

The Island Current

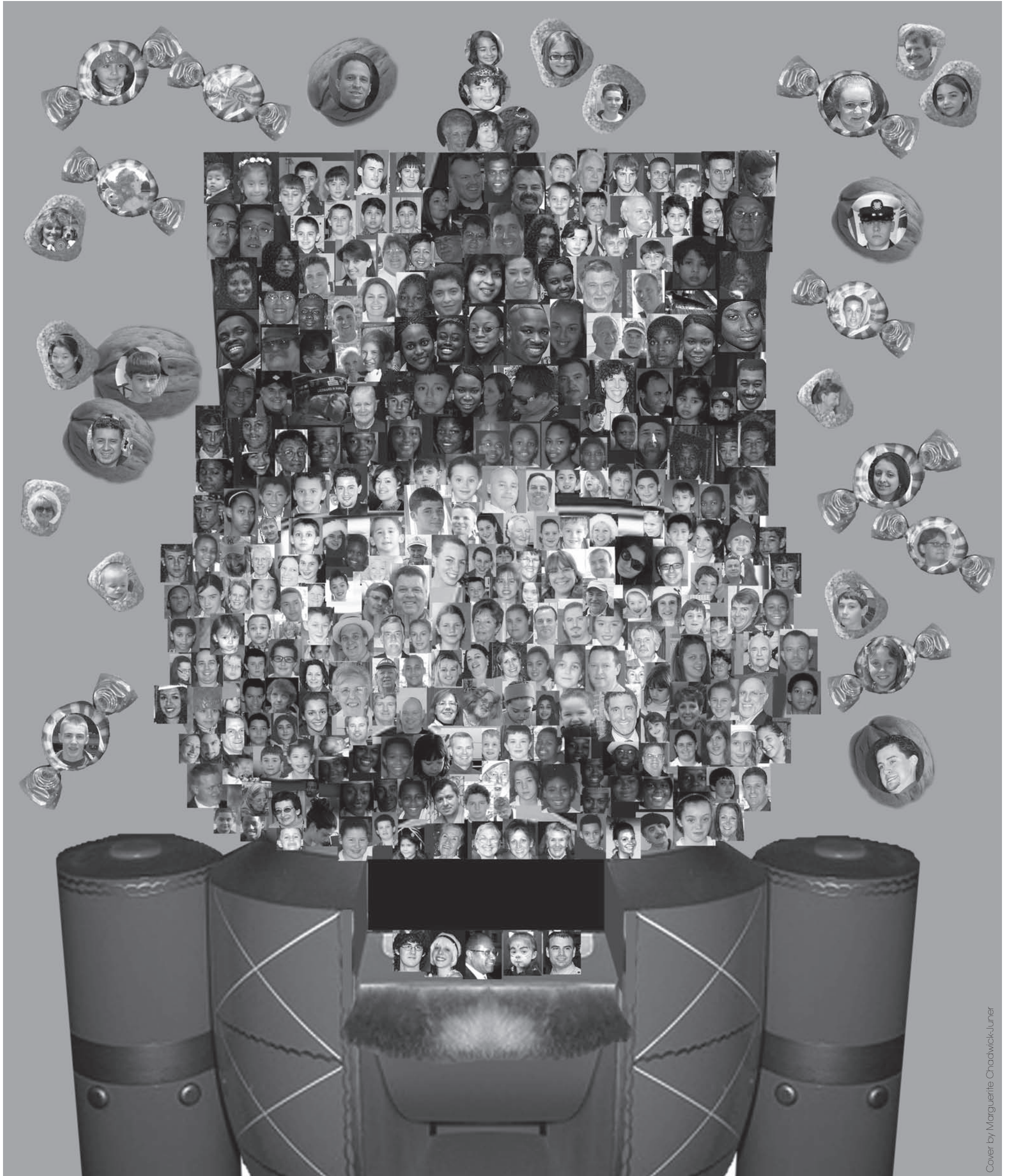
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One Dollar



Cover by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, CITY ISLAND!
FROM THE STAFF OF THE ISLAND CURRENT

BRIEFLY...

DOG ADOPTION DAY. Open your hearts and homes to one or more of the many homeless animals whose very lives are at risk. Pet Rescue will be on City Island on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Doggie Island, 268 City Island Avenue. Free baths will be given with every adoption, and photographs with Santa Paws will be taken. Call 347-945-4044 for more information.

BLOOD DRIVE IN HONOR OF EMILY SEXTON: Monday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 9 p.m. All eligible blood donors are urged to come out in support of Emily Sexton and in thanksgiving for the lifesaving work of the Jacobi Hospital Trauma Team. Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with appropriate written permission from a parent or legal guardian), weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Those aged 76 and older may donate blood if they meet all donor criteria and present a physician's letter. The New York Blood Center will conduct the drive in the Grace Church Parish Hall, 116 City Island Avenue (across from the Lido Restaurant). For more information or to make an appointment, contact Lisa at 914-784-4643, or lfiore@nybloodcenter.org.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR: Grace Church will hold its seventh annual Christmas Café and Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering all handmade crafts and decadent baked creations from our parish kitchens. Our café will be open all day, starting with light breakfast fare and serving lunch from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. Come take part in this much-anticipated City Island holiday tradition! Grace is located at 116 City Island Avenue, at the corner of Pilot Street.

A FIRST AID/CPR CLASS will be offered by the Friends of Pelham Bay Park on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 3075 Baisley Avenue in the Bronx. The class will be taught by Mike Ingui, an emergency medical technician who is certified to teach CPR, first aid and wilderness first aid. The cost is \$55, plus \$12 for the optional textbook. Mike is willing to provide a free detailed outline and a mini-guide for first aid and CPR. The course is open to the community but space is limited. If you are interested and plan to attend, let Marianne Anderson of the Parks Department know before Dec. 8 (e-mail Marianne.Anderson@parks.nyc.gov). Checks should be mailed to Friends of Pelham Bay Park, PO Box 71, Bronx, NY 10464-0071.

