HAIL AND FAREWELL: **GOODBYE TO A BRIDGE**

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by SEAN HALLIGAN

Deconstruction of the City Island Bridge is well under way, with the water main, utilities, fencing and concrete barriers removed at the east and west approaches to the bridge. The much-loved central superstructure of the bridge is scheduled to be removed later in July, and the steel elements will be put into storage until the new bridge in completed, at which time, some sections may be donated to local organizations for display or safekeeping.

The Welcome to City Island signs, which were installed by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, will be donated to the City Island Nautical Museum when they are removed from the bridge.

The Catherine Scott Promenade seawall rehabilitation has begun. Construction crews have removed broken parts of the façade in preparation for a total renovation. Unfortunately, the promenade will have to remain closed to the public until the fall in order to allow the contractor access to the work area.

Traffic agents are now in place to assist in the maintenance of traffic on both ends of the bridge Monday through Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m. and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m. They will remain on duty until Sept. 9.

For all project-related questions, call Roland Regos, community liaison, at 917-626-8391 or via e-mail at cityislandbridgehbx1164@gmail.com. For updates, check the City Island Bridge Facebook page or visit the Breen brothers' Facebook page The New City Island Bridge.



Photo by BOB BERENT

A candlelight vigil was held on June 15, 2016, in memory of those killed in the mass shooting in Orlando, FL, on June 12. In solidarity with those mourning and those suffering from wounds, 65 residents and off-Islanders gathered on the lawn of Temple Beth-El for a memorial and moment of silence, with lighted candles representing each innocent life extinguished.

Mayor Pleads Ignorance of Rodman's Neck Noise Issue

By KAREN NANI

On Thursday, June 16, Mayor Bill de Blasio appeared on WNYC's Brian Lehrer radio show and agreed to answer questions called in from the Bronx. One of the questions came from longtime City Island resident Barbara Dolensek, who called him at the suggestion of Inge Otto, and asked why he had eliminated funding from the FY 17 budget that was to be used to renovate the Rodman's Neck firing range.

She explained that the city had been promising since 1993 to install sound abatement at the range. She pointed out that Commissioner Bratton had allocated funding in the Police Department's budget for renovating the range but that the sum had been eliminated from the final budget released by Mayor de Blasio, in spite of the promises made over 20 years ago.

Ms. Dolensek explained that the noise from the range had increased dramatically since that time and affected not only City Island but all communities located on or near Eastchester Bay.

To her surprise, the Mayor claimed to

know nothing of the sound issue and said that he was glad to have it on his radar and would look into it by discussing it at the highest levels and then get back to her. Ms. Dolensek told The Current that the Mayor had been sent several letters complaining about the noise and that the Bronx Borough Director of the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit had been given information about the issue.

Councilmember James Vacca was also very surprised to hear the Mayor disclaim all knowledge of the sound issue. Mr. Vacca noted that he had been in touch with the Mayor's office repeatedly about this, had written letters to him, and had attended and spoken on the subject at Council oversight and budget hearings. He found it incredible that the Mayor would deny having any information about this, but he was glad that the WNYC audience heard him make this disclaimer in public.

In the meantime, neither Ms. Dolensek nor Mr. Vacca has heard anything further from the Mayor's office about the subject.

City Island's New Eagle Scout



Photos by KAREN NANI

Clam digger Michael Bellocchio achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on June 25, 2016, at a ceremony at Trinity United Methodist Church. City Island's newest Eagle Scout is shown with his parents and siblings (photo, right, I. to r.) Eva, Angelo, Michael, Carmella and Nick. He was also saluted by six of the 37 Islanders who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout since the troop began in 1934 (top photo): Ed Ciarletta, Tom Delaney, Nick Bellocchio, Michael, James Goonan, Waldo Persteins and Greg Clancy. They were joined by Jason Tewes from the Greater New York Council of Boy Scouts.

Michael Bellocchio, a lifelong resident of City Island, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America at the Trinity Methodist Church hall on



Continued on page 5

BRIEFLY...

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

AUDITIONS will be held by the City Island Theater Group for Stephen Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" on Friday, Aug. 19, at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Aug. 20, at 2 p.m. at Grace Hall, 116 City Island Avenue. Performances dates are the first three weekends in November.

MOMMY AND BABY YOGA: Classes led by Sarah Hutchings will start July 12 at the City Island Community Center on Fordham Street. Start time is 11:15 a.m. for one hour. Mothers should bring a yoga mat. The first class fee is \$10; thereafter, it is \$15 per class. The class offers gentle stretching, toning, baby massage and relaxation. The class offers a wonderful way to spend time together with your baby and with other mothers. Mothers will feel nurtured and babies will enjoy the calm state. For more information, call Sarah at 914-216-5851.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during May and June 2016. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1-BURGLARY
- 1 GRAND LARCENY
- 2 AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT
- 3 ASSAULT
- 1 MENACING
- 2 GRAFFITI
- 2 DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI)
- 1 MISSING PERSON

Police provided details on the following arrests and incidents for the period from May 1 to June 22, 2016 (the Blotter did not appear in the June issue of The Cur-

5/4 – Police are investigating an incident of aggravated harassment on Winters Street at 12:05 a.m. An Island male reported receiving a threatening voicemail from an unknown perpetrator.

5/5 - An off-Island female, 25, was arrested and charged with assault on Minneford Avenue at 5:20 a.m. The victim, an Island resident, told police that the female attacked him with a sharp instrument while he was sleeping. The victim sustained several stab wounds that required medical attention.

5/8 – On City Island Avenue at 3 p.m., an unknown perpetrator menaced an Island male in the parking lot of a commercial establishment. During a verbal dispute, the perpetrator displayed a black firearm and threatened to shoot the complainant. Police are investigating the incident, including security camera footage from the scene.

5/11 – At 11:05 p.m. on Centre Street, an Island male reported receiving a collections notice from a fraudulent account opened in his name without permission. Detectives from the 45th Precinct are investigating this incident of grand larceny identity theft.

5/18 - On City Island Avenue at 10 a.m., unknown perpetrator(s) put graffiti on some vehicles and heavy equipment at a construction site. The graffiti "tag" is being investigated by the Vandalism Squad.

5/28 - Police responded to a radio call about a vehicular accident on Terrace Street at 5:15 p.m. They arrested an off-Island female, 29, after detecting the strong odor of alcohol on her breath. She was transported to the 45th Precinct, where she failed a breathalyzer test and was charged with

6/12 - An off-Island female, 35, was arrested and charged with DWI on Bowne Street and City Island Avenue at 7:15 p.m. The defendant refused the order to stop given by a traffic agent at the location and then struck him in the knee with her vehicle. Police arrested the driver after detecting alcohol on her breath and observing her bloodshot eyes.

6/16 – An Island male, 50, was arrested and charged with assault on Minneford Avenue at 11:30 p.m. stemming from an incident on May 22. The defendant allegedly damaged property of one resident during a verbal exchange. He then punched the face of another male, who had intervened, and slammed him against a wall, causing injuries. The victim was transported to a local hospital.

6/18 - On Marine Street, a female resident and her husband reported a burglary after an unknown perpetrator entered their home through glass sliding doors, causing damage and removing property without permission. The perpetrator fled the scene after the resident screamed.

6/22 - As The Current went to press, an Island female, Lauren Daley, 35, of Schofield Street was still reported missing. Her mother told police that her daughter had left the apartment at 7:30 p.m. and suffered from schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Her mother feared for her daughter's safety and that she might hurt herself. Lauren is described as 5'6" tall and 120 pounds with reddish hair. Anyone with information should call the NYPD Tips hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS.

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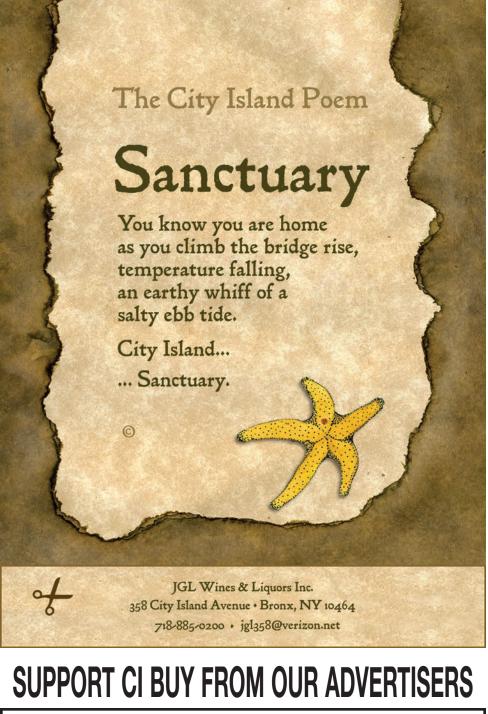
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Photo by LIFETOUCH

Members of the 2016 graduation class of Public School 175. Bottom row (I. to r.): graduates David Ventura, Jessica Lachman, Kiana Cancel, Caitlin Knapp, Serena Balassi, Meghan McConaghy, Sarah Stark, Joseph Cruz. Second row: faculty Morgan Daley; graduates Albieris Sosa, Brandon McGaughan, Alfred Beqiraj, Dmytro Berezniuk, Angelo Nieves, Donte Mitchell, Francis de los Santos, Benjamin Chadwick; faculty Karen Heil. Third row: John Albertelli, Alexa Gjonaj, Shatima Bengcion, Krisanta Ojo, Gesilda Noka, Eleni Mantzaris, Nicholas Kola; faculty Giuliana Addesso. Top row: Enrique Ramos, Jaden Torrado, Paul Mazzella, Deandre Morgan, Steven Rice, Adrian Kuka, Rudy Etzel, Jack Morrissey. Not pictured: Jayline Diaz, Adonna Garrett, Jaden Marrero.

Fair Weather, Proud Graduates

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Excited parents, friends and family members filled the seats at P.S. 175's graduation on Friday, June 24. Awards were presented to deserving students at the ceremony and at the awards dinner at the school the previous Wednesday.

The City Island School Principal's Award for Excellence went to Paul Mazzella; the City Island Chamber of Commerce Award for General Excellence was given to Gesilda Noka; and the Mary P. Fitzpatrick Award for Academic and General Excellence was presented to Adrian Kuka. Brandon McGaughan was the recipient of the Dr. Ed Rothschild Award for Citizenship and Community Involvement; the Lucrezia A. Fusco Award for Effort and Perseverance was given to Deandre Morgan.

At the Awards Dinner on June 15, the following presentations were made: the NYS Senate Assemblyman Jeff Klein Civic Award for Student Leadership went to Gesilda Noka and Brandon McGaughan; the Assemblyman Michael Benedetto Award for Academic Achievement was given to Albieris Sosa; the City Council Citation for Achievement was presented to Steven Rice and Eleni Mantzaris.

Jessica Lachman received both the City Council Speakers Achievement Award for Academic Excellence and the City of NY Commission on Women's Issues Junior High Leadership Award. The NYC Comptroller Award for Special Scholastic Achievement went to Jaden Torrado, and the NYC Public Advocate Award for Academic Achievement was given to Nicholas Kola and Alexa Gionai.

The Philip J. Abinanti Award for Service and Leadership went to Dmytro Berezniuk; the Blanche Schwartz Award for Effort was given to David Ventura: the UFT Citizenship Award for Academic Achievement went to Rudy Etzel; the Alice Persteins Award for Community Involvement was presented

to Jack Morrissey; and the Catherine Scott Literary Award from *The Island Current* was given to Kiana Cancel.

