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One Dollar

Dennis O'Connell Honored with Street Naming

By KAREN NANI



In remembrance of Islander Dennis O'Connell (photo r.) and his 37 years of service to the FDNY as a fire dispatcher, 180th Street between Devoe Avenue and Bronx Boulevard was renamed at a ceremony on March 3, 2011 (photo above). Shown at the dedication are (photo top right, l. to r.) Councilmember Joel Rivera (holding his daughter), Ivine Galarza from Community Board 6 and Dennis's family, including his wife, Patricia O'Connell, his son, Sean, and his daughter, Tara.

Longtime City Islander Dennis O'Connell passed away in October 2008. In remembrance of his 37 years of service to the FDNY as a fire dispatcher, 180th Street between Devoe Avenue and Bronx Boulevard was renamed in his honor at a ceremony on March 3, 2011.

The honor was a fitting dedication to a man who lived and worked in the Bronx all his life and knew the borough inside and out, according to those who paid tribute to him.

Dennis was born on March 6, 1952, the son of Irish immigrants Peter and Mary. He lived with his parents; his older sister, Nora; and his younger brother, Peter, in the Fordham section of the Bronx.

It was the proximity of his childhood home to FDNY Engine 88 that gave him his introduction to the fire department. In 1963 Dennis took his first ride on Engine 88 and at the age of 11 became president of the FDNY Explorer Post 588 through the Boy Scouts.

After graduating from high school, Dennis fulfilled his childhood dream and joined the FDNY in 1972 as a fire dispatcher. He was stationed in the Bronx Communications Office on 180th Street near Engine 88's fire house. He worked at that location for 37 years and was promoted along the way to Supervising and Chief Fire Alarm Dispatcher.

Along the way, he also found City Island and made it his home. He met Patricia Rubbo in 1974 through her college roommate, who was dating a friend of Dennis's. They were married in 1978 and he suggested they move to City Island. Dennis had become familiar with the Island through longtime residents and firemen Bill McDaniel and Bob Delaney, both of whom worked at Engine 88.

Pat was skeptical ("Who would want to live there?"), but she agreed to visit. She quickly realized the attraction and they



moved into a bungalow on Cross Street. Eventually they settled on Pilot Street, where Pat and their children, Sean and Tara, reside today. Dennis contributed to the City Island community by becoming a den leader for Cub Scout Troop 211 and joining the Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post 156. Pat, who is a licensed social worker, got involved at P.S. 175.

Meanwhile, his career with the FDNY progressed. Dennis worked dispatch before computers really did much of the work. According to his wife, he memorized the location of every fire alarm box in the Bronx and knew immediately where a call was coming from. His knowledge of Bronx geography was critical, especially in the early years, to the routing of firefighters to the scene of an alarm as fast as possible.

Dennis's dedication led one of his co-workers, James Raftery, to suggest to Community Board 6 that the section of 180th Street in front of the communications center be named in his honor. The cause was championed by members of Board 6 and City Councilman Joel Rivera, and it was finally approved by Mayor Bloomberg. The dedication took place under sunny skies and the "Supervising Fire Alarm Dispatcher Dennis P. O'Connell Place" sign was unveiled.

But Dennis was more than a dispatcher. He also became the first non-uniformed bagpiper to be admitted to the FDNY Emerald Pipes and Drums! In 1974 he started going to



practices to learn how to play the bagpipes, an instrument he had never played. The members of the band trained him and in 1977 let him march and play in his first St. Patrick's Day parade on Fifth Avenue.

Dennis played with the Emerald Pipes and Drums for 33 years, participating in hundreds of parades, weddings and funerals.

It was especially emotional for him to play at many of the firefighter funerals after 9/11.

Dennis passed away in October 2008 after suffering a stroke. His funeral was held at St. Mary, Star of the Sea church, and the Emerald Society band played "When Irish Eyes are Smiling," the perfect serenade to their former member.

VARSITY HOOPSTERS LEAD SMSS SEASON!



Photos by CONCEPTION PHOTOGRAPHY

Both St. Mary, Star of the Sea Boys and Girls Varsity basketball teams had winning seasons that led them to their division championship games. St. Mary's Boys Varsity finished with 13 wins for the season. They advanced to the B Division Championship finishing in second place after a hard-fought loss to division rival St. Theresa. Congratulations to the veteran coaches and players (top row, l. to r.): assistant coach John Valenti, Walter Brennan, Jean Luis Gonzalez, Jabari Weste, Isaac Rowser and coach Tommy Orzo. Bottom row: John Eric Valenti, Nicholas Labriola, Anthony Orzo, Michael Pirraglia and Michael Labriola. Not shown: Alexej Xhokaxhiu.



The Girls Varsity captured their third division championship title! They beat St. Raymond's in overtime in the semifinals and then overcame a six-point, fourth-quarter deficit against St. Benedict's to win the title. The amazing "three-peaters" are (bottom row, l. to r.): Catherine Graves, Briana Whelan, Katie Moore, Lily Kolb and Ashley Goldman. Top row: Ashley Howell, coach Frank Strazzera, Francesca Strazzera, Erin Schlottmann, Kaylin Fitzpatrick, Nia Phillips, Alexis Candelaria, assistant coach Marcos Negron and Chelsea Negron (see story page 5).

BRIEFLY...

ANNE HUTCHINSON YEAR will be celebrated at a service on religious freedom at Temple Beth-El, 480 City Island Avenue, on Friday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. Rabbi Shohama Weiner will officiate. Please bring musical instruments! All are welcome.

NO-COST MAMMOGRAMS: On Friday, April 15, a mammography van will be parked in front of Councilmember James Vacca's District Office at 3040 East Tremont Avenue. Local women age 40 and over who have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months should call his office at 718-931-1721 to make an appointment. The visit is sponsored by the City Council and the American Italian Cancer Foundation, with medical services provided by St. Barnabas Hospital. As many of us know all too well, early detection of breast cancer can save lives. Appointments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER. Since our early history, American Presidents have set apart days for prayer, thanksgiving and fasting. The Continental Congress observed the first such day in 1775. In 1952 an annual day of prayer was instituted, and in 1988 the annual day was set for the first Thursday in May. This year our country will celebrate the annual National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 5, and once again Grace Episcopal Church at 116 City Island Avenue, on the corner of Pilot Street, will host an interfaith all-community prayer service from 6 to 7 p.m. Clergy and lay representatives from City Island's four houses of worship will offer prayers for our families, our community, our veterans and active service members, and our country. All are invited to attend.

LITTLE LEAGUE OPENING DAY: The City Island Little League will begin its 2011 season on Saturday, April 16, 2011, at 9 a.m. at Ambrosini Field. For further information call 718-885-1087 or e-mail tcityisland@verizon.net.

BOY SCOUT EASTER FLOWER SALE will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 21, 22 and 23, in front of Trinity Methodist Church, Bay Street and City Island Avenue. The sale will begin at 9 a.m. and go to 4 p.m. or until the flowers are sold out. Rain or shine; if it is raining, the sale will be held indoors.

TEMPLE 77TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE will take place on Saturday, May 7, 2011, at the Lido. Honorees will be the *Island Current's* editor Karen Nani, as well as Temple trustee and past president Bob Berent and his spouse, Cheryl Yehudit Berent. There will be entertainment by the Lickety Split Band, plus a great buffet at the Lido. For information, please call Steve Slotnick at 718-931-0382 or Paul Klein of Kaleidoscope at 718-885-3090.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during March 2011. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 5 - LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT
- 1 - DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI)
- 1 - GRAFFITI
- 1 - GRAND LARCENY
- 1 - ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Police provided details on the following incidents for the period from March 1 to 18, 2011.

3/1-3/2 - During the overnight hours, a commercial establishment on Fordham Street was broken into from a rear entrance. Property was illegally removed and loaded into a truck parked in the rear driveway. The incident of grand larceny is under investigation.

3/11 - An Island juvenile was arrested for graffiti at 10:45 p.m. on City Island Avenue and Fordham Street.


3/11-3/12 - An unknown driver struck several cars from behind and a parked car in the vicinity of 562 City Island Avenue during the overnight hours. The driver caused property damage and fled the scene of the accidents.

3/12 - At 1 a.m., an Island male was arrested and charged with leaving the scene of an accident, DWI and illegal possession of prescription drugs. According to police, the defendant crashed into a parked car and tried to flee the scene. He was found in his vehicle, and police determined he was intoxicated. He was also found to be in possession of drugs for which he had no prescription.

3/15 - At 3:30 p.m., an unknown driver caused an accident with another vehicle at Bridge Street and City Island Avenue. The driver fled the scene of the accident.

3/18 - On Bay Street and City Island Avenue at 11:50 p.m., an unknown driver struck the rear of another vehicle and fled the scene.

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FORECLOSURE PROPERTY CLEANED UP

Alerted by Island resident Sal Caruso to an abandoned house on Carroll Street, State Senator Jeff Klein was able to get the mortgage holder of the foreclosed home to clean up the property, which was in disrepair with a fallen fence and broken windows.

Senator Klein's office learned that the owner had not lived in the house for over a year, and Con Edison reported that the electricity and water had been shut off. The Department of Buildings inspected the property and issued violations for the fence that had fallen onto Mr. Caruso's property. The mortgage holder, American Home Mortgage Servicing, Inc., sent out a crew to repair the fence and windows and to clean up the yard.

Senator Klein said: "Abandoned properties can be a cause for concern in any neighborhood. For more than two years I fought for laws, now in effect, that protect neighborhoods from exactly this issue. If you are living with a property like this on

your street, I encourage you to contact my office so that we can find out who owns the property and ensure that it is properly maintained in the future."

"I would like to thank Senator Klein and his staff for their help in getting this property on Carroll Street cleaned up," Mr. Caruso said. "A new section of the fence has been installed. The ripped window screens and shades have all been repaired, and the trash has been removed from the front of the house. I feel it is now safe again to have my grandchildren in the backyard and the block looks presentable again."

Senator Klein's property-maintenance legislation, signed into law in 2009 by Governor Paterson, helps protect neighboring property values and prevent health hazards that surround an unkempt foreclosed home. The law requires lending institutions to maintain foreclosed properties and make sure they are safe and habitable when occupied by tenants.

To report a neglected foreclosed property to Senator Klein's office call 718-822-2049.

Pelham Bay Park Restoration Project

The New York City Parks Department has begun a large-scale restoration project, part of the MillionTreesNYC program, in the 40-acre part of Rodman's Neck between

the firing range and the baseball ballfields on City Island Road. The area is overrun with invasive species, such as porcelainberry, mugwort and oriental bittersweet, which prevent native species from growing and supporting wildlife. The project will restore native forest to improve the ecosystem in the park

The first phase of the restoration project involves clearing about eight acres in the area, applying herbicide to invasive plants, especially vines; this phase will continue for about two years, concluding with the planting of native trees and shrubs. Existing native vegetation will not be removed and invasive cutting will not take place during nesting season in order to encourage birds to breed and establish nests in more protected habitat.


The second and third phases of the project will continue after the completion of phase I and will follow the same procedures. Expected completion is about six years after the project begins.

For more information, visit www.milliontreesnyc.org.

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Islander Named Among Influential Bronx Women

By KAREN NANI



Photo by RICK DEWITT

Barbara Burn Dolensek, shown above presenting a lecture on City Island history at the City Island Library, was named to *The Bronx Times Reporter's* list of 25 influential Bronx women.

The Bronx Times Reporter newspaper's second annual salute to 25 influential Bronx women included City Island's own Barbara Burn Dolensek. She was hailed as a "unique person dedicated to a unique community" in the Feb. 24, 2011, issue.

Ms. Dolensek joined 24 other Bronx residents who, according to the publisher, have "far-reaching impact in their lifetime passions. Each has made the Bronx a better place to live." The group will be honored at a ceremony on June 2 in the Great Room at the Bronx Zoo.