MEMORIAL BENCH FOR DEBBIE BATES FICKE: Those who knew and loved Debbie Ficke, Island resident and mail carrier, will be glad to learn that the Bronx Postmaster has approved the placement of an engraved bench in her memory in front of the City Island Post Office. Those would like to donate toward the cost of the bench, which will be just like those in front of Grace Episcopal Church, may call Pat Fusco at 718-885 2030 or Patty Grondahl at 718-885-1891.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during October and November 2010. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 - GRAND LARCENY
- 1 - ASSAULT
- 1 - LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT
- 1 - DWI, VEHICULAR ASSAULT

Police provided details on the following incidents for the period from Oct. 20 to Nov. 15, 2010.

10/20 - Around midnight on City Island Avenue, an unknown driver and vehicle struck another vehicle in the rear and then fled the scene of the accident.

10/29 - Police from the 45th Precinct were called to Pilot Street and City Island Avenue at 9 a.m., when live ammunition was found on the street.

11/10 - At 4 pm., police responded to a reported assault at 200 City Island Avenue. Two male juveniles, age 15, allegedly assaulted a 13-year-old female in the schoolyard.

11/13 - A female victim's purse was stolen around 3 p.m. near Centre Street.

The purse was later found, but the wallet had been removed.

11/13 - At 10:45 p.m., Peter Wolfman, 40, was arrested and charged with vehicular assault after he reportedly drove his Ford pickup truck onto the sidewalk on City Island Avenue near Fordham Street. The driver struck Islander Emily Sexton, causing serious injuries (see story this issue).

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Commission Proposes Five City Island Landmarks

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

On Thursday, Oct. 28, Kate Daly, executive director of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, a New York City agency, visited City Island and met at the Nautical Museum with members of the community interested in proposals for designation of five Island structures.

Ms. Daly described the purpose of the Preservation Commission, with specific emphasis on its work in the Bronx, and she noted the three designated landmarks on City Island: the Samuel Pell house at 586 City Island Avenue, the picturesque cottage at 175 Belden Street and the shingle-style Queen Anne house at 21 Tier Street. She also reported that the Italianate farmhouse at 65 Schofield Street is in the process of designation and that the Commission is working with the owner, who wishes to make alterations to the house.

The Landmarks Commission staff recently visited City Island to evaluate its potential as a New York City Historic District but said that the consensus of the Commission was that the island's architecture was too diverse to merit consideration as a district. She did, however, hold out the possibility that some parts of City Island might be eligible for Historic District status and welcomed community input.

In the course of the Commission's visit, five buildings were singled out as eligible to be designated as landmarks, and the owners of these structures had been invited to attend this meeting to learn about designation and how it might affect them. The owner of one of the designated buildings pointed out that a Landmarks designation affects the entire lot on which a landmark is located, not just the building, and that any changes of a substantial nature (including new windows, a new door or "hardscape" alterations) require

the permission of the Landmarks Commission.

Ms. Daly pointed out that although the Commission may by law designate a structure without the permission of the owner, every effort is made to accommodate an owner's wishes and to assist in the permit process for any changes. As she told *The Current*, "The Commission has identified several buildings on City Island that are eligible for individual landmark designation. We look forward to continuing to work with property owners and others interested in preserving these architecturally and historically significant reminders of City Island's 19th- and 20th-century history."

The buildings that the Landmarks staff recommends for designation are the Public School 17 building at 190 Fordham (now a condominium as well as the location of the Nautical Museum and the Community Center); the Sears Craftsman bungalow at 95 Pell Place; the Greek Revival house at 150 Carroll Street; the house at 371 City Island Avenue (formerly Union Chapel), and the two-family house at 84-86 Schofield Street.

When asked what the requirements were for designation, Ms. Daly said that a building must be at least 30 years old and must possess "a special character or special historical or aesthetic interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation." She suggested that those who are interested consult the Commission's website at nyc.gov/landmarks.

Also in attendance at the meeting were Andrea Goldwyn, director of public policy for the Landmarks Conservancy, and Howard Yourow, who is on the board of the Historic Districts Council. Ms. Goldwyn described the role of the Landmarks Conservancy, a not-for-profit foundation that provides both funding (as loans or grants) and expertise to owners of historic properties. The Historic Districts Council, also a not-for-profit organization dedicated to architectural preservation, acts as a city-wide advocate for New York's designated historic districts and works with owners of designated landmarks on obtaining permits for alterations.

The next step will be taken by the Landmarks Commission to do research on the proposed buildings and to coordinate with the owners in taking steps toward designation.

ACCIDENT SEVERELY INJURES ISLAND TEEN

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by RICK DeWITT

On Saturday, Nov. 13, a serious accident took place at the intersection of Fordham Street and City Island Avenue. A pick-up truck jumped over the sidewalk and pinned Island resident Emily Sexton against a building near the bus stop leaving her severely injured. Police and firefighters responded to the scene and both Emily and the driver were taken to Jacobi Hospital. The driver was arrested and faces multiple charges, including vehicular assault.

On Saturday night, Nov. 13, as many Islanders were returning to their homes from an evening out at the Chamber of Commerce awards dinner at the Lido or the musical play "Sweet Charity" at Grace Church, they were forced to detour around the intersection at Fordham Street and City Island Avenue because of a serious accident that had taken place.

Annoyance and curiosity quickly grew into horror as people realized that a pick-up truck had pinned Island resident Emily Sexton, 17, against a building near the bus stop on the east side of City Island Avenue, leaving her severely injured with a crushed pelvis and numerous other injuries.

Emily, who lives on Fordham Street with her parents, Harlan and David Sexton, and her brother, Gregory, had been walking with two friends on the sidewalk to the bus stop just north of Fordham Street. Suddenly, a white Ford truck heading south on the avenue turned before the stoplight and speeded up into the precise spot where Emily was standing. It was moving so fast that she had no chance to escape, and eyewitnesses told *The Current* that it is a miracle she was not killed.

Witnesses also reported that the man driving the truck, a former Island resident named Peter Wolfman, 40, had been at the Library Bar, where he was said to have been drinking heavily, a report that was supported by the results of a blood alcohol test taken after the accident.

