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# The Island Current

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One Dollar

## Coping with the COVID-19 Crisis on CI

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by RICK DEWITT, VIRGINIA DANNEGGER, BARBARA DOLENSEK and MATT PANZA

The COVID-19 pandemic calling for everyone, especially seniors, the disabled and the vulnerable, to remain in their homes sent the City Island community into action. A group of volunteers (above) will deliver groceries, takeout food, medicines and other items to Island residents who e-mail [cityislandstrong@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandstrong@gmail.com). Like the other religious organizations, Trinity has suspended in-person worship, but since the church has never been closed on a Sunday, Pastor Dave (top photo) was in front of the church letting anyone passing by know that the Trinity congregation was praying for them, City Island, the country and the world. Unlike some markets, Dominick's (lower right) was keeping its shelves well stocked during the crisis. The Crab Shanty (top photo, upper right) is one of the many Island restaurants offering take-out meals while they are closed for inhouse dining, along with To Go Express (middle photo). Clipper Coffee was offering its beverages and pastries out of the front door, since customers could not enter, but now it has closed indefinitely.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, life throughout the world has changed for everyone, and it continues to change every day. Although many on City Island are relying on television, the internet, Facebook and friends for information, advice and support, we decided to publish *The Island Current* a week early in order to make sure that residents get information about local activities as soon as possible. Of course, many solutions are still being proposed, so we recommend that everyone check in regularly with each other (by phone, please) and with local businesses to stay up to date. No one can estimate how long the need for "social distancing" is going to last, but we have to prepare ourselves for it to take months rather than days.

First of all, keep yourself at a safe distance from everyone if you are out and about, walking along the Avenue or shopping. Download an Audible book and listen as you walk; it's not as good as talking with a friend, but you won't feel so alone!

Second of all, stay up to date with the most reliable sources of online information: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/latest-news> is one of the best; also consult <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/index.page>. Tune in to <https://www.governor.ny.gov/>, where you will find Governor Cuomo's daily briefings.

Those who are concerned about Social Security should go to the COVID-19 web page at [www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/) to find out what services are continuing and which ones are suspended, ways to contact SS, and important information about deadlines they are extending.

Third of all, understand how fortunate we are to be living in a community like City Island. Make a note of the following:

The City Island Civic Association, coordinated by president Bill Stanton, has joined forces with the American Legion Post 156, the Chamber of Commerce, the Boys and Girl Scouts, the churches and the temple to offer residents help by deliver-



ing food, walking dogs and performing other chores for Island residents who make a request by e-mailing [cityislandstrong@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandstrong@gmail.com).

Although the usual holiday services may be suspended for Holy Week, be sure to check in with Temple Beth-El and Grace Church, which are offering online services.

Continued on page 6



**BRIEFLY...**

**GRADS OF P.S. 17 AND ST. MARY'S CLASS OF 1958.**

This reunion group is planning to go on the Riptide in September for a boat trip around Manhattan. Other events are planned as well. Those from out of town can stay at AirBNBs on City Island. Those who can come are asked to contact Jane Gelsi at [janeegg@verizon.net](mailto:janeegg@verizon.net) or 914-804-5220.

**45 BLOTTER**

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during February and March 2020. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 - AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT
- 1 - GRAND LARCENY AUTO
- 1 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 1 - LOST PROPERTY
- 1 - GRAFFITI
- 1 - LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT

Police provided details on the following arrests and incidents for the period from Feb. 20 to March 17, 2020.

2/20 - On Carroll Street at 4 p.m., a female Islander reported an incident of petit larceny. The victim said that items were removed from her backyard without her permission.

2/25 - At 4 p.m. on City Island Avenue, a female off-Islander told police that the front license plate had been stolen from her parked vehicle.

3/1 - An off-Island male reported an incident of criminal mischief at 6:30 p.m. on Minneford Avenue. The complainant said that the front passenger tire of his vehicle had been punched with a screwdriver.

3/3 - On City Island Avenue at 4:50 p.m., an off-Island female told police that another vehicle backed into her car while it was parked and the driver left the scene without exchanging information.

3/5 - An Island male reported that his parked vehicle was stolen from King Avenue at 7:30 p.m.

3/7 - On Pell Place at 6 p.m., police received a report of aggravated harassment by an Island male. The victim states that his neighbor was sending him repeated threat-

ening texts after he discontinued her services as a babysitter.

3/18 - Police from the 45th Precinct took a report of graffiti vandalism of an FDNY call box at Reville Street and King Avenue at 8:30 p.m.

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Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.  
 Good Friday Worship Service

Saturday, April 11, 8:00 a.m.  
 Trinity will join St. Mary's Morning Worship Service

*To Celebrate*  
 Sunday, April 12  
 Sunrise Service Pelham Cemetery 6:15 a.m.  
 Easter Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

331 City Island Ave., City Island, Bronx NY  
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 Rev. David Jolly, Pastor - [david.jolly@nyac-umc.com](mailto:david.jolly@nyac-umc.com)



# RODMAN'S NECK RENOVATION MOVES ON

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

The renovation of Rodman's Neck was discussed at a meeting held by the 45th Precinct Community Council on Feb. 26, 2020, with representatives of the New York Police Department, several members of the City Island community and Councilmember Mark Gjonaj. Plans for the renovation have changed since the last Council meeting on the subject, held in November 2018, and now include the construction of an indoor firing range and the installation of temporary baffling, which could be completed within a year.

Deputy Inspector Joseph Notaro, commanding officer of the NYPD Facilities Management Division, explained that the design for the facility had changed and that an indoor firing range had been chosen as the best solution to the noise problem that has affected the City Island community for over 25 years in spite of many promises by city officials that sound abatement would be installed in a timely manner. The design phase is in process and is expected to be completed by the end of 2021, at which point the plans will be put out to bid with construction slated to begin in 2022 or 2023.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced in 2017 that \$275 million had been put into the NYC capital budget to cover the cost of the renovation at Rodman's Neck, which would include infrastructure, range reconstruction and flood resiliency, but the estimated cost came in higher, which required going back to the Office of Management and Budget for additional funding.

In the meantime, however, the NYPD has come up with an interim sound-baffling remedy, which Officer Notaro referred to as "sound curtains," which will modify the sound from the range while the permanent renovation is taking place. The process of

sending out requests for proposals has begun, and it is possible that installation of this baffling may be completed within a year.

Officer Notaro was asked a number of questions by members of the community and agreed to look into solutions, such as alerting residents when extensive practice sessions are planned. It was also suggested that the P.A. system used by training officers, often early in the morning, should be minimized so that it is not heard on City Island and neighboring communities. Noting that flood resiliency was part of the overall reconstruction of the range, one resident asked if the natural wetlands surrounding Rodman's Neck would be compromised by the construction of flood barriers, but Officer Notaro assured the group that this would not take place.

John Doyle, an officer of the Community Council, said he had not had a sufficient answer to his request for information about lead contamination at Rodman's Neck, which was raised when three officers with the Department of Correction were tested with high lead levels in 2018. The NYPD has reported that lead is removed regularly from the berms into which bullets are fired, but the DOC area of the range, where weapons are stored, may have resulted in the release of lead during the process of cleaning.

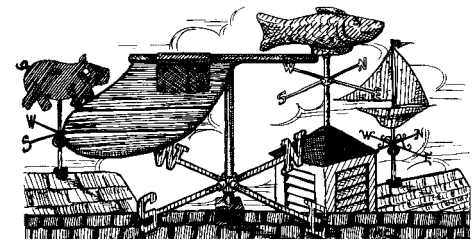
Those who were present at the meeting were encouraged by the news about the enclosed range and the temporary baffling, but some remain skeptical, having heard promises by mayors since David Dinkins that sound abatement would be resolved in a timely manner. Councilmember Gjonaj reminded the group that one administration after another has pledged to finally end the problem, and he feared that if this project doesn't go ahead, it may be another decade before it finally gets resolved.

## A Message to City Island from Senator Alessandra Biaggi

During this unprecedented time, I am filled with gratitude for the City Islanders who have stepped up to help those of us in greatest need, from the doctors and nurses on the front lines of our hospitals, to the teachers adapting to new ways of connecting with students, to the community and business leaders and restaurant owners providing essential supplies and take-out meals, to the younger generation of City Islanders volunteering their time to support our elders.

I am inspired by your care and compassion for others, while still practicing social distancing and following the guidelines from our health experts. I urge you to make time to focus on yourself too: Remember to take breaks and breathe.

As your elected leader, I am doing everything I can to ensure that you are well informed of the facts, that your rights are secured and your that safety is protected. If you would like to sign-up for our daily COVID-19 e-mail updates, fill out the form using this link: [bit.ly/D34COVID](http://bit.ly/D34COVID). In this challenging moment for our district, it is important to remember that we will undoubtedly get through this together. My office is here to continue serving City Island and ensure that our community is safe and informed.



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Photo by BRONX NEWS 12

To gather community support in protest of the possible takeover of Consolidated Yacht Yard by U.S. Crane & Rigging, which may take place during the last week in March, Island resident Rabia Graney spearheaded a petition campaign that resulted in more than 350 signatures. She sat in the cold for several hours in front of Clipper Coffee on Sunday, March 1, 2020, where she was joined by two of her helpers, Barbara Dolensek (left) and Maria Caruso.

## TESTING, TESTING

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

We have just learned that there is at least one confirmed case of the coronavirus here on City Island, but we are reassured to learn that she is quarantining herself and should pose little or no risk to other Islanders. The patient, Laurie Vega, has a job that involves her being in Manhattan, among other places, and meeting with lots of people, so she isn't totally surprised by having become infected. Her physician authorized her getting a test, which was positive, so she is staying at home, where she has some symptoms but is trying to keep up her spirits. She posted the news right away on Facebook and told *The Current* that she hopes her example will make other relatively young people aware of the risk they face.

Laurie was eligible to get the test because she had symptoms and a doctor who believed that these were definitely indications of COVID-19. But she was lucky, because many people have been unable to get tests, as they are in short supply. Testing has increased dramatically over the past couple of weeks, but most recent reports are that, although testing has increased, the United States has a long way to go to catch up to South Korea, for example, which has run more 300,000 tests to our 170,000, although the U.S. has at least six times more people.

After a slow start, laboratories have gradually increased their testing capacity, but many people have not been able to get tested at all, and the restrictions are becoming more stringent—one needs a doctor's written approval and to show signs of illness, as in Laurie's case. Another Islander friend of mine is at great risk for infection because of his age and his underlying medical condition. When he developed numerous symptoms of what he thought was COVID-19, it took him over a week to get tested in Connecticut, and he still doesn't have results after six days.

The successful drive-in testing facility at Glen Island in New Rochelle was the first of its kind in the state, set up quickly because of the large number of cases in the

area. A rumor circulated for a while that Orchard Beach would be used for testing, but that was unfounded. At press time, there were only two sites in the Bronx—Lincoln Hospital and Jacobi Hospital, which also has a drive-in facility.

Some experts are saying that the testing itself puts people at risk, since patients with symptoms should be home rather than risking travel and because so many tests have caused shortages in masks and other medical gear. It is certainly likely that there are a great many more cases of COVID-19 out there than could ever be counted through testing.

People who have symptoms such as fever, tiredness, dry cough and shortness of breath should call their physicians for advice, but not go to an emergency room or urgent care facility unless directed to do so. Allergies, which are becoming more common now that spring is here, include sneezing and coughing but not fever, whereas regular flu victims don't usually have shortness of breath.

Rather than worrying about getting tested, the primary concern of everyone should be avoiding close contact with anyone who might be ill, even if they don't know it, and keeping one's hands clean after touching surfaces that might have become contaminated (such as delivered packages, mail, the keyboard of someone else's computer or cell phone). Listen to the advice of Governor Cuomo, who has been providing regular briefings during recent weeks, especially in light of New York's current status as a disaster area, and learn to love staying at home.

