

# The Island Current

Published on City Island, New York

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

Volume 44 Number 4

May 2015

One Dollar

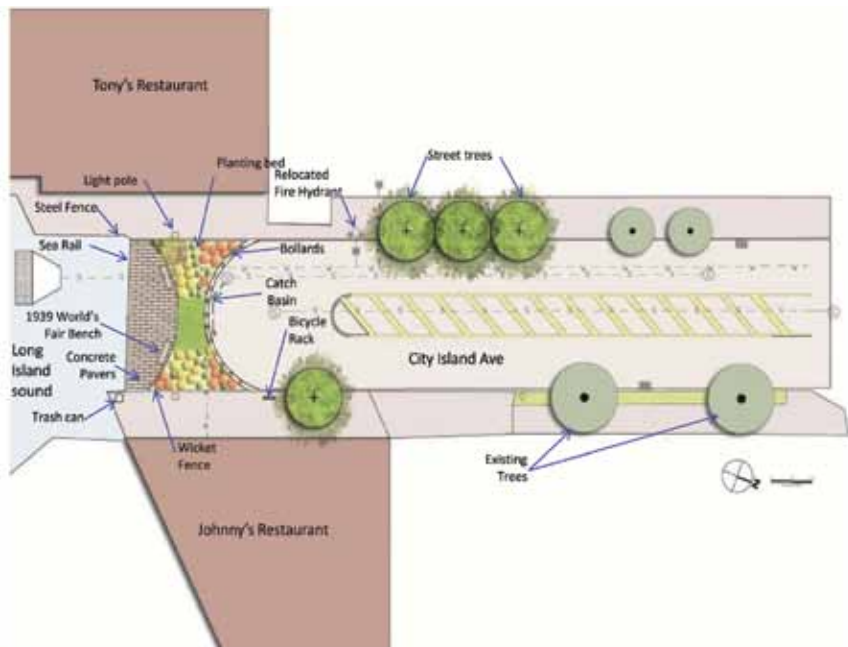
## BELDEN POINT "PARK" REHAB BEGINS

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by BARBARA DOLENSEK

A ceremony attended by several dignitaries was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015, to break ground on the long-awaited Belden Point improvement project. The shovels were put to work by (l. to r.), Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, Deputy Bronx Borough President Aurelia Greene, State Senator Jeffrey Klein, Parks Department Commissioner Mitchell Silver, Community Board Parks Committee Chair Virginia Gallagher, Civic Association officer John Doyle, Bronx Parks Deputy Chief of Operations Lawrence A. Scoones and a Parks Department designer.



Schematic Design

Belden Point



Plan courtesy of the DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION  
A rendering of the plan for the public area on Belden Point at the foot of City Island Avenue.

On Wednesday, April 15, 2015, a promise made in early 2004 by the Department of City Planning (DCP) finally began to come true, when ground was broken for the improvement of Belden Point, at the southern tip of City Island. According to DCP, \$170,000 had been allocated by New York State's Environmental Protection Fund to design and construct a "seating area" in what has been for many years an eyesore between Johnny's Reef and Tony's Pier.

According to Purnima Kapur, then director of the Bronx City Planning office, "This is something we have been wanting to do for a long time." Little did

she realize that it would take over a decade for the project to become a reality. The Department of Parks & Recreation began the design process shortly thereafter, and the Department of Transportation became involved because of the configuration of the end of the street.

Preliminary designs were shown to the City Island Civic Association in May of 2004, but it soon became clear that more funding would be necessary to complete the project, which would not only improve the appearance of the area but also attempt to protect the shoreline against damage caused by storms. Borough President Adolfo Carrion pledged \$100,000 for the project from

the borough's budget (later increased to \$200,000), and State Senator Jeffrey Klein worked hard to make sure that the state funding would remain intact until the Parks Department actually reached the point when construction could begin. Eventually, in 2014 Mayor de Blasio allocated \$50,000 to the project.

However, the project remained in the Parks Department awaiting a refined design. In the meantime, Senator Klein successfully negotiated a maintenance agreement with the two restaurants in 2010 and made sure that state funding would still be made available for construction. He met with representatives of the community and the involved city agencies in December that year, and this helped to get the project back on track. In April 2012 Parks finally presented a design to the community.

After languishing for nearly three years, the plan finally came closer to reality when the delays were brought to the attention of Mitchell Silver, the new Commissioner of Parks, who hosted a groundbreaking ceremony on the site on April 15. Mr. Silver thanked the elected officials and others in the community for their patience and their determination to see the project through.

The plan includes the construction of an area with paths and seating, plus plantings

around the site. The project also includes the reconstruction of drainage systems and the relocation of utilities. The guardrails and chain-link fences will be removed, and it is hoped that the graffiti will be removed. Unfortunately, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has not granted permits for the removal of the broken piers from the dock that extended out into the Sound until it was dismantled during the 1960s.

The Parks Department estimates that the construction, which has now finally begun, will take about 18 months to complete, although the hope is that the project will be completed before next spring. The Civic Association and the Chamber of Commerce are concerned that the construction site, fenced off in the roadway at the end of the Island, will cause traffic congestion during the summer months, although access to the two restaurants at the end has not been impaired. The Parks Department plans to meet with the restaurant owners and the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the situation.

Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and construction will move along in a timely fashion so that by this time next year, the view from Belden Point will be a source of pride for Islanders and a pleasure for everyone.

## Temple Honors Two Special Members at Anniversary Dinner

By MARIA SWIECIKI



Photo by RICK DEWITT

At a dinner dance on March 28, 2015, City Island's Temple Beth-El celebrated its 81st anniversary and having two co-rabbis for the first time in its history. Shown above at the gala are (l. to r.) Rabbi Shohama Wiener, Rabbi David Markus (honoree), Michael Eiron (honoree) and Paul Klein.

City Island's Temple Beth-El celebrated its 81st anniversary on March 28, 2015, at a dinner dance, where it honored two special members and celebrated having two co-rabbis for the first time in its history.

After a warm welcome by Rabbi Shohama Wiener, guests were introduced to Rabbi David Evan Markus, who was lauded as a "man who has dedicated his life to service" and is now co-rabbi of the Temple. For the past several years, he served there as a rabbinic intern while he earned his rabbinical ordination at ALEPH, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal, for which he also serves as vice chair and general counsel.

While he was earning his ordination, David Markus worked full time for the State of New York. He earned his Juris Doctor magna cum laude from Harvard Law School and his master's degree in public policy from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. From 2009 to 2010, he served as senior counsel to the New York Senate and as special counsel under the Chief Judge of New York from 2011 to 2013. He is now a court attorney-referee presiding in New York Supreme Court, Ninth Judicial District.

In his government roles, David was a

Continued on page 3



# BRIEFLY...

**ABOUT BOATING SAFELY:** The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary City Island Flotilla will present two courses on boating safety in May at the Harlem Yacht Club, 417 Hunter Avenue. The first class will take place on Tuesday nights, May 12, 19 and 26, from 7 to 10 p.m. Students must attend all three classes in order to take the test. The second course will be an eight-hour one-day session on Sunday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. during National Safe Boating week. The cost for each course is \$75, which includes materials. To register, e-mail Alan Lesser at [alanlesser@gmail.com](mailto:alanlesser@gmail.com) or call 845-323-0265, or to apply online, go to <http://a0140504.wow.uscgaux.info>.

**MOTHER'S DAY PLANT AND BAKE SALE,** sponsored by the Girl Scouts, will take place at 212 City Island Avenue, across the street from the Chase Bank, on Friday, May 8, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., and on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

**CHILD AND SENIOR CITIZEN ID PROGRAM,** sponsored by the Bronx Masons, will be held on June 6 and 7 at 241 City Island Avenue (corner of Schofield Street) from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. You will receive, free of charge, an identification card with a picture and fingerprints and a video of the subject speaking and walking. Parents must be present to sign a permission slip for their children. No appointments necessary.

**SUMMER CLOTHING DRIVE,** sponsored by the Bronx Masons, will be held on June 6, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 241 City Island Avenue. If possible, please separate the clothing for men, women and children for quicker distribution. All donations will go to POTS (Part of the Solution), at 2759 Webster Avenue in the Bronx NY.

**IRISES!** The City Island Garden Club's annual spring luncheon, whose theme this year is irises, will be on Thursday, May 21, at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street. Be sure to get your reservation to Vivi McGuire at 718-885-1442 and join the festivities starting at 12 noon. You can expect the usual abundance of wonderful gift baskets, prizes and gift certificates.

**MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION EVENTS!** Members of City Island's Leonard Hawkins Post 156 of the American Legion are planning several events in remembrance of Memorial Day. On Sunday, May 24, the annual Memorial Day service will be celebrated at the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church. Then the annual parade will be on Monday, May 25, starting at 2:30 p.m. from Marine Street. Veterans will assemble at 2 p.m. at Marine Street. All other participants will assemble at 2 p.m. at Ambrosini Field, next to P.S. 175. After the parade, which marches up City Island Avenue with stops at Hawkins Park, Pelham cemetery and the bridge, there will be hot dogs and refreshments at the Post, which is located at 550 City Island Avenue.

**BOAT AND WATER SAFETY COURSE,** run by the City Island Sail and Power Squadron, will be held on four Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the City Island Yacht Club, 63 Pilot Street. Topics will include boat handling, terminology, navigational rules of the road, sail and motor boating emergencies, and both state boating and personal watercraft certifications. Instruction is free; the cost of supplied materials is \$45. For more information, e-mail [cityislandabc@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandabc@gmail.com).

**50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION CLASS OF 1965, ST. MARY, STAR OF THE SEA.** A class reunion is planned for Saturday, June 27, 2015, at the Mohansic Golf Course and Grill, 1500 Baldwin Road, Yorktown Heights, NY. Cocktail hour, 5 to 6 p.m.; BBQ, 6 to 10. \$30 per person, cash bar. Gurge's band will entertain. For information please call Donna Costello-Breen (718-892-4713), William 'Gurge' Gerhard (914-962-1302) or Francine DeVeau-Brill (914-275-2441, or [houseboatfb@hotmail.com](mailto:houseboatfb@hotmail.com)).



Photo by FRANCINE ALHEID  
A lovely iris in full bloom waiting to be celebrated at the Garden Club's annual luncheon on Thursday, May 21, at the City Island Yacht Club.

## 45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during March and April 2015. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 4- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF\*
- 1 - GRAND LARCENY
- 1 - BURGLARY
- 1 - ASSAULT
- 1 - PETIT LARCENY

Police provided details on the following arrests (\*) and incidents for the period from March 22 to April 20, 2015.

3/22 - Police are investigating an assault on City Island Avenue at 12 noon. An off-Island male, working as a parking lot attendant at a commercial establishment,

reported that during a verbal dispute with an unknown male, the perpetrator allegedly hit the victim with a pipe.

4/5 - On City Island Avenue at 1 a.m., police from the 45th Precinct arrested an Island male, 23, and charged him with criminal mischief after he allegedly broke the window of a commercial property by throwing a sign into the window.

4/10 - At 8:30 p.m., an off-Islander reported an incident of petit larceny. He returned to his parked vehicle to find that the both license plates had been removed.

4/15 - An off-Island boat owner reported a burglary on City Island Avenue at 7 p.m. The owner reported items missing from his boat, which had been hauled for winter storage.

4/18 - On Reville Street at 5 a.m., an Island male was arrested and charged with criminal mischief after he was observed throwing a brick at a vehicle and waving a kitchen knife around.

4/20 - At 6:47 p.m., an Islander returned to his parked vehicle to find that both license plates were missing. Police ask Islanders to be on the lookout and call the 45th Precinct (718-822-5411) if they observe any suspicious behavior around parked vehicles, such as the removal of license plates.

### TRAFFIC CONTROL

Traffic Control Agents will return to City Island beginning on or about May 8 to assist motorists moving through the work area on both sides of City Island Bridge. For any questions, comments, inquiries or concerns, call Roland Rigos at the Tutor Perini office at 917-626-8391. For up-to-date bulletins and notices, visit [Facebook.com/CityIsland-Bridge](https://www.facebook.com/CityIsland-Bridge).