How nostalgically appropriate! Ms. Dolensek moved to City Island in 1976 with her late husband, Emil, who was then chief veterinarian at the Bronx Zoo, and in 1977 they purchased a home on Tier Street. The house was built in 1900 (older Islanders still know it as the "Larry Delmour house" or the location for the 1962 film "Long Day's Journey into Night"), and they began the painstaking process of restoring it to its original Victorian charm. The house was designated a New York City landmark in 2000.

Emil and Barbara raised their son, Philip, on City Island and gave him an appreciation for the unique nautical history of the community. He told *The Current*: "I was very proud, although not surprised, to hear that my mother was named one of the Bronx's 25 most influential women."

Ms. Dolensek has become so involved in the community that it is difficult to count all the hats she wears. She has been an officer of the City Island Civic Association for 20 years and is currently the second vice president. On behalf of the Civic Association, she successfully led the fight to save Ladder Company 53 in the City Island firehouse at least twice. And she's not done; the fight is ongoing as the mayor has once again threatened to close the fire company in light of the city's latest budget woes.

City Councilmember James Vacca told *The Current*: "Under constant threat from the city, I have been able to secure City Council money to keep our City Island firehouse open. Each and every time I have turned to Barbara Dolensek to alert and mobilize City Island residents. She has always come through, not only as an effective leader but as someone whose credibility and commitment are beyond question. At all times, she has City Island's back!"

Ms. Dolensek has been a trustee of the City Island Historical Society since 1995 and serves as administrator of the Nautical Museum. Ms. Dolensek can be found many Saturdays and Sundays volunteering at the museum on Fordham Street hosting talks, giving tours, creating new exhibits, planning events and working hard alongside Tom Nye and Ed Sadler to preserve the Island's important history.

She continues to fight for important City Island structures, including the City Island Bridge and Grace Episcopal Church (where she serves on the Vestry). "City Island has some unique architectural features," she says, "and it hurts when I see them deteriorating, torn down or remuddled. Luckily, there are many other people here who appreciate the Island's unique character and help fight overdevelopment. As to the bridge, it needs to be completely rehabilitated or replaced by a bridge that is appropriate to our small community, something that the city seems so far unwilling to do."

Volunteering is not all she does. Ms. Dolensek, professionally known as Barbara Burn, is also an accomplished author and art book editor. From 1983 to 1998 she was the executive editor for the Metropolitan Museum of Art after 17 years at the Viking Press, and when she retired from the Met, she worked for Harry N. Abrams, an illustrated book publisher. She has edited countless books and written 13 books of her own, including "The Horseless Rider," "Metropolitan Children" and a series of nature books for the National Audubon Society. And she still works as a free-lance editor for several museums. As the old adage puts it: "If you want something done, give it to a busy person."

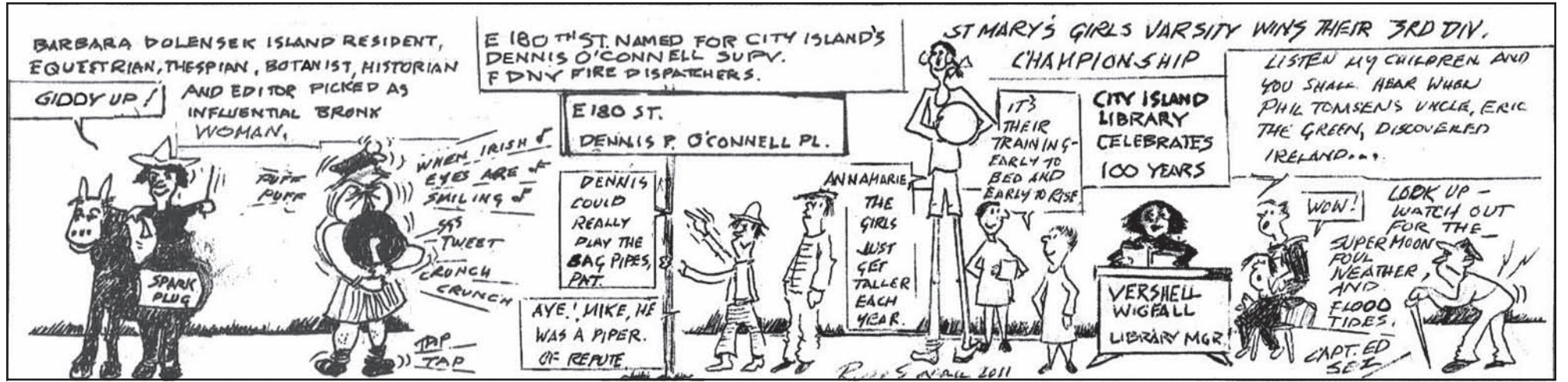
Her skills as a writer and editor have made her an invaluable member of the staff of this newspaper. She has been copy editor for *The Current* for over 20 years. "As we enter our 40th year of publication, we couldn't have done it without her," said longtime business manager Judy Rauh.

Ms. Dolensek's indefatigable energy is also put to good use for the City Island Theater Group, where she is on the board and serves as prop master after a short stint as a cast member. Her debut in 2006 was hailed a success by *The Current's* theater critic. She much prefers gardening and horseback riding to acting, however, and does a good deal of both when she has time.

How does she do it all? Her affable personality is known to many Islanders and is one of the keys to her ability to rally people around a cause. Paul Nani, who works with her on the Civic Association, told *The Current*, "She leads by example, and you are inspired to help out, lend a hand and never give up."

She has developed a great interest in City Island history, as evidenced by her tireless dedication to the City Island Historical Society and Museum. In March she gave a talk at the City Island Library as part of its 2011 centennial celebration, and she had Islanders intrigued by tales of the clam diggers (see story this issue).

Not bad for a mussel sucker, wouldn't you say?



Fair Winds or Foul

An editorial column.

Although we are happy that winter seems to have left City Island, the mounds of snow and ice have melted away to reveal a nasty layer of trash and garbage in the gutters, sidewalks and pathways along City Island Avenue (and, we dare say, on the side streets as well). We all know that owners of property are responsible for cleaning their sidewalks and 18 inches out into the street, and we know that responsible property owners will do just that, but we urge Islanders to help out. Why not put a plastic bag into your pocket before heading out for a walk and pick up bits of refuse as you go? Wear gloves if you worry about germs, but most of the stuff is not toxic, just unsightly. Then toss the bag into a trash can and feel good about yourself all day!



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

Remembrance Retreat Weekend

To the Editor:

On the weekend of April 22-24, 2011, the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, will present a weekend of yoga and dance in memory of Kripalu's teacher, former City Islander Françoise Esteve. We will move beyond words using the five most powerful healing tools shared by every culture: music, dance, stories, nature and silence.

For more information or to register, call 800-741-7353.

Laurie Magoon
Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health

Looking for Relatives

To the Editor:

My story goes way back into City Island history to Moses C. Bell, a blue pottery maker who lived on the island during the first half of the 19th century. His son George married Sarah Price Bell, and one of their sons, Leonard Tice Bell, married Frieda Wollensak. They lived on Carroll Street and had three daughters, Louise, who died young, Frieda and Sarah, known as Sadie. William French eloped with Sadie and they had six children, three boys and three girls, one of them me. Sadie died at the age of 33 in 1939 and my father walked out on us, so we

were all sent to an orphanage in Yonkers.

I am now 78 years old, living in Anchorage, Alaska, and I never knew much about my family's connection to City Island and the Bell family until quite recently when my sister died and left me her papers. In 1964 I did meet my great uncle Aaron Bell on City Island at Pelham Cemetery, and he told us where my mother was buried, down near the water. He told us that he was a brother of my grandfather, Leonard Tice Bell. My grandmother, Frieda Bell, never told us anything about the family, but apparently we are related to many other Islanders, including Jeanette Cullen, Riley Jenkins and many others.

I spoke with Captain Ed Sadler recently and he knew my uncle Aaron, who was the telegraph man. But I would love to have more information about any other members of the Bell family or their relatives. Please write to me at 5603 Chilkoot Court, J-102, Anchorage AK 99504.

Joan French Tritt



Remembering Anne Hutchinson

To the Editor:

Our celebration of the life of Anne Hutchinson at the Community Center on March 13 was a great success, thanks to the many contributors and participants. We are especially grateful to State Senator Jeff Klein and Assembly Member Michael Benedetto for awarding proclamations to the group, as well as to Madeline Provenzano and Kena Maat Ankhmeni for speaking about Anne Hutchinson.

We are also thankful for contributions from the City Island Deli, the IGA and Papa John's that were part of the potluck lunch enjoyed by all.

Our volunteers are pictured on this page. Not pictured there are Cheryl



Photo by RICK DEWITT

The celebration of Anne Hutchinson's 420th birthday was held at the City Island Community Center on Sunday, March 13, 2011. Madeline Provenzano was the guest speaker, and 9-year-old Kena Maat Ankhmeni of Mount Vernon also spoke about Anne Hutchinson's courage and importance in American and local history. Pictured here are (l. to r.) Helen Friedman, Beverly Nance, Violet Smith, Cheryl Berent, Yokanda Bako, Toby Z. Liederman, Cassandra Campbell, Dr. Beryl Dorsett and Ethel Lott, who were volunteers for this event. State Senator Jeff Klein and Assembly member Michael Benedetto were on hand to give proclamations to the group.

Brinker, Pat Grondahl, Marlies Cathcart, Inge Otto, Cecilia and Aryana Fernandez, Joyce Evans, Inge Unger, Kay Gould and Cynthia Williams.

Many more events are planned through December to celebrate Anne Hutchinson Year honoring her 420th birthday. Check *The Island Current* or call me at 718-885-3423. Also, watch for the announcement of an Anne Hutchinson website.

Toby Z. Liederman

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ST. MARY'S BASKETBALL SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

By KAREN NANI



Photos by CONCEPTION PHOTOGRAPHY

St. Mary's Junior Varsity Girls Debs. Top row (l. to r.): coaches Chris Rice and George Spencer. Middle row: Nia Phillips, Christine Rice, Nia Lucher, Destiny White-Foster, Deirdre Spencer and Krystal Stone. Bottom row: Laura Clark, Sydney Saulnier, Jessica Hines, Megan Moran and Shannon Saulnier.

The 2010–2011 St. Mary, Star of the Sea Basketball season concluded with every Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) team posting a winning record. In addition, the Girls Varsity pulled a “three-peat” by capturing their third CYO division championship!

Program directors Annamarie and Bob Whelan praised all the coaches, players and parents for a season of particular dedication. They highlighted some of the many volunteers who went above and beyond to keep St. Mary's basketball one of City Island's best-run youth programs.

Tommy Orzo, the Boys Varsity coach, led two teams of enthusiastic seventh- and eighth-graders: a CYO team and a second team that didn't quite have the skills to play competitively in the CYO. In order to let as many boys play as possible, he started another league, which played out of St. Helena's School. “He coached more than 50 games and dedicated countless hours to both teams which included three practices per week,” Annamarie told *The Current*.

Michael Whelan, the Boys JV coach, faced a similar dilemma, with too many fifth- and sixth-graders who wanted to play. Normally, when there are so many boys who try out, there are cuts. Instead of doing this, he decided to keep 17 on the roster (a normal roster is usually 12) in order to let more boys play. “Both coaches, Tommy and Michael, came to these decisions because they didn't want to disappoint any of the children who tried out for Boys JV and Varsity. Michael and Tommy made sure that every week every child played,” said the program directors.

James Goonan also stepped up and did a terrific job coaching the Intramurals co-ed team, according to Annamarie. He taught the younger children the fundamental skills of basketball every Saturday morning from 9:30 to 11 a.m., and he kept practicing even after most of the other teams had wrapped up their season!

A summary of each team's season follows.