According to the New York State Department of Health's protocol, as of March 31, 2020, you need to meet these qualifications in order to get tested:

- If you were in contact (same classroom, officer or social gathering) with a person who has tested positive
- If you traveled to a country that the CDC has issued a Level 2 or Level 3 Travel Health Notice, and show symptoms of illness
- If you are quarantined (mandatory or precautionary) and have shown symptoms of COVID-19 illness
- If you are symptomatic and have not tested positive for any other infection, such as the flu
- If it is determined by the treating clinician, in consultation with state and local department of health officials, that you need to get tested

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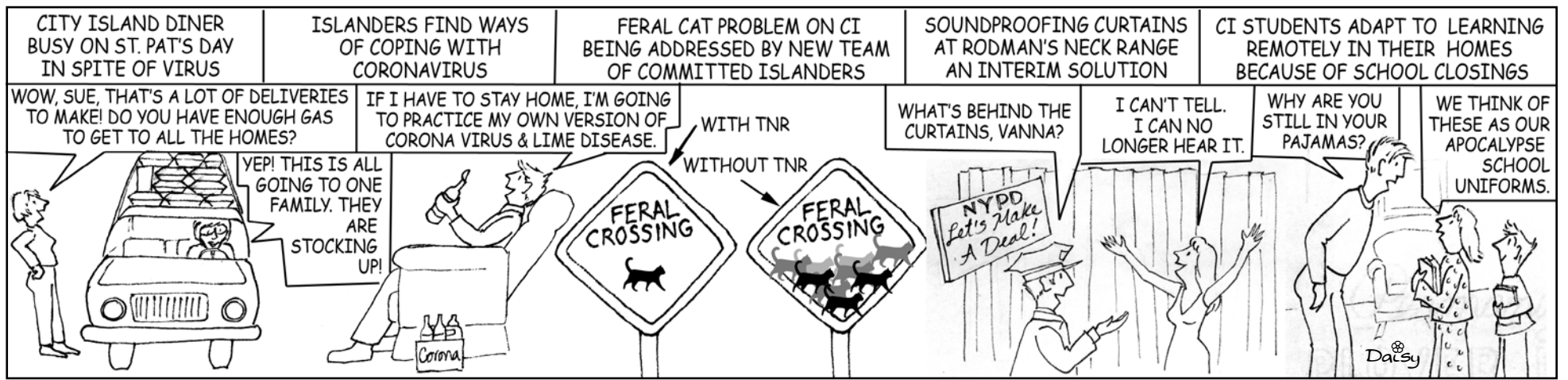


Photo by KAREN NANI

City Island Boy Scout Troop 211 has cancelled their annual Easter Flower Sale (shown above) this year because of the coronavirus crisis. They look forward to providing beautiful blooms to Islanders again in 2021.



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.

**Library Thanks**

To the Editor:

I want to thank you, so much, for the incredible front page cover story about the public library (see March 2020 issue of *The Current*)! We were all blown away. It was sent around the entire office—meaning my bosses, all the Bronx managers and other departments. All of us almost fell over laughing at the cartoon that was done as well. This was beyond what we thought would happen. We are so grateful for this feature and the wonderful recap of City Island's history.

Thank you again for making this happen. Enjoy your day.

**Bobby Sherwood**

**DOT Grants Request!**

The following letter was received by The Current:

To: Cathy Cebek

This is in response to your correspondence requesting adjustments to the markings/signage on exit 5 of the Hutchinson River Parkway (Orchard Beach/City Island exit.)

Please be advised that our Highway Design Unit conducted a field inspection of this location and determined that your request is warranted. As a result, our engineers have revised the design and the new markings will be installed in our spring 2020 markings season.

We thank you for bringing your traffic safety concerns to our attention.

**Nivardo Lopez**  
Borough Commissioner, DOT

**Boy Scouts Cancel Flower Sale But Stand With The Community**

To our wonderful community,

The Boy Scouts of America have always stood for Family, God and Country, and we at Troop 211 would like to add a strong emphasis on "Community."

We are always very grateful for the loyal annual outpouring of support we receive from our community, and we recognize the potential risk and hardship we all might be facing in the coming weeks, because of the current crisis.

Because of the evolving landscape, for the sake of safety, Troop 211 has decided to cancel our annual Easter flower sale.

We wish everyone a happy, safe and healthy Easter.

**Angelo Bellocchio,**  
Committee Chair, Troop 211

**The Show Must Go On**

To the Editor,

These are anxious, tough and challenging times for us all, including music artists and venues. As you know, the Mayor has called for concert and per-

formance venues to close. To deal with this, we have been working on a live-streaming series from The Artist on City Island. Same great shows brought into your homes—keeping you safe but entertained as you stay home.

We hope to launch this as early as the last weekend of March. More information and a schedule to follow. Stay tuned. Check our website ([www.StarvingArtistOnline.com](http://www.StarvingArtistOnline.com)) or call 718-885-3779 for updates.

From the family of The Artist, to all in our family of performers and supporters: be safe and be well.

**Elliott Glick**



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# Sewage in the Hutchinson River, Part II: Government Efforts to Control Pollution

By BARBARA DOLENSEK and BARBARA ZAHM

Many residents of City Island and communities across Eastchester Bay have become aware of the pollution caused by sewage coming from the Hutchinson River. There are several sources of this sewage, and several local activist organizations have joined forces to learn more about the problem and to work toward solutions.

In last month's *Current*, several sources of the contamination were described. For example, New York City's Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs), where the storm sewers and sanitary sewers share the same pipes and undergo some treatment, can overflow into the Hutchinson River during a rainstorm without being treated. Pollution is also caused by industries along the river, but the greatest offender to the Hutchinson River's pollution problem is the disintegrating sewer system in the city of Mount Vernon further upstream.

Save the Sound, an environmental group based in Connecticut, frequently tests the water quality in Eastchester Bay and has determined that there are "multiple sources of water quality concern (e.g., garbage, algae, pharmaceuticals, turbidity), but the most common risk when swimming in polluted water is coming in contact with, or ingesting, disease-causing

microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, and protozoa associated with fecal pollution. Collectively, these agents are known as pathogens."

The New York City Department of Health (DOH) tests water quality for fecal bacteria concentration at public beaches and some private beaches in the city, including two beaches on City Island—West Fordham Street and the Morris Yacht Club—to determine if the water is safe for swimming. Like Save the Sound, the DOH reports that bacterial content tends to increase dramatically after heavy rain, although both report that Orchard Beach has improved significantly over the years.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has determined that the waters of Eastchester Bay and the western part of Long Island Sound can no longer be a source for edible shellfish, in spite of the fact that oystering was once a major industry on City Island. The DEC has also made it illegal for fishermen to remove shellfish from local waters and move them further out into Long Island Sound to cleanse them before offering them for sale as edible.

In 2012 a major consent order was initiated for the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), along with the NYS DEC, to develop and put into operation several Long Term Control Plans (LTCPs) that first evaluate and then find solutions to improve the water quality in all New York City's water bodies, including the Hutchinson River. Over the years some significant improvements in the water quality have been made in many of the waterways in New York City. "Gray Infrastructure" involves large-scale, centralized end-of-pipe controls, such as sewer modifications and CSO retention tanks, where the water is then disinfected using chlorination. "Green Infrastructure" is a set of techniques that detain stormwater runoff through captured and controlled release before entering the sewer system. These techniques include rain gardens along streets and sidewalks, green roofs, permeable pavements and the restoration of wetlands to absorb water and filter urban runoff pollutants.

These LTCPs are multi-million-dollar projects, and one for the Hutchinson River was recently approved. It will cost nearly \$170 million, and the construction is not scheduled for completion until 2030. Many see that the problem with this plan is that it will only improve the situation by 11 percent, which doesn't seem like a lot of bang for our bucks. Also, some City

Island residents are concerned that the disinfection plan to use chlorination of sewage will adversely affect the wildlife and therefore biodiversity.

## Lawsuit Against Mount Vernon

The greatest source of sewage in the Hutchinson River, 40 percent, comes from Mount Vernon's deteriorating sewage system, which has been the source of untreated wastewater flowing all day every day for many years into the Hutchinson and Bronx Rivers. Five years ago, Tracy Brown, director of Save the Sound, began to document the pollution and learned that the DEC had tried for years with no success to get the city to make the necessary repairs to fix the problem. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) then brought an enforcement action against Mount Vernon, but because of the city's notorious mismanagement of funds and long-term corruption problems, the government had not made any of the necessary repairs. Ms. Brown recalls being shocked by this, "as I'd never seen a community willfully ignore a law enforcement action from a federal agency before."

In June 2018, the EPA along with the NYS DEC brought a lawsuit against Mount Vernon. The complaint charges the city with comprehensive and long-running noncompliance with, and violation of, the Federal Clean Water Act, the New York Environmental Conservation Law, and the New York Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems permit. The suit alleges that "for years—and in defiance of two EPA administrative orders—Mount Vernon allowed raw sewage and other illicit pollutants into its storm sewer system, which then discharge into the Hutchinson and Bronx Rivers."

Mount Vernon finally answered the complaint at the end of October 2018 by denying "knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth or falsity of the allegations." Nothing further happened until May 2019, when an attorney for Mount Vernon admitted to its non-compliance and liability. However, he claimed that the city was broke and lacked the funds to meet its obligations, let alone pay its own attorneys. Meanwhile, as this lawsuit continues to drag on in the court system, some additional hope lies with the newly elected mayor of Mount Vernon, Shawyn Patterson-Howard, who took office in January 2020. She ran on an anti-corruption platform and pledged to unify the city and bring responsible, professional leadership to the city.

## City Island Citizens Get Involved

In October 2019, City Island Rising devoted its monthly meeting to the sub-

ject of the environment, and representatives of several organizations, including Save the Sound, Riverkeeper, City Island Indivisible, the City Island Oyster Reef and the Hutchinson River Restoration Project (HRRP), were in attendance. Barbara Zahm, who is an officer of both Indivisible and the Oyster Reef, called on her neighbor, Scotty Murdock, a retired attorney, to research the Mount Vernon lawsuit, and he wrote a detailed report that was presented to Hutchinson River Restoration Project in December 2019. In his report, he remarked: "In reading the city's papers, I found particularly offensive its assertion, as if by way of excuse for its long-term contamination of the rivers, that "neither the Bronx nor Hutchinson River is a drinking water source for any community or truly navigable for anything more than a floating twig or debris."

Members of City Island Indivisible met with Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and informed her of the issue, and they also reached out to State Senator Alessandra Biaggi, whose district includes part of Mount Vernon. She advised the group that she would arrange a meeting with Mount Vernon's new mayor soon after her inauguration in January 2020.

Barbara Zahm, on behalf of the Hutchinson River Restoration Project (HRRP), arranged for a meeting in Senator Biaggi's office on Feb. 19, when the new mayor, Ms. Shawyn Patterson-Howard, met with several representatives of HRRP, Save the Sound, the City Island Oyster Reef and City Island Rising, as well as the Bronx Borough President's new director of health and human services, Island resident Nancy Kheck. Senator Biaggi described the concern expressed by these groups about the sewage spilling from Mount Vernon into the Hutchinson River, which then contributes to the pollution of Eastchester Bay.

Ms. Patterson-Howard made it clear to the group that she too was very concerned about this issue and was committed to making every effort to find the necessary funding to repair the city's infrastructure. She will be meeting with the Public Works Department in Mount Vernon and with the New York State DEC. She also reported that the city's law department would continue to work with the EPA regarding the ongoing federal lawsuit. She has some funds to support interim measures but acknowledged that there was insufficient funding to repair the sewer system at the present time. She is looking into grants from the NYS's 3 billion dollar Environmental and Infrastructure Act that could be helpful in funding these necessary repairs.

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Photo by MARIA SWIECIKI

The City Island Oyster Reef (CIOR) held a fundraiser at the Harlem Yacht Club on Feb. 22, 2020, and enough money was raised that the group was able to purchase some necessary scientific equipment for its oyster-monitoring project. Although the purpose was serious, the party was great fun and a good time was had by all, including our intrepid reporter Maria Swieciki and the CIOR board of directors (l. to r.): Paul Mankiewicz, Barbara Dolensek, Heike Neumeister, Barbara Zahm, Rose Rodstrom, Sally Connolly, Mike Carew, Maria Caruso and Linda Baldwin (not shown: Orion Lillyreed).





**Elliott Glick** has been a musician and songwriter for more than 50 years. He has taught numerous people, young and old, to play guitar during the past two-plus decades on City Island, and in other locations prior to that. He has been honored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce for his efforts in this area with the youth of City Island. He is offering individual and group guitar lessons via Zoom, including a special package: "Learn 1,000 songs in four lessons." For more information and details, e-mail [starvingartistci@gmail.com](mailto:starvingartistci@gmail.com).

**Mary Colby** will be giving online drawing assignments to those who wish to improve their drawing skills on Facebook at Mary Colby Studio & Gallery. Post your finished project there for a free critique. As classes are postponed, this is a good way to hone your skills and powers of observation.

