

# The Island Current

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## POWER OUTAGES PLAGUE CITY ISLAND

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

During the early heat wave that struck the northeast in early June, followed by a severe thunderstorm on the night of June 10, a number of Island residents suffered short outages and brownouts, as Con Edison struggled to cope with an overburdened system and downed trees and lines.

Since this situation is likely to recur during the summer, Con Edison recommends that residents take a number of steps to minimize or prevent damage caused by power outages.

First, if you suffer any interruption in service, be sure to call Con Edison right away at 1-800-75CONED, since the company may not be aware of problems on City Island. Be sure to note if the outage is also affecting your neighbors.

If you can access the Internet, you may also report the outage on the Con Edison Web site at [www.conEd.com](http://www.conEd.com), where you will find a map indicating affected areas and estimating the time when power will be restored.

If your power continues to be down, be sure to leave at least one light on so that you will know when power is restored.

Avoid opening your freezer to see if food is still frozen. Every time you open the door, room-temperature air enters and speeds the thawing process. Most fully loaded freezers will keep food frozen for approximately 36 to 48 hours; half-full

freezers will keep food frozen for about 24 hours.

If you see downed electrical wires, do not go near them but call 911 immediately and then call Con Ed. Treat all downed wires as if they are live, and never attempt to move or touch them with any object. Be aware of the fact that downed wires can be hidden from view by tree limbs, leaves or water. If a power line falls on your car while you are in it, stay inside the vehicle and wait for emergency personnel.

To be prepared for outages, Con Ed advises that all computers and other sensitive equipment be protected by the use of surge protectors. The company also recommends that householders use the most energy-efficient appliances and look for Energy Star models when shopping. Flat-screen televisions, for example, pull a great deal more power than regular televisions. Also, do not leave chargers for cell phones, Blackberries or i-phones plugged into wall sockets when not in use. Even when they are not charging the devices, they continue to pull power from the system.

Most importantly, do not assume that Con Ed is aware of a power outage that you may be experiencing and be sure to call them right away to report the situation, so that the power may be restored in a timely fashion.

## Harlem Yacht Club Celebrates Its 125th Year

By EVELYN SCHNEIDER, Harlem Yacht Club Historian



Photos courtesy of CITY ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Harlem Yacht Club Victorian clubhouse built in 1898.



Harlem Yacht Club clubhouse as it appears now.

As most City Islanders know, the Harlem Yacht Club (HYC) is not in Harlem, but it did start out there! The Harlem Yacht Club, now on Hunter Avenue on City Island, was initially founded at 124th Street and the East River in June of 1883. It spent most of its first two decades three blocks further south at the old Randall mansion (former home of the same family that owned Randall's Island), and it also operated a "station" at College Point, from which most of its regattas were conducted.

In 1894 the club gave up its station at College Point in favor of one on property it had purchased on City Island. It then occupied both locations—its "city house" at the Randall mansion and its City Island station—for about 10 years, even conducting occasional bicycle runs from one house to the other in those early days before the advent of automobiles. The College Point clubhouse was towed to the new site at City Island, but it was replaced by a lovely Victorian building in 1898 when it was decided that a larger structure was needed. The opening of the new clubhouse in June of 1899 was heralded by a "salute of seventeen guns . . . an illumination [of the fleet], and fireworks ashore and afloat" (*New York Times*, June 20, 1899, p. 5).

Finally, in 1903, the club gave up its headquarters at the Randall mansion in Harlem and took up permanent residence at its property in City Island, its only clubhouse. Unfortunately, the old Victorian building burned in 1915 but it was promptly replaced by the club's current three-story building, which houses a bar, a restaurant and a mem-

bers' lounge on its main floor, as well as a second-story ballroom and third-floor offices and steward's quarters.

The HYC was a founding member of three yacht racing associations: the New York Yacht Racing Association (no longer in existence), the Yacht Racing Association of Long Island Sound (YRALIS) and the Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association (EBYRA). These last two are still very active today.

From its inception, the Harlem Yacht Club conducted numerous regattas and became known in local waters for its Memorial Day regatta, which it conducted initially on its own and later as part of the YRALIS championship circuit. For 60 years, this race was said to kick off the yacht racing season in western Long Island Sound.

In that golden era of yacht racing, the public could enjoy following a regatta by purchasing a ticket to ride on one of the steamers that followed the boats around the race course. The steamers could carry up to 2,000 passengers, and this club enjoyed a popular following of such spectators in its early years on the Sound until the practice ended with the rise of other spectator sports.

The club also ran several long-distance races, such as the HYC Stratford Shoal Race, which ran from 1905 to 1920 and eventually evolved into a combination sail and powerboat race. In the meantime, the club's racers also competed, and won honors, in the regattas of other clubs in the YRALIS circuit.

In its 1911 YRALIS Memorial Day re-



Photos by PAUL NANI

A severe thunderstorm on the night of June 10, 2008, left a number of Island residents with power outages and brownouts, as Con Edison struggled to cope with an overburdened system and downed trees and lines. High winds caused large branches to fall on cars and fences along King and Minneford Avenues when the storm hit about 9:30 p.m. Police responded and closed off the affected streets until the branches and downed power lines could be removed.

Continued on page 9



# BRIEFLY...

**CITY ISLAND HEALTH FAIR:** All older adults are invited to a health fair on Tuesday, July 8, at Grace Church Parish Hall, City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A massage therapist will provide mini-massages, two registered nurses will do blood pressure screenings and there will be a talk on eating healthy by Kathy Anderson, a registered nutritionist. There will be refreshments, give-aways-galore and a raffle. The health fair is sponsored by the Visiting Nurse Service Choice, Presbyterian Senior Services and the NYC Department for the Aging. City Island Healthy Senior Exercise Programs will be complimentary that day. Sittercise, usually scheduled for 10:30, will begin at 9:30; after the fair Tai Chi/Yoga, which usually begins at 12, will begin at 12:30. It's a great opportunity to try these sessions. Our regular schedule will resume on Wednesday with an Orchard Beach Walk at 9:30; Thursday, Cardio Fitness at 9:45; Friday, Arthritis Foundation Exercise at 10; Monday, Orchard Beach Walk at 9:30. The City Island Van provides transportation to and from Orchard Beach and all programs at Grace Parish Hall, including the Health Fair, for a contribution of 50 cents each way. Call Patty at 914-882-9578 for more information and for an update on the August schedule.

**SUMMER THEATER PRODUCTION:** "Cinderella Wore Combat Boots," a comedy in one act by Jerry Chase, directed by Elizabeth Paldino, will be performed outdoors on the Grace Episcopal Church lawn, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, on Saturday, July 12, at 2 p.m. This play is based on the familiar fairy tale with all the basic elements in place—but it is told here with a considerable and highly imaginative difference. Cinderella, and the other characters, think and speak in modern terms, replacing the innocent mood of the original with the hip and knowing attitudes of today's young people. And Cinderella does wear combat boots to the ball, which is delightfully consistent with the wacky, tongue-in-cheek and continually diverting style of this charming short play. No tickets necessary; just show up!

**CALLING ALL ARTISTS:** Be part of the 24th City Island Art Extravaganza at Focal Point Gallery, 321 City Island Avenue. If you are an artist 18 years or older, bring your artwork to Focal Point Gallery as soon as possible. An assortment of 132 pieces from 120 artists left onlookers in awe during the overwhelmingly successful Spring Exhibition. Call 718-885-1403 to set up an appointment before you stop by the gallery. Space is limited, so please be early. The deadline to get work to the gallery is July 6. There is a \$15 hanging fee per piece, and the gallery will only accept work (artist's choice) ready to hang that is reasonable in size. The gallery will take 30 percent of the sale price; work can be marked not for sale. The gallery will not be responsible for shipping work back to the artist. The opening reception for the artists will be on Friday, July 11, at 7 p.m. All art has to be picked up by the artist at the end of the exhibition on Aug. 3.

**MARITIME/WARRIORS SPORTS CLINICS:** Coach Jay Demers of the Warrior Football Club announces that the Warriors will join with Maritime College, Pelham Bay Little League and the Highlander Baseball Academy to conduct two one-week summer sports clinics this July. The first week, July 21 to 25, will be held at the spacious Maritime College grounds and will focus on football instruction and physical fitness. Clayton Kendrick Holmes, head coach of the Maritime Privateers, and his staff will put the youngsters through their paces, and the participants will also get to swim every day. The second week of camp will be held at the Pelham Bay Little League complex and will feature baseball and softball instruction by Joe Cisco and the Highlander staff. Football, swimming and other activities will also be included. All participants receive t-shirts, snacks and awards. For information, call Jerry Demers at 718-829-7574.

**CALLING THE CLASS OF 1956:** The P.S. 17 class of 1956 is planning a reunion for the summer of 2010. In order to do that, the organizers need current addresses of the class members. They would also like to have a joint reunion with the St. Mary's class of 1956. For more information, please contact Diana Nye Murphy at 920-926-9767 or e-mail her at [dnn1943@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnn1943@sbcglobal.net).

**TEMPLE BETH-EL SUMMER DANCE:** Come join the fun at the Stuyvesant Yacht Club, 10 Centre Street, on July 10, from 7 to 11 p.m. Advance tickets are available at Exotiq Int'l Arts and Midtown Antiques. Member tickets are \$18 in advance; non-members \$22; and admission at the door \$25. There will be hot and cold appetizers, coffee and tea, and a cash bar. Casual attire, no partner required.

**MARATHON MULTIFAMILY YARD SALES** on Centre Street will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 4, 5 and 6, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wide array of merchandise and bargains galore! Don't miss it!

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EDITOR: Karen Rauhauser Nani

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

ADVERTISING MANAGERS: Joan Ramftl, Margaret Lenz  
BUSINESS MANAGER: Judith Rauh

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

**STAFF:** Bernard Wittlieb, Dr. Fred Hess, Bill Clancy, Maria Swieciki, Carol Koschak, Ed Heben, Marsha Treiber, Jane Protzman, Bill Stuttgart, Tom Smith, Virginia Dannegger, Monica Glick, Maria Sutherland, John Sheridan, Miriam Kleinberg, Paula Huffell and Teresa Teto.

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# Islander Presents Original Play

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by GARY DE LEO

The cast and crew of Robert Mulroy's "An Honest Dollar," which will be produced in midtown Manhattan on Sept. 11-14, 2008: back row (l. to r.): Cori-Ann Roublick, Joseph De Bona, Mary Mulroy, Natardia Lee Soy and Michael Hogan; front row: William Kozy, Craig Beatty, Madeline Balmaceda (director), Robert Mulroy (playwright) and Tee Cotter.

"An Honest Dollar," an original play written by City Island resident Robert Mulroy, will be presented at the Producer's Club in midtown Manhattan on Sept. 11-14, 2008. A comedy in three acts, "An Honest Dollar" was first presented as a staged reading at the Diamond Hill Theater in Cos Cob, Connecticut, in 2005.

The play tells the story of two brothers, Hank and Arthur, the financial difficulties they face and the unorthodox methods they employ to get on their feet. Along the way, they encounter a landlady and her talented daughter, a local tough guy and his girlfriend, three offbeat judges and a blabbermouth messenger. All of the events take place in the style-challenged apartment of the two bachelor brothers.