**Spring Market is Here.**  
Please call me if you are looking to sell your home.



**Louise Del Giudice**

NYS Lic. Real Estate Salesperson, CBR, CDPE  
2013 Masters Ruby & Quality Service Awards

Century 21 Marciano  
546 North Ave.,  
New Rochelle, NY 10801



e-mail: [Louise.Delgiudice@Century21.com](mailto:Louise.Delgiudice@Century21.com)

Cell : 914.497.9021

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

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



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

**Dr. Paul Schwartz, DVM**

**914-636-8106**

98 North Avenue

New Rochelle, NY 10801

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

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

Se Habla Español

(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

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: [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 MANAGER: Margaret Lenz  
BUSINESS MANAGER: Judith Rauh

STAFF: Maria Swiecicki, Ed Heben, Marsha Treiber, Jane Protzman, Bill Stuttgart, Tom Smith, Virginia Danegger, Monica Glick, Maria Sutherland, John Sheridan, Miriam Kleinberg, and Johanna Paciullo.  
PHOTOGRAPHY: Rick DeWitt.  
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS: Russell Schaller Sr., Stephanie Ribauda, 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 885-0760. Copyright 2015 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.





Photo by MARGUERITE CHADWICK-JUNER

The high winds on April 22, 2015, broke a powerboat and sailboat loose from their mooring. They had been rafted together near the bridge for many months. The boats fetched up hard against the rock fill where the temporary bridge will connect to City Island.



Photo by RICK DEWITT

Rabbi Shohama and Rabbi Steven Silvern, Dean of Administration and Director of Studies of the ALEPH Ordination Programs, led the blessing of Rabbi David (at front).

## Temple Beth-El

*Continued from page 1*

lead litigator in the historic 2009 battle for control of the New York Senate. In Albany, he has focused on constitutional reform, judicial and legal affairs, expanding State commitment to civil legal services and enhancing Family Court.

Temple Beth-El president Paul Klein presented him with proclamations from State Senator Jeffrey D. Klein, Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and Council Member James Vacca, along with gifts from the Temple. In addition, a contingent from ALEPH attended the event and promised to “continue to work together and to go from strength to strength.”

The second honoree of the evening was Michael Eiron, who was warmly recognized for his 10 years of service to Temple Beth-El as an active and inspiring member of the congregation. Before being elected to Temple’s board of directors, Mike was Special Events Chairman of the Temple’s 75th

Anniversary party. He also moderated an event that honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., served as a member of the by-laws committee, organized a fundraiser for the Bronx Special Olympics and conducted a canned food and toy drive. Many of his other duties included serving as treasurer from 2012 to 2014.

In his acceptance speech, Mike thanked everyone, especially his fiancée, Reva Rosario, and mentioned his “many special memories,” which included the Temple giving him a bar mitzvah “because I never had one.” With a strong interest in education, the Lehman College graduate taught in the New York City public school system for 25 years and became a delegate representing his school at the United Federation of Teachers. Mike received proclamations and citations from Senator Klein, Assemblyman Benedetto and Councilman Vacca.

In addition to the wonderful cocktail hour and good food, guests danced the night away to the music of the Lickety Split Band. A silent auction featuring many beautiful objects ended the evening on a high note.

## A Current Review

# “Twelve Angry Men”

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by MARY McINTYRE

The City Island Theater Group’s “12 Angry Men” looking not so angry in this cast photograph taken during dress rehearsal: front row (l. to r.): John Geideman, Dave Lazaar, Tom Lloyd, Rich Masotti, Phil Dante, Wylie Cohen; back row: Bill Morton, Kenn Sapeta, Keith Trauceniek, John Garcia, Frank Siciliano, Jay Langkamp, Thomas Losito. The final weekend of performances of this drama by Reginald Rose will be Thursday through Saturday, April 30, May 1 and 2, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 3 at 3 p.m. at Grace Church hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street. To make reservations or buy tickets online, go to [tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com](http://tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com).

Jury trials in homicide cases are front-page news these days—from the Etan Patz trial in downtown New York to the Marathon bomber trial in Boston—and the media repeat virtually every word spoken in court on behalf of both the prosecution and the defense. One aspect of these trials that will never reach the public, of course, is the deliberation that takes place in the jury room, and yet that is where the decisions are made that will drastically affect the lives of the defendants.

In 1954 television writer Reginald Rose put himself and his audience right into the jury room when he created “Twelve Angry Men” for CBS Studio One, a series that ran on television during the 1950s. In 1957 he wrote and coproduced a film version directed by Sidney Lumet and starring, among others, Henry Fonda (as Juror 8), Robert Cummings (who won the Oscar for Best Actor), Lee J. Cobb and Jack Klugman. A few years later, in 1964, Rose adapted the teleplay for the stage, in several different versions, although it did not make Broadway until the Roundabout Theatre Company presented it in 2004. Finally, at last, the play makes its debut with the City Island Theater Group, and an impressive debut it is.

The play is unusual in many ways—none of the characters has a name (they are Jurors 1 through 12, plus a court officer), there is no elaborate set (a plain room with one long table and a lot of chairs), there are no costume changes, and there are no women, although this production was directed by a woman, the multi-talented CITG veteran Elizabeth Paldino.

The story is very simple: a young man has been accused of murdering his father, and the evidence presented by the prosecution has been pretty convincing. The play opens with the jury assembling in the room where they will determine the young man’s fate, and a preliminary vote indicates that 11 of the jurors believe him to be guilty. However, as with most criminal trials by jury, the verdict must be unanimous, and Juror 8 is not convinced by the evidence and votes that the defendant is not guilty.

During the subsequent arguments and as the evidence becomes increasingly

shaky, the jurors react in very different ways, drawing on their own experiences, biases and reasons to reach the verdict. Almost all of them erupt in anger at one point or another, and it is this emotional stream that provides an intensely dramatic night of theater.

The cast—Wylie Cohen, Phil Dante, John Garcia, John Geideman, Jay Langkamp, Dave Lazaar, Tom Lloyd, Thomas Losito, Rich Masotti, Bill Morton, Kenn Sapeta, Frank Siciliano and Keith Trauceniek—was, in a word, superb. Even though the entire audience on opening night knew what the final verdict would be, the tension between each of the jurors kept everyone spellbound until the very end, when Juror 8 turns out the light as the last man to leave the jury room.

Each of the actors brought something unique to his role, although five of them—Tom Lloyd, Rich Masotti, Bill Morton, Frank Siciliano and Keith Trauceniek—had pivotal parts and deserve to be singled out for having kept the drama at a high pitch from beginning to end. However, the momentum relied on every character, as the arguments veered from anguish to humor, from ignorance to intelligence, and the audience hung onto every word.

As usual with CITG, the terrific cast was supported by a talented crew, from Elizabeth Paldino’s skillful direction to the handsome set, built by Dan Srdoc and designed by Joe Burck, who also designed the lighting, and the sound created by Denis Zepeda. Carol McCabe and Cheryl Brinker managed to make the cast look as if it really was 1954, and Susan Rauh and Vicki Tramontana produced a very attractive program. Nick Sala, president of the CITG, served as production manager, ably assisted by production stage manager Alanna Scott.

Live theater is a unique art form that relies on teamwork for its success, and the City Island Theater Group, now in its 16th year, exemplifies the very essence of the word “teamwork.” By bringing together such a talented cast and crew, the group has brought something very special to the City Island community, and we look forward eagerly to the next production in the fall.

LICENSED & INSURED MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Office: (718) 885-0824 Fax: (718) 885-0812  
Office: (718) 885-1200 Emergency: (914) 760-1106

**KEE** INC.

ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION  
KURT W. EBINGER

“QUALITY IS OUR KEE TO SUCCESS”  
RESIDENTIAL • EMERGENCY SERVICE • COMMERCIAL  
Light • Heat • Power • Installations • Design Service  
104 Hawkins Street • City Island, NY 10464  
[keelectric@aol.com](mailto:keelectric@aol.com)

**EDMOND (Teddy) PRYOR**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**

1925 Williamsbridge Road  
Bronx,  
New York 10461

300 City Island Avenue  
City Island,  
New York 10464

(718) 829-0222  
[www.pryorlaw.com](http://www.pryorlaw.com)



<p><b>CITY ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE GOES INTO FULL SWING ON APRIL 12</b></p>	<p><b>BELDEN POINT MINI-PARK FINALLY BREAKS GROUND</b></p>	<p><b>TEMPLE BETH-EL CELEBRATES HISTORIC FIRST, 2 RABBIS FOR SERVICES, AT 81<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA</b></p>	<p><b>ISLANDERS LOOK FORWARD TO GIRL SCOUTS ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE</b></p>
<p>WASN'T THAT A LITTLE COCKY, POINTING TO THE FENCE LIKE YOU'RE GONNA HIT A HOME RUN?</p> <p>HOME RUN? I WAS SIGNALING THE SNACK SHACK FOR A HOT DOG!</p> <p>PHOTO OP DONE. LET'S GET THE BACKHOES IN NOW.</p>	<p>ABOUT THAT, VIRGINIA... BUDGET'S A BIT TIGHT. WE'LL NEED YOU TO DIG THE REST YOURSELF.</p>	<p>DID I EVER TELL YOU THE ONE WHERE 2 RABBIS WALK INTO A BAR?</p> <p>FELLA'S</p>	<p>HEY NANCY, I'M DECODING OUR HONEYBEES' "DANCES." THEY'RE SAYING ISLANDERS SHOULD BUY OUT ALL THE FLOWERS AT THE GIRL SCOUT PLANT SALE. MORE FLOWERS MEAN MORE CITY ISLAND GOLD HONEY!</p>



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.

**Angry About Rodman's Renovation**

To the Editor:

After all the years of work that City Islanders, Councilman Vacca and the Civic Association did to get a 2014 date to move operations at Rodman's Neck and to end the noise, water and air pollution, I am amazed that we all are docilely accepting the radical change we have been handed by the NYPD and that we are going along with "refurbishing" and yet another set of promises from the Police Commissioner.

Whatever happened to the City Council money allotted for the moving of the operation to Queens and the promised ending? How come there are now going to be millions that will "completely renovate" Rodman's Neck (see article in the April issue of *The Current*)? Why aren't those millions going toward its removal as originally agreed?

Isn't anyone else upset? Are we too tired after fighting over the new bridge? Are we all really okay with the new plans?

**Toby Z. Liederman**

**Opposes Hart Island Park**

(A copy of the following letter and response was received by The Current.)

Mr. James Vacca  
New York City Council

First, I would like to thank you for all your concern and all that you do for our community.

I am writing to you regarding the possible transfer of Hart Island to the Parks Department (see article in the January-February 2015 *Current*). As a City Island resident, a member of both the Civic Association and the Chamber of Commerce, as well as a longtime volunteer in the community, I am opposed to Hart Island becoming a public park. I realize that many local politicians, the Community Board and 44 members of the Civic Association have approved this plan. However, I believe the majority of City Island residents are not in favor of this. I understand that often the only way for you to know the wishes of City Island residents is through our Civic Association. While our Civic Association has a turnout that is admirable, it still represents only one percent of the City Island population. I know there have been meetings about this issue, but I do think it was already in progress before many residents became aware of the plan.

The Hart Island project is interesting. Most people would not have a problem with families visiting the graves of their loved ones, but is there such a demand that we need to turn over a whole island to the Parks

Department? I went to an information session and asked questions. I rarely complain about traffic on City Island; I accept it as a given as a lifelong resident. However, to have the only access to Hart Island Park via Fordham Street is just not feasible and a burden to residents already overrun with traffic congestion in the summer. The answer to my question was that people will not come by car. They are coming from Manhattan via public transportation and it will be few visitors. I certainly do not buy this myth, as we are well aware that people do come to City Island by car.

Ms. Hunt, president and founder of the Hart Island Project, was asked about her vision for the island. Her answer was a burial ground and wildlife open space. However, Ms. Hunt has been quoted in other articles saying that former Potters fields have been converted to successful public parks. No, we do not want this. I just don't see the support for this as there was for the bridge or for saving the firehouse. The ferry docked at Fordham Street is the only access to Hart Island. If this passes, why not a ferry from Orchard Beach? I would also not like this to be confused with a ferry service for commuters to Manhattan and along the waterfront, as I am in favor of that. I believe they are two different issues.

