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One Dollar

A WELL-ORGANIZED JENNY AT THE BEACH

By KAREN NANI



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Jennifer Lopez's "Jenny from the Block" concert on June 4, 2014, at Orchard Beach drew a family-friendly crowd of around 9,000. The feared traffic jams on the roads around Orchard Beach did not materialize, and police from the 45th Precinct did a great job making sure that residents were not stranded trying to get on and off City Island (bottom right photo).

Thanks to careful police planning and agency coordination, Jennifer Lopez's "Jenny from the Block" concert on June 4, 2014, at Orchard Beach was as well organized as one of the Bronx-born singer's music videos (if not quite as sexy). The feared traffic jams and chaos on the roads around Orchard Beach did not materialize, as the attendance was less than expected and police from the 45th Precinct did a superb job making sure that residents were not stranded trying to get on and off City Island. Some Islanders even benefited from the event!

Part of the State Farm Neighborhood Sessions series, the event drew a family-friendly crowd of around 9,000 to the grassy promenade between the parking lot and the roads leading into Orchard Beach. Ms. Lopez's massive stage, constructed a week before the concert, actually faced away from the water, to the disappointment of some boaters who dropped anchors off Orchard Beach hoping to hear the concert.

The concert took three months to plan and involved the New York City Parks and Police Departments, Highway Patrol and the Pelham Police Department. According to Lieutenant Paul Trapani of the 45th Precinct, the sponsor, State Farm, paid for all the expenses, including fees, permits, transportation and the costs of additional police coverage.

Islanders began to worry when the announcement of 25,000 free tickets to the concert was made in May through various New York radio stations. They remembered the rumor of a concert at Orchard Beach about 10 years ago that led to standstill traffic, illegal parking on the Parks' greenway and large-scale littering. The memory of that hoax, along with the failure to alert the community in advance of this concert, led the Civic Association to write an emergency letter to NYPD Commissioner Bratton and Parks Commissioner Silver on May 22:

"We, the City Island Civic Association, write to you today on behalf of our small community of 4,500 residents located in the Bronx. The [JLo] concert was announced last week and sold out in quick fashion. To our knowledge, none of our elected officials or even our local Community Board had been consulted of this event beforehand. The doors to this concert open at 5 p.m., which will leave residents of our working-class community forced to sit in hours of standstill traffic in order to return home after a hard day of work. In our opinion, this is grossly unfair, and steps must be taken to rectify this situation," they wrote.

Police responded with a plan to address the concerns of Islanders. Orchard Beach was closed at 3 p.m., and all cars were moved out of the parking lot. Then special lanes were created to separate concertgoers coming off Pelham Parkway and I-95 from City Island residents returning home. Cars going to City Island were allowed to proceed in a bus lane marked by traffic cones to City Island Road and toward the City Island circle. Concertgoers were not allowed to access Orchard Beach from the City Island traffic circle in order to prevent a traffic jam at the circle.

In addition, only ticket holders were allowed to exit off the Hutchinson River Parkway at the Orchard Beach exit, and Shore Road was closed southbound to control traffic leading into the Bartow circle.

The strict enforcement of access for ticket holders only, coupled with an army of free shuttle buses taking concert goers from Pelham Bay Station, seems to have worked effectively. "There were no significant traffic backups on any of the roads leading to Orchard Beach and City Island," Officer Vicky Alier told *The Current*. "We checked everyone's ticket at different checkpoints. If a group arrived by car, everyone in the vehicle had to have a ticket. Otherwise they were turned away via special lanes we had set up." *Continued on page 13*



ISLANDERS BATTLE TO SAVE ST. MARY'S CHURCH

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER and KAREN NANI



Photo by MARGIE McNULTY

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, who celebrated Mass at St. Mary's in September 2010, now holds the fate of the City Island church in his hands.

The crusade to save St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church escalated in June with a letter-writing campaign and a presentation to the archdiocese on the importance of the church in the community. This followed the sudden announcement in May 2014 that St. Mary's could be merged with another parish, leading to the eventual closure of the church on City Island.

An announcement in the bulletin on Sunday, June 15, urged St. Mary's parish-

ioners and the City Island community to write letters to Fr. John O'Hara, Director of the Office of Strategic Pastoral Planning, and to Cardinal Timothy Dolan, imploring them to keep St. Mary's as a parish with a resident on-site pastor and not turn it into an "additional worship site." A worship site would mean limited weekend Masses, occasional weddings and funerals, and a deacon or other pastoral minister to be the full-time pastoral presence.

The St. Mary's Core Team wanted people to voice their opinions and let the Cardinal know exactly how frustrated they feel (see *Letters to the Editor*). The five-member team of Rosetta Woods, Terri Kurtz, Ethel Lott, Dan Connelly and Bill Mueller had been working for eight months with a cluster of other churches in the area under the assumption that St. Mary's would remain a parish but share resources with others to better serve the archdiocese (known as the collaborative model).

The team and Father Michael Challinor, St. Mary's full-time pastor, were shocked by the last-minute announcement in May that St. Mary's was moved into the consolidated model, which may result in the combination of parishes and the eventual closure of some.

On June 3, the Core Team submitted the parish's response to the cardinal's "Making All Things New" plan. The team rejected the recommendation to consolidate St. Mary's

Continued on page 3

BRIEFLY...

THE JOHN GILDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND will hold its fifth annual fundraiser lawn party this summer at the Morris Yacht & Beach Club on Saturday, Aug. 23, at 2 p.m. The admission fee will be \$60, which includes food, beer, wine, water and desserts served from 2 to 6 p.m. There will also be raffles for items donated by local businesses. Past fundraisers have provided scholarships at Fordham University, and on June 12 three scholarships were awarded to students at Greenwich High School. The group has also sponsored a City Island Little League team for the past four years and will be funding the summer travel team. The group appreciates the support that has made it possible to make a difference in the lives of deserving young people. For more information please check facebook.com/gilderscholarship or email Jack.Jokinen@gmail.com.

2014 CITY ISLAND REUNION: Once again, by popular demand, there will be another spectacular and memorable City Island reunion, which will take place on Aug. 23, 2014, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Ambrosini Field. Come reunite and celebrate with friends and family while listening to live music from local bands, past and present. There will be lots of entertainment for kids of all ages, including volleyball, basketball and softball. There will be a memorial board for posting photos of our beloved friends and family. A very large tent and Porta-Potties will be provided, as well as condiments, napkins, plastic ware, and delicious cakes from Costco. Bring your own food and beverage, chairs, tables and even pop-up tents. Admission is \$15 to cover expenses; kids 14 and under get in free; and proceeds will be donated to a City Island cause, to be determined. If anyone needs any special accommodations or if you have any questions at all, please call Bob at 347-242-4393, Lynn at 760-805-5547, or email cityisland2014@yahoo.com. See you there!

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during May and June 2014. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 – PETIT LARCENY
- 4 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 4 – ASSAULT*
- 1 – BURGLARY
- 1 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A WEAPON*
- 2 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA*

Police provided details on the following incidents and arrests* for the period from May 22 to June 23, 2014.

5/24 – Police are investigating a burglary at a commercial establishment on City Island Avenue at 5:15 a.m. An unknown perpetrator broke the front door glass, entered the premises and removed items without permission.

5/27 – On Bowne Street and City Island Avenue at 5 p.m., an Island female reported that an unknown person keyed and scratched her parked vehicle in an act of criminal mischief.

6/5 – At 11:50 p.m. on Pilot Street, an unknown vehicle was driven into a parking lot gate causing damage.

6/7 – An off-Island male, 22, was arrested and charged with assault at 8:23 p.m. on City Island Avenue at Marine Street. The defendant allegedly asked an-

other off-Island male if he could use his cell phone to call a taxi. When the victim refused, the defendant punched him in the face.

6/8 – At a commercial establishment on City Island Avenue at 8 p.m., police arrested an off-Island male, 36, and charged him with assault after he allegedly struck another male in the face with a bottle, causing bruises and requiring stitches. Three other perpetrators involved in the incident remain unapprehended.

6/9 – An Island male told police that a black Jeep purposely ran over the flowers on his property on Centre Street at 8:58 p.m. in an act of criminal mischief.

6/11 – Police arrested an off-Island male, 18, on City Island Avenue at 12:10 p.m. and charged him with criminal possession of a weapon. The defendant was operating a pick-up truck when he was pulled over by police. Officers detected the odor of marijuana and upon investigation found that the defendant possessed a black-handled dagger.

6/15 – At 3:27 p.m., an off-Islander, 26, was arrested and charged with assault and criminal possession of marijuana on City Island Avenue. After an argument, the defendant allegedly punched a female victim and pepper-sprayed three others who were waiting in line at a commercial establishment.

"Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore"
–Naomi Shihab Nye

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Combined Issue

This is a reminder to our *Island Current* patrons that this issue of the paper is a combined July/August issue for the Summer. The monthly papers will resume with the September issue.



Photo by JACK JOKINEN

The Fifth Annual Scholarship Fundraising Lawn Party will be held at the Morris Yacht & Beach Club on Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014, at 2 p.m. Last year's event (shown above) raised funds for several scholarships and a City Island Little League team named in memory of Islander John Gilder.

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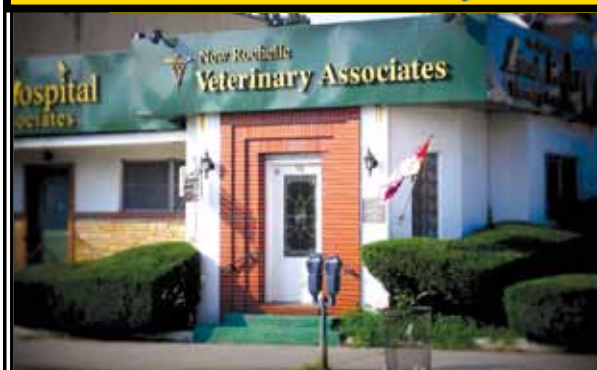
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St. Mary's

Continued from page 1

with Our Lady of Assumption in Pelham Bay and to have St. Mary's as a worship site only. The team proposed that St. Mary's remain a parish with a resident, on-site pastor as it is now. They told the archdiocese: "We have the unanimous support of the parishes in our cluster, Holy Rosary, St. Lucy, St. Michael and Nativity. All agreed with us and signed off on the response," which was then submitted to the Advisory Group.

The 40-member Advisory Group, consisting of priests, deacons, religious and lay people from across the archdiocese, met at the end of June to evaluate suggestions and give their final recommendations. These recommendations will be presented to the Cardinal at the Archdiocesan Priests' Council from June 30 to July 2. Cardinal Dolan will then review the recommendations during the summer and give his final decisions in September. "We don't know what he will say," said Fr. Michael, "It is only then that we can respond."

During June, letters of support were sent by parishioners of St. Mary's, as well

as residents, community groups, local politicians and members of other houses of worship on City Island. Many people received a form letter from Cardinal Dolan in reply. "While several factors are involved in determining the future status of a parish, including the number of parishioners and its pastoral activities, the goal of 'Making All Things New' is to ensure that, with whatever configuration of parishes is decided upon, every parish will be, first and foremost, an active and vibrant community of faith." He emphasized that finance is only one factor and not the determining one.

St. Mary's Core Team wants Islanders to keep up their efforts and continue to write to Cardinal Dolan's office at 1011 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. The team also welcomes and appreciates all suggestions, which can be placed in the box in the vestibule of the church.

Deacon Mueller, a team member, summed it up: "St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, seen clearly from the City Island bridge as a welcoming beacon to all residents and visitors to our Island, is a lighthouse that, if consolidated, will be extinguished, silenced and fall into the sea, taking with it many of our Catholic people."

DOT AND CI WORKING TOGETHER

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos courtesy of the DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

On Thursday, May 29, representatives of New York City's Department of Transportation and Tutor Perini, the bridge contractor, held an open house at P.S. 175, where they answered questions about the new bridge and asked residents for comments.

Islanders met with representatives of the city's Department of Transportation (DOT) and Tutor Perini, the bridge engineers, on Thursday, May 29, at an open house sponsored by DOT to familiarize residents with information about the new bridge design and the construction process.

More than 90 people attended the open house to look at renderings of the proposed bridge and the various design details still to be finalized.

DOT officials, including the Bronx Commissioner Constance Moran and Chief Bridge Engineer Bob Collyer, were on hand to answer questions and to reassure Islanders that their input would be important in arriving at final decisions about such detail as lighting, signage and fencing.

Those who attended were asked to write down their comments and make sug-

gestions on large sheets next to the renderings, and these will be reviewed by DOT and Tutor Perini, who have assured the City Island Civic Association and the Chamber of Commerce that they will work with the community. There are some limits as to the designs, because DOT works with a design manual and must get approvals from the city's Design Commission.