The AARP #318 School Service Award was given to Paul Mazzella; the Christine Jorgensen Hansen Community Service Award went to Meghan McConaghy; the Alice Connolly Service Award was presented to Serena Balassi.

The United Federation of Teachers presented awards in individual subject areas: English Language Arts, Rudy Etzel and Krisanta Ojo; Mathematics, Caitlin Knapp; Regents Math Award, Adrian Kuka; Regents Math Certificates, Serena Balassi, Rudy Etzel, Alexa Gjonaj, Nicholas Kola, Adrian Kuka, Jessica Lachman, Jack Morrissey, Gesilda Noka, Krisanta Ojo, Steven Rice, Jaden Torrado: Science, Albieris Sosa: Regents Science, Gesilda Noka; Regents Science Certificates, Serena Balassi, Alexa Gjonaj, Nicholas Kola, Adrian Kuka, Jack Morrissey, Gesilda Noka, Krisanta Ojo, Jaden Torrado; Social Studies, Jaden Torrado and Serena Balassi; Computer and Technology, Sarah Stark and Francis de los Santos; Physical Education, Angelo Nieves and Eleni Mantzaris; Art, Jayline Diaz. The Andrea Horowitz English Language Arts Award went to Jessica Lachman.

The P.S. 175 Service Awards were given to Serena Balassi, Joseph Cruz, Francis de los Santos, Rudy Etzel, Caitlin Knapp, Adrian Kuka, Jessica Lachman, Eleni Mantzaris, Paul Mazzella, Meghan McConaghy, Brandon McGaughan, Deandre Morgan, Jack Morrissey, Gesilda Noka, Krisanta Ojo and Jaden Torrado.

The P.S. 175 Effort Awards were given to John Albertelli, Dmytro Berezniuk, Joseph Cruz and Meghan McConaghy.

Students on the honor roll were: (Gold) Rudy Etzel, Alexa Gjonaj, Caitlin Knapp, Adrian Kuka, Jessica Lachman, Eleni Mantzaris, Gesilda Noka, Krisanta Ojo, Jaden Torrado; (Silver) Serena Balassi, Nicholas Kola, Brandon McGaughan, Jack Morrissey,

Angelo Nieves, Steven Rice, Albieris Sosa, Sarah Stark.





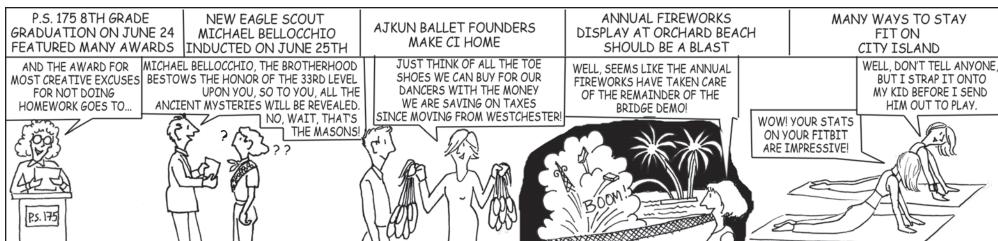


Michael Sabatello, the physical education teacher, organized an exercise fundraiser for the American Heart Association on May 27 at the City Island School. The energetic event helped raise awareness to promote healthy activities and combat heart disease. Students in kindergarten through grade 4 participated in "Jump Rope for Hearts," and grades 5 through 8 took part in "Hoops for Hearts". Kindergarten and first-grade students formed a

perfect, healthy heart (bottom photo) and

the children raised \$2,098.

Photos by MATTIA PANZA Roberta Gjonaj, P.S. 175 school nurse, and





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.

Love for City Island

To the Editor:

I want to start off by saying I love my island. I call it my island because I was born and raised here and went to P.S. 17 and P.S. 175. It has brought me so many fabulous friends and memories that I can't ever think of living anywhere else. People say that City Island has changed. Every neighborhood changes, but City Island is still unique, like no other community.

Last month was a very difficult time for myself and my family when we lost my beautiful wife, Nancy. The overwhelming love and support I received from all the beautiful City Islanders brings me to tears every time I think of you all. My grandfather, Harry Chernoff (aka Harry the tailor and the button king), said to me when I was a child that he would never leave the Island. I agree that it's a beautiful and friendly place, and I say the same thing to my girls. Nancy also loved her Island and was proud to have called it her home. That being said, don't take City Island for granted. Love the island and it will love you back!

Cory Fontana

A Tribute to Robert Owens

To the Editor:

My father, Robert M. Owens, passed away on May 20 after battling a long fight with what he called "the boring limitations of getting old." He was a great, clever and funny man, a free spirit who loved to laugh and make others laugh with his quick-witted humor, and so in honor of his character, here is a brief, silly, light-hearted tribute.

Robert Owens was many things, a loving father and grandfather, a naturalist and nature lover, a mental archivist of endless jokes, one-liners and sarcasm. Also an avid antique collector, he curated and maintained his own personal flea market and tag sale museum with a private collection of strange, unusual, historical and/or dumb objects.

A MacGyver with tools and a quirky inventor of cleverly rigged objects, he helped me create a Rube Goldberg type of science project when I was 14. This was a highly successful project for us, as Rube Goldberg inventions are made up of a series of creative but highly unnecessary steps to achieve a stupidly simple result. We both seemed to be naturals at replicating this amazing phenomenon.

When I was young, he would often take my family for rides and road trips with no exact destination in vehicles with no functioning gas meters. To him, this significantly increased the fun and excitement of every adventure.

An avid gardener, especially of tomatoes, cucumbers and basil, he also grew bone spurs in his later years. As a tree expert, he could tell you the species of any tree and how much it would cost to cut, shape or prune it. He created Owens Bros. Tree Service with his brothers Peter and Dennis in 1959, a company that was passed on to his sons, Dennis and Steven. It still thrives to this day, thanks to what he started. The company has had the same telephone number and location since it began 57 years ago, but if you'd like to contact him personally from now on, he says to please make note of his new address and contact information.

He saved and rehabilitated many wild animals displaced by the effects of his tree services over the years and taught me how to raise orphaned squirrels, pigeons and birds. He once raised an entire family of five orphaned raccoons and then released them in the Pelham Split Rock golf course, where they would steal golf balls and mess with the golfers just as in the movie "Caddyshack."

Well traveled as an adventurer and as a sailor in the Navy, my father visited many countries around the world and vacationed on many beautiful islands, but City Island is where he lived and spent much of his time—mostly because it was cheaper and closer to his work than most other island destinations.

Rest in power, Dad. You will be missed more than you could ever know and more than all these tears could ever express. We were all so lucky to have 78 years of your unique style of badassery, wit, love and humor

Candice Owens

A Plea for Trees

To the Editor:

I was saddened to read that some people are unhappy to have a tree planted on their property, so I thought that I would remind them of the many benefits of trees.

Trees bring coolness and beauty to our neighborhoods by providing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide from the air. Each tree takes in poisonous carbon dioxide, cools and filters the air and then releases up to 60 cubic feet of oxygen into the air every day. If you stand under a tree on a hot day, you will find that it is 10 to 20 degrees cooler there.

A home or business that is shaded by a tree can cut down on air-conditioning costs, thereby saving money and energy by reducing the amount of fossil fuel used.

A mature tree can add 10 to 15 percent to the value of your home. Remember, a tree-lined street is a big asset when selling your home.

Most of all, the trees add beauty and richness to a neighborhood. After a long barren winter, what a joy it is to see all the trees come into leaf! And how glorious they are in autumn when the leaves turn into all shades of red and gold.

I hope this letter helps people to realize the benefits of trees and in time will come to appreciate them as I do.

Susan Strazzera







Eagle Scout

Continued from page 1

June 25, 2016. Michael's scouting journey began nearly 12 years ago, when he joined Cub Scout Pack 211 in the first grade. He has persevered thoughout his years in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, earning Cub Scouts' highest honor, the Arrow of Light, as well as more than 20 merit badges as a Boy Scout.

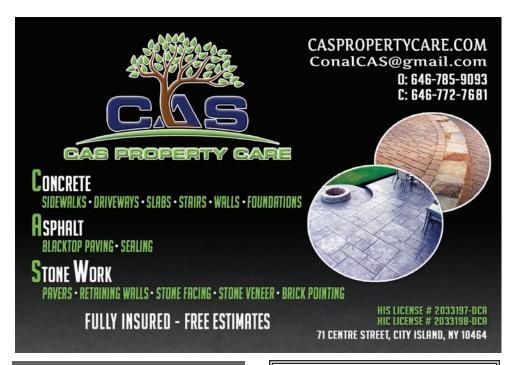
Through his years in Troop 211, Michael has served as a patrol leader, senior patrol leader and junior assistant scoutmaster. He also helped to lead Troop 211 to multiple first-place victories in the annual Klondike Derby, a contest of scouting skills between all of the troops in the Bronx and Manhattan.

Closer to home, Michael has completed a number of community service projects on his path to Eagle, including his Eagle Scout project, which involved a renovation and major cleanup of City Island's war memorials at the Hawkins Street Park, Pelham Cemetery and the Legion Triangle. He also supervised the construction and installation of planters at the City Island Nautical Museum as part of an earlier project.

Executive committee chair of the troop Greg Clancy, told *The Current*: "Mike has been an outstanding example of the values of scouting. He has also been a true pleasure to have in the troop. He has been an example of the hard work, leadership potential and good old-fashioned fun that we hope all scouts will come to enjoy on their scouting journey."

Scoutmaster Waldo Persteins added: "Michael Bellocchio has scouting in his blood. He loves being outdoors, teaching and inspiring younger scouts, and challenging himself to always do more than is necessary. I cannot wait to see how Troop 211 Eagle Scout Michael Bellocchio soars in the future."

Michael recently graduated from Iona Preparatory School and will be attending Stevens Institute of Technology as an engineering student in the fall. His proud parents are Angelo and Carmella Bellocchio of Reynolds Street; his sister is Girl Scout Eva Bellocchio and his brother, Nick, is a fellow Eagle Scout. Troop 211 wishes Mike great success as he transitions to the next exciting chapter of his life.



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New Life for an Old House

By BABARA DOLENSEK



At the west end of Horton Street stands a handsome Victorian house overlooking Eastchester Bay as it has done since it was built in 1896. Like all old houses, especially those located close to salt water, this one has needed restoration and renovation over the years, but the current owners, in the middle of yet another renovation, are determined to maintain the house's unique

In 1895, Frederick Gauss and his wife, Sophie, decided to move to City Island from Manhattan, where Mr. Gauss made his living as a plumber and builder. As one of his grandchildren recalls it, the family rowed around the island until they found the perfect spot for their house, and they purchased it from the estate of Margaret Horton, the widow of George Washington Horton Jr., whose father had settled on City Island in 1819.

As the current owner, Dan Connolly, points out, the location truly was perfect. For one thing, it faces west, on the leeward side of the island and escapes most of the nor'easters that periodically pummel the east side of City Island. For another, the property is at the center of a natural cove and the land slopes up so that the house is sited well above the high water mark and the occasional storm surges that accompany hurricanes.

Within a year, the house had been designed, by an architect in Bridgeport, CT, and built, perhaps by Mr. Gauss himself; the family moved into the house in 1897 and remained there until Frederick died in 1926. Before his death, he had erected three small bungalows on the property and also built a house on Earley Street for his sister and her family. That house eventually became the home of his youngest son, Philip, and his wife, Evelyn, who raised two daughters there. (Phil became a vice president and general manager of Minneford Yacht Yard, but that's another story!)

