can help you to unlock the potential inside your student and yourself and develop a plan for success. ADHD coaching, consultations for learning disabilities and parent coaching. Visit [www.ThinkLaughLearn.com](http://www.ThinkLaughLearn.com) for details, or call John Scardina @ 718-885-9305. Also look for parent sessions at the City Island Community Center (usually the fourth Tuesday of the month).

**PHOTO RESTORATION:** Take old photographs and have them restored like new. Copies made from negatives or prints. Framing available as well. Call Ron 718-885-1403.

**CITY ISLAND SOUVENIRS:** Sweatshirts (Children's and adult), T-shirts, Mugs, Post cards, bumper stickers @ Kaleidoscope Gallery. 280 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3090, [www.kaleidoscope280.com](http://www.kaleidoscope280.com).

**PASSPORT PHOTOS** taken at Focal Point Gallery, 321 City Island Avenue. Call Ron at 718-885-1403.

**RESUMES WRITTEN, EDITED AND LAID OUT:** From actors to lawyers. Concise, professional, superior. Get to the next level. Call Katie 718-885-2929.

**THERE'S A COMPUTER GURU** right in your neighborhood. City Island resident with over 25 years of computer experience can repair any software or hardware problem. Instruction available for all new PC owners. I even make house calls. References available. Call "Joe, The Computer Guy" 718-885-9366.

**WEBSITES CREATED:** Effective, great looking web sites from scratch or your old website fixed up. Easy affordable, quick. Call Katie 718-885-2929.

**OWENS TREE EXPERTS:** Tree trimming & removal. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call 718-885-0914.

**PIANO LESSONS:** Lifetime experience teaching children and adults. My home on a Steinway Grand Piano. Flexible hours. Call Diana 718-885-2091.

**MOVERS!** No job too big or too small! For a free estimate call JR 718-314-6321.

**JEWELRY REPAIRED & DESIGNED:** Cash for gold, watch batteries, engraved gifts, artwork, toys & housewares. Kaleidoscope Gallery, 280 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3090, [www.kaleidoscope280.com](http://www.kaleidoscope280.com).

**AVON REPRESENTATIVE:** Avon is not just cosmetics. Jewelry, clothes, vitamins, videos, complete line of children's gifts, toys and more. Ask for catalogue. Call Emily 718-885-2430.

**CITY ISLAND NOTARY PUBLIC:** Certified in Bronx and New York counties. By appointment only, including weekends. Call Paula Huffell at 347-427-7337.

**O'PIDDLER D'POO!** Daily walks, leash training, pet sitting. Caring for City Island's adorable pets for 10 years. References available. Call 1-646-316-6089.

**FINE ART PORTRAITS:** Studio on City Island. More than 30 years of photographic experience. Call Ron Turner at 718-885-1403.

**KEYBOARD PLAYER AVAILABLE:** I play smooth and gentle music for special events. References available. Call Diana at 718-885-2091.

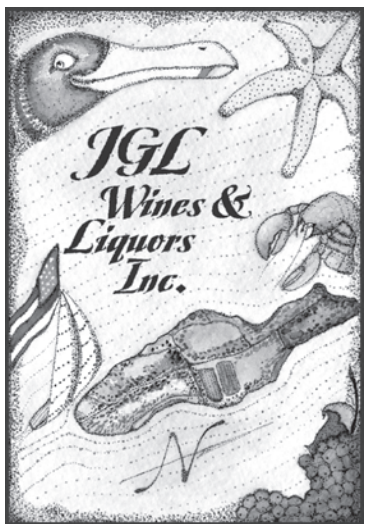
**LEARN DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY:** Photoshop 7 or black and white photography, developing film, printing, camera techniques. Call Ron 718-885-1403.

**CAR/LIMO SERVICE AVAILABLE TO NYC REGION AIRPORTS:** Designated driver for those special evenings/events. Locations outside of NYC prices are negotiated. Beautiful SUV seats 7 comfortably. Call 914-419-0962.