The temporary water main replacing the old main that lay in the path of the temporary bridge has been put in place, so that work on the bridge may begin now that the land-use application filed by DOT has been approved by the Department of City Planning.

That application had a bumpy start, initiated because of the lawsuit filed by the Civic Association and later disapproved by Community Board 10 and the Bronx Borough President. Only after the new DOT commissioner, Polly Trottenberg, worked with Tutor Perini to come up with a more acceptable design than the modernistic cable-stayed bridge, was the community persuaded to reverse its position on the land-use application.

DOT expects that the temporary bridge construction will be completed by Thanksgiving and that the dismantling of the old bridge—which may take up to a year—will begin. The completion of the new bridge is expected to take place in 2017.

Some will find irony in the above headline about the collaboration between DOT and City Island, but thanks to the new DOT Commissioner and the quick turnaround in design, the sense of collaboration comes as a welcome change for all involved.



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER and MARGIE McMULTY

Scenes like this one of Father Michael Challinor (top photo) greeting parishioners after church on Sunday may become a thing of the past if the archdiocese decides to consolidate the parish with others off City Island. Cardinal Dolan was friendly to Islanders during his visit in 2010 (middle and bottom photos), but may decide to convert St. Mary's to a worship site, which would mean limited weekend Masses only.

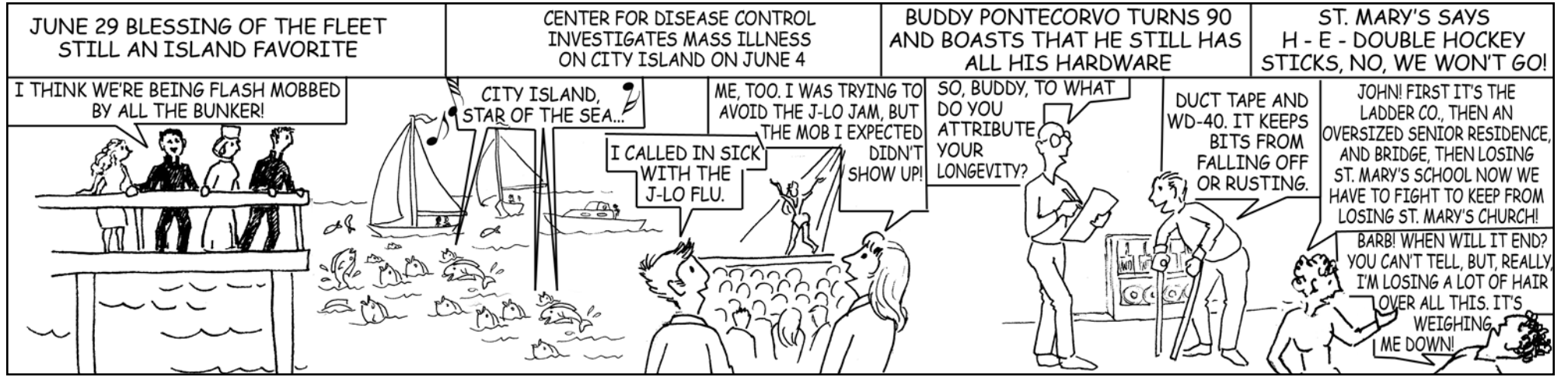
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Editorial

The only newspaper dedicated to events on City Island, *The Island Current* has been published continuously for 42 years. During that time, the paper has documented activities and events in nearly every issue. We were deeply distressed when St. Mary's School was closed in 2013, because it was a thriving educational center that provided events and activities for all children on the Island, not just students at St. Mary's. But we are truly disheartened to learn that the future of the church itself is in jeopardy, not just on behalf of church parishioners but also for the entire community, which participates in its early childhood and adult education programs, food collections for the poor, recreational programs, fundraisers, rehabilitation organizations, and youth sports leagues, to name just a few. The presence of a full-time priest and staff is essential not only to parishioners but also to the rest of the community so that the church can continue to be a vibrant presence here. To reduce the role that St. Mary's plays here—and to consider closing it—will, we believe, be a blow not only to parishioners, many of whom will be unable or unwilling to leave the Island to attend church elsewhere, but it will also have disastrous consequences for the City Island community. We beseech Cardinal Dolan and the Archdiocese to review their decision regarding this church and recognize the integral role that St. Mary's plays here.



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.

What Does God Think?

To the Editor:

A year ago last spring hundreds of parents and their young children, including those attending City Island's St. Mary, Star of the Sea School, were forced to scramble to find suitable schools by September because the Catholic Archdiocese of New York felt it necessary to close fully functioning schools in some of the region's working-class communities, including City Island.

Now comes word that some parishes throughout the diocese, including City Island's St. Mary's, will likely be closing or merging with others in the future as part of a campaign that the Archdiocese's public relations consultants like to call "Making All Things New." From my point of view, the only thing I see being made new is St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue, to the tune of an ongoing facelift costing about \$200 million, including refurbished front doors that alone cost \$500,000 to restore.

While this lavish Fifth Avenue church which serves tourists, celebrities and politicians, gets rebuilt, a parish serving working, middle-class Catholics like City Island's St. Mary's is threatened with closure or a diminished role, despite the fact that it is a very well-attended, financially viable parish serving hundreds of City Islanders who live in the city's most isolated community. St. Mary's has served thousands of Islanders over the many decades of its existence. In fact, it is the place in which most Islanders over many past generations have been married, baptized their children and mourned the loss of their loved ones.

I should also mention that this institution has served Catholic and non-Catholic Islanders alike over those decades, housing such programs as early childhood and adult education programs, food collections

for the poor, recreational programs, fundraisers and youth sports leagues, to name just a few.

Why is the Archdiocese spending nearly \$200 million on a cathedral on Fifth Avenue while cutting away at small viable churches that serve hard-working worshippers who are, quite frankly, the backbone of support for the Archdiocese, if not the entire faith worldwide? Upon accepting the leadership of the Catholic faith recently, Pope Francis articulated to his cardinals, priests, nuns and general parishioners that the church has to do a better job at bringing the true meaning of the faith to the people, not through centralized power but through outreach.

The New York Archdiocese's strategy for reorganizing hardly seems to be an embodiment of the Pope's recently stated wishes. In fact, I wonder what he and God would think of a reorganization plan that rebuilds a cathedral at the expense of local parishes.

Bill Stuttig

Saving St. Mary's

A copy of the following letter to Father John O' Hara, Director of the Office of Strategic Pastoral Planning, Archdiocese of New York, was received by *The Current*. Copies of similar letters were received by the City Island Civic Association, the Chamber of Commerce, Temple Beth-El, and Grace Episcopal Church.

Dear Father O'Hara:

Allow me to introduce myself: my name is John Marano and I am Chairman of Bronx Community Board 10, a community-based agency of New York City's government. I am writing on behalf of a vital community organization, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church on City Island, the only Catholic church on the Island.

While our Community Board is more generally concerned with temporal and not religious matters on City Island, we are moved to write your office because the church is such a vital institution on the Island. Not only does it serve the Catholic community, but through its outreach programs, such as P.O.T.S, youth and athletic programs, thrift shop and Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous programs, its presence in the community reaches well beyond the traditional role of a church.

Furthermore, we ask you to remember that City Island is just that, an island. If the

church were to close, City Islanders would be bereft of a Catholic church. The nearest parishes are St. Benedict's and Our Lady of Assumption, both located on the mainland. Worshipers would be forced to take two city buses to either parish or to drive.

Each of these churches has its own distinct culture and customs that have developed over many years. It may not prove to be easy to merge a smaller, distinctive church into one of the larger institutions.

If St. Mary's were left as a worship center on the Island, and its administration were elsewhere, City Islanders would lose something in the process. The community benefits from the physical presence of a pastor and parish priest on site in the community. The tangible and intangible benefits are many, but suffice it to say that a Catholic community needs a Catholic priest in its midst.

Therefore, Bronx Community Board 10 supports the retention of a full-time Catholic church with the assignment of a priest on City Island.

Thank you for your attention and consideration in this matter.

John Marano, Chairman
Bronx Community Board 10

Dear Cardinal Dolan and Father O'Hara:

We, the City Island Civic Association, write to you today on behalf of approximately 4,500 residents within our community about a matter of grave importance. It has come to our attention an advisory group has been formed to evaluate our local parish, St. Mary, Star of the Sea, and to determine if it should remain a viable parish or an "additional worship site." This unfortunate development follows the one-year anniversary of the parish's primary school being closed, which left many dispirited.

For a small community, City Island residents have historically prided themselves on their deep and diversified faiths. The neighborhood is home to no fewer than three churches and a synagogue, all playing an active role in our area. In fact, within seconds of entering our Island and coming over the bridge, among the first sights travelers see is a large and beautiful church, whose doors are always open. This sends a powerful message about the community, that we value our faith and that service to others plays an important role in our lives. If St. Mary's is reclassified as an "additional house of worship," these doors will often be locked if the church is not in use. In itself this sends a terrible message to those visiting our community.

St. Mary's represents the largest religious congregation on City Island and serves many important functions to those of and beyond the Catholic faith. This includes food and clothing donations, youth programming, athletics, and group therapy to those suffering from addiction. All of these programs are invaluable and have historically been administered under the direction of the full-time resident pastor. The pastor provides essential oversight of these activities and individual counseling to those participants in need.

One particularly vulnerable group on City Island is the senior population. According to the U.S. Census, 25 percent of the population is over age of 62. Seniors

rely on St. Mary's services more than most and may find themselves in sudden or immediate need of spiritual sacraments such as the Last Rites or Anointing of the Sick. A resident pastor can provide these services quickly and effectively. A priest coming from a nearby community will not only be burdened by a longer traveling period but also additional delays caused by our legendary traffic on summer weekends. These conditions raise serious doubts that a priest could arrive in time.

We ask that your advisory group take these factors into consideration in making a decision. A change in the classification of St. Mary's would be detrimental to all City Islanders, no matter their faith.

The City Island Civic Association

Remembering Carmen and Thanking City Island

To the Editor:

It is not a stretch to say that my sister, Carmen Robinson, who passed away on June 11, made friends easily with everyone she met.

She loved everyone at Artie's, and they loved her right back. In fact it was her second home. A special thank you from all of us for looking out for her as well as you did. Thank you Spyros, Laura, Janet, Judith, Cathy, Lana, Roberto, Nicholas, Angel, Mike, Tino and everyone at Artie's. We will be forever in your debt for the love you extended her and the way you made it so easy for her to have a meal when she was just too tired to make the trek across the street.

Everyone at the Sunoco gas station knew her and protected her. If they saw that she had fallen, they knew to sound the alarm and get help at Artie's so that they would send someone over to give her the help she needed.

For groceries and a great cup of coffee, Carmen always relied on the IGA; but if it was a bag of cookies or a special pie that she was after, then nothing but Sugar and Spice would do. The City Island Diner was a must for breakfast. It had to be the egg and cheese on an S-roll, to go please; even when she decided to eat there, it was always coffee in a paper cup. Thank you, Susan, Donna, Lisa, Kim and everyone at the diner for always giving her a smile and making her feel welcome. And now that you've named a sandwich after her, a grilled cheese on challah bread with grilled tomatoes and onions, I can just see her smiling, with her wonderful quirky smile, each time one of your customers orders a Carmen.

On days when Carmen had a hankering for a quesadilla, she knew that a visit to Patrice, at To Go Express was in order. How convenient that it was located right next door to the Art of Beauty, the only place she ever trusted to get her "manis and pedis" done. Louise always made her feel both pampered and beautiful. Thanks to Louise and everyone there for making Carmen feel hugged.

And, thank you to Ron and everyone at the Focal Point Gallery, where Carmen spent hours enjoying the art shows and basking in the friends that gathered there.

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SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT APPROVED

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

On June 17, 2014, the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) voted to grant a variance to the Italian Hospital Society that will enable the organization to construct senior housing at 222 City Island Avenue, at Schofield Street, which is zoned manufacturing. The project, first introduced at a Civic Association meeting in May 2011 as a massive four-story, block-long apartment building with 200 apartments for seniors, has been through three subsequent versions, the most recent one a much smaller complex with 45 apartments and no below-ground parking.

The project satisfied the several requirements over which the BSA has jurisdiction, including its consistency with the character of the community. Until the most recent proposal, the BSA agreed with the City Island Civic Association and its attorney that the project was out of scale with the City Island's Special District Zoning. Finally, on May 5, 2014, the applicant submitted a plan that the BSA indicated was acceptable, a four-part complex of three stories with 45 units (see elevations above), which represents a reduction of the scale of the project by over 80 percent.