The playwright, Bob Mulroy, has lived on City Island since 1990. He has appeared in several recent productions of the City Island Theater Group (CITG), playing Greg in "Sylvia," Defense Attorney Stevens in "The Night of January 16th" and Ken de la Maize in "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." He is also a lecturer at St. Mary, Star of the Sea parish. In his day job, Mr. Mulroy is a Support Magistrate in the New York State Court system.

He has been working on "An Honest Dollar" for several years and is elated that his am-

bitation of seeing the play in full production is about to be realized. Mr. Mulroy's daughter, Mary, herself an accomplished trouper, plays a major role in the show.

The director, Madeline Balmaceda, has also worked here on City Island, having directed the recent productions of "The Night of January 16th" and "You Can't Take it With You" for the City Island Theater Group. A veteran actress who has worked with Anthony Hopkins and Woody Allen, she has appeared on many television programs, including "Cosby," "Saturday Night Live," "Spin City," "Law and Order" and "Sesame Street." She is a member of the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

"An Honest Dollar" stars Craig Beatty, Joseph De Bona, Tee Cotter, Mary Mulroy, Cori-Ann Roublick, William Kozy, Mike Hogan, Carol Dooner and Natardia Lee Soy, as well as the director, who portrays the aforementioned blabbermouth. Many of the actors are familiar faces on City Island, having appeared in a number of CITG productions.

The Producer's Club is located at 358 West 44th Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues. Show times are 8 p.m. for Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. for the Sunday performance. For more information, visit [www.anhonestdollar.com](http://www.anhonestdollar.com).

# Abandoned Boats Removed from Rodman's Neck

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by BARBARA DOLENSEK

Detective Denis Morland (left) and Officer Paul Mazzella examining the condition of the south shore of Rodman's Neck and its accumulated debris deposited by the tides.



Abandoned boats were removed from the shore of Rodman's Neck on June 7, 2008, by the New York City Police, Parks and Sanitation Departments.

An unusual collaborative effort between the New York City Police Department, the Department of Parks & Recreation and the Department of Sanitation was launched on Saturday, June 7, at about 7 a.m., when at least nine boats began to be hauled off the shores of Rodman's Neck, where a number of them had rested for several years.

Officers at the Firing Range, including Lieutenant John Sullivan, Detective Denis Morland and Officer Paul Mazella, an Island resident, spearheaded the project, which involved locating boats that could be moved by truck through a newly constructed gate at the range. Funding had to be found to build the gate large enough to accommodate the vessels, at least one of which was as long as 31 feet. Some boats were left in areas where the trucks could not go, and they will be hauled by boat at a later date.

Most of the boats were in sorry shape, but a few could have been rescued and restored. All of them had their registration numbers still visible, and the Department of Sanitation will eventually contact the owners, who will likely be fined for dumping the boats and required to pay for removal fees.

The Parks Department provided the trucks to haul the boats, and they made quick work of the removal process. The boats will then be demolished and put into

dumpsters that will be taken to landfills.

The police officers told *The Current* that some owners are quick to recover their boats that have escaped their moorings in storms and cited the Harlem Yacht Club as being particularly prompt about towing their members' boats off Rodman's Neck. They suspect, however, that some owners were happy to let their boats go, thanks to the high costs of fuel and hauling them out for winter storage and maintenance.

The officers also noted that the south shore of Rodman's Neck is something of a dumping ground for Mother Nature, since all kinds of detritus floats in from Long Island Sound and accumulates on the shoreline. The police are working with the Department of Sanitation to remove as much of the debris as possible in an effort to restore the shore to its natural condition. There is a healthy growth of spartina grass, and the horseshoe crabs, which have laid their eggs in the area for perhaps thousands of years, were frequent visitors during late May and early June.

Once the Firing Range moves to Queens, when the new Police Academy is completed in a few years, the removal of abandoned boats will become a matter for the Parks Department to handle. Officers assured *The Current* that ground is likely to be broken for the academy in the spring of 2009.

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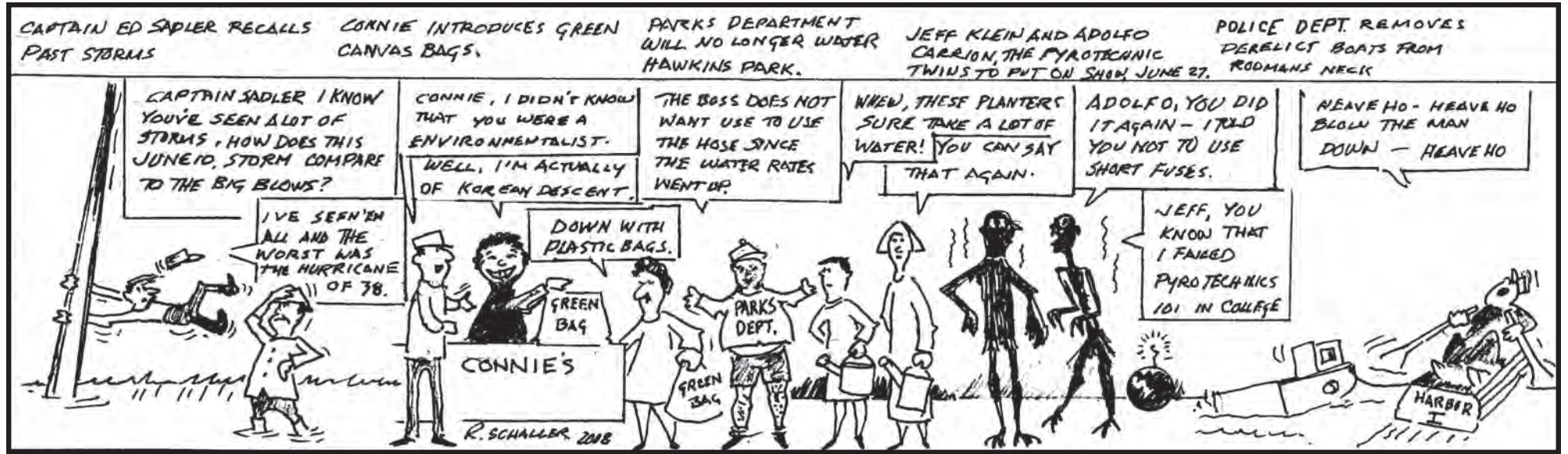
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Image by MARGUERITE CHADWICK-JUNER

It's official! *The Island Current* Web site is finally up and running, thanks to the efforts of Islanders Justin Rodstrom, who developed the site while he was a student at Villanova University, and *The Current's* art director, Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, who added nautical sound effects, among other final touches. Check us out at [www.theislandcurrent.com](http://www.theislandcurrent.com).





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.

**Tribute to the Lyons Family**

To the Editor:

In July this year, the Lyons family will move to Fairfield, Connecticut, after having lived on City Island for many years. They have contributed immensely to our community, and we sadly bid them farewell.

The Lyons family has a long history with the City Island Little League. John, a clam digger, and his brothers, Tommy and Marty, were coached by their dad, Tom Lyons, one of the pioneers of our Little League. In fact, they used to play at Rodman's Neck and then at a field near Potter's Field on Hart Island. After that, Tom negotiated a 99-year lease for \$1 with the New York City Parks Department to use our current day field next to P.S. 175, which is now known as Ambrosini Field.

For the past six years, John and Liz Lyons have continued this family tradition. They are like the glue in the fabric that makes up the baseball league on our island. They work as a team, managing and coaching together and being involved with the executive board. Their trademark style is marked by even-handedness and always, always focusing on that which really is important when learning the game of baseball. Team spirit, individual development and being a good sport whether you win or lose are their constant focus. According to Chris DiMarco, a Little League coach, "Liz and John genuinely focus on all of the children, and the development of each child's skills is their primary concern." They are role models for our youth.

Tommy Vivolo, a patriarch of City Island Little League, reflected on his friends: "We all greatly benefited from Liz and John Lyons, and their absence will be hard felt for all of us."

The Lyonses move as a strong family unit. Their son, Sean, plays on the Jack's Bait and Tackle team and reflects their style on and off the field. Sean was on the injured player list for the first half of this season with a broken arm, but he came to every game, willing to help and cheer on his teammates. With an enormous smile on his face, Sean plays anything from second base to centerfield. And we must not overlook the fact that he knocked in the winning run for his team in a recent game.

Our significant loss of the Lyons family will be Fairfield's gain. We wish you lots of luck, and we will miss you.

Sally P. Connolly



Photo courtesy of CONCEPCION PHOTOGRAPHY  
After years of volunteering with the City Island Little League, the Lyons family is moving to Connecticut. Shown above with their current team sponsored by Jack's Bait and Tackle are Liz and John Lyons (back row, second and third from the right).

**Reporting on Crime Wave**

To the Editor:

I am a former City Island resident who moved to Manhattan some years ago. My husband and I have a sailboat at the City Island Yacht Club, and we have many friends on the Island, so I have kept my subscription to *The Island Current* active.

This spring, at the end of March on a Friday evening, we were having dinner with friends at the Black Whale. We came out and our car had been stolen. While I was waiting on the avenue for the police, I saw my car go by and turn down Carroll Street. When the police arrived, I went in the patrol car with them and we found my car. After a brief investigation, the police allowed me to leave with my car. The officers told me that three cars had been broken into on City Island that same Friday evening.

Later that week, a friend had his truck stolen and saw it being driven on the avenue. Yesterday, I heard from a friend of mine that someone went into Buddy's hardware and left their car outside with the motor running and came out and the car was gone. The same thing occurred with another person taking things out of a station wagon near the City Island Diner.

In the May issue of *The Current*, there was a letter from a gentleman whose car had been broken into, as had happened also to some of his neighbors. His letter thanked City Island Auto Body and others that came to his aid.

I was astounded to see no mention of all these thefts in the May issue except for the letter from the gentleman stated above. I believe as a local newspaper, it is the *Current's* responsibility to make Islanders aware of what appears to be a mini-crime wave on City Island, so they can keep an eye out for suspicious activity and call the police. I would certainly hope to see a full report on these occurrences in the next issue.

Melanie Benvenue

Editor's Note: The Editorial Board of *The Island Current* agrees with the writer of this letter, but we hope she and other read-

any names, if known, so that we can follow up with the appropriate authorities.

**STOP the Madness**

A copy of the following letter was received by *The Current*.

Bronx Borough Commissioners Office  
Department of Transportation  
1400 Williamsbridge Road  
Bronx, NY 10461

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing about a dangerous condition involving an obstructed stop sign on City Island. The stop sign is located at the intersection of Bridge Street and Minneford Avenue. The sign is obstructed by a tree and cannot be seen at all. I called NYC (311) twice last year but nothing was done. I called again on April 6 of this year (file #C1-1-388963913). I was told this was a Parks Department issue to resolve.

A woman from the Parks Department (Marie; telephone no. 718-430-1877) called me and explained that the tree, which was probably planted a few years ago when new homes were built at that location, was now too large to transplant and that they were not allowed to cut down any trees in New York City. She said they would follow up with DOT.

Over six weeks have now gone by, and she has not been able to get DOT to either move the stop sign to the other side of the street, where it would be visible, or to add a second stop sign on the other side of the intersection.

I am asking that DOT please resolve this problem as soon as possible. Again, the sign is completely obstructed by the tree creating a dangerous situation at this intersection.

Paul Nani

cc:  
Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión  
City Island Civic Association

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# GRADUATES RECEIVE AWARDS

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

## St. Mary, Star of the Sea

At St. Mary's graduation on June 13, principal Jane Dennehy made the following presentations.