(718) 885-0429 • Fax: (718) 885-2120  
P.O. Box 58 • City Island, NY 10464

**ALL PRO MARINE CONTRACTING CORP.**

Dock Building & Pile Driving  
Bulkheads & Surveys • Towing & Salvage



**JGL Wines & Liquors Inc.**

358 City Island Avenue  
City Island, NY 10464  
[jgl358@verizon.net](mailto:jgl358@verizon.net)  
718-885-0200



Photo by RICK DEWITT

Folk singer Cliff Eberhardt played a wonderful set of music at the Community Center on Sunday, Jan. 13, 2013, and told some great stories from his years of performing with people like Richie Havens and groups like The Band. To find out about upcoming shows, visit the group's website at [www.uptowncoffeehouse.org](http://www.uptowncoffeehouse.org).

Helping you perform better one muscle at a time...

*Pirraglia Chiropractic*



Theresa L. Pirraglia, DC  
Certified A.R.T. Provider

1 Radisson Plaza • Suite 709  
New Rochelle, NY 10801  
914-738-2696 Fax: 914-738-2465  
[info@pirragliachiropractic.com](mailto:info@pirragliachiropractic.com)  
[www.pirragliachiropractic.com](http://www.pirragliachiropractic.com)

IRONMAN PERFORMANCE TEAM  
TEAM CHIROPRACTOR FOR  
FORHAM UNIVERSITY &  
MANHATTAN COLLEGE


**DR. STEVE'S APPLIANCE SERVICE**

"This Doctor Makes House Calls"  
1 Year guarantee on parts.  
25 Years of Experience on All Brands

**10% OFF WITH THIS AD**

718-671-0700  
Serving City Island and Surrounding Areas

**Molly Schroeder, Ph.D.**  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Cognitive/ Behavioral  
Psychotherapy  
(914) 632-3013  
office in New Rochelle  
[www.westchestertherapy.com](http://www.westchestertherapy.com)

**The Black Whale**


**Garden Dining • Sunday Brunch**  
279 City Island Ave, City Island, NY 10464  
Tel: 718-885-3657  
[www.theblackwhalecityisland.com](http://www.theblackwhalecityisland.com)

**Urgent Care** 2304 Eastchester Rd Bronx, NY 10469  
347.913.4333

Open 7 Days & Evenings  
Mon-Fri 8a-8p • Sat, Sun 8a-3p • Most Holidays  
Most Major Insurances Accepted  
No Appointment Needed

Visit us online at [www.ThroggsneckWalkIn.com](http://www.ThroggsneckWalkIn.com)

Flu, Sinusitis, Strep Throat, Wheezing, Asthma, Ear Infections, Cuts, Wounds, Minor Burns, Minor Fractures, Rashes, UTI, Bladder Infections, Nausea, Diarrhea, Vomiting, Pink Eye, Abscess, STD Check, Lyme Check, Other Illnesses, Injuries & Infections  
**X-ray, EKG, Blood Test, Vaccines, Flu Shot, Drug Screening**  
School/Camp/Employment Physicals  
Worker's Comp & No-Fault Accepted







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

Happy 21st birthday wishes on Jan. 2 to Winter Street's Alex Cebek, with love from your family and friends.

Birthday greetings go out to Bay Street's Virginia DiGregorio, who celebrates her big day on Feb. 1.

Best wishes to Lucy Zec, whose birthday is Feb. 26. Lucy's family and friends send her hugs and kisses on her special day.

Good luck to Marine Street's David Butterworth, who has enrolled in the spring semester at SUNY Delhi in upstate New York.

Happy birthday to the City Island Diner's Lisa Clarke on Feb. 26.

Congratulations to Lori Mazzella and Bob Rico on their engagement. Happy

parents are Winter Street's John and Liz Mazzella and Bob and Theresa Rico of Berlin, New Jersey. A 2013 New Year's Eve wedding is planned.

Happy seventh birthday on Feb. 15 to our amazing Abigail Rose. We love you, Mom, Dad and Maddy.