Both Emily and the driver, who allegedly broke a leg in the accident, were taken by ambulance to Jacobi Medical Center. Doctors worked through the night to stop the internal bleeding that was threatening Emily's life. By morning, it became clear that she would survive, although several surgical procedures were necessary, and many months of healing and physical therapy lie ahead. As of press time, she was still in intensive care, but her family and friends were thrilled to learn that she suffered no brain or spinal cord injuries

and that she will be able to walk again once her reconstructed pelvis is healed.

Sunday morning found many Islanders praying for her survival in a remarkable show of community spirit and support for this resilient young woman, who is a senior at Preston High School. Emily's family stayed at her side as the trauma team at Jacobi struggled to save her life, and they were both amazed and incredibly grateful for the high quality of care Emily has received (see Letter, page 4).

The Reverend Patricia Alexander of Grace Episcopal Church, where Harlan Sexton is senior warden and where Emily was baptized two years ago, also spent many hours at the hospital and regularly reported on her condition to Islanders, dispelling rumors and encouraging Islanders to help the Sextons through this difficult time. People have come forward to provide meals for the family and to participate in a special blood drive that will take place at Grace Church on Monday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 9 p.m. in Emily's honor.

Along with all the uplifting prayers and offers of help, many Island residents also felt anger at the cause of the accident, and efforts are being made by community leaders to work with the police and other officials to explore ways of controlling reckless driving, especially when it is exacerbated by alcohol. Eyewitnesses to the accident are being encouraged to assist the police in their investigation by coming forward with any information that would explain the force with which the truck hit the building and struck Emily in its path.

Although the driver, Mr. Wolfman, declined to take a breathalyzer test at the scene, he was arrested at the scene of the accident and faces several charges, including driving while intoxicated, reckless endangerment and vehicular assault. He is being held by police on \$250,000 bail and is due back in court to face the charges before the end of November.

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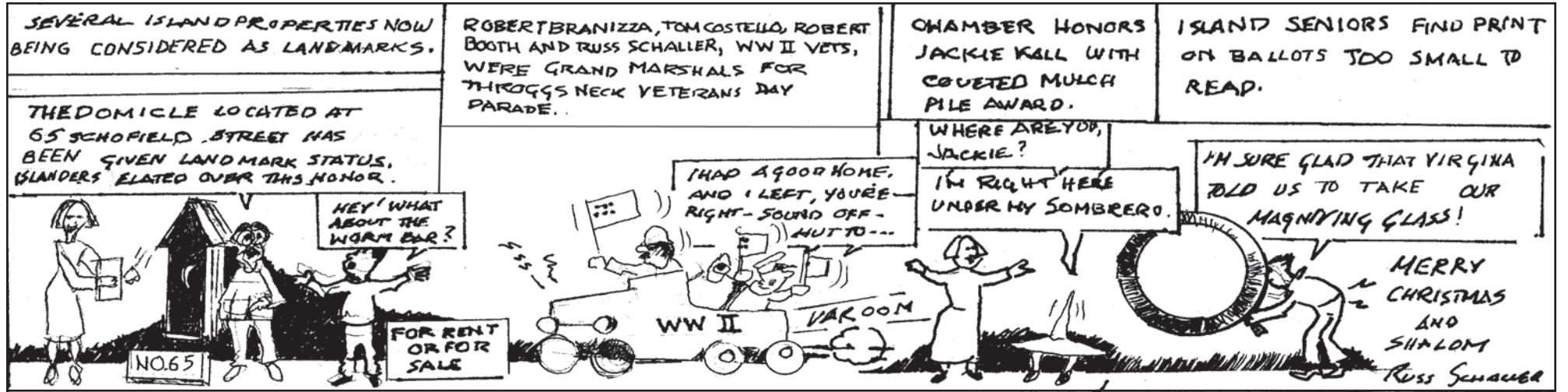
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Bird Watching and Worrying

To The Editor,

I read the article "Moving Forward in Pelham Bay Park" in the November issue of *The Island Current* with great interest. I am particularly concerned with the changes at Turtle Cove.

I surmise from the article that most of the changes will make Turtle Cove more aesthetically appealing and create convenience and accessibility for humans. However, I fear it will be at the expense of the wildlife that has thrived there. I have spent hundreds of hours in Turtle Cove observing and photographing birds, so I am particularly concerned about the changes that are being made.

Many avian species depend on the brackish water in the cove that is unaffected by the tide. Once construction is completed, all of this water will drain with the tide. Without brackish water, many species like the spec-

tacular wood duck may never return to that spot.

The now-destroyed berm was host to many nesting species. Yellow warblers, common yellowthroats, willow flycatchers, song sparrows and many other avian species used the foliage on that berm as a nesting area. Killdeer, marsh wrens and clapper rails have nested alongside the berm for as long as I can remember. As everyone knows, the area is a migratory stopover for great and snowy egrets, great blue and green herons and black-crowned night herons, to name a few species.

For a birdwatcher like myself, Turtle Cove was always a little piece of heaven in the Bronx.

I am astounded to see how a tiny meandering two-foot-wide path was transformed into one that appears to be 20 feet wide. The berm is gone, the foliage is gone, and all I see is a flat, wide area that looks like a two-lane highway. And now a bridge has been installed. I read in your article that it will accommodate both pedestrians and bicycles.

So now an area that was always home to wildlife will become a thoroughfare for bicycles and pedestrian traffic. This will surely bring more refuse, noise and dogs, not a good thing for wildlife. When construction is finished, and all is said and done, the area will definitely look better to us humans. I know that an incredibly rich and vibrant ecosystem and a fabulous bird-watching area, that was supposed to be "Forever Wild" will be "Forever Lost."

Jack Rothman

www.cityislandbirds.com



Yellow warbler

A Grateful Islander

To the Editor:

Just a note to say a special thank you to all who came out and supported my team "Walking with Linda" on Oct. 17 at the Making Strides in Breast Cancer Walk at Orchard Beach. The support I received helped my team to be successful in its endeavors.

Also a special thanks to Jim Livingston and his crew, not only for setting up the Legion Hall but also for arranging the wonderful feast that followed. Thank you to everyone who cooked. The food was great!

Linda Ulmer

Thanking the Community

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The Sexton family is grateful beyond words for your concern and prayers for our daughter, Emily. From the moment she was hit by the truck on the night of Nov. 13, you have helped her. People were at her side immediately, teenagers ran to get us and our son was comforted.