The General Excellence Awards, with a \$100 savings bond each donated by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, were presented to Aimee Zambrana and Farah Nesbeth.

The American Legion Award with a \$100 savings bond from Post 156 for the best essay entitled "What does it mean to be a country at war?" was presented to O'Shea Bell. A \$100 savings bond was donated by the Ladies Auxiliary of Leonard Hawkins Post 156 to Aimee Zambrana for the best essay entitled "What it would be like to have a female president."

Awards were also given in individual subject areas, including the Religion Award to Jocelyn Proietti, the Language Arts Award to Chervante Thomas, and both the Reading Award and the Art Award to Demmie Akins. Xaver Nicholas received the Mathematics Award, Malena Allbright received the Social Studies Award, and the Science Award was presented to Michael McDonald. The recipient of the Creative Writing Award was Jocelyn Proietti, the Music Award went to Jasmine Andrade, the Computer Award to Onyia Smith and the Physical Education Award to Avery Haley.

The St. Mary, Star of the Sea Home/School Association Award to the ranking top two students, along with a \$100 savings bond, was presented to Aimee Zambrana and Farah Nesbeth. The AARP Chapter 3303 Most Improved Student Award (\$100 check) was given to Pedro Martinez.

The *Island Current* Catherine Scott Literary Award with a \$50 check was given to Jasmine Andrade; a Gold Medal donated by SMSS school, as well as a certificate from the Serra Club and a \$50 check donated by the AARP Chapter 310, for service at the altar, were presented to Joseph Moore.

The St. John's University Women in Science Society Certificate of Recognition was awarded to Aimee Zambrana and Farah Nesbeth; the Comptroller of the City of New York William C. Thompson Certificate of Recognition of Outstanding Overall Achievement and Service was given to O'Shea Bell and the Assemblyman Michael R. Benedetto Award for Perseverance and \$50 check went to Jasmine Gray.

Jasmine Andrade and Genea Tomlinson were the recipients of the Triple C Award for Commitment, Character and Courage State of New York Office of the Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo Certificate; Malena Allbright and Farah Nesbeth received the State of New York Office of the Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli Certificate for Leadership Potential and Commitment to Service.

The Farena Brothers 2008 Community Affairs Award for service to school and community with a \$100 check were presented to Nicholas

Ruggiero.

The Peter M. Caddell Memorial Award for service to school and community donated by Mrs. Grace Caddell in memory of her husband and a \$50 check were presented to Michael Dilucca; a special award for nine years of perfect attendance, also donated by Mrs. Caddell, and a \$50 check were given to Onyia Smith, and the Principal's Award for the student who exemplifies the true spirit of St. Mary, Star of the Sea, along with a Gold Medal and \$50 savings bond donated by the Home/School Association, were presented to Avery Haley.

In the Computer Typing Contest for Speed and Accuracy, first place went to Nicholas Maniotis, second place to Xaver Nicholas and third place to O'Shea Bell. In Computer Touch Typing for 90 percent Accuracy and honorable mention went to Demmie Akins, Malena Allbright, Jasmine Gray, Jocelyn Proietti, Onyia Smith, Chervante Thomas and Genea Tomlinson.

Congratulations to all the award winners and all the 2008 graduates!

## Public School 175

At the June 24 graduation ceremony, principal Amy Lipson made the following presentations.

The Mary P. Fitzpatrick Award for Academic Excellence was presented to Erica Miccoli. The City Island Chamber of Commerce Award for General Excellence was given to Camille Pruvost and Antoinette Legnini, the NYCESA Principal's Award for Excellence went to Catherine Wang, and Kaitlin Masiello was the recipient of the Lucrezia A. Fusco Award for Effort and Perseverance.

At the Awards Dinner on June 18 the following presentations were made: the UFT Citizenship Award for Academic Achievement and Character was given to Treasure Loudermilk; the American Legion Essay Contest Award from the Leonard Hawkins Post 156 was presented to Kevin Whalen, and the award from the Ladies Auxiliary was given to Erica Miccoli.

The Alice Persteins Award for Outstanding Service to School or Community went to Camille Pruvost; the Gloria Misurski Award for Fairness, Involvement, Concern for Others was given to Natalia Famous; the Alice Connolly Service Award was presented to Catherine Wang, and both the Ena P. Ellwanger Award for Compassion, Humor, Integrity and Love of Learning and the Christine Jorgensen Hansen Award for Community Service were given to Erica Miccoli.

Julia Hayes received the New York State Senate Assemblyman Jeff Klein Civic Award for Student Leadership; Quantasia Scarborough was given the Assemblyman Michael Benedetto Perseverance Award for Academic Achievement; the NYC Comptroller Achievement Award was presented to Jonathan Caamano and DayVon Walker, and the NYS Comptroller Achievement Award for Public Service went to Raquel Olivo.

The City Council Citation for Achievement



Photos by LIFE TOUCH SCHOOL PORTRAITS

St. Mary, Star of the Sea graduates and faculty, top row (l. to r.): Demmie Akins, Malena Allbright, Jasmine Andrade, Kaelyn Braxton, Jasmine Gray and Jillian Grayson. Second row: Farah Nesbeth, Jocelyn Proietti, JaVon Ridley, Onyia Smith, Chervante Thomas and Genea Tomlinson. Third row: Aimee Zambrana, Daniel Ancrum, Kofi Arhin, O'Shea Bell, Stephen Bert and Michael Dilucca. Fourth row: Avery Haley, Kadeem Holmes, John Lichti, Nicholas Maniotis, Pedro Martinez and Michael McDonald. Fifth row: Joseph Moore, Xaver Nicholas, Nicholas Ruggiero and Fr. Michael Challinor, Mrs. Jane Dennehy and Mrs. Cabbell-Delgado.

was awarded to Erica Miccoli and the City of New York Commission on Women's Issues Leadership Award went to Antoinette Legnini.

The Catherine Scott Literary Award from *The Island Current* was presented to Treasure Loudermilk; the Philip J. Abinanti Service and Leadership Award was given to Elizabeth Vacca; the Blanche Schwartz Award for Effort went to Larissa Pirraglia, and Taylor Cole was the recipient of the CSA Award for Outstanding Leadership.

The Association of Assistant Principals Certificate of Merit was given to Natalia Famous and Aaron Delgado; the UFT Millie Scheintaub Award was presented to Augustus Berger; the AARP Chapter 3303 Award for Most Improved Student went to Estella Carino and the AARP Chapter 318 Award for School Service was presented to Treasure Loudermilk.

The P.S. 175 Academic Achievement Awards (honor roll) were given to Antoinette Legnini, Erica Miccoli, Camille Pruvost and Catherine

Wang.

The UFT presented awards in individual subject areas: English Language Arts, Elizabeth Vacca; Mathematics, Catherine Wang; Science, Catherine Wang; Social Studies, Treasure Loudermilk, Erica Miccoli; Computers and Technology, Taylor Cole; Art, Antoinette Legnini.

Physical Education Awards were given to Augustus Berger and Kaitlin Masiello.

Effort Awards were given to Estella Carino, Theanna Green, Sharon Huerta and Quantasia Scarborough.

The P.S. 175 Service Awards were presented to Augustus Berger, Jonathan Caamano, Estella Carino, Jessica Carino, Taylor Cole, Andrew Davis, Alexander Giaccon, Alexander Hackman, Julia Hayes, Antoinette Legnini, Kaylynn Lopez, Edwin Lopez, Erica Miccoli, Jonathan Rachelle, Elizabeth Vacca, DayVon Walker, Catherine Wang, Wolfrantz Xhokaxhiu.

Congratulations to all the 2008 graduates!



Photo by TINA GISANTE

Members of the 2008 graduating class of Public School 175. First row, bottom (l. to r.): Graduates Danielle Conie, Elizabeth Vacca, Donovan Carrera, Theanna Green; faculty Jacqueline Jensen; Josephine Rondi, assistant principal; Amy Lipson, principal; and Karen Heil; graduates Kaitlin Masiello, Andrew Davis, Jessica Carino, Gabrielle Pirraglia, Alexander Giaccon. Second row, faculty Katherine Goullian; graduates Sharon Huerta, Kevin Whalen, Hayley Walker, Jonathan Caamano, Amanda Sowa, Kyle Williams, Treasure Loudermilk, Augustus Berger, Qwadasia Lovett, Day Von Walker, Fabjola Rama, Daniel Doati, Quantasia Scarborough; Jeanne McDonald faculty. Row three: faculty, Wayne Lafreniere; graduates Antoinette Legnini, Joseph Accomando, Jasmine Rivera, Mitchell Santiago, Rosemary Gibson, Jonathan Rachiele, Camille Pruvost, Steven Owens, Larisa Pirraglia, Wolfrantz Xhokaxhiu, Raquel Olivo, Daniel Masterson, Taylor Cole. Top row: Rebecca Rodstrom, Luz Salas-Orea, Onaje Hope-Felix, Catherine Wang, Aaron Delgado, Angela Acocella, Edwin Lopez, Julia Hayes, Alexander Hackman, Samantha Weyhrauch, Paul Dinome, Erica Miccoli, Samuel Nesbitt, Estela Carino, Kaylynn Lopez.





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

It's a summer of music and art at the **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779). Once the fireworks have settled down, stop by the Artist for the debut of singer-songwriter Kelly Flint on Saturday, July 5, at 8 p.m. On Sunday, July 6, it's a "Jam Session & BBQ," with all instruments, all musicians welcome. Elliott Glick, the Starving Artist himself, performs his original songs on Saturday, July 26, at 8:30 p.m. There are many songwriters throughout July and August at Starving Artist: Pete Morton from

England (Sunday, July 13, 3 p.m.), Patrick Matteson and Pleasant Bud (Sunday, July 20, 3 p.m.), Jeff & Karen (Friday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m.), Jeffry Braun (Saturday, Aug. 2, 8 p.m.), Sal Casabianca (Friday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m.), and Julie Corbalis (Friday, Aug. 22, 8 p.m.). There are a few debuts in the summer months as well. Tod Pierce & Bob "Big Folkie" Kresse share the bill on Friday, July 11, at 8 p.m. On Friday, Aug. 8, at 8 p.m., Donni Fury takes the stage with his rock / pop / blues act. There are also the fiddlers of Sonas, bringing their musical magic to Starving Artist for the first time on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 3 p.m. "Cowboy" Dave Tilson is on the scene the Sunday before (Aug. 10) at 4:30 p.m. to debut "Beethoven's Unfinished Boogie," featuring Lou Volpe on guitar. Speaking of the "jazz man," Lou Volpe and his guitar will perform with the City Island Jazz Quartet, led by City Islander Roger Scala, on Sunday, July 27, and Sunday,



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Ron Turner held the Young Artist's Exhibit opening on Saturday June 7, 2008, at Focal Point Gallery. Ron is shown with P.S. 175 student and artist Eddie Carey.



Photo by MARY COLBY

This mural based on the characters of Beatrix Potter was painted on canvas measuring 5 1/2 by 7 feet by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner and Mary Colby of Fe Fi Faux. The piece was donated to an auction that raised funds for Children's Miracle Network.