The amount of funds needed to clean up Hart Island and prepare it for public access would seem to be enormous to cover the toxic cleanup, the abandoned missiles silos, and the buildings that need to be razed. Why not put those funds into Pelham Bay Park? Parks can be annexed for a multitude of reasons. I would think that after the Parks Department cleans Hart Island up, at taxpayers' expense and at the expense of other parks already in existence, it will become an attractive destination to many people. City Island cannot handle more visitors! For such a small amount of residents in favor and a potential burden so large, my question is why?

**Name withheld upon request.**

Dear Constituent:

Thank you for your letter. I understand how you feel. As an elected official, I often look to the local civic association even though I wish more people would attend these meetings. Believe me, if this bill does proceed to a Committee meeting there will be additional hearings and a chance for public comment. Many of the questions you raise will have to be addressed should it get to that point.

**James Vacca  
New York City Councilman**

**BUDDY'S HARDWARE & MARINE**

A full service hardware & marine supply store  
**KARL HOEDL**

268 City Island Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10464

718-885-1447  
Fax: 718-885-1617  
hoedlk@buddyshardware.com

**SCHUYLER HILL FUNERAL HOME**

THE PRE PLAN A PERSONAL FUNERAL FUND

**James E. McQuade, Owner**  
Family Owned & Operated for over 50 years

3535 East Tremont Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10465

**718-792-0270**

www.schuylerhill.com

**A1 PLUMBING HEATING**

Boilers & Stoves Cleaned, Serviced & Installed

Eddie Cullen  
300 City Island Avenue

**917-440-2711**

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



# After the Long Winter, the Boys and Girls of Summer Arrive!



season: four majors, three minors and two t-ball teams. The ceremonial first pitch was thrown out by State Senator Jeff Klein (photo, left). CILL president John Tomsen acknowledged the generous support of the sponsors, including JPs, Sammy's, Crab Shanty, Seafood City and Sea Shore restaurants; the City Island Theater Group, Dugout Sporting Goods, Local 79 Laborers, Jack's Bait and Tackle, the American Legion, the John Gilder Scholarship Fund, and the newest sponsor, Amanda Bear Party Rentals. He also welcomed back former New York State Assemblyman Stephen Kaufman, who obtained funding to renovate the field 10 years ago, as well as New York City Councilman James Vacca, who are flanked by CILL board members Kristen McConaghy, Maria Piri, Ed Esposito, George Spencer, Lou Lomonaco and Catherine Ambrosini (photo above). The American Legion color guard bearers were Joe Goonan, John Muhlfeld, Mike Jawski and Bob Salerno. Stop by Ambrosini Field on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and Saturday during the day, and root for City Island's sluggers. The season runs through June 27, and the snack bar is always open.



Photos by KAREN NANI  
After the bitter cold winter of 2015, Islanders welcomed the sunshine on the opening day of the City Island Little League (CILL) season on April 11. There are nine teams competing in CILL this




**CITY ISLAND LAUNDROMAT**

**NEW! FULL SERVICE LAUNDROMAT**

**Professional Dry Cleaning – Next Day Service**

**Quality Wash, Dry and Fold – 75¢ per pound**

**Tailor on Site – Mon. Wed. Fri. 9am – 5pm**

**718.885.1840 CILAUNDROMAT.com**

**Delivery Service Available**

*Clam Digger Owned and Operated*

**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







Photo by BARBARA DOLENSEK

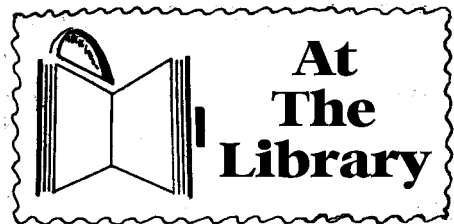
Sotheby's McClellan International Realty and Greystone Property Development hosted a gathering in their office on City Island Avenue on Thursday, April 23, 2015, to talk with Islanders and others interested in the new development, On the Sound, being constructed at the east end of Fordham Street. Five of the buildings are now under construction, and 16 of the proposed 43 units are already spoken for. Attending the gathering were (l. to r.) Diane Rosa, Council Member James Vacca, Maria Swieciki and Barbara Hoffman.



This May at **Starving Artist** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) they have everything from singer-songwriters to singing the standards to hot jazz. Theresa Sareo plays the Artist on Sunday, May 17, at 3 p.m., and there's some hot jazz on Saturday evening, May 9, starting at 8 p.m. with the Transcaucasian Red Hot Peppers. Check out their full schedule at [www.StarvingArtistOnline.com](http://www.StarvingArtistOnline.com).



On Saturday evening, April 11, the **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** played host to "An Evening of Broadway" with Hannah Glick (above) and friends. The standing room only crowd enjoyed Broadway tunes from some 20 Broadway productions skillfully presented by a team of 10 performers, with Heather Edwards on piano and musical direction (last on City Island as Musical Director for "Evita").



**PROGRAMS AT THE CITY ISLAND LIBRARY- MAY 2015**  
718-885-1703  
Our hours are: Mon. and Thurs., 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tues. and Wed., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fri. and Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**MAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**  
**SPECIAL PROGRAM**  
**Buzzy Bots & Crawly Critters:** A hands-on, science-based workshop series for students in elementary school. Children will create their own robots and conduct experiments with exciting, living creatures. Series topics included are Bristle Bots, Pill Bug Investigation, Art Bots, and Crayfish Investigation. Thursday, May 14, 21 and 28 at 3:30 p.m.

**ONGOING PROGRAMS:**  
**Circle Time:** Interactive stories, action, songs, crafts and interaction with other toddlers in the neighborhood. First

come first served. A limit of 15 children and caregivers per session. 18 months to 3 years. Every Tuesday at 11 a.m.

**Read & Play:** Children from birth to 3 years old and their caregivers can take part in wonderful stories, discover amazing toys, and meet new friends in this fun, informal program. There is a limit of 15 children and their caregivers per session. Space is limited on a first come, first serve basis the day of the program. Every Friday at 11 a.m.

**Craft-A-Way:** Drop in at any time throughout the day and participate in creating projects related to a theme or holiday. Ages 2-11. Friday, May 8, between 12 noon and 4 p.m.

**MAY TEEN & TWEEN PROGRAMS**

**ONGOING PROGRAM:**  
**After School Lounge.** Come to the library after school for studying, relaxing and doing homework with Wii and movies on Friday. Every weekday after school Monday through Friday from 3 to 5 p.m.

**Teen Board Games:** Race robots, test your reflexes, sail ships or compete as pirates. Saturday, May 9, from 3 to 4 p.m.

**MAY ADULT PROGRAMS**  
**SPECIAL PROGRAMS:**

**New! Book Swap:** Want to recommend a favorite title? Want to find something good to read? Stop by and hear what others are reading, and share your thoughts on your top book picks. All Public Library Programs are free of charge. Thursday, May 7, at 1 p.m.

**Money Matters Retirement Planning:** Meet and speak with retirement planning specialist Alan Katz, CFP. This retirement funding and planning workshop explains important stages of money through life and what it means to family, how to understand the risks of various investment type, how asset allocation can affect your retirement plan. Open to all individuals interested in learning to plan and live through retirement. Saturday, May 16, at 1 p.m.

**ONGOING PROGRAMS**  
**Computer Q & A:** Ask questions about how to use computers. "How do I turn a computer on?" "How do I set up my own e-mail account and e-mail family and friends?" "How do I copy and paste text and pictures?" "How can I sign

(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

in to use a computer at the library with my library card?" Every Monday afternoon from 1 to 2 p.m. at Grace Church, Pilot Street. Every Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon. Also, one-on-one training by appointment.

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

**Tablet Group:** Learn how to borrow and download library e-books, discuss your favorite apps and ask questions about how to use tablets in your day-to-day life. Every Thursday afternoon from 2 to 3.

**Saturday Afternoon Movies:** Please check the flyers and call in advance in case of any unscheduled changes, addi-

tions or cancellations. For events in other branches, please check the website at [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org).

Saturday, May 2, at 1 p.m. "Fury"  
Saturday, May 9, at 1 p.m. "National Treasure"  
Saturday, May 23: CLOSED  
Saturday, May 30, at 1 p.m. "You've Got Mail"



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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
321 King Avenue	1/7/15	\$475,000	1-family
110 Schofield Street	1/8/15	\$275,000	condo
173 Ditmars Street	1/28/15	\$412,000	1-family
515 City Island Ave.	2/3/15	\$875,000	marina
104 Centre Street	2/5/15	\$396,550	1-family
2 Leeward Lane	2/5/15	\$297,001	condo
600 Minneford Ave.	2/11/15	\$625,000	1-family
25 Tier Street	2/12/15	\$730,000	1-family
56 Centre Street	2/25/15	\$721,000	1-family
51 Hawkins Street	3/3/15	\$400,000	1-family
18 Deepwater Way	3/16/15	\$410,000	condo

**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

**Edward D. Heben**

CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA, AEP

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

22 Saw Mill River Road, 3rd Fl.  
Hawthorne, NY 10532-1533  
(T) 914.345.5888 x108 • (F) 914.345.8652  
(C) 914.925.1120  
(E) [eheben@hebenonline.com](mailto:eheben@hebenonline.com)  
[HebenOnline.com](http://HebenOnline.com)

**MrChimney.com**

**Cleaning & Repairs**

718-329-3296  
800-834-3155

**CITY ISLAND REAL ESTATE, LTD.**

**LICENSED REAL ESTATE AGENTS**

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

Residential Houses  
Commercial Condos  
Rentals 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](http://www.cityislandrealestate.com)  
[agent@cityislandrealestate.com](mailto:agent@cityislandrealestate.com)

proud member NY STATE MLS



# MISS COCO PERU REVISITS HIS CHILDHOOD

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



When Clinton Leupp was growing up on City Island in the 1960s and 70s, few could have envisioned that he would become famous as a drag queen who travels all over the world telling wonderful stories on the stage as Miss Coco Peru.

He was born in August 1965 to Clinton and Helen Leupp, who had both grown up on City Island and met when they were students at P. S. 17. He recalls that his father was a true clam digger, having been born at home on Tier Street, and that when he first saw young Helen, he called out to her, "Hey Red! Hey Carrot Top!" She ignored him, of course, and as Clinton puts it, "he finally called out, 'Well, whatever your name is, someday I'm gonna marry you.' And he did!" The young lovers were both 17 years old when they married, just before he left for World War II.

"When my father returned," he recalls, "they had three children and moved all over the Bronx, finally returning to City Island, where they built a house and eventually had me, their fourth child. Yes, I was a mistake. My parents never hid that from me, and I loved it because it made me feel special."

Clinton loved growing up on City Island. "I loved the sunsets. I loved the smell of the salt air. I even loved the smell of low tide! I especially loved summers and that you could just walk to the end of your street and go swimming in the bay. I loved that I had about 40 'aunts' and 'uncles' on the island, and I was really quite upset as a young kid when I found out I wasn't really related to any of them! I loved the small town feel that City Island had while still being close to Manhattan. It was a place where children could play outside without their parents worrying."

But, he recalls, "early on I began to realize that I was different, and when I

was in the second grade I figured out that it was because I liked boys. When I imagined getting married, I pictured a boy in the fourth grade. By the time I was about nine, I was bullied every day at school and on the walk to and from school. This continued throughout grammar school and into high school, so summers were also an escape from some of that."

Clinton got his start performing in the Young Island Players and went on to train in theater arts at college. Soon after graduating he decided he wanted to be an openly gay performer and to do drag as a way to express himself, both in theater and as an activist. His first show was in the New York City cabaret world, for which he wrote, produced, directed and starred in "Miss Coco Peru in My Goddamn Cabaret" in 1992.

Since then he has appeared in many films (including "To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar" in 1995, "Trick" in 1999, "Girls Will Be Girls" in 2004, and voiced Mamma Hippo in the Disney animated feature "The Wild," in 2006) and on television (including "How I Met Your Mother," "Arrested Development" and "Will and Grace," among many others). He also appears in live performances and hosted LGBT events all over this country and abroad. Since 2005 he has appeared in a series called "Conversations with Coco," and guests have included Bea Arthur, Lainie Kazan, Lesley Ann Warren, Karen Black, Lily Tomlin, Liza Minnelli and Allison Janney. The money raised by these events helps provide shelter in Los Angeles for LGBT teens who are rejected by their families and now homeless.