All week we have been lifted up by the best of Island spirit. Emily is very seriously hurt but getting top-notch care at Jacobi Hospital. So many have asked us what they can do to help. Please participate in the December blood drive that friends are organizing. Please pray and lift her up.

Thank you all so very much.

David, Harlan and Gregory Sexton

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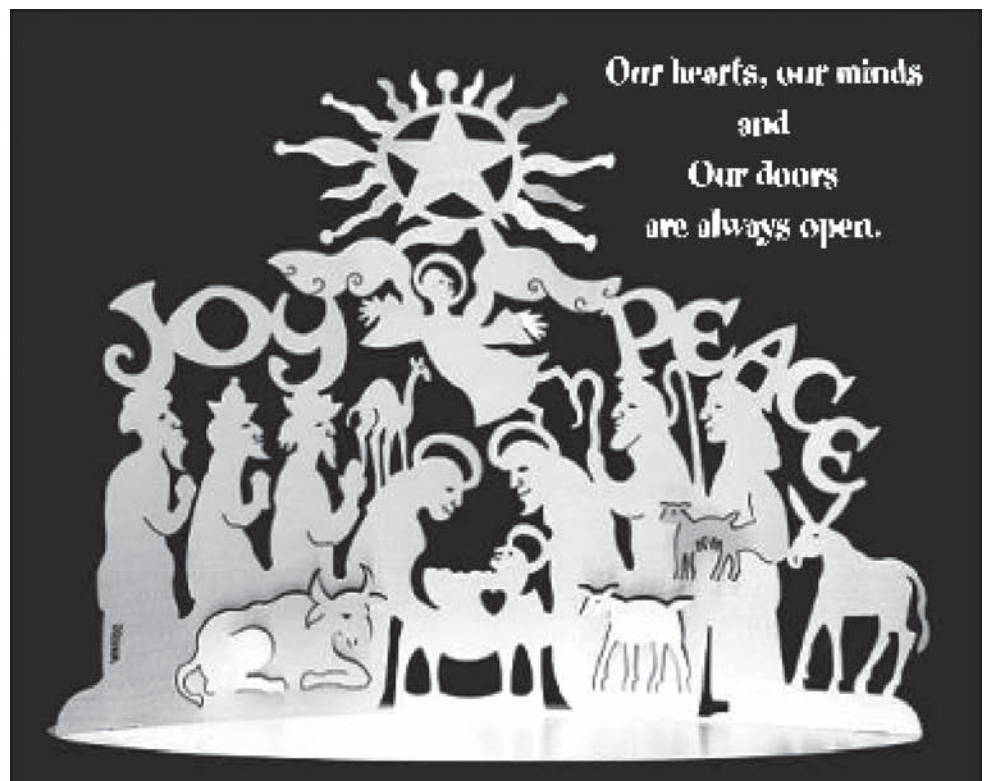
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Serving City Island and Surrounding Areas



Photos by JACK ROTHMAN

Work on Turtle Cove in Pelham Bay Park continued in October and November 2010 with the installation of a new bridge to replace the berm that separated the two watery areas of the marsh. The destruction of the berm has raised concern among some nature lovers and bird watchers. The foliage that was once present in the background in the top photo from 2007 is now gone. The bottom photo shows a flattened area that used to be the berm, before the Parks Department installed the bridge. The Willow Flycatcher (inset), which regularly nested on a branch at Turtle Cove, hasn't nested since most of the foliage was removed.



The People of Trinity United Methodist Church

Christmas Fair
December 3rd

3 p.m - 8 p.m. • Dinner served from 5 p.m.

December 4th

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Lunch served from 12 noon

December 5th

2nd Sunday in Advent - Worship 10 a.m.

December 12th

3rd Sunday in Advent

Open house at parsonage - 1 p.m.

December 19th

4th Sunday in Advent - Christmas pageant & Christmas party - 10 a.m.

December 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10 p.m.

ISLANDER VOTE 2010: NEW MACHINES TAKE OVER

By FRED RAMFTL JR.

The New York Board of Elections reported the following results, which are still unofficial, for City Island in the November 2010 election.

The majority of Islanders voted to return some familiar faces to local and federal government, as they joined with the rest of the state to put a new governor and a new comptroller in Albany.

The 2010 election was historic in another way. The new balloting system was put in place for the first time, replacing the long New York City tradition of the lever-style voting booths. Islanders seemed to adapt well to marking and scanning their ballots, although they had to contend with a new location for voting as well as a new system.

The gym at P.S. 175, the usual polling place, is being used as classroom space this year because of construction on the second floor of the school. The voting booths and registration tables had to be moved to the cafeteria area, so the traditional PTA Election Day bake sale was moved to the stage area on the first floor.

There are about 2,598 registered voters on City Island, and 1,209 of them cast ballots, representing voter turnout of about 47 percent. This is lower than during presidential elections when the Island turnout

has been closer to 75 percent.

The following table indicates the tallies for Election Districts 60, 61, 62 and 63, based on the City Island vote total from the Democrat, Republican, Conservative, Independence and Working Families party lines.

Race/Candidate	# C.I. Votes	%
Governor/Lt. Governor		
Andrew Cuomo/Robert Duffy (D)	754	64%
Carl Paladino/Gregory Edwards (R)	397	33
Others	36	3

Statewide Winner:
Andrew Cuomo/Robert Duffy (D)

Comptroller		
Harry Wilson (R)	592	51%
Tom DiNapoli (D)	544	46%
Others	34	3%

Statewide winner: Harry Wilson (R)

Attorney General		
Eric Schneiderman (D)	578	50%
Dan Donovan (R)	563	49%
Others	16	1%

Statewide winner: Eric Schneiderman (D)

U.S. Senator – six-year full term		
Charles Schumer (D)	746	64%
Jay Townsend	401	34
Others	19	2

Statewide Winner: Charles Schumer (D)

U.S. Senator – two-year unexpired term		
Kirsten Gillibrand (D)	570	59%
Joseph DiGuardi (R)	448	40
Others	15	1

Statewide Winner: Kirsten Gillibrand (D)

New York State Senate – 34th District		
Jeffrey Klein (D)	858	71%
Frank Vernucchio Jr. (R)	351	29

Winner: Jeffrey Klein (D)

New York State Assembly – 82nd District		
Michael Benedetto (D)	629	54%
Micahel Rendino (R)	535	46

Winner: Michael Benedetto (D)

Bronx Civil Court – 1st District

Joseph Capella (D)	726
Unopposed	

Representative Joseph Crowley (D) won re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives, but the exact figures for City Island's votes were not available at press time.