**Rachel Kara Perez**, award-winning singer, actor and poet offers virtual coaching in voice, acting and poetry/creative writing. Delve deeper into your creative process, as Rachel shares her approach to using the arts as self-care. A graduate of Marymount Manhattan College and Manhattan School of Music, Rachel is a Latin-Grammy nominated musician, a member of Actors' Equity and a founding member of the writing collective Streaks of Lavender. She is currently offering discounted prices for one-on-one or small groups; half hour and hour sessions available. Please e-mail directly for details to [rachel@rachelkaraperez.com](mailto:rachel@rachelkaraperez.com).

English professor-turned-entrepreneur **Clementina Esposito** is a communications and writing coach and founder

of the **Clementina Collective**. She helps writers, speakers, entrepreneurs, visionary leaders and truth tellers of all kinds master the stories they need to tell in order to connect with aligned audiences, create positive change and advance their careers. She is moving her local personal and fiction writing classes to Zoom classrooms until it's appropriate to gather in person again. Four class bundles with personal attention and editing to your writing in between cost \$240 and meet once a month. Interested? Send her an e-mail at [clementina@clementinacollective.com](mailto:clementina@clementinacollective.com).

**Craig DeCollibus** is a certified personal trainer and owns **Stateline Fitness** in Greenwich, CT. With gyms needing to close in NY, NJ and CT, Stateline Fitness is now offering live online workout classes four times a day for only \$5 per class. All of the workouts can be done at home and do not require any weights unless you have and would like to add them. The workouts can be streamed through an app called Zoom from your computer or phone. The classes are capped at 100 people, so there is plenty of room for people to join. The classes are at 7 and 9 a.m. and 1 and 5:20 p.m. Here is the link for people to sign up: <https://stateline-fitness.triib.com/drop-in/>. He is also offering personal training sessions through Zoom or online programming, so that people can do workouts on their own schedule.

### COVID-19

*Continued from page 1*  
Trinity and St. Mary's may soon come up with ways for everyone to attend services remotely.

Chase Bank on City Island closed temporarily on March 23 because an officer reportedly had been exposed to the virus by a relative who was exposed. The lobby, where the ATMs are, remains open, and no opening date for the bank has been

announced. Call the Chase main number (800-935-9935) for updates.

P.S. 175 remains closed along with all New York City schools. All students of P.S. 175 may get breakfast and lunch at the school's entrance every weekday from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. And if your child needs a device for remote learning, visit <https://coronavirus.schools.nyc/RemoteLearning-Devices>.

The PSS Senior Center is providing take-out food every weekday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Dominick's is open and fully stocked. The Pharmacy (718-885-1000) is also open and will deliver if needed.

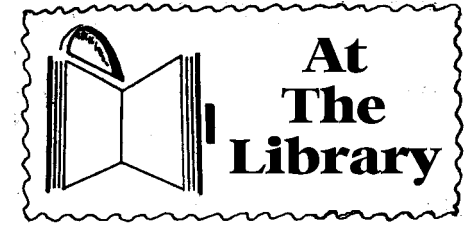
The MTA has announced that it is no longer scheduling shared rides for Access-A-Ride services. Customers will still be permitted to travel with a personal care attendant and approved guest. Paratransit customers are particularly vulnerable during this public health crisis, and the MTA is doing everything it can to protect their health and safety, disinfecting all Access-A-Ride vehicles around the clock.

City Island is renowned for its restaurants, which will be seriously affected by the pandemic. However, many of the restaurants will be offering take-out lunches and dinners. Even if you enjoy cooking for yourself, help one of these restaurants by ordering one or more of their specialties.

At press time, these restaurants included The Black Whale (718-885-3657), Crab Shanty (718-885-1810), the Diner (718-885-0362) and The Snug (718-885-9559), Firehouse Deli ((203) 531-0002), the Lobster House (718-885-1459), Portofino ((718-885-1800), Sammy's Fish Box (718-885-0920) and Shrimp Box (718-885-3200), Scavello's (718-885-2570), Seafood City (718-885-3600), Seashore (718-885-0300). Johnny's Reef and Tony's Pier are offering drive-up and take-out meals, and the caterer Anne Booth (914-497-4267)

and the Sea Breeze Deli (718-885-1263) will deliver from their special menus. And of course, don't forget the ever-ready delivery services of Augie's (718-885-1083) and To Go Express (718-885-9656).

Stay safe! If anyone knocks on your door claiming to be doing tests for COVID-19, immediately call 911 and alert your friends and family. Some good news, the deadline for tax returns is now July 15, not April 15 (see *Tax Tips*, p. 18).



**CITY ISLAND LIBRARY**  
718-885-1703

To reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in New York City, all New York Public Library locations are temporarily closed until further notice. During this time, patrons are encouraged to explore the online resources available on [NYPL.org](http://NYPL.org). Both SimplyE and Overdrive can be accessed from any smartphone, tablet or e-reader. Once either app is downloaded, use your NYPL library card number (found on the back of your card) and 4-digit PIN to log in. Once you are logged in, you will have access to an extensive collection of electronic materials that can be downloaded onto your device free of charge! If certain items are unavailable, you can place a hold on them so that they appear on your device once they become available.

Additionally, you can still call our helpline at 917-ASK-NYPL (917-275-6975) or contact the City Island Library staff directly on our Facebook page. Not only will we do our best to answer any questions that you may have, but we will be posting information about some of the NYPL's remotely accessible databases for you to check out while you are at home.

# City Island Yacht Club



## 2020 WINTER-SPRING EVENTS

### Open House

**Sun, Mar 29 & Sat, April 25 10:30am-3:30pm**

Come and learn about sailing opportunities at CIYC! American Sailing Association (lessons), Junior Sailing Summer Programs, CIYC Club Boat Program, Coast Guard Auxiliary Programs, City Island Power and Sail Squadron.

### 2020 Spring Seminars

**FREE**  
**Wednesday Night Public Seminars**

March through May

Bring a friend! Sharpen your sailing skills and prepare your boat before the season starts.

Restaurant/pub opens April 3. Seminars start at 7:30pm. Please RSVP (718) 885-2487

**Kick-off Event: Big Tom Racers' Town Hall**  
March 25

Learn more about this new race series and hear what we've got planned. This is an opportunity to add your opinions and experience into the conversation.

CIYC Restaurant/pub will be open. Please RSVP at [BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org](mailto:BigTomWNS@cityislandyc.org) or at (718) 885-2487

**Saturday Seminar**  
**Course from American Sailing Association: North U Racing Trim**

Sat, March 28 or Sun March 29

**9am-5pm, including lunch. Price TBD.**

To register, contact Jeff Golfarb at [jeffreygoldfarb@aol.com](mailto:jeffreygoldfarb@aol.com)




### City Island Junior Sailing 2020

**Full Day Program 9am-4pm (With optional extended care.)**

- Classes for Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced, grouped according to skill.
- All instructors are certified by US Sailing, the national organization of sailing, and have First Aid/CPR training.
- For children, ages 8-16. Scholarships and discounts available!
- Swimming proficiency required.

#### 2020 Session Dates

Session I	June 30 - July 3
Session II	July 6 - July 17
Session III	July 20 - July 31

Gala Awards Dinner July 31 (fee)

All sessions are held at:  
**City Island Yacht Club**  
63 Pilot St.  
City Island, NY 10464

Contact us at:  
**City Island Junior Sailing**  
[www.cityislandyc.org/JuniorSailing](http://www.cityislandyc.org/JuniorSailing)  
[city.island.jr.sailing@gmail.com](mailto:city.island.jr.sailing@gmail.com)  
(347) 692-0696 (Junior Sailing Office)

**Find out more at the CIYC Open Houses on Sun 3/29 and Sat 4/25 from 10:30am-3:30pm**







**LOCAL VIEWS**  
By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

**What impact has the Coronavirus situation had on you and members of your family or business?**

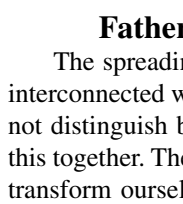


**Dominick DeCicco, Dominick's Market**  
Pandemonium. People think we are going to run out of things. We keep the store very full and trucks are making daily deliveries.



**Anthony Dangelo, Island Pharmacy**  
If there is anything that any customer needs, please call 885-1000 and I will try to get it for you. People are afraid to come out so there is very little foot traffic but we do offer free delivery.

**Spiros Chagares, Artie's Steak and Seafood**  
This is devastating to our business. We are a small business, bills are due, we have to pay them. It's scary as hell. I have never experienced anything like this and don't know what I'm going to do. We have been following all the CDC regulations and are doing extra cleaning. There are 25 families for whom I'm responsible for feeding their families. We will need some sort of assistance.



**Father John Covington, Grace Episcopal Church**  
The spreading coronavirus has prompted me to consider how very interconnected we all are as a worldwide human society. The virus does not distinguish between individuals or among communities; we are in this together. The pandemic is an opportunity to consider how we might transform ourselves, show compassion to others and use our times of self-isolation to look deep within and discover the truth that sets us free. Meanwhile, it seems we have no alternative to suspending worship for, perhaps, the duration of this crisis. The idea is to be able to offer a virtual worship service during this time and we are working on it using GoToMeeting. What we haven't figured out is a virtual coffee hour!



**Helen Boudreau, Clam Diggers Laundromat**  
We are not closing. Obviously, business is slower than usual, but we will do pick ups and drop offs and have the laundry back the same day. If people do choose to come in to use the machines, we sanitize them immediately afterwards. We cannot have more than five people doing their laundry at the same time so we will take down phone numbers and let customers know when space is available.



# Communicating in the Community

By PATRICIA GRONDAHL

The Community Center has been closed down for the foreseeable future, but there are many ways in which City Island can continue to remain a great community. Here are some suggestions:

Avoid isolation. Stay connected. We may not be able to gather together in person, but there are many ways for us to stay connected to others.

Conference calls and Zoom can put several people together on one line for socialization, support, exercise and information.

Conference calls are available through [freeconferencecalls.com](http://freeconferencecalls.com). This is a simple process in which the only requirement for joining a group is to have a phone. Here's how it works: Each participant calls a telephone number and puts in an access code that connects to a group leader and other participants. One person has to set up the call and share the number and the code with the others.

[Zoom.us](http://Zoom.us) offers online video meetings, town halls, training and technical support. Temple Beth-El is using its conferencing program to connect members for worship,

discussion and exercise. E-mail [yourshulbythesea@gmail.com](mailto:yourshulbythesea@gmail.com) for more information.

The PSS City Island Senior Center will offer an arthritis foundation exercise program conference call on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m., and additional programs are being planned. To find out how to join, call the PSS Center at 718-885-0727.

Grace Church is using [gotomeeting.com](http://gotomeeting.com), which is a free program that offers online meetings and web conferencing. And other houses of worship are in process of exploring ways to serve their members using You Tube and other electronic programs.

We are very lucky that it is spring and we are near beautiful Pelham Bay Park and Orchard Beach. It is very easy to avoid close contact with others and yet have interaction from a distance as you put in your mile on the Orchard Beach Crescent. You might even commune with nature and hear the call of red-wing blackbirds and the song of the robins. If you bring your binoculars, you can even see the harbor seals at Middle Reef (to the left of Section 1).

# EASTCHESTER BAY STRAY CAT PROJECT

By ANOOSH DONAHUE

Spring is here, and the feral cats on City Island are getting ready to have kittens. As noted by John and Maria in this month's Sights and Sounds column, City Island has long had problems with the number of homeless stray and feral cats. Yolanda Cirulli has made a huge effort for years to control the Island's feline population, and we are glad to announce that a new organization has been formed to take on responsibility for this ever-increasing problem.

At the present time, a core group of three—including myself, Maura Mandrano and Ginger Esposito-Giriati—has taken on the task of TNR (trap, neuter, release) and hoping to make good progress in the next few weeks. We have been certified as TNR workers through a free course offered in person and online by the Mayor's Alliance. Our veterinarian is happy to continue doing spay/neuter surgery at a reduced rate for our group, plus rabies vaccinations, so we have been hard at work trapping and driving the cats to his office, while maintaining social distance, of course.

We are now in the process of applying for non-for-profit status, and we are keeping careful track of donations. We also plan to set up an online fundraising event in the next few weeks. In the meantime, check our Facebook page ([EastchesterBayStrayCatProject](https://www.facebook.com/EastchesterBayStrayCatProject)). If you wish to volunteer, send an e-mail to [CityIslandTNR@gmail.com](mailto:CityIslandTNR@gmail.com), and if you would like to contribute on line, contact us at [PayPal.me/anooshdesign](https://www.paypal.com/anooshdesign).