It has been several years since Clinton visited City Island, but he remembers that it was not as Coco Peru, which is something he does only to entertain. "I don't walk around dressed up as Coco. In fact, I kind of hate putting on all that makeup! It's a lot of work, so if I'm going to do it, I had better be getting paid!"

He told an interviewer in 2008: "I'm not impersonating a woman. It's just an extension of me. I'm telling autobiographical stories, and Coco gives me the freedom to be a little more outrageous and say things I wouldn't say in everyday life. Drag allows me to embrace a lot of the things I hated about myself growing up. Having been called a girl-boy and all that, drag is a way of now celebrating what was once painful and shameful. It is also my hope that when an audience listens to my stories they forget that I am in drag and instead they relate to what I am saying. Despite what differences we might have, my hope is that people realize we have more in common than what may appear by our obvious differences. I find it deeply inspiring and satisfying when people tell me that they related to my story."



Photos courtesy of CLINTON LEUPP  
Clinton Leupp (aka Miss Coco Peru) as a youngster with his parents on their wedding anniversary (photo right) and accepting a trophy for winning a race on Beach Street.



Clinton now lives on the West Coast with his husband, a college professor originally from Spain whom he married in that country in 2006, and he does not often return to City Island to visit. "I have very mixed emotions when I go back. I am always flooded with memories and like anyone, some memories are good and some aren't. However, it will always have a very special place in my heart, as it was home for me for so many years. I know I'm grateful that I grew up there, and I'm grateful I was surrounded by so

many characters and wonderful storytellers, who inspired me and gave me a great sense of comedy—and drama. I'm grateful, too, that I grew up with good neighbors who taught me how to be a good neighbor.

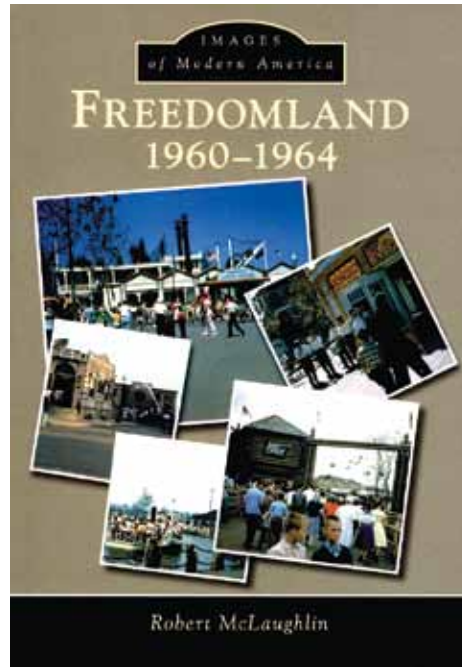
As I grow older, I see the value in having grown up there, but it no longer feels like home. I think the explorer in me always wanted to get out, to get over that bridge to the other side. However, I do enjoy it when I have the opportunity to stroll the island and take a walk down memory lane... not to mention, get a buttered roll, a cup of coffee, and brush up on my beloved Bronx accent!"

## A Current Book Review

### "Freedomland: 1960-1964"

### Remembering a Time Before Co-op City

By KAREN NANI



Those who are too young to remember will find it hard to believe that there was once a theme park where some of Co-Op City's 35 buildings now stand. It was called Freedomland and was supposed to be the "Disneyland of the East."

Freedomland opened in June 1960 in the Baychester section of the Bronx, not far beyond the City Island bridge. It only lasted five seasons, but it was an extraordinary piece of Bronx history, captured in a new book from Arcadia Publishing, "Freedomland: 1960-1964" by Robert McLaughlin, an avid theme park historian. The book, part of Arcadia's "Images of Modern America" series, is filled with photographs, many of which have never been published before now.

When Freedomland opened, it was the third and the largest innovative theme park built across America to mimic Disneyland. It was constructed in the shape of the United States and presented 200 years of American history. Historically themed attractions, including the Tucson Mining Company, Fort Calvary and the Chippewa Indian War Canoes, were located throughout the park's seven sections.

Freedomland was the one of the first theme parks to institute "pay one price,"

so for \$2.95 in 1961, visitors gained entry to the seven sections and all the attractions within them: Little Old New York: 1850-1900; Chicago: 1871; The Great Plains: 1803-1900; San Francisco: 1906; The Old Southwest: 1890; New Orleans: Mardi Gras; and Satellite City: The Future.

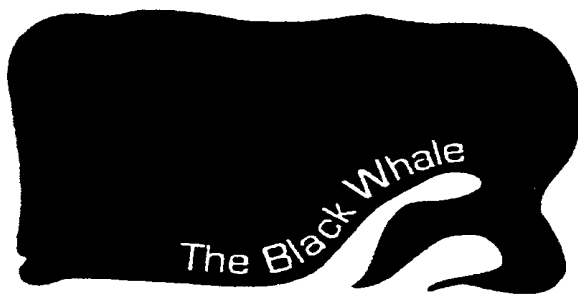
In addition to the historical attractions, the park featured exciting adventures, such as the Tornado ride, the Buccaneers boat ride (perhaps an early version of Disney's Pirates of the Caribbean?) and the Meteor Roller Coaster.

I was among the many City Islanders lucky enough to be a kid when the park opened. My memories are few, but the book confirmed my recollection of a tilt house called Casa Loca. The house consisted of optical illusions where the rooms were tilted one way and you were leaning the opposite way.

Freedomland also boasted daily entertainment events, including such national and local stars as Paul Anka, the Lennon Sisters and Chubby Checker. I remember going with my Girl Scout troop from City Island and seeing the hit group the Four Seasons, led by Frankie Valli. It was my first "rock" concert, and we screamed our heads off as the Four Seasons sang "Dawn (Go Away)" and their other hits.

The author devotes a chapter to the sad demise of Freedomland. The park filed for bankruptcy in September 1964, mostly because "Freedomland as a business became less valuable than the site it occupied. Every person, young or old who visited Freedomland as a guest, employee, or performer was lucky for those five seasons."

I can attest to that sentiment as I enjoyed wondering what the Bronx would be like if Freedomland were still in operation. (As I read the book, I think I spotted my brother, Eric, and my mother, Lorraine, in the background of one of the photos.) Anyone else who wants to wax nostalgic can pick up the book online at Arcadia Publishing or, ironically, at Barnes & Noble in Bay Plaza, which sits near the original site of Freedomland.



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



## Organization News

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

### Current Calendar

#### MAY

Fri., and Sat., May 8 and 9, Girl Scout **Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale**, 212 City Island Avenue across from the Chase Bank, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Tues., May 12, **Blood Drive**, sponsored by the Bronx Masons, Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street, 3:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Thurs., May 14, **Community Board 10 meets**, Greek Church, 3573 Bruckner Boulevard, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., May 21, **Garden Club of City Island Annual Luncheon**, City Island Yacht Club, Pilot Street, 12 noon.

Mon., May 25, **Memorial Day Parade**, 2:30 p.m., sponsored by the American Legion. Starts at the south end of City Island Avenue.

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

Sat., May 30, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: chicken with rice and beans.

#### JUNE

Sat. and Sun., June 6 and 7, **Spring Arts and Crafts Fair**, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., City Island Avenue.

### 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.

Make plans now to attend the Trinity Spring Fair on May 2 from 11 to 3. There will be lots of fresh, home-made baked goods for sale, as well as lunch served from 12 to 2 p.m.

Spring is here and that means cleaning! Please think of the Budget Corner for donating those gently used items that you no longer need. It will soon shut down for summer, but there is still plenty of time to make donations. The schedule is: May 2, 5, 16, 19 and 30; June 2, 6, 13 and 16. 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

After having received the sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, April 28, our eighth-graders celebrated their last day of religious education classes on Wednesday, April 29. We congratulate them and wish them well as they move on to various high schools.

Friday, May 1, is the first Friday of the month. We will have our monthly holy hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

On Sunday, May 10, we will honor all our mothers with a special blessing at all our Masses.

Because the second Sunday of the month is Mothers' Day, we will not have our monthly coffee hour. The last one of the year will take place in June.

Thursday, May 14, is the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord and a holy day of obligation. Come join us at one of our

Masses, which will be held at 7 and 8 a.m., 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 16, will be an important day in the lives of several of our children and their families. On that day, the children will receive their First Holy Communion at an 11 a.m. Mass. A special practice for this celebration will take place on Thursday, May 14, from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m.

The following day, May 17, these children will participate in a special procession at our Sunday 10 o'clock Mass, where our parish will honor Our Blessed Mother during the month of May. We will crown the statue of Our Lady and honor her as the patroness of our parish. Following the Mass, our First Communicants and their families will partake of a Communion breakfast in the school gym.

Our religious education program for this year will come to an end on Wednesday, May 20. Report cards and awards will be distributed that day. We wish all our young people a happy and healthy summer.

Happy Memorial Day and happy summer to all!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

### Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island (TBE), "your shul by the sea" at 480 City Island Avenue, is a stimulating non-denominational place for observance of Jewish traditions. Our style of service is Jewish renewal, deeply spiritual, innovative and open-minded. The congregation is led by our clergy, Rabbi Shohama Wiener, Rabbi David Evan Markus and Reb Eva Sax-Bolder, with music by Your Band by the Sea. Events begin promptly, so please come 15 minutes before listed times. Reminder: for the health and comfort of all, please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne.

Friday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. Join Rabbi David to celebrate the Cutler bnai mitzvah of Max and Rose Cutler. This week's Torah portion (Kedoshim) includes the Holiness Code—the very heart of Torah and the heart of embodied spiritual life. Celebratory oneg to follow sponsored by Brent and Helaine Cutler.

Saturday, May 2, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Shabbat morning. Join Rabbi David and TBE Congregation to participate in the Bnai mitzvah of Max and Rose. Celebratory Kid-dush to follow.

Friday, May 8, 7:30 p.m. Join Reb Eva. Celebratory oneg to follow sponsored by Jodie Sadowski and Phillis Maucieri.

Friday, May 15, 7:30 p.m. Join Captain Bob as we welcome Shabbat.

Sunday, May 17, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The Spirit of the Story: Jewish History in Film. Join Rabbi David in viewing and discussing the award winning PBS documentary "The Story of the Jews." Free to members; \$20 for nonmembers.

Friday, May 22, 7:30 p.m. Join Rabbi Shohama, Rabbi David and Your Band by the Sea. Celebratory oneg to follow sponsored by Ellen Ruth Topol.

Sunday, May 24, 8 p.m. Join Rabbi David for a celebration of Shavout (the festival of revelation) by exploring "sexy text" and mystical union as holiness flows into the world in Jewish tradition. Not suitable for children under age of 16. Celebratory dessert to follow.

Friday, May 29, 7:30 p.m. Join Captain Bob as we celebrate Shabbat.

All TBE members and friends interested in praying for and supporting others who are ill and/or need home contact are requested to please join our Chessed Committee. Please send questions and comments to [ertopol@aol.com](mailto:ertopol@aol.com) (Dr. Ellen Ruth Topol). If you want



Photo by RICK DeWITT

About 20 members of Saint Mary's and Trinity braved the chilly temperatures and gathered at Pelham Cemetery on April 6, 2015, for the annual Easter Sunrise service organized by Trinity Lay Leader George Cavaliere.

prayers for yourself, family members or friends, please send an e-mail.

Sponsoring an oneg (refreshments) for a Shabbat or holiday service is a wonderful way to honor an important occasion (e.g., birthday, anniversary, yahrzeit, life-cycle event) and give back to the community. For more information, call Violet Smith at 718-885-0978 or e-mail [violetsmi@aol.com](mailto:violetsmi@aol.com).

For further information, visit our website at [www.yourshulbythesea.org](http://www.yourshulbythesea.org).

Ellen Ruth Topol

### Grace Episcopal Church

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

#### Worship Schedule:

Holy Communion Rite 2, Sundays at 10 a.m. with Priest-in-Charge Ruth Anne Garcia. After the service, we offer coffee hour, a time for refreshments and fellowship.

Contemplative Prayer Service meets on Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the church. A quiet evening service, it includes scripture reading, reflection and meditation.