After Frederick Gauss's death, the house was sold to a man who then resold it within three years to a man named Albert Cotter. Mr. Cotter rented the bungalows in the summer, and one of his tenants was the grandfather of the current owner, Dan Connolly, who remembers spending summers there as a child. Dan's father, Stephen, purchased the entire property in 1973 from Mr. Cotter's daughter, and his mother and father, Alice and Clement Connolly, moved into the main house. (Another aside: Alice Connolly worked as a teacher until she had to retire and she then volunteered at P.S. 175 until she was 90 years old.) Previously in the 1960s, part of the property with two of the bungalows had been sold to Arthur (Ducky) Rauhauser and his wife, Lorraine, and the property remains in that family.

After Alice Connolly died in 2000, her grandson, Dan, and his wife, Sally, bought the house and thus began the long process of renovation and restoration. During the renovation, the Connollys found the original plans for the building, 40 pages in all, which they have now framed and mounted throughout the house.

Because maintenance of the house had been minimal, it needed an enormous amount of basic work, including a replacement of the heating system, the plumbing and the roof. They decided to gut the house and change the interior to make it more livable for their family, which meant that all of them had to live in the bungalow for the duration. However, they retained certain elements of the house that reflected the original quality of the structure, including the staircase with its elaborate balusters and newel post and a stained-glass window that had blackened

The Connollys were determined to keep the original character of the exterior, however. Aside from changing a couple of windows to French doors that would enable them to access the porch more easily and extending the porch across the west side of the house, they have allowed the house to retain its basic charming Victorian design, right down to the decorative elements and the shingles, which replicate exactly what was originally on the house. In working on the roof of the main house, the contractor found that underneath the asphalt was a once-beautiful slate roof, but it had been so badly damaged that it could

When the Connollys decided to rebuild their bungalow and garage, they learned in the process that all three of the original bungalows were kit homes which were constructed and sold by Sears-Roebuck from 1908 to 1940 for prices that varied from a few hundred to a couple of thousand dollars. These prefabricated cottages were made with drywall instead of plaster and had neatly engineered asphalt roofs that were not attached to the house but were so cleverly installed that they would not blow away. Dan Connolly estimates that the three bungalows date to about 1920, after World War I.

As anyone who owns an old house knows, constant attention must be paid to the exterior, especially when it must endure salt spray from time to time. Currently, the porch railings are being replaced with mahogany and the porch floor with ipe wood, a high-quality decking material that is so dense it won't float in water. But soon these elements will be completed and painted or stained so that one would never guess that they have not always been



Calling all artists to be part of "Artist's Choice," the next exhibition at the **Focal Point Gallery**, 321 City Island Avenue, from July 8 through July 31. The opening reception will be Friday, July 8, from 7 to 10 p.m. If you are an artist and would like to be part of an exhibition, there is a \$20 hanging fee per picture and a 30 percent fee if the art work is sold. All work has to be ready for hanging. Any questions please call 718-885-1403.



PROGRAMS AT THE CITY ISLAND LIBRARY 718-885-1703

Our hours are: Monday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JULY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

A Summer Reading Program: Turtle Dance Music engages children ages 2 and up and children on the autism spectrum with a novel 60-minute music experience. "We help kids come out of their shells!" The show is designed to be inclusive for all children and fun for parents and caregivers. For children, infants to age 5 years. Thursday, July 7, at 11 a.m.

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

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

Craft-A-Way: Drop in and participate in creating projects related to a theme or holiday. Friday, July 22, at 12 noon.

Lego League: Bring your imagination and join us for fun with Legos! Blocks of various sizes will be provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 5 through 11. A limit of 10 children with their caregivers. Every Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.

JULY TEEN AND TWEEN PROGRAMS

After School Magic: A magic and juggling show that will not only have everyone laughing and awed in amazement but is also designed to spark excitement about learning the skill sets exhibited in the show. All equipment is provided. Presented by Harrison Kramer. Ages 12–18. Thursday, July 7, at 3 p.m.

Family Movie: Feature movie titles, varying in length, "Goosebumps." Monday, July 11, at 4 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Activities at 3 p.m. July 1: Wii Gaming; July 8: Tricky Trivia Challenge; July 15: Games in the Garden (board games, cards, etc.); July 22: Wii Gaming; July 29: Pictionary.

JULY ADULT PROGRAMS

Island Writers-Creative Writing Group. This is a group for all who are interested in writing professionally or personally. Come check us out. It's free, special and open to all! Meets every Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Intro to Computers: Come to the library, ask questions about how to use computers and sharpen your skills through computer use. "How do I turn the computer on?" "How do I set up my own e-mail account and e-mail family and friends?" Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Résumé Workshop: Designed to assist in creating a new or updated resumé. Topics include cover letters and resources for job opportunities. A flash drive is required to save your work. Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

One-on-One: Computer Training: Stop in or call to make an appointment for one hour of personalized instruction that addresses your questions and concerns.

PSS Power Tools for Caregivers: A six-week educational series that provides self-care education programs for caregivers, including tools and strategies to better handle the unique challenges they face. Mondays, July 11, 25, and Aug. 1 at 1 p.m.

Animal Care Center Mobile Adoption Van: Adopt a cat, or a dog, take home a new friend. Saturday, July 16, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Saturday Afternoon Movies: 1 p.m.; July 9: "Concussion"; July 16: "Love the Coopers"; July 23, "Bridge of Spies"; July 30, "Miss You Already".

AUGUST CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

South of the Border: Puppets, masks and dance fill this trip of bilingual stories from Ecuador, Peru and Cuba, presented by Urban Stages. Friday, Aug. 26, at 2 p.m.

Please check flyers or call in advance in case of any unscheduled changes, additions or cancellations. For events in other branches, please check our website at www. nypl.org.



Bartow-Pell Events

A new exhibition on view at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum is "Wish You Were Here: Vintage Postcards of Pelham Bay and City Island," which will be on view through Aug. 18, when there will be a closing reception from 6 to 7 p.m. and a sunset concert from 7 to 8 p.m. Before e-mail and social media there were postcards! Tour bygone places and spaces of the east Bronx through postcards dating to the turn of the 19th century. Views of historic inns, beaches, street scenes, military camps, sports, and Prohibition-era speakeasies—all from the collection of local historian Thomas X. Casey—offer insight into changes in landscapes and lifestyles over the past century.

Plein Air Paintings of the Bartow-Pell Gardens will be on view from July 1 through Sept. 23, with an opening reception on Friday, July 1, 5 to 6 p.m. In celebration of the centennial of the formal garden, artists were invited to paint the gardens en plein air on June 9, in conjunction with the annual summer luncheon on the theme of French classical gardens. Paintings created outdoors capture the changing light and atmospheric mood of the historical landmarks and hidden treasures of the Bartow-Pell gardens and grounds. Featured artists are Michele Basora, Mary Colby, Sofya Dudnik, Elise Fechtmann, C'naan Hamburger, Thomas Legaspi, Sarah Olson, Julie Ortiz, Kim Power, Linda Sacewicz, Greg Thielker, Melanie Vote, Alice Elisabeth Waite.

JULY EVENTS

First Friday! Music & Trolley will take place on July 1 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Kenn Morr Band will perform the original alternative folk-rock songs of Ken Morr with three-part vocal harmonies by Tom Hagymasi, Bob Gaspar and Pat Ryan from 6 to 8 p.m. Enjoy the music, explore the museum and stroll the garden; light refreshments available. The trolley makes an hourly loop starting at 5:25 p.m. from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and students; members free.

BPMM Adventures Summer Camp will be available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily for children entering grades 1 through 6. Session I, July 11-15, is full, but there is still room in Sessions II (July 18-22; register by July 4) and III (August 8-12; register by July 25). Why spend those summer days indoors at your house when you could spend them outdoors at ours? Children are invited to spend a week having fun and learning about gardening, sustainability and local history. This unique program mixes core activities in the organic children's garden with exploration of the 19th-century mansion, the Northeast Woodlands wigwam, and family life in both. Kids will also enjoy engaging crafts, wildlife investigations, creative cooking, nature hikes, and more. Scholarships available. Registration and prepayment required. Cost: \$210 per session; members \$180 per session.

Volunteer Garden Clean-Up Day will be on Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Roll up your sleeves and don your gardening gloves to grow veggies in the Children's Garden. Youth volunteers and children with adult supervision are welcome. Registration requested, please e-mail *lgill@bpmm.org*. Free.

A Summer Sunset Concert will be presented on Thursday, July 21, from 7 to 8 p.m. Armenian-American cellist Ani

Kalayjian performs together with French violinist Chloé Kiffer. Watch the sunset and listen to an hour of glorious classical music by up-and-coming award-winning string players in a magical setting on a summer evening. Registration requested. Cost \$20.

Mansions and Cottages Trolley Tour, Saturday, July 23, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Take a trolley tour of historic homes and gardens in the Bronx. The tour culminates at Bartow-Pell, stopping first at Wave Hill, Van Cortlandt House, Valentine-Varian House, and Edgar Allen Poe Cottage, and driving by various historical sites along the way. Includes lunch at Arthur Avenue. Departs from Grand Concourse between 158th and 161st Streets. Cost \$50 adults, \$25 children under 12. For more information and tickets, call the Bronx Tourism Council at 718-590-3518.

AUGUST EVENTS

First Friday! Music & Trolley, Aug. 5, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Acoustic folk singersongwriter and guitarist, Scott Test, will perform original songs and classics from 6 to 8 p.m. Enjoy the music, explore the museum, and stroll the garden; light refreshments available. The trolley makes an hourly loop starting at 5:25 p.m. from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and students; members free.

Mansions and Cottages Trolley Tour, Saturday, Aug. 13, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. See July Events for details. For more information and tickets, call the Bronx Tourism Council at 718-590-3518.

Volunteer Garden Clean-Up Day, Saturday, Aug. 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Roll up your sleeves and don your gardening gloves to grow veggies in the Children's Garden. Youth volunteers and children with adult supervision are welcome. Registration requested, please e-mail *lgill@bpmm.org*. Free.



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SHAPE UP AND SHIP IN!

By KAREN NANI

There is no excuse to be out of shape on City Island in 2016! As always, you can swim, bike or walk around our terrific neighborhood. Or you can take advantage of the many structured activities, including private fitness training, aerobics classes, ballroom dancing and physical therapy.

Check the Community Center and the PSS News columns on page 11 in this issue for updates and contact information, but below is a sample of what's available for clam diggers and mussel suckers of all genders and ages.

The City Island Community Center in the former P.S. 17 building on Fordham Street offers a full range of classes for residents and off-Islanders. Most can be taken one class at a time, so there is no need to sign any contracts, as health clubs often require. Some classes are held in the mirrored workout room near the left entrance to the building, and others can be reached through the community room entrance at the right.

Islander Mary Immediato leads the longest-running class—aerobics and circuit training-at 9 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday mornings. "Proud Mary" has kept on burning for over 20 years, so join her energetic class.

More recently, Zumba has become a popular and fun way to burn calories and trim fat. Lettie leads the energetic dancing at the Community Center on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m., and Julia and Maria blend Zumba with kickboxing for 90 minutes on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Don't worry if you don't know hip hop or the Latin Samba; the instructors will lead you through the steps and the goal is to keep moving and have fun.