After our announcements at both the Civic Association and CI Rising, a number of people have reached out and donated, so that we have been able to buy two new, high-quality traps and purchase more spay/neuter certificates. We have obtained 12 in

all so far, and have pledges for two more. One of our goals is have a permanent bank of four or five new traps to keep on the Island, as well as providing shelters, food, other various supplies and a fund for unforeseen medical costs.

One of the biggest challenges we face is caring for the cats once they are trapped. They need to be kept in a holding area in their traps before surgery and afterward for recovery. Many TNR groups have volunteers who keep them at home, but none of us can do that at the moment. We are very lucky to have space being generously donated to us by Wes Rodstrom at Consolidated Yacht Yard, but we will likely lose that space in June.

Our hope is that we can create a network of volunteers to support the efforts to control the cat populations through neutering and to take care of the feral cats whose numbers have been increasing.

We have been contacted through NYC Feral Cat Initiative by Sabrina Aeluro, a graduate student who is developing a non-profit citizen science program to monitor cat populations. City Island has been identified as one of a handful of ideal locations in the country to do her field test this summer, which would include doing a cat census and population estimate.

We also aim to help any find homes for any adoptable lost and abandoned cats on the Island. If kittens born to feral mothers are socialized by humans when they are very young, they can be adopted. After about two months, however, they usually remain frightened of people.

Keep in mind that this new venture is all about friendship and camaraderie, and our shared love of animals and community has brought us together.



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O: 718.597.1777  
553 ASHFORD AVE. #2E. ARDSLEY, NY 10502  
O: 914.478.1777



# *In Loving Memory of Islanders to the Core*

**PHIL  
TOMSEN**

**JEAN  
D'ALESSANDRO**



**We will always treasure the memories that we shared on our City Island shore. You will be remembered frequently and fondly by your family and friends with love, and will be missed forever more.**



# HOW TO MAKE LEMONADE

By ROSE RODSTROM



Photo by WALTER RODSTROM

## Rose Rodstrom

When Barbara Dolensek asked me how I was handling working from home, I told her that every day is different! Anyone who knows me will understand that staying home all day, albeit working remotely, was not something I would ever want to do. I like waking up early, going to yoga or out for a run, working all day, then going to a community meeting or meeting up with family or friends after work.

This change in lifestyle was indeed a challenge for the first few days of “social distancing.” Now that I have figured out a way to take the lemons and make lemonade, I think I can make it work, and even enjoy this time. I have decided to view it as a gift, a luxury, a break from reality, to step off the path and think about the things I want to do in my life, a bucket list that never quite made it to paper. I have come up with a few priorities for every day:

1. Exercise in the morning before work. I jog or walk a few miles. If I am walking, it is a luxury because I listen to books on Audible. (I am hoping to create a virtual book club; anyone who wants to join can e-mail me at [rrodstrom@gmail.com](mailto:rrodstrom@gmail.com).) In my home office, I force myself to get up every hour out of my chair and do something physical: squats, abs, weights, stretches, whatever. Just do something for at least five minutes. At the end of work, go out and walk/jog/bike/yoga/kayak/(soon!) for at least an hour outside to seal the day. This weekend I have a hike and picnic planned with my family and new puppy.

2. Take an online cooking course: learn how to make beignets, Indian curry, Moroccan chicken tagine, duck confit, whatever you are into!

3. Call my brothers and mother more often!

4. Start those seeds! It will be planting season any day.

5. Call my friends instead of texting them.

6. Create a block club. On Rochelle Street, we need to spruce up the street. Maybe we can pool our talents and dollars and take turns planting the barren dirt that lines our street.

7. Really talk and listen to my loved ones.

8. Seek out those neighbors I haven't met yet and introduce myself. Talk to the neighbors I know but never seem to have time to chat, all while standing at least six feet away! Offer to run errands for those who can't run themselves.

9. Stop putting off all the things I've always wanted to do, such as giving up unhealthy habits, whatever they may be!

10. Find out what is in my attic (and basement, garage and junk drawers) that I don't need/love. Put these treasures aside so when the local thrift shops and charities reopen you are ready to donate.

11. Design a beautiful garden in the backyard inspired by Mary Colby's web-

site, *TheArtistGardener.com*.

12. Pay attention to the wine I drink. Read about the region, vineyards, vintage, vintner and become a novice connoisseur (I know, it's an oxymoron, but you get the point).

13. Plan a vacation now for next year. No payments yet but just start planning now! Places I've always wanted to go: Germany, Northern Italy and Switzerland.

14. Play board games (physically) with anyone in my family who is willing.

15. Immerse myself in nature. Walk to Twin Islands and catch the site of some harbor seals sunning themselves! Hike the nearby Leatherstocking Trail, Giant Steps (right over the GWB), Fahnestock State Park, Rockefeller State Park, Mount Beacon. The list is endless, and all are within an hour's drive.

16. Surround myself with beautiful artwork, flowers, clothing (get out of PJs!), plants, sunsets, puppies, water with mint and lemon, tea in a fancy tea cup. It doesn't have to cost anything, just your imagination.

17. Pamper my skin, nails, hair by giving myself a mani/pedi or better yet, give someone you love a free back or foot massage, manicure, pedicure or hair treatment.

18. And last but not least: listen to a different kind of music every day. Today is jazz.

These are just a few from my list, but the sky is really the limit!

Think hard about what you have always wanted to do, know, learn. Can you acquire a new skill? Develop a new talent? Being at home is your chance to do it. If you need help in this department, we have oodles of talent here on City Island just waiting to help you out! Check out the What's Going On column in this issue for online courses/classes and lessons, including guitar lessons from Elliott Glick; creative writing with Clementina Esposito; singing lessons/poetry with Rachel Perez; painting and drawing with Mary Colby; fitness with Christine Mazzella and Craig DeCollibus at Stateline Fitness.

And don't forget to take advantage of other online ideas to expand your mind. For example, you can tour museums all over the world by visiting websites: The Louvre, the Smithsonian, Musée d'Orsay, the Vatican Museum and many more. Check out a book from NY's Public Library; the app is SimplyE. Try learning a new language with *Duolingo.com*.

Even more important, join a friend for Happy Hour at your favorite Facetime app. Enjoy a quarantini or two and skip the news!

We've got this, City Islanders. Let's enjoy getting to know ourselves and our neighbors and have a glass of lemonade on the proverbial front porch. If you have more ideas, thoughts or comments, please e-mail me at [rrodstrom@gmail.com](mailto:rrodstrom@gmail.com).

# SISTERS-IN-LAW IN DINING

By KAREN NANI



Photo by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Donna McGowan and Susan Hayes in front of their two culinary ventures, the City Island Diner and the Snug.

*The following profile is part of our longtime advertiser series.*

When the City Island Diner at the corner of Fordham Street came up for sale in 1997, it was a natural purchase for Islanders Donna McGowan and Susan Hayes. The sisters-in-law were already in the restaurant business together, and they jumped at the chance to run an Island-based eatery.

Several twists of fate led to their successful partnership. John and Barbara McGowan moved to City Island in 1969 from the Country Club section of the Bronx when the opportunity to operate a marina came up. John bought Nautical East Marina, which was located off the parking lot of former Island restaurant Mona's Trattoria (now the site of Vistamar). Their six children, Annie, Joseph, John, Jimmy, Susan and Christopher, all attended and graduated from St. Mary, Star of the Sea School. Susan attended St. Catharine Academy and then NYC Tech, where she studied hotel management. Jimmy joined the New York City Fire Department (FDNY).

Meanwhile, Donna Perks was raised in Queens and Brooklyn. In 1988, she was having a burger with friends at PJ Clarke's restaurant in Manhattan. She met Jimmy McGowan, who was there with some friends, and they began dating. They were married, and Donna and Susan became sisters-in-law.

Both were interested in the restaurant business, so they formed a partnership in 1991, and their first venture was a deli and catering establishment called Homeward Bound in Bronxville, NY. After they sold Homeward Bound in 1994, both Donna and Susan were too busy with their children to start up a new business. Donna and Jimmy had two children, James and Bridget, and Susan and her ex-husband Danny Hayes had three daughters, Megan, Julia and Jane.

But they couldn't resist the opportunity to partner again when they heard that Renee Rapaport was looking to sell the Diner in 1997. They refurbished the space and opened for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Susan also then became proprietor of Lazy Susan's restaurant next to the library on City Island Avenue in 1999 (formerly Tijuana Trolley and Oriental Express).

The next twist of fate occurred in 2003 when the entire building at 302-304 City Island Avenue came up for sale. “We borrowed from everyone we knew and were able to buy the building from Cookie and Bill Verleger, who held the mortgage for us,” Susan and Donna told *The Current*. So the partners opened up The Snug Irish Pub next to the Diner (formerly the site of the

City Island video store).

Susan and Donna now focus all their efforts on these two eateries, and they are mainstays on City Island Avenue. Other nearby restaurants have come and gone, like Laura's and Rhodes, but the City Island Diner and The Snug have continued to thrive. “It's really one business, two different atmospheres,” they explained. During normal times, the Diner is open for breakfast and lunch every day and for dinner six days a week; The Snug opens at 4 p.m. every day for dinner and drinks. Nowadays, of course, both are offering take-out meals; just call 718-885-0362 for the Diner or 718-885-9559 for The Snug.

The sisters-in-law restaurateurs estimate that they have employed more than 200 people over the years, many of them Islanders. “It's a good learning place for Island teens. They learn customer service and how to deal with different personalities. They use these skills as they move onto college and into business,” Donna told *The Current*. In addition to Islanders, they have cooks and other workers who have been with them for many years. “Lorenzo, Eduardo, Sergio, Nico, Francisca and Eddie are like family to us and have been with us since the beginning.”

The culinary business is not without its challenges. “We have been in business for 22 years, and NYC regulations and tax codes become more and more complicated,” Susan explained. But the partners remain upbeat. “We are grateful to the community for their support. It's the beauty of living and working on City Island.” And they have given back to the City Island community by sponsoring City Island Little League teams, including both boys and girls teams, and regularly donating gift certificates to Island organization fundraisers.

What about the recent challenges posed by the Coronavirus situation? “We have been busier since this crisis started, which may reflect that Islanders are staying closer to home.” They have had staff meetings to ensure sanitary policies are followed, such as wearing gloves and washing hands. They have also hired a former worker from Connie's New Way Market (which closed earlier this year) to help with cleaning the Diner and The Snug at night.

While *The Current* was interviewing them, Susan and Donna were busy preparing for their traditional St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 17, with corned beef and cabbage. The usual onsite celebration was changed to takeout to keep the St. Patrick's spirit alive. No surprise, thanks to the family name of McGowan and the impressive resolve of the sisters-in-law.



# 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.

## City Island Nautical Museum

The museum will not be opening in April as planned. While we wait for the coronavirus pandemic to subside, take a look at our website ([www.cityislandmuseum.org](http://www.cityislandmuseum.org)) or our Facebook page, City Island Nautical Museum, which features a wonderful series of photo albums picturing City Island's history.

If you want to research anything at the museum, please call 718-885-0507.

**Barbara Dolensek**

## American Legion Auxiliary Unit 156

Our April meeting has been canceled, as has our Stop Soldier Suicide fundraiser on May 2.

Wellness: The first City Island Quilt of Valor awardee Neil Carroll received get-well sunshine from the Auxiliary and cards from 5th graders at Parsons Memorial School, thanks to their teacher Island resident Nancy Lotrionte. To the community, if you know a local veteran in need of cheer or assistance, please let the Auxiliary know. We continue our service to the community despite this coronavirus time.

Thinking about joining the Auxiliary? Come to any of our meetings, connect with our membership chairwoman Viki Trifari at [wik99@me.com](mailto:wik99@me.com) about eligibility, and meet the 150+ members of the largest, oldest, and most active women's group in our community. We're growing and doing more every year.

**Harlan Sexton**

## City Island Civic Association

Not surprisingly, the Civic Association canceled its March meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, March 31, and encouraged all members to stay at home and practice what the experts are calling social distancing, since the virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person. Visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> for information and advice, such as: Wash your hands regularly (at least 20 seconds) or use a hand sanitizer, and do not touch your face with your hands. Keep a "social distance" of at least 6 feet from anyone you meet outside your home. Be wary of anyone who comes to your door to offer services.