Sanitation Winter Schedule

The Department of Sanitation (DOS) winter schedule went into effect on Nov. 15, 2010. Three shifts will be working—from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., from 4 p.m. to midnight, and from midnight to 4 a.m.—and pickups will sometimes be made the evening before regular pickup days. Therefore, place your trash on curb at 4 p.m. on Sundays and Wednesdays before the regular trash pickup days. If you wait to put your trash out in the morning of the pickup day, the DOS will not return to your location if the truck has made the pickup the night before.



Photo by RICK DeWITT

The wonderful tradition of a free Thanksgiving dinner took place this year on Nov. 25, 2010, thanks to a giving group of volunteers at Trinity United Methodist Church. Shown above are those who generously gave their time to feed others (l. to r.): Mercedes Ruiz, Jerry Bailey III, Rose Zervas, Toby Liederman, Elizabeth Peters, Jerry Bailey Jr., Arlene Byrne, Anne Cox, Adjie Henderson, James Cox and Ciara McNicholas. (Thanks also to our *Island Current* photographer, who took time to record the event.)

CI VETERANS HONORED AS GRAND MARSHALS



Photo by KAREN NANI

Bob Branizza, Russell Schaller and Tom Costello were Grand Marshals of the Throggs Neck Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 14, 2010.

Four City Island veterans of World War II were honored by being asked to serve as Grand Marshals of the Throggs Neck Veterans Day Parade on Sunday, Nov. 14, 2010, followed by a breakfast at Villa Barone Manor hosted by State Senator Jeff Klein.

Tom Costello, Russell Schaller and Bob Branizza were honored with distinguished service awards after riding in the parade; Robert Booth was also honored although he was not able to be present at the parade or the breakfast.

"This is the fourth year that I've hosted hundreds of veterans with a warm and hearty breakfast at Villa Barone Manor before the Throggs Neck Veterans Day Parade," Senator Klein said. "It is truly my honor to welcome the veterans and their families from throughout the 34th Senate District, to celebrate their deep commitment to our nation and to thank them for their honorable service."

Tom Costello, who was raised in the Country Club section of the Bronx, attended Georgetown University on a football scholarship. In 1943, he enlisted in the Army and was sent to Anzio, an area on the southwest coast of Italy, where he took part in the famous offensive against the well-fortified German army. On April 26, 1944, he and many of his fellow servicemen were captured, and he was not liberated until the war was nearly over. When he returned home, he earned a law degree, married and moved to City Island, where he and his wife raised five children. Mr. Costello is a longtime member of the Leonard Hawkins Post on City Island.

Flight Officer Bob Branizza of the United States Army Air Corps attended Manhattan College. After Pearl Harbor,

he joined the Air Corps as an aviation cadet and was assigned to the 448th Heavy Bomb Group in Seething Airfield in Norfolk, England, arriving in time to have his first mission on D-Day, June 6. The fifth and last mission was on June 21 in Berlin. He was hit but managed to keep the aircraft under control and bail out his crew. Branizza, 89, is a widower, the father of a son, Bob, and a daughter, Jean. He is a retired civil engineer (NYU) and a member of the Hawkins Post for over 60 years.

Russell Schaller grew up on City Island and enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943. In April 1944, he arrived in Chalgrove, England, to prepare for the Normandy invasion. The mission of his 33rd Photo Recon Squadron was bomb-damage assessment, troop movement, railroads and bridges along the Seine. The unit won Battle Stars in five campaigns. After the war, Russ returned to City Island, where he married and raised a family of six. He retired from Verizon after many years and serves on the executive board of the Hawkins Post.

Robert W. Booth joined the Navy in 1944. While on board the *USS Frank Knox*, he and his crew shot down a Kamikaze plane and rescued six flyers. Booth was on board the ship in Tokyo Bay during the surrender. He was discharged from the Navy in May 1946 with the rank of Gunners Mate Third Class. He is a Post Commander and Post Chairman of the Hawkins Post.

Tom Costello summed up the event by telling *The Current* that he and all of his colleagues were very moved by the event and much impressed by how well it was organized.

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During the month of December, **Focal Point Gallery** (321 City Island Avenue) is hosting an exhibition entitled "Artists' Choice" featuring the work of artists of every genre. The opening reception will be held on Dec. 3 from 7 to 10 p.m.

On Sunday, Dec. 5, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Island artist **Reina Mia Brill**, will open the doors to her studio at 75 Earley Street. Please stop by and check out her new hand-made knitted wire sculptures and paintings. Greeting cards and prints will also be available. Everyone is welcome. For more information and pictures, go to www.ReinaMiaBrill.com.

The Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) keeps "giving" this holiday season. Sundays

feature holiday performances by City Island's Freddie Lando (Dec. 5), a Celtic Christmas (Dec. 12) and a post-Christmas celebration with Peter C. North (Dec. 26), all starting at 3 p.m. There's our joy-filled annual Holiday Party featuring our "sweetheart" Theresa Sareo on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m. We've got songwriter Nicola (Saturday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m.) and a "blues party" with Bennett Harris (Saturday, Dec. 11, at 8 p.m.). We are featuring a tribute to the late John Lennon of the Beatles on Saturday, Dec. 18, at 8 p.m. with Deuces Child. And on New Year's Eve, Friday, Dec. 31, ring in 2011 with us and "jazz man" Lou Volpe. Check our website for more New Year's Eve details and for a more complete December schedule, <http://www.starvingartistonline.com/>.

Please mark your calendars. On Sunday, Dec. 12, between 1 and 7 p.m., Toby Liederman of **Ceramics...and More** will have her annual holiday open house at 30 Pilot Street, Apartment 6K. She plans to have some new surprises ready for viewing and, as always, good company and hot cider!