Although Community Board 10 objected to the project at the BSA hearing in May, on the grounds that the development would be in a flood zone and thus risky for senior housing,

The next step is for the Italian Hospital Society to purchase the property from the current owner, Lukeco LLC, and to begin environmental remediation on the site, which must be completed before construction begins.

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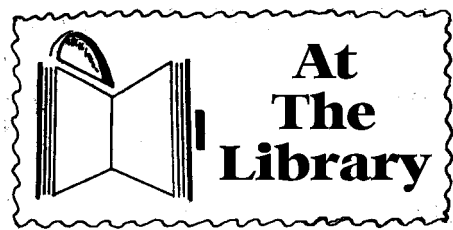
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The Pelham Picture House, located at 175 Wolfs Lane in Pelham, will have a special advanced screening of "Life Itself," the highly anticipated documentary about Roger Ebert, based on his memoir of the same name, followed by a discussion and Q&A with the Picture House critic-in-residence, Marshall Fine, and other well-known film critics. Tuesday, July 1, at 7:30 p.m. \$12 general admission, \$10 for students and seniors, \$6 for members.

On Wednesday, July 9, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a special advanced screening of "Boyhood," a groundbreaking new film by Richard Linklater. There will be a post-film discussion and Q&A with film producer John Sloss, hosted by the Picture House critic-in-residence, Marshall Fine. \$12 general admission, \$10 students and seniors, \$6 members. Visit the website at www.thepicturehouse.org for news of more upcoming events and information about becoming a member.



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July and August Programs for Children and Teens

Summer Arts & Crafts: We will supply the scissors, glue and construction paper; please bring your own imagination and artistic flair as we make arts and crafts to celebrate summertime. Both on Friday, July 18, and Aug. 22, all day.

Bilingual Birdies: Every Friday at 11 a.m. for the whole summer. Friday July 11, 18, 25; Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party: We celebrate the end of the summer, the books we have read, and the knowledge we have accrued with pizza, prizes and fun. Friday, Aug. 29, 3 to 5 p.m.

July and August Adult Programs
Meditation and Quiet Time: A space for quiet studying, reading, writing and self-meditation. Every Thursday from 1 to 2 p.m.

Introduction to the Internet: This workshop is designed to introduce anyone who has never been on the internet before. Gain proficiency in using email, utilizing social media and finding resources on the NYPL website. Every Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon. Also on Monday afternoons from 1 to 2 p.m. at Grace Church, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street.

Resumé Writing Workshop and Online Job Search: Staff will be here to help you look for employment and get your resumé into top form for the competitive job market. Pre-registration is encouraged but drop-ins are fine. It is recommended you bring along a flash drive to save your work. Every Wednesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon.

Tablet Group: Learn how to borrow and download library e-books, discuss your favorite apps and ask questions about how to use tablets in your day-to-day life. Every Thursday afternoon from 2 to 3.

The Island Writers: The writing group returns with a summer project in mind, to create a movie about the colorful people who have made City Island their home and harbor over the years. Come

write a scene about your favorite character. Starting July 8, every Tuesday at 1 p.m.

Saturday Afternoon Movies or Lectures: We will announce in advance the movies and or lectures for the month of July and August. All events begin at 1 p.m.

We wish you all our friends and neighbors a great summer.



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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
73 Schofield Street	4/14/14	\$348,000	single family
636 City Island Ave.	4/25/14	\$1,236,300	commercial
280 City Island Ave.	5/2/14	\$585,000	multi-family
19 Bay Street	5/14/14	\$720,000	single family
8 Tier Street	5/20/14	\$980,000	multi-family
71 Fordham Street	5/27/14	\$420,000	multi-family
190 Fordham Street	6/2/14	\$370,000	condo

Box 6

Continued from page 4

The pictures Ron took of Carmen and our family were wonderful; you captured those elusive moments that we will treasure always.

When Carmen walked down the street to the diner and passed JGL Wines and Liquors, she had to stop and spend time with Jerry who always made her feel right at home. Thank you, Jerry, for always taking the time to sit down and talk to Carmen and to always offer your hand of support when she needed it, without fail.

Thanks to you too, Joe. Carmen always said that you and everyone at the City Island Pharmacy were always patient and kind to her.

For a great night of revelry, music and some dancing in the aisles, there was no place to be with Carmen but at one of Elliott and Monica's nights of music at the Starving Artists Café and Gallery. We were there as a family one night when Port O'Monkeys, her favorite group, was on tap. It was fun to see her rocking and dancing in the aisles to their Spanish-Middle Eastern beat.

She also loved taking Baloo, her first black lab, and later Moose, for a swim in the sound at Patty and Con's; when Patty was able to join with her pup, it was a special treat. Before one of the storms destroyed their sailboat, summer afternoons on City Island meant taking Baloo on the boat and just relaxing in the peace and quiet of the sea air.

For those of you who knew her then, how could you forget her performance with the Island Patchwork at the Trinity Methodist Church hall! It may have been a small role, but to her it was a bundle of fun.

As a member of the City Island Artists Organization, (CIAO), Carmen loved to participate in the many City Island art shows. Of course for Carmen, her idea wasn't to sell one of her beautiful ceramic creations—she was happiest when someone came by and complimented her work. When that happened, she would gift them with one of her pots. For her the only bottom-line profit she was interested in was what came from the delight of a child's face and yes, even a jaded adult's, as she handed them, free of charge one of her beautiful pieces of pottery.

For relaxation, there was always the Harlem Yacht Club, where you could go to

watch a beautiful sunset or take a relaxing yoga class with Ann on Sunday morning. Thank you, Ann. She really loved those classes.

Anytime Carmen's Aunt Tina was visiting from Houston, the 10 a.m. service at St. Mary, Star of the Sea was a must. She also loved to find that special treasure at St. Mary's Thrift Shop and, when she could, bring treasures to them.

Off the Island, if it was Thursday night, you would find Carmen at Pottery in the City with Ritch, followed by a delicious Chinese dinner at their favorite Upper West Side corner restaurant. And, if it was Saturday morning, invariably, you would find her smiling from ear to ear while working as a volunteer at the Children's Garden at the New York Botanical Garden.

City Island was her life. She felt whole and at peace when she was there. She knew she was watched over but more than that, she knew she was loved. If there ever was a true citizen of City Island, no doubt it was Carmen.

Going to the Wednesday night prayer group at Mary Ellen's house on City Island kept her faith in the Lord unshakable. There is no doubt that it was the purity of that faith that kept our beautiful Carmen from succumbing much sooner to the cancer that ultimately took her life. Ezra, her pastor, kept her grounded.

Thank you to everyone on City Island for giving Carmen, the best years of her life, years that were spent smiling, laughing and loving with the warmth of your friendship, the feel of the cool waters of the sound, the freshness of the breezes and the sun and warm sand of your beaches.

To share a memory about Carmen or upload a photo, go to the Schuyler Hill Funeral Home website, Schuylerhill.com. Click on the photographic memories link in the Memories section for a lovely slide show celebrating Carmen's life.

Thank you, City Island, for loving our dear, sweet Carmen and keeping her safe for us. You will forever be in our hearts.

AJ Warren

On the New Bridge Design

Copies of the following letters, which are excerpted below, were sent to The Current.

To the Editor:

City Island people will never get out of a rut, always living in the past and wondering why things are always looking trashy. Once again, another piece of junk being added to the community.

Too bad. The original design was significantly a better design.

Larry Alfrey

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

Cable-stayed bridges have become popular in recent years, frequently in municipalities where their innovative sculptural design might contribute to the surrounding cityscape or landscape where nothing else exists. But as a gateway to this little island, it is what we architects would label a "design error." It is monstrous, ill conceived, out of scale with the parkland where its towers will be built and, at 164 feet high, at least four times the height of any building on the Island. Why not construct the simple viaduct causeway that has been supported by most residents of the island?

Andrew Blackman, AIA

Mr. Blackman's letter was answered by a representative of the DOT:

DOT recently announced a new, causeway style bridge that has received widespread support from elected officials and communities leaders. The new design features a clean, simple aesthetic with lighting and other elements inspired by the existing bridge. It will also have a minimal impact on the waterway below while affording unobstructed views of Pelham Bay Park and Eastchester Bay, benefits long sought by the City Island community. The agreement on the design marks a major step in the commitment by Mayor Bill de Blasio's administration to infrastructure projects that better connect New York City communities.

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Photo by LIFETOUGH

Members of the 2014 graduating class of Public School 175. Kneeling (l. to r.): graduates Michael Valenti, Erik Lomonaco, John Tomsen, Michael Mancuso. First row: graduates Joseph Kramer, Carlo Fine; faculty Andrew Scopp, Jaclyn Fitzmaurice, Karen Heil, Danielle Ramos; Amy Lipson, principal; faculty Helen Masotti; parent coordinator Tina Gisante; faculty Kathleen Wiehler; graduates John Cebollero, Christopher DeSantis. Second row: Dylan Kohr, Everett Sanderson, Nicholas Capalbo, Raphael Hay, Justin Munafa, Luis Parreno, Edwin Almodovar, Connor Hanley-Piri, Luis Ramos, Joseph Gjonaj, Umi Shaw, Alberto Rodriguez, Michael DeSantis, Matthew Cioffi. Top row: Sabrina Jarvis, Phoebe McElroy, Jennifer Carino, Dusty Prohaska, Gianna Cambria, Lydia McElroy, Chanel Coleman, Sabrina Fontana, Emma Ramos, Rebecca Scott, Catherine Ficke, Anita Beqiraj, Brianna Lozada, Juliana Durante, Olivia Albertelli.

DESERVING P.S. 175 GRADUATES RECEIVE AWARDS

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

The eighth-grade graduation at P.S. 175, now sadly the only school graduation on City Island since the closure of St. Mary's school in 2013, was held at the school on June 23, 2014, and principal Amy Lipson made the following presentations.

The City Island School Principal's Award for Excellence was presented to John Tomsen; the City Island Chamber of Commerce Award for General Excellence was given to Rebecca Scott; the Mary P. Fitzpatrick Award for Academic and General Excellence went to Everett Sanderson; the Dr. Ed Rothschild Award for Citizenship and Community Involvement was given to Connor Hanley-Piri, and Michael Valenti was the recipient of the Lucrezia A. Fusco Award for Effort and Perseverance.

At the Awards Dinner on June 18, the following presentations were made: the New York State Senator Jeff Klein Civic Award for Student Leadership was given to John Cebollero; the Assemblyman Michael Benedetto Award for Academic Achievement went to Phoebe McElroy; the City Council Citation for Achievement was awarded to Rebecca Scott; the City Council Speakers Achievement Award for Academic Excellence was presented to John Tomsen, and the NYC Comptroller Award for Special Academic Achievement was given to Everett Sanderson.

Anita Beqiraj received both the City of NY-Commission on Women's Issues Junior High Leadership Award and the Alice Persteins Award for Community Involvement; the Philip J. Abinanti Award for Service and Leadership went to Connor Hanley-Piri; the Blanche Schwartz Effort Award was given to Sabrina Fontana; the NYC Public Advocate Award for Academic Achievement went to Joseph Gjonaj, and the UFT

Citizenship Award was presented to Lydia McElroy.

The Gloria Misurki Award for Love of Learning was given to Olivia Albertelli; the Alice Connolly Service Award went to Dusty Prohaska; the Christine Jorgensen Hansen Community Award was given to Gianna Cambria, and the AARP #318 School Service Award was presented to John Cebollero.

Everett Sanderson received the Catherine Scott Literary Award from *The Island Current* and won the essay contest sponsored by the American Legion Leonard H. Hawkins Post 156. Lydia McElroy won the award from the American Legion Women's Auxiliary.

The United Federation of Teachers presented awards in individual subject areas: English Language Arts, Rebecca Scott and Joseph Gjonaj; Mathematics, Edwin Almodovar and Phoebe McElroy; Math Regents Award, Everett Sanderson; Science, Olivia Albertelli and John Cebollero; Science Regents, Rebecca Scott; Social Studies, John Tomsen and Joseph Kramer; Computers and Technology, Edwin Almodovar and Anita Beqiraj; Physical Education, Connor Hanley-Piri and Catherine Ficke; Art, Lydia McElroy and Luis Parreno. The Andrea Horowitz English Language Arts Award went to Lydia McElroy.

Students on the honor roll were; (Gold) Joseph Kramer, Everett Sanderson, Rebecca Scott, John Tomsen, (Silver) Olivia Albertelli, John Cebollero, Carlo Fine, Joseph Gjonaj, Phoebe McElroy.

