

The Island Current

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One Dollar



MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE MERRY & BRIGHT!

From the Staff of The Island Current

BRIEFLY...

HYMN AND CAROL SING, presented by Grace Episcopal and Trinity Methodist churches, will take place on Sunday, Dec. 30, in Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street. At 12 noon, a potluck brunch and fellowship will be offered, followed by singing in the church from 1 to 2:30 p.m. All are invited.

HOLIDAY TREATS will be offered all over the Island this year, so don't miss out! The first will be at Trinity United Methodist Church, on Friday, Nov. 30, from 2 to 6 p.m., and on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; followed by the St. Mary's Thrift Shop Christmas Fair on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 1 and 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Morris Yacht Club will have a Holiday Fair on Sunday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Grace Church's annual Christmas Fair is on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. And there will be a Holiday Bake Sale on Sunday, Dec. 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, to support Girl Scout Troop 1115.

ORCHARD BEACH PAVILION RESTORATION. The Parks Department is looking for public input regarding the restoration of the pavilion and is holding a public meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 4, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Lehman High School, 3000 East Tremont Avenue. For more information, contact Mike Ortiz at michael.ortiz@parks.nyc.gov or call 718-430-1802.

AUDITIONS for Aaron Sorkin's "A Few Good Men," the City Island Theater Group's first production of its 20th season, will be held on Friday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. in Grace Hall, 116 City Island Avenue. Performances will be on Feb. 22, 23 and 24 and March 1, 2 and 3. If you have any questions, please contact CITG at 718-885-3066 or e-mail auditions@cityislandtheatergroup.com.

POTS DONATIONS NEEDED: Please join holiday gifting for POTS (Part of the Solution). Because of the growing number of homeless and out-of-work people they serve, POTS has requested gifts to re-stock their "closet" with items urgently needed for men and women in sizes M, L, XL and XXL. Please donate sweatsuits, underwear, warm socks and hats, gloves, scarves and winter jackets. Please do not giftwrap the items. Items can be left in St. Mary, Star of the Sea church lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the box labeled POTS.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during October and November 2018. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 - PETIT LARCENY
- 2 - HARASSMENT
- 1 - BURGLARY
- 4 - ASSAULT
- 1 - GRAND LARCENY
- 1 - FOUND DEADLY WEAPON

Police provided details on the following incidents and arrests for the period from Oct. 20 to Nov. 19, 2018.

10/20 - An Islander reported a burglary on Marine Street at 2 a.m. The owner returned home to find a window shattered and opened.

10/23 - Police from the 45th Precinct responded to an incident of harassment on City Island Avenue at 12:50 p.m. Four Island female minors were walking back to school when two unknown males in a gray vehicle stopped, whistled at them and asked for their numbers.

10/24 - On Minneford Avenue, a former employee of a commercial establishment began harassing other employees in the parking lot at 10:40 p.m. He then assaulted the owner, an off-Island female, by scratching and biting her face.

10/28 - At 10 a.m., an Island male reported being harassed when a neighbor on Fordham Street began blowing an air horn, repeatedly causing annoyance.

10/28 - Police are investigating an incident of petit larceny on Centre Street at 3:38 p.m. An Island male was threatened by an off-Island female whom he had met on a dating site. She became irate and threatened to report him to his employer unless he sent \$250.

10/31 - On City Island Avenue at 4 p.m., a male Islander was a victim of grand larceny. He received a call that he had won \$25 million in Las Vegas. He was instructed to send \$276 to Western Union and \$850 to an unknown person in Pennsylvania. He sent the money, but the prize was a scam.

11/8 - Police arrested three off-Island males, 32, 35 and 43, and charged them with assault on City Island Avenue at 1:15 a.m. A brawl erupted in front of a commercial establishment and four off-Island males were punched and pushed to the ground.

11/14 - At 8 a.m. on Fordham Street, an Island female reported finding half a shotgun on the beach.



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THE ISLAND CURRENT
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Photos by CANDY MANCUSO, JAMES BREEN and KAREN NANI

Two intense storms rocked City Island and other parts of the northeast in the fall of 2018. On Oct. 27, a strong nor'easter sent waves crashing over the east side of the Island, especially sea walls along Minneford and King Avenues (top photos). On Nov. 15, an early surprise snowstorm dropped six inches on the city, downing trees and causing horrendous traffic delays throughout New York, including along the Shore Road near City Island (bottom photo).

Rodman's Neck Reconstruction In Planning Stage

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Project managers from the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC) and architects from the design firm of Smith-Miller and Hawkinson met on Wednesday, Nov. 14, with Philip Heller of the New York Police Department (NYPD) and representatives of the community to discuss the reconstruction of the Rodman's Neck firing range.

The contract with the design firm took about a year to get approved, but the design work is under way, as the various aspects of the job are analyzed and planned. Because the range was constructed as a temporary site in 1960, many of the buildings and the infrastructure are in serious need of renovation or replacement, but the issue that seriously impacts the local community—the considerable noise generated by the firing range—is being given serious consideration in early stages of the project.

The architects and the DDC hope to reach a point by next April when the plans for temporary baffling will be at a relatively advanced stage. In the meantime, they are exploring different options with Cerami, an acoustical firm, to determine the most effective way to control the sound generated at the range before new ranges with built-in baffling are constructed. When those plans become more final, funding will be requested to cover the cost, which is beyond the scope of the \$279 million that has been put into the capital budget for the rest of the project.

The scope of the entire project includes

infrastructure (sanitation, electricity, flood control, etc.), the expansion of the parking lot, the reconstruction of the existing ranges, the construction of new ranges, the renovation of existing buildings and work on the tactical sites. A new building for the bomb squad, which is a separate operation from the firing range, was to have been built in the parking lot but will now be moved to another location, to be determined.

Although it is possible that work on the temporary baffling may start within a year, the rest of the construction process will probably not begin until 2020 or 2021 with completion by 2024 or 2025. Councilman Mark Gjonaj, who attended the Nov. 14 meeting, expressed concern that the funding for the project might be inadequate to cover all the costs and might even be withdrawn by the city, and though Mr. Heller agreed that anything could happen, the NYPD was proceeding under the assumption that the project would continue as planned for the foreseeable future.

Representatives from the City Island Civic Association and Chamber of Commerce, the Edgewater Park Cooperative and the 45th Precinct Council also attended the meeting and asked a number of questions about the scheduling of the project. The issue of lead contamination has been a concern to the community for many years, but Mr. Heller confirmed that lead is removed from the berms on a regular basis and agreed that information about lead testing would be released to the public.

IGA to Close: C-Town to Open

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by MATT PANZA

Gabe Scavello (bottom photo, left), owner of the IGA supermarket on City Island, is retiring after nearly 60 years in the business. C-Town Supermarkets will take over the space and plans to begin operations in December 2018. Shown above is Gabe and his longtime staff (top photo, l. to r.) Loly Sanchez, Angie DeAngelis, Mr. Scavello, Randy Ravello and Miguel Tolentino.

Rumors have been circulating for several months that the IGA supermarket was going to close before the end of 2018, but City Island residents can rest assured that it will be replaced by another supermarket that will continue to serve the community, hopefully without a break in service.

Gabe Scavello, who purchased the market in 1994 from Sam Chernin, decided some months ago that he wanted to retire after nearly 60 years in the business. The store was experiencing lower sales and increased overhead, including Con Edison costs, higher taxes and a large mortgage. He considered a number of potential buyers, including Montefiore Medical Center, which offered a lucrative deal, but he felt that City Island needed to keep a supermarket here and finally made a deal with C-Town Supermarkets. This company of independently owned and operated neighborhood food stores, has the largest number of grocery stores throughout the Metro-New York City area, unlike IGA, an Australian-based company that had only two stores in the city and was not interested in offering advertising support.

The IGA building has an interesting history, which goes back to the late 1920s, when it was built as the Raymond Theater; when the theater closed in the late 1970s, Sam Chernin purchased the building and opened a food market. Gabe Scavello, who had managed A&P markets in Parkchester and Manhattan, rented the space and later bought it. He undertook a major renovation of the market in 2005 and expanded the catering service (now largely handled by Scavello's on the Island, run by Gabe's son

Paul).

Because the IGA building is a large facility, C-Town was especially happy with the amount of storage space and the extensive utilities. Gabe told *The Current* that C-Town would continue the deli but that their primary emphasis would be on fresh produce, meat and fish, for which their supermarkets are well known. Because there is limited parking for the market, C-Town plans to offer free delivery six days a week, and customers may order on line or over the telephone.

C-Town plans what Gabe called a "soft opening," meaning that they would begin to put their own goods in the market before Christmas but wait until after the New Year to have a grand opening celebration. The firm is offering jobs to the current IGA staff but will eventually change the layout of the store to some extent. Gabe plans to continue selling until the changeover and will cut back somewhat on ordering inventory, but he does not plan to run out until the new business is up and running.

Gabe told *The Current* that he is extremely grateful to the community for having supported his business over the years, which is why he was so determined to make sure that a supermarket would remain on the Island. He still has roots here in any case as owner of the pharmacy building and a house next to the market. His son's business, Scavello's on the Island, plans to expand its catering and restaurant services by offering take-out dinners as well as pizza. So Gabe will not really be leaving the Island behind and, in fact, has made sure that his legacy will continue.

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Thanks from the PTA

To Our City Island Community,
On behalf of the P.S. 175 PTA, I want to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who supported our school's Election Day Fundraiser on Nov. 6. Islanders came out in droves, despite pelting rain much of the day and long lines in the gym to access the voting machines. Hopefully, sweet snacks purchased at the bake sale tables helped pass the wait time, and we're glad that 100+ raffle winners will be enjoying their prizes and redeeming gift certificates donated by generous merchants and families in the days to come.

Every single dollar raised goes directly to support extra programming—our NYC Dept. of Education budget just doesn't cut it if we want our school to be special and fun for the kids. Thanks to all who spent money with us that day. We will put it to great use.

Jonna Wepler
P.S. 175 PTA President

Lights On!

To the Editor,
The City Island Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank all of the businesses listed below for their generous contributions to our City Island Avenue Holiday Lights Project: A-Quality Glass, A.E.R. Realty, Art Of Beauty, Artie's Steak & Seafood, Bistro SK, Black Whale, Carmine DeDonato CPA, Caruso Electric, City Island Diner/Snug, City Island Marina, Connie's Market, Crab Shanty, Edmond "Teddy" Pryor Esq., Filomena's Pizza, Focal Point Gallery, Island Pharmacy, Johnny's Reef, Kaleidoscope Gallery, Lickety Split, Lobster House, Mary Colby Studio/Gallery, Richie DePierro, Sammy's Fish Box, Sammy's Shrimp Box, Scavello's On The Island, Seafood City, Sea Shore, Starving Artist, *The Island Current* (newspaper) and Tony's Pier.

We are lighting up City Island Avenue. Please support our local merchants.

Skip Giacco, President
City Island Chamber of Commerce

Island-wide Yard Sale Recap

To the Editor,
In spite of the cold, windy weather, the City Island Drift's first annual Island-wide yard sale on Saturday, Nov. 3, was a big success! I want to thank our Drift committee for all their help organizing the event with a special shout out to Dottie Payne for creating the awesome yard sale map that was distributed

to shoppers by Drift members. Tag sale locations were marked with red dots on the map and paired with red balloons that were tied at each sale location. Because of the wind, some balloons flew away or broke very early, but shoppers continued to shop.

Before the sale, flyers were created to invite Islanders to participate in this community event, and more than 60 families came out to sell their goods! Thank you to all of those who participated and stood out in the cold all day long but still managed to greet their customers with a friendly City Island smile. Some Islanders even invited some curious strangers into their homes to experience our beautiful City Island lifestyle.

We received a lot of great feedback as to how to make the second annual City Island Drift yard sale even better. One suggestion is to have it earlier in the season, and another is to extend it to the entire weekend, both Saturday and Sunday. Stay tuned for information on this and other community projects planned for 2019.

For questions or comments, contact cityislanddrift@gmail.com and don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook.

Maria Caruso

Trinity United Methodist Church

Friends: Jesus says, "Love our neighbors as ourselves." You, your family and your pets matter to us (they're family too).

I'm Pastor Dave Jolly from Trinity United Methodist Church. We believe Jesus meant "Love" to be an action word not just a feeling. I and a member of our Care Team are willing to come to your home, or a place of your choosing, to pray and bless you, your pets, your home and your family. There is no charge and no strings attached. Prayers and blessing are a free gift from God.

Phone me, Pastor Dave, at 845 532-3378.

If you want a member of the clergy to visit you or someone who is sick, grieving or in some other need, we are willing. For 150 years, Trinity Methodist Church has known that it is a blessing that God blesses us, so we bless the lives of all our neighbors. This "going out to you" is one more important way we hope to do that. God is love! We desire to share God's Love, Joy and Peace with all.

Shalom

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Jeweler of the Island

By KAREN NANI

The following profile is part of our long-time advertiser series.

Paul Klein, owner of Kaleidoscope Gallery at the corner of Hawkins Street and City Island Avenue, had a vision during his college years in Maryland. “My dream was to live in a small town and open a jewelry business,” he told *The Current*. Referring to City Island as a “small town inside a big city,” Paul realizes that his dream basically came true.

All puns intended, Paul has become a gem on City Island according to those who work with him. In addition to his longtime business, he volunteers his time as president of Temple Beth-El and as vice president of the City Island Chamber of Commerce. He coordinates several popular events, including the Spring and Fall Arts and Crafts Fairs, the Halloween parade and the Christmas tree and Menorah lightings in Hawkins Park.

His journey to City Island was purely accidental. Paul was born in Baltimore to Ethel and Irvin Klein as the third of five children. In 1975 he entered the University of Maryland, where he studied jewelry design and fabrication while earning a Bachelor’s Degree in business.

He moved to New York City right after graduating from college in 1979 and began working with jewelry designer David Yurman. After a couple years he was recruited by Finlay Fine Jewelry to work as a buyer of pearls, semi-precious beads, gold earrings and gold chains.

As pearl buyer, Paul was able to travel to Asia twice a year, which helped fulfill his yearning for travel. Toward the end of his 10-year tenure at Finlay, Paul started Exotiq, a retail business in Greenwich Village, selling art objects and gifts from around the world.

After a few years he opened a second location on the Upper West side, and in 1998, he opened Exotiq International Arts on City Island. During the process of closing this business in 2010, he created a new business in the same location, Kaleidoscope Gallery, as a cooperative with other artists and businesses. Kaleidoscope Gallery continues to this day and features Paul’s wonderful original jewelry designs, including City Island pendants. Longtime residents remember the location as the Island Cigar store.

Paul moved to City Island in 1994 and has lived here with his life partner, Bill Rainford, ever since. Bill is the nephew of former Island resident Carl Rainford and works as a home designer and builder.

After moving to City Island, Paul became an active member of Temple Beth-El and has served as president since 2011. Before that, he was vice president and a trustee serving on the religious, garden and building committees. Paul felt the need for a Tree of Life sculpture to commemorate events in members’ lives, so he went about designing and creating the piece that now adorns the

lobby of the Temple. Paul donated his jewelry skills as well and turned the Temple logo, a sailboat Star of David, into a necklace.

He has earned the respect and gratitude of those in the Temple. “Paul Klein is a powerhouse! Paul’s tireless and collegial leadership is a key reason that Temple Beth-El of City Island is more vibrant than ever—a growing, thriving and inclusive beacon for Jewish spirituality,” Rabbi Shahoma Weiner and Rabbi David Markus told *The Current*.