Maria also runs the new private gym at 440 City Island Avenue between Bowne and Ditmars Streets with her husband, Giovanni. They offer personal and shared training by the hour or half hour and their equipment is state-of-the-art. Their summer hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and by appointment on other days. They offer weight training and fitness classes for all ages, including children! Call them at 914-258-5075 or visit their website at www.clubfitnyc.com.

Feel like dancing? Ballroom dancing with Maurice on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. at the Community Center will teach couples and singles the fox trot, waltz and the hustle, along with Latin favorites. Bollywood dance with Lalitha is offered on Saturdays for tweens (12 and under) at 1:30 p.m. and teens/adults at 2:30 p.m. In these unique classes, you will have fun exploring the dance, energy and culture of Indian films (think of the final scene in "Slumdog Millionaire").

There is even belly dance with Kristin Sundays at 4.30 p.m. at the Community lin Nora Kelly.

The PSS Senior Center in the Grace Church parish hall near Pilot Street offers a range of great exercise classes for those 60 and over. You don't need to join the center full time to take advantage of the great ways to stay fit. Stop by for Tai Chi on Mondays and Thursdays at 9:15 a.m. or Yoga Stretch at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays. There is an Arthritis Workshop every Wednesday at 10:15 a.m. and Fit for Life exercises every Friday at 9 a.m.

For those of you who are recovering from an illness, surgery or injury, many have gotten back in motion under the care of Janine and her licensed therapists at City Island Physical Therapy and Wellness Center at 464 City Island Avenue between Bowne and Beach Streets. They offer physical therapy for all ages and orthopedic conditions. They even make house calls and inhome visits for house-bound patients. You can reach them at 718-885-1079 or visit their website at www.cityilsnadpt.com.

Want to dust off your old bicycle and go at your own pace? The bike paths around City Island and Pelham Bay Park are better than ever and are maintained by the Parks Department. You can ride over to Orchard Beach or along the path past Split Rock Golf Course into Pelham and beyond. The newest path goes into Co-Op City where a great switchback has been built just over the Hutchinson River Bridge. You can ride to Panera's for an iced-tea break and then back along the alternate route past the monument on Pelham Parkway. The paths are marked and keep you out of traffic for most of the way.

Some of the same paths are used by City Island's many walkers, including Betty Proietti, Tony Grimaldi and John O'Sullivan, and joggers like Mike Rauh. Get out your sneakers, start at your own pace and say hi to Islanders you meet along the way. Luckily, the temporary bridge includes walking and bike paths on both sides, which also give you a bird's-eye view of the demolition of the original City Island Bridge.

Finally, jump into Long Island Sound or Eastchester Bay for a refreshing swim this summer. Some City Island blocks have beach associations open to residents of those streets, while others, including the Fordham Street Beach Club, are open to other Islanders. There is also great swimming off the Morris Yacht and Beach Club if you join (you don't need a boat to be a member). If you live in some of the condominium developments on City Island, such as the Boatyard on Carroll Street, you can do laps in the swimming pools open to

There are more ways than ever to keep active on City Island and its surrounding

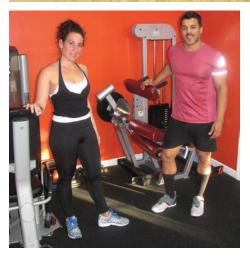




Photos by KAREN NANI and PATTY ATTIS

There are many opportunities to stay active on City Island, including Zumba classes at the Community Center (top photo), CardioFit at Grace Church (middle), personal training at ClubFit with Maria and Giovanni (third row), Bollywood dancing and cycling on the many bike paths all through Pelham Bay Park (bottom).











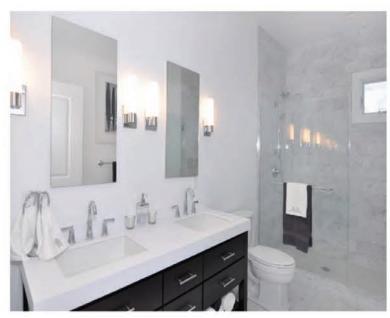
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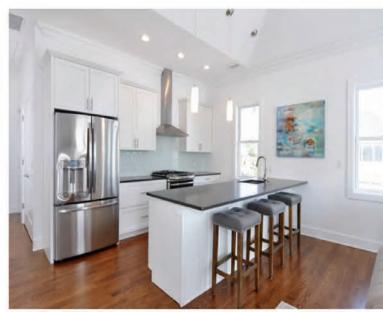
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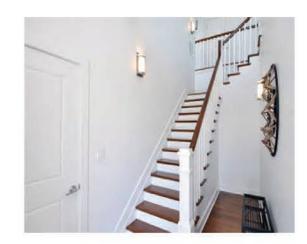














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Balletomanes on City Island

By KAREN NANI





Photos by RACHEL NEVILLE

Cross Street residents Chiara and Leonard Ajkun (top photos, I. to r. above) are artistic directors of the Ajkun Ballet Theatre, a company of 35 dancers who perform contemporary and traditional ballets every year. Among their productions (photo, right) is the ballet "Giselle," which will be performed at the Hostos Theater in the Bronx on Friday, Aug. 19, 2016, at 7:30 p.m.

A passion for dance and ballet is alive on City Island in Cross Street residents Chiara and Leonard Ajkun, artistic directors of the Ajkun Ballet Theatre. Former principal dancers, the couple currently heads a company of 35 dancers who perform 10 contemporary and traditional ballets every year.

The couple's journey to City Island began across the Atlantic in Europe. Chiara was born in Italy and began performing classical ballet at the age of eight in France. Meanwhile, Leonard Ajkun (pronounced "Ikon") was born in Albania and learned ballet under the tutelage of Bolshoi Ballet teachers from Russia.

The couple met in Italy when they were both performing and married in 1994. They moved to the United States in 1997, and Leonard joined the Dance Theater of Harlem.

For those who don't follow ballet as closely as the Ajkuns, it takes an enormous level of dedication to become a principal dancer in a major company. The grueling hours of practice and discipline have been dramatized in such movies as "The Black Swan" and the recent STARZ miniseries "Flesh and Bone."

In 2000, the couple founded the Ajkun Ballet Theatre and performed "contemporary and traditional ballets in New York and abroad," Chiara told *The Current* in a recent interview. She turned her focus from performing to choreography and artistic direction.

The company's non-profit mission includes their full-length performances, a summer residency for dancers from 15 countries, a "Young Stars of the Future" program for 14-year olds and an international exchange program.

With their extensive experience as

dancers and collaborations with such ballet greats as Rudolf Nureyev and George Balanchine, the Ajkuns have succeeded in creating an internationally renowned and comprehensive organization serving the professional dance world and the artistic community at large.

They produce five new ballets every year, ranging from the well-known full length classics "The Nutcracker" and "Giselle" to the contemporary pieces "Revolution" and "Mixed Bill."

The company has performed on many famous stages, including Lincoln Center's MMAC Theater and the New York City Center studios in Manhattan, as well as more local venues such as the Whitney Theater in New Rochelle and Iona College.

But it's not easy. In order to keep the company going, the Ajkuns work tirelessly to raise money. "Three quarters of our revenue comes from public funding, including grants and donors. The remaining costs are covered by ticket sales," Chiara explained.

So how did they wind up on City Island? "We were living in New Rochelle with our two sons and we started thinking about moving, as the property taxes kept rising," Chiara explained. "We were driving around and found City Island."

When they moved here, they met long-time Islander MaryJo Byrne, a physician's assistant at Montefiore Hospital. MaryJo offered her medical expertise to the company in helping keep the dancers healthy. She eventually became a member of the board of directors of the Ajkun Ballet Theatre.

MaryJo reminisced about meeting Chiara and Leonard. "I met Leonard and Chiara through my son Cian. He played on St Mary's Basketball team and was constantly complaining about another player



named Alexeij, who would eventually become one of his best friends! Chiara invited me to join her board as the Director of Health to help the dancers navigate their way to the correct providers with their limited health insurance. I am a physician's assistant at Montefiore, and since the company is uniquely Bronx based and international, it was a good fit. The Ajkun Ballet is just amazing. They are truly a world class company living in our own backyard. Their performances rival the New York City Ballet."

Meanwhile, the Ajkuns love living on City Island and have fostered dance in the community. They held an Arts and Education residency at P.S. 175 from 2006 to 2010, where their sons, Wolsrantz and Alexeij, attended school beginning in fourth and sixth grades. Now 21, Wolsrantz is pursuing a law degree, and Alexeij is in college.

Chiara and Leonard also recently became U.S. citizens. "We are happy to become Americans," Chiara proclaimed. Their enthusiasm and dedication for the arts and dance is definitely contagious. Check out their 2016–2017 season at their website www.ajkunbt.org and attend one of the performances. As a City Islander, you can say you live near the company's founders!





In June, the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion Post 156 recognized some of their longest serving members. Islander Betty Carman was honored for her 31 years of service (top photo, center with Anne Marie Rogers, auxiliary president, and Laura Booth, newly elected president). They also honored Theresa Carmody for 20 years of service, Jean Anderson for 68 years of service and Rose Booth for 20 years of service (bottom photo, I. to r.). These amazing women have dedicated themselves to veteran's causes for a total of 139 years! Keep going, ladies!

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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

JULY

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

Sat., July 30, Gilder Scholarship Fundraising Lawn Party, Morris Yacht & Beach Club, 2 p.m.

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

Sat., July 30, POTS Program, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: ziti or rotini with meatballs or meat sauce.

AUGUST

Sat., August 27, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: chicken with rice and beans.

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

Trinity United Methodist Church

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

Please visit Trinity's new home on the web (www.trinityofcityisland.org), where you will find all things Trinity, including the texts of Reverend Yew's sermons.

The beach service is scheduled for Aug. 14 at the Fordham Street Beach Club at 10 a.m.; all are welcome to attend.

The Trinity Sunday School raised money for Imagine No Malaria, this is the fifth year the kids have helped, and so far this year the New York Conference has raised over \$1 million.

Now that spring has come and gone and you have uncluttered your house, be sure to donate all that clutter and gently used items to the Budget Shop. It is open the first and third Tuesday's each month and occasional Saturdays. Trinity is thankful for City Island's continued support, both in volunteering of time, and the generosity of the donations.

Rick DeWitt

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island (TBE), "your shul by the sea," at 480 City Island Avenue, is a stimulating non-denominational place for observance of Jewish traditions. Jewish renewal is the style of our deeply spiritual, innovative, all-inclusive and open-minded worship. Rabbi Shohama Wiener and Rabbi David Evan Markus lead services with music by Your Band by the Sea. Events begin promptly, so please come 15 minutes before listed times. Services are followed by a celebratory oneg, light refreshments. Reminder: for the health and comfort of all, please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne. For more information, visit www.yourshulbythesea.org. We welcome you to follow us on Facebook.

Friday Kabbalat Shabbat services are on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

July 1, with Rabbi David

July 8, Community-led Shabbat

July 15, Community-led Shabbat

July 22, with Rabbi Shohama and Rabbi

July 29, Community-led Shabbat Aug. 5, Community-led Shabbat

Aug. 12, with Rabbi David

Aug. 19, Community led Shabbat

Aug. 26, Prelude to Shabbat by the Sea with Rabbi Rachel Barenblat 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Aug. 26, Shabbat by the Sea with Rabbi Shohama and Rabbi David 7-10 p.m.