The P.S. 175 Effort Awards were presented to Gianna Cambria, Chanel Coleman, Juliana Durante, Catherine Ficke, Sabrina Fontana, Michael Mancuso and Michael Valenti. Umi Shaw received the Perfect Attendance Award.

The P.S. 175 Service Awards were given to Olivia Albertelli, Anita Beqiraj, Gianna Cambria, Nicholas Capalbo, Jennifer Carina, John Cebollero, Christopher DeSantis, Michael DeSantis, Juliana Durante, Catherine Ficke, Carlo Fine, Sabrina Fontana, Connor Hanley-Piri, Joseph Kramer, Erik Lomonaco, Lydia McElroy, Phoebe McElroy, Dusty Prohaska, Emma Ramos, Rebecca Scott and John Tomsen.

We wish these talented graduates every success as they move on to high school.



Photos by RICK DeWITT

On June 27, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. and State Senator Jeff Klein hosted the borough's official kickoff to the Independence Day celebrations, the annual "New York Salutes America" boardwalk festival and fireworks extravaganza at Orchard Beach. Residents on the north end of City Island had front row seats for the pleasing pyrotechnics.

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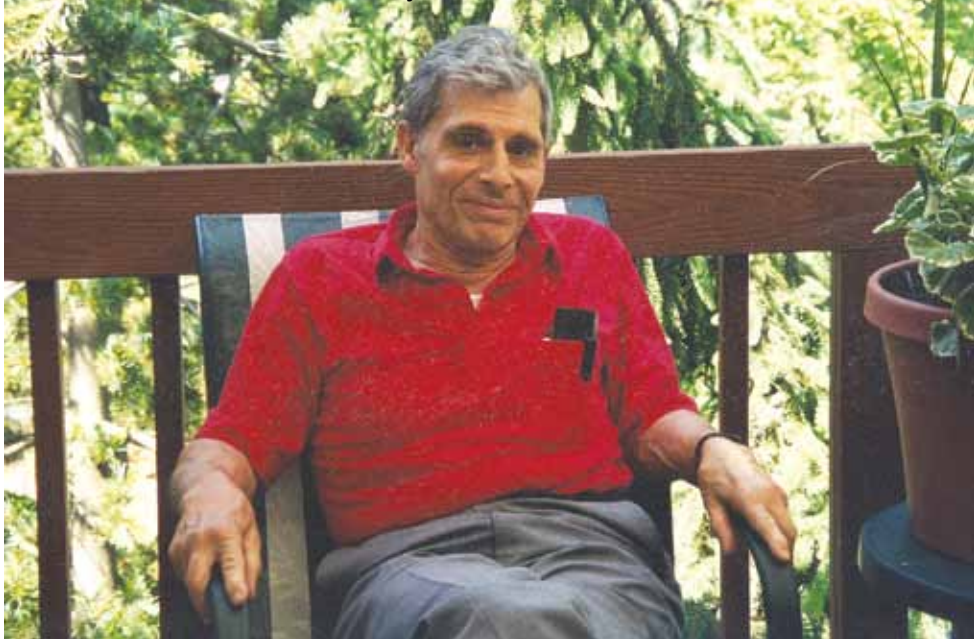
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BUDDY TURNS 90

By BRUCE A. WEIS



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Clam digger Buddy Pontecorvo (shown above) turns 90 on July 9. The longtime owner of Buddy's Hardware, he and his wife, Lucy, were honored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce in 1993 (above right). A veteran, Buddy still participates in the Legion's Memorial Day Parade (bottom right).

Buddy Pontecorvo recommends living on City Island. "I was born here and never left," he says. "I don't know where else I would want to live. I don't think there's any other place you can find that offers such an easy type of living."

Although his given name is Anthony, Buddy Pontecorvo happily admits to having lived his life with a nickname. He is a legitimate City Island clam digger under even the strictest definition, as he was born in the back of a small store on City Island Avenue in 1924, now the site of Buddy's Hardware Store. "It was a sort of candy shop and newspaper store that my mother and father ran for a while, and I was born, I think, in that store. Nobody went to the hospital then; my whole family had midwives." The store had no central heat, he recalls. "They used to have kerosene heaters, which you could pick them up and carry around."

Buddy was too young to remember exactly how long his family stayed in that store. "We moved from there to Banta Lane," which is sometimes known as the "Back Hawkins Street," which goes from Minneford Avenue to Fordham Place. "We lived mostly in the basement, with the kitchen and the living room. The bedrooms were upstairs. The house was surrounded by the shipyards. When I was young, I'd get up in the morning and hear the mates calling, or, as we used to call them, the chain gang. These were the guys who ran the boat-moving machinery. Most of the yards at that time used to haul the railways with a donkey engine. These were just old four-cylinder Ford engines, located in a hole in the ground and connected with the cables, and they'd have a guy with a crew, the chain gang. This guy would guide the others with hand signals to move the boats in and out. That's going back a ways."

With the coming of World War II, Buddy's family left that house. "The boat yards were working around the clock at the time, and when the war started, we had to move, because they needed the property. And with the construction people, there was a lot of welding and a lot of metal work, and it was impossible to sleep there. They would lay down these iron sheets—drop them, really—and you'd jump out of your shoes. The

property was sold to the government, and we had to move. So we went to Carroll Street, and my children are living there now."

"I didn't really work in the shipyards until World War II. Before I was drafted into the Army, I worked in one of the shops, an electrical shop. They had started doing a lot of building up here, and my job was to make wooden boxes, maybe 20 inches long and 16 inches wide, and put a series of light sockets and bulbs into them. We would hang them so the workers could work, because they were working around the clock at the time."

Buddy started his first hardware store after the end of the war. "This store was located at the corner of City Island Avenue and Carroll Street, where Magikal Realms is now. The site was at one time a food market called Olson's Market. He used to supply a lot of stuff to the boats that would pass through here. That market existed for quite a while and eventually it was sold."

As Buddy remembers it, "In 1947 or 1948, people by the name of Jenkins owned the hardware store, and they tried to get their son and another kid, Jake Lawrence, in to run it. But the kids didn't like it, and the store was closed more than it was open. My father worked for Jenkins as a carpenter foreman in the boatyards at the foot of Carroll Street, and as the hardware store closed, I said to my father, let's rent that store, and we did."

So Buddy rented the vacant store from Jenkins, and the rest is history. "There was some stuff stored there from the shipyard, and I started to bring in hardware and paints, although there was a paint store across the street from us at the time. With my father's help, I started to learn the business. And I grew into it; I really grew into the hardware business. I learned it by the seat of my pants. I worked out of a catalogue at first. People would come in and ask about stuff, so I'd open a book and look it up. They called me the catalogue boy in the beginning, but I learned the business and I stayed with it."

"My brother was a partner with me at first, but he didn't like it. As I grew into the hardware business, my brother was on the road traveling, selling books and magazines. I was still renting across the street, so I bought the property where Buddy's Hardware store is now. There was an old shack on the lot and a diner beside it, where there is now an empty lot, and eventually I bought that piece of property too. I decided to build a store, and it's still there."

Buddy has watched City Island change a lot over the years. "I would say that there were maybe 20 percent of the buildings here up until the late 1940s, when building really started to get going. There was a lot of empty land, and many houses went up. At the time I was born there were very few houses, maybe one on this block, one on the next block. And a lot of the people who lived in them owned a great deal of property. It wasn't like



the small yards of today. And at least 80 percent of the people here then weren't permanent residents. They had summer bungalows here but lived elsewhere during the year; when school closed, they would come here for the summer. When school opened, they went back to Manhattan or wherever they lived. Ultimately, the houses were converted for year-round use, and the island began to grow."

"When I first decided I was going to build a store, none of the banks would loan me money. They said City Island was a resort place and too unstable. People didn't stay there all year round, and the income wasn't enough, they said. That was early on, up until the war."

World War II changed everything. As Buddy tells it, "They built a lot of boats and tugs here during the war. All of City Island was crazy busy then. I remember, it got to a point where there were so many people coming up here to work that they had to have traffic cops here in the morning to direct the people, and they wouldn't allow you to park on a lot of streets because they needed to get the crowds in and out."

After the war there was an explosion of building. "It's amazing when you think about it," Buddy says. "They built a lot of the houses that are along the end of this street and down along the water; those houses were selling for \$15,000 at the time. It's hard to imagine. When I used to play as a kid, half the lots were full of weeds and we used to play cowboy and Indians in the weeds."

Before the war, the workers who worked at the shipyards all lived up here. "I don't believe anybody came here to work. There was a big sail loft, Ratsey and Laphorn, which was here for years and employed a lot of City Islanders. They used to do the entire sail layout here. They must have gone to some kind of government work when the war broke out, because every place up here at that time was doing construction, building boats, land-

ing barges and all kinds of stuff like that. Most of the shipyards were working around the clock, especially early on, because at that time, when Japan struck Pearl Harbor, we had nothing; we weren't prepared. The whole country just pulled together overnight and we worked on the contracts, day and night."

After the war, Buddy did what he had to do to build his hardware store into a City Island institution, expanding and adjusting his inventory to meet the changing hardware needs of an island that was evolving from a ship-building center to a residential community. He took advantage of the advent of home television by learning to repair TV sets. Buddy's TV Repair would make house calls; fixing them on the spot, if possible, and taking badly broken sets back to the store for major repairs.

Buddy Pontecorvo met his wife, Lucy, in 1956 when they were both invited to a wedding being held on City Island. Lucy was a friend and coworker of the bride, and Buddy was a friend of the groom and the best man. Lucy still remembers being impressed by the beauty of City Island. The couple has lived in a home at the end of Hawkins Street overlooking the water for over half a century and they have raised three children, Theresa, Grace and Joseph.

Buddy remains active despite his scoliosis and rheumatoid arthritis, which have worsened over the years and made his walking visibly more difficult. He participates in the Legion's Memorial Day parades and attends Civic Association meetings, even putting chairs away at the end of the evening!

Buddy eventually relinquished day-to-day management of his hardware store to others in order to enjoy his life on City Island overlooking Eastchester Bay. But the store remains "Buddy's," and the man who started it has become an Island institution in his own right.

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Organization News

News on this page concerning organizations, and events listed in, are submitted by representatives of those organizations. A limit of 150 words is requested for all news items submitted. In most cases news will be edited and every effort will be made to preserve the substance of longer items. News and calendar events must be received by no later than the 20th of each month except December and July. If the 20th falls on a holiday or Sunday, the deadline is the 19th. Mail submissions to P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464. YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER MUST BE INCLUDED.

Current Calendar

JULY

Thurs., July 24, **Pelham Cemetery Lot Owners meet**, 7:30 p.m., Leonard Hawkins Post, 550 City Island Avenue. This meeting is for lot owners only.

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

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

AUGUST

Sat., Aug. 23, **City Island Reunion**, Ambrosini Field, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sat., August 23, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: meatloaf with potatoes and vegetables.

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

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island (TBE), Your Shul by the Sea, at 480 City Island Avenue is a stimulating place for observance of Jewish traditions and is an unaffiliated, all-inclusive synagogue. Friday night Sabbath services commence promptly at 7:30 p.m. Please come at 7:15 to enjoy welcoming music as well as an opportunity to meet and greet before services begin.

Clergy-led services for the summer include:

July 11, Shabbat (Rabbi Shohama and Reb David)

July 25, Shabbat (Reb David)

Aug. 4, Tisha b'Av (Reb David)

Aug. 8, Shabbat by the Sea (Rabbi Shohama and Reb David)

Aug. 22, Shabbat (Reb David)

Sept. 5, Shabbat (Rabbi Shohama and Reb David)

On July 11, the Oneg sponsor will be Rabbi Shohama in honor of the birthday of her husband, Alan Dattner. On July 25 the Oneg sponsor will be Barbara Gold in celebration of her birthday and election to Temple board of directors.

Temple Beth El's annual Shabbat by the Sea on Aug. 8 is at the home of our generous congregants Ken Binder and Steve Roth, who provide a lovely waterside view complete with a brilliant sunset, good food and company, and, of course, Rabbi Shohama, Reb David and Your Shul by the Sea Band. Oneg sponsored by Ken Binder and Steve Roth.

Come participate with us at clergy-and congregant led services throughout the summer on every Friday evening Shabbat. We look forward to seeing you in the autumn at our free High Holy Days services Sept. 24, 25 and 26 and Oct. 3 and 4.

Welcome to Temple Beth El's new board of directors: Paul Klein, President; Ellen Ruth Topol, Vice President; Avra Tietze, Treasurer; Ken Binder, Financial Secretary; Sue Fleishaker, Trustee; Barbara Gold, Trustee, and Helaine Cutler, Trustee. The new board will join current Trustees Elaine Belasco and Robert Berent.