Paul is proud of his accomplishments as a City Island Chamber of Commerce board member. He worked originally with former president Peter LaScala to make the Christmas tree and Hanukkah menorah lightings in Hawkins Park annual events. “This year, a different tree will be lit as the original evergreen was knocked down in the storm last March,” he explained. “While we wait for a new tree from the Parks Department, we will light another tree that has been in the park for many years.” (See photos page 19). He also currently coordinates the two Arts and Crafts Fairs and the Halloween parade, which seems to grow more popular every year (see photos of winners on pages 9 and 16). “Like many other volunteers on City Island, I can’t seem to say no.” Through Paul’s efforts, City Island was put back on the MTA subway maps, and he now offers umbrellas and other fun items in his shop featuring the maps.

Skip Giacco, current president of the Chamber, told *The Current*: “Paul Klein is intelligent, thoughtful, hardworking, creative and a dear friend. He shares his time and his wisdom by sitting on the boards of the City Island Chamber of Commerce, Temple Beth-El of City Island and Pilot Cove. This time of year you’re likely to find Paul in Hawkins Park setting up the menorah for Hanukkah or on the ladder decorating our Christmas tree. And somehow he finds the time to do all this while he practices his skill as a master jeweler and runs Kaleidoscope Gallery, his beautiful and unique gift shop. “Thank you, Paul, for being part of our community.”

Civic Association officer Tom Smith has worked with Paul for years, most recently on the board of Pilot Cove Manor. “Paul is a valued fellow-member of the Pilot Cove Manor board of directors,” Tom told *The Current*. “His deep concern for preserving the highest standards in affordable housing for City Island’s senior citizens is evidenced by his work on behalf of Pilot Cove’s residents. The board and the residents truly appreciate Paul.”

Most recently, Paul contacted and solicited donations from Island businesses to fund new hanging holiday decorations for City Island Avenue. He says residents should be grateful that the avenue will “sparkle again this season” (see Letters to the Editor on page 6). He is optimistic about City



Photo by KAREN NANI

Paul Klein, owner of Kaleidoscope Gallery.

Island’s future, but he worries about support for small businesses on the avenue. “Because of the Internet, retail sales in local shops have declined during the holiday season. But hopefully residents will want to get out of the house and enjoy the customer service that comes with shopping in person.”

Paul is also supportive of *The Island Current* and has run ads for Exotiq and Kaleidoscope for 20 years. “You’ve got to support the local newspaper,” he exclaimed. The editors of *The Current* agree and are grateful for the continued support of our longtime advertisers.

2018 Midterm Election: High CI Turnout

By FRED W. RAMFTL and KAREN NANI

As with many polling places around the city, the turnout on City Island for the 2018 midterm election was high, although the balloting process experience some glitches.

More than 1,500 residents cast ballots at P.S. 175 from the Island’s four Election Districts (60, 61, 62 and 63) on Nov. 6. Scanners used to accept the ballots failed intermittently throughout the day, but at least one was working most of the time. Although midterm elections usually draw less attention, turnout in 2018 was surprisingly close to the 2016 presidential election when around 1,800 Islanders cast ballots.

This year, Islanders favored Democrats in every key race, including New York State contests for Governor (Andrew Cuomo), Comptroller (Thomas DiNapoli) and Attorney General (Letitia James), and federal elections for U.S. Senator (Kirsten Gillibrand) and House of Representatives (Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez).

Residents sided with the overall winners in these and other races, including State Senator (Alessandra Biaggi) and State Assembly (Michael Benedetto).

Islanders also favored all three questions on the ballot: Campaign Finance, Creating a Civic Engagement Commission and Term Limits for Community Board Members, and these passed statewide as well.

The P.T.A. of P. S. 175 held its annual Election Day bake sale on Nov. 6. The parents were delighted with the high turnout, in spite of the rain, and the support of the many Islanders who purchased baked goods and raffles.

The following table indicates the tallies, based on the City Island vote total from the Democrat (D), Republican (R), Conservative (C), Green (G), Libertarian (LBT), Working Families (WF) and other party lines.

Race/Candidate	# C.I. Votes	%
Governor		
Andrew Cuomo (D)	906	59%
Marcus Molinaro (R)	574	37
Howie Hawkins (G)	30	2
Larry Sharpe (LBT)	7	<1
Statewide winner: Andrew Cuomo		
Comptroller		
Thomas DiNapoli (D)	965	64%
Jonathan Trichter (R)	504	34
Mark Dunlea (G)	27	2
Cruger Gallaudet (LBT)	6	<1
Statewide winner: Thomas DiNapoli		
Attorney General		
Letitia James (D)	898	61%
Keith Wofford (R)	563	38
Christopher Garvey (LBT)	9	<1
Statewide winner: Letitia James		
Public Advocate		
Letitia James (D, WF)	547	48%
Juan Carlos Polanco (R, RF, SB)	319	28
Michael A. O’Reilly (C)	226	20
James C. Lane (G)	26	2
Devin Balkin (LBT)	11	1
Citywide winner: Letitia James		
United States Senator		
Kirsten Gillibrand (D)	943	63%
Chele Farley (R)	553	37
U.S. House of Representatives District 14		
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D)	821	55%
Anthony Pappas (R)	400	27
Joseph Crowley (WF)	228	15
Elizabeth Perri (C)	55	4
State Senator District 34		
Alessandra Biaggi (D)	877	58%
Richard Ribustello (R)	356	24
Jeffrey Klein (IP)	229	15
Anthony Vitiello (C)	46	3
State Assembly District 82		
Michael Benedetto (D)	996	67%
Elizabeth English (R)	421	28
William Britt (C)	62	4
Question #1: Campaign Finance		
Yes	811	68%
No	382	32
Statewide Decision: Yes		
Question #2: Creating a Civic Engagement Commission		
Yes	594	50%
No	590	50
Statewide Decision: Yes		
Question #3: Term Limits for Community Board Members		
Yes	701	59%
No	480	41
Statewide Decision: Yes		



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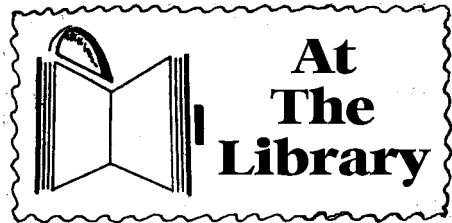
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What's Going On In There?
 Calling all artists! You are invited to become part of the **Focal Point Holiday Exhibition**, which will be held from Dec. 7 through Dec. 31, with an opening reception on Friday, Dec. 7, from 7 to 10 p.m. All work will be accepted and must be ready for hanging. There is a \$20 hanging fee per picture, and the gallery will keep a 30 percent commission if the artwork is sold. The deadline to submit work is Dec. 5.



PROGRAMS AT THE CITY ISLAND LIBRARY
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Our hours are: Monday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DECEMBER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Circle Time: Children from birth to 3 years old and their caregivers can enjoy stories, songs and finger plays while spending time with other toddlers. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. Craft included. Every Tuesday from 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Play-Doh Time: Have fun exploring sensory dough as well as making your own creations with Play-Doh by kneading, rolling and molding it! Ages 2 to 5. Play-Doh does contain wheat products. Every Thursday at 11 a.m.

Read & Play: Children from birth to 3 years old and caregivers can take part in wonderful stories, discover amazing toys and meet new friends in this fun, informal program. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. Every Friday from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Craft-A-Way: Drop in and participate in creating projects related to a theme or holiday. Ages 2 to 5. Friday, Dec. 14, at 11:30 a.m.

DECEMBER TEEN AND TWEEN PROGRAMS

Graffiti Art Workshop: You be you! Learn about the history of hip-hop and practice your graffiti art style. This workshop includes an oral history on hip hop as well as jazz and other similar roots. Presented by David Alicea. Wednesday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m.

Pajama Party: Pajamas at the library? Come in to get comfy in your PJs, have some snacks and settle in to watch a movie. Light refreshments will be provided. No registration required but pajamas are encouraged. Thursday, Dec. 27, at 3 p.m.

After-School Lounge: Come to the library after school for a chance to get a head start on your homework before unwinding online! Monday through Thursday from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Activities: On Fridays, at 3 p.m., we plan a series of special activities to celebrate the beginning of the weekend so check out this month's events and come hang out with us! Dec. 7: Winter Card Workshop; Dec. 14: Wii and Board Games; Dec. 21: Lego Tower Challenge; Dec. 28: Wii and Board Games.

DECEMBER ADULT PROGRAMS

NEW! City Island Calligraphy: Calligraphy is an ancient form of communication and artistic expression that has since taken on a wide variety of styles and functions. Here at the City Island Library, patron and volunteer Regina Sanglier will teach you the basics and hopefully get you creating your very own works of art. Be sure to attend these two introductory lessons to see if you're interested in continuing on in the New Year. Registration required. Monday, Dec. 3 and 10, at 1 p.m.

Mensa Mondays: Doing puzzles has been linked to improved memory, better problem-solving skills and even lower stress levels. Let us help you work off those Monday blues by providing you with riddles, crosswords, word searches and number puzzles to train your brain! Every Monday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

City Island Scrabble Club: If you're looking for some friendly competition, then join our Scrabble Club! Come in and flex your vocabulary muscles. Note: Limited to 12 participants, registration required. Thursday, Dec. 13 and 27, at 1 p.m.

City Island Book Club: Call or stop by the branch for more information. Monday, Dec. 10, at 5 p.m.

The Island Writers: This is a group for all who are interested in writing professionally or personally. All are welcome, so come join in on the literary fun! Every Tuesday from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

One-on-One: Computer, Tablet and Resume Instruction: Stop in or call to make an appointment for one hour of personalized instruction that addresses your questions and concerns. No computer? No problem! We have computers available for instructional use. Registration required.

Saturday Afternoon Movies: Feature movie titles, varying in length. At 1 p.m. Dec. 1: "Comix-Beyond the Comic Book Pages"; Dec. 8: "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"; Dec. 15: "California Typewriter"; Dec. 22: "Toy Story"; Dec. 29: "Ready Player One"

Some programs require advance registration, which can be done in person, or by phone. All programs are free.

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If you would like to write to any of the above contact the Leonard H. Hawkins Post 156, 550 City Island Avenue.
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Photos by PAUL KLEIN

After the tragic shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA, on Oct. 27, 2018, a vigil was held on Oct. 29 at City Island's Temple Beth-El. The service was led by Rabbi Shohama Wiener and Rabbi David Markus (top photo). About 125 attendees of all faiths from on and off the Island, including Father Knapp, Pastor Dave Jolly, Skip Giacco, Councilman Mark Gjonaj, Assemblyman Mike Benedetto, candidate Alessandra Biaggi and representatives from the office of the borough president. Eleven memorial candles were lit in honor of those murdered.



Photo courtesy TOM NYE

Islander Jason Barron with his J/105 *Raven* was the winner of the Manhasset Bay Fall Series in October. After spending most of the past few months rebuilding the totaled J/105 in his boatyard, Jason was not optimistic about launching the boat in time for the Manhasset Bay series, the last regatta of the season. As it turned out, however, the boat was finished in time to enter the series. Equipped with new sails, a good crew and some help from Paul Beaudin of neighboring Doyle Sails, Jason and *Raven* in the first weekend had five first-place finishes and one third place. Paul had cautioned Jason after the first few first-place finishes not to get too excited, as it may have been beginner's luck, but *Raven* continued to dominate a division filled with some of the best sailors on Long Island Sound and won the series by a good margin.



Forty Years of Marathoning New York

By JUDY RAUH



Photos by TOMMY BREEN and DAN WRIGHT

Islander Mike Rauh continued a remarkable streak by completing his 40th consecutive New York City Marathon on Nov. 4, 2018. This year the veteran runner was joined by first-time New York City marathoner and Islander James Breen (top photo). Mike's cheering section was out in full voice on First Avenue near the 18-mile-mark (middle photo). After the race, Mike proudly showed off this year's medal, next to a display of his other 39 marathon medals, including the framed one from his best time of 2:59:22 in 1982.

"Four score and seven." Well, maybe not. But 40 consecutive New York City Marathons are still impressive, and that's what Mike Rauh finished on Nov. 4, 2018. Cheering Mike along the course were several family members, including a surprise showing from his sister, Linda, and brother-in-law, John Wright, who came in from Arizona for the event.

An exciting marathon week for Mike began on Thursday, Nov. 1, when he announced the New York Road Runners youth event in Central Park, "Run with Champions." On Nov. 2, he took part in the Marathon Streakers Meet-Up at Tavern on the Green. This group of runners who have completed 15 or more consecutive New York City marathons has been honored by New York Road Runners in recent years. They even had their own shelter at Fort Wadsworth, waiting for the start, and special bib signs identifying them as "streakers," to go along with their official numbers.

On race day, Mike left home in the pre-pre-dawn hours, to get to Manhattan, where he got on a special ferry to Staten

Island. When his time to start came, Mike felt confident and excited. The cool but not cold temperatures and light winds made for really good race conditions.

Mike's brother's in-laws cheered him on in Brooklyn, wearing special "Mike's 40th" t-shirts. The rest of his family lined up in their special shirts holding a banner on First Avenue in Manhattan. They caught him later near the 23-mile mark on Fifth Avenue. Shortly after Mike passed them, he realized that he could break six hours for the 26.2-mile-course. Although he was nearly exhausted, Mike finished the race in 5 hours 58 minutes 24 seconds.

City Island filmmaker James Breen, running his first New York City Marathon, found Mike around the 8-mile mark. He ran along and filmed Mike as crowds cheered. He recorded fellow runners giving Mike pats on the back and "thumbs up" when they realized from the writing on his shirt that Mike was a 40-time streaker. James finished in 4:45:55.

John Ulmer Jr., son of City Islanders John and Linda Ulmer, finished in 5:02:37.

We moved & the gang's all here!

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HORSE-DRAWN HALLOWEEN



Photos by CHERYL BRINKER, MARIA CARUSO RICK DeWITT, KATHY LONERGAN, NANCY KHECK and MATT PANZA

The annual City Island Halloween parade on Oct. 31 was a horse of a different costume this year. Coordinated by Paul Klein and the Chamber of Commerce, the parade was led by a wagon full of cowboys and cowgirls provided by Marcie Brennen and the Bronx Equestrian Center. The judges, aided by clear skies and balmy temperatures, had plenty of ghoulish, humorous and clever costumes to choose from for prizes (photos above): Most Original: Andrew Blackman as Trump money man with cell phones; Best Group: Figario family as the Addams Family; Cutest Infant: Lourdes as the Pope; Cutest Child: Ali as Captain Hook; Scariest: Ken Binder as Creepy Surgeon.

Chamber Awards for 2018: Time Tested Honorees

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

The City Island Chamber of Commerce will hold its 10th annual awards dinner dance on Dec. 8, 2018, and as usual a lively crowd is expected to attend to celebrate the contributions of several individuals and businesses to the City Island community.

Not surprisingly, given his contributions to City Island both recently and in the past, Richie DePierro will receive the Sam Bierman Business and Community Service Award. As chronicled in the October issue of *The Island Current*, Richie has been an important figure on the Island for more than 50 years, not only as owner of The Black Whale but also for his role in rescuing properties along City Island Avenue and turning them into attractive, popular and long-lasting businesses. His most recent project was the purchase and refurbishment of the building south of Hawkins Street on the east side of the avenue, which now holds five apartments and five businesses, including Island Gallery, Mary Colby Studio and Gallery, Clipper Coffee, Remy's Upholstery and John Foley's antique shop.