Tons of birthday wishes from Susan Strazzera to her granddaughter Francesca, who turned 15 on Jan. 23; to her son, Frank, on Feb. 13; her daughter, Susannah, on Feb. 16; and her granddaughter Victoria, who turns 18 on Feb. 3.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 70th birthday on Feb. 2 to Hunter Avenue's Gerry McCormick Sr. Love, Judy, Katie, Gerry, Pauly, Pounce and Mack. And more greetings with love to our Uncle Gerry from Nancy, Shimon and Julia.

Birthday greetings to Rudy Etzel, who turned 11 on Jan. 18, and also to Oscar Etzel, who turns eight on Feb. 28. We are so proud of you both! Love, Mom and Dad.

Belated 12th birthday wishes on Jan. 3 to Nicholas Calbo, with love from Mom and Dad and your sister, Olivia.

And a Happy Valentine's Day to all on Feb. 14!

Maria Swieciki



Photo by MIKE RAUH

The dedicated (and often tired) staff of this newspaper ushered in the 42nd year of publication with a celebration at the home of longtime writer and copy editor Barbara Dolensek on Jan. 12, 2013. Editor Karen Nani congratulated the group on another successful year and parodied a comedic tradition with "The Top 10 Reasons You Love Working for The Island Current." The number one reason was "Even in this economy, you can never get fired!" Shown above at the celebration are (front row, l. to r.): Maria Swieciki, Russell Schaller, Barbara Dolensek (with Teddy and Gypsy), Tom Smith and Karen Nani. Second row: Bob Swieciki, Paula Huffell, Betty and Ed Heben, Rick DeWitt, Judy Rauh, Ginger Dannegger, Cathy Schaller Mazzaro, Joyce Mulcahy, Rose Kolb, Bruce Weis, Sandy Dunn, John Sheridan and Maria Sutherland. If you would like to work with the best group of volunteers anywhere, call The Current at 718-885-0760.

City Island Reflexology David Cook 190 Fordham St 718-885-1494 Healing and Revitalizing Your Body Safely & Naturally

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

INTERIOR DESIGN GENERAL CONTRACTING by Jeri Stark Kitchens - Bathrooms - Extensions Flooring - Window Treatments Layout & Design Call (914) 760-3934 for consultation www.jeristark.com 250 William Ave City Island, NY

(718) 365-1625 • (718) 365-1624 Emergency Service 7 Days a Week B & A PLUMBING & HEATING CORP. FULLY INSURED • GUARANTEED WORK BILLY LIC. #1720 4452 PARK AVENUE BRONX, NEW YORK 10457

MOVING? PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO: ISLAND CURRENT, P.O. BOX 6, CITY ISLAND, NY 10464 NAME OLD ADDRESS APT. # CITY STATE ZIP NEW ADDRESS APT. # CITY STATE ZIP PLEASE ALLOW 6-8 WEEKS FOR CHANGE TO TAKE EFFECT.

Subscriptions The Island Current P.O. Box 6 City Island, N.Y. 10464 NAME PHONE# ADDRESS APT.# STATE ZIP Send a Gift Subscription to: NAME ADDRESS APT.# CITY STATE ZIP Rate: \$12 per year Gift Card to Read (Rate on Request for Airmail, U.K. & Europe). All subscriptions prepaid. Enclose check or M.O.—Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery of first issue.



Photo by MARSHA TREIBER

On January 1, 2013, hearty Earley Street residents Hart Deese, Dan Treiber, Rupert Deese and Lauren Nye took their annual New Year's Day swim at the street's beach. They started this chilling way of welcoming the New Year three years ago and plan to keep the tradition going.

WE HAVE MOVED! Please visit us at our new location: 51 West 28th Street, NY, NY 10001 Trellis Fine Florals & Events "Where New York Blooms" 212-335-0426 www.trellisfineflorals.com

VHF-Ch 16 Capt. Dan 718-885-3420 TowBOAT/U.S. City Island U.S. Coast Guard Licensed & Approved For Marine Towing Assistance & Salvage P.O. Box 58 City Island, N.Y. 10464

for VALENTINES for him... for her... I love you balloons, of course 885-1834