Eileen Marcus

### City Island Republicans

Our next meeting will be in June when we distribute petitions. The monthly meetings at county are the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

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

### Legion Ladies Auxiliary

On May 2 and 3 we are having a yard sale / bake sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Post, 550 City Island Avenue (rain or shine). Donations and baked goods are greatly appreciated.

Reminder that our Cancer Bingo has been postponed until 2016.

Our next meeting is on May 5 at 7:30 p.m. Please mark your calendar. Important topics need to be discussed.

Happy Mother's Day to all.

Laura Booth

### St. Mary's Thrift Shop

May at the Thrift Shop is Prom Time, t-shirt time and swimwear time. Come in on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will be open on May 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28 and 30. Look for special sales on our spring and summer items. We also have clothes, shoes, bags, books, bric-a-brac and appliances. Bring a friend and enjoy complimentary coffee and cake. Remember that donations are always gratefully accepted.

Arlene Byrne



### AARP Chapter 318

We meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Trinity Methodist Church hall on Bay Street. Our May 6 meeting will be our luncheon for Mother's Day (catered by IGA) beginning at 12:30 p.m. at a cost of \$15 per person. Our second May meeting will be held on May 20. Come and bring a friend and enjoy a wonderful afternoon.

Rosetta Woods

### Sons of the American Legion

The Sons will be celebrating their 25th anniversary this year. We are hoping to have something in September in honor of this great milestone. We meet every second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Just a reminder that dues (\$30) are once again due.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

## Molly Schroeder, Ph.D.

Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Cognitive/Behavioral

Psychotherapy

914-473-1447

office in New Rochelle

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





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

Your Community Center is here for you and can't exist without you. We need your help and support! We need you to attend classes! We need you to volunteer! We need you to become members! Right now we especially need volunteers to help organize Teen Dances. Please think about it and considered joining. Annual membership to the City Island Community Center is only \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Please think it and consider joining. To join the Center, to request our new brochure, and for up-to-date information, visit [www.cityislandcommunity-center.org](http://www.cityislandcommunity-center.org), call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook!

The Center is run by a volunteer board of directors, who meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend this open meeting.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Family Bingo Night:** Friday, May 22, at 7 p.m. Bring the whole family for a night filled with fun and games with outstanding prizes.

**CI Film Society:** Sundays at 1 p.m. Date to be announced. Classic and interesting flicks. For information, contact [cifilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:cifilmsociety@gmail.com).

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**YOUTH PROGRAMS**

**Jill's Playgroup:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Preschool children are invited to have fun with other children. There is no charge, but donations are appreciated. For information, call Jill at 917-330-0922.

**Irish Dance for Children:** Mondays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Irish step dancing for all ages at all levels taught by Caitlin Nora Kelly. For information or to enroll, call Kim at 718-885-3501.

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

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Aerobics with Mary:** Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m. Stay strong with cross fit/aerobic strength training. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793. AFA Certified.

**Belly Dance / Shimmy By the Sea with Kristin,** aka Gypsy Curves: Sundays, 4 p.m. Fee is \$20 per class; the sixth class is free. Call Kristin Amezcuita at 646-625-1575 for information.

**Chair Yoga with Michael:** Fridays, 9:30 a.m. Note new day. Stretch and flex with an easy combination of yoga, tai chi and pilates. For more information, call Betty at 718-885-1095.

**Chess Club:** Every Thursday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid T.V. Have fun. Call Bill at 718-541-3995.

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

**City Island CSA:** Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m. Join the Community Supported Agriculture Group now for delivery of the freshest most delicious organic fruits and vegetables in the late spring. For information, contact [laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com](mailto:laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com) or call 917-238-0529.

**City Island Culinary Club:** Wednesday, 7 p.m. Have fun with other people who love to cook and Chef Michael Proietti. Mexican Foods: May 6 and 20. Special Salads: June 3 and 17. Coming up on June 12, 6 p.m.: Community Dinner and Karaoke Fundraiser hosted by CI Culinary Club. For information, call Michael at 646-296-3102.

**City Island Drawing Society:** Sundays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find your inner da Vinci and enjoy the art of drawing with Joshua Glick.

For information, call Josh at 917-721-1419.

**Parenting Group:** Last Tuesday at 7 p.m. We laugh, we cry and we learn from one another. Join us as we share our experience, strength and hope on this journey of parenthood. For information call John Scardina at 718-885-9305.

**Weight Watchers Meetings:** Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with Debbie. It is time to get healthy and to trim down. A new series begins mid-January. For more information, call Elena at 718-885-2268 or Patty at 718-885-1891.

**Yoga with Jo Ann:** Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. \$10 per session. Gentle level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and, if possible, a yoga blanket. For more information, contact Jo Ann at 917-853-4719 or [joannngny@aol.com](mailto:joannngny@aol.com).

**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. Saturdays at 10 a.m. \$10 per class. For questions, call 917-601-5514.

**Zumba with Letti:** Thursdays at 6 p.m. Letti's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. Classes are \$10. Call Lettie at 917-292-4228 for more information.

**Patty Grondahl**

**American Legion Post #156**

Legion hours will be from 12 noon to closing, starting May 15, 2015.

Relatives or friends of former Legionnaires buried in Pelham Cemetery should notify the Legion if there is no memorial marker. Every veteran will have a flag to remember their service. If a memorial marker for a veteran is needed, it can be ordered at the relative's expense.

Volunteers are needed to prepare memorials and flags and installation of same in Pelham Cemetery before Memorial Day.

Hall rental rates and available dates may be found at the hall. The fee of \$100 will reserve the hall for a specific date.

Our most sincere thanks to Dianne O'Sullivan, Anne Sullivan, Betty Carman, Betty Jordan, Maureen Grogan and John O'Sullivan for the great night of music, dancing and fun on April 18. Another enjoyable party is planned for June 9, 2015, limited to 70 people.

On May 2 there will be a bake and yard sale at the Legion. Please stop and buy!

Thanks again to those members who keep making our time at the Hall better.

The annual Legion Memorial Service will be held at St. Mary, Star of the Sea at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 24. Coffee and cake at the Legion Hall will follow the service.

The Memorial Day parade will start for participants at P.S. 175 at 2:30 p.m. Please be present between 1:30 and 2 p.m. Legionnaires will meet at Pilot Street and City Island Avenue to start the parade. Please note that the Bronx Trolley will be available for those unable to march. Call the Post at 718-885-0639 so that arrangements can be made to meet you at your corner and City Island Avenue.

**John Muhlfeld**

**Garden Club of City Island**

They say many hands make light work. We were very grateful for the many hands of members and friends who helped with cleanup of the planters along City Island Avenue. For three hours on Saturday, April 11, winter greens were removed, the soil was aerated, planters were scrubbed, all in anticipation of planting annuals in early May to brighten the landscape. So a huge "thank you" to Boo Dennis, Lily Bryant, Linda McCue, Charline Evers, Carol Hansen, Carol McCabe, Judy Judson, Carmella Bellocchio, Eva Bellocchio, Cheryl Brinker, Giny Rosa and Beth Kiss.

The April presentation on "Bees, Bee Keeping, and Honey" by Garden Club member Dr. Nancy Kheck was not only very informative, but also entertaining as she described the learning process when she set up her first hives. (Did you know that honey bees are never those pesky creatures



Photo by MARY CARMAN

At AARP's Chapter 318 Crazy Hat Day on April 1, 2015, members let their creative juices run wild with beautiful, funny and bizarre hats of every size, shape and color. Winners were (l. to r.) Diane Statler, who nabbed third place for her "Under the Sea" creation; Rosetta Woods was the first-place winner for her "I'm Going Bananas" chapeau; and Mary DeRosa received second prize for "My Lucky Royal Flush" bonnet.

that buzz around your food on the backyard table? Honey bees are attracted by flowers only and aren't very interested in stinging anyone or eating their food.) We are looking forward to Liz Leduc of Giordano Florist, who will talk about and demonstrate spring flower arranging at our May meeting.

As you already know, we are in the middle of our big drive to fund the work we do in keeping the Island's parks and public spaces planted and maintained, as well as tending to the lovely planter boxes to keep them beautiful for all to enjoy. You should have received your letter from the Garden Club requesting your generosity in supporting our Beautification Fund this year. Please be as generous as you possibly can as we rely solely on the support of Island residents and our local businesses. In addition to the planters, this spring we are working with the Board of Pelham Cemetery to enhance the gate to the site.

Last, but not least, we invite everyone to the Garden Club's annual spring luncheon, whose theme this year is irises. Be sure to get your reservation to Vivi McGuire at 718-885-1442 and join the festivities on Thursday, May 21, at the City Island Yacht Club. You can expect the usual abundance of wonderful gift baskets, prizes and gift certificates.

If gardening, gardens and a beautiful City Island are among your interests, you're welcome to attend one of our meetings held at 10 a.m. on the first Monday of each month at the City Island Yacht Club.

**Barbara Harrison**

**PSS City Island Senior Center**

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

The center is located at 116 City Island Avenue in Grace Church Hall and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. A delicious lunch is served every day from 12 to 1 p.m., catered by Scavello's (IGA). Programs are funded by PSS and the NYC Department for the Aging.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

Mother's Day Luncheon and special "Give My Regards to Broadway" entertainment by Karen Beal, former Westchester Broadway Theater performer, on Friday, May 8, at noon. Luncheon consists of chicken cordon bleu, penne à la vodka, garden salad, rolls with butter and dessert. There will also be gifts.

Election Day for Advisory Council, Tuesday, May 12, from 9 a.m. until noon. Votes will be tabulated starting at 1 p.m. and results will be announced that day.

Bronx Zoo trip on Friday, May 15, leaves at 9:30 a.m. and returns at 1:30. Lunch will

be held over for those wanting to participate.

Living Will and Health Care Proxy, Monday, May 18, at 12:15.

Health Screenings, Wednesday from 10 to 2, blood pressure, balance, bone density and more.

Westchester Dinner Theater, "West Side Story" on Thursday, May 21. Sign up at the Center.

Mets vs. Phillies game, Wednesday, May 27, 1:05 game time.

Show and Tell Day, Thursday, May 28, at 12:45. Bring your prized possession and a little tale about it. You'll have 3 to 5 minutes. Sign up at the Center.

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

**May Programs:** Mondays: German Club at 11 a.m.; Learn to Play Chess or Mah Jongg also at 11 a.m.; Individualized Computer Instruction at 1 p.m.; Guitar Lessons also at 1 p.m.; Tuesdays: Conversational Spanish at 10:15; Wednesdays: Calligraphy at 1 p.m.; and Haircuts by Brenda on May 13 and 27 for \$10; Thursdays: Acrylic Painting at 10 a.m.; Piracy Bingo at 12:30 p.m. on May 14; Fridays: Birthday Party, May 22 [tentative]; Dance Party every week at 12:45.

**Information, Referrals and Assistance**

Regarding benefits applicable to seniors, we are more than happy to provide information, referrals and assistance in filling out forms and applying for certain programs. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the center.

**Caregivers Support**

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

**Transportation Services**

Off island shopping trips leave at 9:30 and include Shop Rite, Bay Plaza, Stop & Shop, Target, Farmers Market, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-Island shopping trips. Limited availability is open for off island Doctors appts. You must call the office 1 week prior to appointment and be approved. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Tony at 347-834-6466 for pickup or trips.

**Patty Attis**





**Above and Beyond:  
The Birth of the Israeli Air Force**

This month, in honor of Memorial Day, I am breaking with my tradition of providing short reviews of several films based on a particular theme or filmography. Instead, I am devoting this space to a single extraordinary documentary I had the great fortune of viewing at a special March event at the Picture House in Pelham. The Q&A after the screening was with producer Nancy Spielberg, who told the amazing story of how the film came together.

**Above and Beyond** is a little-known story about the 1948 United Nations partition of Palestine, which created the state of Israel. Without an air force, the Israeli people were faced with 10 million Arabs ready to annihilate them. Just three years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, a group of Jewish American pilots answered a call for help. In secret and at great personal risk, they smuggled planes out of the United States, trained behind the Iron Curtain in Czechoslovakia and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. As members of Machal—"volunteers from abroad"—the Jewish volunteers, most of them World War II vets, came to fight for Israel during the War of Independence.