The Chamber will present the Tom Ceretta Community Service Award to Congressman Joseph Crowley for having served as a U.S. Representative of the 14th Congressional District since 1998. As chairman of the Democratic Caucus, the fourth-highest ranking position in House Democratic leadership, Joe focused on building strong communities, creating jobs, increasing access to health care and housing, protecting seniors' hard-earned benefits and opening up educational opportunities for working families. His seat on the prestigious Committee on Ways and Means allowed him to work directly on issues of importance to the residents of the 14th District—keeping Medicare and Social Security strong, improving health care for all Americans, and creating a fair and equitable tax code for American families and small businesses.

Joe established the Crime Stoppers program in 2002 to support local organizations, delivering more than \$1 million in federal funding to the Bronx-Queens community for graffiti clean-up, after-school programming, and civic patrol efforts. He focused on further strengthening and expanding urban hospitals and specialty health centers, and he advocated for public education, Head Start, and other pre-kindergarten programs. Through his work with a range of local organizations, Joe became a leading voice in efforts to promote democracy and human rights around the world, and he has fought for women's rights both in the U.S. and overseas.

William (Bill) White of Con Edison will receive a Special Certificate of Appreciation for Service to the City Island Chamber, on whose board of directors he has served for more than 25 years. Bill joined Con Edison in 1968 and since 1984 has been in Con Ed's Bronx Public Relations Department, where his duties included serving as a liaison with community and government agencies and coordinating the company's employee volunteer and community-sponsored programs. Bill has also served on the board of the Red Cross for 25 years and is a past president of the Bronx Lions Club, where he has been a member for 36 years. He has coordinated many Con Edi-

son volunteer programs, and for more than 20 years has served as a judge at the Throggs Neck Halloween and Parade Costume Contest. Bill has also volunteered for the Bronx Special Olympics with a 35-year commitment as a chaperone, coach and advisory board member.

A Special Recognition Certificate for 100 years of Service will be given to the Leonard H. Hawkins Post 156 of the American Legion. The Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization focused on service to veterans, servicemembers and communities and has become one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. The American Legion is now the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth, sponsoring wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor and promoting strong national security and continued devotion to servicemembers and veterans. Membership today is over 2 million with more than 13,000 posts here and abroad.

The Bronx American Legion Post 156 is named for City Island native Leonard Hillson Hawkins, who died while serving on the USS *Delaware* in World War I, first as it protected American interests in Mexico during 1914 and 1915, and later when it managed to evade torpedoes during two submarine attacks while escorting merchant vessels to Norway in February of 1918. The *Delaware* protected two more convoys during March and April of that year, but during the trip home Hawkins died of cerebrospinal fever (spinal meningitis) on July 26, 1918. Four days later, the *Delaware* arrived at Hampton Roads, VA. The park at the corner of Hawkins Street is also dedicated to Leonard Hawkins and other Islanders who lost their lives in World War I.

The Leonard Hawkins Post dedicates its time to active military service members and veterans, funds community projects, provides guidance for young people and defends as well as supports patriotism and national security. The Post is a Legion family consisting of SAL (Sons of the American Legion); the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) and Legionnaires working together for the same mission of service, not self. Each year the Leonard Hawkins Post sponsors many fundraisers and events on the Island, including the Memorial Day Parade and the annual pumpkin sale.

The Catherine Scott Achievement Award celebrating businesses that have been here for 20 years or more will be given to Art of Beauty, Artie's Steak & Seafood and Cottam Heating and Air Conditioning. New Business Recognition will be awarded to Cathi Swett Esq. and Complexions Salon. And the Nautical Heritage Award will be presented to Jack's Bait & Tackle, the City Island Yacht Club the Harlem Yacht Club and the Morris Yacht Club.

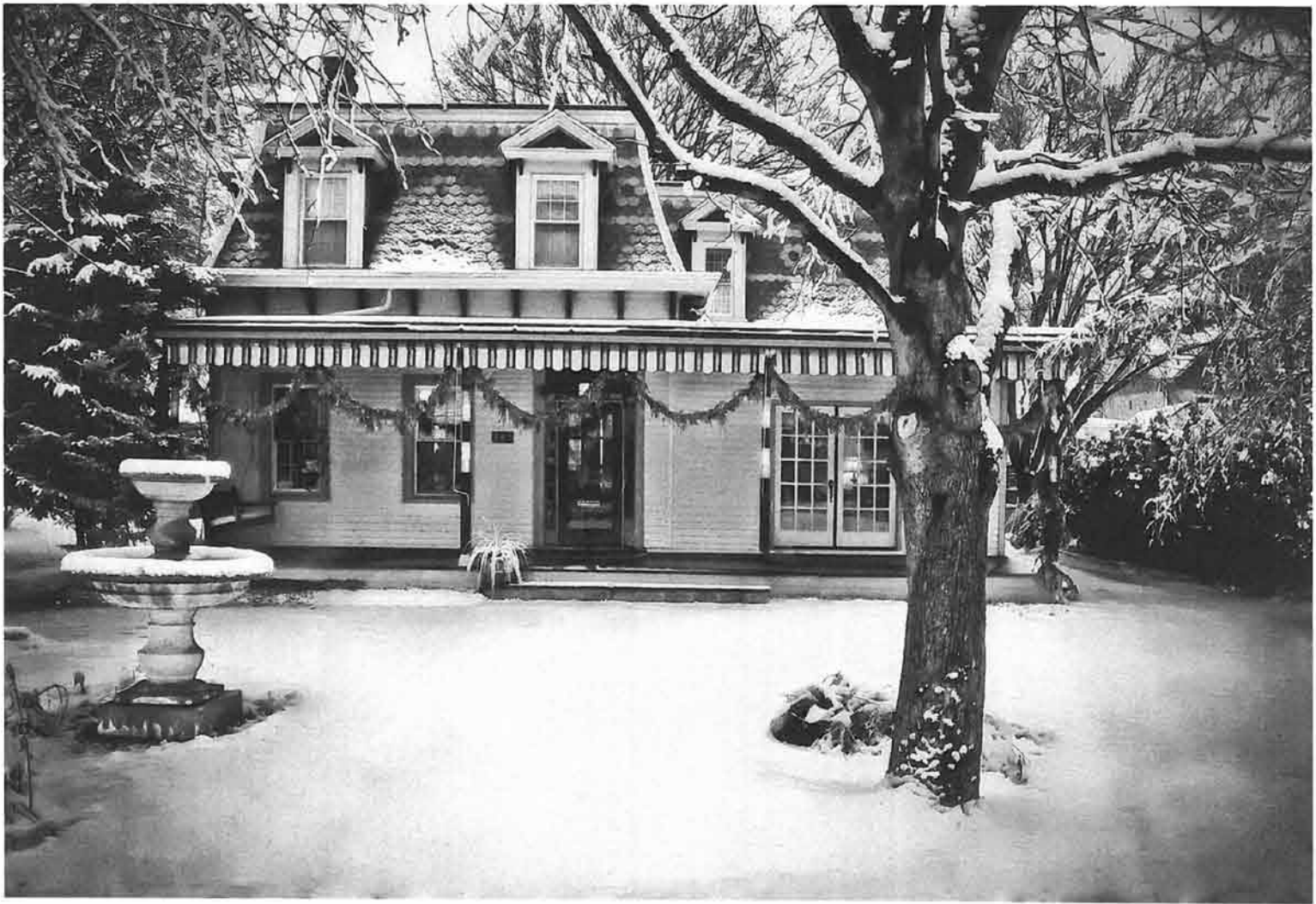
All in all, this impressive list of honorees should bring out the crowds at the dinner dance, which is always a festive occasion, thanks to the organizing abilities of Chamber officers Skip Giacco and Paul Klein and Skip's wife, Louise, and the lively music provided by the Lickety Split Band.



**Best Wishes
for a
Happy
Holiday
Season**

Assemblyman
Michael R. Benedetto

Continued on page 16



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Finding Your Way Through the Holidays on City Island

BY MONICA GLICK

What are you looking for this holiday season? No doubt you'll be finding it in the shops, galleries, restaurants, cafés and businesses on our Island home.

Finding Fantasy and Fantastic Possibilities. Need a gift, the perfect ornament, candles, artwork or maybe something that says "City Island"? All these fantastic choices can be found at **Kaleidoscope Gallery** (280 City Island Avenue).

When your fantasy is some fast, delicious food after a long day of shopping stress, check the day's dishes at **Chef Rafael's To-Go Express** (415 City Island Avenue), or get your takeout from **City Island Chinese Restaurant** (84-86 City Island Avenue), or visit **Ray's Café** (205 City Island Avenue) for one of their delicious daily specials.

At **Filomena's Pizza & Pasta** (286 City Island Avenue), Anthony is waiting to serve you up deliciousness round-style—pizza, that is—or choose one of their pasta dishes.

To get you started before your shopping, stop first at **Papa John's Deli** (325 City Island Avenue) or **Augie's City Island Deli** (520 City Island Avenue) for a coffee and something to go. And just before you cross the bridge to the mainland, **Dunkin' Donuts** (636 City Island Avenue) offers more choices still.



J.W. Foley Rarities & Obscurities

Finding Treasures. Among City Island's newest shops is **J. W. Foley Rarities & Obscurities** (270 City Island Avenue). You'll treasure everything you'll find here, like vintage typewriters or a ham radio. There are even small statues of W. C. Fields and Lou Costello. Turn back the clock stepping inside this store, or buy one from John Foley.

If you treasure a spirit of fancy, there's a lot to find at **Early Ruth Antiques** (319 City Island Avenue), and Ruth or Anosh are ready to be your guides. Maybe it is the past you treasure, specifically City Island's history. A visit to the **City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum** (190 Fordham Street), open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. until Dec. 16, will fill that bill. Maybe even become a member, or gift the history buff in your life with membership.

Treasure the choices at Sunday Brunch at **The Black Whale** (279 City Island Avenue). Or try a dinner special or one of their seasonal crafted cocktails.

Or are you craving the treasures of the sea? The options are bountiful as you drive on to the Island at **JP's Restaurant** (703 Minnieford Avenue) and the **Lobster House** (691 City Island Avenue), and as you arrive at the end, at **Sammy's Fish Box** (41 City Island Avenue), the **Original Sammy's Shrimp Box** (64 City Island Avenue), or **The Lobster Box** (34 City Island Avenue). And in this season of special deals, the **Crab Shanty** (361 City Island Avenue) has one to treasure: a \$21.99 special multi-course meal Mondays to Thursdays that features choices like prime rib and lobster tail.

For quick clams or speedy shrimp, you've got a choice mid-island with **Seafood City** (459 City Island Avenue), or drive to the end for some fare at **Tony's Pier Restaurant** (1 City Island Avenue). Alas, you'll have to wait until spring to stand in line for seafood goodness at **Johnny's Reef Restaurant** (2 City Island Avenue).

Finding Delights for Eyes and Ears. "It's all about the show" at Elliott Glick's **Starving Artist (The New Artist)** (249 City Island Avenue), including a Broadway holiday cel-

ebration (Friday, Dec. 14), **Cartoon Christmas Cabaret** (Saturday, Dec. 8), and more (*StarvingArtistOnline.com*), all on the new stage. As you treat your ears, delight your palate with choices from **Jenny's Sweets** (@JennysSweetsSA on Facebook), masterfully prepared by Glick's daughter and Culinary Institute of America pastry chef Jennifer Glick.

"It's not just an art gallery" offers Ron Turner of his decades-old City Island mainstay, **Focal Point Gallery** (321 City Island Avenue). There's the possibility of party, event and family photography, as well as photo framing and restoration. You can put your favorite photo of family or pet, or some artwork on a signature brick—even a frying pan. Stop by to see Susan Lamantia Turner, who'll help you select a jewelry gift at 50 percent off for the season. And there's always the current month's multi-artist exhibit.

And your taste buds will be delighted by innovative comfort food served up Wednesdays through Sundays at **Archie's Table and Tap** (536 City Island Avenue). One online review noted, "This place never disappoints." Visit Chef Alex Pertovsky this season and see for yourself. Maybe sample from the selection of craft beer and wine while you're there.

Finding the World. Island eateries offer a trip around the tastes of the world. There's the finest in French cuisine at **Bistro SK** (273 City Island Avenue). And you never know what themed-event Stephane Kane and wife, Maria, will have waiting for you.

Maybe you're craving more Latin flavors. **Vistamar Restaurant and Lounge** (565 City Island Avenue) can help with that. This newish Island restaurant, formerly Don Coqui on the Water, also offers a hot and cold brunch buffet Saturdays and Sundays, with the potential for two hours of unlimited mimosas, sangria and draft beer with your brunch for a special price.

For a taste of Italy, stop by **Portofino** (555 City Island Avenue), or try the fettuccine alfredo or the chicken parmigiana at **Scavello's on the Island** (101 City Island Avenue).

For a mix of locations—an interesting Latin twist to certain hibachi dishes—visit **Ohana Japanese Hibachi Seafood & Steakhouse** (500 City Island Avenue). And your chef will serve up a show along with your shrimp or steak or chicken, or all three!

Finding Solutions. Solving what you'll serve for holiday dinners is as simple as a stop at **Scavello's IGA Supermarket**, which will transition to **C-Town** (385 City Island Avenue). As we thank Gabe Scavello who purchased the market in 1994 and now retires after 60 years in business, we welcome C-Town, which will focus on the fresh produce, meat and fish for which these supermarkets are well known. (More on this transition in this *Island Current*.)



City Island Pharmacy

Solve your decorating and wrapping needs at **Island Pharmacy & Discount** (290 City Island Avenue). You can even find the perfect gift for the good little boys and girls on your shopping list! And find the spirits of the season waiting for you at **JGL Wines & Liquors** (358 City Island Avenue).

Finding Feelings Like Home. Dinners

that taste like your mother made them await you at the **City Island Diner** (304 City Island Avenue). Next door at the **Snug**, if it's Tuesday, it's half-price burgers, and if it's Thursday, try some tacos or other Mexican fare. Any night of the week the dinners will offer comfort from the cold, as will an Irish coffee!

For what you'll need for your own home-cooked meal, have Sara help you choose at **Connie's New Way Market** (307 City Island Avenue). And if the hour is late, you'll probably find help still available at the **Fire House Corner Deli Grocery** (240 City Island Avenue).

Finding the Practical. If you're finding yourself too busy to do laundry, drop off your soiled shirts and more at **City Island Laundromat** (310 City Island Avenue). They'll have it done and folded in no time. Sorry, you'll have to put it away yourself.

Everything you'll need for adventures on the seas you'll find at **Jack's Bait & Tackle** (551 City Island Avenue) or **Island Bait & Tackle** (632 City Island Avenue). Maybe you're needing something stitched; there's **Remy's** (272 City Island Avenue); or you're wanting to take a "deep dive," there's **Captain Mike** (530 City Island Avenue). Home and boat essentials are found year-round at **Buddy's Hardware** (268 City Island Avenue) and **JJ Burck** (526 City Island Avenue).



Man Overboard

If it's as practical as your wanting to kick back and relax, then you've got a few choices. **Paddy's on the Island** (288 City Island Avenue) provides a place to sip and snack, as does the newly opened **Man Overboard** (247 City Island Avenue), which is planning a holiday party on Dec. 15. If you want to add a game of pool to the mix, you can find that at **Fella's** (522 City Island Avenue). If a fine cigar is what you want, or a box of them for someone on your list, stop by **Humberto Amadiz Cigars** (470 City Island Avenue).