Anyone who needs groceries or supplies but is worried about going out to shop should get in touch with the Civic, which is organizing home deliveries, in collaboration with the Boy Scout Troop 211 and the American Legion Leonard Hawkins Post 157. If you need help, e-mail [cityisland-strong@gmail.com](mailto:cityisland-strong@gmail.com) and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Bill Stanton**

## Grace Episcopal Church

Because of precautions to limit the spread of the coronavirus and concern for our members, Sunday services in the parish church will be suspended beginning Sunday, March 22. We do not want to compromise your health or that of others, and for this reason our bishop has announced the suspension of all public worship until further notice. During the suspension of the usual Sunday service, please check our website, <https://www.gracecityisland.net/>, for information each week about how to join our online service.

Once we have received the word to resume service we hope you will join us for the following:

Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. led by Father John Covington with Holy Eucharist Rite II. After the service, we offer coffee hour, a time for refreshments and fellowship. We have birthday and anniversary prayers on the first Sunday each month; the healing prayers are on the third Sunday each month.

You are invited to join Father Covington's Bible Reading Group, which meets during coffee hour on appointed Sundays.

Sunday School: The group meets every first and third Sundays of the month at 10 a.m., and all ages are welcome. No extra time is needed. Students will begin the service with the congregation at 10 a.m. and then leave with Ms. Nani for 30 minutes of lessons and activities during the service. They will rejoin the congregation during the exchange of peace.

If there is a service on Palm Sunday, April 7, members of the Sunday School will present "The Passion of Christ according to Matthew." If we can gather on Easter Sunday, April 12, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt after church for members of the Sunday School and any children who attend the service. Come and join our lively Sunday School!

Music Ministry: Guided by our Music Director, Caroline Coppola, this music ministry began in the fall of 2015 with a handful of singers including members of the church choir and City Island locals. We rehearse hymns and popular music to perform at area nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. Since then, our membership has grown from 5 to 13 singers who lend our voices to this "feel-good ministry."

We call ourselves the GraceTones, and we have sung for the residents at Workmen's Circle Multicare Center in the Bronx, Dumont Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care in New Rochelle and Sunrise at Fleetwood Assisted Living in Mount Vernon, to name a few. Over the past year we widened our audience base by performing at City Island venues such as Clipper Coffee and The Artist. As we have believed from the start, "You don't have to sing like an angel, you just need the desire to lift the spirits of those in need!"

**Sandy Dunn**



Photo by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Sign posted at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church informs parishioners about the circumstances created by COVID-19.

## Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El, "your shul by the sea," will be offering for the general public Friday night services at 7:30 p.m, meditation classes at 10 a.m. and evening Breath/Prayer sessions via Zoom. Many tutorials for registering a new free account with Zoom are available online. You do not need an account to join one of our offerings or meetings. In order to participate in any of our offerings, please e-mail [yourshulbythesea@gmail.com](mailto:yourshulbythesea@gmail.com) and identify which offering(s) you would like to attend. Zoom allows access to these offerings to a limited number of participants, so if you are interested, please respond as soon as possible.

Our weekly Yoga, Tai Chi/Qi Gong can be attended via Zoom, but you must pre-register by e-mail.

We are also offering for members Torah study, mystical teachings, ethics studies, social gatherings and Rabbinic office hours. For membership details and in order to receive an invitation email to any of these membership offerings, please e-mail [yourshulbythesea@gmail.com](mailto:yourshulbythesea@gmail.com).

Additional offerings for our members will be announced in our weekly newsletter to be published on Sundays.

The entire TBE community offers prayers and best wishes to all during these unprecedented times.

**Paul Klein**

## Garden Club of City Island

Garden Club members, under the direction of our beautification committee, have planted a spring selection of colorful

tulips and pansies in the flower containers along City Island Avenue. We hope you and Island visitors enjoy them. These seasonal plantings are just one result of your donations to the Garden Club's annual beautification fund-raising drive. Donations also allow us to pay for the regular maintenance and cleaning of the tree pits and grassy areas along the Avenue, and to contract with arborists to provide special care for many of the city-owned trees in the tree pits by fertilizing, composting, mulching and aerating the soil.

With your help, we can extend these important services to additional trees in the future. Our 2020 fund-raising drive begins this month, with club members delivering solicitation letters to all City Island businesses and residents. Please consider making a donation so that we can continue with these, and other, beautification projects.

The Garden Club's annual luncheon will not be held on its originally announced date in May and has not yet been rescheduled.

Garden Club meetings are held monthly, except August, usually on the first Monday of the month at 10 a.m. at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street. Because of health concerns, our April meeting has been cancelled.

**Sharynne Wilder**

## American Stroke Association

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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.

The Center will be closed indefinitely with all programs canceled until it is safe to meet again. We wish that everyone stays healthy and enjoys the comforts of home and family. We are all being challenged during this trying time, but it has some silver linings.

The Center is run by a volunteer board of directors, who will meet the first safe Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend this open meeting. We always welcome and really need volunteers and donations. And, we always want to hear your ideas and thoughts about how to serve the community better.

If you need a renewal form, please call

718-885-1145 and we will mail one. For up-to-date information visit [www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org](http://www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org), or call 718-885-1145, or like us on Facebook and check FB for news and information.

**Patty Grondahl**

### PSS Senior Center

PSS City Island is thankful for the close-knit community that we live in. Although this past couple of weeks have been very hectic at the Center, we have finally been able to make plans for the coming weeks. The Center is currently open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to pick up lunch. Patty Attis, the center director, is calling people as a group with updated information as the schedule changes. If you are not on our calling list, please e-mail your name and phone number to [pattis@pssusa.org](mailto:pattis@pssusa.org). Our staff is also calling our members individually to check on their well-being. Boy Scout Troop 211 is offering to help seniors with small tasks such as dog walking and food shopping, and Patty Grondahl will be offering remote exercise classes. Please check our Facebook page (PSS City Island Center) for updated information or call 718-885-0727.

**Patty Attis**

### American Legion Post 156

The meeting on Sunday, April 5, is cancelled. Dues (\$55 for 2020) are past due; please drop them off at the Post via the mail slot, and make sure your name is on the envelope. The Post is currently closed and will remain so until we are authorized to operate as directed by NYS/NYC authority, and the American Legion National/Department of New York.

The Queen of Hearts game is suspended until operation of the post is restored.

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

The following are dates and upcoming events: April 1: April Fool's Day to all! April 12: Happy Easter to all! April 15: IRS/NYS Tax Day has been changed to July 15, 2020.

All future meetings/events will be posted as soon as possible. Please visit our website at [Leonardhawkinspost156.com](http://Leonardhawkinspost156.com) for the latest information. The Post can be e-mailed at [Leonardhawkinspost156@gmail.com](mailto:Leonardhawkinspost156@gmail.com).

We urge all our members and their families to keep updated on the Covid-19 information through the news channel of your choice and visit the following website: [www.Coronavirus.gov](http://www.Coronavirus.gov). Please resist the urge to go to the emergency room, or medical center. We must keep the emergency rooms for those who are in dire need. If you have the following symptoms--sore throat, cough, runny nose and fever, call your health-care provider first.

Thank you to the entire City Island community for all your support over the past 101 years. It's our honor to be your community partner.

**Peter C. Del-Debbio**

### AARP 318

We meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church Hall.

Our first meeting of the month, April 1,

will be a regular meeting and final sign-up for Pizza/Bingo on April 15, at a cost of \$15. Pizza/Bingo includes a pizza lunch and bingo games with prizes! Closing out the month, we are planning a trip to MGM Casino in Springfield, MA, on April 29.

Call Elaine Waltz at 914- 632-6707 for more information. All are welcome. Hope to see you there!

(Dates subject to change or cancellation.)

**Arlene Byrne**

### Trinity Methodist Church

Trinity Methodist Church is known as "a beacon on the Island," a gathering place for worship and for community help groups. Gathering is curtailed, but we don't turn off the beacon. We all pray with you and for you. Along with spiritual food of prayer, we have food for the hungry. Call 845-532-3378 for needs. If you wish to send donations to help Trinity Church, the address is 113 Bay Street, Bronx, NY 10464.

**Rick DeWitt**

### St. Mary's Thrift Shop

Although we have closed for now, the shop will eventually be open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will be featuring our Spring Collection with all new and used items. Hope you see you soon.

**Arlene Byrne**


### St. Mary, Star of the Sea

In taking precautions to minimize the spread of the coronavirus, all Masses have been canceled until further notice. Dates for celebrating the sacraments are pending.

Our Lady of the Assumption/St. Mary Star of the Sea has a new website: <http://www.olasmss.com>. Please visit us for new updates. Be careful and stay safe!

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**Catherine S. Mazzaro**  
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### Fifth Annual Bingeworthy Television

Never has a column of mine been more timely, since we're all staying safely indoors as much as possible.

**Chernobyl** (2019, 5 episodes) is a limited series about the Chernobyl nuclear disaster that took place in April 1986 in Ukraine (then part of the USSR) and the unprecedented struggles that followed. The ensemble cast stars Jared Harris as Vlery Legasov, the Deputy Director of the Institute charged with the cleanup efforts; Emily Watson as nuclear physicist Ulana Khomyuk; and Stellan Skarsgård as Boris Shcherbina, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers. This highly acclaimed series tells the story of the people who caused and responded to the disaster. It received 19 Emmy nominations and won for Outstanding Limited Series, Directing, and Writing.

**Success** (Uspjeh) (Croatian; 2019, 6 episodes) is a crime thriller set in the Croatian capital of Zagreb and is the first HBO series filmed there. It follows a group of strangers Vinka (Iva Mihalic), Blanka (Tara Thaller), Kiki (Toni Gojanovic) and Haris (Uliks Fehmiu), who wind up tangled together in a web of lies in order to cover up a murder. The four protagonists are stalked by Inspector Kalic (Marija Škaricic). It is clear that the only way the four will survive is to work together. There are several plot twists that keep the viewer involved throughout.

Set in 1952, **The Bletchley Circle** (2012–14, 7 episodes over two seasons) is a murder mystery that tells of four women who have returned to normal lives after working as code breakers at Bletchley Park during World War II. The four are now focusing their talents on catching killers. Susan (Anna Maxwell Martin) is a housewife and mother, but she continues to recognize patterns that surround her in everyday life. When a number of women are brutally murdered around London, Susan sees a pattern emerging, but the police don't believe her. She therefore enlists three former Bletchley Park colleagues: the world traveler and unconventional survivor Millie (Rachel Stirling); Lucy (Sophie Rundle), who has an extraordinary memory and suffers in an abusive marriage; and former supervisor and current librarian Jean (Julie Graham). Susan knows they have little time to break this code before the killer strikes again.

**Unbelievable** (2019, 8 episodes) is a Netflix miniseries based on the 2015 news article "An Unbelievable Story of Rape," written by T. Christian Miller and Ken Armstrong. When Marie Adler (Kaitlyn Dever) becomes a victim of sexual assault, she is unwittingly emotionally assaulted by Lynwood Police Detectives Parker (Eric Lange) and Pruitt (Bill Fagerbakke) who interview her. After being required to repeatedly recount the incident, Marie shuts down, and the detectives conclude, erroneously, that she has been lying—a case of good people making a terrible mistake. When Westminster Police Detective Grace Rasmussen (Toni Collette) and Golden Police Detective Karen Duvall (Merritt Sever) compare notes, they conclude that they are dealing with a serial rapist. As they question some of the rape survivors, the viewer is shown the proper and compassionate way such an interview should be conducted.

**Upstairs, Downstairs** (2010–12; 9 episodes over two seasons) is based on the hit 1970s serial, which is set in 1936 England. As the title indicates, it is the story of the elite who inhabit the upstairs of a mansion, located in one of London's poshest neighborhoods, and the servants who live downstairs. Newlyweds Sir Hallam Holland (Ed Stoppard) and Lady Agnes (Keeley Hawes) have decided to modernize their manor. Claire Foy appears as Agnes's reckless sister, Lady Persephone, who is increasingly misled by the newly formed fascist party, including German official Ribbentrop (Edward Baker-Duly). Much of the plot concerns Agnes's ability to bear children and the political expectations Sir Hallam must meet even when morally conflicted.