Machal members not only turned the tide of the war; they also embarked on personal journeys of discovery. For several of the pilots, defending Israel was their first significant identification with their heritage. At the time, discrimination against Jews was far more prevalent in America than it is now. According to the film, Americans who helped with the Israeli military at that time actually jeopardized their American citizenship.

As the first major feature-length documentary about the foreign airmen in the 1948 war, **Above and Beyond** brings together interviews with surviving pilots, who were 90 years old or more and were articulate, charming and funny. It also features re-created aerial recordings, which are so seamlessly inserted into the film that the viewer is astonished, wondering how the filmmakers managed to find the "real life" footage. The excellent musical score perfectly augments the actions without becoming overpowering.

The movie follows the pilots on their circuitous route from the United States—where they met and trained in secret and struggled to stay two steps ahead of the FBI—to Panama, Italy and Czechoslovakia, where they flew versions of the very Nazi planes they had tried to shoot down in World War II. More than a retelling of the '48 Arab-Israeli War, **Above and Beyond** examines the motivations of the foreign volunteers, recounting the personal stories of the young pilots, whose experiences in Israel were life altering. And through their stories, **Above and Beyond** reveals how under-equipped and isolated the Israelis were, how desperately they needed planes and pilots, and how critical the actions of these young American men were for the country's survival.

**Production Challenges**

Nancy Spielberg, the president of Playmount Productions, thought she ought to do a film about this absorbing story before it was too late (two of her subjects, in fact, passed away during the course of production). But rather than tell the story of all 4,000 volunteers, she decided to focus on one particular group: the Jewish American pilots who rushed to Israel's rescue during the 1948 war, manning the handful of rickety fighter planes that eventually changed the dire course of events. In the process, they also helped to create what was to become a world-class air force.

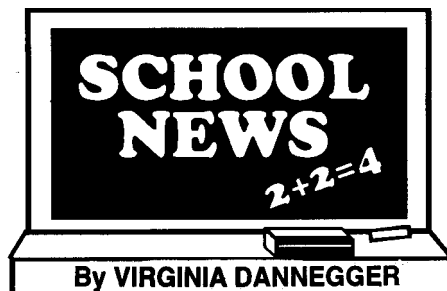
A big challenge in producing the film was raising money for the project. Although her famous last name helped open doors, Spielberg discovered that it didn't necessarily help to open wallets. Eventually she convinced S. Daniel Abraham, the 88-year-old billionaire founder of Slim-Fast, to make a hefty contribution to

the cause. Nancy's brother, the legendary Hollywood director Steven Spielberg, did kick in a bit of money, but Nancy says she preferred not to rely on him for funding. "The first thing people would say to me is, 'Why isn't your brother giving you the money?'" and I'd say, 'You know, I'm not asking. This is my project, and I'm just not asking.'"

Another enormous challenge was fitting the whole story into one movie. Director Roberta Grossman said: "Working with writer Sophie Sartain and editor Chris Callister, we faced the challenge of telling the personal stories of not only the pilots we interviewed, but the stories of Al Schwimmer, the mastermind behind the operation, and other pilots such Milton Rubinfeld, Stan Andrews and Bob Vickman, who had all passed away. Add to that the complicated story of the '48 War, the enormous American Jewish clandestine effort to smuggle arms into British-controlled Palestine, the British Mandate, the UN Partition Plan and the birth of the Palestinian refugee situation. If we left out any of the above, it would be an omission; if we told too much of it, we risked boring audiences to tears."

All of the above contributed to a seamless production that tells an uplifting, riveting story of brave men who put their lives on the line to save a nation. This is an awesome effort that deserves to be seen. It can be viewed on Netflix and Amazon.

And until next time, happy viewing...



**Public School 175**

Spring has arrived and our students are in full bloom. Our eighth-graders are putting the finishing touches on their social studies exit projects. In addition to a visual presentation, the students are required to do an oral presentation for their teacher. Ms. Adesso has been working alongside her students to make this a most meaningful project.

Our educational trips this month included our kindergarten and first-grade classes attending a performance of "Caps for Sale" at Lehman Center for the Performing Arts; the fourth grade visited the Tenement Museum to tie in with their social studies unit, and the sixth grade went to the Hayden Planetarium as part of their science unit. In addition, the eighth grade went to Manhattan College for a tour and to attend a class, so they can see what life in college will be like in just a few years! Many of our seventh- and eighth-graders also went bowling in Queens for their reward trip as part of our program that recognizes exemplary behavior.

P.S. 175's school-wide Community Service Program is getting ready to go. Some projects being considered are raising money for Kids in Need of Desks (KIND); baking for POTS; activities to beautify City Island Avenue and fund raising for Project Hope. Project Hope is an organization that delivers essential medicines and supplies, health expertise and medical training in response to disaster in order to prevent disease, promote wellness and save lives around the globe. In addition, the kindergarten went to Pilot Cove and sang for the seniors during Christmas, and eighth-graders did many individual and group projects. These projects included assisting with the community Christmas party, helping the PTA at the card party and cleaning the Community Center. We thank Brenda Prohaska for coordinating many of these activities!!

The P.S. 175 tradition of going to Camp Greenkill will continue this year at the end of May. Our sixth-graders will be spending three days learning about the environment and themselves. Ms. Fitzmaurice, Ms. Pat-sos, Ms. Ramos, Mr. Hammond and Mr.

Lafreniere (who will be coming out of retirement for the event) will once again accompany the students for what will be an enriching experience for all!

Please keep in mind these important dates:

- Families with children turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2015, who have not already used the online tool to pre-register their children for kindergarten should call the school and speak with our secretary, Sandra Magneri, as soon as possible. The DOE website also has registration information.
- Seventh-graders will be going to Boston in May.
- May 13 will be our Curriculum Celebration Night. This night will showcase all the wonderful work going on in our classrooms. Further information will be going home with students in the coming weeks.
- Eighth-grade graduation will take place on Wednesday, June 24, at 9:30 a.m. The Eighth-Grade Dance will take place the same evening from 7 to 10 p.m. The Eighth-Grade Awards Night Dinner will take place on Wednesday, June 17, at 6 p.m.
- The kindergarten moving-up ceremony will take place on Tuesday, June 23, at 9:30 a.m., followed by a family celebration in the gym with a DJ and Sunny the Clown.

April Citizens-of-the-Month are Grace Riordan and Alyssa Sciara (kindergar-

ten); Jayden Kenny (first grade); Gabriella Gierum and Alyssa Fusco (second grade); Kylie Archibald (third grade); Noah Torres and Thomas Forliano (fourth grade); Mikelle Backman and Samantha Kucerak (fifth grade); Jasmine Mariette and Christal Mariette (sixth grade); Alberis Sosa and Brandon McGaughan (seventh grade); Angie Lin and Ceasar Lugo (eighth grade).

Heating & Central Air Conditioning Installation & Service

**COTTAM**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
800-734-8367

482 CITY ISLAND AVE.  
CITY ISLAND, NY 10464

**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!

**BRONX RESIDENTS**

before after

before after

**FREE SHRIMP OR LOBSTER DINNER FOR 2 ON CITY ISLAND FOR INSURANCE CLAIM REPAIRS**

**SAVE 50% on your insurance deductible**

Bring this AD to get

**24Hr. Towing**

RENT-A-CAR AVAILABLE

**AUTO DETAILING - SAT. & SUN. ONLY**

**CITY ISLAND AUTO BODY INC.**  
Licensed Bonded Insured  
138 CITY ISLAND AVE., CITY ISLAND, NY 10464

**TEL: 718-885-1856**  
**FAX: 718-885-1572**  
[www.cityislandautobody.com](http://www.cityislandautobody.com)





Photos by ANN-MARIE GOONAN

Organizers, students and guests enthusiastically celebrated the "Under the Sea" theme at the annual card party sponsored by the P.T.A. of P.S. 175, on March 27, 2015. Raffles, sold by enthusiastic teachers (middle photo), and great food at the recently opened Scavello's On the Island kept the capacity crowd happy as clams. PTA co-president and the party organizers Jonna Gallo Weppeler, Leslie Hanley-Piri and Brenda Prohaska (top photo) were beaming at the success of the event, which raises funds for the arts and other programs at City Island's elementary school.

Join us for  
*Mother's Day Brunch*  
at the  
**HARLEM YACHT CLUB**  
Presented by  
*Anne Booth Catering*  
*Something to Savor*  
Sunday May 10th  
from 11:30am - 2:00pm  
Reservations Only | 718-885-3078

# IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY



Photo by MARY COLBY

A lovely primrose garden bed (*Primula japonica* 'Postford White').

## MAY TIME

This has been as cold a spring as I can remember. It is April 12 as I write this and still the trees have not broken their dormancy. Even the forsythias are not out yet. If the weather heats up all at once, we will have roses and irises and hellebores all mingling together, heaven forbid! Last week, on a cold and rainy day, the Botanical Garden was filled with people searching out every small bud and shoot, crashing the gate to spring. The perennial garden was bejeweled with blue bells (*chionodoxa*) and one glowing yellow witch hazel tree, with its ribbons of gold. Not much else, I'm afraid, except for a few snowdrops and the adonis flower.

Yet finally it is here, and we can be out in the garden. We are busy enriching the soil where needed with Plant-tone or Holly-tone, adding composted manure to shrubs and trees and mulching for aesthetic purposes as well as water retention. I was busy this weekend doing all these chores to get the garden ready to perform. I pruned all the shrubs that were too high, and cut out all the branches that were crossing each other. I sowed seed of Queen Anne's lace and purple larkspur and distributed more seedlings of hellebores to make a bigger swath in the woods. I dug up baby white pine trees and moved them around to make masses of evergreen where needed.

This is the time to divide perennials so you can have more of one variety, which creates beautiful pictures. It is much better to have three or five plants grouped together than dotting them around the whole garden. All the grasses were cut down and for the back

of the garden I used these clippings for mulch. I left some leaves after raking the beds, for they will break down and make the soil richer and more friable.

Planning a new garden? What is the exposure? Sun, shade, light shade? It is essential to choose the right plant for the right site. They will reward you with their health and vigor, and they will sometimes reseed and naturalize. Four years ago, I was out at a friend's house, and she didn't know what to do with the very damp, shady spot in the back of her house. We bought three primrose japonica 'Postford White' and some ferns, and we planted them between the hostas that were already there. There are now hundreds, so happy are they with their soggy situation. Now she has to cut off the seed heads to stop them from multiplying and taking over! The same can be said of a sandy site that was planted with two gail-lardia plants. The sand was covered with them in a space of three years. These cheery red-and-yellow blanket flowers lit up the beach.

Verbena bonariensis likes a neutral soil, not too wet or dry; it is tall and wiry with purple heads. It will reseed and that's the loveliest happening. Plants will appear where you never thought to place them, making the garden feel more natural and unexpected.

May is the month of the iris. There is the flag iris that likes a moist soil, the bearded iris that loves to bake in hot sun, and the pumila iris that fits in a garden of modest size. I love these smaller iris, as their leaves are only a foot tall and their flowers are showy, like the bearded ones, only smaller. They tuck in nicely between later flowering perennials. There also is iris reticulata, which is a bulb. I saw it slicing through a crown of dusty-colored columbine leaves the other day. This tiny plant seemed a universe in its markings and color.

Next week more shall unfold. The magnolias are next, the cup and saucer and the star. Look for a grove of them at the NYBG. Stephen Starr has opened his Hudson Garden Grill, which will have 120 seats on an outdoor patio and another 80 inside. On May 16, the Frida Kahlo exhibit opens, and there will be a taco truck and tequila bar, all at the NYBG.

Then there is Wave Hill, Stone Crop Garden, the High Line, the Conservancy Garden on 105th Street and Fifth Avenue and The Cloisters, to name only a few. Put on your walking shoes. We are all so ready for blessed spring once again.

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

**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**  
[ 3 3 6 2 ]  
**www.gunhillfence.com**





Photos by KAREN NANI and ANGELO BELLOCCHIO

City Island's Boy Scouts held another successful Easter plant sale from April 3 to 5, 2015, under sunny skies. Scoutmaster Waldo Persteins is shown above at the sale with Senior Patrol Leader Michael Bellocchio, Troop Guide Joseph Kramer and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader Jack Green. All scouts benefit from the sale, but Troop 211 has special plans to use the proceeds to send eight scouts to Ten Mile River Scout summer camp in New York and one scout to Philmont High-Adventure Scout Camp in New Mexico. Meanwhile, Cub Scout Pack 211 took a family trip to the historic Gettysburg Battlefield from April 6 to 9 (bottom photo).