Finding a Spirit of Art . . . and Artful Surroundings. In the windows of two Island galleries, **Mary Colby Studio Gallery** (276 City Island Avenue) and **Cheryl Brinker's Studio / Gallery** (282 City Island Avenue), you'll find art to inspire. After gazing, step inside Colby's studio gallery and inquire about her painting classes.



Island Gallery

Tucked between these two locations is one of our Island's newest shops, **Island Gallery** (278 City Island Avenue), run by János Arányi and Theresa Llorente. You'll need time here to admire the art on the wall, and the piano on the floor. If you stop by on Saturday or Sunday, you'll likely meet young artist Ga-



Clipper Coffee

briel Ellis and see his seagull paintings. His dad, David Ellis, penned a book, *Free Like the Seagulls*, which he reads at **Clipper Coffee** (274 City Island Avenue) just down the block, before father and son offer arts-and-crafts fun there on Sunday afternoons. And there's lots happening at Clipper Coffee for kids and more this Season. Proprietor Peter Gennari proudly notes that this new addition to City Island is the only bookstore in the Bronx. Pick a book from the upstairs room to read while enjoying an eggnog latte or a peppermint mocha latte.

Always artfully decorated each holiday season is **Artie's Steak & Seafood** (394 City Island Avenue). Consider hosting your family's holiday dinner or an office party here. Or just stop by weary from the season for one of their signature martinis or cocktails. The *Sundae for Two* is a great stress reliever as well.

Finding the Beautiful—and Beautiful Experiences. Opened this past summer, **Eden Beauty Bar** (310 City Island Avenue) provides a full range of beauty services for skin, body and hair. There's a barber on site as well. Chat with co-owners Kristin Ramos and Monica Lachman about their seasonal specials.

Try a gel powder manicure at **Bay Rose Nail Salon** (329 City Island Avenue), good for your nails at a good price. **Nail Island** (462 City Island Avenue) is also ready to help you get set for celebrating the holidays.

And go all the way in beauty experiences—haircut and color, manicure and pedicure, and more—with the team at **Art of Beauty** (413 City Island Avenue).

Visit **Complexions of City Island** (403 City Island Avenue) for the latest and greatest in advanced skincare.

Finding the Fun. In the rush and crush of the holidays, sometimes you've got to take a break and just have fun. The fun factor is high at **239 Play** (239 City Island Avenue), with whimsy for all ages, and from all ages. "Walking into this shop is like taking a trip back in time to your childhood," noted one visitor.

If you're planning the fun for a holiday party, reach out to **Amandabear Party Rentals** (474 City Island Avenue) for tables and chairs, as well as balloons and more to get that holiday feel.

Have fun in the lounge of the **Sea Shore Restaurant** (591 City Island Avenue). Order up some appetizers and sit by the fire, sipping some concoction perhaps made by Louie, Mario or Debbie.

The upcoming 20th season of shows from the **City Island Theater Group** (CITG) is sure to be enjoyable. Visit the CITG's website (*CityIslandTheaterGroup.com*) for details about those shows and information on how to become a subscriber.

Fitness can be fun too. Just ask the folks at **Club Fit** (440 City Island Avenue) or Tae Kwon Do at **Dragon's Path Tae Kwon Do Academy** (229 City Island Avenue). And shed the stress of the season at the **City Island Physical Therapy and Wellness Center** (464 City Island Avenue).

When outdoor fun returns at Hawkins Park in the warmth of spring and summer, you'll enhance that experience with frozen goodness from Skip and Louise Giacco and the ice cream crew at **Lickety Split** (295 City Island Avenue). Until then, visions of sugar plums will have to do!

A great holiday season is easy to find — thanks to City Island's shops, galleries, restaurants, cafés and businesses.

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

DECEMBER

Fri., Nov. 30, and Sat., Dec. 1, **Annual Christmas Fair**, Trinity United Methodist Church. 2 to 6 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Sat., Dec. 1, and Sun., Dec. 2, **St. Mary's Christmas Fair**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in both the school gym and the Thrift Shop.

Sun., Dec. 2, **Holiday Fair at the Morris Yacht Club**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 25 City Island Avenue.

Sun., Dec. 2, **Hanukkah Menorah Lighting**, Hawkins Park, 5 p.m. Reception follows at Kaleidoscope Gallery.

Sat., Dec. 8, **Grace Church Holiday Fair and Café**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 114 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street.

Sat., Dec. 8, **Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner**, 7 to 11 p.m., Pelham Split Rock Golf Course.

Sun., Dec. 16, **Girl Scout Troop 1115 Holiday Bake Sale**, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Community Center, Fordham Street.

Sat., Dec. 22, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: meat loaf with vegetable and potatoes.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

JANUARY

Sat., Jan. 26, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: sausage with peppers.

Tues., Jan. 29, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

City Island Nautical Museum

We were delighted that so many people, including members of the Hawkins Post, came out to enjoy the talk on the Pelham Bay Naval Training Station by Mark van Ells on Sunday, Nov. 11. Many Islanders weren't aware that such a major installation took place during World War I just on the other side of the bridge.

We will be closing for the winter on Sunday, Dec. 16, and if you haven't yet seen the exhibition of photographs "City Island Avenue: Then and Now," be sure to take it in before then. And don't miss the new items in our gift shop, especially the hoodies and t-shirts, perfect presents for Islanders and former Islanders.

We will be having a membership meeting, to which all 2018 members are invited, at 4 p.m. on Dec. 16, followed by holiday refreshments. We are also inviting our volunteers, who have made it possible for us to function, so that we can express our gratitude for their support during the year.

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2019 or to join if you haven't already done so. Dues are \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families and \$75 for businesses (which are featured on our homepage), and if you're a member, admission is free.

We will open again around Eastertime with a reprieve of one of our most popular exhibits, a survey in words and pictures of the boatbuilders that put City Island on the map beginning in the 19th century.

Barbara Dolensek

Garden Club of City Island

We hope all Islanders and visitors enjoy the holiday wreaths created by Garden Club members and displayed around City Island, as well as the tree guards between Hawkins and Fordham Streets and the planter boxes

along City Island Avenue, which were filled with a colorful winter selection by our beautification committee and Helping Hands auxiliary.

The Garden Club started the holiday season at our November meeting with a presentation by Nancy White from the Flower Bar in Larchmont; she created two holiday floral arrangements while giving us advice on how to create arrangements ourselves. A few of her tips: line clear vases with leaves to hide stems; put clear florist tape across the top of a vase to create a grid to hold shorter flowers and decorative leaves; use frogs (flower frogs, not the icky croaking ones) and chicken wire to support long stems in taller vases; use a variety of shapes and textures to create a more interesting arrangement.

Everyone is invited to join us at our meetings. Our Dec. 3 presenter is Trevor Hall from Bartlett Tree Experts, speaking about tree care and answering questions about the care of trees in our own gardens as well as those along our streets. Next month's speaker at our meeting on Monday, Jan. 7, is City Island beekeeper Nancy Kheck with a presentation on her beekeeping activities. Nick Storrs is returning for our Feb. 4 meeting to continue giving us information about vegetable gardening. Nick, an instructor at the New York Botanical Garden and manager of the Randalls Island Urban Farm, spoke at our September meeting and agreed to return to continue sharing his vast knowledge of vegetable gardening with us.

The Garden Club of City Island has monthly meetings, except in August, usually held on Mondays at 10 a.m. at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street. Our meetings conclude with home-baked goods and refreshments served by our hospitality committee. Please join us.

Sharynne Wilder

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Episcopal Church, a place of worship and fellowship, located at 116 City Island Avenue, on the corner of Pilot Street, warmly welcomes you to the following:

Worship Schedule: Sundays at 10 a.m. led by Father John Covington. Holy Eucharist Rite II. After the service, we offer coffee hour, a time for refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome. We have birthday and anniversary prayers during the service and healing prayers after the service on the first Sunday of each month.

Bible Study is led by Father Covington every other Sunday after service during coffee hour.

Mark your calendars for the 14th annual Christmas Fair and Café, which will take place on Saturday, Dec. 8. Warm yourselves with delicious butternut squash and pumpkin soup, have a helping of your choice of strata (broccoli and cheese or ham and cheese), a nice green salad, rolls, tea and coffee in our Parish Hall. We'll also have baked goods for sale, lovingly prepared in the kitchens of our parishioners. And don't forget to take part in our 50/50 Raffle, while you shop for holiday gifts from among our variety of local vendors!

Bishop visitation, confirmation and baptism will take place on Dec. 23 at 10 a.m. Our Christmas Eve service is on Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m. And our Christmas Day service is on Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.

On Sunday, Dec. 23, at 10 a.m., our oldest Sunday school member, Emilio Aponte, will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from visiting Bishop Shin. Members of the Sunday School will then present their Christmas Pageant on Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Dress rehearsals are Sunday, Dec. 2 and 16,



Photo by JANE PROTZMAN

A large group of Islanders, including members of the American Legion Post 156, gathered at the City Island Nautical Museum on Nov. 11, 2018, to hear Mark van Ells provide a fascinating talk about the Naval Training Station that prepared many sailors for World War I in Pelham Bay Park, just over the bridge.

so please join us if you would like to participate in the pageant.

Sunday School regularly meets on the first and third Sundays of each month led by Karen Nani. The students range in age from 2 to 12, and newcomers are welcome. No extra time is needed; students will begin the service with the entire congregation at 10 a.m. and then leave with Mrs. Nani for lessons and activities, including arts and crafts, for 30 to 40 minutes during the service. They will rejoin the congregation after the exchange of peace. If you are interested in enrolling your children in Sunday School, contact Karen at karenrnl@optonline.net or leave a message on the church phone, 718-885-1080.

The GraceTones, our music ministry, is wrapping up our third year! Composed of members of the church choir and singers from on and off City Island, we perform at area nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. We hope to delight the residents of Kings Harbor with Christmas carols on Dec. 15. If you'd like to join us, remember that you don't have to sing like an angel, just have the desire to help lift the spirits of those in need. Interested? Please call Sandy Dunn at 917-566-1296 or e-mail accentfix@gmail.com.

Sandy Dunn

City Island Republicans

Thank you to our hardworking poll workers, who did a great job despite the high turnout and other issues that plagued the day. There will be a special election in late February or early March. Details will follow next month.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 156

Many thanks to all members and non-members who donated and supported the ALA Unit 156 Annual Baby Shower on Oct. 2. A shout out to Meaghan Clancy and her son Matthew for sorting and delivering the items to Fort Drum military base. The ALA Unit 156 proudly received a Certificate of Appreciation from the 7th Engineer Battalion.

ALA Unit 156 donated funds toward the shipping of CARE packages to the Chris Engeldrum Support the Troops Fund for active veterans stationed in Afghanistan. The unit received a Certificate of Appreciation & Loyalty presented by Judy Lanci and Cathy Praino of the Theodore Korony post in Throggs Neck. It was an honor to be part of this program.

Many thanks to all who donated to, supported and participated in the annual ALA 156 Veteran's Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 11. Special thanks to the Sons of the American Legion, who worked the kitchen

and to the Legion for its continued support. We were happy to have Mark Gjonaj, our NYC Councilman, welcome our veterans, Ron Terner who photographed the event and the Grace Tones for entertainment. We are honored to serve and support our veterans and military families.

The next Quilts of Valor will be given to Joe Bartels Sr., a longtime City Island resident and WW II veteran. This quilt will be the foundation's 200,000th Quilt of Valor. We hope to present to the family this winter.

The Bronx County Holiday Gift Shop Program will be held on Sunday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Bronx VA Hospital. ALA members will be visiting and distributing gifts to VA inpatients. Susan O'Keefe-Vaughan is the program chair. If you would like to give a monetary donation to purchase gifts for the hospitalized inpatients, please contact the Leonard Hawkins Post and leave a message.

ALA Unit 156 participated in the Bronx Veterans Day Breakfast and annual Veteran's Day Parade along Tremont Avenue on Sunday, Nov. 18. It was a day of celebration and remembrance for our veterans.

Zumba class will continue at the Post on Dec. 6, 20 and 27 from 7 to 8 p.m. at \$10 per person. All are welcome to burn off calories and have some fun.

Our annual Trim A Tree event and monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Please bring a snack or dessert to help us celebrate and decorate for the upcoming holidays.

On behalf of ALA Unit 156, we wish everyone a happy and blessed holiday.

Joanne Valletta

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Thrift Shop will hold its annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will be held in two locations, the Thrift Shop and the school gym. For sale will be gift items, toys and bric-à-brac, new and used items. We hope to see you there.

Arlene Byrne

AARP Chapter 318

We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1 p.m. at the Trinity Methodist Church Hall, 113 Bay Street. We will hold a regular meeting on Dec. 5, and there will be no meeting on Dec. 19, because that day we will be holding our Christmas luncheon at the Lobster House at 12 noon. The price is \$45. If you are interested in attending, call Elaine Waltz at 914-632-6707. Wishing a Merry Christmas to all!

Carol Reid



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

Our annual Holiday Party for members will take place on Friday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. "Sue and the Fungouls" will provide entertainment, and a buffet dinner will be served with desserts provided by CI Culinary Club. The party is for all members. Luckily, our CICC Membership Drive is still under way; the forms are still being distributed. We are grateful for our members and depend on their support to keep the Center clean, warm and safe. Membership to the CICC is only \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Members are entitled to rent the center for family events at reasonable rates. To join the Center and for up-to-date information visit, www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org, or call 718-885-1145, or "Like" us on Facebook and check FB for any changes in classes.

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. We always welcome and really need volunteers and donations.

NEW

AA Meeting: Saturdays and Sundays at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Annual Holiday Party: Friday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. Dinner and entertainment for members. For more information, call 718-885-1145.

City Island Knitting Club: Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy knitting with others. Beginners and all levels welcome. For information or to register, contact Dana Caton at 678-591-1846 or cdcaton@gmail.com.

NEW Feldenkrais Class: Monday at 6 p.m. Find greater ease of movement, flexibility, relief from pain, relaxation and improved posture. Feldenkrais exercises involve a combination of gentle movements, rest and self-awareness, which give your brain and body access to helpful information to improve the way your body feels and functions. For information, please contact Julie Kavee at 347-266-6247 or juliekavee@gmail.com.

NEW Introductory Meditation Talk: Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. If you've ever considered meditation or practiced in the past, join Sherry Steel for this free informative class. For more information, call or text Sherry at 718-864-2963.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Bollywood and Indian Folk Dance: Tuesday, Teens/Adults, 7 p.m. Join Lalitha Cosme at this new time to explore the dance, energy, movement and culture of India and Indian films. To register or for more information, call 646-269-2033 or e-mail lalithadance@gmail.com.

Irish Dance for Children: Monday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Step dancing for all ages taught by Caitlin Nora Kelly. For day and time or information, e-mail caitlin.nora.kelly@gmail.com or call 914-262-4517.

Island Tots: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Preschool children get together to socialize, have fun and play. To register or for more information, call Barbara at 917-359-1871.

Spanish Classes for Children: Thursdays, 5 to 7 p.m. Did you know that NYC's Conversational Spanish program for kids offers classes right here on City Island? Children in grades K through 8 of all skill levels are welcome. Visit spanollexperience.com or call 917-889-4938 for information.

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.