**BrainDead** (2016, 13 episodes) is an American political satire/science fiction/comedy-drama series. Mary Elizabeth Winstead stars as Laurel Healy, a documentary filmmaker who is pressured by her father (Zach Grenier) into taking a job working for her brother U.S. Senator Luke Healy (Danny Pino), who serves as the Majority Whip for the Democrats. In her role as her brother's constituency caseworker, she discovers that Washington DC has been invaded by extraterrestrial insects that are taking control of people by eating their brains, including members of Congress and their staff. Among those helping Laurel are medical resident Dr. Rochelle Daudier (Nikki M. James), who lost her father to a mysterious infection; pseudo-scientist and conspiracy theorist Gustav Triplett (Johnny Ray Gill), who has discovered the existence of the aliens and how they communicate; and Gareth Ritter (Aaron Tveit), Legislative Director for Republican Senator Red Wheatus (Tony Shalhoub). The chaos afflicts Democrats and Republicans alike. The series was filmed during the frenzied months leading up to the 2016 election, and much of the comedy is based on the fact that the reality of Washington DC politics is such that hardly anyone notices behavioral changes in congressional leaders.

**Humans** (2015–18, 24 episodes over three seasons) is a sci-fi drama series based on the Swedish award-winning drama "Real Humans." The story is set in a parallel universe where technology is highly advanced and lifelike humanoids called Synths are the must-have machines for every household. When Joe Hawkins (Tom Goodman-Hill) brings home the synth Anita (Gemma Chan) to help his suburban family, the younger children, Toby (Theo Stevenson) and Sophie (Pixie Davies), become enamored with her, but older daughter, Mattie (Lucy Careless), and wife, Laura (Katherine Parkinson), are uncomfortable in her presence. Other subplots include a conscious synth, Niska (Emily Berrington), who seeks help from her human brother, Leo Elster (Colin Morgan), when their family is in danger. Elsewhere, retired scientist and widower Dr. George Milican (William Hurt) fights to keep his malfunctioning synth Odi (Will Tudor) from being decommissioned because he contains memories of George's late wife. In subsequent seasons, Carrie-Anne Moss appears as Athena Morrow, a San Francisco-based AI researcher who has been charged with reverse engineering the consciousness program, but secretly has developed a sentient AI for whom she is attempting to provide a new body.

**The Tunnel** (French/British; 2013–18, 24 episodes over three seasons) is based on the original 2011 Danish-Swedish crime series "The Bridge (Broen, Bron)." This British crime drama centers on British and French detectives who are forced to work together when a French politician is found dead on the border between the two countries inside the Channel Tunnel. Clémence Poésy stars as French detective Elise Wassermann, who is extremely intelligent but socially inappropriate because of an Asperger's type syndrome; and Stephen Dillane as Karl Roebuck. Both of them must

work together to solve the crime. The killer is nicknamed the "Truth Terrorist" and is on a moral crusade to highlight many social problems, terrorizing both countries in the process. Season 2: "Sabotage" concerns an investigation by the two detectives of a passenger plane crash into the English Channel. Season 3: "Vengeance" is set during the days leading up to Brexit, with an increasing refugee crisis and threats of terrorism. This is the first series in British and French television to be bilingual, and the first to be filmed within the Channel Tunnel.

**Finding Carter** (2014–15, 36 episodes over two seasons) is an American teen drama starring Kathryn Prescott as Carter Stevens, who was kidnapped at the age of 3 by Lori (Milena Govich), but is discovered and returned to her original family, of which she has no memory. The family consists of her father, David Wilson (Alexis Desinof); mother, Elizabeth (Cynthia Watros); brother, Grant (Zac Pullam); and twin sister, Taylor (Anna Jacoby-Heron). The first season is about the adjustments she makes with family and friends, and the second concerns the reasons behind the abduction. Throughout, Carter must contend with her feelings for Lori, the only mother she had known since childhood.

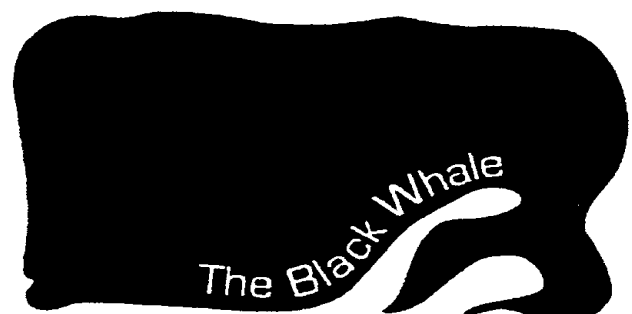
**The Man in the High Castle** (2015–20, 40 episodes over four seasons) is based on an alternate history novel by the acclaimed science fiction writer Philip K. Dick. In this dystopian United States, Germans and Japanese have won World War II, with the Eastern United States controlled by the Germans, the West by the Japanese, and a neutral zone in between. The series starts in 1962 and follows characters whose destinies intertwine when they come into contact with newsreels and home movies that show Germany and Japan losing the war. The title of the series refers to the mysterious figure believed to have created the film footage. The series stars Alexa Davalos as Juliana Crain, a woman who believes the films contain the key to different views of reality and is determined to find their mysterious guardian. The other primary characters include Juliana's boyfriend, Frank Frink (Rupert Evans), whose grandfather was Jewish and who works for the resistance. Joe Blake (Luke Kleintank) is another of Juliana's love interests with conflicting loyalties. John Smith (Rufus Sewell) is American born but rises through the ranks of the Nazi military. Nobusuke Tagomi (Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa) is the Trade Minister of the Pacific States of America under the scrutiny of Chief Inspector Takeshi Kido (Joel de la Fuente), the ruthless head of the Kenpeitai stationed in San Francisco.

**Game of Thrones** (2011–19, 73 episodes over eight seasons) is based on George R.R. Martin's best-selling series of books "A Song of Ice and Fire," a complex medieval epic fantasy. The primary plot is the quest to sit on the Iron Throne to rule the Seven Kingdoms. There are two principal royal houses, one led by Lord Eddard "Ned" Stark (Sean Bean) and his wife, Catelyn Tully (Michelle Fairley), and their five children: Robb (Richard Madden), the eldest, followed by Sansa (Sophie Turner), Arya (Maisie Williams), Bran (Isaac Hemp-

stead-Wright) and Rickon (Art Parkinson). The other is led by Lord Tywin Lannister (Charles Dance), whose daughter, Cersei Lannister (Lena Heady), is unhappily married to the king, Robert Baratheon (Mark Addy); all her children have been fathered by her twin brother, Ser Jaime Lannister (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau). A key figure throughout the series is the twins' younger brother, the dwarf Tyrion (Peter Dinklage). The king's death triggers war among the noble dynasties with a claim to the throne. In a key subplot of increasing importance, Daenerys Targaryen (Emilia Clarke) is the rightful heir to the original ruling dynasty and is determined to win back the throne with the help of her husband, Khal Drogo (Jason Momoa), the leader of the nomadic Dothraki (their language was specifically created for the series), and she eventually becomes known as the "Mother of Dragons." Another plot follows the Night's Watch, a brotherhood defending the realm against the evil legendary creatures living north of the Great Wall, with Ned Stark's illegitimate son Jon Snow (Kit Harington) and his friend Samwell (John Bradley) taking the oath to serve. The series received a record setting 58 Emmies, winning Outstanding Drama in 2015, '16, '18 and '19.

**24** (2001–10, 195 episodes over eight seasons) is a counterterrorism series starring Kiefer Sutherland as agent Jack Bauer. A unique aspect of the show is that it unfolds in real time, with each episode taking one hour and each season handled in a single day. Jack is assisted in his efforts by fellow agents Tony Almeida (Carlos Bernard) and Michelle Dessler (Reiko M. Aylesworth) and tech expert Chloe O'Brian (Mary Lynn Rajskub). During the run of the series, Jack must save his daughter, Kim (Elisha Cuthbert), and wife, Teri (Leslie Hope), while protecting Senator David Palmer (Dennis Haysbert) from an assassination plot, stop a nuclear bomb from detonating in Los Angeles, assist the President in avoiding war between the U.S. and three Middle Eastern countries, infiltrate a Mexican drug cartel to seize a deadly virus being marketed underground, save the Secretary of State (William Devane) and daughter Audrey Raines (Kim Raver) kidnapped by terrorists, prevent terrorists from acquiring nerve gas, foil a terrorist plot to set off suitcase nuclear devices in America, thwart a Chinese attempt to steal sensitive circuitry that could trigger a war between the U.S. and Russia, survive a military coup in the fictional African nation of Sangala, assist the FBI when the firewall for America's federal computer infrastructure is breached, negotiate when Sangalan terrorists kidnap President Taylor (Cherry Jones), uncover a Russian plot to assassinate Islamic leader Omar Hassan (Anil Kapoor) during peace negotiations, reveal a criminal cover-up to protect the peace agreement, and prevent a war between the U.S. and China. 24 is one of only five TV series (along with NYPD Blue, The West Wing, Breaking Bad and Homeland) to have won the Emmy, the Golden Globe and Satellite Award for Best Drama Series.

And until next time, stay well, happy viewing . . .



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# New York Boat Show: 2020 Edition

By GREG CLANCY

Greetings to my fellow City Islanders! I write this article to you while working from home and watching and reading an endless stream of coronavirus headlines. The 2020 New York Boat Show was held in late January, but it suddenly seems as if an eon has passed since my annual trip to the Boat Show instead of a few weeks. I wonder if an article about the Boat Show doesn't seem a bit trite while the world is turned upside down by COVID-19, but my fearless editors Karen and Barbara prodded me on. Perhaps we can all use a pleasant diversion and a touch of spring to brighten our day. So here goes, hoping that my annual tour de force of boat talk and tongue-in-cheek humor find you well.

First, I'd like to address a major faux pas made in my article last year. If you will recall, I made a quip about ladies being landlubbers. What I wrote was a bit more nuanced than that really, but let's just say I caught some slack from my female readers. Oy vey! (That's an Irish expression, intended to convey one's exasperation). But before I apologize or offer a pathetic explanation about my sense of humor, I would like to explain. Then I will grovel a bit.

The theme of my article last year revolved around the typical boat show attendee. If you recall, I divided all Boat Show attendees into five categories. The BUYER (Boyar), or super rich. The Buyer (or Bourgeois), a well-off person who might be in the market for something under a half a million. The buyer (or Bluejacket), the average Joe person who might be found in the boatyards of City Island changing his own oil. The BuYeR (or Batty), a Bluejacket like my brother Bill who suffers from delusions of grandeur, thinking that he'll be back for the Hinckley or Sabreline only next year. And then there are the landlubbers (ladies). This is where I went wrong. Of course not all landlubbers are ladies and not all ladies are landlubbers. My mistake landed me in waters more turbulent than Hell Gate!

Now, before I offer an effusive apology, I have to say a few things. I did specifically divide you members of the fairer sex into two categories. The first category included those women of the sea (defined by yours truly as any woman who can tie a bowline). You seafaring women are clearly not landlubbers, and you are plainly on equal footing with all those in the first four categories listed above. But then there was a second category of lady. If you are a woman who would rather get a facial at the Boat Show (Meaghan) than go look at boats, then I'm sorry, but you ARE a landlubber. Yes, to my horror, my wife skipped about four boat exhibits last year as she got a facial on the show floor. My mistake was not in labeling such fair maidens as landlubbers. My mistake, which I will now correct, was in omitting their equally stiff-legged male counterparts. And so here goes. If you are a man who spends more time at the Boat Show in line for a \$12 Bud Light draft than looking at boats, then you too are probably a landlubber. I say "probably," but that's just because I've caught quite a few proud sailors spending quite a bit of time on that Bud Light line in the past!

As for me, "me mother was a mermaid, me father was King Neptune. I was born on the crest of a wave and rocked in the cradle of the deep. Seaweed and barnacles are me clothes. Every tooth in me head is a marlin-spike; the hair on me head is hemp. Every bone in me body is a spar, and when I spits, I spits tar! I'se hard, I is, I am, I are!" If you are a woman and you can say the same thing about yourself, then we are simpatico, and I offer you my profound apologies for not having offered the same level of insult and condensation to the male landlubbers

in your lives! As everyone knows, I think landlubbers are the lowest form of life, second only to those oddballs who prefer sails over the rumbling deck of a couple hundred horses.