## SUMMERTIME Taking Advantage of Sacred Space and Sacred Time

By JOHN SCARDINA

Not long ago, my wife, Lucille, and our friend Joe and I were playing music at Cambridge Friends Meeting (which I attended during graduate school) to raise money for the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) in El Salvador. This is a program that allows Salvadorians to learn the skills for peaceful resolution of conflict and envisioning a better world for themselves and others.

As we were winding down our last song—Mavis Staples and Jeff Tweedy's "You're Not Alone"—a person called out, "Encore! 'Summertime'!" And so, yes, we played that too, leading me to think about the gifts of summer.

One of these mornings you're gonna rise up singin'

Then you'll spread your wings and you'll take to the sky

(words by Dubose Heyward, music by George Gershwin)

For many of us, and for many of our children, summer affords the opportunity to "rise up singing" in our lives. The gifts of time, warm weather, long days of sunlight and natural light at its most vibrant are pres-

ent and free for all to partake. Indeed, how do we use these gifts to create sacred time and space?

I recently gave two first-grade classes a "homework" assignment: "Go outside your house, find a special place in your yard where you can observe the natural world, and just sit for five minutes: what is happening all around you?"

Indeed, this might be good homework for all of us to do: "sit ... look ... breathe ... enjoy ... wonder." Sacred time and sacred space, focusing on the here and now in a sanctuary of good will and gratitude, are available to us always, but even more so in the summer. Teach this to your children. Do this with your children. Do this for yourself.

I am about to depart for Jerusalem and Hebron to do AVP workshops with Israelis and Palestinians, hoping to create sacred time and sacred space for people who live with the conflict inherent in that part of the world. I will bring with me the support I feel from this community, for which I am so very grateful.

Be well. Have a blessed summer.

### BRENDA'S HOUSE CLEANING



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

Please contact Brenda at:

**718-885-1728**  
**917-519-9093**



# 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 Daylight Time)  
Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Island. Times shown are nautical times. For times on the table beginning with 1300, subtract 1200 to get ordinary PM time (e.g., 1625 - 1200 = 4:25 P.M.). Times less than 1200 are A.M. times (e.g., 1154 = 11:54 A.M.).  
HH = hours; MM = minutes  
*Tide chart by Tom Smith*

**MAY 2015**

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Fri	0502	0.47	1107	7.35	1710	0.77	2317	7.79	Fri 01
02 Sat	0538	0.30	1142	7.34	1734	0.70	2337	7.83	Sat 02
03 Sun	0608	0.16	1205	7.32	1748	0.59	2346	7.96	Sun 03
04 Mon	0628	0.03	1217	7.36	1814	0.47			Mon 04
05 Tue	0013	8.13	0652	-0.08	1244	7.46	1850	0.39	Tue 05
06 Wed	0049	8.28	0726	-0.14	1321	7.54	1931	0.37	Wed 06
07 Thu	0130	8.34	0806	-0.12	1404	7.58	2015	0.43	Thu 07
08 Fri	0215	8.30	0851	-0.02	1451	7.57	2105	0.56	Fri 08
09 Sat	0305	8.13	0941	0.13	1544	7.52	2159	0.70	Sat 09
10 Sun	0400	7.88	1037	0.31	1641	7.47	2301	0.81	Sun 10
11 Mon	0501	7.60	1141	0.44	1746	7.48			Mon 11
12 Tue	0018	0.79	0610	7.38	1303	0.44	1901	7.61	Tue 12
13 Wed	0159	0.51	0732	7.32	1427	0.25	2021	7.88	Wed 13
14 Thu	0313	0.02	0858	7.45	1532	-0.04	2126	8.21	Thu 14
15 Fri	0414	-0.50	1003	7.65	1629	-0.31	2223	8.50	Fri 15
16 Sat	0509	-0.92	1059	7.81	1721	-0.49	2314	8.67	Sat 16
17 Sun	0601	-1.17	1151	7.89	1811	-0.54			Sun 17
18 Mon	0003	8.71	0651	-1.23	1240	7.88	1859	-0.44	Mon 18
19 Tue	0051	8.61	0739	-1.08	1329	7.78	1946	-0.22	Tue 19
20 Wed	0138	8.38	0827	-0.78	1418	7.62	2033	0.11	Wed 20
21 Thu	0225	8.07	0915	-0.36	1508	7.44	2121	0.49	Thu 21
22 Fri	0315	7.72	1003	0.10	1601	7.27	2211	0.88	Fri 22
23 Sat	0411	7.37	1053	0.55	1657	7.14	2307	1.20	Sat 23
24 Sun	0513	7.08	1144	0.92	1754	7.08			Sun 24
25 Mon	0007	1.41	0616	6.88	1236	1.18	1851	7.11	Mon 25
26 Tue	0106	1.48	0715	6.80	1328	1.33	1944	7.20	Tue 26
27 Wed	0202	1.40	0810	6.80	1417	1.36	2034	7.32	Wed 27
28 Thu	0253	1.23	0901	6.86	1502	1.30	2120	7.45	Thu 28
29 Fri	0341	0.98	0947	6.93	1541	1.19	2159	7.58	Fri 29
30 Sat	0423	0.72	1028	7.01	1612	1.04	2229	7.71	Sat 30
31 Sun	0502	0.45	1103	7.09	1638	0.86	2243	7.88	Sun 31
<b>JUNE 2015</b>									
01 Mon	0535	0.20	1125	7.20	1710	0.66	2310	8.10	Mon 01
02 Tue	0605	-0.02	1148	7.35	1748	0.47	2346	8.31	Tue 02
03 Wed	0636	-0.20	1223	7.52	1830	0.34			Wed 03
04 Thu	0027	8.45	0713	-0.32	1304	7.67	1915	0.27	Thu 04
05 Fri	0112	8.49	0755	-0.34	1349	7.77	2003	0.27	Fri 05
06 Sat	0200	8.40	0841	-0.28	1438	7.80	2055	0.35	Sat 06



**Lyme Disease**

A friend recently learned that he had contracted Lyme disease. He had suspected as much for months but could not get his doctors to agree. Finally, it was confirmed after a series of blood tests. The antibiotics he is taking seem to be making a difference, but no doubt he would have been further along by now if his treatment had been begun sooner. Or so he believes.

The unfortunate concomitant fact accompanying the return of wildlife to an area is the rise in the occurrence of certain sicknesses among nearby human populations. Rabies is one dangerous example, although contracting it usually entails being bitten by an infected animal. Lyme disease may pose less of a danger to humans than rabies, but it is the more insidious infection by far. The ticks that spread the disease often do so undetected until it is too late, as was the case with our friend.

He likes to jog and prefers doing it au naturel, which is to say, through a park versus on a track somewhere or treadmill. He knew the risks and thought he was safe as long as he stuck to the trails. But it turns out that ticks have figured out how to get what they want in spite of some of our best efforts. What they do is await passersby at the edge of a trail, where the pavement meets the plants, ready to cling to whatever they can dig their hooks into.

It's enough to make a person think twice about that walk in the park. But before someone gets the idea to replace parkland with parking lots, let us consider the following: the vast majority of tick

bites are harmless; most do not carry Lyme disease. Moreover, the disease is not necessarily transmitted even by an infected tick. To reduce the risk completely, wear tightly woven clothing; tuck shirts into pants and pants into socks or boots. Insect repellent can make a difference, too.

So can wearing light colored clothing. Doing this makes it easier to spot a tick afterwards. It takes time for ticks to transmit the disease, so these spot inspections after trips outdoors are always advisable. In the event that a tick has gone undetected until the biting has begun, here are some helpful hints for removing the perpetrator from the people at WebMD:

- Tug gently but firmly with blunt tweezers near the "head" of the tick until it releases its hold on the skin.
- To lessen the chance of contact with the bacterium, try not to crush the tick's body or handle the tick with bare fingers.
- Swab the bite area thoroughly with an antiseptic to prevent infection.

We feel we would be remiss if we did not mention the eagles on Staten Island. While the rest of NYC—including City Islanders--were treated to glimpses here and there of American bald eagles this extra cold winter, apparently Staten Islanders have themselves a more permanent, perhaps even a nesting pair. If so, it would be the first nesting pair of American bald eagles in New York City in about 100 years. Needless to say, the exact location of these birds is hush hush. Interested readers can follow this exciting story for themselves on the web.

**Where Is It?**



Can anyone identify the location of this artwork, which is in plain view on City Island? This is the third in our series of "Where Is It?" highlighting rarely noticed City Island features. The coal chute pictured in the January/February issue of *The Current* is located at 183-187 City Island Avenue, between Winter and Earley Streets.

**Insuring City Island families and businesses since 1965.**

Homeowners	Business Owners Policies
Auto	Liability
Flood	Workers Compensation
Landlord Packages	Life, Health & Long Term Care

**Call or stop by for a quote.**  
[www.islandinsuranceagency.com](http://www.islandinsuranceagency.com)

(718) 885-1050  
(718) 885-3419  
498 City Island Ave.  
City Island, NY 10464  
[info@islandinsuranceagency.com](mailto:info@islandinsuranceagency.com)

**INCOME TAX RETURNS**  
Personal And Corporate Income Tax Returns  
Professionally Prepared

Proudly Serving The City Island Community For Over 20 Years  
All Forms • Reasonable Rates

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



# Remember When...



Photos courtesy of the CITY ISLAND NAUTICAL MUSEUM

People who complain about the traffic coming to City Island may not be aware that once upon a time the Island was so eager to have tourists that billboards were put up encouraging everyone to come for a visit. If you can name the places and approximate date of these photographs, please drop a note to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, Bronx NY 10464.



Photo by ANTHONY JULIANO

Work started at last on the front steps leading up to the City Island Nautical Museum at 190 Fordham Street, after a year of getting permits and outlasting the winter of 2014-15.



## Pelham Bay Home Center, Inc.

Kitchens • Bathrooms  
Major Appliances  
Plumbing Supplies • Air Conditioners

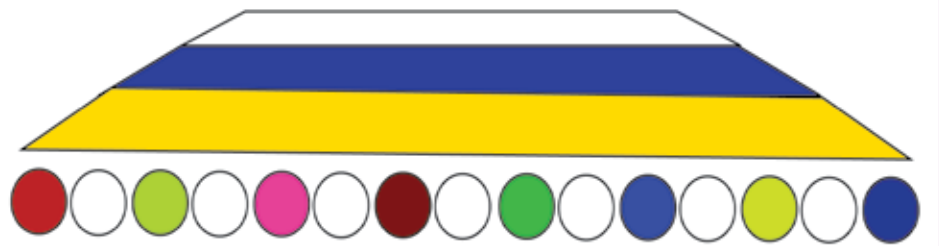
Tel: 718-863-7529  
3073 Westchester Avenue

**SPECIAL ON SALE!**  
AO Smith 50 gallon, 6 year  
hot water heater - \$435  
Come see our new kitchen  
displays.

One Stop Personal Service Family Owned & Operated  
The Pelham Bay Home Center Standing Side by Side with Our Community for 23 Years.

# City Island Arts & Crafts Fair

## Sat. & Sun., June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>



Live Music Gifts Great Food Face Painting

Candle Makers Folk Art  
Wood Working Antiques  
Photography Fine Art  
Galleries Jewelry  
Stained Glass & More



Sponsored by  
City Island Chamber of Commerce



**CAS**  
PROPERTY CARE, LLC

PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPING  
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

TOP SOIL  
MULCH  
GRAVEL  
SAND

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE  
DESIGN & INSTALLATION  
IRRIGATION SYSTEMS  
PATIOS • FENCES  
GUTTER CLEANING  
PRESSURE WASHING  
CLEAN UP & RESTORATION  
JUNK REMOVAL  
SNOW REMOVAL  
AND MORE...JUST ASK!