Aug. 3, both at 4 p.m. Lou Volpe will do a solo performance on Saturday, Aug. 16, at 8 p.m. Kat Spina brings her jazz / blues / soul act to Starving Artist on Friday, July 18, at 8 p.m. And there's the acoustic jazz of Two Guitars—Brian Conigliaro and Gus Wieland—on Saturday, Aug. 23, starting at 8 p.m. Then if blues is your game, stop by on July 19, at 8 p.m. for a "Saturday night blues party" with Bennett Harris. Our ever-popular "take the stage" open mike night for songwriters, comics, poets and actors is featured on Fridays, July 25, and Aug. 29, at 8 p.m. The duo of Barbara Blasucci and Charlie Spina—October Road—plays on Saturday, July 12, at 8 p.m. with favorites from the 1970s and 1980s. The "wickedly awesome" singer-songwriter Nicola takes our stage on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 8 p.m. And artist Yvonne Ward opens her painting exhibition, "Good Things Come in Small Packages," on Saturday, Aug. 2, with a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information, visit our web site at [www.starvingartistonline.com](http://www.starvingartistonline.com).



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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
168 Schofield St.	12/14/07	\$503,000	2 Family
53 Carroll Street	5/2/08	\$545,000	1 Family
3 Deepwater Way	5/14/08	\$710,000	Condo

# Cormac McEnery, Esq.

Elder Law  
Estate Planning  
Wills & Trusts

(718) 885-1234

562 City Island Avenue, City Island, NY

email: [cormac@cormacmcenery.com](mailto:cormac@cormacmcenery.com)

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Photo by RON TERNER

A guest at the Ajkun Ballet Theatre presentation on June 13 waltzes with Martha Meredith, president of the Long Island Council of the Arts, after the performance (left).



Photo by ELIZABETH CALLAHAN

Principal dancers Leonard Ajkun and Brittany Larrimer of the Ajkun Ballet Theatre perform a pas de deux at the Lido Restaurant on June 13, 2008 (above). The group, which is based on City Island, performed excerpts from several ballets that they have in their repertoire. For more information about upcoming performances and Ajkun's educational program, visit the Web site [www.ajkunbt.org](http://www.ajkunbt.org).



Photo by ANITA COLBY

The annual Bronx Ball was held on Saturday, June 21, 2008, at Orchard Beach. This year's inductees to the Bronx Walk of Fame were honored at the event: Larry Chance and the Earls, the 1950s doo-wop group ("Remember When," "Life is but a Dream," etc.); GrandMaster Caz, hip-hop icon; Adam Rodriguez, actor ("CSI Miami"); Rock Steady Crew, the break-dancing group; and Dr. Ruth Westheimer, the renowned sex therapist who is shown above with Mary Colby (left) and Marguerite Chadwick-Juner (right). The event was attended by about 700 Bronx notables.

## Spreading the (Good) News

By NANCY SCOTTO PRYOR

Tell me your story. We all know that listening to someone's story or telling someone else our story can make us feel good, but did you know that it actually releases endorphins into the brain that act as a natural anti-depressant? Good stuff! Tell me your story or tell me someone else's story. I am looking forward to receiving your e-mails at [nancycityisland@gmail.com](mailto:nancycityisland@gmail.com).

While I wait for readers to tell me their stories, I would like to take this opportunity to tell a story of my own; a post Father's Day tribute, if I may. My dad, Michael A. Scotto, can be summed up in very few words: kind, honest, a gentleman. He was a man who walked softly upon this earth.

He loved his family, his island (he was an actual clamdigger), his country (he fought in World War II) and his home. He was a father to me and my brother and a husband to my mother. He taught me how to swim and fish, hammer a nail in straight and make bunny puppets out of napkins. He told me to always read the directions—twice—check the oil and wait one hour after eating to swim (that may have been my mother). He ran about 100 miles up and down Reville Street holding on

to the back of my first two-wheel bike.

He volunteered proudly at the American Legion and cried with his comrades on Memorial Day and Veterans Day, and when he was too sick to walk in the parade, he sat on the float with his starched shirt and creased hat and represented a finer time in our history. He covered hundreds of miles of track in box car derbies with my brother and his Boy Scout troop, not to mention soggy weekends camping with those same Boy Scouts. He sold chances for St. Mary, Star of the Sea Casino Nights, pumpkins for the American Legion, raffles for the Civic Association and he helped clean the Bowne Street beach every spring. He rose at 5 a.m. every day for his job with the City of New York, retiring after 25 years. He mowed his grass, painted his walls, fixed his plumbing, played with his grandchildren and sat in the cool shade of his yard on hot afternoons. He never wrote a novel, appeared on television or made any "Who's Who" list. His life, if compared to some, seemed completely unremarkable.

As I looked around at all the people attending his funeral mass in St. Mary's, I saw some who were present in that same church for my parents' wedding or a family baptism. I couldn't help thinking that they were all there in representing one or another of my father's beloved organizations—the Boy Scouts, St. Mary, Star of the Sea, the American Legion, the Bowne Street Beach Association, the Civic Association. They were all there to pay their respects to this unremarkable man who had, it seemed, touched so many lives. I hope that in my lifetime I may be so unremarkable.

To paraphrase William Saroyan: "Everybody has got to die, but I had always *hoped* an exception would be made in *his* case."

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## "Head In The Clouds, A Guide to Yoga for Airline Travelers"

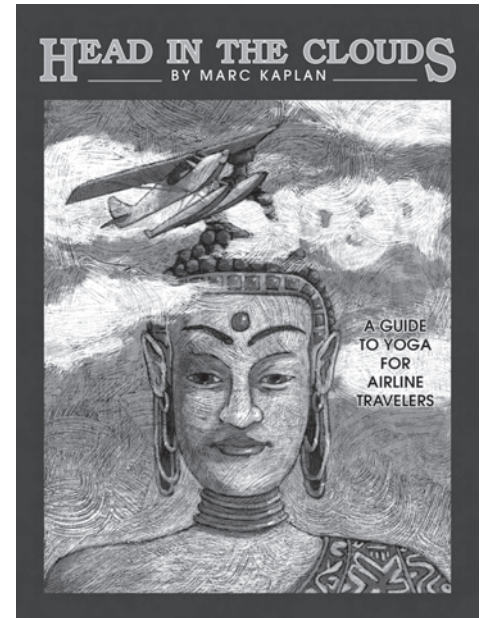
A review by JANE PROTZMAN

As a bona fide Lufthansa "Frequent Traveler," I have survived thousands of frequent flyer miles without the benefit of this new book by City Island resident and yoga teacher Marc Kaplan. Now, the next time I fly, I will carry with me Marc's how-to book "Head In The Clouds, A Guide to Yoga for Airline Travelers." The book is a real City Island collaborative effort, with photography by Ron Turner and design by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner.

Organized in the form of a workbook, this valuable book provides many suggestions on how to overcome numerous aspects of flying, whether it be fear of flying, flight preparation, exercise during the flight, overcoming jet lag and other calming techniques using the disciplines of yoga. Marc also provides travel and related environmental tips, and, if you are going nowhere this summer, the exercises and practices can be used sitting at home or in your office.

Everyone remembers the traditional inconveniences of airline travel, but now we must add to those more recent regulations that have made flying even more painful: encountering traffic jams on the way to the airport, waiting in the long boarding pass and security lines, finding space for the carry-on luggage, discovering your seat in the middle of three with no knee room, worrying about connecting flights because of flight delays and, finally, waiting for baggage and hoping that it will be there. Carrying Marc's book can help alleviate some of the stress associated with your time as an airline passenger.

A few hints to address all aspects of flying: To prevent dehydration, drink water before flying. While you are in the traffic jam or standing in the ever-present lines, practice some of the eight "standing in place" yoga positions. Your fellow passengers may look at you a little funny, but you will be more relaxed and it might lead to an interesting conversation. Marc provides 18 yoga positions that can be tried while seated, assuming the person in front of you doesn't have the seat in its extreme reclining position. He gives foot exercises and neck rolls but also some cre-



ative uses of the tray table and blanket that can help in changing one's position. And, if one is on good terms with your seatmates, for a good shoulder stretch, you can try reaching your arms across your body to meet your neighbors' hands doing the same. But if you are shy, you can also use the arm rests. All of the yoga suggestions are presented with a photograph, of Marc himself demonstrating the positions.

The book gives some hints on healthy breathing techniques, overcoming jet lag and improving your attitude toward flying. The last page of the book presents a very useful chart that associates each of his proposed sitting exercises with the parts of the body they are intended to help.

This very helpful guide book can provide all air passengers with a greater sense of physical well being before, during and after a flight. However, there are a few other aspects of flying that Marc has not addressed: how to pack to avoid the new extra charges for overweight luggage or how to avoid paying to check your luggage, and what to do when the safety announcement says: "When the oxygen masks drop down, place it over your face, and breathe normally." I have always wondered how anyone can expect us to breathe normally in that situation? But perhaps even yoga can't solve everything!

An important message here is that you find peace as a passenger. "If you want to find happiness, you need not be in a hurry" are Marc's parting words. Enjoy your journeys, since getting there is half the fun. For more information, visit Marc's Web site [www.ohmchi.com](http://www.ohmchi.com).

And to obtain a copy of the book, go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) where the book is available for \$19.49 (less for members).

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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 8 and Fri., July 11, 18 and 25, **Healthy Senior Exercise Program**, 10 a.m., Grace Parish Hall, City Island Avenue and Pilot Street, in partnership with the Arthritis Foundation.

Sat., July 12, **Temple Beth-El Dinner Dance**, 7 to 11 p.m., Stuyvesant Yacht Club, 10 Centre Street.

Tues., July 22, **Pelham Cemetery Lot Owners meet**, 7:30 p.m., Leonard Hawkins Post, 550 City Island Avenue. This meeting is for lot owners only.

Sat., July 26, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: barbecued or baked chicken with rice.

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

#### AUGUST

Sat., August 23, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: chef's salad (lettuce, tomato, cucumber, ham, turkey, etc.). Please donate a dessert too, if possible (cookies, pies or cakes).

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

#### Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island is an all-inclusive egalitarian, multiethnic, Jewish congregation for all ages located at 480 City Island Avenue between Beach and Bowne Streets. We conduct Sabbath services each Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Our doors are open to all.

We follow the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, primarily in English, with easy-to-read typeface and singable Hebrew. Rabbi Shohama Wiener will lead the Kabbalat Shabbat service on July 18 at 7:30 p.m. (On other Friday nights, Mort Ellis and Bob Berent, with his accordion, lead the Sabbath service.)

Our annual summer dance by the sea will take place on Thursday, July 10, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Stuyvesant Yacht Club (10 Centre Street). This event is open to the public; casual attire, no partner required. Hot and cold appetizers plus coffee and tea will be served. (A cash bar will be available.)

Tickets purchased in advance (through July 7) are \$18 for Temple members or \$22 for non-members. You may buy tickets at Exotiq International (718-885-3090) or at Midtown Antiques (718-885-2820). Otherwise, admission at the door is \$25. Call 718-885-2820 for more information.

For more information, visit our Web site at [www.yourshulbythesea.org](http://www.yourshulbythesea.org).

Bob Berent

#### Grace Episcopal Church

During July and August (through Labor Day weekend), our regular Sunday service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II, will move to 9 a.m. to enable more people to come worship with us before heading out for the day. We will continue our weekly services of evening prayer on Mondays at 7 p.m. and morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. throughout the summer.

Grace Church warmly welcomes visitors and newcomers at all times, and we extend a special invitation to anyone who is on City

Island during the summer months. Our doors are open and, as our sign says, we are here for you! For more information, please contact Mother Patty Alexander, the Vicar of Grace Church, at 718-885-1080 or at [RevPPA@aol.com](mailto:RevPPA@aol.com). Please join us!