Temple Beth El's mission is to be of service to the community, so please let us know the ways we can help you. You can find out more about us by visiting our website and attending our cultural events, as well as Shabbat and holiday services.

Help our website grow. We are now including weekly Torah teachings by Rabbi Shohama and our associate spiritual direc-

tor Reb David, event listings, our calendar and more. Follow our weekly blog and share our web presence with friends on Facebook and beyond! Visit www.yourshul-bythesea.org.

Ellen Ruth Topol

The Rotary Club of the Bronx

The Club thanks all those who donated prom dresses, suits and/or accessories for the children of P.S. 811x, a special school in the Bronx for children with severe physical and mental developmental disabilities, such as autism. Parent coordinator Miriam Luciano told us that the kids were "screaming with excitement" over their prom finery, and she wants donors to know that their gifts were touching and deeply appreciated by parents and staff as well.

Ms. Luciano also said that because their children are mainly from single parent, low-income families, it takes a lot of fundraising to make the prom happen. As a result, they will start again immediately after this year's prom. So, graduates, if you will never wear that dress or suit again, please think about donating it to these kids, who will be so grateful for your gift.

On June 26, 2014, the Club held its annual President's/Paul Harris Dinner Dance at Marina Del Rey.

Paul Harris Fellows, the highest honor awarded in Rotary, were given to eight Club members including Islander Marguerite Chadwick-Juner.

Richard Sherman was inducted as the President for the new Rotary year and charitable grants were given to R.A.I.N. Senior Services, Bronx YMCA and Sisters, Servants of Mary.

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

Trinity United Methodist Church

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

On Sunday, June 8, the Trinity Sunday School conducted the worship service, followed by a special coffee hour. The kids concluded their collection for Imagine No Malaria, a United Methodist Church effort to prevent malaria in Africa, at the end of the effort they collected over \$380.

The Budget Corner is open, but only for a few more days! The church would like to thank all of those who generously gave of their time keeping the shop open and gleaning all the donations. As always, Trinity United Methodist Church is thankful for the City Island community's continued support of the Budget Corner.

Rick DeWitt



Photo by RICK DEWITT

On Sunday June 8, 2014, the young people of Trinity United Methodist Church celebrated Pentecost with the congregation by designing and presenting the entire worship service. Highlights included a dramatic reading from Acts, chapter 2, with Anthony Zeppieri as narrator, meditations by George Melicharek and Alice Jung, and a solo by Laci Howard. This was a meaningful way for the youth to demonstrate their talents and what they have learned in Sunday School and real life, all while worshipping God. Collecting the offering (left to right): Nicholas Zeppieri, Laci Howard, Vienna Zeppieri, Anthony Zeppieri.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

Our Thrift Shop will be closed during July and August and will open again in the fall. Watch for our opening date!

On Friday, Aug. 15, we will celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven. This is a holy day of obligation, and we encourage everyone to join us at one of our Masses that day. These are scheduled for 7 and 8:00 a.m., 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

We will definitely have a Religious Education Program next year, and registration forms have been sent to all students who were enrolled in our program last year. Forms for new students, first-graders and others can be found on the table in the back of the church. It is especially important this year to have an early count on enrollment, so please return the forms as soon as possible.

Have a safe and pleasant summer.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #156

We would like to remind all members that 2014 dues are now past due. The amount is \$30 and can be mailed or dropped off to the Post and placed in the SAL box.

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

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

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

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Grace Episcopal Church

Located at 116 City Island Avenue, Grace Church is a historic Episcopal parish, which has served the nautical community of City Island for over 160 years. We welcome you!

Worship Schedule: Holy Communion Rite II, Sundays at 10 a.m.

Eileen Marcus

City Island Republicans

Every second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. is the Republican County meeting, which is open to the public.

We want to thank everyone for signing the annual petitions to help qualify the county and to get everyone onto the ballot.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Overeaters Anonymous:

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

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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.

Did you know that City Island Community Center members can rent our big room for parties and events at a very reasonable rate? We are grateful to have about 100 members but wish we had more. Annual membership is \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Please consider joining and think about volunteering. We need your help and support.

To join the Center or for up-to-date information visit www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org, call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook!

Your Community Center strives to be a welcoming and safe place for meeting, celebrating, creating, teaching and learning, and promoting awareness for the common good of all. The Center is run by a volunteer board of directors who meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Center's main room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend this open meeting.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer Concerts in Hawkins Street Park: The concerts will be held on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. for fun and fundraising to benefit the City Island Community Center. Sponsored by AER Property Management and other local businesses and organizations. (We are still looking for volunteer performers, including poets, musicians, dancers, actors and volunteers to assist with the events. Call us at 718-885-1145.)

Spruce Up Our Community Center:

Saturday, July 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please come to help us repair, touch up and tidy up our Center. "Many hands make light work."

PROGRAMS

On Hold for July and August: Irish Dance, Chair Yoga, Parenting Discussion with John Scardina, Jill's Playgroup, Children's Art Classes, Awareness: Drugs and City Island Young People, Family Bingo Nights, Monthly Teen Dances.

NEW PROGRAMS

Summer Camp for Children: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Daily activities include arts and crafts, a park trip/play time at center with breakfast and snacks provided by Gabrielle. Parents provide lunch. For more information, call Gabby at 646-599-1223 or email gpirraglia719@gmail.com. Gabrielle will also offer an after-school program for children Monday through Friday from 2:30 to 7 p.m.

Francesca's Shamanic Drumming Ceremony and Ritual will take you to a place of self discovery and healing. Francesca Vitale Rev. RPP. CRE, Certified Polarity/CS, is a shamanic healer of the soul. Her goal is to heal and help a person feel whole again through spiritual journeying. Journeying is the ability to travel to different places and gain healing energy from different spirits. Please bring a blanket, drums and shakers if you have them to the sessions on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. For information, contact Francesca at 914-837-6830, 914-668-0807 or www.TheeVitalForcefoundation.org.

Weekly Schedule

ADULT PROGRAM

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

Belly Dance/Shimmy by the Sea with

Kristin, aka Gypsy Curves, Sundays at 3 p.m. \$20 per class; the sixth class is free. Call Kristin Amezcuita at 646-625-1575 for information.

Chess Club: Meets each Thursday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid T.V. Have fun. Call Bill at 718-541-3995.

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

Weight Watchers Meetings: Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with Debbie. Join us any time, and we can do this together. It's a great supportive group! For more information call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Yoga with Jo Ann: Mondays, from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. \$10. Gentle, level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and, if possible, a yoga blanket. For more information, call Jo Ann at 917-853-4719 or email

Zumba with Julia: Want to lose that belly fat? Well here is your chance to Zumba with Julia. It's a high-energy Zumba workout for an hour. Saturdays from 10 a.m. \$10 per class. For questions, call 917-601-5514.

Zumba with Letti: Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Letti's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. Classes are \$10. Call Patty at 718-885-1891 for more information.

Patty Grondahl

American Legion Post #156

American Legion Post #156 held its annual elections. Frank Figueroa and Michael Jawski were added to the executive committee. John Muhlfeld was elected the new Commander.

Memorial Day was a huge success, the best attended in years. We would like to thank all of those who participated. Thanks to the flag committee who have put up the flags on the poles throughout the years. Thanks to News 12 for its annual coverage of the parade. We appreciate the elected officials who took time out of their busy schedules to march. We received great support from the Police Department, which provided traffic control. We are grateful to Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., who not only marched but also provided the Bronx Trolley for veterans who could not march. Fernando Garcia, driver of Bronx Trolley, was cordial and went out of his way to accommodate everyone. A thank-you also to Hausman Plumbing for making sure the commodes were in full working order for the big day. Thanks to Judy Rauh for the flag-inspired umbrella.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 21, at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, July 26, at 7 p.m. there will be a night filled with music at a Post fundraiser in the parking lot. Thanks to Dianne O'Sullivan for her hard work in putting it together.

The VA accepts clothing donations for our veterans. Donations can be dropped off at the Post or brought over to the fourth floor of the VA hospital in Kingsbridge. Female

clothing is especially needed. The Post is not accepting book donations at this time.

We are now on the web. Our new website is Post156.com.

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

All retired flags should be dropped off at the Post in the mailbox by the flagpole.

Larry Lane is on sick call. He is recovering from additional surgery.

John Muhlfeld

PSS City Island Senior Center

Presbyterian Senior Services (PSS) enhances the quality of life for older adults, caregivers and families by providing information, services and support. Our goal is to promote the independence of the elderly by helping them remain healthy, engaged and connected. We are not your everyday senior center!

All programs, classes and services are available to anyone 60 and over. Morning activities include the fitness program listed below. In the afternoon we offer an individualized computer class, acrylic painting classes, calligraphy, line dancing, movies and more. Health and nutrition talks are also available each month.

The center is located at 116 City Island Avenue in Grace Church Hall and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 to receive a detailed monthly calendar featuring trips, events and activities. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services and the NYC Department for the Aging.

Special August activity: Mark your calendars! Wednesday, Aug. 27, Health Fair: Flu and Pneumonia shots, BMI, balance testing, memory testing, reflexology and more. Special lunch 12 to 1 p.m.

Physical Exercise

The exercise program offers classes at various levels of fitness. Drop in and try one of our classes for yourself. Cardio Fitness: Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m.; Yoga Stretch: Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m.; Rhythm and Drums: Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.; Zumba: Thursdays at 9:15 a.m.; Line Dancing Thursdays at 12:30; Fit for Life: Fridays at 9 a.m.; Arthritis Workshop: Fridays at 10:15 a.m. The Yoga Stretch, Rhythm and Drums, Line Dancing and Arthritis workshop classes are free. The suggested donation for all other exercise classes is \$3 each.

Volunteering

We are grateful for our current volunteers, but new volunteers are always welcome to help make this senior center the best for our seaside community. We can always use extra help at our front desk, for serving lunch and for our parties and special events.

Information, Referrals and Assistance

Regarding benefits applicable to seniors, we are more than happy to provide information, referrals and assistance in filling out forms and applying for certain programs. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the center.

Caregivers Support

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

Transportation Services

Call Anthony Mazzella at 347-834-6466 for morning Island trips and pickup for exercise programs or lunch. Afternoon shopping trips include Shop Rite, Bay Plaza, Stop & Shop, Target, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-Island. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services.

Patty Attis

The City Island Poem
Sanctuary
 You know you are home
 as you climb the bridge rise,
 temperature falling,
 an earthy whiff of a
 salty ebb tide.
 City Island...
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Story-Telling

Beginning in 1924, there have been no fewer than a dozen renditions of **Peter Pan**, the tale of a boy who refuses to grow up. He visits the nursery of the Darling family; and the children—Wendy, John and Michael—fly away with him to Neverland, accompanied by a tiny fairy, Tinkerbell. There Wendy tells stories to the Lost Boys, when they are not off fighting with Captain Hook and his band of pirates. The 1953 classic version starring Mary Martin as Peter Pan is THE choice of the Baby-Boomer generation. There is also the 1991 Spielberg version called **Hook**. For those interested in the background of the author, **Finding Neverland** (2004) tells of J. M. Barrie and his relationship with the family that inspired this classic children's tale.

Out of Africa (1985) won seven Academy Awards including Best Picture and Director. It stars Meryl Streep as Danish author Isak Dinesen, who in 1914 married Baron Bor Blixen-Flecke (Klaus Maria Brandauer), and moves to a plantation in Nairobi. When her husband leaves to drink and be with other women, Karen falls passionately in love with a free-spirited big-game hunter, Denys Finch-Hatton (Robert Redford). She beguiles Denys and his friend Berkley Cole (Michael Kitchen) with her wonderful knack for storytelling. Although the acting is terrific, the star of the film are the sumptuous cinematography and the score.

A classic story-telling film is the delightful comedy-fantasy-adventure **The Princess Bride** (1987). When a grandfather (Peter Falk) reads a book to his sick grandson (Fred Savage), the characters come to life. The beautiful Buttercup (Robin Wright) falls in love with a peasant boy named Westley (Cary Elwes), who goes away to make his fortune. Several years later, when he is reported as dead, Buttercup agrees to marry the evil Prince Humperdink (Chris Sarandon). The story features Christopher Guest as the evil Count Rugen; Mandy Patinkin as Inigo Montoya, sworn to avenge his father's death; Andre the Giant as Fessik, Montoya's companion; Wallace Shawn as Vizzini, hired by Humperdink to kidnap Princess Buttercup; and Billy Crystal and Carol Kane as Miracle Max and his wife who agree to help humiliate the prince. Perhaps the funniest scene in the movie is when Buttercup and Humperdink are being married by the inimitable Peter Cook as the Impressive Clergyman. This is a perfect family film.