Now, to make it up to you seafaring ladies, I decided to write this year's article from the woman's perspective! To start with, I needed to get some women to come with me to the Boat Show. Unfortunately, I couldn't find any women who would come with me, so instead I just invited my brother Bill. Bill is kind of a metro-sexual, so I figured that his opinion would be just as good as a woman's. Unfortunately, Bill was a bit distracted. Having been preoccupied by his cats and such, Bill hasn't been to the Boat Show in years. And with his phone "broken" (a.k.a. not receiving calls from his wife), he was drawn a bit more to the various bars around the periphery of the Javits Center. He sailed dangerously close to landlubber territory as we began our tour of the show floor, but then he did find the Talisker Whisky Bar, a bar made out of a dinghy that served free shots of whisky! Free booze at the Boat Show! How do you like that, Sally McCheap? It almost makes up for all those rejected parking receipts over the years. Eventually I did pry Bill loose from the whisky bar, and we set off to find at least one thing that might tickle a woman boater. Jokes aside for a moment, I viewed this as more of a fun plot device for my article than a true quest, but lo and behold, we might have stumbled upon a remarkable find!

How about a luxurious 34-foot Downeaster, with classic lines, traditional teak finishes, every modern amenity and gadget, a doughty 35-knot cruising speed, and . . . (drum role, please), a beautifully finished basement with more closet space than the average mussel sucker has in his house on Reynolds Street! Have you ever seen a boat with a basement? Well, sea chest might be a better word than basement, but I introduce to you the Back Cove 340. This is a Sabreline model, listed at an even \$500K. For the first time ever, Sabre has taken one of its classic navy hulls and mounted a pair of V8 outboards on the back. But here's the thing: they kept the engine room inside the boat. But now Sabre's giant hydraulic engine hatch opens up to an outrageous storage compartment big enough for bikes, suitcases, chairs, tables, tents, all of your inflatable toys, tubes, fenders, you name it. You could fit a pair of jet skis in there if you could figure out how to lift them in. One of the challenges for serious boaters is where to put all of your gear, especially for long trips. A virtual basement on a boat is one of the most surprising and practical innovations I have seen in years. I think this is one innovation that brother Bill and I, and our wives Meaghan and Kurstal, would all love to have aboard our 33-foot Egg, the *Kitty Clyde*.

I'll tell you another thing that Sabre's boats still have: switches and gauges. The vast majority of other brands are trending away from traditional controls. Instead, they offer touchscreen displays for the operation of virtually all onboard systems. Temperature gauges, charging gauges, nav light switches, bilge pumps switches and more are all becoming a thing of the past. Captains now just get a graphic of their virtual switches and gauges on a touchscreen. This is not new. I've been watching the trend for several years. What is new is that these touchscreen displays are now all becoming Bluetooth compatible so that a captain can control her systems from any smart phone. Boston Whaler is one of the major brands heading this way. Whaler's new 38-foot Outrage center console has



Photos by BILL CLANCY

Representing the City Island Yacht Club were (l. to r.) George Keeber, Charles Hurd and Tom Delaney.



Bill Clancy at the Talisker Whisky bar

no gauges. What does it have? A surface-mounted glass bowl as the standard sink in the head. The price tag for this Outrage is a mere three quarters of a million dollars. For the brand that made its bones as the "indestructible" boat, I think Whaler can do a bit better.

Although a new Whaler is out of reach for any but the very rich, there are still a few brands that remain within reach. Stingray and Yamaha offer ski boats under \$50k, and Blue Marlin has a beautiful line of center consoles starting as low as \$75K. Some of them even have gauges and switches. And while bigger isn't always better, the outboard engines on these boats keep getting bigger and bigger and bigger. Last year I thought I saw the top of the mountain when Evinrude and Yamaha brought 425-hp outboards to the show. This year I saw Quad 450-horse Evinrudes on the back of a 41-foot regulator. A 450-horse V8 outboard is a real elephant. To put that in perspective, that's nearly the horsepower of a tractor trailer truck engine. Now imagine four of them on the back of a fishing boat, 1800 horsepower on the back of a center console. Wow! Cruising speeds on these monsters get upwards of 50 knots. Add in a Seakeeper gyro to prevent virtually all rocking, even in a beam sea, and you have a fisherman's dream. I think the Happy Hookers at the Morris should pool their funds to get one of these regulators. We could make it out to the shelf past Montauk and back on a quick day jaunt!

While the big fishing brands are constantly pushing the boundaries of speed and performance, others like Beneteau, Carver and Formula are always trying to up the ante on luxury. Formula's innovation on the Formula 380 SSC is an aft swim deck. This is no mere swim platform. It is long enough to set up a picnic table and chairs. For real. It's a bit exaggerated looking, but it works

with Formula's lines, somewhere betwixt the lines of a race car and the (not so) modern lines that evoke the form of a Clorox bottle.

One of the more stunning aspects of the Boat Show is the complete absence of sailboats. It has been many a year since I have seen a real sailboat at the New York Boat Show. Being an avid powerboater, I'm constantly teasing my sailing friends, but sailing is real boating. It is the art of boating where we truly connect with nature. Here on City Island I doubt we would have a single one of our clubs if not for the sailors. And despite the lack of sailboats at the New York Boat Show, City Island's clubs are still well represented there. It was a pleasure for us to visit the City Island Yacht Club, represented by Tom Delaney III, Charles Hurd and George Keeber, as well as the Harlem Yacht Club represented by Jeep Califano, Roger Karleback and Larry Kantor. It was great to see you gentlemen, and we wish you a safe and happy 2020 boating season!

As any boater could tell you, boating is an amazing pastime. It can be as relaxing as a warm summer day or as terrifying as a nor'easter. But no matter what, it is always a great adventure that can be shared with friends and families. I hope that, as we put the coronavirus behind us, we can look forward to many future days afloat. As I bid you adieu, I hope all of you sailors and landlubbers and most especially you wonderful ladies out there can forgive me for all of my funnies. I hope you enjoy reading my article, and I hope you will pardon my silly attempts to tease and make fun while sharing my lifelong love of boats, the water and City Island.

Jokes aside, let me tell you something that isn't funny. Spring. It's here. Just when I begin to feel overwhelmed by the impact of the coronavirus, I just have to look

Continued on page 17



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

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

HH = hours; MM = minutes

Tide chart by Tom Smith

**APRIL 2020**

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Wed	0506	7.40	1142	0.91	1749	6.64			Wed 01
02 Thu	0000	1.27	0608	7.33	1251	0.90	1857	6.78	Thu 02
03 Fri	0109	1.16	0716	7.39	1414	0.66	2010	7.11	Fri 03
04 Sat	0231	0.79	0829	7.59	1529	0.21	2118	7.60	Sat 04
05 Sun	0351	0.19	0939	7.90	1627	-0.28	2215	8.11	Sun 05
06 Mon	0453	-0.47	1039	8.19	1718	-0.70	2306	8.54	Mon 06
07 Tue	0547	-1.01	1133	8.36	1806	-0.97	2354	8.82	Tue 07
08 Wed	0639	-1.36	1225	8.37	1852	-1.05			Wed 08
09 Thu	0042	8.91	0730	-1.45	1315	8.21	1939	-0.91	Thu 09
10 Fri	0130	8.80	0823	-1.30	1408	7.91	2028	-0.57	Fri 10
11 Sat	0220	8.51	0918	-0.93	1504	7.52	2121	-0.10	Sat 11
12 Sun	0316	8.09	1019	-0.45	1609	7.12	2224	0.43	Sun 12
13 Mon	0423	7.63	1124	0.04	1722	6.84	2337	0.88	Mon 13
14 Tue	0544	7.28	1230	0.41	1832	6.76			Tue 14
15 Wed	0049	1.12	0658	7.14	1333	0.62	1937	6.87	Wed 15
16 Thu	0155	1.14	0803	7.18	1432	0.68	2034	7.10	Thu 16
17 Fri	0254	0.99	0900	7.30	1525	0.64	2126	7.37	Fri 17
18 Sat	0347	0.76	0951	7.44	1612	0.58	2213	7.60	Sat 18
19 Sun	0434	0.52	1037	7.53	1655	0.53	2256	7.75	Sun 19
20 Mon	0516	0.33	1120	7.54	1733	0.53	2334	7.81	Mon 20
21 Tue	0555	0.21	1157	7.48	1805	0.57			Tue 21
22 Wed	0006	7.78	0627	0.15	1230	7.35	1826	0.63	Wed 22
23 Thu	0026	7.73	0652	0.15	1251	7.21	1833	0.64	Thu 23
24 Fri	0033	7.75	0707	0.15	1302	7.14	1856	0.62	Fri 24
25 Sat	0057	7.85	0730	0.14	1328	7.13	1929	0.64	Sat 25
26 Sun	0131	7.94	0804	0.18	1403	7.12	2009	0.73	Sun 26
27 Mon	0211	7.96	0844	0.29	1446	7.09	2053	0.88	Mon 27
28 Tue	0255	7.91	0930	0.46	1533	7.04	2143	1.05	Tue 28
29 Wed	0346	7.77	1022	0.63	1627	7.00	2239	1.19	Wed 29
30 Thu	0442	7.59	1121	0.75	1728	7.04	2342	1.22	Thu 30
MAY 2020									
01 Fri	0546	7.44	1228	0.75	1835	7.20			Fri 01
02 Sat	0056	1.05	0656	7.4	1346	0.57	1946	7.52	Sat 02
03 Sun	0226	0.63	0812	7.50	1500	0.22	2054	7.97	Sun 03
04 Mon	0341	0.01	0924	7.71	1601	-0.16	2153	8.36	Mon 04
05 Tue	0441	-0.59	1026	7.91	1654	-0.48	2245	8.70	Tue 05



**STRAY CAT GLUT**

We were delighted to learn that a new generation of City Islanders is preparing to take the lead in the care and control of City Island's stray cat population. For years, that responsibility has largely rested on the shoulders of City Island's own Cat Lady, Yolanda. But the work is not easy. And not cheap! No one can do it alone for long.

Just to keep any stray cat population at bay usually requires the effort of a small army of dedicated volunteers, something for which City Island has a reputation. Or so we learned. A dozen years ago, we were playing pickup basketball at the semi-open gym for Stevenson High School in the Bronx. At a break, we got to talking with some of the other players. "Where are you from?" "What do you do...?" That sort of thing.

One of the guys was a bit down on his luck, and, to hear him tell it, he was being forced out of his home by his landlord at the time. As he related what he was doing to prepare for the move, our ears perked up when he came to his cat. He said he would bring it to City Island and leave it.

"Because," he said, "they'll take care of it on City Island."

We had our own experience with a cat that had been dumped by its prior owners. The poor little guy was left in a cat house that he must have been petrified to leave. By the time we found him, he was living among the clumps of litter and feces inside the dirty little house. The story has a happy ending, though. With a little more help from friends, a loving new home was found.

Still to this day, the most humane way to deal with stray cats is to "Trap, Neuter and Release" (TNR) or "Neuter and Return." Volunteers, in concert with a friendly vet, attract the stray cat with food, the oilier the fish the better, and lure it into a trap. The caged feline is then transported to the vet to be neutered. After a short time, the animal is ready to be returned to his or her home turf.

It is by no means an immediate solution to an overcrowded stray cat situation. Rather, it is an approach that seeks to solve the problem gradually, through attrition. Be on the lookout for these new volunteers. They need our support. And so do the cats!



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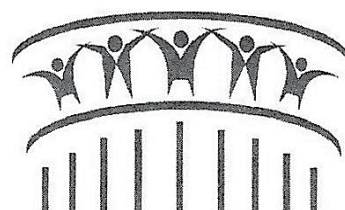
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# In The Garden

By MARY COLBY



A rare sought after snowdrop

### The Galanthus Gala

March 7 was on my calendar for a year. This date marked the third annual Galanthus [snowdrop] Gala in Downingtown, PA. It takes place in a small Quaker Friends Meeting House and has begun to emulate the garden shows that dot the map of England at this time of year. Although it is small in size, the Gala packs a big punch in regard to the plants that are being sold. David Culp from Brandywine Cottage and Nursery began this wonderful event because America has lacked an early spring celebration of this kind. Yes, we have the Philadelphia Flower Show, which is wonderful, but it hasn't the tastefulness that the Brits seem to accomplish. This event brings plant nerds from across the country and even a few from across the pond. Alan Street from Avon bulbs lectured and waxed poetic on the love of the snowdrop to a packed house.

At the Gala, specialist growers are there selling snowdrops, cyclamens and all manner of spring ephemerals. Broken Arrow Nursery brings larger shrubs and trees, early bloomers like witch hazels, and hard-to-find species like franklinia and rare magnolias. Bridget from Diggin Jacks displayed her superb tubers of giant and tiny Jack-in-the-pulpits. Ed Bowen from Issima nursery was there for the first time. He makes frequent trips to Great Dixter, and he had, much to

my surprise, plants that were favorites of the great gardener of Dixter, Christopher Lloyd. I love bergenia, but I was never able to find the often talked about *B. ciliate*. He also had the giant fennel, *ferula communis*. Score!