Rev. Patricia Alexander

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

We welcome once again Fr. Alexander Iheonunekwu from Nigeria. He arrived at the end of June and will be with us for the summer months.

Some of our children will be participating in the Summer Bible School, which will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church from June 30 through July 3. We wish everyone a happy and fun time.

Our parish, in conjunction with the Sanitation Department's Holy Name Society, will hold its annual golf outing on Wednesday, Aug. 6, at the Pelham Golf Course. Cost is \$150 per golfer. The day will begin with breakfast at 7 a.m. at the golf course with tee-off at 8 a.m. There will be an early dinner at the Lido Restaurant on City Island. If you wish to sponsor a tee, the cost is \$100. For more information, please call Fr. Michael at 718-885-1440.

On Aug. 15, we will celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. This is a holy day of obligation and we encourage everyone to join us at one of our Masses that day. These are scheduled for 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

Plans have already begun and will continue during the summer months for our outdoor Mass on Sept. 20 at 5:15 p.m. This is always a lovely evening, and we hope many will join us this year. Mark your calendars now!

Have a safe and pleasant summer!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

#### Garden Club News

The next meeting of The Garden Club of City Island will be a luncheon for members only on Friday, July 11. Election of Officers for 2008-2009 were held at the June meeting, with the following results: President, Barbara Hoffman, Vice President, Joan Lyons, Treasurer, Susan Strazzera, Recording Secretary, Phyllis Goodman and Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Harrison Kaye.

At a recent Garden Club Beautification Committee meeting, project goals for the coming year were developed. The undertakings that the club will pursue include: arranging for about 20 hanging baskets along City Island Avenue, building several tree pit boxes with perennial plantings in cooperation with several businesses along City Island Avenue, working with the City Island Historical Nautical Museum to create new planting areas when the façade is completed, continuing our City Island public places garden plantings and maintenance, and continuing to work with the New York City Parks Department on the renovation of the Hawkins Street Park, including a "Points of Interest" sign.

We are working with the Parks Department and the Department of Transportation for permits and appropriate specifications for our hanging baskets project, with a goal of 2009 for everything to be in place, while the other projects can move along more quickly.

A heartfelt thank-you to City Island's residents and businesses for their generous response to our annual request for support to the Beautification Fund, which allows us to continue these projects.

The Garden Club of City Island welcomes anyone interested in our goals and



Photos by BARBARA DOLENSEK

The fourth grade at P.S. 175 raised more than \$1,300 for the City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum by holding a walk from the school to the City Island Bridge and back on Monday, June 2, 2008. They collected money from sponsors and proudly presented a check for that amount to Barbara Dolensek on June 9.

programs to join our organization. We meet at 10 a.m. on the first Monday of every month at the City Island Yacht Club, at the foot of west Pilot Street. Remember, this is not a "ladies only" club, but a community effort. Won't you consider coming to a meeting? Call Barbara Hoffman at 718-885-1616 for more information about how you can participate. We look forward to announcing Garden Club programs and planned trips for the 2008-2009 year in the September issue of *The Island Current*.

Phyllis Goodman

#### Nautical Museum News

As the summer issue of *The Current* goes to press, work continues on the interior of the City Island Nautical Museum as the curator and volunteers put the exhibits back together and complete new ones.

The Department of Buildings has approved the permit application for the reconstruction of the porch, and work should be starting by mid-July. The museum hopes to be able to reopen before the end of the summer.

In the meantime, the museum was delighted to receive a most generous gift from the fourth-grade classes at P.S. 175. The students decided to raise funds by walking to the City Island Bridge from the school and back. They approached sponsors for the walk and were able to raise more than \$1,300, which they presented to the museum on June 9, 2008.

It has been a year since the building suffered from the damaging fire, and all of us look forward to welcoming everyone back as soon as possible.

Barbara Dolensek

#### Trinity United Methodist Church

Summer is here, and things are slowing down here at Trinity. However, our worship services will still take place every Sunday at 10 a.m. Although Sunday school is over, children are always welcome at our services.

Our square dance dinner was a rousing success. We would like to extend our thanks to Brenda Prohaska for her donation from the Pampered Chef, Paul Klein from Exotiq, Whitey from Pappa John's, Anne Manz, and Anne Cox, and Rick DeWitt for his photos. We would also like to extend our thanks to everyone who donated gifts for the raffle, and to all of you who came and supported our fund-raiser. Of course, we cannot forget to thank Ellie Heberd and the people

who helped her cook a great dinner.

Budget shop will be closed for the summer, but we plan to try and have some surprise openings. Be sure to look for our sign! Have a safe and happy summer!

Anne Sill

#### City Island Republicans

We were successful in collecting petitions around City Island to put up our ticket come November. We would like to thank everyone who collected petitions and those who were nice enough to take a minute of their time to sign. During the summer, we hope to see the candidates whom we worked to get on the ballot campaigning around the Island.

Our next meeting will be in September, so stay tuned to the September issue of *The Island Current*. Have a great summer!

Fred Ramftl

VHF-Ch 16

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

**Open Monthly Meetings of the Board** are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend. For up to date information visit [www.cityislandcommunitycenter.com](http://www.cityislandcommunitycenter.com).

**NEW**

**Fitness Program** starting this summer, on Wednesday, July 9, at 5:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. through Saturday, July 12, at 9 a.m. For more information, call Leonia Chantel at 212-365-0132 or go to [www.get-fab.com](http://www.get-fab.com). Free demo classes. Wednesday, July 9, at 5:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, July 12, at 9 a.m.

**Weekly Schedule**

**YOUTH PROGRAM**

**Drama Club:** Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. starting Sept. 19, for ages 8 to 12. Activities will be planned for each evening. Participants must be prepared to do just that, Participate! We will do relaxation and voice exercises, recite limericks and tongue-twisters, improvise with props and costumes, and act out scenes from plays and stories. One parent will be expected to volunteer to stay each evening. Call Laury at 718-885-3202.

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

**Tae Kwon Do:** Traditional classes to benefit you physically, mentally and spiritually. Some benefits include improved cardiovascular health, better focus and concentration, increased flexibility and lean body mass. Children will learn courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control and indomitable spirit. Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 11 a.m. \$10 per class, twice weekly. Call 718-885-3702.

**Sally's Playground:** Birth to 5 years. Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. \$7 per child, \$4 for siblings. Buy a five-visit card and get one visit free. Playground available for party rentals. Call Sally at 718-885-0349 for more information.

**Youth Center:** Saturday evenings from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Please call Jay Howard at 718-885-2192 or Deana Weyhrauch at 917-418-1377 for more information. We are looking for volunteers to staff the nights. If you are interested in helping out, please call.

**ADULT PROGRAM**

**Salsa Dance:** Dance your stress away to the basic beats of salsa, merengue, cha-cha and bachata. A partner is not necessary. \$50 per month or \$15 per class. Friday nights, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Call 917-838-6501.

**Belly Dancing:** "Shimmy by The Sea" is a group of women learning and dancing together. Mondays at 7:30 p.m. For information about classes, call 718-885-1145 or 845-358-0260 and leave a message.

**TNT (Tuesday Night Tap):** Adult Jazz/Tap Classes. Tuesday, 7 to 8 p.m. Call Corinne Grondahl at 718-309-8041.

**Aerobics with Mary:** Monday, Wednes-

day, Friday: half-hour low impact at 8:30 a.m.; Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 10 a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793. New class added: Saturday at 9 a.m.

**Yoga:** City Island's Marc Kaplan is teaching Yoga—a class for beginners to intermediates, which will include Hatha and Namaste yoga with some Saroope (restorative yoga). He hopes to include tai-chi as well, which will help balance immune system and reduce pain. Depending on the class size the cost will be \$10 or if a small class \$15. Please contact Susan for inquiries at: [riosj@aol.com](mailto:riosj@aol.com) or call 885-9145.

**FAMILY PROGRAM & MIXED AGE GROUPS**

**Vilma's Music Together:** Music and movement for children ages birth through five and the adults who love them! Fridays or Saturdays 10 to 10:45 a.m. For more information, call 718-882-2223, visit [www.vilmasmusictogether.com](http://www.vilmasmusictogether.com) or e-mail [info@vilmasmusictogether.com](mailto:info@vilmasmusictogether.com).

**Chess Club:** Monday evenings from 7 to 11 p.m. For ages 13 and up. No need to register, just show up! Call Bill at 718-541-3995 for more information.

**Art Lessons:** Drawing and painting lessons by Laury Hopkins. Private and semiprivate (1 to 3 students). Weekday evenings 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$30 for 1 1/2 hours. Three classes must be paid for up front. Acrylic paints only (no oils). Your choice of subject: still life, from photographs or your imagination. Call Laury to schedule and for information about materials at 718-885-3202.

Amy Gottlieb-McElroy

**Legion News**

We are entering that time of year that the Post calls the summer doldrums, when most activity grinds to a halt. There will be only two meetings in July and August, Monday, July 7, and Monday, Aug. 4. The commander has noticed a paucity of participants at recent meetings and asks that those made conspicuous by their absence try to make the regular meetings.

Unfortunately, several events will not be covered, as they occur late in the month of June, and *The Current* has to go to press before they take place. The Blessing of the Fleet was scheduled for Sunday, June 22. There are still some Islanders who think this ritual is the "blessing of the feet." In the past, Deacon William Mueller always made certain that the aspergillum was fully loaded and that blessings could be made for both the fleet and the feet!

Remember that July 4 is Independence Day. John Adams wrote in 1776: "This day will be celebrated with bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward evermore." Both he and Thomas Jefferson would enjoy the annual celebration for another 50 years to the day, dying within hours of each other on July 4, 1826.

The American Legion Department of New York convention will be held in Albany on Thursday, July 17, through Saturday, July 19. We will be duly represented and anticipate a spirited report from the attendees. As of today, attendees will be Bill Clancy, Ed Shipp, Doug Mallen and Joseph Goonan. The National Convention will be held Aug. 22 through Aug. 28. The heavy hitters on deck for that event are Bill Clancy and Doug Mallen.

Comrade Joseph DeLuca has returned home and thanks everyone for the get-well card. Betty Carman is recuperating at home

after surgery. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Progress is being made on the restroom renovations on the main floor at the Post. Stop by and see the work already done.

The annual clambake will be held Saturday, Aug. 9. The cost has not been finalized, but the Sons of the Legion promise that it will be within everyone's budget.

The winners of the annual Legion Essay Contest were O'Shea Bell of St. Mary's School and Kevin Whelan of P.S. 175.

The Korean War ended July 27, 1973. In this far-off land, 33,741 troops were killed and more than 4,800 remain missing (but were declared dead).

And for you World War II buffs: The term Nazi is said to have been coined by journalist Konrad Heiden as a term of derision for members of Hitler's party, the National Socialist German Workers' Party.

Have a wonderful summer; at ease until September.

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus



HYC City Island clubhouse built in 1916.



The Star fleet.

**Harlem Yacht Club**

*Continued from page 1*

gatta, the HYC hosted a historic race—the first regatta of the Star class—a small fixed-keel sloop, which became immensely popular in all parts of the world. In 1932 the Star was established as an Olympic Games class and is still raced there today.