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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
69 Centre Street	9/21	\$500,000	1 family
227 Ditmars Street	11/3	\$445,000	1 family
72 Fordham Street	11/9	\$370,000	2 family

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These events will take place in an outdoor canopy regardless of weather conditions so dress appropriately. Warming refreshments will be served. R.S.V.P. by **December 1, 2010**. Please call (1-888) 375-1400 (Yonkers) or (1-888) 828-1800 (Bronx).

Sunday, December 12, 2010
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
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726 Morris Park Avenue ~ Bronx, NY 10462

A Centennial Celebration of Dining, Dancing and Awards

By MARIA SWIECIKI



Photos by RICK DeWITT

The City Island Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 100th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010, at its annual awards dinner-dance at the Lido Restaurant. Adolfo Carrión was master of ceremonies and gave awards to several City Island organizations and individuals. Council member James Vacca and State Senator Jeff Klein were on hand to award proclamations to each of the honorees.

The 100th anniversary of the City Island Chamber of Commerce, originally the City Island Board of Trade, celebrated the occasion with its usual enthusiasm on Nov. 13, 2010, with a fine dinner and music by the Lickety Split Band, led by Chamber president Skip Giacco.

The lavish affair, hosted by Adolfo

Carrión, the former Bronx Borough President and current City Island resident back from a two-year stint at the White House, was attended by more than 140 guests, who came together to salute distinguished honorees, leaders and supporters of City Island.

Mr. Carrión announced that he was "glad to be back on City Island, a beautiful and special place." Other politicians in attendance were State Senator Jeff Klein, who urged everyone to "do more for small businesses, as this event is a celebration not only of our business community but also of a great place called City Island." Council member Jimmy Vacca talked about how City Island, in spite of its small size, had succeeded in saving the express bus and the ladder company in spite of New York City's several financial cuts. He promised that he and his staff would continue to work hard for the "jewel" that is City Island.

After the cocktail hour and opening remarks, the presentation of awards commenced. Tom Smith, treasurer of the City Island Civic Association, accepted the first award of the evening on behalf of the Civic. Founded in 1950 to represent City Island residents in their efforts to preserve their nautical community, the Civic Association's mission is to maintain the Island's quality of life by acting as a clearing house for information and as a liaison with city agencies and politicians. Monthly meetings at the Community Center enable residents to voice their concerns and volunteer to help protect the interests of City Island.

The second honor of the evening went to the Garden Club of City Island, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and has the distinction of being the first garden club in Manhattan or the Bronx to be accepted by the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State. Founded in 1960 by a group of 15 charter members, the Garden



Adolfo Carrión presented the awards to honorees Buddy Pontecorvo (photo left) and Jackie Kall (photo right).

Club's current president is Barbara Hoffman, whose mother, Rose Healy, was one of the original members. Another founder and the first president of the Garden Club was honored guest Jackie Kyle Kall, whom Adolfo Carrión hailed as "my dear friend and neighbor."

Next to be honored was the Parent-Teacher Association of Public School 175. An integral part of the school community, the PTA has worked tirelessly over many years to support the school by providing the best programs and learning environment for the students. It was noted that, over the years, some of the group's greatest accomplishments have been a letter-writing campaign to the Department of Education and state and city officials to get walls built on the second floor of the school. This project was begun just a few months ago and is expected to be completed in the spring of 2011. The PTA has also raised funds to support arts programs in the school, including those provided by Lincoln Center, Bronx Arts Ensemble and Studio-in-a-School. PTA members also support anti-bullying and drug-prevention programs in the school.

Scouting also plays an important role in the lives of many of City Island's young people. The Boy Scout, Cub Scout and Girl Scout troops were honored for their tireless efforts working with generations of City Islanders. The Boy Scouts of Troop 211 started on City Island in 1934, and since then, the troop has produced more than 25 Eagle Scouts and countless good citizens. You can see Troop 211 in uniform throughout the year and around the community, whether it be at community-service projects, the April flower sale, at church on Scout Sunday or proudly honoring City Island's fallen soldiers at the Memorial Day parade.

Cub Scout Pack 211 has been providing quality youth programs on City Island for over 50 years, offering young boys the opportunity to make the transition from boyhood to adolescence. The Cub Scouts enjoy games and crafts and learn basic values, which help them to become good citizens. They also march in the Memorial Day Parade and participate in the Holiday Sing at Pilot Cove.

Girl Scouts have been meeting on the Island for many years. With the help of dedicated leaders and many supportive parents, the Girl Scouts practice community service, learn respect for themselves and others and earn badges that cover a diverse range of interests.

The City Island Little League started in 1959 and is still going strong, with the

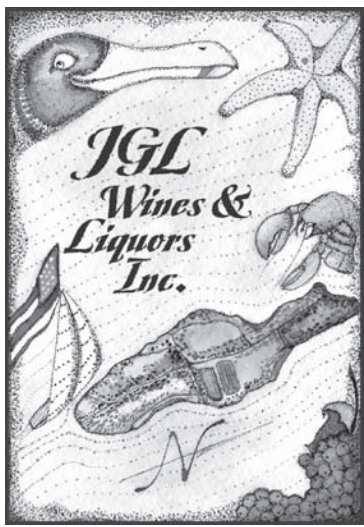
help of league officers, coaches and many local businesses who sponsor the teams. As Adolfo Carrión put it, "so much effort and love go into this organization that I want to thank you personally." Games were first played off the Island and then in Ambrosini Field, which was built next to P.S. 175 and named after longtime City Island Little League volunteer Anthony Ambrosini. The club house, which is dedicated to the memory of past president Frank Sena, serves as the organization's office, lockers and concession stand.

The next group of honorees included four individuals who have contributed enormously to the City Island community over the past decades. Anthony "Buddy" Pontecorvo opened his business, Hardware & Yacht Supply, known as Buddy's, in 1947. He attended P.S. 17 and has lived and worked on City Island all his life, and Buddy and his wife, Lucy, raised their two daughters and son on City Island. In addition to running the store, Buddy made "service calls" to local homes to fix radios and televisions in the evenings. In thanking guests for his award, Buddy said he "is proud to be a City Islander and a genuine clam digger."