Junior Varsity Girls Debs

The 2010–2011 St. Mary, Star of the Sea JV Girls Debs team, coached by Chris Rice, Derrick Jones and George Spencer, had a great season this year with a record of 16 wins and 4 losses. This team beat at least once every team that was involved in the A

Division Playoffs. The Most Valuable Player (MPV) award went to the highest-scoring player, Christine Rice. Coaches' awards went to Alicia Jones and Deirdre Spencer. The Most Improved awards went to Nia Lucher and Nia Phillips.

This team never quit during the season! In one particular game, they were losing 21 to 4 at halftime on the opponent's court. The girls focused their minds and went on to win the game by 7 points.

The JV girls lost in the semifinals of the playoffs to the eventual champions. Even in the loss this team showed incredible fortitude, making the coaches and parents very proud of them.

Congratulations on a job well done to all the 2010–2011 St. Mary, Star of the Sea JV Girls Debs, Christine Rice, Nia Lucher, Nia Phillips, Alicia Jones, Deirdre Spencer, Megan Moran, Laura Clark, Sydney Saulnier, Shannon Saulnier, Jessica Hines, Crystal Stone and Destiny White-Foster.

All the coaches want to give special thanks to all the parents and fans for their help and their devoted support throughout the season.

Boys Junior Varsity

The 2010–2011 Boy's JV Basketball team played competitively. They faced talented opponents throughout the season, and all players contributed to the team's success.

Coaches Mike Whelan and Richard Cordero want to extend their thanks and appreciation to the players: Andrew Whelan, Eric Lomanico, John Tomsen, Joseph Mancuso, Mateo Tomlinson, Joseph Cordero, Carlo Fine, Deion Rodriguez, Matthew Lovera, Elion Borici, Danny Johnson, Damien Thorne, Nicholas Texidor, Ryan Hernandez, David Lucher, Jeremy Thomas and Michael Valentine.

Thanks to all of the parents who committed their time volunteering at games and making sure the boys got to practice. Congratulations on a successful season!

Girls Gidgets

The Girls Gidgets had an exciting year posting a record of 9 wins and 3 losses. The team was led by Christine Whelan and Scarlett Vargas. The girls had a tough outing in the A Division playoffs losing to a tenacious St. Francis Xavier squad 16 to 13.

According to coaches Robert Whelan and Marcos Negron, all of the girls should be proud of their accomplishments and be commended on a job well done. Members of the Girls Gidgets were Madison Saenz, Samantha Negron, Alexandra Henning, Rebecca Scott, Melody Saenz, Emma Avdinolfi, Dava Lee Candelaria, Isabel Whelan, Christine Whelan, Meghan McConaghy and Scarlett Vargas.

See you next season!

Boys Bantams

Wow, how fast the Bantams basketball season went by! At first the young Sharks, as they are known, had it rough, learning how



Boys Junior Varsity. Kneeling: Andrew Whelan, Eric Lomanico, John Tomsen, Joseph Mancuso, Mateo Tomlinson, Joseph Cordero and Carlo Fine. Standing: coach Mike Whelan, Deion Rodriguez, Matthew Lovera, Elion Borici, Danny Johnson, Damien Thorne, Nicholas Texidor, Ryan Hernandez, David Lucher, Michael Valentine and coach Richard Cordero. Not shown: Jeremy Thomas.



Girls Gidgets. Top row: assistant coach Marcos Negron and coach Robert Whelan. Middle row: Madison Saenz, Samantha Negron, Alexandra Henning, Rebecca Scott and Melody Saenz. Bottom row: Emma Avdinolfi, Dava Lee Candelaria, Isabel Whelan, Christine Whelan Meghan, McConaghy and Scarlett Vargas.



Boys Bantams. Bottom row: Christopher Tomsen, Joseph Goonan, Reymi Santos, Joseph Cruz, Thomas Whelan and Michael Amos. Middle row: Jaiden Marrero, Aiden Saulnier, Logan Vega, Steven Rice, Matthew Valentine and Anthony Masella. Not shown: Jimmy McGaughn. Top row: coaches Mark Amos and Michael Whelan.

to play organized basketball and losing five games in a row. The coaches said the boys kept their spirits up and continued to play hustle basketball. They believed in themselves and achieved an overall record of 11 wins and 9 losses, a winning season!

They had plenty of great plays, such as Steven Rice's half-court shot at halftime, Michael Amos's hard nose defense, Jaiden Marrero's thorough rebounding, Anthony Masella's big clutch free throws and Joseph Cruz's game winning shot at the buzzer! Let's not forget the other exciting plays from Thomas Whelan, Christopher Tomsen, Jimmy McGaughn, Joseph Goonan, Matthew Valentine, Aiden Saulnier, Reymi Santos and Logan Vega.

Coach Mark Amos would like to thank the parents for their time and patience, and coaches Mike Whelan and Chris Rice for all their support. He closed the season saying, “Let's Go Sharks”!

Girls Varsity

Congratulations go out to the Girls Varsity as they captured their third division championship title. Led by MVP Ashlie How-

ell, the girls beat St. Raymond's in overtime in the semifinals and then overcame a six-point, fourth-quarter deficit against St. Benedict's to win the title. Coached by Frank Strazzera and George Spencer, the amazing “three-peaters” were: Catherine Graves, Briana Whelan, Katie Moore, Lily Kolb, Ashley Goldman, Ashley Howell, Francesca Strazzera, Erin Schlottmann, Kaylin Fitzpatrick, Nia Phillips, Alexis Candelaria and Chelsea Negron.

Their parents and coaches are very proud of the champions. Good luck next year to all the graduating eighth-graders.

Boys Varsity

This year's Boys Varsity had a great season finishing with 13 wins. The boys advanced to the B Division Championship finishing as the season's second-place team after a hard-fought loss to division rival St. Theresa. The boys improved throughout the season with half the team looking forward to playing in high school and the other half coming back as the team to beat in 2012.

Led by coaches Tommy Orzo and John Valenti, the Boys Varsity teammates were

Continued on page 6

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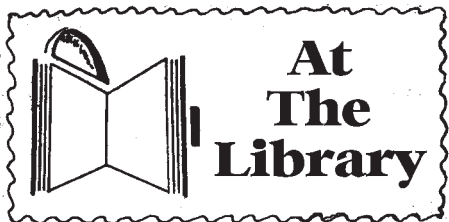
If you have a new business, or if your old business is offering a new service, write to The Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464 by the 10th of the month.

Kaleidoscope Gallery, 280 City Island Avenue at Hawkins Street, celebrates its first anniversary, in April 2011, with a retrospective of works by Louis Mendez. This show will feature pieces from the 1980s to the present. Mr. Mendez, a world-renowned artist in ceramics, paintings and prints, has won numerous awards and has been published in art magazines the world over. His work is included in public and private collections throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia. The opening reception will be the first Friday of April from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., coinciding with the return of the Bronx Seaside Trolley. For more information, call 718-885-3090; Mr. Mendez's work can be viewed on the web at Kaleidoscope280.com or Artist.louismendez.com.

In April, the **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) features everything from jazz to songwriters, harmonica players and local music heroes. We start with the "queen of rock," songwriter Nicola, on Saturday, April 2, at 8 p.m. Then the following

weekend we've got the Potato Heads, with City Islander Mike "Harp" Dimaggio, on Friday, April 8, at 8 p.m., and Gerard "Skip" Giacco (of Lickety Split) singing the standards with the "jazz man," Lou Volpe, on guitar, on Sunday, April 10, at 4 p.m. Songwriter Scott Urgola debuts on Friday, April 15, at 8 p.m. Then later that weekend master guitarist John Guth (who plays lead guitar for Starving Artist's Elliott Glick) brings his trio with special guest, and harmonica master, Howard Levy (founding member of Bela Fleck and the Flecktones) to the stage on Sunday, April 17, beginning at a special time for a Sunday show, 7:30 p.m. As the month ends, come hear Donni Fury's Jimi Hendrix tribute on Saturday, April 30, starting at 8 p.m. For a more complete schedule, visit our website at www.starvingartistonline.com

The new sign announcing **Billy's Clam Bar at the Lobster Box**, 34 City Island Avenue, isn't the only new thing at this time-honored restaurant. The central bar area has been opened up with floor-length windows that will open in warm weather and the menu features lobster rolls, cheeseburgers and other informal fare along with drinks. The main restaurant has been expanded and redecorated, and a new chef has just introduced an innovative menu with reasonable prices and new specials each week, including such dishes as bouillabaisse, seafood risotto and almond-crusted salmon.



Come Celebrate the Library's 100th Anniversary on City Island (1911-2011)!

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

April Children's Programs

Lapsit Program: Wednesdays, April 13 and 27, 11 a.m. Birth to 18 months. All welcome for story time and music.

Toddler Time: Tuesdays, April 5, 12, 19 and 26, 11 a.m. 18 to 36 months.

Story Time: Read-aloud picture books: Thursdays, April 7, 14, 21 and 28, 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 10.

Arts and Crafts: Tuesday, April 19, 3:30 p.m.

Special Program: The play "Alice in Wonderland" will be performed on Monday, April 4, at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 and up.

April Young Adult Programs

NEW! Board Games: Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Please pre-register.

Game On: Every Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Friday Tweens and Teen Lounge, 3:30 to 5 p.m.

April Adult Programs

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

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

Monthly Movie Series

"Following," a British black-and-white thriller. A young man follows people around only to find himself being followed. Saturday, April 16, at 2 p.m.

"Roots of Rhythm," traces the history of Latin music up to the present, with contemporary performers. This film is three hours long with an intermission. Light refreshments will be served. Please note that the film will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 30.

Special Event: Historian Jeremy McCue will give his fifth lecture on American history; this month the topic will be Manifest Destiny, America's expansion to the Western frontier. The date has not yet been announced but will take place on a Saturday in April at 2 p.m. Please call or check our flyers for the exact date.

Please check our flyers for any additional programs, cancellations, or last-minute changes for April 2011. We are located at 320 City Island Avenue at Bay Street. For information about any of the programs above, call the City Island branch at 718-885-1703.

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Intramurals. Front row: Marc Piri, Paul Goonan, Jordan Ingram, Emily Lyons, Ryan Whelan and John Russell. Back row: Alex Stewart, Julius Williams, Aidan Hanley-Piri, Samantha Kucerak, Julian McElroy, Caiden Clayton and Daniel Firrer. Coaches James Goonan (shown), Billy Whelan and Pete Russell.

SMSS Basketball

Continued from page 5

Walter Brennan, Jean Luis Gonzalez, Jabari Weste, Isaac Rowser, John Eric Valenti, Nicholas Labriola, Anthony Orzo, Michael Pirraglia, Michael Labriola and Alexej Xhokaxhiu.

Intramurals

It was a great year for the St. Mary's Intramural basketball team coached by James Goonan, Bill Whelan and Pete Russel. The kids learned a lot and greatly improved their basketball skills.

Hooray for the youngest shooting stars and congrats to Marc, Paul, Jordan, Emily, Ryan, John, Alex, Julius, Aiden, Samantha, Julian, Caiden and Daniel.

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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
74 Fordham St.	11/10/10	\$445,000	1 family
416 City Island Ave.	11/16/10	\$450,000	1 family
571 Minneford Ave.	11/19/10	\$350,000	1 family
40 Tier Street	11/24/10	\$400,000	1 family
75 Earley Street	11/30/10	\$478,000	2 family
45 Winters Street	12/07/10	\$310,000	2 family
191 Fordham Street	12/15/10	\$415,000	2 family
226 Fordham Pl.	12/21/10	\$1,133,275	commercial
307 City Island Ave.	12/28/10	\$615,000	commercial

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APRIL NEWSLETTER

By COUNCILMAN JAMES VACCA

Bronx "Credit Ready NYC" Fair

Small business owners are encouraged to take advantage of an event on Tuesday, April 5, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, that will provide information about access to credit and how to apply for small business loans. This event is sponsored by the City Council, Borough President Diaz, the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation, the Bronx Chamber of Commerce and the NYC Department of Small Business Services. On-site counseling will be available as well as the opportunity to speak to lenders such as banks, community lenders, SBA, SBS and alternative lenders. The fair will take place at the Hutch Metro Center (1200 Waters Place, between Eastchester Road and Westchester Avenue). To register, call 212-788-6871 or e-mail events@council.nyc.gov.