Mobile: 646-772-7681  
Office: 646-785-9093  
Conal A. Schaller

FULLY INSURED FREE ESTIMATES

2261 PALMER AVE. 4B NEW ROCHELLE N.Y. 10801

caschaller315@aol.com

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REAL ESTATE AGENT

**TEDDY MONTEE, CPM**  
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson  
& YOUR CITY ISLAND NEIGHBOR

"Real estate is my business and I would like to turn your business into my business!!!"

**DJK**  
101 FIFTH AVENUE, SEVENTH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10003  
Office: 212-367-0427  
Cell: 310-658-6868  
teddy.montee@djkresidential.com







# CLASSIFIED

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.

**BOAT SLIP FOR SALE OR RENT:** Up to 37' LOA. This slip is located at the South Minneford Yacht Club on City Island. Easy access to good sailing and cruising. Sale price \$9,500. Summer Season rental May 1 through Oct. 31. Will consider renting with an option to buy. Contact Tom at 646-207-0272.

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

**CITY ISLAND NOTARY PUBLIC:** Certified in New York State. By appointment only, including weekends. Call Johanna at 914-299-1414.

**ART PRINTS FROM ISLAND ARTIST.** Purchase prints of the artwork of Island artist Marguerite Chadwick-Juner (including paintings of our soon to be gone bridge) at <http://fineartamerica.com/art/all/marguerite+chadwick-juner/all>. Artwork can be printed on canvas, paper, aluminum etc. You can even chose frames and mats. Return often to see new additions.

**NEED HELP WITH CLEANING?** Yes, I do windows, stoves, refrigerators, and thorough house cleaning. City Island references. Call Margaret 917-287-1132.

**BUYING U.S. COINS,** gold, silver, mint and proof sets, collections, paper currency and stamps. Member ANA. Call Robert at 646-533-5937.

**HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL FOR US AND OUR CHILDREN:** Child development specialist/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 at 718-885-9305. Also look for parent sessions at the City Island Community Center (usually the last Tuesday evening of the month).

**FINE ART PORTRAITS:** Studio on City Island. More than 40 years of photographic experience. Call Ron Turner at 718-885-1403.

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

**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.

**SINGLE FEMALE CITY ISLAND RESIDENT** looking for a room rental or studio apartment. Call Michelle at 347-734-5658.

**PREP BEFORE YOU PAINT** for professional results. Plasterer available for prep work. Permanently repair cracks and holes. Smooth uneven, bumpy walls. Neat, reliable, professional. Free quote. Call Al 718-885-3109.

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

**BETOP PAVING INC:** Asphalt paving. Driveways, parking areas, sidewalks. Fully licensed and insured. Call Nick 718-994-9533.

**PIANO LESSONS IN YOUR HOME:** Ralph Merigliano, 30 years experience teaching classical, jazz, pop, music theory, instruction in digital music. Mac/PC Prop tools music production, studio design. [rmerig3@msn.com](mailto:rmerig3@msn.com) 718-885-0915, voicemail 212-802-5504.

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

**ADOPT A KITTEN:** Female fixed, vaccinated, 9 months old. Clean and playful. Call 718 885-1537.

**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.

**O'PIDDLER D'POO!** Daily individual walks, leash training, pet sitting. Caring for City Island's adorable pets for 20+ years. References available. Call 1-646-316-6089.

**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.

**BOAT SUPPLIES:** Burck's 526 City Island Avenue, Bronx, New York 718 885-1559. Customer parking. Credit cards accepted.



## Bartow-Pell Events

The contemporary art installation by MJ Levy Dickson called **Like Sea Glass: A Hand Full of Light—Reflection** will be on view from May 1–10 in the 1916 formal garden fountain pool, presented by the Historic House Trust of New York City's Contemporary Art Partnerships. The colorful tumbled and illuminated glass pieces respond to the environment in which they are placed reflecting the shapes and colors of clouds, sky and treetops. There will be a reception for the artist on Thursday, May 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. RSVP 212-360-8243.

**First Friday! Music & Trolley** on Friday, May 1, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., will feature the alternative folk-rock sound of the Kenn Morr Band. Enjoy the music, explore the museum, stroll the garden; light

refreshments available. The trolley makes an hourly loop starting at 5:25 p.m. from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and students; members free.

The annual **Kentucky Derby Party** will take place on Saturday, May 2, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Watch the 141st running of the Kentucky Derby and support the museum! Jazz, juleps and optional dinners at private homes after the race. Tickets available at [bpmm.org](http://bpmm.org) or call for more information.

**National Public Gardens Day** will be on Friday, May 8, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Enjoy free mansion and garden tours as well as the special exhibition, *Accomplished Women: Schoolgirl Art from Female Academies in the Early Nineteenth Century*. Free.

Celebrate history, preservation and green space in the Bronx with free guided tours during **Bronx Week at Bartow-Pell**, Saturdays, May 9 and 16; Sundays, May 10 and 17, and Wednesday, May 13, from 12 to 4 p.m. Tours start at quarter past the hour. Free.

**Bronx History Bike Tour** will take place on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum and the Bronx Historical Society for a free guided Bronx History Bike Tour. The tour starts at BPMM in the northeast corner of Pelham Bay Park to the Museum of Bronx History in the Valentine-Varian House, stopping at points of interest on the way. The total ride will be about 15 miles. Registration requested, 718.885.1461 or [info@bpmm.org](mailto:info@bpmm.org). Free.

BPMM's **Centennial Plant Sale** will be on Saturday, May 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Unusual annuals, perennials, herbs, and roses for sale, plus demos on edible gardening and potting plants. Rain date: Sunday, May 17.

**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



**PIANO TUNING**  
Rebuilding & Refinishing  
Buying, Selling & Moving  
30 Years Experience  
Please Contact:  
**Ralph Merigliano**  
Voice Mail: 212-802-5504  
Cell: 914-262-6912  
Home: 718-885-0915  
[rmerig3@msn.com](mailto:rmerig3@msn.com)

VHF-Ch 16 Capt. Dan  
718-885-3420



**TowBoatUS**  
CITY ISLAND  
U. S. Coast Guard Licensed & Approved  
For Marine Towing Assistance & Salvage  
P.O. Box 58  
City Island, N.Y. 10464



**FIRE HOUSE CORNER DELI GROCERY CORP**  
FREE DELIVERY  
Including Groceries - \$8 Minimum  
**718-885-1101**  
OPEN 7 DAYS • LATE HOURS!  
240 CITY ISLAND AVENUE  
BRONX, NY 10464



**CITY ISLAND**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY AND WELLNESS CENTER

464 City Island Avenue, Bronx, NY 10464 | 718-885-1079

**We offer Physical Therapy for all ages and orthopedic conditions.**  
**We accept all Major Medical Plans: Medicare, Worker's Compensation, No-fault, the Empire Plan, AETNA, HIP, FDNY & GHI/HIP.**

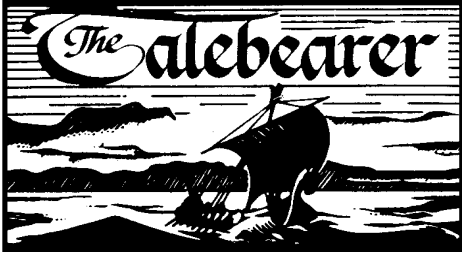
**Modalities Include:**  
*Low level laser, BIODEX, shortwave diathermy, ultrasound, electrical stimulation, mechanical traction, paraffin, manual therapy, therapeutic exercise, balance training, and a Medical Gym.*

**In addition to traditional Physical Therapy we also offer:**  
*Masage Therapy, Personal Training Sessions, a Wellness Program, Balance Classes, Fall Prevention Program, Trigger Point Injections, Iridology, Skin Care (microdermabrasion and facials).*

*\*We have now partnered with a Yoga Instructor, a Certified Fitness Trainer, Nutritionist and Holistic Health Counselor.*

**Email: [cityislandpt@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandpt@gmail.com)**  
**[www.cityislandpt.com](http://www.cityislandpt.com)**





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.

Get-well wishes for a speedy recovery to Ena Ellwanger, who is recuperating from suffering a nasty fall while visiting her son and his family. Hundreds of former P.S. 175 students, parents and friends are keeping their favorite principal in their thoughts and prayers.

Wishing my Mom and Dad, Mary and Charlie Carman, a very happy 50th anniversary. From your loving daughter, Jennifer.

Birthday wishes on May 1 to Diane Duryea, from your friends at Atlantic Emeritus Realty. Have a great day!

It's a boy! Welcome to the world, Logan Michael Riordan, who made his debut on Feb. 26. Proud parents are Thomas and Margaret Riordan, and thrilled grandparents are City Island's Mary and Kevin Casey and Westchester's Richard and Rita Riordan and Sue Riordan.

Happy birthday wishes across the miles to my cousin, Gene Jones, in Oceanside, CA. We share the same May 9 birthday and are both clam diggers! Love, Barbara (Haas) Lynch.

Birthday greetings on May 8 to Pilot Cove's Terry Carmody, who will be blowing out 85 candles at Scavello's Restaurant with her family.

Congratulations to Winter Street's Bobby Swieciki, who will celebrate his nine-year anniversary with the U.S. Coast Guard on May 2. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes for continued happiness to the Sailmaker's John and Judy Iovieno, who will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on May 12.

Happy birthday wishes on May 28 to Patrice Ortega of To Go Express. Have a



Mary and Charlie Carman's wedding in 1965.

great day!

A very happy 90th birthday to King Avenue's Jackie Kyle Kall on May 26 with love from your family and friends.

Welcome to the new City Island Chase Branch manager, Jose Encarnacion, who likes to be called "JR." Stop in and say "hi".

Happy second birthday wishes to Jack Cusmano, son of former bank manager Chris Cusmano. We wish Chris the best of luck at his new location at the Fleetwood branch of Chase Bank.

Happy birthday greetings to Chase Bank's Herman Boone, who celebrates on May 11, and to Deidra Taylor on May 19.

Belated birthday wishes to Peggy Eberhart on April 26, with love from your family and friends.

Belated April 28 birthday wishes to Jack Strnad, with love from the Butterworth and Doyle families.

Happy birthday on May 19 to Peter Lenz, with lots of love.

Best wishes for continued happiness to our Mom and Dad, Rose and Bob Booth, who will be celebrating their 63rd anniversary on May 10. With love from your family.

And a very happy Mother's Day to all our hardworking mothers and grandmothers!

Maria Swieciki



Photo by SEAN PAUL GALLEGOS

Island artists Marguerite Chadwick-Juner and Mary Colby were among the crowd of artists celebrating the launch of BX200.com at the Bronx Museum of the Arts on the Grand Concourse on March 25, 2015. The site, co-founded by artists Laura James and Valeri Larko, is a database showcasing the work of 200 noted visual artists in the Bronx.



A very happy birthday to Jackie Kyle Kall, shown above with her nieces Lauren and Leslie Kyle, who celebrates her 90th birthday on May 26, 2015.

**CRAAB SHANTY**  
 361 CITY ISLAND AVENUE  
 885-1810  
 OPEN 7 DAYS (11a.m.-2a.m.)  
 DAILY LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS  
 PARKING AVAILABLE

Don't Eat Leftovers At Home Alone  
 Enjoy A Gourmet Lunch With Friends  
 Catered by IGA/ Scavello's  
  
 Monday thru Friday 12:00-1:00 (new time)  
 Suggested Donation: \$2.00  
 Call or stop by for our monthly menu  
**PSS City Island Senior Center**  
 116 City Island Ave. Open 9-3 718-885-0727

**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.

**FEELING DOWN?  
 I CAN HELP!**

**Nancy Dereksen, LCSW**  
 140 Lockwood Ave., Suite 102, 103  
 New Rochelle, NY 10801  
 914-588-1683  
 Counseling for  
 Emotional Overload

**FRANK FRANCIAMORE  
 LANDSCAPING**  
 Landscape Gardener  
 Design Imaging  
 Tree Work • C.I. References  
 Masonry & Concrete work  
 Fully licensed and insured.  
  
 50 Gail Drive, New Rochelle  
 NY 10805  
 O: 914-636-1415  
 C: 914-906-0893

**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.

Don't forget  
**MOTHERS DAY**  
 Send our new beautiful  
**BALLOONS &**  
 Make your Confirmation Party complete with balloons  
**SU-SU BALLOONS •• 885-1834 ••**