Johnny Depp stars in the title role in **Don Juan DeMarco** (1994), as an ostensibly delusional individual who is convinced he is Don Juan, the fabled Spanish nobleman and world-renowned seducer and lover of women. After an apparent suicide attempt, he is being treated by Dr. Jack Mickler (Marlon Brando), who must defy the skepticism of the psychiatric facility's staff. However, everyone Don Juan encounters becomes captivated by the young man's exotic world of love, passion and pleasure as he recounts his story to them. Not only is Don Juan helped by Dr. Mickler, but the doctor's passionless relationship with his wife, Marilyn (Faye Dunaway), is rekindled.

Smoke Signals (1998) is set on Idaho's desolate Coeur d'Alene Indian reservation, where nerdy adult Thomas (Evan Adams), who loves to tell stories in the way of a sha-

man, lives with his grandmother (Monique Mojica). When the father (Gary Arnold) of stoic athlete Victor Joseph (Adam Beach) dies in Phoenix, Thomas offers to pay for the trip if he can accompany Victor. Victor agrees but reluctantly because he finds Thomas's stories very annoying. The odd pair travels by bus to Arnold's small trailer in the desert, where they meet Arnold's friend Suzy Song (Irene Bedard), who provides unsettling truths about him.

Limbo (1999) set in Juneau, Alaska, recounts the story of Joe Gastineau (David Strathairn), who was involved in a fishing boat accident that took place when he was young and has affected his entire existence ever since. His life begins to change when he meets free-spirit lounge singer Donna De Angelo (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio) and her teenage daughter, Noelle (Vanessa Martinez). When Joe's brother Bobby (Casey Siemaszko) shows up, he arrives with a scheme that puts them all in danger. The family goes into hiding and is kept sane by Noelle's storytelling. This is a film with an interesting twist.

Set in 1960s Texas, **Secondhand Lions** (2003) is a coming-of-age story about shy and introverted Walter Caldwell (Haley Joel Osment), whose irresponsible man-crazy mother, Mae (Kyra Sedgwick), drops him off to spend the summer on the Texas farm of his eccentric great-uncles Hub (Robert Duvall) and Garth (Michael Caine). Shocked that they don't have a TV, Walter starts asking these old curmudgeons questions about their past. They begin to regale him with fantastical stories, such as fighting for the Foreign Legion and Hub's love affair with a sultan's daughter. We see the stories through Walter's imagination, which take on a cartoon-like affect, and make the viewer wonder at the veracity of the stories. This is a wonderful film the entire family can enjoy.

A surprisingly clever and delightful film is **Stranger than Fiction** (2006). When IRS auditor Harold Crick (Will Ferrell) starts hearing a voice in his head, it eventually becomes clear that his mind is somehow channeling the efforts of writer Karen Eiffel (Emma Thompson) to tell a story in which he is the main character. To Harold's horror, in the story she is about to kill him. He seeks the assistance of Professor Jules Hilbert (Dustin Hoffman) in locating Karen. The supporting cast also includes Queen Latifah as Penny Escher, who is assigned by the publisher to help Karen through writer's block; and Maggie Gyllenhaal as Anna Pascal, a baker with whom Harold has become infatuated.

Set in World War II, **The Reader** (2008) stars Kate Winslet, in her Best Actress Oscar-winning role as Hanna Schmitz, a woman in her mid-30s who forms a romantic and sexual attachment to a 15-year-old boy, Michael (David Kross). She loves to have him read to her. Eight years later, after she has disappeared from his life, Michael is in law school. He has been selected by his professor to be among a chosen few to attend a real-life trial of Nazi prison guards. He encounters Hanna in the courtroom, which changes both his

life and hers. Much of the film is told as flashbacks of the adult Michael (Ralph Fiennes). Ultimately he performs an unexpected act of supreme kindness for Hanna, which involves story-telling of an unusual kind.

The Book Thief (2013), also set in World War II, concerns the life of Liesel (Sophie Nélisse), a young girl taken in by the Hubermanns, a childless couple. While Hans (Geoffrey Rush) is kindly and gentle, his wife, Rosa (Emily Watson), seems cold and bad-tempered. Liesel is taught to read by Hans, and starts to "borrow" books from Ilsa Hermann (Barbara Auer), the mayor's wife. This worries her new best friend, Rudy Steiner (Nico Liersch). When the Hubermanns take in a Jewish refugee, Max Vandenburg (Ben Schnetzer), Liesel reads stories to him to pass the time while he is seriously ill. Max encourages her to write her own stories, which she winds up telling in an air raid shelter to calm the families waiting out the night. The film is shown through the innocence of a child's eyes, and somehow humanizes the German people who are just living their lives without the hindsight of history.

Enjoy your summer, and until next time, happy viewing. . .



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Photos by RICK DeWITT
A number of City Islanders joined the crowd at the Jennifer Lopez concert at Orchard Beach, including Lisa and Arianna Rodriguez (top photo above). Another group of City Islanders stopped by the Teach America booth at the concert before J-Lo took the stage (top left); Dusty Prohaska, Anita Beqiraj, Michael Proietti, Brenda Prohaska and Michele Branley



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J-Lo
Continued from page 1

By the time Ms. Lopez took the stage under clear skies at 8:30 p.m., the parking lot was about 60 percent full and the well-patrolled crowd was ready to cheer the singer's first concert in her hometown. She performed for 90 minutes and sang many of her best-known hits, including "Love Don't Cost a Thing," "Dance Again," "Waiting for Tonight" and "Let's Get Loud." Known as a fashionista, she shed layers of her colorful costumes as the evening progressed.

To the delight of her fans, she was joined by special guests Ja Rule for "Ain't It Funny/I'm Real," Fat Jo for "Lean Back" and French Montana for "I Luh Ya Papi." Surprisingly, Ms. Lopez threw in her own versions of some standards, including "My Man," the Barbra Streisand hit from the movie "Funny Girl," and "Do You Know Where You're Going To," the Diana Ross hit from the movie "Mahogany."

As an encore, she performed "Jenny from the Block," her hit song about her Bronx roots. Ms. Lopez grew up in the Castle Hill section of the borough and attended Preston High School in Throggs Neck, as did her sister Lynda Lopez, a radio and television journalist.

Despite Islander concerns about the negative impact of the concert, some residents were able to snag tickets and had a great time. Islander Michele Immediato walked over to Orchard Beach with her friend Christina Rossi and told *The Current*, "The concert was terrific. No problems getting in and everything ran smoothly." Michele spotted herself on Fox 5 News the next day during their coverage of the event.

At least two local restaurants benefitted from the event. Islanders Richie Pena and Anthony Delillis of Filomena's Pizza supplied pizzas, hero sandwiches and trays of pasta for the crew and stagehands before the show began. "They even gave us tickets for the show, so I was able to catch her performance," Mr. Pena told *The Current*. "It was great. There was no traffic, no rowdy people, and they were really nice to our delivery person when he brought all the food over to the stage area."

In addition, after the concert, Ms. Lopez attended a party for her performers and crew at Don Coqui's restaurant on City Island Avenue.

Lt. Trapani summed up the event this way: "The planning and amount of resources dedicated to the event paid off. It was more controlled than a sold-out Yankees game. There were no arrests, no summonses issued and the crowd was well behaved. By midnight, everyone had gone home and the police detail was dismissed."

He also credited Lt. John Donnellan of the Bronx Borough Patrol, Captain James McGeown, who patrolled the site the entire day, and all the officers from the 45th Precinct who worked hard to keep traffic moving and the crowds orderly.

Although there are rumors circulating about additional concerts at Orchard Beach by different artists, Lt. Trapani said he has not heard of any plans for more events this year.

IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY



Photos by MARY COLBY

Hydrangeas flourish in a garden on Tier Street (top photo) and a profusion of lilacs blooms on Carroll Street.

OUT AND ABOUT ON CITY ISLAND

One evening my daughter paid me a visit, and we decided to take a walking tour of beautiful City Island. On our way we had the pleasure of seeing and visiting some of the gardens of our neighbors. On Carroll Street there was a lovely display of purple and plum lilacs mixed with the lavender trusses of wisteria. We admired the pretty white kalmia on Minneford, twinkling like stars, and a stand of Japanese iris planted in a sidewalk garden of, I think, Cross Street.

Red, red roses smothered a trellis on Hawkins, and across from Artie's Restaurant I was surprised to see that great rose Sally Holmes in the corner pocket of the corner house. On Tier Street, there are grand copper beech trees standing sentinel by the water's edge, a climbing hydrangea brimming over a stone wall and a charming, intimate vegetable garden, where the gardener herself offered me its bounty.

A grapevine at Jerry's liquor store will be clambering up a new support, which I thought was a clever advertisement, and King Avenue has a newly installed meadow, which in its newness is full of promise.

The whole Island was in flower! There is a garden on Rochelle Street that is very beautiful and mysterious; its gate is flanked by two cedars of Lebanon that make the house look for all the world like a set for a Eugene O'Neill play. Pass through them and you are in Japan in a bamboo forest. I would love to steal away here when no one is home and listen to the birds and think of the Buddha.

On returning from our walk, we dined at the Black Whale, with its renewed wisteria vine on the climb. A baby willow, which replaced the old geezer that was struck twice by lightning, is in the back garden. The garden here seems old and secretive, just as I remember it when it was young and so was I.

A loud round of applause to the Garden Club of City Island, which makes the park an Eden and the planter boxes lovely. The Parks Department deserves a huge thank you as well; the island beds that are



planted for succession are stunning, as is all of Pelham Bay Park.

Bartow-Pell Mansion is a place of repose. Walk along the path by the lagoon and see all our native plants in flower. Visit the beautiful formal gardens and herbary. The sun is setting on King Avenue as we drive home, and the old plane trees are casting their shadows long. As I look up I think: isn't it wonderful that the electric company has passed these amazing trees by? I'm sure it was intentional, for someone had to notice their magnificence and stayed the saws.

The Island tonight feels like a sought-after place, far away, peaceful and green. And it is!

In July the phlox are blooming, the rudbeckias, heleniums and verbascums too. For those with dry, free draining conditions, the tree poppy Romneya Couteri is a July showstopper. See it in the perennial garden at the New York Botanical Garden. Try the stunning hydrangea paniculata limelight; its blossoms are like clouds and look great with grasses. Gaps do occur with plants that have finished blooming, so beef up the color by planting dahlias. Treat them like tomatoes, with copious amounts of water and a lot of Miracle Gro. As you continue to pick those wicked weeds, enjoy the summer, sun, sea, and good friends gathered.

Mary Colby is available for consultation and for designing gardens. Call 917-804-4509.

Let's Be Safe On-Line This Summer!

By JOHN SCARDINA

Now that the summer months are approaching, our children will be spending more time on their electronic devices—phone, tablets, computers and game platforms like X-Box and Wii. This is a good time to set up a family contract about online safety and behavior, and here is a sample parent/child contract (adapted from www.safekids.com) that you might consider:

- I will be considerate of others and not use my phone/device to play, text or talk when it may disturb others or at inappropriate times or places, such as in class or in theaters.
- I will not touch or look at my phone/device when it's dangerous to do so, such as riding a bike or walking.
- I will develop good habits for sleep, schoolwork and other important activities by putting my phone/device away or in its home base.
- I will ignore texts or messages from people I don't know.
- I will only use apps that share my location with family or personal friends I know from the real world.
- I will respect my own and other people's privacy in messages and pictures that I share.
- I will never share any images that could embarrass me or others or get anyone in trouble.
- I will take care of my phone/device and will let my parents know right away if it is damaged, lost or stolen.
- I will tell my parents or teacher right away if something online or on my phone/device scares or upsets me.
- I will always treat others respectfully and kindly in what I post, what I

text, and how I interact socially.

Here are some other points to consider:

1. Texting, chatting and messaging are not limited to cell phones. iTouch and iPad devices can text through the Messages app if configured to do so with an Apple ID, or by using a free texting app. Also, many online games and gaming systems allow messaging or chatting, for example, Minecraft and Club Penguin. Please talk to your children about all of the places where they might be able to interact in real time with people they know and may not know.
2. I highly recommend that parents establish a "home base" for electronics in the home that is not in children's bedrooms. A spot in the kitchen, family room or another public space where devices go every night to charge and take a break. Establishing this habit now is a lot easier than breaking it later.
3. Although younger students might mention services like Facebook and Instagram, please remember these are restricted to those 13 and over. This is a result of the Children's Internet Protection Act, which was enacted to protect young children, and that is the reason most internet sites that require a login are off limits to children under 13.