Water Leak Notification Program

Instead of being surprised by a spike in your quarterly water bill as a result of an unknown leak, owners of single-family and two- or three-family homes who have an automated meter reading device installed can now sign up to receive notifications of potential water leaks in their home by visiting http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/water_and_sewer_bills/leak_notification.shtml. DEP will notify you when they detect a spike in your water use. If you have not had a known increase in water usage, such as having visitors or washing your car, you can take steps to investigate whether

you might have a leak. For more information, call either 311 or DEP's Call Center at 718-595-7000. You can also e-mail customerservice@dep.nyc.gov.

Free Teen Graphic Design Class

Free graphic design classes for young people age 14 and above are being sponsored by the Phipps Beacon Program at the Piagentini and Jones Campus (formerly I.S. 192), 650 Hollywood Avenue. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 718-239-4080. Space is limited.

Free Help to Quit Smoking

The Health Department is sponsoring a free Nicotine Patch and Gum Program through March 24 for smokers trying to quit. For information call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/311.

Bronx Zoo Jobs

The Bronx Zoo is currently hiring seasonal employees for various positions. Employment opportunities are available for full-time and part-time schedules. Everyone is encouraged to apply early, as there are opportunities to start working during weekends before the full-time summer schedule starts. Seasonal positions are available in sales, park operations, food service, cleaning and grounds-keeping and animal care. For more information and to submit an application, visit <http://www.wcs.org/about-us/careers/nyc-seasonal.aspx>.

No-cost Mammograms

On Friday, April 15, I will co-sponsor a no-cost mammography van in front of my District Office at 3040 East Tremont Avenue. Local women age 40 and over who have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months should call my office at 718-931-1721 to make an appointment. The visit is sponsored by the City Council and the American Italian Cancer Foundation, with medical services provided by St. Barnabas Hospital. As many of us know all too well, early detection of breast cancer can save lives. Appointments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

CI LIBRARY KICKS OFF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

By KAREN NANI



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Barbara Dolensek of the City Island Nautical Museum helped kick off the centennial celebration of the City Island Library on March 5, 2011 with a lecture on the Island's history, including myths and legends.

The City Island branch of the New York Public Library is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2011. Festivities marking the anniversary began with special presentations on the American Revolution and the history of City Island.

The City Island celebration coincides with the centennial anniversary of the main branch of the New York Public Library in the building on 42nd Street, which officially opened in May 1911. Although City Island had had a circulating library since at least the 1890s, 1911 marks the first year that the New York Public Library set up a branch on City Island, thanks to the efforts of a trustee whose sister-in-law lived here.

Kicking off the centennial events was a talk on Jan. 8, 2011, by Island resident Jeremy McCue on the American Revolution, focusing on the great accomplishments of George Washington, without whom, Mr. McCue believes, the revolution would have been lost. He also described several battles, including the one at Pell's Point led by Col. John Glover, and described how Benedict Arnold would have been a hero if he hadn't become a turncoat.

On March 5, an overflow crowd came to hear Islander Barbara Dolensek of the City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum give an extensively researched presentation on the history of City Island, including a thorough review of facts versus myths about the island, which has been known over the years as Minnewits, Minneford, Great Mulberry Island, and the Isle of Man.

Ms. Dolensek delighted the crowd with tales of the many clam diggers and mussel suckers who have inhabited City Island, including both upstanding and disreputable

citizens. (She also explained the derivation of the aforementioned names for those born on City Island and those who move here.)

Rather than reviewing City Island's illustrious boat-building history, which is a topic requiring one or more presentations of its own, Ms. Dolensek focused on the founding groups who colonized the island and influenced its development, including the Siwanoy Indians, the Dutch, British settlers, Revolutionary War soldiers, Benjamin Palmer, August Belmont and J. P. Morgan. She gave histories of the many families whose names are memorialized on street signs—Pell, Fordham, Rodman, Horton, Schofield and Belden—and recounted their contributions to City Island as oystermen, pilots, farmers and real-estate developers.

Librarian Vershell Wigfall, assisted by Gary Makufka, is leading the centennial celebration of the library. "This will be an exciting year at the City Island Branch Library," Mr. Makufka told *The Current*. "We plan to add new events in the coming months, such as weekly children's programs and a teen lounge."

The library staff has some ambitious plans, including the first Bronx screening of the movie "City Island." Many residents were surprised that the award-winning 2009 film, shot on Horton Street and at other Island locations, was never shown at a theater in the Bronx. Islanders had to go to Westchester, Queens or Manhattan to see it.

Mr. Makufka would also like to start a book-discussion group concerning the unsolved Fioretti murder that occurred on City Island in 1986 and was the subject of "Till Murder Do Us Part," a book by John Cummings and Ernest Volkman about the case.

So if you haven't visited the library lately, this year would be a good time to return. If you missed Mr. McCue's and Ms. Dolensek's talks, there are video recordings of both that you can watch, along with many books about the history of City Island (which are also available for sale at the City Island Nautical Museum on Fordham Street). You can check on upcoming events in the "At the Library" column every month in *The Current*.

So don't wait for the next centennial. Join the anniversary celebration now!

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Saturday, April 23
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Sunday, April 24th, 6:30a.m.
Sunrise Service led by George Cavalieri
at Pelham Cemetary
10:00a.m. - Easter Sunday Worship at Trinity

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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

APRIL

Sun., April 10, **Sound Shore Blood Drive**, Blessed Sacrament Church, 15 Shea Place, New Rochelle, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call 914-632-3700.

Thurs., April 14, **Community Board 10 meets**, Villa Barone Restaurant, 3289 Westchester Avenue (at Pelham Bay Station), 7:30 p.m.

Sat., April 16, **Little League Opening Ceremony**, 9 a.m. Ambrosini Field, City Island Avenue near Winters Street.

Thurs., Fri., and Sat., April 21, 22 and 23, **Boy Scout Easter Flower Sale**, in front of Trinity Methodist Church, Bay Street and City Island Avenue, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until the flowers are sold out. Rain or shine; if rain, the sale will be held indoors.

Sat., April 30, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: beef stew.

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

Fri., April 29, **Sons of the American Legion Golf Outing**. For further information, call 718-885-0639.

MAY

Thurs., May 5, **Interfaith National Day of Prayer Service**, Grace Church, 116 City Island Avenue, 6 to 7 p.m.

Sat. May 7, **77th Anniversary of Temple Beth-El Dinner**, Lido Restaurant, 101 City Island Avenue, 7 p.m.

Grace Episcopal Church

Weekly worship schedule: Grace Church celebrates Holy Communion every Sunday at 10 a.m. We also offer evening prayer in the church every Monday at 7 p.m. and morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Also, the Rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent (Confession) is especially recommended during Lent and Holy Week and may be scheduled by contacting Mother Patty Alexander at 718-885-1080 or RevPPA@aol.com.

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

Sunday, April 3: Lambs Babysitting available, beginning at 9:50 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Tuesday, April 5, 7 p.m.: Bible Study on the Gospel of John (Parish Hall). Join us as we read, pray through, and discuss the Gospel of John; newcomers are always welcomed.

Tuesday, April 12, 7 p.m.: Bible Study on the Gospel of John (Parish Hall)

Sunday, April 17, 10 a.m. Palm Sunday—The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist.

Thursday, April 21, 7:30 p.m.: Maundy Thursday—Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar. From the close of the service until midnight, members of the community are invited to take shifts keeping watch in the dark and silent nave. This commemorates the disciples being asked to watch and pray with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night before He was crucified. Jesus said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26: 40-41).

Friday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.: Good Friday—Ecumenical Service (at Grace).

Sunday, April 24, 10 a.m.: Easter Sunday—Holy Eucharist, with child care.

Rev. Patricia Alexander

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

On April 1, the first Friday of the month, we will hold our monthly Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome.

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

On Saturday, April 9, our children, mostly second-graders, will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. The ceremony will take place in our church at 11 a.m.

All are welcome to join us at our monthly coffee hour on Sunday, April 10. It will be held in the rectory after the 10 a.m. Mass.

Our eighth-graders from school and parish who are preparing to receive the sacrament of confirmation will participate in a retreat day at the Marian Shrine in Stony Point, New York, on Tuesday, April 12. This is part of their immediate preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in May.

Sunday, April 17, will begin the holiest week of the church year as we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries of the passion, death and resurrection of Our Lord. We will begin on Palm Sunday with the blessing and distribution of palms at all the Masses. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m., we will have the service of Tenebrae, consisting of psalms, readings and the chanting of the Lamentations of Jeremiah. The solemn commemoration of the Lord's Supper will take place on Holy Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. followed by adoration until 10 p.m. On Good Friday, we will have Stations of the Cross at 12 noon. The solemn commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus will take place at 4 p.m. After a day of silence and waiting on Saturday, the solemn Easter Vigil will take place at 8 p.m. that evening, and our joyful alleluias will continue on Easter Sunday at all our Masses, 8 and 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Because of the celebration of Holy Week and Easter Week, there will be no religious education classes on April 20 and 27.

Happy Easter to all!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 156

March 25 was the Bronx County visitation of the State Commander, who enjoyed his tour of Fort Schuyler given by SAL sergeant-at-arms Tim Smyth. Later that night, everyone enjoyed a great dinner at the Turner Club. Proceeds from the Pig's-knuckle Party were presented at the affair from the squadron to the Commander's Emergency Relief Fund.

We will be going to a Yankee game on Saturday, June 11. It is a 1:05 game against Cleveland with lower-level seats. There are only 40 tickets, and the price will be \$75. Sign up at the Post.

The golf outing will be held on Friday, April 29, at Pelham Split Rock. A \$75 deposit is due by April 7. There is a barbecue at 12 noon and a shotgun start at 1 p.m. After the tournament, at around 6 p.m., there will be a steak dinner at the Post with a two-hour open bar, when prizes will be awarded.

Thanks to Amy Hagerty for donating the copies of the Golf Outing flyers along with the hall rental forms.

Reminder that dues (\$30) are past due. Membership cards will be given out once paid since they are your receipt of payment. Anyone interested in joining should call 718-885-0639 or stop by the Post.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14, and officers will be elected.

Fred Ramftl Jr.



Photo by KAREN NANI

On Shrove Tuesday, March 8, 2011, the men's group of Grace Church held a pancake supper to signify the beginning of the Lenten season. Shown above after serving over 500 pancakes, sausages and hot cross buns are (l. to r.) John Esser, Bruce Weis, David Sexton, Scott Meyer, Peter Klopfer and Paul Nani.

Temple Beth-El

The 77th anniversary of the founding of Temple Beth-El of City Island will be celebrated on Saturday, May 7, 2011, at the Lido. Save the date! The synagogue, unaffiliated, all-inclusive and egalitarian, provides an exciting place for observance for Jewish families and individuals who come from many different communities and cultures. We are a spirited congregation that gathers together under the leadership of the stimulating and innovative Rabbi Shohama Wiener.

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

Rabbi Shohama, accompanied by guitar, will conduct her next Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday, April 8. The other Friday services will be led by Bob Berent with his accordion or by Cantor Elaine Faver and her piano.

Our community Passover seder will be conducted at the Temple on Tuesday, April 19, the second night of Passover. As in the past, glatt kosher food will be served during our warm and congenial seder, conducted primarily in English and led by Reb David Markus. Please call Bob Berent at 718-885-3098 for information, to volunteer or to make reservations before Friday, April 8 (\$45 for adults, \$15 for children).