In the late 1930s, the HYC became instrumental in founding the Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association in order to foster the growth of small boat bay sailing. HYC Race Chairman Sidney J. Treat presided over its first race on June 10, 1934, and not long afterward for his efforts in promoting Star racing, was also appointed Honorary and Life Commodore of the East River Star Fleet. The club then boasted a fleet of 12 Stars, and several of the club's racers were active

Star competitors. Most notable among them were Mike Treat, a champion Sound racer, and Charlie "Buster" Ulmer, who represented the East River Star Fleet in the International Championships in both Lisbon and Havana. Buster Ulmer later went on to found Ulmer Sails, now known as UK-Halsey Sailmakers.

With the outbreak of World War II, and because of the loss of its members to the armed services, the club was forced to abandon the YRALIS Memorial Day race, and its Star racing program dwindled. In the 1950s, with the rise of power boating, the club's members began to lean more heavily toward owning motor yachts. In the 1970s and 1980s, as sailing reclaimed a measure of its former popularity within the club, the proportion of sailing members again rose to prominence.

The club is currently one of the four City Island yacht clubs that cosponsor the Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association. In addition, the HYC enjoys a number of club races of various types. These include an around-the-buoy race (Treat Race), an overnight (Higgins Race), a J24 one-design (Hoxsie Race), a short-handed series and a just-for-fun race called the Vice Commodore's Regatta, in which non-sailor members are recruited to actively crew on their host member's sailboat.

Today the club enjoys a complement of about 150 members in five categories. Its fleet of 123 boats is made up of 80 percent sail and 20 percent power. Non-boat-owning "social" members constitute about 20 percent of its membership. The club membership draws heavily from the immediate City Island and Lower Westchester area and also enjoys a sizeable contingent of New Jerseyans, Manhattanites, and others from points further out who find this location ideal for accessing the Sound. All are comfortably accommodated in the beautiful clubhouse on City Island, and the club continues to pride itself as being one of the friendliest on Long Island Sound.

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**Remembering Sydney Pollack**

Sydney Pollack was a multit talented man. I will always remember him as an actor playing Dustin Hoffman's agent in **Tootsie** (1982). One of Pollack's major contributions to the film industry was as a producer of 47 films, including **The Fabulous Baker Boys** (1989), **Presumed Innocent** (1990), **Searching for Bobby Fischer** (1993), **Sense and Sensibility** (1995), **The Talented Mr. Ripley** (1999), **Cold Mountain** (2003) and **Michael Clayton** (2007) (in which he also acted). However, it was as a director that he truly excelled.

Pollack made his directorial debut with **The Slender Thread** (1965), which is set in a Seattle Crisis Center, where Alan Newell (Sidney Poitier) is a college student staffing a suicide hotline. One evening he is called by Mrs. Inga Dyson (Anne Bancroft), who has just taken a bottle of barbiturates. He must keep her talking until the police can trace the call and find her before she loses consciousness, when it will be too late to save her. Through flashbacks, the viewer begins to understand what has happened in her life to make her come to this decision. This is a taut, psychological thriller with superb acting.

**They Shoot Horses, Don't They** (1969) is another powerful, critically acclaimed drama, this time about a dance marathon during the Great Depression. The movie stars Jane Fonda as Gloria, a malcontent who partners with a drifter named Robert (Michael Sarrazin) to try to win the large cash prize. The competitors push one another to the brink of exhaustion until something tragic occurs. Of the nine Academy Award nominations this picture received, Gig Young won best supporting actor for his role as Rocky, the obnoxious marathon master of ceremonies.

Set in the Colorado wilderness around 1850, **Jeremiah Johnson** (1972) stars Robert Redford in the title role as an ex-soldier who seeks peace and eschews civilization. He is mentored in survival by an old trapper, played by Will Geer. After accidentally violating an Indian burial ground, he has to fight a vendetta with the Crow Indians. This was the first of seven films in which Pollack directed Robert Redford.

The next film on which they collaborated was the wildly popular **The Way We Were** (1973), in which Redford plays Hubbell Gardiner, an "all-American boy" and writer, who in 1937 meets Katie Morosky

(Barbra Streisand), a passionate pacifist. When they meet again eight years later, they fall in love and move to Hollywood, where Hubbell pursues his writing career. Their political differences are put to the test when the House Committee on Un-American Activities starts its witch hunt.

In **Three Days of the Condor** (1975) Robert Redford stars as Turner, a CIA researcher who returns from lunch to find all of his coworkers murdered. Double-crossed and forced to go underground, he kidnaps Kathy (Faye Dunaway) and holds her hostage as he unravels the mystery. This is a highly suspenseful conspiracy film.

**Absence of Malice** (1981) stars Sally Field as Megan Carter, a novice Miami reporter who unwittingly writes a scathing article about a liquor distributor, Michael Gallagher (Paul Newman) because of information leaked to her by an FBI Investigator (Bob Balaban). Melinda Dillon is outstanding as the sad Teresa Perrone, Michael's best friend. Wilford Brimley steals his scene as a judge investigating the veracity of the charges.

Pollack's most famous film is **Tootsie** (1982) with Dustin Hoffman as Michael Dorsey, a struggling actor who cannot find work because of his difficult temperament. In order to help fund a play written by his roommate Jeff (Bill Murray), Michael gets a job on a soap opera as a woman. There he falls for his co-star, Julie (Jessica Lange, in an Oscar winning performance), but is courted by her father (Charles Durning). This is a classic comedy of the 1980s.

**Out of Africa** (1985) won seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Pollack's only Best Director win. It stars Meryl Streep as Danish author Isak Dinesen, who in 1914 marries Baron Bor Blixen-Flecke (Klaus Maria Brandauer) and moves to a plantation in Nairobi. When her husband leaves to drink and be with other women, Karen falls in love with a hunter named Denys Finch Hatton (Robert Redford), who does not want to be tied down. Although the acting is terrific, the star of the film is the sumptuous cinematography and score.

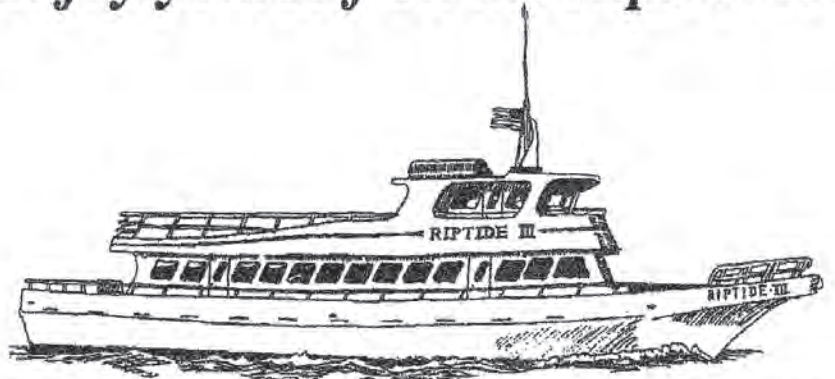
Of the 21 films Pollack directed, the ones described above are among my favorites. I would also include in the list **The Firm** (1993, which I reviewed in my *Young Lawyers* column in the June 2008 issue of the *Island Current*); **Sabrina** (1995) starring Harrison Ford, Julia Ormand and Greg Kinnear; **Random Hearts** (1999) starring Harrison Ford and Kristin Scott Thomas; and **The Interpreter** (2005) starring Nicole Kidman and Sean Penn.

Sydney Pollack was an extremely talented individual. He will be sorely missed by the people in his profession and those of us who have enjoyed his work through the years.

And until next time, happy viewing. . . .

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# HOT DEALS, COOL SOUNDS!



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Hot and steamy weather greeted the many visitors and shoppers on June 7 and 8 who attended the 2008 Summer Arts and Crafts Fair sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce. The Lickety Split Band played each day to an appreciative audience, and brochures for various Island organizations were handed out at the Chamber booth. Fifty-four vendors filled three blocks of City Island Avenue, featuring jewelry, painting, crochet, stained glass, soaps and lotions, candles, photography, Native American, South American and African crafts.



Photo by RICK DeWITT

The Trinity United Methodist Church Sunday School kids, with some help from teacher Pat LaPorte, sold lemonade and other treats during the fair to help raise money for Heifer International. The weekend effort put the finishing touches on their several week effort which raised over \$700. Heifer International raises money to buy families in developing countries farm animals, such as heifers, goats, ducks, chickens, rabbits and bees, so they can become self-sufficient. These families in turn share their animals' offspring with others in need.

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# The Far Side of the Bridge

A Column about  
 Bronx County  
 By MICHAEL SHANLEY

## The American Dream How Sweet It Is!

I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. There are a few things that immediately come to my mind on a hot summer's day, and one of them is certainly a cool ice cream. When contemplating my next column for the summer issue, I immediately thought of Reuben and Rose Mattus. Their story is not only a true Bronx story but a great American story as well.

Reuben Mattus was born in Poland to Jewish parents in 1912. In the early 1920s, he arrived in the Bronx with his widowed mother, Lea. Soon after their arrival, the family started a small ice cream business from the kitchen of their Southern Boulevard apartment. Reuben spent much of his youth and teen-age years peddling his family's homemade ice cream to the many small candy stores and neighborhood restaurants throughout the Bronx, gradually expanding the business.

Rose Vesel was born in Manchester, England in 1916, the daughter of Polish Jews. Both her parents were tailors by trade who made theatrical costumes. In 1921, when Rose was just five, the Vesel family immigrated to Brooklyn, New York.

Reuben Mattus met Rose Vesel at a youth club in 1935, and a year later they were married. After the wedding, Rose relocated to the Bronx and joined Reuben in his family's business—selling ice cream from a horse-drawn wagon. For the next 20 years, the couple worked hard, but the financial rewards were modest. The industry was changing rapidly, and by the late 1950s, locally made ice cream was being squeezed out and wildly undersold by larger national brands such as Sealtest and Borden's.

Just as their company seemed about to go out of business, Rose and Reuben decided to risk it all and go in the opposite direction of the current trend. Rather than make a cheaper product to distribute at a competitive price, the Mattuses decided to produce a more costly but far superior product. "The quality of ice cream had deteriorated to the point that it was just sweet and cold. Ice cream had just become cheaper and cheaper," Mr. Mattus was quoted as saying at the time.

The couple began to experiment with high-quality ingredients and decided on a high butterfat no-additive ice cream, with very little air whipped into it, and they sold it in pint containers. Up to that time, most commercial ice cream was made with low-fat powdered milk and artificial flavoring and sold in gallon increments. The Mattus's new product was incredibly rich with up to 17 percent butterfat (far more than government standards required), fresh egg yolks and such ingredients as Belgian chocolate, Madagascar vanilla and Colombian coffee.

Reuben and Rose were uncertain whether the working-class people of the Bronx would pay a higher price for a quality product such as theirs. They believed that the public would be more likely to pay more if they thought

the product was foreign. So they made up a ridiculously hard-to-pronounce name and printed a map of Scandinavia on the carton with an arrow pointing to Copenhagen, Denmark. They chose Denmark as a tribute to that nation's exemplary treatment of their Jewish citizens during World War II. The Mattuses also associated Denmark with purity, craftsmanship and Old World charm, so it seemed appropriate to brand their new ice cream with a Danish motif.

Neither Reuben nor Rose knew any Danish, so they simply made up the name—Haagen-Dazs—which they believed sounded Danish. They added an umlaut for authenticity, unaware that this German symbol is not used in Danish. But it didn't matter. The name sounded right and looked good, and if anyone had any doubts, the map of Denmark on the package sealed the impression.