Ballroom Dance: Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

ON HOLD. Maurice Bonilla teaches us how to "Dance with the Stars." It's great fun and good exercise. For information, call 718-502-2825.

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 Community Supported Agriculture: Register for late Spring 2019 weekly delivery of fresh organic fruits and vegetables. To join or for information, e-mail laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com or call 917-238-0529.

City Island Culinary Club: Mondays, Dec. 3 and 17, 7 p.m. Share holiday cookie recipes and have fun with other Islanders who like to cook. For information, call Kenny Selesky at 917-533-7873.

City Island Indivisible: Join other concerned citizens who are supporting progressive action on issues such as health care for all, environmental protection policies, civil rights, women's rights and reproductive health choices, voter rights and public education. We come together to discuss actions, write letters and work together to help find ways to preserve our democratic ideals. For more information and December and January meeting dates, contact Barbara Zahm at 914-882-7963 or cityislandtrg@gmail.com or "Like" City Island Indivisible on Facebook.

Healing Service: Francesca Vitale, RPP, founder and director of the Healing Force, is a board-certified educator and practitioner in polarity/craniosacral/raindrop therapies. Formerly of the NY Open Center, Francesca is an intuitive healer and offers sessions in energy medicine that works to correct energetic imbalances and distortions, which leads to clarity of mind and restored health. Partial proceeds given to C.I.C.C. Visit www.thehealingforce.net. For free consultation or to make an appointment, call 914-837-6830.

Weight Watchers Meetings: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. We are an official WW site with a new leader, Alex Sokoloff. New members are always welcome. For more information, please call Patty at 914-882-9578.

Yoga with Jo Ann: Wednesdays, 7 to 8:15 p.m., and Saturdays, 8 to 9:15 a.m. Gentle level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and, if possible, a yoga blanket. For information, e-mail joannngny@aol.com or call 917-853-4719.

Zumba with Julia and Lettie: Saturdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Want to lose those extra pounds and that belly fat? Well, here is your chance. Join this high-energy 90-minute workout with toning. For information, call Julia at 917-601-5514.

Zumba with Lettie: Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. (new time). Lettie's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. For information, call 917-292-4228.

Patty Grondahl

PSS Senior Center

The mission of PSS City Island Center is to provide neighborhood adults 60 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 and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Programs are funded by PSS and the NYC Department for the Aging.

All programs and events are subject to change. To receive our newsletter and calendar of events send your e-mail to pattis@pssusa.org.

Highlights

Dec. 6, Thursday: "A Christmas Carol" at the Westchester Broadway Theatre

Dec. 7, Friday, 11 a.m.: Holiday Party. You must have a ticket to attend.

Dec. 13, Thursday, 12:30 p.m.: FDNY Fire Safety Education 12:30 p.m.

Dec. 14, Friday: Early closing at 1 p.m.

Dec. 20, Thursday, 12:30 p.m.: Health Plan Enrollment (for those not on Medicare)

Dec. 24, Monday: Early closing at 1 p.m.

Dec. 31, Monday: Early closing at 1 p.m.

Jan. 3, Thursday, 1:15 p.m.: Center van trip to MTA MetroCard Bus in Co-op City

Jan. 4, Friday, 1:15 p.m.: A Matter of Balance class begins.

Jan. 9, Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.: Elder Abuse

Jan. 10, Thursday, 12:30 p.m. Nutrition Presentation by Toni of Shop Rite; Napat Returns! Singing Group at 1:15 p.m.

Jan. 21, Monday: Closed

Daily Programming

Mondays:

9:15 a.m. Tai Chi for Arthritis, for all exercise levels

10:15 a.m. Card Games and Canasta

12 noon to 1 p.m. Lunch

Tuesdays:

9:15 a.m. Cardio Fit: Vigorous aerobic and strength training

12 noon to 1 p.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Yoga Stretch

1:45 p.m. Crafter's Corner

Wednesdays:

10:15 a.m. Arthritis Workshop, exercises for all joints

11 to 12 noon. Blood Pressure Screening, first and third Wednesday of the month

12 noon to 1 p.m. Lunch

1 p.m. Calligraphy

1 p.m. Second and fourth Wednesday of the month: Haircuts by Brenda for \$10. Please call to sign up.

Thursdays:

9:15 a.m. Tai Chi for Arthritis, for all exercise levels

10 a.m. Acrylic Painting

12 noon to 1 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. in December, Christmas carolers; January will begin a new singing group with Napat.

Fridays:

9:15 a.m. Fit for Life: Vigorous cardio and toning

11:15 a.m. Yoga Stretch

12 noon to 1 p.m. Lunch

1:15: A Matter of Balance class starts Jan. 4.

We also offer caregivers support and help with benefits. Call 718-885-0727 or drop by the center.

Transportation Services. Off-Island shopping trips leave at 9 a.m. and include Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Target, Farmer's Market, Trader Joe's, and more. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island, \$2.50 for off-Island shopping trips and \$3 for longer off-Island trips. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Alex at 347-834-6466 for more information and for pickup or trips.

Patty Attis

Trinity United Methodist Church

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

The Christmas Fair will be on Friday, Nov. 30, from 2 to 6 p.m., and on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with lunch served from 11:30 to 1.

Advent Party for All Ages will take place on Sunday, Dec. 2, after worship. Enjoy food, fellowship and fun while decorating the sanctuary and learning about the different symbols associated with Christmas and Christianity.

The Children's Pageant will be on Sunday, Dec. 16, during the 10 a.m. worship service. A Christmas Party for all ages will follow the worship service, with a "special guest" in attendance. Everyone is invited to attend.

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will start at 10 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 24, at 10 p.m.

If you would like to be on the mailing list for Trinity's Newsletter and/or receive Pastor Dave's e-mailed "Thought of the Day," please send an e-mail to Pastor Dave at david.jolly@nyac-umc.com.

The Budget Shop is open and bursting at the seams! Stop in and see what is new. Trinity is thankful for City Island's continued support, both in the volunteering of time and the generosity of the donations.

Rick DeWitt

Holiday Services

Temple Beth-El

480 City Island Avenue

Sunday, Dec. 2, Hanukkah Menorah Lighting, Hawkins Park, 5 p.m. Refreshments and gathering afterward at Kaleidoscope Gallery across from the park.

Saturday, Dec. 8, Hanukkah Shabbaton at 10 a.m. with afternoon classes and learning.

Sunday, Dec. 9, Last night of Hanukkah Movie event at 3 p.m. Join us for "Yentl" with pizza, popcorn and a lively discussion on gender fluidity, cultures and traditions.

Trinity United Methodist Church

113 Bay Street

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 30 (2 to 6 p.m.) and Dec. 1 (11 a.m. to 3 p.m.): Christmas Fair.

Sunday, Dec. 2: First Sunday in Advent, 10 a.m. Advent Party following worship.

Sunday, Dec. 9: Second Sunday in Advent, 10 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 16: Children's Christmas Pageant, 10 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 10 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Grace Episcopal Church

City Island Avenue at Pilot Street

Saturday, Dec. 8: Crafts Fair, Bake Sale and Holiday Café, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 23: Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m., Bishop's Visitation, Confirmation and Baptism

Monday, Dec. 24: The Christ-Mass, Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service and Sunday School Christmas Pageant, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 30: Carol Sing, Potluck brunch and fellowship at 11:30 a.m. Singing in the Church at 12:30 p.m.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

City Island Avenue near the Bridge

Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, St. Mary's Christmas Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 23: Lessons and Carols Concert, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve, Mass at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Masses at 9 and 11 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 30: Masses at 9 and 11 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 31: Mass at 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 1: New Year's Day (Feast of Mary Mother of God), Masses at 9 and 11 a.m.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

Sunday, Dec. 2, is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the preparation for the coming of Our Savior Jesus Christ. The advent candle will be placed in a prominent place in our church as we mark off the weeks in anticipation of His coming. Let us pray for world peace as we await the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Our annual Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fair will be held both in the school gym and the Thrift Shop. Come take a look; you are sure to find great gifts.

All are welcome to attend our monthly coffee hour, which will be held in the rectory after the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 9.

Wednesday, Dec. 12, is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who has been named the patroness of all the Americas. We will have a special Mass that evening in English and Spanish at 7 p.m. in the church, followed by a reception in the school gym. Come and honor Mary on this special day.

The children in our religious-education program hope to present a Christmas pageant. The date will be announced in our bulletin. All are welcome to join us.

Our annual ceremony of Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday evening, Dec. 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Come join for a joyous, prayerful evening as we anticipate the wonderful feast of Christmas.

The joyful celebration of the birth of Christ will begin with our 8 p.m. liturgy on Christmas Eve, Monday, Dec. 24. Masses on Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25, will

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Organization News

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be at 9 and 11 a.m. A very Merry Christmas to all!

The New Year begins with the celebration of the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God (a holy day of obligation). We will follow our Sunday schedule with a Mass on Monday, Dec. 31, at 5:15 p.m. and Masses on Tuesday, Jan. 1, at 9 and 11 a.m. A very happy, healthy, peaceful New Year to all!

Rose Dietz

American Legion Post #156

The next meeting will be Sunday, Dec. 2, at 12 noon. Dues (\$55 for 2019) are past due; please drop them off at the Post, and make sure your name is on the envelope. The hall is available for your next party. We can accommodate up to 80 people. Members receive a discount on all hall rentals. Call our Activities Vice Commander Joe Goonan at 917-825-9576 for availability.

Please come in and play the Queen of Hearts game of chance each week. The weekly drawing is held at 7 p.m. on Saturday night. The jackpot grows each week until someone selects the Queen of Hearts. The game is open to all, and the proceeds help fund projects around the Post.

Thanks to the Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion for all that they do to assist in our success. And especially all the Legion family members who helped make the Serviceman's Dinner the great success it was. The dinner was cooked and prepared by Bob and Carol Mennona, Fred Ramfl and Bob Salerno. It was served by Anthony Del-Debbio and Alana, Jackie and Ali McIntyre. The hall was set up and decorated by Carol Mennona, Ann-Marie Goonan, Peter Booth, Bruno Laponese, Steve and Diane Lott, Vic Anderson and Alex Skyler. The bar was decorated for Christmas by Peter Zvara, Peter Booth, Mike Jawski and Tom Vivolo. Our chance books were stuffed and delivered by Annie, Alana, Jackie and Ali McIntyre.

All retired flags should be dropped off at the Post for proper disposal. Please put them in the former mailbox by the post's flag pole.

The following are dates and upcoming events: Dec. 1: Pearl Harbor Service sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron #156 at 12 noon at Post 156; Dec. 16: Post 156 Children's Christmas Party from 1 to 4 p.m. (Please bring a wrapped present for your child with their name on it.); Dec. 17: Post 156 Christmas Party from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.; Dec. 25: Merry Christmas to all; Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve): Party Open House, pot-luck shared dinner.

Thank you to the entire City Island community for all your support over the past 99 years. It's our honor to be your community partner.

Peter C. Del-Debbio

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El (TBE), "your shul by the sea," 480 City Island Avenue, is a stimulating, non-denominational, welcoming place for observance of Jewish traditions. Jewish renewal is the style of our deeply spiritual, innovative, all-inclusive and open-minded worship. Twice a month Rabbi Shohama Wiener and/or Rabbi David Evan Markus lead services with music by Your Band by the Sea. At other times, services are led by congregants in a joyful celebratory manner. Events begin promptly so please arrive 15 minutes early. Services are followed by an Oneg* (refreshments). Reminder: for the health and comfort of all, please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne. We look forward to seeing you.

Services take place on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Doors may be locked. Please knock and be patient. Thank you.

Dec. 7: Rabbi Shohama and Rabbi David; Oneg sponsored by Jessica and Walter

Dec. 14: Congregation-led
Dec. 21: Rabbi David
Dec. 28: Congregation-led
Jan. 4: Congregation-led
Jan. 11: Rabbi David; Freedom Shabbat
Jan. 18: Congregation-led
Jan. 25: Rabbi Shohama and Rabbi David

Feb. 1: Congregation-led
Other activities:

Dec. 2, 5 p.m.: Chanukkah Kick Off and Reception. Menorah lighting in Hawkins Park followed by reception in Kaleidoscope Gallery, 280 City Island Ave.

Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.: Joy! Judaism & Joy. Class 3 with Rabbi David at Temple Beth-El.

Dec. 8, 10 a.m.: Chanukkah Shabbaton at Temple Beth-El with afternoon classes and learning.

Dec. 9, 3 p.m.: Last night of Chanukah Movie event. Join us for "Yentl" with pizza, popcorn and a lively discussion on gender fluidity, cultures and traditions.

Jan. 20: Tu b'Shevat Seder with Rabbi David.

Jan. 30, 12 noon to 1 p.m.: Rabbi Shohama's first of three online Healing Programs during lunch hour.

TBE invites the City Island Community to join our yoga class on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., led by Daniella Haney (Patreesha Sat Inder Kaur), a certified instructor in spiritual disciplines of breath and body. Suitable for all persons, ages, body types and experience levels. Dress in loose-fitting clothes: participants can take session on the ground (mats and pillows provided) or sit in a chair. Tea and cookies served afterwards. Suggested freewill offering \$10 per session. RSVP to Daniella at kyncyc@aol.com.

Chesed Committee: If you need a helping hand, a caring call, a ride to the doctor, etc., please let us know. If you have love to give, we need your support. No experience required. To seek support and/or to volunteer, please e-mail us at yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

Prayer Group: TBE has an informal prayer group to hold members, friends and family in prayer for healing. If you feel called to join this group, please e-mail us at yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

*Oneg Sponsorships: Onegs are joyful community celebrations, often sponsored by people commemorating special events to honor others or their own special occasion (e.g., birthday, anniversary, new job, yahrzeit, memorials, etc.) To sponsor one or for more information, please contact Violet Smith at violetsmi@aol.com or 718-885-0978.

For additional information, check out our website at www.yourshulbythesea.org.

Paul Klein

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.

Saturdays and Sundays at 7:30 a.m., AA open meetings at City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

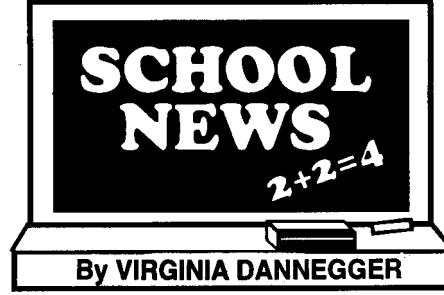
Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Al-Anon

Wednesdays at 7 p.m., 331 City Island Ave, Bronx, NY 10464

Overeaters Anonymous:

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



Public School 175

November was a busy month at P.S. 175, beginning with the Election Day Sale put on by our hard-working PTA. Thanks to the support of the many City Island residents who came to vote, the PTA raised much-needed funds that will be used to provide students and teachers with many of the extras that make P.S. 175 such a wonderful place to learn. Many thanks to those who participated in the sale and to the hard-working PTA volunteers who helped to make the sale a huge success, especially Susan Goonan, our Card Party chairperson!

Several enriching educational trips took place this month. The first grade visited the NYC Fire Zone; the third grade went to the New York Botanical Garden and saw "The Nutcracker"; the fourth grade enjoyed the Orchard Beach Native American Program and the New York Hall of Science.

We have become a "Brain Power School" in which teachers are being trained how to create the most engaging classrooms in which children are motivated to learn and where students learn how to take on leadership roles and inspire their peers.