City Island Holocaust Memorial (Yom HaShoah) Program, Sunday May 1, is arranged by Temple Beth-El of City Island and hosted by Trinity United Methodist Church. Two theater directors and a choreographer, Andreas Robertz, Mario Golden and Nancy Ferragallo, will share a short video and talk about their work in Germany on healing wounds of the Holocaust among second- and third-generation descendants of perpetrators and victims. This is an important opportunity for people of all faiths and backgrounds. Please spread the word and see www.YourShulByTheSea.org for updated details and exact time.

Friday, May 6, 7:30 p.m.: Israeli Independence Shabbat with Rabbi Shohama.

Finally, our anniversary party lights up our month, and hopefully yours, on May 7. We are honoring the *Island Current's* editor Karen Rauhauser Nani, as well as trustee and past president Robert (Bob) Berent and his spouse, Cheryl Yehudit Berent. There will be entertainment by the Lickety Split Band, plus a great buffet at the Lido. For information, please call Steve Slotnick at 718-931-0382 or Paul Klein of Kaleidoscope at 718-885-3090.

Bob Berent

City Island Republicans

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue. We will fill everyone in on what has been happening along with upcoming election news. Furthermore, poll worker issues will be discussed. Republican poll workers should make every effort to attend.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

AARP Chapter 3303

The chapter meets on the first and third Thursday of each month (except January, July and August). Interesting and informative meetings are held at 1 p.m. in the Trinity United Methodist Church Hall, 113 Bay Street, City Island. Refreshments are served after each meeting.

New members are welcome. Come and meet your fellow seniors and spruce up your social life! Meeting dates for the remaining half of 2011 are April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, and June 2. Some social events on the calendar are a buffet luncheon cruise aboard the *Spirit of New York* on June 7, a dinner dance at the Davenport Beach Club on June 16, a Neil Diamond Tribute Show at the Atlantic City Tropicana on July 11, and more.

You must be a member of the AARP National Organization before joining the chapter. Chapter dues are \$15 a year per person. For more information, call Chapter President Karin Gorziska at 718-885-1740.

Paula Huffell

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

Sundays at 2 p.m., St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, City Island Avenue near the Bridge.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080



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

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

SPECIAL EVENTS/NEW PROGRAMS

Indoor Tag Sales: April dates are Sunday, April 3, and Sunday, April 10. To reserve a table or for information, call Joe at 917-318-6302. Tables are \$10 each. (Looking ahead, tag sales will also be held on May 15 and 22).

April Classic Movie Night: Friday, April 8, at 8 p.m. "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?" \$2 per ticket. Concessions available. For more information, please e-mail BxShanley@optonline.net or call 917-721-8747.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

Mommy and Me Fitness: A high-energy aerobic class that allows you to bring your children with you. All levels welcome. Tuesday and Thursday, 9 to 10 a.m. \$8 per class. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

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

Tai Kwando Classes: For men, women and children. Lil Dragons/Hapkido for teens and adults/Body Blast cardio kickboxing for men and women. For schedule, fees and information, please call Jahbumnim Eddie at 917-742-2007 or visit www.dragonspathacademy.com.

Drama Classes with Laury Hopkins: Friday afternoons starting in January. Ages 6 to 12. Call and leave a message if your child is interested. Classes and age groups will be determined based on amount of interest. Classes will culminate in a show.

Art Classes by Laury Hopkins. New classes beginning in April: Putting Art Together, building boxes and mobiles, Grades K-4, Mondays. Texture and Patina, creating art with unusual surfaces, Grades K-4, Tuesdays. Storytime Art Preschool with Adult, painting and drawing basics, Grades 3-6, Thursdays. Call Laury at 718-885-3202. Please leave a message.

ADULT PROGRAM

Get Ready, Get Set . . . (An Intro to Exercise): The relaxed pace allows you to learn the basics of many different types of low-impact aerobic, strength training and stretching exercises, which will help to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and range of motion. This class also utilizes chair (seated) exercises. Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. Fee: \$10/session (45 min.). First session is free of charge. Contact Judy Farnum, group fitness instructor, at 914-548-4184 or judyfarnum@aol.com.

Gentle Yoga-Qi Gong class with Norma: Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Get into shape, relax the body and mind and have some fun doing it! This class is a combination of low-impact Hatha Yoga and Qi-Gong (free form Tai Chi) and mild stretches. Although this class is geared to

those who have not exercised in a while, all levels are welcome. Price per class is \$7. Please bring a yoga mat, yoga strap and yoga blocks. Most of these items are available at Barnes & Noble, Modell's, Target or K-Mart. Straps and blocks will be available for purchase on the day of the class. For more information, please call 718-730-3442. Namaste.

Fit for Life with Sarah: Hi-Lo impact aerobic and strength-training class. All levels welcome. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

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

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

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

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

Yoga with Vincenza: All levels welcome. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Classes \$10. Please bring your own mat.

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

Parenting in the 21st Century: Talks with Teacher John: Join an ongoing and free-wheeling discussion of the joys and pains of parenting led by Teacher John (parent, grandparent, school psychologist, parent educator). Learn to stop yelling, get what you want from your family life and create opportunities for your children to become responsible, loving and independent. Eight sessions (one per month) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$20 per session. Contact John Scardina at 718-885-9305 or through his website www.thinklaughlearn.com.

SheWorkHer: Learn basic home repair. SheWorkHer is dedicated to helping women learn just how much they can do with a few tools and the right knowledge, and saving hundreds of dollars doing it yourself. Classes are every other Monday. Call Nancy today at 646-235-1175 and reserve your spot.

Tap Dance: Intermediate level adult Jazz-Tap class with Corinne Grondahl. Let your feet become a musical instrument! Tuesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. Call 718-309-8041.

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

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

Amy Gottlieb

Garden Club News

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Garden Club, and we will celebrate by holding a dinner, instead of a luncheon, on Saturday, June 18, at the Morris Yacht Club. So save the date and come celebrate with us.

We will soon begin our annual Beautification Drive, asking for donations to help us keep City Island beautiful. Our projects include maintaining and improving our plantings at the Veterans Memorial and the "Welcome to City Island" sign and cleaning up and planting our boxes along City Island Avenue.

Barbara Hoffman

American Legion

Ladies Auxiliary

Our annual Cancer Bingo will be held at the Post (550 City Island Avenue) on Thursday, May 12. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. All proceeds of this Bingo go to cancer research. Come for a fun night with lots of prizes and raffles to be won. Refreshments will be provided.

The Ladies Auxiliary will meet on Tuesday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m. and a set-up night for the Bingo will take place on Wednesday, May 11, at 7ish. Hope to see everyone soon.

P.S. If you have any new prizes or gift certificates you would like to donate, please drop them off at the Post.

Welcome to our new members who were sworn into the Ladies Auxiliary: Judy Rauh, Cristina Gonzalez, Vivi McGuire and Lily Bryant.

Our last meeting was on Tuesday, March 1, and first on the agenda was our upcoming Cancer Bingo, which will be held on Thursday, May 12, at the American Legion Post. We are actively looking for donations of any sort, such as gift certificates, new and unopened gifts, or a financial donation. Last year we gave over \$5,000 to Montefiore's oncology department! If you wish to donate, please drop it off at the Post at Cross Street.

Our next meeting dates are April 5 and May 3. We are looking for all our members to attend, as there is a lot to be done.

Regina Murphy

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. Prayer service is held every weekday at 9:15 a.m. We encourage you to bring your children to Sunday school to further their knowledge of the teachings of Jesus Christ. Trinity often has a coffee hour after the service. Come and join us for worship and fellowship.

Upcoming events at Trinity include the Annual Spring Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 9. Lunch will be served starting at 11:30 and end at 2, or possibly sooner if the food runs out! So plan to get there early.

The Easter Sunrise service will take place at Pelham Cemetery at 6:15 a.m. on April 24. It is an informal ecumenical gathering with scripture, songs and poetry readings appropriate for a sunrise resurrection celebration and service. Please dress warmly.

A Group Bible Study began March 13 and will finish with Lent on April 10. The study is a continuation of the New Testament historical narrative of the book of the "Acts of the Apostles" written by Luke, Chapters 11-15, which deals with the first church that began in Jerusalem, a totally Judean church. Under Peter and ultimately under Paul, the church grew to include non-Jews from the habitable world under the guidance and by the call of Holy Spirit's leading, with a powerful apostolic witness to the Resurrection of Christ Jesus, during the first century of the church. The method of study will be of the Biblical text, on a subject by subject basis, and a verse by verse study, with discussions aimed to understand the historic value and the present spiritual value of this record for believers in our day. George Cavalieri, Trinity's co-lay leader/speaker, is the moderator and instructor. No registration or fee is required. Each session begins at 11:30 a.m., with Bibles and refreshments provided, and will end at 12:30 p.m. All in the community interested in Bible study are welcome, regardless of whether you have or have not previously been in attendance.

The Budget Corner is open with bargains galore! It is open April 5, 19 and 23. Please consider donating your gently used goods, or perhaps you could volunteer to help out a little. Stop by for more information.

Rick DeWitt

Holiday Services

Trinity United Methodist Church

113 Bay Street

April 21: Holy Thursday worship service, 7:30 p.m.

April 22: Good Friday Ecumenical service with Grace Episcopal at Grace Church, 7:30 p.m.

April 23: Trinity will join St. Mary's morning service at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, 8 a.m.

April 24: Easter Sunday Sunrise service led by George Cavalieri at Pelham Cemetery on King Avenue, 6:30 a.m. Easter Worship at Trinity Church, 10 a.m.

Grace Episcopal Church

116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street

April 17, Palm Sunday: The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

April 21, Maundy (Holy) Thursday: Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 p.m.

April 22, Good Friday: Ecumenical Service with Trinity Methodist Church at Grace Church, 7:30 p.m.

April 24, Easter Sunday: Festival Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m. (with childcare).

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

City Island Avenue near the bridge

April 16, Saturday: Confessions, 4:30 to 5 p.m. Vigil Mass at 5:15 p.m.

April 17, Palm Sunday: Masses at 8, 10 a.m. and noon. Blessing of Palms at all Masses.

April 21, Holy Thursday: Tenebrae, 8 a.m., psalms and readings (no morning mass). Solemn commemoration of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 p.m. Procession to the Repository; adoration to 10 p.m.

April 22, Good Friday: Tenebrae, 8 a.m. (no morning mass). Stations of the Cross, 12 noon, Commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus, 4 p.m. Confessions, 5 to 6 p.m.

April 23, Holy Saturday: Tenebrae, 8 a.m. (no morning mass). Confessions, 9 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. Solemn Easter Vigil, 8 p.m.

April 24, Easter Sunday: Masses at 8, 10 a.m. and noon.

Temple Beth-El

480 City Island Avenue

April 8, Friday: Kabbalat Shabbat led by Rabbi Shohama, 7:30 p.m. Other Friday services will be led by Bob Berent or by Cantor Elaine Faver.

April 19, Tuesday: Community Passover seder on the second night of Passover, 6 p.m.. Call for reservations (718-885-3098).

May 7, Saturday: 77th Anniversary of the founding of Temple Beth-El. Dinner celebration at the Lido.

PSS Healthy Senior

Exercise Program

We want to thank everyone who signed petitions, emailed or called our elected representatives urging them to restore the NYC Senior Programs Title XX funding that Governor Cuomo cut from the proposed NYS Budget. Congratulations! Both the State Assembly and Senate have put forth legislation restoring the Title XX funding saving City Island Senior Programs, along with the 105 other NYC Senior Programs; however, the Governor has not restored the Title XX funding in his budget, so please continue to call him at 1-518-474-8390.