Sept. 2, with Rabbi David

Events and Classes

Mondays in July and August from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.: Prana Yoga led by Daniella Haney, a certified instructor in transformative breath, body and spirit for deep healing. Suitable for all, dress in loose clothing. Suggested free will offering \$10 per session. RSVP to Daniella at kycnyc2aol.com.

Sunday, Aug. 14, 7 p.m.: Tisha b'Av observance with Rabbi David.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Aug. 26, 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. As a prelude to our annual Shabbat by the Sea extravaganza, join the Velveteen Rabbi, Rachel Barenblat, co-chair of ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal, for an intimate poetry presentation. She has been named one of the most inspiring rabbis for 2016 and listed as one of Time Magazine's top internet bloggers. Members free. \$20 non-members. Location: Ken Binder and Steve Roth's home, 2 Bay Street, City

Friday, Aug. 26, 7 to 10 p.m. Shabbat by the Sea, TBE's annual seaside summer premier event! Sing, dance and pray then linger with friends into the night. Not to be missed! Location: Ken Binder and Steve Roth's home, 2 Bay Street, City Island.

Seeking

Musicians: Looking for string, wind, brass and percussion players. Contact Rabbi David via yourshulbythesea@gmail.

Computer geek for database management and design, e-blast flyers. E-mail us at yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

Oneg sponsorships: For special occasions or memorials, contact Violet Smith at 718-885-0978 or *violetsmi@aol.com*.

Outreach

Enrollment continues for TBE's Hebrew school partner, Sinai Free Synagogue, in nearby Mount Vernon. To enroll a child or obtain more information, contact Rabbi Shohama via yourshulbythesea@gmail.

Leslie Lichtman-Berland

Grace Episcopal Church

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

Worship Schedule: Holy Communion Rite II, Sundays at 10 a.m. After the service, we offer coffee hour, a time for refreshments and fellowship.

Sunday School lessons are going strong



Photo by RICK DeWITT

The Trinity Youth Choir sang two songs during the offertory on Sunday, June 12. After the service, they hosted a coffee hour to help raise money for Imagine No Malaria. With their help, the conference has raised over \$1 million for the cause so far this year.

and will take place this summer on July 3 and 17 and Aug. 7 and 21. No extra time is needed; students will begin the service with the entire congregation at 10 a.m. and, then leave with their teacher for lessons and activities, including arts and crafts, for 30 to 40 minutes during the service. They will rejoin the congregation after the exchange of peace. All interested parents and children are welcome.

The Grace Tones, our musical ministry made up of members of the church choir and singers from on and off the Island, perform at area nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. We will meet for rehearsal on July 3 and Aug. 7 at 12:15 p.m. and will visit Providence Rest Nursing Home in September. If you would like to sing for this "feel good" cause, please contact Sandy Dunn at accentfix@gmail.

Hearts and Hands is a group of parishioners who knit and crochet comfort items (hats and blankets) for patients at Calvary Hospital. The group will meet on Monday, July 18, and Monday, Aug. 15, at 6:30 p.m. in Grace Church Hall, and we invite other crafters to join us. For more information, please call Lori Swink at 914-523-7413.

Please visit our website at www. gracecityisland.org.

Sandy Dunn

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

Our Thrift Shop will be closed during July and August. It will open again on the third Thursday of September. Donations will be received throughout the summer.

Registration has begun for our religious education program for September 2016. Forms are available in the vestibule of the church and in the rectory. Sign up your child/children now and receive an early-bird

Aug. 15 is the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven. Since it falls on a Monday this year, it will not be a holy day

of obligation. However, remember to pray to Mary on that day as the patroness of our parish.

Have a safe and pleasant summer!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

American Legion Ladies Auxiliary

Many thanks to all of our members, Legion volunteers and spectators for their continued support at our annual Memorial Day parade. Special thanks to Maggie Myers, who participated in our annual Poppy Drive and to those who generously donated. We hope to continue the tradition come Veterans Day. Our June year-end brunch was a huge success. Many thanks to Anne Marie Rogers and Laura Booth for hosting and organizing the event.

Service and Recognition Awards were given to Jean Anderson for 68 years of service, Rose Booth and Theresa Carmody for 20 years of service and Betty Carman for 31 years of service. Congratulations and thank you for your dedication to the auxiliary.

Flag Day was on June 14. We encourage all Americans to join Legion family members across the nation to fly the U.S. flag throughout the year to honor and support our veterans.

The next Ladies Auxiliary meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Your attendance is needed to join in the discussion of our new agenda and upcoming events. New members and volunteers are always welcome.

Congratulations to the essay winner for eighth-grade Americanism, Brendan McGaughan.

Please join us in supporting all our veterans past, present and future.

Joanne Valetta

REGULAR MEETINGS Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

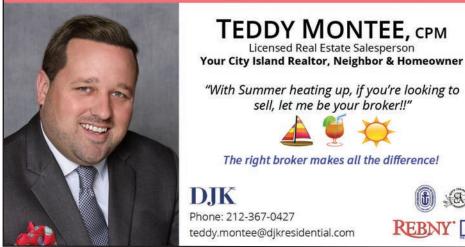
885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Overeaters Anonymous:

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!!!





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

The lazy, hazy days of summer are here, and some of our programs are on hold. Please be sure to contact the instructors for information.

Meanwhile, summer camp programs for children are still accepting registrations. Please enroll ASAP. See information below

You can still join the CSA for delivery of fresh organic produce, meat, poultry and eggs are available as well.

Remember that the Community Center is here for you and your families, so please support the programs and let us know if there is something you would like to see on the schedule.

Annual membership to the City Island Community Center is only \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Please think about it and consider joining. To join the Center, to request our brochure, and for up-to-date information, visit: www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org, call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook and check FB for any changes in classes.

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

COMING UP

Spruce-Up Our Community Center, Sunday, July 10, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. An annual get-together to help repair, touch up and tidy up our Center. Please join us for an hour or two. "Many hands make light work."

Mommy and Baby Yoga: Classes led by Sarah Hutchings will start July 12 at the City Island Community Center on Fordham Street. Start time is 11:15 a.m. for one hour. Mothers should bring a yoga mat. The first class fee is \$10; thereafter, it is \$15 per class. The class offers gentle stretching, toning, baby massage and relaxation. The class offers a wonderful way to spend time together with your baby



Edward D. Heben

CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA, AEP

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(C) 914.925.1120 (E) eheben@hebenonline.com HebenOnline.com and with other mothers. Mothers will feel nurtured and babies will enjoy the calm state. For more information, call Sarah at 914-216-5851.

City Island Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): Delivery begins Mondays, 5 to 6 p.m. The CSA provides fresh organic fruits and vegetables throughout the summer and fall. We now also have meat, poultry and eggs available. For information contact *laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com* or call 917-238-0529.

Summer Art Workshop Camp for Children: July 11 through 15, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for children ages 7 – 12. We will meet four hours a day to draw, sketch, paint on canvas and work with papier mâché with artist/teacher Lorraine Cantori. The children will explore the work of Edward Hopper, Mary Cassatt, and Amedeo Modigliani. There will be a special City Island landmark painting, an exhibit and reception and more. The students will bring their lunch. The fee is \$210. To enroll, or for information, call Lorraine at 914-552-5268 or email her at ceasardante@optonline. net.

Summer Irish Dance Workshop Camp: Aug. 8 through 11. All ages and levels learn the art of Irish Step Dance with Caitlin Nora Kelly. To enroll or for information. contact *caitlin.nora.kelly@gmail.com* or call 914-262-4517.

NEW PROGRAMS

Ballroom Dance: Wednesdays, 7 p.m. In July the featured dances will be the waltz and salsa with instructor Maurice Bonilla. It's lots of fun and soon you may be "Dancing with the Stars." For information, call 347-920-3127.

Bollywood Dance: Saturdays, Tweens, 12 and under, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Teens/Adults, 2:30 to 3:30. Join Lalitha Cosme to explore the dance, energy, movement and culture of Indian films. To register or for more information, e-mail *lalithadance@gmail.com*.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Aerobics with Mary: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 to 10 a.m. Stay strong with cross fit/aerobic strength training. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793. AFA Certified.

Belly Dance/Shimmy by the Sea with Kristin, aka Gypsy Curves, Sundays, NEW TIME 4:30 p.m. \$20 per class. If you plan to attend, call Kristin Amezquita at 646-625-1575.

Chess & Card Club: Tuesday at 7 p.m. Come play cards. Wednesday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid T.V. Have fun. If you plan to attend, call Bill at 718-541-3995.

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

Weight Watchers Meetings: Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with Debbie. Trim down and be healthy with the support of a great group. Join any time; it is never too late. For more information, call Elena at 718-885-2268.

Yoga with Jo Ann: Tuesday, 7 to 8:15 p.m. and Saturday, 8 to 9:15 a.m. \$10. Gentle level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and if possible, a yoga blanket. For information, e-mail *joanngny @aol.com* or call 917-853-4719.

Zumba with Julia/Kickbox with Maria: Saturday, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Want to lose those extra pounds and that belly fat? Well, here is your chance. Join this high-energy 90-minute workout with toning. For information, call Julia at 917-601-5514 or Maria at 347-267-0591.

Zumba with Lettie: Thursday, 6 p.m. Lettie's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. Classes are \$10. For information, call 917-292-4228.

Programs on Hold for Summer: Children's art with Lorraine (914-552-5268), C.I. Drawing Society with Josh (917-721-

1419), Jill's Playgroup (917-330-0922), Parenting Group with John (718-885-9305), Chair Yoga with Michael (Betty at 718-885-1098), Irish Dance (Caitlin at 914-262-4517); C. I. Culinary Club (Kenny at 917-533-7873).

Patty Grondahl

City Island Republicans

Thanks to all those who signed the petition to get the candidates onto the ballot.

A big thanks goes out to all of our petition carriers. Without you, the ballot would be empty, and we would not have a county organization.

Fred Ramftl Jr.



Sons of the American Legion Squadron #156

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

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

It's party time! When booking your next party, consider the Legion Post. Members receive a discount rate on all hall rentals.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

American Legion Post #156

On July 2, the Post will hold a fundraiser organized by Dianne O'Sullivan.

The post is in need of a webmaster. Anyone interested should contact the Post. Any retired veterans willing to help out around the Post should call John Muhlfeld at 718-885-0639. Help is greatly appreciated.

We have space for your next party. We can accommodate up to 80 people. Members receive a discount on all hall rentals. Call Joe Goonan at 718-885-1637.

We have more people to thank for helping out with Memorial day, especially Bill Wolf, who put out the flags on the graves at the cemetery. Thanks also to Jimmy Livingston, Walter Natiw, Mike Jawski and Ray Olmeda for putting up the flags and decorations in front of the Post for the parade. (Ray also found our missing Army flag in the basement.) All retired flags should be dropped off at the Post in the mailbox by the flagpole.

We are grateful to Ray Olmeda, who placed a lock on our mail box to keep our mail safe.

Several members are on sick call. Mike Treat is on the mend. Frank Hoffman is recuperating after recent heart surgery. Associate member Donald Blau is recovering from a fall at his home.

We are always in need of new members. The Post pays the dues of members who are on active duty. Younger people are necessary for the continuation of the Post.

Thank you to the entire City Island Community for all of your support over the past 97 years.

John Muhlfeld

PSS City Island Center

The mission of PSS City Island Center is to provide neighborhood adults 60 and over with the tools to live life to their fullest, keeping them healthy, engaged and connected through innovative programs and classes. We are not your everyday senior center!