The Silver Arrow's John Schmidt, affectionately known as "Captain Smitty," could not attend the evening's festivities, but he wanted everyone to know that he fell in love with City Island during the 1930s when a teacher took him to the Island for a speedboat ride. After serving in World War II, Smitty went into the cabinetmaking business and in 1969 opened the Silver Arrow shop. In a written statement, he thanked everyone for "being so kind and wonderful to me for so many years."

Jackie Kyle Kall, owner of Port of Kall Realty, has served the City Island community and maintained the brokerage establishment that was founded by her grandfather, Nickolas Leopold, for more than 60 years. She succeeded her mother, Stella L. Kyle, in 1956. She is the past president of the Bronx Board of Realtors, former president and member of the City Island Chamber of Commerce and Garden Club. She is also a member of the Bronx Council on the Arts and the City Island Historical Society. She has brokered and consulted on numerous real estate deals both on and off the Island. Mrs. Kall graduated from the College of New Rochelle, class of 1947. Mr. Carrión noted that she is the proud recipient of awards "too numerous to mention."

Continued on page 21



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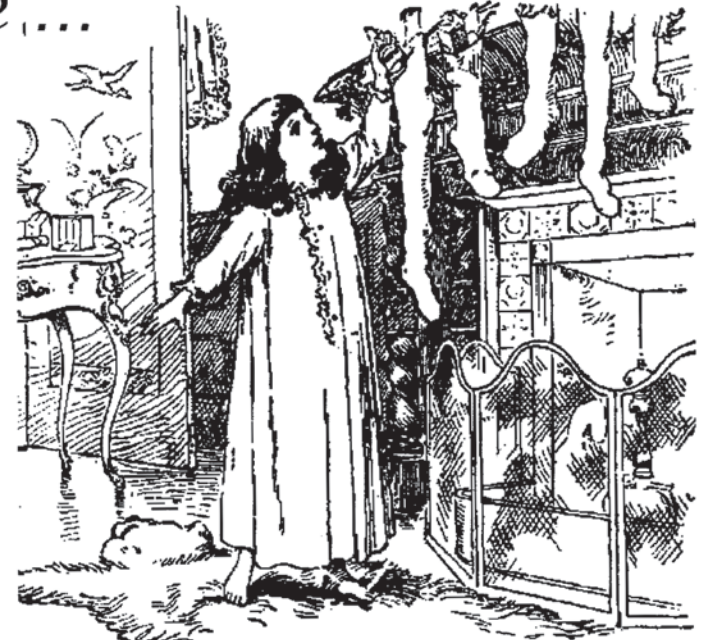
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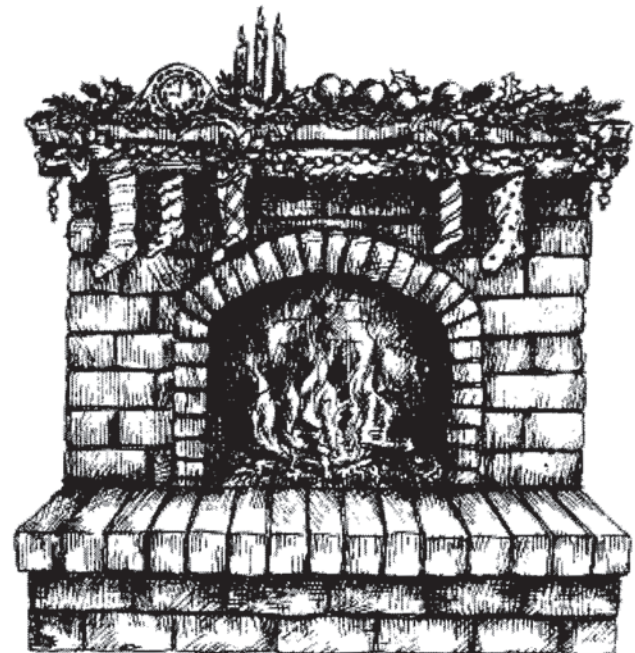


In hopes that St. Nicholas would soon be there.



Merry Christmas

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A Current Review

“SWEET CHARITY” CHARMS CITY ISLAND

By BRUCE WEIS



Photos by RICK DEWITT

The Fandango girls strut their stuff on stage in the City Island Theater Group’s production of “Sweet Charity” in November 2010 (photo above, from l. to r., top row): Christina Drake, Margaret Cioffi, Lindy Tabano, Sarah Harrold, Susan Rauh and Annemarie Tomsen; (bottom row): Ariana Joubert, Liz Paldino and Emily Rodriguez. The girls join their boss, played by Fred Lando, for a song (upper right). In another lively number, Leroy Mobley leads the cast in song as pastor of the Rhythm of Life Church (photo bottom right).



The City Island Theater Group pulled out all the stops with its presentation of “Sweet Charity” in November this year. This was a big production, a “really big show,” as Ed Sullivan might have said, and the CITG’s ability to successfully produce a show requiring this kind of sophistication demonstrates the troupe’s ever-increasing talents.

The story of “Sweet Charity” is based on a 1957 Italian film called “Nights of Cabiria,” which was directed by Federico Fellini. Set in Rome, the film features an ever-hopeful but naive prostitute played by Giulietta Masina who nearly drowns after being pushed into a river by her boyfriend when he steals her purse. Her life follows this basic theme through the film, which ends with her bloodied by life but unbowed and looking forward to the future.

The musical “Sweet Charity” premiered on Broadway in 1966 with Gwen Verdon in the role of Charity, under the direction (and with the choreography) of Bob Fosse. In the Broadway version, the prostitute had morphed into Charity Valentine, the taxi dancer, but she was still mugged in the opening sequence by a poorly chosen boyfriend in pursuit of her purse and tossed into a lake, this time in Central Park, and the theme remained one of being ever hopeful but unlucky in love. The musical was nominated for 12 Tony awards, winning for Best Choreography. The 1986 revival won four Tonys (Best Revival, Featured Actress, Featured Actor and Costume Design). The 2005 revival garnered three nominations.