Haagen-Dazs was launched in 1959 and quickly gained a reputation as a dense, richly textured, luxury ice cream. Soon a large number of ice-cream eaters were very willing to pay more for what they perceived as the best premium ice cream on the market. Haagen-Dazs enjoyed steady growth and expanded out of the Bronx into the other four boroughs. Its popularity in supermarkets eventually led to a coast-to-coast string of hundreds of franchise scoop shops, which ultimately spread as far away as Tokyo, Japan. Although the Mattuses never advertised or spent money on marketing, Haagen-Dazs became the only premium brand ice cream that could claim national distribution.

In the mid 1970s, Haagen-Dazs had outgrown its Bronx plant on Southern Boulevard and left its hometown for Woodbridge, New Jersey. In 1983 Reuben and Rose Mattus sold Haagen-Dazs to the Pillsbury Company for a reported \$70 million. Pillsbury in turn sold it to Nestle in 2001.

Reuben and Rose were both immigrant children who had lived an early life of almost unimaginable poverty. They had no connections to ease their way into society or to launch careers. Neither of them were highly educated, and they didn't have business degrees from prestigious universities. Although Rose had managed to complete high school, high school wasn't even a possibility for Reuben. Age was not an obstacle for them either. Both were in their mid-40s when they launched the Haagen-Dazs brand. What they did have was a belief in themselves and an understanding that anything was possible in America. With hard work and ingenuity, these two Bronx entrepreneurs achieved the American dream.

Reuben Mattus died on Jan. 28, 1994, at the age of 81, and Rose Vesel Mattus died at 90 on Nov. 28, 2006. They are survived by their two daughters, Doris and Natalie, six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Michael Shanley is a native Bronxite and long-time resident of City Island. He is a licensed tour guide for New York City specializing in Bronx County. Comments are welcomed at BxShanley@optonline.net.

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# America's Waterway Watch

Most people can detect when something is out of place or "just not right," especially when they are in their own backyards. It is this natural level of awareness in familiar surroundings that is the premise behind the America's Waterway Watch program.

The program is a nationwide initiative similar to the well-known and successful Neighborhood Watch program that asks community members to report suspicious activities to local law-enforcement agencies.

For the program to work, the U.S. Coast Guard is asking members of the public to act on that natural level of awareness when they notice something suspicious or even just out of place and to call the National Response Center at 877-24WATCH and report it. Of course, in the case of immediate danger to life or property, one should call 911 right away.

"The America's Waterway Watch program makes good sense," said Robert Nelson, a spokesperson for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. "People who spend much of their time on or near the water already know what is normal and what is not—just as they do when it comes to their own backyard. They are well suited to notice suspicious activities, including activities possibly indicating

threats to our nation's homeland security."

This program is only one way in which the average person can lend a hand by keeping his or her eyes and ears open to any suspicious activity and by reporting it to the National Response Center and to local law enforcement.

"With everyone concerned about the potential of terrorists who might use a small vessel to carry out an attack, the America's Waterway Watch program has become even more relevant," said Coast Guard Lieutenant John Taylor, assistant program manager for America's Waterway Watch. "Terrorists have demonstrated their ability to take command of a small vessel and use it to carry out their intent to do harm, as in the attack on the *U.S.S. Cole*." Additionally, small vessels could be used by terrorists to smuggle weapons or other terrorists into the United States. In an effort to address the small vessel threat, a series of Small Vessel Security Summits have been held by the Coast Guard throughout the country.

As the uniformed, civilian component of the Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary has primary responsibility for America's Waterway Watch outreach to the recreational boating community.

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HH = hours; MM = minutes  
*Tide chart by Tom Smith*

JULY 2008									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Tue	0451	-0.29	1029	7.07	1639	0.35	2239	8.46	Tue 01
02 Wed	0549	-0.58	1133	7.34	1747	0.16	2341	8.54	Wed 02
03 Thu	0644	-0.76	1231	7.58	1848	0.00			Thu 03
04 Fri	0041	8.52	0736	-0.80	1326	7.75	1945	-0.06	Fri 04
05 Sat	0138	8.38	0827	-0.68	1420	7.83	2041	-0.03	Sat 05
06 Sun	0235	8.13	0917	-0.44	1513	7.82	2137	0.10	Sun 06
07 Mon	0333	7.78	1007	-0.11	1607	7.74	2233	0.30	Mon 07
08 Tue	0431	7.41	1057	0.27	1703	7.61	2332	0.51	Tue 08
09 Wed	0531	7.06	1150	0.64	1800	7.49			Wed 09
10 Thu	0030	0.69	0631	6.78	1244	0.96	1857	7.41	Thu 10
11 Fri	0129	0.81	0729	6.62	1338	1.20	1952	7.39	Fri 11
12 Sat	0225	0.85	0825	6.58	1432	1.34	2046	7.43	Sat 12
13 Sun	0318	0.81	0918	6.63	1522	1.39	2136	7.51	Sun 13
14 Mon	0408	0.73	1008	6.76	1609	1.38	2222	7.60	Mon 14
15 Tue	0452	0.64	1053	6.91	1651	1.32	2303	7.68	Tue 15
16 Wed	0533	0.55	1135	7.05	1727	1.23	2339	7.74	Wed 16
17 Thu	0609	0.47	1211	7.16	1755	1.10			Thu 17
18 Fri	0003	7.78	0638	0.40	1237	7.28	1821	0.92	Fri 18
19 Sat	0019	7.86	0700	0.32	1252	7.43	1851	0.71	Sat 19
20 Sun	0047	7.95	0721	0.20	1316	7.65	1927	0.51	Sun 20
21 Mon	0123	7.99	0751	0.09	1350	7.87	2007	0.36	Mon 21
22 Tue	0203	7.94	0828	0.04	1429	8.04	2051	0.29	Tue 22
23 Wed	0247	7.79	0909	0.07	1513	8.13	2139	0.32	Wed 23
24 Thu	0336	7.52	0954	0.21	1602	8.12	2231	0.44	Thu 24
25 Fri	0429	7.18	1043	0.43	1655	8.03	2331	0.61	Fri 25
26 Sat	0528	6.84	1139	0.69	1754	7.91			Sat 26
27 Sun	0047	0.73	0635	6.59	1242	0.92	1901	7.82	Sun 27
28 Mon	0229	0.64	0758	6.54	1403	1.01	2019	7.85	Mon 28
29 Tue	0345	0.31	0927	6.77	1540	0.84	2141	8.03	Tue 29
30 Wed	0446	-0.07	1035	7.15	1651	0.48	2249	8.26	Wed 30
31 Thu	0541	-0.40	1131	7.55	1750	0.11	2347	8.43	Thu 31
AUGUST 2008									
01 Fri	0631	-0.61	1223	7.86	1843	-0.16			Fri 01
02 Sat	0040	8.46	0718	-0.65	1311	8.05	1934	-0.29	Sat 02
03 Sun	0129	8.33	0804	-0.54	1357	8.11	2022	-0.25	Sun 03
04 Mon	0217	8.07	0847	-0.28	1442	8.03	2110	-0.06	Mon 04
05 Tue	0305	7.71	0929	0.09	1528	7.84	2159	0.24	Tue 05
06 Wed	0354	7.30	1010	0.51	1616	7.60	2250	0.61	Wed 06
07 Thu	0447	6.90	1052	0.95	1709	7.35	2346	0.96	Thu 07
08 Fri	0545	6.58	1137	1.35	1808	7.16			Fri 08
09 Sat	0045	1.23	0647	6.40	1235	1.66	1909	7.07	Sat 09
10 Sun	0145	1.37	0748	6.39	1340	1.84	2008	7.11	Sun 10
11 Mon	0241	1.36	0844	6.52	1440	1.86	2102	7.24	Mon 11
12 Tue	0332	1.24	0936	6.74	1532	1.73	2151	7.42	Tue 12
13 Wed	0418	1.05	1022	6.99	1617	1.51	2233	7.60	Wed 13
14 Thu	0458	0.83	1102	7.23	1656	1.23	2308	7.75	Thu 14
15 Fri	0533	0.62	1135	7.45	1728	0.91	2332	7.89	Fri 15
16 Sat	0601	0.40	1157	7.66	1758	0.58	2354	8.02	Sat 16
17 Sun	0624	0.19	1216	7.91	1831	0.26			Sun 17
18 Mon	0024	8.12	0651	0.00	1245	8.18	1907	0.01	Mon 18
19 Tue	0101	8.14	0723	-0.12	1321	8.38	1947	-0.12	Tue 19
20 Wed	0142	8.04	0801	-0.12	1402	8.48	2031	-0.09	Wed 20
21 Thu	0226	7.82	0843	0.02	1447	8.44	2119	0.09	Thu 21
22 Fri	0315	7.47	0929	0.30	1537	8.27	2214	0.41	Fri 22
23 Sat	0410	7.07	1021	0.68	1632	7.98	2320	0.76	Sat 23
24 Sun	0513	6.68	1121	1.09	1737	7.68			Sun 24
25 Mon	0105	0.95	0634	6.46	1242	1.37	1859	7.50	Mon 25
26 Tue	0233	0.78	0822	6.62	1438	1.26	2044	7.63	Tue 26
27 Wed	0338	0.43	0933	7.05	1551	0.83	2155	7.93	Wed 27
28 Thu	0435	0.06	1030	7.52	1650	0.33	2252	8.21	Thu 28
29 Fri	0526	-0.25	1120	7.93	1742	-0.10	2342	8.36	Fri 29
30 Sat	0612	-0.41	1206	8.20	1831	-0.37			Sat 30
31 Sun	0029	8.35	0656	-0.42	1249	8.31	1916	-0.45	Sun 31
SEPTEMBER 2008									
01 Mon	0112	8.19	0736	-0.26	1330	8.28	1959	-0.34	Mon 01
02 Tue	0153	7.91	0813	0.02	1408	8.12	2041	-0.07	Tue 02
03 Wed	0233	7.55	0846	0.39	1444	7.87	2121	0.31	Wed 03
04 Thu	0313	7.18	0909	0.79	1520	7.58	2201	0.75	Thu 04
05 Fri	0356	6.82	0933	1.18	1558	7.29	2244	1.19	Fri 05
06 Sat	0447	6.52	1010	1.55	1645	7.04	2341	1.55	Sat 06



**COLLISIONS OF THE MASSES**

Weather isn't often the hot topic of conversation that it would seem to have become around here. Often, talking about the weather is what we resort to in a conversation when there's nothing left to say. But not lately. Lately, plenty of people have had plenty to say about the weather, and so now it's our turn.

Weather is what happens to air. We take note of it especially when one air mass collides with another. These collisions happen at what's called a front. We say the front is a warm front when the new air mass coming our way is warmer than the old air mass, which is to say, the present air mass or the air that is already here and all around us. Where the pushing happens, or the collision, that's the front. A cold front is cooler air pushing warmer air up and out of the way. These are the more violent collisions of the two—the ones that we have been experiencing.

The reason for the violence can be explained this way: cold air moves faster than warm; it does what it has to do (i.e., push the old air out of its way) in a comparatively short period of time. Moreover, as seasons change and our half of Earth becomes increasingly more heated, the temperature differences between air masses are likely to be greater, which makes possible even more violence when air masses collide.

Clues for the approaching cold air

mass are in the clouds. As new, cooler air pushes old warmer air, it actually lifts the warm air, forcing the vaporized moisture within to condense and form the kinds of thunderstorm-type clouds many of us are accustomed to around here. The storms are generally short-lived and followed by clearer skies with puffy cumulus clouds that form higher in the atmosphere.