The goal, of course, is threefold: be safe, be respectful and have fun.

City Islander John Scardina is a school psychologist, child development specialist and parent educator. Join him for monthly parenting discussions at the City Island Community Center and visit his website at www.ThinkLaughLearn.com.



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

JULY 2014									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Tue	0208	7.51	0828	0.58	1439	7.32	2037	0.95	Tue 01
02 Wed	0241	7.41	0859	0.64	1510	7.37	2117	1.00	Wed 02
03 Thu	0320	7.29	0938	0.71	1549	7.42	2203	1.06	Thu 03
04 Fri	0405	7.14	1022	0.80	1633	7.47	2253	1.11	Fri 04
05 Sat	0454	6.99	1110	0.88	1722	7.53	2346	1.10	Sat 05
06 Sun	0548	6.87	1201	0.93	1815	7.62			Sun 06
07 Mon	0045	1.01	0646	6.83	1257	0.91	1911	7.78	Mon 07
08 Tue	0151	0.81	0748	6.90	1356	0.80	2009	8.00	Tue 08
09 Wed	0304	0.47	0851	7.10	1459	0.60	2108	8.26	Wed 09
10 Thu	0414	0.04	0953	7.39	1603	0.30	2206	8.52	Thu 10
11 Fri	0514	-0.39	1051	7.71	1707	-0.02	2302	8.73	Fri 11
12 Sat	0608	-0.75	1146	8.01	1808	-0.30	2357	8.83	Sat 12
13 Sun	0700	-0.99	1240	8.23	1907	-0.49			Sun 13
14 Mon	0052	8.79	0751	-1.06	1334	8.35	2006	-0.55	Mon 14
15 Tue	0148	8.60	0844	-0.96	1430	8.34	2107	-0.48	Tue 15
16 Wed	0248	8.27	0939	-0.73	1530	8.23	2212	-0.32	Wed 16
17 Thu	0354	7.87	1038	-0.40	1637	8.08	2318	-0.13	Thu 17
18 Fri	0509	7.49	1140	-0.05	1747	7.94			Fri 18
19 Sat	0025	0.02	0622	7.23	1244	0.24	1854	7.88	Sat 19
20 Sun	0129	0.08	0728	7.12	1346	0.42	1956	7.90	Sun 20
21 Mon	0230	0.07	0829	7.13	1446	0.51	2054	7.97	Mon 21
22 Tue	0327	0.01	0925	7.23	1541	0.52	2147	8.06	Tue 22
23 Wed	0419	-0.06	1016	7.36	1631	0.50	2236	8.13	Wed 23
24 Thu	0507	-0.08	1104	7.49	1718	0.49	2322	8.14	Thu 24
25 Fri	0551	-0.05	1148	7.58	1800	0.52			Fri 25
26 Sat	0003	8.09	0631	0.05	1228	7.61	1837	0.58	Sat 26
27 Sun	0040	7.97	0706	0.20	1304	7.59	1907	0.67	Sun 27
28 Mon	0109	7.82	0732	0.37	1330	7.54	1921	0.72	Mon 28
29 Tue	0120	7.69	0739	0.48	1338	7.54	1936	0.70	Tue 29
30 Wed	0137	7.64	0753	0.47	1358	7.63	2008	0.67	Wed 30
31 Thu	0209	7.60	0825	0.47	1431	7.73	2047	0.68	Thu 31
AUGUST 2014									
01 Fri	0247	7.52	0903	0.51	1510	7.80	2130	0.74	Fri 01
02 Sat	0331	7.39	0947	0.61	1554	7.84	2218	0.83	Sat 02
03 Sun	0419	7.23	1035	0.74	1643	7.84	2311	0.91	Sun 03
04 Mon	0513	7.07	1127	0.87	1737	7.84			Mon 04
05 Tue	0010	0.94	0612	6.98	1224	0.94	1836	7.87	Tue 05
06 Wed	0117	0.85	0716	7.01	1328	0.89	1940	7.99	Wed 06
07 Thu	0240	0.58	0826	7.21	1439	0.68	2047	8.20	Thu 07
08 Fri	0359	0.13	0935	7.56	1556	0.30	2152	8.45	Fri 08
09 Sat	0500	-0.36	1039	7.96	1706	-0.16	2254	8.69	Sat 09
10 Sun	0554	-0.77	1135	8.33	1807	-0.57	2352	8.82	Sun 10
11 Mon	0644	-1.03	1228	8.59	1903	-0.83			Mon 11
12 Tue	0047	8.80	0734	-1.11	1320	8.70	1958	-0.92	Tue 12
13 Wed	0141	8.62	0824	-0.99	1412	8.65	2054	-0.81	Wed 13
14 Thu	0238	8.30	0916	-0.69	1508	8.46	2153	-0.55	Thu 14
15 Fri	0339	7.89	1011	-0.28	1610	8.19	2255	-0.20	Fri 15
16 Sat	0447	7.49	1112	0.17	1718	7.93	2359	0.12	Sat 16
17 Sun	0556	7.20	1216	0.56	1826	7.75			Sun 17
18 Mon	0103	0.35	0702	7.07	1319	0.81	1930	7.70	Mon 18
19 Tue	0203	0.47	0803	7.10	1420	0.91	2029	7.76	Tue 19
20 Wed	0300	0.47	0900	7.25	1516	0.89	2124	7.87	Wed 20
21 Thu	0352	0.42	0951	7.44	1607	0.80	2213	7.98	Thu 21
22 Fri	0439	0.37	1038	7.63	1653	0.70	2258	8.05	Fri 22
23 Sat	0522	0.34	1121	7.76	1734	0.62	2339	8.05	Sat 23
24 Sun	0601	0.36	1200	7.82	1811	0.58			Sun 24
25 Mon	0015	7.97	0633	0.42	1233	7.81	1840	0.57	Mon 25
26 Tue	0042	7.85	0655	0.49	1252	7.78	1854	0.54	Tue 26
27 Wed	0050	7.76	0659	0.49	1257	7.84	1910	0.46	Wed 27
28 Thu	0108	7.75	0720	0.43	1322	7.98	1941	0.39	Thu 28
29 Fri	0140	7.75	0754	0.40	1356	8.10	2019	0.40	Fri 29
30 Sat	0218	7.69	0833	0.46	1437	8.16	2102	0.48	Sat 30
31 Sun	0302	7.57	0917	0.59	1522	8.14	2150	0.63	Sun 31
SEPTEMBER 2014									
01 Mon	0351	7.40	1006	0.77	1612	8.05	2243	0.80	Mon 01
02 Tue	0445	7.23	1100	0.96	1708	7.92	2343	0.93	Tue 02
03 Wed	0546	7.11	1200	1.07	1810	7.83			Wed 03
04 Thu	0055	0.92	0655	7.14	1311	1.03	1920	7.85	Thu 04



Photo by ROBIN BREEN ACOCELLA

The Happy Hookers Fishing Club honored the memory of member Kenny Henry, who passed away in November 2013, with a memorial plaque in front of a beautiful blue spruce tree (planted in his memory in December) at the entrance to the dock of the Morris Yacht and Beach Club on Saturday, May 31, 2014. Attending the ceremony were Ken's daughter Cathy (on the left) with Lea Acocella, and his widow, June Henry, at the right.



A REGISTER OF THE CHAMPION TREES OF CITY ISLAND?

When our neighbor Regina recently brought the concept of "champion trees" to our attention, we did what comes naturally to us these days: we hurried to the internet to find out more. Here is what we learned. In 1940 forester Joseph Sterns, writing for "American Forests" magazine, made the case that Americans should be doing more to protect not only their historic trees, but also their biggest trees. And so was born the National Register of Big Trees.

The Register is updated twice a year in the spring and fall and is published once a year. This year's edition includes a trio of champions from Long Island: two alder trees in Huntington (co-champions, actually, since 2005) and a northern bayberry in Nassau County. Anyone can nominate a tree. What is needed are the following three measurements: trunk circumference (in inches), height (in feet) and average crown spread (in feet). The measurements are then added together to give a point total that can be submitted to "American Forests." Photographs are required with each submission and there are deadlines: March 15 for the spring update and Sept. 15 for the fall. To learn more about how to measure a tree, check out www.americanforests.org/bigtrees.

Further investigation of this subject revealed that registers are also being kept by state, including our own. It gave us the idea of a Champion Trees of City Island register, for which we would like to nominate the first specimen. It is the American elm at the intersection of Fordham Street and William Avenue. This is a magnificent example, standing tall in all its glory in defiance, it would seem, of the dreaded Dutch Elm disease that has felled so many of its brother and sister elms. If you have a specimen you would like to nominate for the new register, send us an email at jdsstrat@msn.com.

Before signing off for the summer, we could not help but take note of the spider mites. They seemed to be everywhere this spring. It was a relief to learn that they are harmless to people, but apparently that is not always the case for plants. Spider mites are the tiny red spiders that you see this time of year. They reproduce like nobody's business—about one new generation every week!—and they do so, usually hidden from view, on the underside of a leaf. They don't like water, so if you have concerns about their numbers, spend a little extra time spraying the plants in your garden from below as well as above.

Have a great summer!

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Bartow-Pell Events

Yoga in the Orangerie takes place on Fridays, June 27, July 11 and 25, Aug. 1, from 7 to 8:15 a.m. Enjoy this early morning summer yoga mini-series with instructor Ann Casapini in the museum's Orangerie. Each of the four classes will focus on a different aspect of yoga. Class size limited to 12. Registration requested at 718-885-1461 or via email at info@bpmm.org. Cost for series \$72 non-members, \$60 members, \$22 drop-ins.

Movies at the Mansion: "Les Vacances de M. Hulot" (M. Hulot's Holiday), 1953, will be shown on Thursday, July 10, at 7 p.m. The incomparable Jacques Tati starred in and directed this zany classic about a bumbling pipe-smoking Frenchman on a 1950s beach vacation. A perfect summertime flick to watch at the mansion. Registration requested at 718-885-1461 or via email at info@bpmm.org. Cost \$10 adults; \$8 seniors, students and members.

BPMM Adventures: Summer Sessions I, II, III. Monday through Friday: July 14-18, July 21-25, and July 28-Aug. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Why spend summer days indoors at your house when you can spend them outdoors at ours? Children entering grades 1 through 6 are invited to spend a week in the Children's Garden at Historic Bartow-Pell having fun and learning about ecology, sustainability, and local history. This unique program mixes core activities in the organic garden with exploration of the 19th-century mansion and the Northeast Woodlands Native American wigwam. Also up: engaging crafts, creative cooking, Urban Park Ranger hikes, and more. Cost \$160 per child; members \$130 per child. Scholarships available. Registration and pre-payment required. Call 718-885-1461 or email info@bpmm.org for more details and registrations forms.

First Friday! Music & Trolley, Friday, Aug. 1, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. In partnership with the Bronx Music Heritage Center, BPMM presents Stephen Sylvester & the Anthem Reggae Band. Enjoy the music, explore the museum, stroll the garden and savor light refreshments. The trolley makes a continuous loop from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested at 718-885-1461 or via email at info@bpmm.org. Cost \$10 adults, \$8 seniors and students; members free.

Shutter Shop on Shore Road Volunteer Restoration Workshop will take place from Monday, Aug. 4, through Friday, Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The 1840s

Greek Revival Bartow mansion features interior window shutters—sadly in need of repair—that help protect from summer's sun and winter's chill. Workshop participants will learn how to safely remove lead paint, prepare and paint wood surfaces, make repairs and more under the guidance of preservation/restoration specialists. Workshop offered in partnership with Historic House Trust of NYC and Preservation Volunteers. Lunch is provided with tours of the mansion and speakers. Participants must be 18 or over. Call 718-885-1461 or info@bpmm.org for more information. Registration required. Cost: \$295 (covers snacks, lunch and in-

surance).

Bach in the Garden, Thursday, Aug. 14, at 7 p.m. The ensemble Basis presents an evening serenade of Johann Sebastian Bach's dazzling chamber music in Bartow-Pell's beautiful formal garden. Enjoy a glass of wine as the sun sets, accompanied by Bach works for flute, violin and bassoon. Registration requested at 718-885-1461 or via email at info@bpmm.org. Cost \$20; members \$15.

One of the best ways to take advantage of all these offerings—and support the museum—is to become a member. As part of the ongoing 100-year celebration, the Conservancy is offering a special

centennial membership for new members only: Enjoy all the benefits of a Heritage Membership, \$180, for only \$100. For more information about membership or any of our upcoming events visit www.bpmm.org, call 718-885-1461, or email info@bpmm.org for more information.