The center is located at 116 City Island Avenue in Grace Church Hall and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. A delicious lunch is served every day from 12 to 1 p.m. Suggested donation: \$2. Programs are funded by PSS and the NYC Department for the Aging.

All programs and events are subject to change. Please call ahead to check if you have not attended before. To receive our newsletter and calendar of events send your email to pattis@pssusa.org.

NEW! Farmers' market trips will begin July 22; check calendar for future trips.

July 1: Close at 1 p.m.; lunch served 11:30 to 12:30

July 6: Mets game

July 7: Fire and Burn Safety

July 12: Well-Being and Depression— VNS Health Presentation

July 21: Yankees Game

July 28: Your Life/ Your Legacy

Please check www.facebook.com/PSSCi-tyIsland/ for August calendar of events.

July/August Physical Exercise: The exercise program offers classes at various levels of fitness. Drop in and try one of our classes for yourself. Mondays: Tai Chi for Arthritis at 9:15 a.m.; Tuesdays: Cardio Fitness at 9:15 a.m. and Yoga Stretch at 1 p.m.; Wednesdays: Zumba at 9:15 and Arthritis Workshop at 10:15 a.m.; Thursdays: Learn Tai Chi at 9:15 a.m.; Fridays: Fit for Life at 9 a.m., Yoga Stretch at 10:30 a.m., Beach Walk 1 p.m. starting July 15. Balance Class 1:30 p.m. starting July 8. Arthritis Workshop, For Yoga Stretch and Tai Chi classes, the suggested donation is \$1 each. The suggested donation for all other exercise classes is \$3 each.

July/August Programs: Mondays: Learn Canasta at 10:15; Individualized Computer Instruction at 1 p.m..; Tuesdays: Conversational Spanish at 10:15 a.m.; Blood Pressure Monitoring 10 to 11:30 a.m., July 5 and 29, Aug. 2, 16 and 30; Wednesdays: Calligraphy will resume in September. Ice Cream Express July 6 and 20, Aug. 3, 17 and 31; Haircuts by Brenda on July 13 and 27, Aug. 10 and 24 for \$10; Thursdays: Acrylic Painting at 10 a.m.; Bingo at 12:30 p.m. on July 14, Aug.18; Birthday Party July 21, Aug. 25; Fridays: Bake & Tag Sale, July 8, Aug. 12.

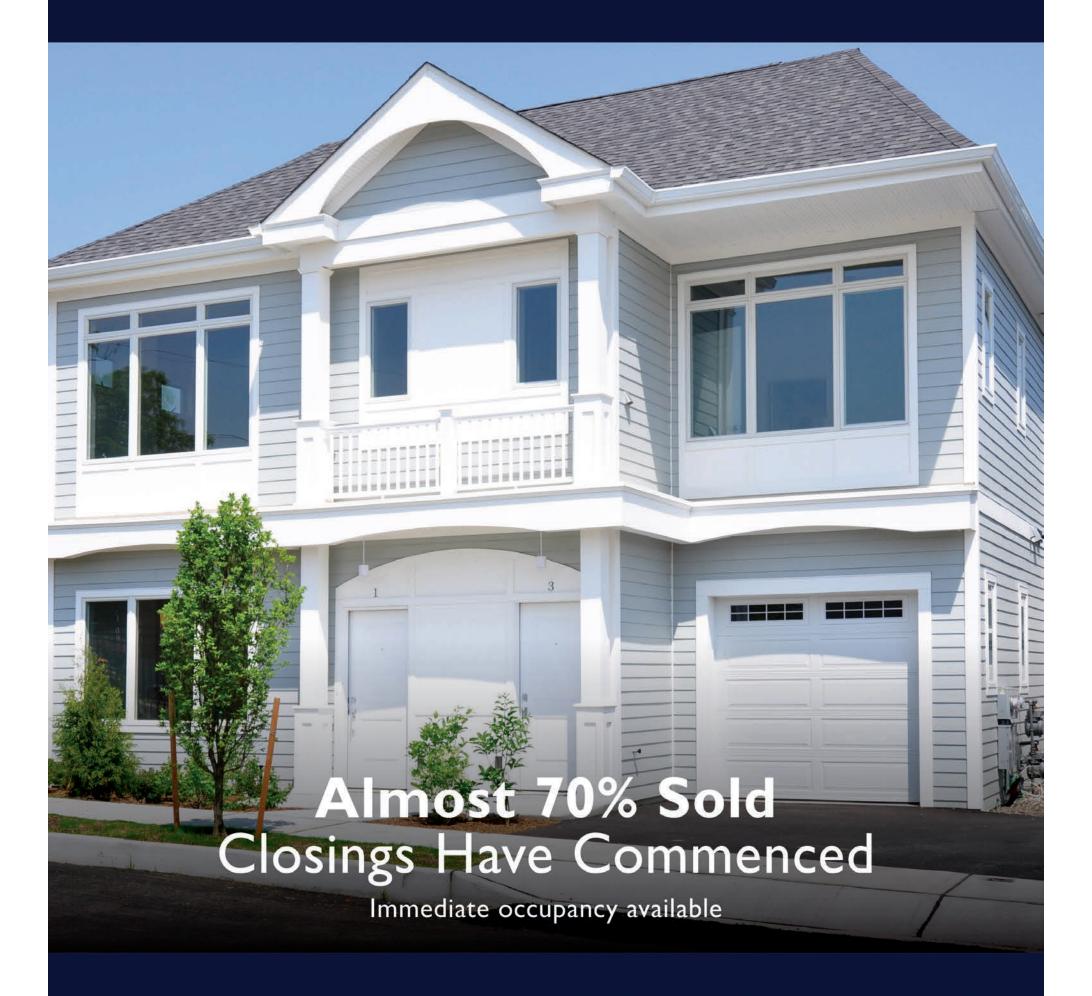
Information, Referrals and Assistance: Need help with filling out forms or applying for certain benefits? Don't know if you are eligible for benefits? We can help. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the Center.

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

Transportation Services. Off-Island shopping trips leave at 9:30 and include Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Target, Farmers' Market, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. All shopping trips require you to sign up ahead of time as we have limited seats. Sign up is available starting the Thursday before, for the following week's trips. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-Island shopping trips. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Roe at 347-834-6466 for pickup or trips.

Patty Attis





Congratulations to the amazing sales team at McClellan Sotheby's International Realty!

Sona Davidian, Holly Mellstrom, Caroline Baccellieri, Kristin Bischof







Photo courtesy of the CITY ISLAND NAUTICAL MUSEUM

There may not have been organized exercise classes in the old days on City Island, but there were plenty of beaches for swimming, including Maxim's Beach at the east end of Fordham Street. This old postcard and many others of City Island are on view at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum through Aug. 18.



There is a surprising variety of films that concern mathematics, in genres ranging from romantic comedies to educational settings to biopics, with some odd outliers, too. The first of the romantic comedies is It's My Turn (1980), starring Jill Clayburgh as Chicago-based math professor Kate Gunzinger. After moving in with her boyfriend, Homer (Charles Grodin), she goes to New York for a job interview at Columbia University and to attend her widowed father Jacob's (Steven Hill) wedding.

There she falls for injured ex-Cleveland Indian Ben Lewin (Michael Douglas), who is the son of Emma (Beverly Garland), her new stepmother. Kate is faced with many life-altering decisions and learns some important lessons along the way.

In I.Q. (1994), Tim Robbins plays a very bright, self-educated garage mechanic, Ed Walters, who falls in love with Catherine Boyd (Meg Ryan), the niece of Albert Einstein (Walter Matthau). Uncle Albert's friends all help Ed win Catherine's heart in this sweet, good natured comedy about love and mathematical equations.

In The Mirror Has Two Faces (1996), Jeff Bridges portrays mathematician Gregory Larkin. He is quite funny and charming in the deadpan role of a somber university lecturer who wants his marriage to frumpy English professor Rose Morgan (Barbra Streisand) to be a meeting of minds, without sex or romance. The excellent supporting cast includes Lauren Bacall as Rose's mother and Mimi Rogers and Pierce Brosnan as her sister and brother-in-law.

Moving on to films in educational settings, Edward James Olmos delivers an outstanding performance as math teacher Jaime Escalante in Stand and Deliver (1988). Trying to teach calculus to Latino students at an East Los Angeles high school requires considerable ingenuity, and Escalante dares his students to do well. Lou Diamond Phillips is excellent as the most difficult student, who is won over when the teacher sneaks him an extra set of textbooks to keep at home so he won't have to be seen carrying them in school.

Matt Damon earned a Best Actor Oscar nomination for his performance in the title role in Good Will Hunting (1997) as an MIT janitor who is an intellectually gifted mathematical genius. He is "discovered" by MIT Professor Lambeau (Stellan Skarsgard), who rescues him from police custody on the condition that Will study with him and get therapy. Psychotherapist Sean McGuire (Robin Williams) challenges Will emotionally, especially when Will falls for Skylar (Minnie Driver), a British medical student. Ben Affleck (who co-authored this Oscar-winning script with Damon) plays his supportive best friend, Chuckie.

21 (2008) stars Jim Sturgess as Ben Campbell, a highly intelligent student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who wants to go to medical school but cannot afford the tuition. His problem seems to be solved when he is selected by his unorthodox math professor, Micky Rosa (Kevin Spacey), to be trained in the skill of card counting at blackjack. The group, which also includes Jill (Kate Bosworth), Choi (Aaron Yoo), Kianna (Liza Lapira) and Fisher (Jacob Pitts), go on secret weekend trips to Las Vegas, where they win hundreds of thousands of dollars. When greed and arrogance get in the way, it places Professor Rosa, as well as the group, on the radar of a brutal casino security enforcer named Cole Williams (Lawrence Fishburne), who holds a personal grudge against Rosa and threatens to undo everything the students have learned and earned.

2001's best picture, A Beautiful Mind (which also garnered a best director award for Ron Howard). The film stars Russell Crowe in a magnificent portrayal of Nobel Prize-winning mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr. and his struggle with schizophrenia. Crowe's performance was the heart, mind and soul of the film, which also featured Jennifer Connelly as his wife, Alicia (who won best supporting actress). How this brilliant man is debilitated and then deals with his demons is a wonder to behold.

Proof (2005) is the story of Catherine (Gwyneth Paltrow), who is devoted to her father, Robert (Anthony Hopkins), a brilliant mathematician whose genius is compromised by mental illness. Catherine adjusts to his death and her own fears with the help of Hal (Jake Gyllenhaal), one of her father's former students. Her estranged sister, Claire (Hope Davis), arrives as Hal is helping Catherine to make a breakthrough.

The Imitation Game (2014) is based on the real life story of the impossibly arrogant, socially awkward mathematician and legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing (Benedict Cumberbatch). During the World War II, Turing joins a team of code-

Math-oriented biopics begin with

breakers, which includes Hugh Alexander

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(Matthew Goode), John Cairneross (Allen Leech), Peter Hilton (Matthew Beard), Jack Good (James Northcote) and Joan Clarke (Keira Knightley), at the top-secret facility at Bletchley Park. They work under the watchful eye of the uncompromising Commander Denniston (Charles Dance) and are protected by head of Intelligence Stewart Menzies (Mark Strong). After long two years, Turing and his team successfully develop their own machine to decipher the German code Enigma. The film touches on Turing's childhood and his tragic end, when he is persecuted by the British government because of the disclosure of his homosexuality.