As we continue to provide our students with arts instruction, we once again have part-time music and theater teachers on staff. Our fifth-grade play, "Space Pirates," is about a girl and her classmates who are beamed up to outer space during a class trip and then attacked by space pirates. This adventure helps the girl become comfortable in her own skin, and her class-

mates learn to appreciate her for who she is. In addition, Councilmember Mark Gjonaj has given P.S. 175 an arts grant that goes this year toward funding a theater teacher through the Bronx Arts Ensemble.

Several exciting upcoming events include Hollyrock and our annual Holiday Sing, which will take place in the weeks to come. Please keep in mind these important dates—Dec. 21: Last day of school for winter recess; Jan. 2: Students return to school.

If you have not already done so, please download the P.S. 175 app so that you can receive the latest school news and alerts, as well as other important information.

The October Citizens-of-the-Month were Alexa Gierum (kindergarten); Caliope Woodruff (first grade); Jason Sgobbo and Antonio Tranquillo (second grade); Alex Moynihan and Daniel DeCicco (third grade); Janyse Richardson and Aniel Cruz (fourth grade); Barbie Ventura (fifth grade); Kostadinos Vergis and Nicholas Cuomo (sixth grade); Sonya Doyle (seventh grade); Dnyzha Grady and Heaven DeCuffa (eighth grade).

Best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season.



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A Current Review

Chekhov Comes to City Island

By BRUCE WEIS

There was surely an engaging Russian elephant in the room by the name of Anton Chekhov during the City Island Theater Group's production of Christopher Durang's comedy "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike" over two weekends in November. The group's final presentation for 2018 was spot on, a fascinating blend of Chekhovian and modern-day angst that allowed the audience to compare and contrast the personal stresses of America with those of Czarist Russia.

As the show opens, boredom threatens while we listen to two people quietly discussing the absence of a blue heron on their pond and the correct number of trees in a cherry orchard. Then a coffee cup smashes into the wall, and the fun begins. The play centers on three middle-aged siblings, two of whom have spent many years caring for their now-deceased parents in a secluded cottage in Bucks County, PA, while their sister enjoyed a successful career in Hollywood.

Vanya and Sonia, the two stay-at-home siblings, spend their days in minor arguments over nothing and feeling regret over lives they feel they have wasted, though they see no reason for anything to change. Sister Masha, meanwhile, star of stage and screen and (after five failed marriages) happily involved in a May-December romance, returns home with her extravagant boy toy, a young wannabe actor named Spike.

Masha has been supporting Vanya, Sonia and the family home for her entire career, but with that career in decline, she feels she can no longer do so. She intends to sell the house and put her siblings in an apartment. The impending loss of their lifelong home puts Vanya and Sonia in an emotional tailspin. Events are further complicated by the appearance of Nina, a local teenager smitten with the acting bug and eager to meet with and learn from Masha, who worries that Nina may have too strong a hold on Spike's attention. Doom appears inevitable, especially when the aptly named housekeeper Cassandra senses disaster in every corner of the room. None of that sounds particularly amusing, but stay tuned!

A one-act version of the play had its 2012 premier at the McCarter Theater in Princeton, NJ. The play picked up a second act and went off Broadway later that year, and in 2013 it moved to Broadway, where it ran for 201 performances. The original cast featured David Hyde Pierce as Vanya, Sigourney Weaver as Masha, Kristine Nielson as Sonia and Billy Magnussen as Spike. The play received six nominations at the 2013 Tony Awards and won for Best Play. The play also won the 2013 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play and the 2013 New York Drama Critic's Award for Best Play.

Although City Island doesn't have its own awards ceremony, the audiences thoroughly enjoyed this production, largely because the cast members were ideally matched to the characters they played and the set was one of the best yet. David Lazaar, as Vanya,

spent the evening keeping an unflappably calm eye in the midst of the emotional hurricane swirling around him. With his largely unruffled demeanor, except for a marathon rant toward the end of the show, he remained truest to the Chekhovian roots of the show and surprised everyone by having written a play himself. Phyllis Lindy as Sonia (the thrower of that coffee cup) provided a perfect foil for Vanya as the pair awaited the blue heron each morning and argued effectively over next to nothing. She also channeled a sort of faux Chekhov, regularly envisioning herself as a wild turkey. Her character became ever more self-assured, thanks to her turn as Maggie Smith, and by the end of the show, Sonia had grown from a house-bound adopted-daughter-turned-spinster convinced she could do nothing right to the life of the party.

Franca Ritacco as Masha provided much of the emotional hurricane that whistled around Vanya and Sonia. Her character was confronting a set of demons unlike those of her siblings; rather than regretting a wasted life, she realized that her active, successful life was on the verge of drawing to a close. Masha began the show desperate to hang on to the life she had achieved and ended it by being able to move on to newer, calmer relationships with those around her.

Peter Evangelista as Spike pulled off the trick of providing depth to a shallow character, and he did it very well. Over the course of the evening, he brought to life a shallow, self-centered exhibitionist so effectively that the audience didn't seem to resent his running off with Masha's business manager, and Peter seemed to have a lot of fun doing it. Eileen Sugameli as Nina successfully played off Masha's character, straddling the fence between gushing teenage admirer and potential romantic rival, effectively providing much of the fuel for Masha's second-act anxiety. She also provided the vehicle for Vanya's growth by bringing his play to life and taking a giant step toward her own acting dreams.

Carol Serrano as the cleaning woman Cassandra served the necessary splash of cold water (and hilarity) to everyone around her. As the rest of the cast went looking for new directions, her lively presence served as the voice of reason, ominously pointing out (or prophesying) what could go wrong. Carol carried it all off perfectly (she also did well as a weatherman).

The connection between the work of Anton Chekhov and Durang's play is open to debate. Some of the show's elements were clearly derived from Chekhov, such as the characters' names, the setting in a cherry orchard and the possible loss of an ancestral home. Charles Isherwood of the New York Times wrote that the "country-house setting is also borrowed from the work of that Russian master, as are the self-delusions and self-pity that plague the central characters, all of whom have reached the difficult age when life's path has narrowed uncomfortably, and there is little point in turning around and looking to take another, more rewarding course." Ben Brantley, also of the Times, described the play succinctly as a "sunny new play about gloomy people." The playwright Christopher Durang, however, claimed that the play is not a Chekhov parody, observing: "I take Chekhov scenes and characters and put them into a blender."

Supporting the actors was a hard-working and incredibly effective crew. Costume design for "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike" was the work of the infinitely clever



Photo by MARY MCINTYRE

The City Island Theater Group's final presentation for 2018 was Christopher Durang's comedy "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike" over two weekends in November. The colorful cast is shown above (l. to r.): Carol Serrano, Phyllis Lindy, Peter Evangelista, Franca Ritacco, Eileen Sugameli and David Lazaar.

er Carol McCabe and her assistant Cheryl Brinker, who made sure that the costumes were more suited to Pennsylvania than to Czarist Russia. Set design and construction were by Dan and Vlad Srdoc, whose creation was both clever and handsome. After the show, I was curious to see how they had built a stairway leading to a second floor and when I looked at the set, I found that they had put a changing room there. Very clever. Barbara Dolensek as prop mistress was able to give her porch furniture yet another opportunity to shine on stage. Pam Johnston once again served as production stage manager and made sure that everything went smoothly on and off the stage. Denis Zepeda handled technical design, and Hannah Glick was the

technical supervisor. Nick Sala did his usual great job as director, taking full advantage of the material and bringing out the best in his actors and crew.

Thus ended the 19th year of the City Island Theater Group, which is going to celebrate two decades of fabulous productions by bringing these plays to the stage in 2019: "A Few Good Men" by Aaron Sorkin (late February); "Auntie Mame" by Patrick Dennis, adapted for the stage by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee (spring); and the musical "Mamma Mia" by Catherine Johnson (November). Since many of the performances this year were sold out, I think I'm going to buy a subscription to be sure of getting a seat for these productions!

WE HAVE A WINNER!



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER and MARIA SWIECIKI

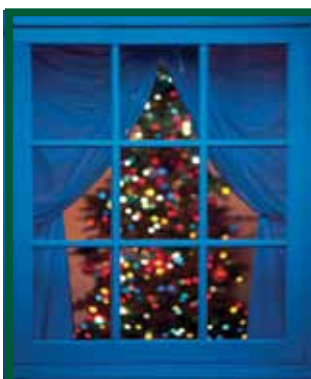
People flocked to St. Mary, Star of the Sea gym on Friday, Nov. 16, for the annual Turkey Bingo (top photo). Seafood City generously donated the turkeys, and other gifts were courtesy of Ginger Kotoff "The Pampered Chef," the Cerrato family, Teri Kurtz and the teachers of the religious education program. The funds raised will benefit the Our Lady of the Assumption / St. Mary, Star of the Sea religious education program. Cait O'Dwyer proudly shows off her big win (bottom photo).



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Photo by RICK DeWITT

Some who helped out at this year's Thanksgiving dinner at Trinity United Methodist Church, where they served more than 100 free meals, are: Bronwyn Troska, Maureen Hanratty, Mary Sullivan, Mike Bunyan, Joseph Baker, Deedee Simmons, Inge Otto, Violet Smith, Barbara Gold, George Cavaliere, Stuart Sorell, Rabbi Rachel Barenblat, Theodore Okamura, Shari Winard, David and Gabriel Ellis, Rabbi David Markus, King and Niko Kritikos and Kevin Lake.

Hope: The Promise of the Season for Our Families

By JOHN SCARDINA

*Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all.*
Emily Dickinson

As we move into the holiday season and a new year, we need to understand that life is a continual unfolding. Our children are works in progress, and our own lives are a book that we are writing day by day.

How do we incorporate hope into our families?

- Realize that all of us can change: growth is a natural part of our existence. You will marvel at your child's newfound loving nature and maturity one day, even as you marvel now at their selfishness and bad habits.
- Remember that all growth needs to be nurtured to create the best results: how well do we feed and support growth in our families with optimism, firm and loving guidance for our children, and support for one another as parents? (Think of a garden here, if you will.)
- Present challenges will emerge: "life is difficult" (as Scott Peck reminded

us in his first line of "The Road Less Traveled"). How we progress is more a function of attitude than ability. Do we look at a problem as an opportunity for growth—using a "growth mind set"—or as a pain to be suffered, using a "fixed mind set?" (Remember, our kids are watching when we struggle with life's "stupid stuff" as well as when we shine.)

- How you embrace your child's life does make a difference: we can choose to be optimistic or pessimistic, loving or critical, present or absent on a daily basis. Look for the small victories and be encouraging when there are defeats. (Don't you want optimistic, loving, and present people in your own life?)

A blessed holiday season and a prosperous new year to all. Be hopeful!

As you consider your end-of-year contributions, please consider Quaker Bolivia Link, an organization that helps the Aymara people of the Altiplano region of Bolivia with projects that provide clean water, food security and financial options for success. These projects are completed jointly with the villagers and provide hope for a better future. Visit the website at www.qbl.org to make a donation.

— John Scardina

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Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Halloween

Continued from page 9

Other Halloween parade winners include Randi Hansen as Nun with Stigmata; and Best Pet: Ginger the dog owned by Joanie as Horse with Cowboy. Honorable mentions: Sarah Smyth as Phoenix Rising; Ghost Busters led by Denise McGarry; Phyllis Greene as the Cereal Killer; and Michael Prietti the Demon Pope. Kudos to the hard working judges: Cheryl Brinker, Elaine Belasco, Maria Caruso, Nancy Kheck and Kathy Lonergan.



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Photo by MATT PANZA

Although the weather started out cold and rainy on Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018, the City Island-wide Tag Sale participants hung in there and the event was a definite success. Organized by Maria Caruso, with the help of Laurie Vega and a group, now called the City Island Drift, that grew out of Viacomunity Day, the tag sale included many Island residents offering many different kinds of items, from household items to toys, books and musical instruments.



Photo by MATT PANZA

Clergy and parishioners from all City Island houses of worship attended the first annual Multi-Faith Thanksgiving Convocation at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church on Nov. 19, 2018.



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In The Garden

By MARY COLBY



Photo by MARY COLBY

Orchard Beach

Winter Green

Winter is on its way, and so many gardeners are relieved to get a break from pruning, digging and transplanting. Service to our garden is on hold. We dream of new combinations of plants, color schemes and designs, but if we had created a winter garden no matter how small, we would witness its loveliness with no labor through the darkening and all but the snowiest of days. Even the smallest gardens are enhanced by one evergreen to catch the light and pillow the snow.

The witch hazels are forming tight fistful buds, and the hellebore foetidus have green nodding bells that burst open by mid-December. Camellias love City Island's warmer climate. Blooming in February and March, these exotic flowers seem out of place for the weather. Richard DePiero grows them here with great success. At the end of winter, he shares them as gifts floating in shallow bowls of water.

In my garden the little silver fir has outgrown the flower and shrub border. This year I

will replace it with a small one and cut the top to use for a lovely Christmas tree. Gardens, like life, have limitations, acceptance and the ability to discard the past make way for new beginnings. Yesterday I finished planting white thalia daffodils and princess Irene tulips anticipating spring. As long as the soil is not frozen, it is safe to plant bulbs, those little miracle packages that store leaf and flower.

The winter landscape is more beautiful to me than when everything is green and flourishing. The trees are magnificent in their tracery against the sky, and the colors of the land are violet, ochre, umber and sienna.

During the season, many of us here on City Island explore Pelham Bay Park and Orchard Beach, where there is ample material to be collected to make wreaths for the holiday. Bittersweet, oak leaves, pine cones and even oyster shells can be lovely fodder for decoration. Please remember, though, that the oyster shells should be tossed back into the bay, however, so that more oysters will join them and increase the population.

In the quiet of Walden woods, Thoreau found his philosophy. A wise and tranquil approach to life. "Our life is frittered away by detail simplify, simplify." He lived alone for nearly two years in a cabin he built on Emerson's land in Concord, Massachusetts. There he was at peace in the woods, away from his problems and involvements. He would work on his soul's estate until it was time to return to civilization.

Wintertime is like that. You can retire a bit and quiet your mind with interesting thoughts. Is this not true happiness?

In the words of Robert Louis Stevenson: "Give us courage, gaiety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving to one another. Amen."

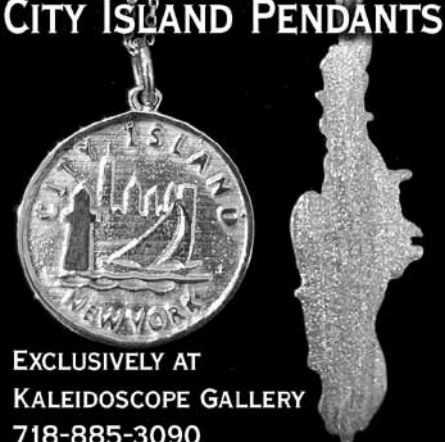
Happy holidays to all.

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A Selected Filmography of Richard Jenkins

Richard Jenkins at 71 is a character actor who has been in films since the early 1980s. He has primarily had small parts, but ones that were often memorable. He is one of those rare individuals who has successfully crossed back and forth between the cinema and television.

He came to my attention in his first TV series, **Six Feet Under** (2001–2005), a quirky black comedy about members of the Fisher family who run a funeral home in Los Angeles. The ensemble drama stars Peter Krause as Nate, the oldest son; Michael C. Hall as David, the middle child; Lauren Ambrose as Claire, the youngest daughter; Frances Conroy as Ruth, their mother; Rachel Griffiths as Brenda, Nate's on and off depressed girlfriend; and Jeremy Sisto as Billy, Brenda's bipolar brother. Jenkins appears as Nate Sr., the Fisher father who dies in the first episode but appears from time to time throughout the series (in 21 out of 63 episodes). At first, the show seems to be a conventional family drama, dealing with relationships, infidelity and religion. However, it is characterized by its focus on death, which begins each episode, providing opportunities to explore its impact on families and the Fishers themselves.