PSS Healthy Aging: Zumba with Stephanie on Mondays at 10:30 at the Community Center; Cardio Fitness with Mary on Tuesdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Sittercise with Patty on Tuesdays at 10:20 at Grace Church Hall; Orchard Beach Walk on Wednesdays, leaving Pilot Street at 9:30 a.m.; Yoga Stretch with Michael on Thursdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Arthritis Exercise with Patty on Thursdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Fit for Life with Sarah on Fridays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall. Remember that you can attend all classes for \$20 per month or all classes for

Continued on page 10



Selected Filmography of Colin Firth

This year's Academy Award-winner for Best Actor, Colin Firth, is someone whose career I have been following for many years. In the romantic comedy ensemble film **Love Actually** (2003), Firth plays a writer named Jamie who runs away to the countryside when he finds his wife has cheated on him with his brother. There Jamie falls in love with his Portuguese housekeeper. The stellar cast also includes Hugh Grant as the British Prime Minister at odds with the President of the United States (Billy Bob Thornton). Emma Thompson is the Prime Minister's sister who is married to Alan Rickman, a man contemplating an affair with his secretary. Emma's best friend is recently widowed Liam Neeson, whose grade school stepson is suffering the pangs of first love, and newlywed Keira Knightly is idolized by her husband's best friend. Bill Nighy steals every scene as a has-been vulgar rock star, trying to make a comeback by turning a former hit into a Christmas song.

Firth really shines in the comedy **Bridget Jones's Diary** (2001) as rich barister Mark Darcy (Colin Firth), who meets Bridget (Renee Zellweger) at a Christmas party. Unmarried at age 32, Bridget is having an affair with her self-impressed, smarmy boss Daniel Cleaver (Hugh Grant) although she is peripherally interested in Darcy. It eventually becomes apparent that Darcy appreciates Bridget "just as she is."

Firth first became well known playing another man named Darcy in the BBC production of Jane Austen's **Pride and Prejudice** (1995). Darcy is both intrigued and repelled by Elizabeth Bennett (Jennifer Ehle), one of five sisters living with their parents in a small town in England in the 1800s. This book has been made into films several times, but it is Firth's brooding Darcy who gives among the very best interpretations in this five-part miniseries.

He also appears in another costume production, the comical **Shakespeare in Love** (1998). It stars Joseph Fiennes as Will Shakespeare in love with Viola de Lesseps (Gwyneth Paltrow) who wants to act, which is forbidden to women at that time in history. Firth is Viola's fiancé Lord Wessex, who is marrying her for her fortune. The outstanding cast also includes Geoffrey Rush as the producer Philip Henslowe, Ben Affleck as the actor Ned Alleyn, Rupert Everett as Shakespeare's rival Christopher Marlowe, Tom Wilkinson as stage-struck financier Hugh Fennyman, and Judi Dench as Queen Elizabeth.

Another period piece is **The Girl with a Pearl Earring** (2003), in which Firth portrays the Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer, who is obsessed with his muse, scullery maid Griet (Scarlett Johansson). Vermeer's

patron, van Ruijven (Tom Wilkinson), also has his eye on Griet. Every frame of this sumptuous film could be stopped and viewed as a painting.

In a change of pace, Firth is delightful as Mr. Brown, the widowed father of seven unruly children, in the fine family film **Nanny McPhee** (2006). Written by and starring Emma Thompson in the title role, this is the story of a funeral parlor director who faces financial ruin unless he complies with the edict of his wife's Aunt Adelaide (Angela Lansbury) to remarry within the month.

Firth is also a father in **What a Girl Wants** (2003) this time as Lord Henry Dashwood, who was tricked into separating from his American wife (Kelly Preston) before he knew she was pregnant with his daughter, Daphne (Amanda Bynes). When Daphne decides to meet her father, she has a rejuvenating effect on him.

The HBO film **Conspiracy** (2001) is an enactment of what might have gone on at the Wannsee conference in 1942, where 15 of Hitler's key men gathered to discuss the Jewish Question. Among the stellar cast is Kenneth Branagh as meeting coordinator Reinhard Heydrich and Stanley Tucci as Adolf Eichmann. Firth appears as legal expert Dr. Wilhelm Stuckart, who speaks to the group about the practical ramifications of their plans, in this disturbing thought-provoking film.

In 1987 Firth appeared in the post-WWI drama **A Month in the Country**. He and Kenneth Branagh star as Tom Birken and Charles Moon, young war-weary veterans who spend a summer month in a quiet Yorkshire town in order to escape the horrors of war. Birken has been hired to restore an historic painting at the church, while Moon is looking for an ancestor's grave. Birken is thunderstruck by the reverend's wife, Alice Keach (Natasha Richardson) and must come to terms with his passion as Moon faces his own dark desires.

Firth received an Oscar nomination for his portrayal of George, a grief-stricken gay college professor in 1962, who is mourning the death in a car crash of his partner of 16 years (Matthew Goode) in **A Single Man** (2009). He turns to his best friend, Charley (Julianne Moore), for comfort, but his loneliness is palpable. The haunting music underscores George's desire to end his life. When he is befriended by a tantalizing student, Kenny (Nicholas Hoult), George finds himself enticed back into life.

Truly the best picture of 2010, **The King's Speech** contains the Oscar-winning performance of a lifetime with Colin Firth as the tortured stutterer who would be king. In the 1930s, England's King Edward VIII (Guy Pearce) takes up with a much-married woman, Wallis Simpson (Eve Best), and the country is on the brink of war with Germany. Edward's younger brother, the Duke of York, who is called Bertie by his family, struggles with a bad stammer. Although the audience feels every agonizing moment of Bertie's attempts to overcome his impediment, there is humor provided by his unconventional speech therapist, Lionel Logue (the amazing Geoffrey Rush), found by Bertie's loving wife, Elizabeth (Helena Bonham Carter). It is difficult to capture in a review how ingratiating and inspiring the film is, so just see it!

And until next time, happy viewing. . .

Organization News

Continued from page 9
\$6 per week. Or you may contribute for individual classes at \$2 for exercise, and \$4 for dance.

Telephone Reassurance: We would like to begin a telephone reassurance program. If you live alone or know someone who lives alone, a telephone call everyday might be of benefit. Please call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Caregivers Support: If you are caring for someone or you know someone who is caring for another, we have some supportive services that might be helpful, including respite, escort assistance and shopping assistance. Please call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Legacy Writing Group: Many people have joined the Legacy Writing Group meeting at Grace Church Hall on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 2 p.m. For further information, please call Writing Group Leader Joan Nilon at 718-885-1604.

Transportation Services: Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Anthony Mazzella at 347-834-6466 a day ahead for Island and off-Island trips. Regular afternoon shopping trips are Monday: Bay Plaza; Thursday: A&P; every other Wednesday: Shop Rite in New Rochelle. Trips are also made to Fairway, Target, Trader Joe's, the Christmas Tree Shop, Key Food, Stop & Shop, Empire City and more. The suggested contribution for round trips is \$1 on City Island, and \$2.50 off-Island.

For further information, including information about theater tickets to the April 20 matinee performances of "Singing in the Rain" at Westchester Dinner Theater, call Patty at 718-885-1891. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services, the NYC Department for the Aging and the NYC Arthritis Foundation.

Pat Grondahl

American Legion Post # 156

I hear through the grapevine that a number of Post members were sojourning in Naples, Florida. Not much to report on sick call: Bill Kearns had surgery planned for March 25. Get-well cards can be sent to Bill at his home, 117B Edgewater Park, Bronx 10465. I've been a little lax, but I did get a call several weeks ago from Jennie Varian, and she and Donald are doing well.

Post Commander William Clancy is the leading candidate for the prestigious post of State Commander for the year 2013. Comrade Shipp is already working on Bill's campaign and will be looking for your support. A big-bucks raffle is being planned, and the winner can take the payout in either currency or gold. More to come.

Saturday, March 19, was a full moon,

and this moon was a super-full moon. It appeared 14 percent larger than a normal full moon and 30 percent brighter.

Meetings for the month of April are as follows: Monday, April 4, regular meeting; Monday, April 18, executive board meeting. All meetings start at 7:30 p.m. A Post Everlasting service will be held at the April 4 meeting.

From a paragraph in "Straight and Level," our squadron history: Capt. Austin and Lt. John Meagher were photographing airfields west of Berlin on April 7, 1945, when Meagher saw two German jets—ME 262s—at 4 o'clock coming up fast. He shouted a radio warning to Austin and dived for the deck. Austin acknowledged, but when Meagher looked back, he saw a plane, presumably Austin's, going down in flames. Austin's remains were recovered after the end of the war and were interred in the Ardennes cemetery. I visited the grave on a trip after the war and at the same time the grave of Robert Leupp, a City Islander who met his demise near St. Lo., France. Both are within a stone's throw of each other.

On Easter Sunday, April 24, the Post will not open until 5 p.m.

Until May, at ease...

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus

City Island Theater Group

After the success of "Night Watch," the City Island Theater Group is thrilled to announce its next production, Ken Ludwig's hilarious comedy "Lend Me a Tenor," which will debut in May!

The play is set on a night in September 1934 that is the biggest in the history of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company, on which world-famous tenor Tito Morelli is to perform Otello, his greatest role, at the gala season-opener. Saunders, the general manager, hopes this will put Cleveland on the operatic map. When Morelli finally sweeps in, it is too late to rehearse with the company, and, as usual, through a hilarious series of mishaps, everything goes wrong. In true theatrical tradition, the show must go on!

Under the direction by CITG president, Nick Sala, "Lend Me a Tenor" features a cast of eight talented performers, including CITG favorites Steven Bendler as Max, the assistant to Saunders; Camille Kaiser as Julia, the opera chairperson; Elizabeth Paldino as Diana, the soprano; Susan Rauh as Maggie, Max's girlfriend; and Frank Siciliano as Tito Morelli. Joining them are CITG newcomers Justin Rodstrom as the bellhop; Toni Fazio as Maria, Tito's wife; and Kevin Gordon as Saunders, the general manager.

Don't miss this uproarious comedy! Performance dates are May 13, 14, 19, 20, 21 at 8 p.m. and May 15 at 3 p.m. Get your tickets now by e-mailing tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com or call 718-885-3066.

Susan Rauh

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St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church
Holy Week Schedule 2011

CONFESSIONS
 SATURDAY - April 16
 4:30-5:00 P.M.

PALM SUNDAY - April 17
 VIGIL MASS - SATURDAY - 5:15 P.M.
 SUNDAY - 8:00 A.M., 10:00, & 12:00 NOON
 (Blessing of Palm at all Masses)

HOLY THURSDAY - April 21
 8:00 A.M. - TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)
 Consists of Psalms and Readings
 SOLEMN COMMEMORATION OF THE
 LORD'S SUPPER - 7:30 P.M.
 Procession to Repository
 Adoration to 10:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 22
 8:00 A.M. - TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)
 Consists of Psalms and Readings
 STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 12:00 NOON
 COMMEMORATION OF THE
 PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS - 4:00 P.M.
 Confessions 5:00 - 6:00 P.M.

HOLY SATURDAY - April 23
 8:00 A.M. TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)
 Consists of Psalms and Readings
 Confessions 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. & 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.
 SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL - 8:00 P.M.
 (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

EASTER SUNDAY - April 24
 Masses - 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., & 12:00 NOON



Public School 175

There has been a lot going on at P.S. 175 in March. Students in all grades worked diligently on their Science Fair projects, which were displayed during Parent-Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, March 15. Lower-grade students worked on group projects, and upper-grade students worked on their projects individually and in pairs. Students did a beautiful job preparing their displays, and it was evident that a lot of hard work went into the presentations and that much learning had taken place.

Our students also attended several exciting trips. Kindergarten went to the Hostos Center for the Performing Arts for a Chinese New Year presentation; the fifth grade visited the Hall of Science and participated in many of the hands-on activities; and the sixth grade went to the Discovery Times Square, where they visited "Pompeii, The Exhibit: Life and Death in the Shadow of Vesuvius" and experienced Pompeii before and after the epic eruption 2,000 years ago. They were able to imagine the moment their world vanished and discover the miraculous artifacts unearthed since then. Seventh-grade students went on a class trip to Philadelphia, where they enjoyed a guided

tour of many of the historical sites and visited the Franklin Institute Science Museum, where they explored the wonders of science through many hands-on exhibits.