Set during World War I, The Man Who Knew Infinity (2016) is the true story of Srinivasa Ramanujan (Dev Patel), a self-taught Indian mathematics genius, who travels to Trinity College, Cambridge, leaving behind his beautiful wife, Janaki (Devika Bhise). Over the course of five years, he forges a bond with his mentor, the brilliant and eccentric professor G.H. Hardy (Jeremy Irons). Unfortunately, Ramanujan must face a painful fight against prejudice and elitism in order to reveal his mathematic genius to the world. The film also features Stephen Fry as Sir Francis Spring, Toby Jones as Professor Littlewood and Jeremy Northam as Bertrand Russell.

Shot in rough, high-contrast black and white, the surrealist psychological thriller **Pi** (1998), also titled ϖ , earned several independent film awards. It is the story of Maximillian Cohen (Sean Gullette), a mentally tortured genius mathematician who lives barricaded behind a triple-locked door in a room filled with high-powered, customized computer equipment. Suffering debilitating headaches, he is obsessively driven to unlock the key to understanding existence. He is hounded by a Hasidic Jew named Lenny (Ben Shenkman) and a highpowered Wall Street representative Marcy (Pamela Hart), who want to know and use his secrets. He trusts only his old teacher, Sol (Mark Margolis), who warns him to stop with the key to universe business. This is a very odd unconventional film, which may not be to everyone's taste.

The Spanish film Fermat's Room (2007) (aka La Habitación de Fermat) is also a very quirky and mysterious film. Four famed mathematicians, Galois (Alejo Sauras), Hilbert (Lluis Homar), Pascual (Santi Millan) and Oliva (Elena Ballesteros), all strangers to one another, are invited to the remote home of a mysterious man known only as Fermat. Once there, they are locked in a room and given a series of problems, each of which must be solved within one minute. They soon discover that the stakes for a wrong answer are higher than they imagined, as they hurl closer to death with every wrong move. While they try to answer the equations in time, they struggle to figure out who Fermat is and why he has brought them together.

Moneyball (2011) is based on the true story of Billy Beane (Brad Pitt), a former professional baseball player who became the general manager of the Oakland A's. While wondering how to reinvent his team on a budget way smaller than the big city teams, he has an epiphany. He believes that all of baseball's conventional wisdom is wrong. He hires Ivy League grad Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), and in an unlikely partnership, they start recruiting bargain players based on mathematics (using a statistical analysis known as sabermetrics). They choose players that the scouts have called flawed though all of whom demonstrate an ability to get on base. This challenges old school traditions, much to the consternation of the Oakland A scouts, and especially Manager Art Howe (Phillip Seymour Hoffman). Beane's success is ultimately recognized by an offer from Boston Red Sox owner John Henry (Arliss Howard).

And until next time, happy viewing. . .





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

Filing an Amended Tax Return

What should you do if you have already filed your federal tax return and then discover a mistake? First of all, don't worry. In most cases, all you have to do is file an amended tax return. But before you do that, here is what you should be aware of when filing an amended tax return.

Taxpayers should use Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, to file an amended (corrected) tax return. You must file the corrected tax return on paper, since an amended return cannot be e-filed. If you need to file another schedule or form, don't forget to attach it to the amended return. An amended tax return should only be filed to correct errors or make changes to your original tax return. For example, you should amend your return if you need to change your filing status, or correct your income, deductions or credits.

You do not normally need to file an amended return to correct math errors because the IRS automatically makes those changes for you. Also, do not file an amended return because you forgot to attach tax forms, such as W-2s or schedules. The IRS normally will mail you a request asking for those.

Eligible taxpayers who filed a 2015 tax return and claimed a premium tax credit using incorrect information from either the federally facilitated or a state-based Health Insurance Marketplace generally do not have to file an amended return, regardless of the nature of the error, even if additional

taxes would be owed. The IRS may contact you to ask for a copy of your corrected Form 1095-A to verify the information.

Nonetheless, you may choose to file an amended return because some taxpayers find that filing an amended return may reduce their tax owed or give them a larger refund (see below for additional information)

If you are amending more than one tax return, prepare a separate 1040X for each return and mail them to the IRS in separate envelopes. Note the tax year of the return you are amending at the top of Form 1040X. You will find the appropriate IRS address to mail your return to in the Form 1040X instructions.

If you are filing an amended tax return to claim an additional refund, wait until you have received your original tax refund before filing Form 1040X. Amended returns take up to 16 weeks to process. You may cash your original refund check while waiting for the additional refund.

If you owe additional taxes with Form 1040X, file it and pay the tax as soon as possible to minimize interest and penalties. You can use IRS Direct Pay to pay your tax directly from your checking or savings account.

Generally, you must file Form 1040X within three years of the date you filed your original tax return or within two years of the date you paid the tax, whichever is later. For example, the last day for most people to file a 2013 claim for a refund is April 17, 2017. Special rules may apply to certain claims. For more information, see the instructions for Form 1040X or call the office.

You can track the status of your amended tax return for the current year three weeks after you file. You can also check the status of amended returns for up to three prior years. To use the "Where's My Amended Return" tool on the IRS website, just enter your taxpayer identification number (usually your Social Security number), date of birth and zip code. If you have

filed amended returns for more than one year, you can select each year individually to check the status of each.

If you enrolled in qualifying Marketplace health coverage, then you probably filed a tax return based on a Form 1095-A, which you received from the Marketplace. Some taxpayers may receive a second Form 1095-A because the information on their initial form was incorrect or incomplete. If you filed a 2015 tax return based on the initial Form 1095-A and claimed the premium tax credit using incorrect information from either the federally-facilitated or a statebased Health Insurance Marketplace, you should determine the effect the changes to your form might have on your return. Comparing the two Forms 1095-A can help you assess whether you should file an amended tax return, Form 1040X.

Corrected Form 1095-A

A corrected form generally indicates that you previously received a Form 1095-A containing one or more errors.

• If you have not yet filed your tax return, you should use this new form when completing your tax return.

• If you have already filed your tax return, you will need to determine the effect the changes to your form might have on your return. Some changes-such as a corrected address-may not affect your tax return or require any action on your part, while others, such as a change in your monthly premium amount, might. Compare the corrected Form 1095-A to the original form to determine the nature of the change. For a detailed list of these changes, see Corrected or Voided Form 1095-A. This information can help you assess whether you should file an amended tax return, Form 1040X. If you are uncertain whether you should amend your tax return, you may want to consult with a tax preparer.

• If you believe the information on your corrected Form 1095-A is incorrect or you have question about the form, you should contact your Marketplace.

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Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Isand. 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.).

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Horse Mackerel and Other Visitors

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water along comes a photo like the one below. Readers Terri and Todd sent it to us in support of our claim that you never know what you might find in and around our little island. It was snapped one morning last January in the like "about 20 years ago." An article from the 1879 edition of Forest and Stream was sent to us by Dr. DeCandido, and in it we learned that there were reports in 1835 from fishermen who had not seen horse mackerel since they "suddenly left our seas" in 1812. We also learned in the article that horse mackerel were bluefish.

Even more interesting to us than the



Photo by TERRI DUNPHY

water between Cross and Beach Streets.

Now, before anyone gets the wrong idea: that is NOT the dorsal fin of a shark. Terri swears she heard the animal exhaling through a blowhole, which probably makes this visitor a dolphin. After all, dolphins were seen in Long Island Sound last summer, marking the initial stages, perhaps, of a comeback to the Sound. And as we have written here before, dolphins were at one time not uncommon in the western part of Long Island Sound. It is like the burgeoning deer population in Pelham Bay Park. Like deer, dolphins are reappearing, or, you might say, returning home.

When was the last time you saw horse mackerel in Long Island Sound? In 1835, you would have probably said something

unusual name was the ebb and flow of the bluefish population, which was documented even then. We have commented here before about the size of the bluefish population. Learning that it has risen and fallen in the past leads us to conclude that what we and others have observed is that it is probably a natural occurrence. One other point of interest from the article, particularly to those inclined to enter the "Greatest Bluefish Tournament on Earth" in August, is the report that before their mysterious disappearance in 1812, landed bluefish would often weigh in at as much as 40 pounds. Today a 20-pounder would easily take the tournament's \$25,000 grand prize.

Keep your eyes and ears open out there this summer. Be safe and we'll see you again in September.



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IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY



Photo BY MARY COLBY

5,000 knitted poppies at the Chelsea Flower Show

The Chelsea Flower Show

Most people would agree that English gardens are the gold medal standard. The French and the Italians are certainly excellent gardeners; in fact, Italians may have invented garden rooms but by comparison the Brits have a way of creating landscapes and garden rooms that seem utterly natural. It looks effortless, but a lot of knowledge and finesse is needed to accomplish this very fine art. My last visit to the English countryside was in the year 2000, and this year it was time once again to refresh my memory both artistically and horticulturally.

The Chelsea Flower Show at the end of May coincides with the blooms of roses, iris, clematis, allium and poppies—a most beautiful time of year in the garden. What better time to tour Sissinghurst, Great Dixter, Munstead Wood and the Chelsea Physic Garden. This is the beginning of a five-part series on my recent trip to the UK. Starting off from London, I began my gardening pilgrimage with the Chelsea Flower Show.

The area around the Royal Hospital Chelsea was decked out in all its floral finery. Shops had window boxes and pots filled with sumptuous, billowing flower arrangements, as did the restaurants and the underground (subway). The Royal Hospital has been leasing its 66-acre grounds since 1912 to the Chelsea Flower Show. The hospital is home to 300 retired British officers who have found themselves in need; the only requirement is that they have no blemish of character. This year, what began as a small tribute by two Australian women to their fathers in World War II became an outpouring of respect in the shape of 5,000 hand-knitted poppies. It was quite a sight, as if the show had rolled out its red carpet of poppies to the visitors.

Chelsea is the world's premier garden show, and anybody who is anybody in the gardening arena takes a shot at flexing their green muscles here. Great pains are taken to create the show gardens, all of which hope to win Chelsea gold. The staging of these gardens must be constructed and planted in a week's time and then taken down with the grounds restored in one long weekend. It is quite a herculean task, and I have heard many great designers say that they loathe it and love it. Show gardens are judged not only on design and innovation, but also on the plants themselves. One designer grew 1,000 foxgloves to select a dozen, so perfect they must be to win.

The great pavilion is a huge tent that houses many of the best nurseries in England. Hillier's Nursery has won gold every year it has exhibited for its trees, shrubs and perennials. This is a great booth to see the latest introductions. The booths by Peter Beales Roses and David Austin Roses are both opulent and eye popping. The roses are at such peak perfection that one can only ogle and drool.

There are spectacular bulb displays and alpine wizardry. Vegetables so perfect that they might be wax. Potted auricula primroses displayed in gilded frames on velvet. A table made to look like a miniature forest, with bonsai larch for trees and a carpet of (suck air through my teeth) hepaticas. (No wonder this won Jubilee gold.)

You stagger through the exhibits, your head swelling from too much visual beauty with a feeling of claustrophobia, for the crowds are beginning to swell into a mob. Elbowing your way through the daffodil and viola displays, you come upon a small bucolic garden with a greenhouse and a picket fence. Here they are selling seeds, and even though you forgot your agricultural certificate, you cram as many packets into your pockets as you can without any thought of consequence.

Everyone is so nice and helpful and quick to engage on the newest plant at hand. On the last day of the show, the vendors and special gardens sell off their plants, creating an exodus of people barely visible behind their purchases. The British

love their gardens. In fact, it is their tourist trade. The Queen Mum makes sure to be there every year at the opening of the show. Yes, even Elizabeth gardens.