Jenkins won the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie for his performance as Henry Kitteridge in **Olive Kitteridge** (2014), a four-hour HBO miniseries. Set in Maine, the series stars Frances McDormand in the title role as a grumpy retired schoolteacher, who lives with her husband, Henry, in a seaside town in Maine. Henry is a kind, considerate man who runs a pharmacy downtown. They have a troubled son named Christopher (Devin Druid at age 13, John Gallagher Jr. as an adult), who dreads coming home. Zoe Kazan is featured as Denise Thibodeau, an employee at the pharmacy with whom Henry is smitten, and Bill Murray appears near the end as widower Jack Kennison. The series spans 25 years of Olive's life during which she has experienced problems of depression, bereavement, jealousy and friction with family members and friends.

Berlin Station is a TV series that follows CIA agent Daniel Miller (Richard Armitage), who is newly assigned to the station in Berlin, Germany. He participates in clandestine missions, such as uncovering the source of a serious leak and infiltration of a far-right German political party to avert a planned act of terror. Jenkins appears in Season 1 as Steven Frost, a veteran of the Cold War who serves as the CIA's Chief of the Berlin Station and who is having an affair with his employee, Sandra (Tamlyn Tomita), much to the consternation of his wife, Kelly (Caroline Goodall). He retires at the beginning of Season 2.

Moving on to film, **The Witches of Eastwick** (1987) is a dark comedy fantasy film based on John Updike's novel. It is the tale of three dissatisfied women living in the quaint town of Eastwick, RI. Alexandra Medford (Cher) is a sculptor; Jane Spofford (Susan Sarandon) is a newly divorced music teacher; and Sukie Ridgemont (Michelle Pfeiffer) is a columnist for the *Eastwick Word*, the local newspaper. Unaware that they are witches, the women unwittingly form a coven where they have weekly get-togethers and share their fantasies about ideal men. When an enigmatic stranger (Jack Nicholson) arrives in town and buys a landmark estate, he fascinates the entire town, except for Felicia Alden (Veronica Cartwright), the devoutly religious wife of newspaper editor Clyde Alden (Jenkins). Clyde needs to expend a lot of energy to quell his wife's wrath and tend to her subsequent injuries.

And the Band Played On (1993) is a superb docudrama starring Matthew Modine as Dr. Don Francis, a Center for Disease Control physician who is fighting the spread

of AIDS. The cast includes Alan Alda as arrogant self-serving Dr. Bob Gallo, who competes with the French to find a cure; Lily Tomlin as a San Francisco public health inspector; Phil Collins as a bath house owner; Richard Gere as a choreographer; Ian McKellen as a gay politician, and Jenkins as a compassionate San Francisco doctor providing medical care to his community. The viewer is riveted by the frustration experienced by those trying to contain the disease.

Shall We Dance (2004) is the story of John Clark (Richard Gere), a bored estate lawyer who takes the train home every night and gazes up to see the melancholy Pauline (Jennifer Lopez) standing in the window of a dance studio. Tired of his dreary life, one night he impulsively gets off the train and signs up for dance lessons. When he starts coming home late quite often and his demeanor changes; his wife, Beverly (Susan Sarandon), gets suspicious and hires Devine (Jenkins), a private detective, to find out if John is having an affair. It's an enchanting subplot because the detective is very kind and endearing and is obviously smitten with Beverly. The wonderful cast also includes Anita Gillette as Miss Mitzi, owner of the dance studio; Lisa Ann Walter as Bobbie, an ambitious overworked dancer; and Bobby Cannavale and Omar Miller as dance students Chic and Vern. Stanley Tucci steals every scene as a John's bald co-worker, Link, who is also a dancer and who strives to seem like a Latin lover by donning a long-haired wig. The dancing is great fun, and the competitions are truly delightful.

North Country (2005) is a film inspired by the first sexual harassment class-action suit in the United States. Josey Aimes (Charlize Theron) is hired by a Minnesota mining company when it is forced to employ women. However, the abuse perpetrated by the resentful men on these women, who desperately need their salaries, is vile indeed. Frances McDormand gives an outstanding performance as Glory, a fellow mineworker who is the only female on the union negotiating committee. Woody Harrelson plays Josey's lawyer, Bill White, whose handling of the case ultimately is the basis for establishing a new law. Jenkins appears along with Sissy Spacek as Josey's disapproving parents. Theron and McDormand received Oscar nominations for Best and Supporting Actress, respectively.

In **The Visitor** (2007) Jenkins has his first starring role (for which he received a Best Actor Oscar nomination) as Walter Vale, a widowed college economics professor whose life has become passionless and mundane. While attending a conference in Manhattan, he is surprised to discover that a young couple has moved into his seldom-used apartment in the city. Tarek (Haaz Sleiman) and his Senegalese girlfriend, Zainab (Danai Gurira), have fallen victim to an elaborate real-estate scam. Walter reluctantly allows the couple to remain in his apartment. To repay this kindness, talented musician Tarek insists on teaching Walter to play the African drum, which starts to rekindle Walter's spirit. When Tarek's life takes an unexpected negative turn and his beautiful mother, Mouna

(Hiam Abbass), arrives in search of her son, Walter is stunned to find himself smitten.

Jack Reacher (2012) is an action adventure film starring Tom Cruise in the title role as a drifter and former U.S. Army Military Police Corps officer. When five people are shot and killed along Pittsburgh's North Shore Trail, the police take into custody suspect James Barr (Joseph Sikora), an ex-army sniper. During an interrogation by Detective Emerson (David Oyelowo) and District Attorney Alex Rodin (Jenkins), instead of the expected confession, Barr writes on a notepad, "Get Jack Reacher." Reacher arrives in Pittsburgh after seeing a news report about Barr and the shooting. He meets with Barr's defense attorney, counselor Helen Rodin (Rosamund Pike), the District Attorney's daughter, who has been saddled with the apparently hopeless task of saving Barr from the death penalty. Werner Herzog appears as the exceedingly creepy gang leader, Zec, and Robert Duvall plays retired U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant Martin Cash, who owns a firing range.

Set in the 1890s in the Old West, **Bone Tomahawk** (2015) is the story of Sheriff Franklin Hunt (Kurt Russell), his deputy Chicory (Jenkins), educated gunslinger John Brooder (Matthew Fox) and cowboy Arthur O'Dwyer (Patrick Wilson), who embark on a mission to rescue three people from a savage group of cave dwellers. While not to everyone's taste, the script and acting eloquently capture an interesting time in history.

The independent film **The Hollars** (2016) is a quirky comedy-drama that depicts the story of a dysfunctional family located in Middle America. When the mother, Sally Hollar (Margo Martindale), is in need of brain surgery, her son, John, an aspiring NYC graphic novelist (John Krasinski, who also directed the film), reluctantly returns to his hometown, where he finds his divorced brother, Ron (Sharlto Copley), living with their parents. Jenkins is Don, their father, whose relationship with his wife is loving, although he seems oblivious to her health problems. John is soon joined by his girlfriend, Rebecca (Anna Kendrick), who is eight months pregnant with their first child. John is forced to navigate the world he left behind as his crazy family, high school bud-

dies and over-eager ex-girlfriend encroach upon his life before his mother's operation.

Best Picture Oscar winner **The Shape of Water** (2017) is a completely original otherworldly fairy tale set against the backdrop of Cold War-era America circa 1962. The film tells the story of a lonely mute, Elisa (Sally Hawkins), who works as a cleaner in a hidden high-security government laboratory in Baltimore. Her life is changed forever when she discovers a secret classified experiment involving a male humanoid amphibian (Doug Jones), who has been captured from the Amazon River by the sadistic Colonel Richard Strickland (Michael Shannon). Elisa's only friends are her next-door neighbor, Giles (Jenkins), a middle-aged struggling advertising illustrator, and Zelda (Octavia Spencer), a co-worker who serves as her interpreter. Elisa begins visiting the amphibian man in secret; they soon form a bond and are able to communicate as she teaches him sign language. Seeking to exploit the creature for an American advantage in the space race, General Frank Hoyt (Nick Searcy) is eventually persuaded by Strickland to vivisect it. One scientist, Robert Hoffstetler (Michael Stuhlbarg)—who is really a Soviet spy—pleads to keep the amphibian man alive for further study, but he is unsuccessful, which necessitates a daring rescue. What makes the film unique is the amazing blending of espionage, misogyny, racism, sadism, love, friendship and science fiction, all set to an excellent Oscar-winning score by Alexandre Desplat, augmented by songs performed by Glenn Miller, Carmen Miranda, Andy Williams and Renee Fleming.

And until next time, happy viewing . . .

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<i>A City Island Girl...</i>	Call or Email for a FREE Consultation 914-771-5500 info@DrG-MD.com	<i>...only 20 minutes away!</i>



Bartow-Pell Events

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, at 895 Shore Road in Pelham Bay Park, is open every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon from noon to 4 p.m. The gardens are in full bloom and the mansion itself offers guided tours of the Greek Revival interior. Cost: \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors and students; free for children under 6. For more information, visit the website, www.bpmm.org, or e-mail info@bpmm.org.

Holiday Family Day: Santa, Crafts, and a Magic Show will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Celebrate the spirit of the holidays! Explore the 19th-century mansion decorated for the season, and enjoy crafting in the conservatory, shop for unique gifts, and meet Santa for a photo-op (professional photos with Santa available for an additional fee). Space is limited. Registration requested. Cost: \$20 children one year and up. (Children under one year and adults are free when accompanied by a child.)

First Friday! Music & Trolley on Friday, Dec. 7, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Julia Blenzig and her band will be performing contemporary holiday songs for our December First Friday. Enjoy the music, explore the museum and indulge in some light refreshments. 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. Registra-

tion requested. Cost: Bartow-Pell Heritage Members and above: free; Bartow-Pell Friend Members: \$5; Not-Yet Members: Adults \$15; Seniors/Students \$10.

The Bronx Arts Ensemble presents the Manhattan Brass Quintet Holiday Concert on Dec. 9 from 1 to 2 p.m. Please join us for a memorable afternoon of elegant music in the parlors. Registration requested. Cost: Free with museum admission (\$8 adults, \$6 seniors/students, free for children under 6).

We are bringing back a Bartow favorite, the Bartow-Pell Teddy Bear Tea, on Tuesday, Dec. 11, and Saturday, Dec. 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Celebrate the season with a child-approved, bright, colorful and deliciously decadent holiday-themed menu, story time with the Bartow snow queen and a sing-along. Perfect for 3- to 5-year-olds accompanied by a parent, grandparent or favorite adult. Registration required. Cost: \$20 per person.

Candlelight Tours and Victorian Carolers will be offered on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. Experience the mansion by candlelight with costumed docents highlighting 19th-century holiday traditions. Victorian carolers add to the festive atmosphere while you enjoy was-sail and holiday snacks in the conservatory. Registration requested. Cost: Bartow-Pell Members free; Not-Yet Members: Adults \$15; Seniors/Students \$10.

On Jan. 13, at 1 p.m., join the Pelham Bay Park Urban Rangers for a guided walk through the coastal and forested areas of New York City's largest park. This diverse 2,700-acre park has many forest and wetland natural areas and is home to significant numbers of wildlife. Ecologically speaking, Pelham Bay Park is the southern tip of New England and has characteristics quite distinct from the rest of New York City. The rangers will show you how to identify trees in winter and interpret signs of wildlife, with a special eye toward owls and tracks. The walk will begin and end at Bartow-Pell. After the hike, enjoy some hot chocolate in the conservatory and hikers are also able to tour the museum! Please be prepared with warm clothes, snow-ready walking shoes, and water if needed. Cost: Free.


Bartow's Literary Elevenes will be on Saturday, Jan. 12, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Join Museum Educator Karen Lambdin as she leads an historical-fiction book club where literature and tea blend for a savory adventure. Visit our website for the current book being explored. Tea and light refreshments will be served; please bring a sweet or savory snack for the group to enjoy! Come be part of the fun. Registration requested. Cost: Free.

LIGHTING UP THE HOLIDAYS



Photos by MATT PANZA and KAREN NANI

After the long-standing holiday tree in Hawkins Park was knocked over in a storm last March, an old tree at the back of the park was decorated and lit on Nov. 24, 2018, to herald the holiday season on City Island (left photo). Carolers under the direction of Ken Farnum provided a musical accompaniment to the countdown, which was led by Paul Klein and members of the Chamber of Commerce. Holiday lights were also hung above the avenue (right photo) thanks to donations from City Island businesses (see page 6). The Menorah lighting will be on Dec. 2, adding to the sparkle of the season.



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St. Mary Star of the Sea Church



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE
2018

LESSONS AND CAROLS CONCERT
Sunday, December 23
7:30 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
Carols: 7:30 PM
Mass: 8:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25
Masses: 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 31
Mass: 5:15 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY/ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1
Masses: 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
(A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Our hearts, our minds
and
Our doors
are always open.



The People of Trinity United Methodist Church

November 30th & December 1st
Christmas Fair
Friday - 2:00p.m. till 6:00 p.m. & Saturday - 11:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.
Lunch will be served on Saturday 11:30 till 1:00.

December 2nd
Worship 10:00 a.m. - "Prophets of Good News"

December 9th
Worship 10:00 a.m. - "Preparing for a Child"

December 16th
Worship 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School Christmas Pageant
"The Children Lead Us" - Party after worship

December 23rd
Worship 10:00 a.m. - "Are We Like Mary"

December 24th
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10:00 p.m.
"Glorify God with Love, Joy and Peace"



The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,....