Our phenomenal Parent-Teacher Association held its annual Card Party at the Lido Caterers. Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated parents, the event was a tremendous success! Many thanks to all the parents who spent countless hours preparing for the event. We are very pleased that the funds raised will enable the PTA to continue to assist us in providing exciting and enriching experiences and opportunities for our students. Many thanks also to the businesses in our community that supported the party.

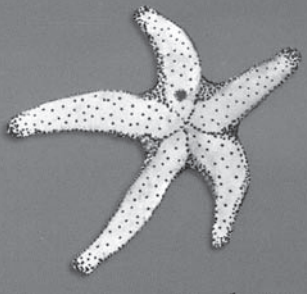
The Eighth-Grade Graduation Committee has been busy planning for all of the end-of-year events that will be taking place. Parent meetings are being held in preparation for graduation and senior activities. We look forward to seeing all of the eighth-grade parents at these meetings.

Please keep in mind these important dates: On-going Kindergarten registration continues March 28-April 14 from 9 to 11 a.m. Eighth-grade graduation will take place on Friday, June 24, at 9:30 a.m. The eighth-grade dance will take place the same evening from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Seashore Restaurant. The eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C. will take place May 24 and 25. The Kindergarten Moving-up Ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 23, at 10 a.m., followed by a family celebration in the gymnasium, complete with a DJ and Sunny the Clown!

Finally, the P.S. 175 community mourns the loss of former PTA and SLT President Ed Rothschild. Ed was instrumental in many of the projects and programs that have taken place here in the last several years. His tenacity and determination helped us get the second-floor walls built, and his desire to help our community and make City Island the best that it can be led to the development of a character education/substance abuse prevention program from which all our students benefit. Ed was an irreplaceable figure who will be greatly missed. Our deep condolences go out to the Rothschild/Lonergan family.

Citizens of the Month of March: Kindergarten: Carlos Torres and Hudson Ghezzer-Cherry; first grade, Olivia Chadwick and Adriana Rexhaj; second grade, Joshua Rosario, Ginuitis Sipas; third grade, Eleni Mantzaris and Alfred Beqiraj; fourth grade, Dava-Lee Candelaria and Michael Amos; fifth grade, Juliana Durante and Michael Bauso; sixth grade, Alana Zayas and Laura Clarke; seventh grade, Devin Dyal and Catherine Langkamp; eighth grade, Carlos Viguera and Chelsea Negron.

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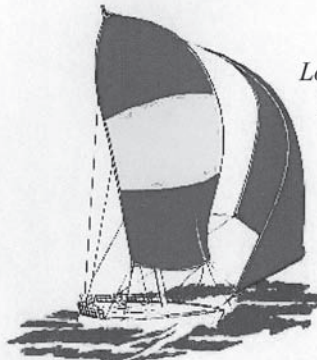
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Obituaries

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.

Richard Rodstrom Sr.

Richard Rodstrom Sr., a former resident of City Island, passed away on Feb. 5, 2011, in Goshen, New York, at the age of 70.

Mr. Rodstrom retired from the New York City Police Department after 27 years of service and went on to private security management. He managed many of the parking lots for restaurants on City Island. He was a member of the Honor Legion and was also a hunter-safety instructor.

He is survived by his wife, Dolores; his son, Richard Rodstrom Jr., and daughter-in-law, Michelle, and their daughters, Nicole and Brittany; his daughter Nancy, and son-in-law Cory Fontana of City Island, and their daughters, Samantha and Sabrina; his daughter Debra and son-in-law Frederic Provencal and their sons, Michael and Freddie. Richard Sr. was predeceased by his son Robert.

A Mass will be held in the spring for friends and family to celebrate his life. For information, visit www.davidtfergusonfh.com.

Lubomir Komarov

Former Island resident Lubomir Komarov passed away on Dec. 22, 2010, at the age of 51.

Mr. Komarov, known as Lubos, was born on Aug. 19, 1959, in Mlada Boleslav, Czechoslovakia, and moved to City Island in 1969. As a young man, he loved to take long swims to the edge of the fleet and return hours later with a big smile.

He graduated from P. S. 17 in 1970 and from Columbus High School in 1976. He attended St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, in 1980 and received his MBA from Fordham University in 1982.

In 1983 Lubos moved to Florida and began a 27-year career as a financial advisor in Bradenton, Florida.

He is survived by his mother, Daniela Komarov, of City Island; his wife, Cherie, his sons, Pavel, Christopher and Daniel of Bradenton. His father, Anatoli Komarov, of Bradenton, passed away on Dec. 26, 2010, four days after his son. A celebration of life was held at the Riverhouse in Palmetto, Florida, on Jan. 8, 2011, attended by more than 200 friends and family members.

Edmund O. Rothschild

Longtime City Islander Edmund O. Rothschild, M.D., died on March 16, 2011, at the age of 77 surrounded by his family. A life-long New York City resident, Ed graduated from Bronx Science High School, New York University and Cornell University Medical School.

His long career began as a research fellow and associate and attending physician at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He went on to serve as the Senior Vice President of Affiliation Contracts at New York City's Health and Hospital Corporation, Director of Community Medicine at Queens Hospital Center, Vice President of Professional and Academic Affairs at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center and Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs at St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson, New Jersey. Most recently, he served as Medical Director at NRI in New York City.

Ed served on many volunteer boards and committees, including Red Cross of Greater New York, the Department of Health Lead Poisoning Advisory Committee, New York State Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Department of Health Block Grant Committee. He was an Honorary New York City Police Surgeon, an Honorary Medical Officer of the New York Fire Department and Medical Director of the Honor Emergency Fund.

On City Island, he was a loyal community supporter and activist. He served as a member of the board of Temple Beth-El, as co-president of the PTA and as co-chair of the School Leadership team of P.S. 175, where he organized substance abuse education programs for its students. He and Bob Adams made news in 2009 when they built the beautiful model of Henry Hudson's *Half Moon*, which is still moored in front of the school, as part of City Island's contribution to the quadricentennial celebration of Hudson's arrival in what is now New York City.

Ed loved his two islands, Manhattan and City Island. He loved the ocean, and, more than anything, he loved his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Kathy Lonergan, his children Emily, Sarah, Anna and Oliver, his brother Charles, and his son-in-law Josh and daughter-in-law Tara. He was predeceased by his children Joshua and Adam.

A funeral service was held Monday, March 21, at the Riverside in Manhattan. Donations in his honor can be made to The P.S. 175 Ed Rothschild Fund for Substance Abuse Education and Scholarship, P.S. 175, 200 City Island Ave, City Island, NY 10464.



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Times and heights of high and low water (Daylight Saving Time)

Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Island. Times shown are nautical times. For times on the table beginning with 1300, subtract 1200 to get ordinary PM time (e.g., 1625 - 1200 = 4:25 P.M.). Times less than 1200 are A.M. times (e.g., 1154 = 11:54 A.M.).

HH = hours; MM = minutes

Tide chart by Tom Smith

APRIL 2011

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Fri	0530	0.09	1133	7.56	1747	0.33	2347	7.79	Fri 01
02 Sat	0608	0.02	1210	7.48	1819	0.40			Sat 02
03 Sun	0019	7.75	0641	0.02	1242	7.34	1839	0.49	Sun 03
04 Mon	0039	7.69	0704	0.08	1302	7.19	1845	0.52	Mon 04
05 Tue	0047	7.70	0717	0.12	1312	7.13	1907	0.51	Tue 05
06 Wed	0101	7.79	0739	0.15	1338	7.13	1941	0.54	Wed 06
07 Thu	0143	7.87	0814	0.22	1414	7.12	2021	0.64	Thu 07
08 Fri	0223	7.89	0855	0.35	1456	7.10	2105	0.79	Fri 08
09 Sat	0308	7.82	0941	0.52	1544	7.05	2155	0.96	Sat 09
10 Sun	0359	7.69	1032	0.68	1638	7.02	2251	1.07	Sun 10
11 Mon	0455	7.52	1131	0.77	1738	7.06	2354	1.07	Mon 11
12 Tue	0559	7.39	1236	0.74	1844	7.23			Tue 12
13 Wed	0106	0.88	0708	7.38	1351	0.53	1953	7.55	Wed 13
14 Thu	0232	0.45	0821	7.50	1505	0.16	2059	7.97	Thu 14
15 Fri	0347	-0.15	0930	7.72	1606	-0.24	2157	8.39	Fri 15
16 Sat	0448	-0.73	1031	7.92	1700	-0.57	2250	8.72	Sat 16
17 Sun	0543	-1.16	1126	8.04	1751	-0.76	2341	8.89	Sun 17
18 Mon	0635	-1.38	1219	8.04	1840	-0.77			Mon 18
19 Tue	0031	8.89	0727	-1.36	1311	7.91	1930	-0.60	Tue 19
20 Wed	0121	8.71	0820	-1.12	1405	7.69	2022	-0.26	Wed 20
21 Thu	0214	8.37	0916	-0.72	1503	7.41	2119	0.17	Thu 21
22 Fri	0313	7.95	1014	-0.23	1608	7.16	2224	0.61	Fri 22
23 Sat	0424	7.53	1115	0.23	1715	7.01	2332	0.95	Sat 23
24 Sun	0539	7.22	1216	0.59	1820	6.99			Sun 24
25 Mon	0039	1.11	0647	7.08	1316	0.81	1920	7.10	Mon 25
26 Tue	0141	1.09	0748	7.07	1411	0.89	2015	7.29	Tue 26
27 Wed	0238	0.95	0843	7.13	1503	0.89	2106	7.48	Wed 27
28 Thu	0330	0.74	0934	7.21	1549	0.84	2153	7.65	Thu 28
29 Fri	0416	0.52	1019	7.26	1631	0.80	2235	7.75	Fri 29
30 Sat	0459	0.34	1102	7.28	1708	0.78	2313	7.79	Sat 30
MAY 2011									
1 Sun	0537	0.23	1140	7.24	1738	0.79	2344	7.77	Sun 1
2 Mon	0611	0.17	1214	7.17	1756	0.80	2359	7.77	Mon 2
3 Tue	0638	0.15	1234	7.11	1811	0.75			Tue 3
4 Wed	0012	7.86	0656	0.14	1248	7.13	1841	0.70	Wed 4
5 Thu	0041	7.99	0721	0.13	1316	7.21	1918	0.68	Thu 5
6 Fri	0118	8.09	0755	0.14	1353	7.29	2000	0.72	Fri 6
7 Sat	0200	8.10	0837	0.21	1436	7.35	2047	0.78	Sat 7



REALITY BITES

So much for our concern about the numbers of waterfowl. In last month's column, we expressed concern for the seemingly low numbers of duck-like birds in our area. Then a flock of greater scaup the size of Hart Island showed up and turned the water on either side of the bridge into a sea of black and white. Karen, who has been living near the water there for 27 years, has never seen anything like it. She and others were wondering why here, why now.

As we have written in the past, the waterway below the bridge is technically a tidal strait. Currents in straits are notoriously fierce because a lot of water is being squeezed through narrow spaces at the same time. Think the East River, which is, in fact, a tidal strait, and the way the water moves through there at the turn of the tide.

All of this extra movement of the water churns up the bottom, loosening it and making it easier for animals to find food. Moreover, tiny plants tend to get caught up in strong currents, as in those of a tidal strait. These draw plant eaters to the area, which in turn draw meat eaters. Think mossbunker (plant eaters) and bluefish

(meat eaters), which come together near the bridge every summer for their morning feeding frenzies. This is no coincidence.

Scaup are diving birds, and they eat mollusks and aquatic plants. We are guessing that they stopped and stayed where they did this year because the feeding was good. Why now and not anytime in the last 27 years (not in these numbers, anyway)? For that we would like to invite our readers to submit their own ideas. You can do so at jdsstrat@msn.com. Or write to Sights and Sounds c/o *The Island Current*, P.O. Box 6, Bronx NY 10464.