Thinking about the science of the next storm that comes City Island's way might not take all of the fear out of our perceptions of it, but it can add a new dimension so that fear is not the only way it is perceived. We think of the coyotes around here this way already: more wonder, less fear. Who among us would not have traded places with Jaime in that instant he saw the family of coyotes on the move together in the park? We sympathize with them all the time, especially the dead. The dead coyote that turned up alongside the Hutch last month evoked the sympathy of many City Islanders on their way to and from home.

The turtle beside Liz's boat evoked excitement. The gobbling turkeys in the trees behind Glover's Rock made way for smiles among Parks Department employees. Jackie was delighted, if a little confused, by the age-old horseshoe crab ritual played out on her property. If you have something to contribute to our ongoing chronicle of the things that make us wonder and more about City Island and its environs, we invite you to do so at [jdsstrat@msn.com](mailto:jdsstrat@msn.com).

Have a wonderful summer!

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## Remember When...



Photo courtesy of WALTER HENNING

In 1952 City Island launched its first Little League program. There were four teams—P.S. 17, Civic Association, High Island and Clam Diggers—and the P. S. 17 team is pictured here. Front row (l. to r.): Peter Klopfer, Walter Henning, Charlie Hawkins, Billy Soles, unknown; back row: unknown, Ronnie Peterson, unknown, Bobby May, Randy Peterson, unknown. The coaches, standing at the back, are Mr. Hanke and Mr. May.



Photo by FAITH FRASER

During the three-alarm fire that broke out on May 25, 2008, Engine 53 and Ladder 70 from City Island responded along with 19 other engines and 14 ladder companies. Meanwhile, according to fire department policy, a back-up engine was brought to the fire house on Schofield Street in case another emergency occurred at the same time. With the avenue closed off to traffic, Ladder 31 had to use back streets to the fire house. The replacement fire truck ran into problems on Minneford Lane between Fordham and Carroll Streets when it tried to make the turn. Off-Island firefighters (shown above) worked furiously to move a parked car on the corner so the engine could complete the turn. The City Island Avenue fire remains under investigation.

## Time for a (Healthy) Change

By BRUCE NIEVES

Change is a curious thing. In most areas of life you dread it, yet in others you pine for it. You are told that change is hard, that it takes time. You are also told that change is the most consistent thing that you'll ever encounter. You wonder how to make lasting changes that will improve your life.

I'm here to argue that change can happen in an instant.

I know this goes against mainstream belief. Most people believe that change has to be worked at for months or even years. We expect to try and fail numerous times before we ultimately give up or succeed. Think about it: how many people do you know who struggle with their weight? They want to make a healthy change by getting in shape, but the change never seems to take hold.

Is there something in your life that you want to change? Do you have weight to lose? Do you have high blood pressure? Do you have a pair of pants that you wish you could fit into? What is preventing you from making a positive change in your life?

According to professional speaker and author Anthony Robbins, it's the getting ready to change that takes time. In the end, there's an instant when the change occurs. Mr. Robbins goes on to outline three specific beliefs that you must have in order to instantly create a lasting change.

**Belief #1:** Something *must* change. Do you kind of want to get into shape or do you absolutely have to lose the weight? Does dropping a few pounds sound nice or is living another day in your current body simply out of the question? In order to make a lasting change you must be convinced that the time is right.

**Belief #2:** I *must* change it. It is vital that you take full responsibility in making the change. Sure, others may assist you, but in the end you are the one who is going to make it happen. You have to want this change enough to make it your personal mission-no

one else will do it for you.

**Belief #3:** I *can* change it. Don't let past failures get in your way. The truth is that you can do amazing things when you put your mind to it. Believe that you are capable of losing weight or making any other positive change in your life.

Why do most people fail to make lasting change? They leave it up to willpower. That works for a while, but you'll always revert back to what's comfortable. The solution? Change what you are comfortable with.

You have probably heard that humans are motivated by two things: 1) to avoid pain and 2) to gain pleasure. When you want to change a behavior pattern, the key is to associate pain with the behavior that you don't want and pleasure with the behavior that you do want.

You know that you want to lose weight and that to do so you need to quit eating comfort food late at night. You also know that you must start exercising on a regular basis. Up to this point, your brain is trained to associate pleasure with eating comfort food late at night and to associate pain with exercise.

It's time to retrain your brain to feel good about exercise and to feel bad about eating late at night. Think about all the negative aspects of being overweight and connect these unpleasant thoughts to your late night snack. Now think about all of the wonderful things about being in shape and connect these pleasant thoughts to exercise.

You are capable of making a big change in your life. Start by contacting me for a no-obligation fitness consultation.

Remember, change can happen in an instant.

*Butch Nieves is a City Island resident who owns a personal fitness training business. His Web site is [www.mramericaspersonaltraining.com](http://www.mramericaspersonaltraining.com).*

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Andre Brown of Legion at bat with Sammy's Patrick Lagos behind the plate.



Photos by JOHN LYONS

Batter Conor Saulnier of Sammy's and catcher Greg Sexton of Legion behind the plate.



As school ends, so we begin to close in on the end of the Little League season. The regular season games end on June 18 and playoffs begin June 19. The championship trophies will be distributed on Saturday, June 28, 2008. On trophy day, City Island Little League will have the honor of hosting the official dedication of the new Ambrosini Field by Parks Department Commissioner Adrian Benepe. The dedication will be at 10 a.m. at home plate followed by the annual All Star game.

**Juniors:** New Yorker Contractors, coached by Franco Fino, beat Astor in the first round of the playoffs with a 10 to 1 lead by Kevin Whelan, Danny Masterson and Franco Fino Jr. They were eliminated in the second round in a close game against Co-op City, 7 to 6.

**Majors:** It was a major accomplishment for Ruggieros' Kyle Kreig in the June 7 game against Sammy's. Kyle pitched a perfect game--18 batters up, 18 down--securing a 6-0 win for Ruggieros. An unofficial poll of Little League oldtimers could not recall a perfect game in Little League here on City Island. Congratulations, Kyle!

It's Home Run Derby time: the league is running out of baseballs! The following players went yard in the month of June: Sammy's Nick Bellochio, Ruggiero's Joshua Garcia (twice), American Legion's

Dylan Cullen (twice) and Robert Pirraglia--10 times! Looks as if we will have to move the fences back next year.

The regular season is over and as of this writing, the playoffs are scheduled and will be covered in the next issue.

**Minors:** The Minors have progressed phenomenally since the beginning of the season. I had an opportunity to watch a game last week and was impressed by the fielding skills of the players. The IGA, coached by John Manna, and JP's Restaurant, coached by Maria Piri, have readied eight players for the Majors next year, and I look forward to coming back to watch them play.

T-ball coach Tony Massella has been hard at work Saturday mornings teaching our future players baseball fundamentals. On trophy day, our little leaguers will have a quick batting demonstration before they cross home plate and pick up their trophies.

Over the summer, the Majors Division will assemble a Tournament Team that will play in early July, coached by John Valenti. The high school summer league team, the City Island Sharks, will be coached by Tom Vivolo, George Spencer and Tom Masterson. Their games will be played on Monday nights at Rodman's Neck.

The City Island Little League would like to thank the team sponsors New Yorker Contractors, Jack's Bait & Tackle, Sammy's Fish Box, American Legion, Ruggiero & Sons, IGA Market and JP's Restaurant, along with our T-Ball sponsors, City Island Medical Group, Mike's Pipe Yard, Sea Shore Restaurant, Seafood City, Dugout Sports and Crab Shanty. The girls' softball was sponsored by the Lido. We could not run the league without them!

This will be my last column for *The Island Current*, as my family and I are moving to Connecticut. Sally Connolly will take over the column in the next issue and I know she will do a wonderful job. Little League has been a big part of my life for the last six years and an incredible experience for me personally. I have had the opportunity to coach my son and some of the best players in the Bronx. It has been a pleasure to work alongside the parents who volunteer their time to run the league, manage, coach and maintain the field. They are truly a fine example of community. Although I will miss them and the league very much, I know City Island will always be a part of my life.

Elizabeth Lyons

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

It's a BIG July 7 birthday for Big Addie. Happy 17th birthday wishes to Maria Christina Swieciki, who will celebrate her big day on Aug. 22.

Congratulations to Fordham Street's Mick Byrne, who was inducted into the Iona College Hall of Fame on June 9 at the Wykagyl Country Club. Mick is head track and field coach for the men's and women's program; in his 25 years at Iona, he has had 17 consecutive MAAC Championships and numerous other achievements. Mick was introduced at the dinner by Bob Greifeld, chairman and CEO of the NASDAQ, and Packie Mulvaney, an All American Champion and colleague. The event was attended by a very exuberant crowd of over 230 attendees, the loudest of which were from City Island.

Happy 90th birthday on Aug. 3 to Eleanor Larson Jones. Eleanor is a true clam digger - she was born in the house at 10 Bay Street in 1918. Her father was Harry Larson who worked at Jacobs Shipyard. She still reads The Island Current, so best wishes to her from all of us.

Belated birthday wishes to Pilot Cove's Felicia Doati, who celebrated with her children and grandchildren on June 8. Love, your Pilot Cove friends.

Happy 51st birthday on Aug. 8 across the miles to John Brown in Lake Worth, Florida. Best wishes from Bobby and Mott.

Happy birthday on July 4 to Nicky Carmody from your City Island family.

Congratulations to Kelly Carmody, who graduated from the Ursuline School in May. Good luck as you pursue your education at St. Leo's University in Florida. We love you! Mom, Dad and little Bob.

Belated June birthdays to Judy Rauh, John Wright and their mom, Vera Thomp-



Mick Byrne.

son. They welcomed a new member of the family this spring: Vera's great, great granddaughter, Lily Colleen, was born March 13. Proud parents are Cameron and Jackie Chase of Orlando, Florida. Kathy and Mark Demas are the proud grandparents.

Happy July birthdays to Beth Rota and Susie Rauh.

Happy third anniversary to Beth and Matt Rota, who expect to visit City Island at the end of July.

Heartiest congratulations to Aimee Zambrana, who graduated as valedictorian of the class of 2008 from St. Mary, Star of the Sea (see photo page 5). Your parents, Maria and Frank, and sister, Stephanie, are so very proud of all your hard work, which earned you a General Excellence Award from the City Island Chamber of Commerce, an award for General Excellence from the Home School Association, a gold medal in academics from St. Mary, Star of the Sea, a Certificate of Recognition for excellence in Science from the Women in Science Society, and a prize for your essay on "How do you think a female president will affect the United States" from the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion. You continue to fill your family with pride and honor.

And a happy and safe summer to all our neighbors and friends. See you in September!

Maria Swieciki



Photo by BARBARA HARRISON KAYE

The St. Mary, Star of the Sea School Class of 1958 celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation with a ceremony at the church on Friday, June 13, and a luncheon reunion at The Harbor, formerly Jimmy Ryan's, where they held their prom 50 years ago. Pictured are (l. to r.) Jane Genovese Gelsi, William Mueller, St. Mary's Principal Mrs. Jane Dennehy accepting a Class of 1958 Gift to the School, Rosetta Shandley Woods and Mary Fogarty Carman who were the 1958 committee contacting their classmates and making celebration plans. Twenty-four alumni of the class are back in touch after all these years.

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