The doors opened promptly at nine, while everyone waited patiently near an old cemetery scattered with snowdrops. It was cold and windy, but no one seemed to mind. When let in, we saw David Culp's beautifully grown hellebores on the first table. People snatched them up like candy, and in an hour they were gone.

The snowdrop tables provided specimens for every taste and pocketbook. *G. nivalis* and *G. elwesii* could be had for \$10, but for the galanthomaniacs, there were quite a few for \$100. This may seem a bargain when you consider that in 2015 a single bulb of *galanthus plicatus* 'Golden Fleece' was sold for 1,390 British pounds! It took 10 years to propagate, which may offer some explanation. The petals flare out rather than down and are yellow instead of green, which is a rare thing in the snowdrop world. An addiction, yes, but a benign one, I believe. Many people spend yards of money on the most ridiculous things.

As I was leaving the fair, I saw crossing the car park a very manly man with one tiny pot that held a tinier white blossom tinkling in the sunlight. His expression, to my delight, was one of pure, unadulterated joy.

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Photo by BILL CLANCY

Representing the Harlem Yacht Club were (l. to r.) Larry Kantor, Roger Kalebach and Jeep Califano.

### Boat Show

Continued from page 13

outside. Tulips are sprouting, the trees are blooming and the birds are beginning to sing. Warmer temperatures bring dreams of summer (and boating!). We're living

through a tough time, but we'll get through it. We live in a wonderful community in the greatest country in the history of the world. Trust in God and each other, and we'll be through to the other side before you can say barnacle. God bless, and I'll see you all out upon the high seas (even if we're all still keeping a little social distance!).

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 April 9th, Maundy Thursday: 7:30 PM  
 April 10th, Good Friday: 2:00 PM  
 April 12th, Easter Sunday: 10:00 AM  
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## Managing Your Anxiety in Times of Uncertainty

By JOHN SCARDINA, Certified School Psychologist

Times are challenging right now. Anxiety is a natural reaction to uncertainty about the future, and uncertainty has become a fixture in our daily lives.

Here is a simple math fraction that can explain anxiety:

$$\text{Anxiety} = \frac{\text{Risk}}{\text{Resources}}$$

This has great appeal for me: we can reduce risk, but we can also increase our resources to reduce our anxiety. As we are moving forward, here are our challenges:

- How do we accurately assess **risk**? Let's use clear medical evidence rather than social media posts. Let's each be well informed and follow the guidelines provided by organizations like the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization. Let's also be clear with our children that we are doing what is necessary to be safe and healthy. Children can handle risk when they see us doing the best we can to acknowledge our fears, learn all we can from the best sources to handle the situation and apply our knowledge to our family life with confidence and love.

- How do we increase our resources—as individuals, as family members, as local community members and as citizens of the world?

Here are some simple ideas to develop our **resources**:

- As **individuals** we can take time each day to check in with our own gratitude list: what are five things I am grateful in my life right now? Gratitude reinforces our own inner resources. Stay focused on what is right in your life.

- As **families** we can share our grati-

tude lists and also take advantage of this time we are home together. Let's return to family rituals that have sustained families for time immemorial: shared meals, reading aloud together, time spent in nature, shared responsibility for meal preparation, engaging in artistic endeavors, prayer and spiritual practices like grace before meals, shared readings from the books of our faith, and recognition of that of God in one another.

- Our **communities** include many individuals with many more needs that we are dealing with ourselves. Let's check in with our neighbors and see how we can share our riches and strengths. Families that engage in service to others grow in resilience and unity. Be safe but be present as much as is possible in your community: humans can maintain social distance and still promote connectedness. Make a call, send a text, write a note, bake a cake. Stay connected.

- Our **global community** is in turmoil. Let's realize that nationalism does not promote well-being for all. I am reminded of the bumper sticker that states "God bless the whole world—no exceptions." As we celebrate our own family heritage and our diverse communities with people from around the world, let's remember that when we are face-to-face with one another we realize that we are all one species.

We are certainly experiencing a "new normal" as we deal with this pandemic. Anxiety can be managed by reducing risk and increasing resources. When we look back on these days, will we focus on the fears that we felt, or will we celebrate the ways in which we grew as individuals, families and communities in spite of our fears?



Photo by MARK NANI

Night filming for the Starz series "Power" which lit up Orchard Beach, High Island and City Island on March 5, 2020.

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Although the St. Mary, Star of the Sea basketball program ended last year (see April 2019 issue of *The Current*), several City Island hoopsters have continued to play on Our Lady of Assumption (OLA) and other teams. Islander Greg Penny, who graduated from St Mary's School in 1985, coached the OLA Junior Varsity fifth and sixth-graders, including three Island boys, who made it to the JV B division championship game (top left photo, l. to r. Jake Penny, Robert Delaney and Joseph Penny). Cyrus Alston was a starting forward for the OLA Varsity team (above right) and Priscilla Piri (bottom left photo) had a great basketball season with Saint Clare's Gidgets team. Danny DeCicco (bottom right) finished his last bantam year on the OLA 4th grade team. He also made a basketball travel team called the Bronx Wet Bandits and has been picked as an all star. Congrats to all for keeping the ball bouncing.



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

**COVID-19 and Your Taxes**

We are currently facing the unknown as the coronavirus situation escalates in this country. New York State has mandated that all non-essential businesses shut their doors. The following link will provide you with information on what may be considered essential business operations: <https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>.

Although accounting and preparation, are considered essential services, my firm has decided to act on the side of extreme caution, working from home and limiting office hours. We have encouraged our clients and business contacts to establish a secure client folder on our website where they will be able to upload and download all types of computerized data files. We recommend that *Current* readers reach out to their own accountants for assistance dur-

ing this trying time. If you use tax-preparation software and need assistance, go to the appropriate website for information.

This crisis is imposing delays on everyone's ability to complete their 2019 tax returns in a timely fashion, and both our federal and state governments have officially postponed the April 15 due date to July 15, 2020, for both the filing of 2019 tax returns and the payment of tax balances that might be due without the imposition of interest or penalties. I believe that the first quarter 2020 estimated federal and state income taxes due on April 15 have also been extended to July 15, but I do not at this time have information about the second quarter estimated tax payments typically due on or before June 15, 2020.

There will be SBA (Small Business Administration) loan relief for qualified small businesses. The following website for business related "Disaster Relief Loans" is now up and running: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/> and for additional information check out <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Information/Index>.

The first website is the main location from which you can start the application process, and the second is an index of information where you can read up on the available loans. This will most likely be a highly trafficked website, so businesses applying for loans are encouraged to use it

after 7 p.m. at night and before 7 a.m. in the morning. This is the best immediate route to get federally backed loan relief.

There are more loan programs coming if and when congressional legislation is passed, but the Disaster Loan Relief program above through the Small Business Administration is available right now. New loan programs coming from congressional legislation will take time to filter down to the banking system. So as mentioned this is the way to go for more immediate help if your business is suffering during this crisis.

For individuals as well as employers, there will be some significant and possibly rather complex change implications to the recently enacted Paid Family Leave regulations: <https://paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/>.

**Obituaries**

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

**Philip Tomsen**

Philip Tomsen passed away on Dec. 14, 2019, after a brief illness. He was 76.

He was born on City Island in 1943 to Tom and Marie Tomsen. Philip attended P.S. 17 and Christopher Columbus High School.

He began his career as a sailmaker and rigger for Ratsey & Laphorn Sailmakers and later for Hild Sails and Ulmer Sailmakers. He performed all the necessary rigging required for the America's Cup winner *Courageous*, captained by Ted Turner. Phil also worked for the Minneford and Consolidated Yacht Yards.

Phil was employed as a carpenter for the New York City Police Department, where he worked for over 20 years. While with the NYPD, he worked for several weeks at Ground Zero after the collapse of the World Trade Center towers on Sept. 11,

2001.

He was a gifted musician and singer. He performed for several years at the Airways and the Club Tavern on City Island, as well as for various organizations and private parties. He enjoyed sailing and crewing on various sailboats, as well as cruising on his Harley Davidson motorcycle.

Phil was an active member of the Leonard Hawkins Post 156 for 50 years and the City Island Volunteer Ambulance Corps (CIVAC). He was also president of the Earley Street Association, and he worked with the Boy Scouts, sharing his knowledge of nautical knots.

Phil is survived by his wife of 52 years, Dorothy; his daughter, Annemarie (Joe Scotti); his brother Tommy and his sisters Karen (Robert) Figuera, Maryann (Eugene) Occhicone, and Judy (Gerald) McCormick; and four nieces and four nephews; Sharon, Nancy, Jennifer, Katie, Bob, John, Joseph, and Gerry. He was predeceased by his sister, Kristina Schaefer, and nephew Billy.

Philip Tomsen was interred at Pelham Cemetery on Dec. 18, 2019.



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Holy Week Schedule 2020**

**PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY-APRIL 5**  
VIGIL MASS-SATURDAY-5:15 P.M.  
SUNDAY-9:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M.  
(Blessing of Palm at all Masses)

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 6**  
FROM 3:00-9:00 P.M.

**HOLY THURSDAY-APRIL 9**  
8:00 A.M.- TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)  
Consists of Psalms and Readings  
SOLEMN COMMEMORATION OF THE  
LORD'S SUPPER - 7:30 P.M.  
Procession to Repository  
Adoration to 10:00 P.M.

**GOOD FRIDAY-APRIL 10**  
8:00 A.M.-TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)  
Consists of Psalms and Readings  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS-12:00 NOON  
COMMEMORATION OF THE  
PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS-3:00 P.M.

**HOLY SATURDAY-APRIL 11**  
8:00 A.M. TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)  
Consists of Psalms and Readings  
(No 5:15 pm Mass)

**SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL-8:00 P.M.**  
**WILL BE HELD AT OUR LADY OF THE  
ASSUMPTION CHURCH**  
(Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

**EASTER SUNDAY-APRIL 12**  
Masses- 9:00 A.M., 11:00 A. M.





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LOOKING FOR A SEASONAL MANAGER. Fast paced business a.m. and p.m. shift. Must have a food handlers license or would be willing to take the course online and go for the test by the end of April. Please call 347-610-6535 - Louise.

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LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO COOK DINNER. Job description: Plan menu, shop, cook healthy dinner Monday-Thursday on City Island. Clean up. Salary \$20 per hour. If interested, please e-mail: [LookingForCook2525@aol.com](mailto:LookingForCook2525@aol.com).

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

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

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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.



Gwynellen Hopkins Eggers

Happy birthday wishes on April 23 to the Sailmaker's Judy Iovieno, with love from the Swieciki and Iovieno families.

Congratulations to Ann E. Livingston, who recently published a book entitled "Whatever Happened to Truth, Responsibility, & Integrity." Available through Amazon.com.

We're sending wishes for a wonderful anniversary to Elizabeth and Ken Farnum on April 20 and a fabulous birthday to Elizabeth on April 22. We love you both! Always, Mom and Deb.

Birthday greetings to Pat Wall in Florida, who turns 70 on April 10. With love from your City Island friends!

Thank you for your service to Bay Street's Private Gwynellen (Hopkins) Eggers, who just completed Army boot camp and is now stationed at Fort Benning, GA. Mom and Dad are proud of you!

Best wishes for a lifetime of happiness to Caitlin Stiene and Lance Forese on their recent engagement. Great things ahead! Love, Mom and Dad.

Wishing happy and healthy April birthdays to clam diggers Carol Gauss McKenna in Florida and Eric Rauhauser in California. Also, happy April 30th birthday to Leah Nani, who will celebrate her first birthday as a mom with her son, Luke, and husband, clamdigger Roger Nani.

Belated congratulations to clamdigger Julia Phillips, who is currently attending the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA, and will receive a LLM (Masters in Law) in Law this May. She already has a JD (Juris Doctor) degree, so she is Major Julia C. Phillips, Esq. Julia



Julia Phillips (left) was promoted to Major at Fort Hood, Killeen, TX in May 2019.

was promoted at Fort Hood, Killeen, TX, in May 2019 and received a "coin" from her colonel to commemorate the occasion. It is an honor to receive one "above and beyond" the promotion (see inset in above

photo).

Happy birthday on April 25 to Maria Swieciki, aka "The Talebearer."

Wishing good health and safety to all during these challenging times.

Maria Swieciki

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