While watching the scaup one drizzly morning, we noticed a variety of seagulls swooping down into the water, as if on the attack. After more observations, we concluded that what was happening was less attack than theft. It seemed that what the seagulls wanted was the food the scaup were bringing up to the surface after a dive.

This wasn't the case for the poor bufflehead off Fordham Street. There she was, minding her own business, when all of a sudden, like a rock, a great black-backed gull dropped from the sky atop her. It had her in its claws and proceeded to peck and pluck her mercilessly. We watched them going around and around in the water until the end. It was over in about 15 minutes

Needless to say, it was not a pretty sight or sound. It was a far cry from a depiction by Disney, too. Every so often raw nature reveals itself, reminding us of the struggle for survival that life can be. It is instructive to remember this from time to time, and then to reflect how it is that we have endeavored to ease that struggle, for ourselves and others.

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Seven Secrets to Maintaining Weight Loss

If you have ever lost weight, you know how hard it is to keep it off. Do you ever wonder why some people are able to keep weight off, while others put it right back on? Read on for the seven secrets for maintaining weight loss. (And if you still have pounds to lose, these seven secrets will help you, too.)

Secret #1: Keep on Moving. If you are serious about keeping the weight off, you need to be serious about your workouts. Keep your activity level high, both in and out of the gym. Your workouts should consist of both cardiovascular training and strength training. When you are not at the gym, make an effort to move as much as possible by taking the stairs, going for walks or jogs and participating in recreational activities.

Secret #2: Be a Healthy Eater. Sorry, you can't go back to eating at the drive-through window and expect to maintain your weight loss. Focus on these three aspects of healthy eating: First, keep calories low. Gone are the days of eating mindlessly. Be aware of everything that goes into your mouth, whether by journaling or simply keeping a mental tally.

Second, be careful. Eat small portions, avoid high-calorie foods and check nutrition labels. You don't have to swear off chocolate forever, just eat it occasionally with portion control.

Third, eat a balanced diet. Include a variety of fruits and vegetables, lean meats and whole grains.

Secret #3: Turn off the TV. The average person watches a whopping 35 hours of television each week. People who successfully maintain weight loss, on the other

hand, watch an average of 7 hours or less. TV watching encourages snacking and puts you in a sedentary position on the couch. Spend less time in front of the TV and enjoy longer lasting weight loss.

Secret #4: Keep it Simple. Although it is important to keep a variety of fruits and vegetables in your program, your diet should be fairly simple. Create a repertoire of basic whole foods: fruits, vegetables, lean meats, whole grains, beans and nuts. When you cut down on your options it becomes easier to stick to your plan, making weight loss guaranteed.

Secret #5: Track Yourself. Your biggest fear is gaining back every solitary lost pound, but don't be afraid of your scale. Weigh yourself at least once each week to monitor any gains. If the numbers begin to climb then reduce calories and increase your exercise.

Secret #6: Eat for the Right Reason. Emotional eating is one of the top reasons that people are overweight. It's very important that you view food as fuel, not as an answer to deeper emotional needs. When food becomes more than just fuel, the pounds quickly add up. If you want to keep your weight under control, you're going to have to eliminate emotional eating.

Secret #7: Forget All-Or-Nothing. No one is perfect—not even you! There will be days when you eat more calories than you should. There will also be days when you miss a workout. Don't let small slipups send you into a tailspin of all-or-nothing sabotage. Simply get back to your healthy lifestyle rather than letting yourself backslide into your old habits.

Don't be one of the many who skip these seven secrets and instead return to life pre-weight loss. You worked hard to be where you are. You deserve to keep it.

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Palm Sunday, April 17:
The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, 10 AM

Maundy (Holy) Thursday, April 21:
Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 PM

Good Friday, April 22:
Ecumenical Service at Grace Church, 7:30 PM

Easter Sunday, April 24:
Festival Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM
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The Value of Service for Ourselves and Our Children

By JOHN SCARDINA

I recently spent time in El Salvador, building a house in the village of San Jose Villanueva. Six colleagues from Friends Academy and I worked through the Epilogos Foundation in providing a livable space for a family whose only source of income is selling tamales and cheese to neighbors. It was a life-changing experience, but more importantly brought home several lessons about service to others:

We are always better off than someone else. Even when our condition in life seems to be at the bottom, there are others in greater need. Perspective is a valuable gift that can keep us from feeling "too big" or "too small"—what one psychiatrist calls the "grandiosity versus despair" continuum.

Giving of time and work is valuable in a different way from giving money. The opportunity to experience with body, mind and spirit the actual living environment of those we serve is what makes actual service in person a deeper experience. We were lucky enough to be working side by side with the family who would live in the house, and the bonds that formed between us and that family were quite remarkable.

Service is the best antidote to depression. Carl Roger, a pioneer in client-centered psychology, was once asked what to do when one felt profoundly depressed. His answer was quite telling: pack a bag, leave your home, find someone worse off than you are and be of service. While in El Salvador, we met with Sister Peggy O'Neill,

who runs the Centro Art para la Paz (Art Center for Peace) in the town of Suchitoto. She has been in El Salvador since 1986, which was the middle of the 12-year war that ravaged the people of that country. Her commitment to service and healing through art that was forged in the midst of the horrors of war shines on her face, even as she speaks of unspeakable atrocities she witnessed. Sister Peggy exemplifies what William James called "the religion of healthy mindedness," the choice to be positive and life-affirming in one's actions and thoughts. Her commitment to others is a valuable model for overcoming our often self-indulgent mindset.

Service benefits the giver as much as the receiver. To quote Mario, the Salvadoran brother-in-law of one of my colleagues: "Thank you for coming to El Salvador and helping those who really need it. I'm sure you've changed some lives, as well as your own." This certainly changed my life.

Doing service as a family is a valuable way to exemplify the values we wish to embody as parents and wish to see in our children: love for others, gratitude for what we have and an unselfish willingness to make the world a better place. We can find opportunities for service everywhere, so don't be put off by lack of funds or time. Remember Kant's categorical imperative: "Act in every situation as you would wish every other person to act," and go out and make a difference.

April at Bartow-Pell

The first Friday in April marks the return of the Bronx Seaside Trolley, which makes a continuous loop from the Pelham Bay Park subway station to the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum to City Island starting at 5:30 p.m. At 7 p.m. the museum will host the return engagement of the Silver Roots ensemble, featuring flutist Shawn Wyckoff and violinist Maria Millar. Enjoy classical music, the mansion, light refreshments and a ride on the free Bronx Seaside Trolley. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Concert cost \$8; \$5 seniors and students; members free.

On Saturday, April 2, from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., learn the time-honored art of creating intricately patterned Ukrainian Easter eggs, and create your own, using a wax-resist technique at the hands-on Pysanky Workshop. Hot wax and permanent dyes are used, so please dress accordingly. Recommended for mature 14-year-olds and up. Bring a bag

lunch; only light refreshments are offered. Space is limited. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost \$15; members \$10.

Yoga in the Orangerie will be held on Wednesdays this spring: April 6, 13 and 27; May 4, 11, 18 and 25; June 1, 8 and 15, from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. The benefits of yoga are well known: destress, get strong and flexible and have fun! Taught by certified Anusara@ yoga teacher Ann Casapini in our serene, sunlit Orangerie, this personalized yoga class is limited to 12 people. Suitable for those new to yoga and for those who want to deepen their practice in a steady, mindful approach. Registration and pre-payment required; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost \$170 for series of ten classes; members \$150.

Volunteer Garden Clean-Up Day will take place on Saturday, April 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Roll up your sleeves and don your gardening gloves to help us keep the garden and grounds of BPMM looking beautiful! Light breakfast will be available. Please bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Free.

Our Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 16, from 10:30 a.m.–1 p.m. This is one day when it's okay to put all your eggs in one basket! Children 2–12 hunt for eggs in the formal garden, tap their talent at arts and crafts tables, and have their photo taken with the Easter Bunny. Please bring your own basket. Light refreshments will be offered. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost: children 2–12 \$12; members \$10. Rain date Sunday, April 17, 1–3:30 p.m.



Easter 1987, Age 5

Easter 1988, Age 6

Easter 1989, Age 7

Lorien Lea Denham.

Killed by a drunk driver on Good Friday, March 29, 1991, at College Park Drive and Hwy. 19 North in Meridian, Miss.

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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.

Happy anniversary on April 26 to my precious "OPAL." Love always, E.B.

Happy April 4 birthday wishes to Frank Ramftl; you've come to the next milestone! Love, Mom, Dad, Grandma and Fred.

Happy birthday to my daddy, Frank, with love from Gianna.

Belated March birthday wishes to Pell Place's Barbara Stiene, with love from your family and friends.

Happy birthday on April 25 to the Talebearer's Maria Swieciki, with love from Bob and the kids.

Birthday wishes on April 23 to the Sailmaker's Judy Iovieno, with hugs from your family. We love you!

Best wishes for a very happy birthday to Chase Bank's Brenda Winston, who will celebrate her big day on April 25.

Birthday greetings on April 19 to Pell Place's Eileen Scott.

A very happy birthday on April 8 to Bill Etzel from his sons, Rudy and Oscar, on Bay Street. We love you, Dad!

The Chase Branch of City Island is happy to welcome the newest member of our team, Ron Ramcharran. If you haven't met him yet, feel free to stop by and say "hi."

Happy 49th birthday greetings to Minneford Avenue's Joe Cioffi, with love from Margie, Matt and Spike.

Best wishes for continued happiness to Elizabeth and Ken Farnum, who are celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary on April 20. Also, a very happy birthday on April 22 to Elizabeth with ever so much love from your mom, Barbara, and sister, Debra.

Belated March birthday greetings to Mildred Jewett out in sunny California. We miss you and think of you often. Hope you enjoyed your special day!

Happy birthday on April 14 to Mari

Doyle, with love from your family.

It's the BIG 50 for Bay Street's Anne McIntyre on April 22. Enjoy every minute of it! Love, the Butterworths.

Happy 16th birthday wishes to Jack Strnad on April 28, with love from your family.

Happy 18th birthday greetings to Marine Street's David Butterworth on April 30, with love from your family.

Congratulations to the Kaleidoscope Gallery on its first anniversary. Best wishes for continued success.

You are our star! Congratulations to Grace Kelly Kretzmer of Carroll Street on her performances in the TD Art House Café and in the Random Farms Kids Theater production of "The Secret Garden." Love, Mama, Daddy and Paxton.

We are so proud of you, Amanda Campbell! Your performance in "The Secret Garden" at the Tarrytown Music Hall was wonderful! Love, Grace.

Congratulations to David Mooney on his work with the NYPD Auxiliary. Love, the Mooney and Kretzmer families.

Happy birthday on May 1 to Minneford Avenue's Diane Duryea with best wishes from your friends at Atlantic Emeritus Realty.

Maria Swieciki

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Photo by JENNY GEROS

On March 12, 2011, The City Island Junior Girl Scout Troop 1065—(l. to r.) Dusty Prohaska, Sabrina Fontana, Anastasia Geros, Catherine Ficke and Emma Ramos—participated in Thinking Day, or the J. Low Rally (named for Juliette Low, founder of the Girl Scouts). Each of the 20 troops from the Bronx represented a country (Denmark was City Island's) and prepared a display, a food sample and a swap (or token). At the rally they visited each "country" and had their passports stamped while they tasted the food and got some information about the country. Each troop also performed a skit, and Emma Ramos saved the day by singing "Part of Your World" from the Disney movie "The Little Mermaid," which was based on the story written by Danish author Hans Christian Andersen.



Photos by BARBARA DOLENSEK

Tina Fey filming a summer scene in the Hamptons, aka Horton Street on City Island, on March 25, 2011, for the final season episode of "30 Rock."

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Tracy Morgan arrives on Horton Street to film his Hamptons scene for "30 Rock."

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