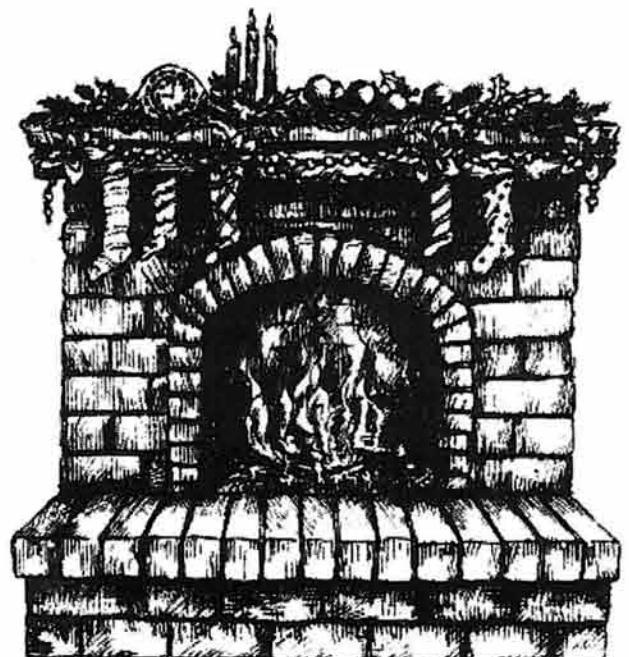


In hopes that St. Nicholas would soon be there.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

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

DECEMBER 2018									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Sat	0033	0.10	0639	7.42	1309	0.16	1910	7.11	Sat 01
02 Sun	0135	-0.03	0740	7.71	1410	-0.27	2010	7.26	Sun 02
03 Mon	0231	-0.19	0834	7.99	1506	-0.66	2104	7.39	Mon 03
04 Tue	0323	-0.31	0924	8.18	1557	-0.93	2154	7.46	Tue 04
05 Wed	0411	-0.35	1011	8.26	1645	-1.05	2241	7.46	Wed 05
06 Thu	0455	-0.29	1054	8.23	1730	-1.01	2325	7.40	Thu 06
07 Fri	0537	-0.13	1135	8.10	1813	-0.81			Fri 07
08 Sat	0006	7.29	0615	0.11	1212	7.90	1852	-0.51	Sat 08
09 Sun	0045	7.16	0646	0.39	1243	7.67	1927	-0.15	Sun 09
10 Mon	0121	7.01	0702	0.64	1306	7.44	1952	0.19	Mon 10
11 Tue	0151	6.89	0723	0.83	1332	7.24	2003	0.46	Tue 11
12 Wed	0217	6.81	0759	0.99	1408	7.06	2031	0.64	Wed 12
13 Thu	0249	6.77	0843	1.13	1450	6.87	2111	0.78	Thu 13
14 Fri	0329	6.76	0931	1.23	1537	6.69	2156	0.88	Fri 14
15 Sat	0416	6.80	1025	1.25	1630	6.55	2246	0.92	Sat 15
16 Sun	0506	6.90	1123	1.16	1727	6.49	2340	0.87	Sun 16
17 Mon	0559	7.08	1226	0.93	1826	6.52			Mon 17
18 Tue	0035	0.73	0652	7.33	1332	0.57	1925	6.65	Tue 18
19 Wed	0130	0.50	0743	7.65	1435	0.12	2020	6.85	Wed 19
20 Thu	0225	0.23	0833	7.98	1530	-0.33	2112	7.09	Thu 20
21 Fri	0319	-0.05	0923	8.29	1621	-0.73	2203	7.32	Fri 21
22 Sat	0412	-0.29	1012	8.51	1711	-1.02	2253	7.51	Sat 22
23 Sun	0505	-0.45	1102	8.61	1802	-1.17	2344	7.63	Sun 23
24 Mon	0558	-0.50	1153	8.55	1854	-1.16			Mon 24
25 Tue	0036	7.65	0655	-0.43	1247	8.32	1949	-1.01	Tue 25
26 Wed	0132	7.58	0758	-0.26	1345	7.95	2049	-0.76	Wed 26
27 Thu	0236	7.46	0911	-0.07	1451	7.50	2155	-0.47	Thu 27
28 Fri	0350	7.34	1030	0.04	1616	7.10	2303	-0.23	Fri 28
29 Sat	0508	7.32	1143	0.01	1740	6.89			Sat 29
30 Sun	0008	-0.08	0616	7.41	1249	-0.15	1849	6.84	Sun 30
31 Mon	0110	-0.04	0717	7.56	1350	-0.38	1948	6.88	Mon 31
JANUARY 2019									
01 Tue	0205	-0.06	0811	7.73	1445	-0.57	2043	6.93	Tue 01
02 Wed	0259	-0.07	0903	7.84	1537	-0.72	2134	7.00	Wed 02
03 Thu	0348	-0.07	0951	7.89	1625	-0.77	2221	7.04	Thu 03
04 Fri	0434	-0.01	1036	7.87	1710	-0.71	2305	7.06	Fri 04
05 Sat	0515	0.10	1117	7.79	1751	-0.55	2346	7.03	Sat 05
06 Sun	0552	0.25	1153	7.64	1828	-0.32			Sun 06
07 Mon	0023	6.98	0620	0.42	1222	7.47	1858	-0.06	Mon 07
08 Tue	0053	6.92	0633	0.55	1238	7.32	1913	0.16	Tue 08
09 Wed	0112	6.88	0654	0.60	1301	7.22	1923	0.27	Wed 09
10 Thu	0131	6.90	0729	0.65	1333	7.11	1953	0.34	Thu 10
11 Fri	0203	6.94	0810	0.70	1413	6.97	2032	0.42	Fri 11
12 Sat	0241	6.98	0855	0.76	1457	6.79	2115	0.51	Sat 12
13 Sun	0326	7.01	0945	0.81	1546	6.60	2203	0.60	Sun 13
14 Mon	0414	7.05	1039	0.82	1640	6.43	2255	0.66	Mon 14
15 Tue	0508	7.13	1139	0.73	1740	6.33	2351	0.66	Tue 15
16 Wed	0605	7.28	1247	0.53	1844	6.37			Wed 16
17 Thu	0051	0.56	0705	7.50	1406	0.17	1950	6.54	Thu 17
18 Fri	0156	0.35	0805	7.79	1517	-0.30	2054	6.84	Fri 18
19 Sat	0302	0.05	0905	8.10	1615	0.77	2154	7.19	Sat 19
20 Sun	0406	-0.29	1002	8.36	1709	-1.15	2249	7.52	Sun 20
21 Mon	0506	-0.59	1057	8.52	1800	-1.39	2342	7.77	Mon 21
22 Tue	0604	-0.80	1152	8.52	1851	-1.47			Tue 22
23 Wed	0035	7.91	0701	-0.87	1247	8.35	1942	-1.36	Wed 23
24 Thu	0129	7.93	0800	-0.81	1345	8.02	2035	-1.11	Thu 24
25 Fri	0227	7.82	0903	-0.64	1448	7.60	2132	-0.75	Fri 25
26 Sat	0330	7.65	1009	-0.42	1600	7.16	2233	-0.36	Sat 26
27 Sun	0438	7.47	1116	-0.24	1713	6.82	2337	-0.03	Sun 27
28 Mon	0545	7.37	1222	-0.15	1821	6.64			Mon 28
29 Tue	0040	0.20	0649	7.35	1324	-0.15	1923	6.60	Tue 29
30 Wed	0140	0.31	0748	7.42	1422	-0.22	2020	6.67	Wed 30
31 Thu	0235	0.33	0842	7.52	1515	-0.30	2112	6.81	Thu 31
FEBRUARY 2019									
01 Fri	0327	0.30	0932	7.62	1603	-0.35	2200	6.95	Fri 01
02 Sat	0413	0.27	1018	7.67	1648	-0.34	2244	7.07	Sat 02
03 Sun	0455	0.27	1100	7.66	1727	-0.26	2324	7.14	Sun 03



Photo courtesy of the CITY ISLAND NAUTICAL MUSEUM

Brackers

CITY ISLAND SPEAKEASIES, PART II

Quick, what do the following City Island Avenue addresses have in common: 86, 139, 212, 250, 259 and 536? If you read last month's Sights and Sounds column, then you might have guessed that all were somehow or other connected to speakeasies. And you would have been correct! According to the New York Times, on Sept. 5, 1931, each speakeasy, or roadhouse, as the Times referred to them, was raided by federal agents. Technically, the raids were conducted by federal dry agents, who had been charged with enforcing the nation's laws prohibiting the manufacture, sale and transportation of alcohol.

City Island may have been something of an outpost in the era of Prohibition, but not so much so that it had eluded the notice of the Feds. Especially, after one of their own had been shot in the line of duty. It was that shooting, allegedly by a lieutenant of the notorious mobster Dutch Schultz, that prompted the aforementioned raid. The injured agent's name was Russell Whited; the roadhouse was a place called Brackers.

Brackers was housed at 139 City Island Avenue, which may not come as a surprise

to many City Islanders. The unassuming brick homes that occupy the space today belie the rough-and-tumble establishment that preceded it. At the same location, the Viking, as many Islanders will recall, had its own cast of colorful characters moving in and out of its doors over the years. But the alcohol that changed hands there did so legally, well, mostly legally. We are aware of one or two minors who were served adult beverages on the premises.

The Times reported that a week after the shooting, federal agents descended on City Island roadhouses like never before, arresting 41 "employees and proprietors," including 17 at Bracker's where the shooting had taken place only a week earlier. Whether or not anyone saw the inside of a prison as a result of this raid is not clear. Probably not, however, as this was 1932, less than a year before the repeal of the 18th amendment. By 1932, the writing had been on the wall for years. Which may explain why the same federal agents who conducted the raids "made no attempt to order patrons out of the places, most of which remained open for business."

Good old King Canute would have had better luck holding back the tide than stemming the flow of alcohol at Bracker's in 1932. Or so it seemed.

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Obituaries

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



Virgil Q. Panzarella

City Island resident Virgil Panzarella passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2018, at the age of 88.

He was born in St. Albans, NY, on Oct. 27, 1930, to Giovanni Battista and Orazia Mauriello Manfra Panzarella, and spent most of his youth growing up in Jamaica, Queens. He left Queens to serve in the Army in the Korean War as a communications specialist, and he earned six honorary medals for his service.

After leaving the Army, he went to a chiropractic school and moved to Miami, FL, where he started a chiropractic practice. Later, he turned his love for ballroom dancing into a career and became a dance instructor with Arthur Murray dance studios. While teaching ballroom in the late 1960s, he met another ballroom dance teacher, Sandra, who would become his wife. The couple moved to City Island in 1974 and have lived here ever since. In his retirement, he enjoyed reading, PBS history television specials, listening to Frank Sinatra and watching his beloved Mets.

He is survived by Sandra Panzarella, his wife of 50 years; his daughter, Victoria Hetey of Las Vegas; her husband, Michael, and their two sons, Alexander and Christopher Hetey.

A memorial to celebrate Virgil's life will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Leonard Hawkins Post 156, 550 City Island Avenue.

David Thomas Casey

Island resident David Casey passed away at home on City Island at the age of 63 on Oct. 17, 2018.

David was born on June 4, 1955, in Brighton, MA, the youngest son of Edward and Margaret Casey. He received his BA in music from Bard College and for many years, he played music, bartended and worked as a carpenter in the Hudson Valley near Bard, where he met Anne, with whom he shared many lifelong friends from the Bard community.

After marrying in 1985, he and Anne moved to City Island, where they lived for 32 years. David worked as a carpenter and then taught carpentry for 15 years in the New York Department of Education to his "School to Work" students. He received his master's degree in math education from Lehman College and taught GED math for another 12 years before retiring in 2014.

In his spare time, David coached Little League, girls' softball and CYO high school basketball. He helped to build the P.S. 175 playground and enjoyed the company of many friends in the City Island community. He was a passionate musician, playing jazz saxophone along with many other instruments, and he was also an avid surfer. He loved his time on the ocean at the Jersey Shore, Rockaway, Long Beach and Montauk.

David Casey leaves behind a large close-knit family, including his wife, Anne, and children, Clara and Samuel, and Samuel's wife, Nicole, and their son, Teddy. David is also survived by his brother, Edward M. Casey, Jr. (Christine); his sisters, Elizabeth Casey and Janet Casey, all of Massachusetts, along with many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother Brian and sister Annie.

Donations can be made in David's name to the Surfrider Foundation at <https://www.surfrider.org> or to the Edward M Casey Fund For Legal Services to the Poor, Boston Bar Foundation, P.O. Box 845680, Boston, MA 02284; www.bostonbarfoundation.org/donate/give-to-special-funds/casey-fund.

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Holiday
Season

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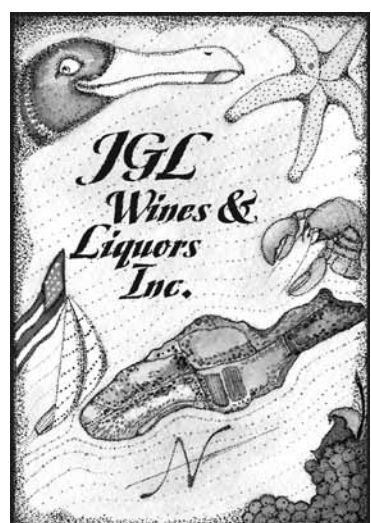
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SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, December 2, 2018: Annual Holiday Fair at the Morris Yacht & Beach Club on City Island from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. So many amazing vendors and great gift ideas. Come on out and do your holiday shopping. E-mail kimfmybc@gmail.com with any questions or requests for renting a table.

FOR RENT: Charming studio available December 1. Includes heat & hot water. \$1300 per month + one month security+ real estate fee. Good credit required. No pets/ no smoking. Call agent, Maria @ Today Realty Corp. for an appointment. 718-885-0017 cell. **AQUARIUM MAINTENANCE:** Freshwater and salt water. Small animal maintenance. Birds, reptiles, *certified by the Dept. of Health in animal care and handling. Available Wednesday and Thursday. Give me a call, Roxy at 646-685-9165.

ART PRINTS OF CITY ISLAND BRIDGE by Island artist Marguerite Chadwick-Juner are available at: marguerite-chadwickjuner.pixels.com. Seasonal panoramic views of the bridge as well as iconic portions of the bridge can be purchased as prints on archival paper, aluminum, acrylic and canvas, but here you can purchase the images on iPhone and Galaxy cases, pillows, duvet covers, tote bags, and t-shirts! Show your bridge love!

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

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.

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Photo by RON TURNER

Proud members of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 156 hosting the pancake breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 11, 2018.

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Louise Del Giudice

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



Donna Buhl and Ena Ellwanger will celebrate their December birthdays with dinner at Larchmont Shore Club.

Happy ninth birthday wishes to our sports enthusiast grandson, Jake, who will celebrate on Dec. 26, with lots of love from Grandma and Grandpa Penny.

Congratulations to the PSS seniors who participated in the Halloween Costume Party at Grace Episcopal Church last



Scarlett Sparks had a lead role in the Bronx House production of "Madagascar" in November.

month. First-place winner was "Chef of the Future" Ethel Lott!

Way to go Scarlett Sparks! This talented young lady and proud City Islander had a lead role in the Bronx House production of "Madagascar"!

Happy New Year's Eve birthday to Bobby Cavinee, with love from your family and friends. Celebrate!

Wishing former Islanders Ena Ellwanger and Donna Buhl very happy shared December birthday greetings!

A huge shout-out from the P.S. 175 PTA to Susan Goonan for her outstanding job in putting on the annual Election Day Fundraiser. A ton of work, much of it with last-minute scrambling. Susan gave her all and then some! Kudos also to Ginger Kot-off, Honey Kenny, Lisa Knapp, Bernie Piri, Kim Fusco, James Goonan and Nina Doyle.

Happy birthday wishes being sent across the miles to former Carroll Street resident Anjulee Sebastian, R.N., who will celebrate with family and friends on Dec. 22. We love you and miss you!

Happy birthday to our son, Joe Ribaud, who will celebrate his big day on Dec. 1. Enjoy! Love, Mom and Dad.

Birthday love on Dec. 28 to Katie McCormick with hugs and kisses from your family and friends. We hope you have a great day!

Wishing our readers, friends, family and neighbors all the best for a very safe and happy holiday. See you next year!

Maria Swieciki



Photo by KAREN NANI

Despite the rainy weather, organizers of P.S. 175 Parent Teacher Association Election Day Sale were thrilled with the high turnout on Nov. 6, 2018. The annual bake sale and raffles raised \$7,600 from voters, all of which benefits the school. The fundraiser was headed by Susan Goonan who is shown above (center) with several other volunteers: Jordan Knapp, Cindy and Sofia Rexhaj, Katherine Maschchenko, Lea Acocella, Nina Rosenquist Doyle and Sarah Goonan. The PTA would like to thank the prize donors and the City Island community for their support.



Winners of the PSS Halloween Costume Contest at Grace Church.

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