It was quite a day, and I came away with many souvenirs, seeds, brochures and notes taken on the newest varieties of plants. I am armed and ready to create new

gardens and paintings of my veddy, veddy green experience.

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





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CITY ISLAND SAIL & POWER SQUADRON JOIN US!

Photo by ERIC RAUHAUSE

The annual rite of summer, the Blessing of the Fleet, took place on Sunday, June 26, off Fenton's Dock. The City Island fleet consists of boats of all sizes, including cabin cruisers, speed boats, sailboats, kayaks and dinghies, all of which received an individual blessing for fair winds and smooth sailing in 2016.

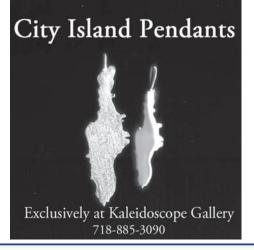
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A Current Review

"Sense the Wind"

JANE PROTZMAN



Courtesy of "Sense the Wind"

My interest in movies is very limited, but when I saw that there would be a special showing of "Sense the Wind" at the Pelham Picture House on May 24, my interest level rose exponentially. The film is not an Oscar contender, although it will be shown at the Rhode Island International Film Festival in Newport in August.

"Sense the Wind" is an exploration of sailboat racing with four blind sailors and

their lives as competitors. Camera angles at the start and finish lines of each race give the audience a close-up view of the action. At one point in a race, with very challenging wind and wave conditions, I realized that had I been there sighted and at the peak of my sailing agility, I would have been alarmed.

The viewer learns from this amazing film that, across the United States and abroad, visually impaired sailors learn not to fear what they cannot see. They sail by feel—the breeze on a cheek, the tension on the tiller, the sound of waves hitting the hull and the unwelcome sound of sails luffing. Sighted guides are on board, but their job is limited to describing the race course and giving tactical advice to the blind person on the helm and to the sheet handler.

In the international sport of blind sailing, there are two types of events—match and fleet racing. A match race is between two competitors, and the skipper relies on electronic sound beacons for guidance. Fleet racing involves many teams, which cross the starting line together with sighted guides on board. It seemed to me that the race courses were set either for downwind sailing or for beating to windward directions, which are the easiest wind directions to sense. For the sighted, this would be like sailing on a dark night or in a thick fog.

In fleet racing each team has two blind sailors and two sighted members. At the helm is the blind skipper, who is guided by a sighted tactician. The blind crew handles the mainsail, and a sighted crewmember runs the jib. Team communication is critical.

Blind Sailing International brings blind sailors throughout the world together to race competitively and to promote the value and benefits of blind sailing. Since 1992, blind sailing world championships have been conducted in different locations throughout the world, including New Zealand, Australia, England, Italy, Florida and Rhode Island. Blind Sailing International was formalized in 1994 and is currently headquartered in New Zealand.

A consultant to the film makers was Gary Jobson, who won the America's Cup in 1977 as a tactician for Ted Turner and is the preeminent ambassador for sailing who passionately promotes all levels and adaptations of the sport.

In the end, "Sense the Wind" subtly challenges us to consider what we are willing to do with the abilities that we have and to reexamine our notion of what disability means.

The documentary is traveling the globe, playing in film festivals, at sailing and yacht clubs, in rehab hospitals and disability centers, as well as local libraries and community art galleries. The film's website (www.sensethewind.com) indicates that local showings will be at SUNY Westchester Community College Digital Labs on Sept. 27 at 7 p.m.; Rowayton Library, Rowayton, CT, on Oct. 20, at 7:15 p.m.; and the Warner Library, Tarrytown, NY, on Nov. 19, at 2 p.m.

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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.

Maurice Albert Folliot

Maurice Folliot, a resident of City Island, died on March 7, 2016.

He was born on May 20, 1942, in Manhattan, to Maurice Albert Folliot and Florence Henn, attended P. S. 39 and graduated from James Monroe High School. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1960 and received an honorable discharge in 1964. He graduated from Southern Illinois University with a bachelor's degree in education; he earned a master's degree in research management and auditing from the New School for Social Research and an associate's degree from Pace University. He worked as a licensed CPA until he reentered the Air Force in 1971, serving until 1976.

After leaving the Air Force he worked for a bank, and it was at this time that he began to paint. He worked on his paintings every day and it became a significant part of his life. He took care of his parents and his sister, Louise, until their death and moved to Pilot Cove. Residents recall how he would spend the early evening on the Pilot Cove pier watching the boats go by. He was deeply spiritual and a parishioner at Grace Episcopal Church.

Maurice donated several of his paintings to Grace Church, which held a service celebrating his life on April 3. Shortly before he died, he donated two of his paintings to the Garden Club of City Island to be raffled off at the annual luncheon, which took place on May 19, 2016.

Maurice was predeceased by his parents and his sister Louise; he is survived by his sister Nanette Fick, who lives in Tennessee. He is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery.



Robert M. Owens

Robert M. Owens, a long-time resident of City Island, passed away on May 20, 2016, at the age of 78.

He was born in Mount Vernon, NY, on Aug. 26, 1938, and went through the

Mount Vernon school system. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1956 and served on the *USS Tarawa* until 1959. He was trained as a tree surgeon by Tree Preservation in Peekskill, NY, and studied horticulture, a subject in which he became extremely knowledgeable.

Robert Owens was a City Island resident for many years. In the 1960s, he established Owens Bros. Tree Service, a business based on City Island that thrives to this day. He was an avid collector of antique items, which he sometimes rejuvenated and sold.

He is survived by his children, Dennis, Steven and Candice; his grandchildren Alyssa, Casey, Steven Jr. and Rebeccah; and his sister, Constance, and his brother, Richard.



Nancy Rodstrom Fontana

After a long and courageous fight, longtime City Island resident Nancy Fontana passed away on June 1, 2016.

Nancy was born, on June 13, 1965, to Richard and Dolores Rodstrom of Buckley Street. She graduated from St. Mary, Star of the Sea School and from the St. Gabriel's High School in New Rochelle.

She and Cory Fontana, also a clam digger, began dating when she was 15 and married on Sept. 26, 1987. They moved to Florida, where they managed the Crab Shanty and Hooper's Choice, but moved back to City Island five years later. Nancy became owner of the family business, the Fontana Bridal Salon, and brought smiles to thousands of brides and their families over the years.

Nancy was a true clam digger and very proud of it. She loved everything about City Island, especially boating with her family and having huge barbecues at their house for friends and family. Her most memorable saying was 'This too shall pass," and she lived to that.

Nancy was predeceased by her father, Richard, and her brother Robert; she is survived by her husband, Cory Fontana, and their two daughters, Samantha Ann Fontana and Sabrina Rae Fontana; her brother Richard Rodstrom and sister, Debra Provincial; her mother, Dolores Rodstrom, her mother-in-law, Valerie Fontana and several nieces and nephews.

Her funeral service was held at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church on June 9, 2016.

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

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HALF FAIR WEATHER





Photos by EVYONNE BAKER and GINGER DANNEGGER

The sun shone only on Saturday of the 2016 Arts and Crafts Fair, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, held on June 4 and 5. Artists, craftspeople and local organizations lined City Island Avenue offering jewelry, clothing, soaps, glassware, and other handmade crafts. There were even homemade baked goods for sale from the members of Grace Church (top photo) and information about the City Island Nautical Museum (bottom photo). Unfortunately, heavy rain on Sunday put a damper on the usually crowded event. The Chamber is hoping for better weather for the Fall Arts and Crafts Fair, including the popular chowder contest, scheduled for Sept. 10 and 11, 2016.



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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

A very happy belated 80th birthday wish to Pilot Street's Toby Liederman, who celebrated on June 8.

Best wishes to newlyweds Nicole Lindemann and Justin Rodstrom, who were married at Sacred Heart Church in Queens on June 17. The happy couple honeymooned in Hawaii. Nicole is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Lindemann, and Justin is the son of Rochelle Street's Walter and Rose Rodstrom.

Happy July 4 and July 23 birthday wishes to our sweet granddaughters, Kayla and Alyssa Fusco. Lots of love to both of you from Grandma and Grandpa Penny on your very special days.

Super birthday wishes to our awesome granddaughter, Alana, who celebrates her sixth birthday on July 9. We love you so much! Nonni and Pop Ribaudo.

Long-distance birthday wishes in St. Louis to former Tier Street resident Dr. Ellen Dierenfeld, who will celebrate on July 9. Your City Island friends miss you!

The energetic Islander and fitness instructor Mary Immediato will celebrate her birthday on July 13. Best wishes from her aerobics class.

Best wishes for the happiest of birthdays to Hawkins Street's Lori Travers, who will blow out birthday candles on July 19.

Best wishes for continued happiness to John and Corinne Barry, who will

celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary on July 22. With much love from your families.

July is a busy month in the Rauh and Rota families. Happy third birthday to our cute little grandson, Arlo Rota, from Grandma Judy and Grandpa Mike. Arlo's Mommy, Beth, and his aunt, Susie Rauh, have July birthdays. Arlo's parents, Beth and Matt Rota, celebrate their anniversary on July 24.

Happy Aug. 9 birthday to clam digger Roger Nani, who will celebrate his big day in Frederick, MD, where he continues to work as a chemist at the National Cancer Institute. Enjoy a break from the laboratory and have some cake!

A very happy 88th birthday on August 10 to Herbert A. Hild, a true clamdigger. Wishing you a joyful celebration and good health in the years to come. With love from your family.

Very happy parents John and Corinne





Photos by BOBBY SWIECIKI

Justin Rodstrom married Nicole Lindemann on June 17, 2016 (top photo). Justin's groomsmen were his brother and City Islanders who have been his friends since their early days at PS 175 (bottom photo, I. to r.): Matthew Rodstrom, Frankie Cebek, Eddie Ciarletta, the groom, Tommy Delaney and John Doyle.

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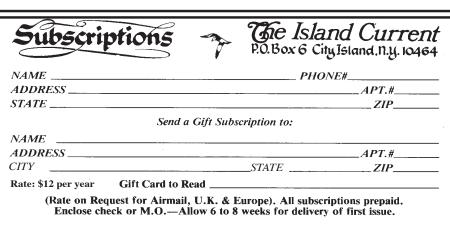




Photo by KAREN NANI

Fitness instructor Mary Immediato (front, center) will celebrate her birthday on July 13.

Barry welcomed the birth of their daughter, Lucy Rita, on Feb. 14. Thrilled grandparents are Betty Barry and Tom and Regina Gorman. Uncle Dan Barry is overjoyed with the new addition to the family.

Happy Aug. 16 birthday to Nolan Quinn, with love from your family and

Birthday greetings on Aug. 22 to Bay Street's Maria Christina Swieciki, who turns 25. With love from the Swieciki and Iovieno families.

Happy birthday on Aug. 28 to the Nautical Winds' Jo Heck, with love from your family and friends.

Birthday greetings on Aug. 30 to our Bay Street neighbor and friend Samantha Emerick. Have a great day!

Happy 50th birthday to our lovely Jennifer Carman. We are so proud of all your accomplishments and love you so much. Mom and Dad, family and friends.

Wishing all our neighbors, friends and readers a very happy and safe summer. See you in September!

Maria Swieciki



Photo by MARK NANI

Islanders who looked up on June 5 were treated to a huge rainbow at the end of a rainy day. Some couldn't resist looking for a pot of gold.