In the meantime, enjoy a visit to the museum and garden this summer. The museum is located at 895 Shore Road in Pelham Bay Park and is open for tours on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The gardens and grounds are open daily from 8:30 a.m. to dusk. For more information about Bartow-Pell, visit www.bpmm.org.

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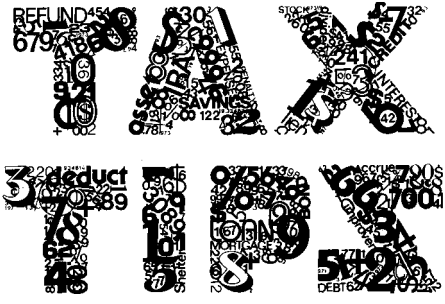
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The Latest IRS Scam

If you receive a call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, do not be alarmed or intimidated, and do not provide any personal information whatsoever.

People have recently been receiving aggressive phone calls from individuals claiming to be IRS agents and asserting that there is tax money owed for past tax years. The caller then threatens that if the matter isn't taken care of immediately, the taxpayer will be arrested.

This is a scam! Do not cooperate!

The IRS always sends taxpayers a written notification of any taxes due via the U.S. mail, and agents will never ask for a credit card or debit card over the telephone. They will not tell you that their coming over to pick up the payment, nor do they ever ask for cash to be sent to them direct-

ly. The IRS also does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information.

The IRS has a list of other characteristics of this scam on their website (www.irs.gov). They include the following:

Scammers use fake names and IRS badge numbers. They generally use common names and surnames to identify themselves.

Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of a victim's Social Security number.

Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear that it's the IRS calling.

Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to some victims to support their bogus calls.

Victims hear background noise of other calls being conducted to mimic a call site.

After threatening victims with jail time or driver's license revocation, scammers hang up and others soon call back pretending to be from the local police or DMV, and the caller ID supports their claim.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, this is what the IRS advises:

If you know you owe taxes or you think you might owe taxes, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. IRS employees at that line can help you with a payment issue, if there really is one.

If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to think that you owe any taxes (for example, you've never received a bill or the caller made some bogus threats as described above), then call and report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484.

If you have been targeted by this scam, you should also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their "FTC Complaint Assistant" at FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments of your complaint.

FAIR FUN FOR ALL!



Photos by RICK DeWITT

The City Island Chamber of Commerce sponsored the 2014 Arts and Crafts Fair along City Island Avenue on June 7 and 8. Featuring 50 artists, craftspeople and local businesses, there was jewelry, candles, paintings, clothing, woodwork, glassware, skincare, face painting and even belly dancing by Kristin Amezcuita! Richie Pena served up Italian sausage outside Filomena's Pizza (top photo), while live music was provided by the Lickety Split Band. Fair skies helped make this year's event another success.



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Obituaries

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



Nina Heidelbergger
Nina Grevesmuhl Heidelbergger

Anne Christine "Nina" Heidelbergger died peacefully at home in Winchester, Virginia, on May 6, 2014. She was 76.

Born on Sept. 18, 1937, Nina was a clam digger who lived on Centre Street and Minneford Avenue until her college years. Her father, Walter, emigrated from Aachen, Germany and her mother, Ester, from Stavanger, Norway. They had four children, Sonja, Henrietta (Cindi), Walter and Nina.

Nina graduated from P.S. 17, Christopher Columbus High School and Capital University in Ohio. She completed her master's degree at Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania.

She taught fifth and sixth grades for 25 years at Fredon Township Elementary School in New Jersey and is remembered as an exemplary educator.

Nina is survived by her husband of 55 years, Bill Heidelbergger, and their four children, Tina Hodges and Jennifer Johnston of Hart, Michigan; Judy Vance of Centerville, Ohio; and Todd Heidelbergger of Boyce, Virginia, as well as her three siblings and nine grandchildren.

She will continue to live in the hearts she touched.



Carmen Robison

Carmen Maria Warren Robison

Longtime City Island resident Carmen Robison passed away on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at the age of 63, after a 22-year struggle with cancer.

Born in Mexico City on Dec. 2, 1950, Carmen moved with her husband to City Island over 30 years ago.

She is survived by her husband, Ritch Robison of City Island; her father, Peter Kirby Warren, and her stepmother, Hollis Wright-Warren of Wilton, Connecticut; her sister, AJ Warren, and her nephew,

Joshua Warren, also of Wilton; her brother, Peter John Warren, his former wife, Peggy Warren, and their children, Peter Alexander and Christopher Aiden Warren of Kalispell, Montana, and Downers Grove, Illinois; her Aunt Christina Bracho and cousins Juan, Pablo, Monica and Diana Bracho of Houston, Texas, and Mexico City; her cousins, Giles and Hugh Parker of Medford, Massachusetts, and Daytona Beach, Florida.

Donations may be sent in Carmen's name to the, Guide Dogs for the Blind: www.guidedogs.com. It was always a dream of Carmen's to train dogs for that organization.

A memorial service celebrating her life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 16, at 2 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. All are invited to attend. To contact the family, email mariawarren2@yahoo.com.



Kevin Cullen

Kevin Blair Cullen

Kevin Blair Cullen, a former City Island resident, died in Miami on Feb. 12, 2014, at the age of 70 after a battle with cancer.

Kevin was born in the Bronx on Oct. 24, 1943, and grew up on Horton Street. He graduated from St. Mary, Star of the Sea School. Kevin served in the Vietnam War at Okinawa, Japan. A professional steamfitter, Kevin was a member of the Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 21, based in Peekskill, New York. Kevin possessed a great sense of humor and a love of steamers, fishing, hunting, scuba diving and riding his Harley-Davidson. Growing up on City Island instilled in Kevin a love of the sea.

Kevin is survived by his five children: Kevin Cullen Jr., Erica Cullen, Laura Elizondo, Nicole Cusick and Sean Cullen and their partners; four grandchildren; two brothers, Dara and Glen, and their families; his uncle, Walter Robson; and several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his mother, Audrey Robson Cullen; his father, Robert "Peter" Cullen, and an older brother, Robert Cullen Jr.

An open service to celebrate Kevin's life will be held at the American Legion Leonard H. Hawkins Post on Wednesday, July 9, from 7 to 10 p.m.

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BRILLIANT

BUILT AT NEVINS YACHT YARD IN 1932

PHOTO: ROSENFELD COLLECTION, MYSTIC SEAPORT



Support the Museum, which preserves City Island's nautical heritage, by becoming a member or donor.

Memberships are \$20 for individuals and \$25 for families. Please send your check to: The City Island Nautical Museum, P.O. Box 82, Bronx, NY 10464. Visit the Museum at 190 Fordham Street on Saturdays or Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. or visit us online at www.cityislandmuseum.org



Photo by JIM ROMEO

Past District Governor of Rotary District 7230 Janet DiBenedetto presented eight Bronx Rotary Club members with Rotary's highest honor, the Paul Harris Fellow at the annual President's/Paul Harris Dinner at Marina Del Rey on June 26, 2014. Pictured (l. to r.): outgoing President Ralph Scottino, Barry Fitzgerald, Janet DiBenedetto, John Civetta, Miguel Santiago, Miriam Luciano, Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, incoming President Richard Sherman and Amir Asadi.

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All classified ads must be prepaid. Rates: \$6.00 minimum for 20 words or less. Over 20 words—30 cents per word. Type or print your ad and mail with check or money order to: The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, N.Y. 10464. ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE 20th OF EACH MONTH except December and July.

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THINKING OF THE JERSEY SHORE?? Whether you are looking to relocate, invest, buy a second home or just go on a great vacation close to home, I can help. Please call me, Denise Mullin at 732-600-9293 so I can help your Jersey Shore dream come true.

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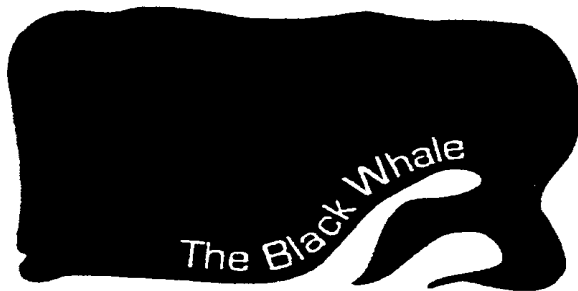
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Information for the Talebearer must be received in writing no later than the 15th of the month except July and December. Mail to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464; include your name and telephone number.



Chad Newberry and Virginia Nye

Welcome to Minneford Avenue's newest resident, James "Jimbo" Levins, with good wishes from Swampy.

Congratulations to our own in-house movie critic, Marsha Treiber, who celebrates her 25-year anniversary with The Island Current this year. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes for a lifetime of happiness to Lauren O'Donnell and Thomas Girolamo, who were married in Aruba on May 3, 2014 (the 39th anniversary for her parents, Linda and Steven O'Donnell).

Happy belated birthday to our sweet granddaughters, Kayla and Alyssa Fusco, with love from Grandma and Grandpa Penny. Also a belated happy birthday to our daughter, Kim, who celebrated the "big one" on May 2. Many good wishes to you, love from Mom and Dad.

Belated birthday wishes to Meredith Ribaldo on June 3 and Danielle Ribaldo on June 15. Also, belated anniversary wishes to Mere and Ant, with much love from Mom and Dad "R."

Belated happy birthday greetings to my pal Carolyn (Foley) Peters, who celebrated her big day on June 22. Carolyn is a former Islander now living in Huntsville, Alabama. Safe travels back from your trip in Germany and hugs from your



Vera Thompson meets her new great-grandson, Arlo Rota, at her 94th birthday.

pal of 68 years, Barbara (Haas) Lynch.

Special birthday wishes to Buddy Pontecorvo, who turns 90 on July 9, with much love from your daughter Theresa, son-in-law Jimmy and granddaughters Jaimie, Bebe, Bonnie and Alyssa.

Happy birthday wishes across the miles in St. Louis to former Islander Dr. Ellen Dierenfeld, who will celebrate her big day on July 9.

Happy first birthday on July 11 to our precious grandson, Arlo David Rota. Love from Grandma Judy and Grandpa Mike. Happy July birthdays to Arlo's mommy, Beth Rota, and her sister, Auntie Susan Rauh. It's also a happy July anniversary to Arlo's parents, Beth and Matt Rota.

Happy birthday on July 14 to Pilot Cove's Barbara Henreckson, with much love from Elzie, Deb and Ken.

Birthday wishes, hugs and kisses to our precious granddaughter, Alana Lydia Ribaldo, who turns four on July 19. So much love! Nonni and Pop.

Birthday greetings on July 19 to Hawkins Street's Lori Travers.

Virginia Nye and Chad Newberry were married on June 21 at Trinity Methodist Church, and the reception was held at Marina Del Rey. Family and friends from City Island, Puerto Rico, Tennessee and Alabama, to mention a few, came to share this special event. We wish Virginia and Chad all the happiness in the world and a long life together. God bless you both. They will reside in Alabama.

Happy birthday wishes on July 21 to Jennifer Carman with love from your family and friends.

Happy July 23 birthday to Gianna Marie Ramftl with love from Mom, Dad and family.

Our baby is 30! Happy birthday wishes to Roger Rauhauser Nani on Aug. 9. Keep



Lauren O'Donnell and Thomas Girolamo

up the good work at the National Cancer Institute. Love, Mom, Dad, Poppy and Unckie Ick.

Happy birthday on Aug. 16 to King Avenue's Nolan Quinn with much love from your family and friends.

Birthday greetings to Maria Christina Swieciki who turns 23 on Aug. 22, with much love from Mom and Dad, Stephen and Bobby.

Congratulations to our son, Michael Mancuso, on his graduation. Best of luck at Iona Prep! We love you, Mom and Dad.

Get-well wishes to Rudy Comerico, with love from your family and friends.

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

Maria Swieciki



Photo by MARIA CHRISTINA SWIECIKI In the June issue of The Current, the correct names of the U.S. Coast Guard members from City Island who marched in the Memorial Day Parade should have been (above l. to r.) Keith Manfredonia and Bobby Swieciki.



Photo by MONICA GLICK

While on hiatus from the City Island Theater Group, Islanders Hannah Glick and Elizabeth Paldino were on stage in "Brighton Beach Memoirs" at the Westchester Sandbox Theater in Mamaroneck from June 26 to 29, 2014. Shown above is the entire cast taking their bows (l. to r.): Ashley Ahearn, Hannah Glick, Elizabeth Paldino, Greg Morra, Toni Fazio, Peter Ackerman and Michael Sanacore.

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