The story went back onto the silver screen in 1969, as “Sweet Charity: The Adventures of a Girl Who Wanted to Be

Loved,” still directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse, with Shirley MacLaine starring as Charity. The film received three Academy Award nominations, although it did not do well at the box office.

Box office was not an issue at the City Island Theater Group’s production. In fact, this production broke all attendance records for the group. The show entertained large, enthusiastic audiences for all its performances and completely sold out in its closing weekend.

Catt John displayed real star power in the lead role of Charity Valentine, conveying the character’s inner sense of self worth in the face of adversity and her (often-misplaced) belief in the basic goodness of others. Steven Bendler (Oscar Lindquist) did a great job of capturing and then breaking Charity’s heart, leaving her as the audience met her, beside a lake in Central Park. Their closing scene was memorable; a pin dropped in the hushed house would have sounded explosive.

Susan Rauh (Nickie) and Christina Drake (Helene) played Charity’s closest confidantes at the Fandango Ballroom, the Times Square dance hall she has worked at, temporarily, for eight years. Both displayed a convincing mix of hope and despair, dreaming of better lives as receptionists or hat check girls, joining Charity in singing “There has to be something better than this,” even as they feared there might not be.

Keith Rodriguez (Vittorio Vidal) applied just the right touch of smarm in picking up Charity after a screaming fight with his girlfriend Ursula (Justine Costanza), who has left him in a fit of jealousy, at least for the evening. Keith and Justine over-emoted

furiously and perfectly when they reunited at the end of the scene, leaving Charity locked in a closet with movie props, a bottle of wine and a front-row view of their reconciliation.

Leroy Mobley (Big Daddy Brubeck) simply dominated his scene, as the ring-leader of a wonderfully shady church group called the Rhythm of Life, which met under the Manhattan Bridge, and Freddie Lando as Herman, who rules the Fandango with an iron fist, wearing an astonishingly shiny shirt. As “Sweet Charity” ended, we learned that he loves to cry at weddings. Frank Siciliano appeared in this role for two of the performances.

Emily Rodriguez (Betsy) and AnneMarie Tomsen (Suzanne) performed one of the musical’s signature dance numbers, “The Rich Man’s Frug.” We all owe a belated thank-you to Bob Fosse and his succeeding choreographers for this number, and a special round of applause to Emily and AnneMarie for re-creating it. Emily Rodriguez also worked as the show’s co-choreographer alongside director Nick Sala.

Margaret Cioffi, John Geideman, Sarah Harrold, Ariana Joubert, Elizabeth Paldino, Lindy Tabano and Denis Zepeda (The Company) were the backbone of the show. “Sweet Charity” is a large production, and these players were able to handle multiple acting and dancing roles and also appear in the full company numbers, such as “Big Spender” and “I Love to Cry at Weddings,” as they moved props and changed the backdrops. Throughout the show, the discipline, efforts and commitment to their roles were striking. Without them “Sweet Charity” wouldn’t have been possible.

Bill Magaliff was the show’s musical director, who worked tirelessly for several weeks with the singers, and then played the keyboard for the show as he conducted the Sweet Charity Band, made up of Roger Hartnett (brass) and Greg Westhoff (drums). Hopefully, the Sweet Charity Band will play a part in future CITG productions, as pre-recorded sound tracks just won’t be the same.

Set design was a major project with “Sweet Charity.” There are numerous scenes in this show and they change fre-

quently. A “book” design was used for the scenery, made up of backdrops built on a series of panels and hinged side by side, which enabled the stage crew (aka actors) to leaf quickly through them during set changes. This design idea from director Nick Sala was realized through the efforts of John Byrne and Con Grondahl, who did the construction, and Dorothy Muccio and Sam Santiago, who painted the sets.

Costuming “Sweet Charity” was also a major challenge. There were 18 members of the cast, and during the course of the show, each one required at least three costume changes. Somehow Carol McCabe was able to handle all of this, finding everything from sequin-covered ball gowns to Charity’s various costumes, each one of them a bright red. What’s even more amazing is that Carol claims to have loved every minute of it.

Even the props weren’t easy. Tables were found at Sammy’s Shrimp Box, a beautiful cake and a rolling bar cart at Amazon.com, and a baby outfit at St. Mary’s Thrift Shop. The hardest one, though, was a simple gym locker, which prop mistress Barbara Dolensek was finally able to locate in New Jersey, although in the process of obtaining it, her car was rear-ended by a Bergen County police officer. Barbara shrugs off the incident, saying that the new rear end of her car looks better than ever.

Nick Sala directed “Sweet Charity” with incredible stamina and vision, and he even devised some of the show’s choreography. He was assisted in the production by the tireless Maria Provenzano as production stage manager and Joe Burke Jr. as lighting director. “Sweet Charity” is a large, complicated show with a lot of actors and moving parts, and Grace Episcopal Church does not have a large stage. The successful planning, direction and execution of this fine musical are a testament to their skills and talents.

One of the charms of “Sweet Charity” is the character of Charity Valentine and her belief that hope and good intentions can overcome all obstacles. By the final curtain, we all were persuaded that perhaps, in spite of everything, Charity might just be right.

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Bartow-Pell Events

The Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum (BPMM) on Shore Road has a busy schedule running right through the holidays into the New Year.

The Holiday Candlelight First Friday and Bronx Seaside Trolley will take place on Friday, Dec. 3, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Experience the magic of the mansion at night—by candlelight—fully decorated for the holidays. It's a storybook Christmas with each room in the mansion featuring a Christmas tree inspired by a 19th- or early 20th-century children's storybook. Do a little shopping at our Holiday Shop and enjoy music by the wonderful Metropolitones, a seven-sisters-college alums a cappella group. Light refreshments will be served.

The free Bronx Seaside Trolley makes a continuous loop from Pelham Bay Park #6 subway station to Bartow-Pell to City Island. Registration requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost: \$10 adults, \$7 seniors and children 6-17; members free.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the museum will present its annual Holiday Family Day. Holiday spirit abounds during this fun-filled day. Children will delight at Christmas storytelling and holiday crafts, as well as professional photographs with Santa (additional fee), holiday shopping, caroling and more. Storytelling will be at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.; space is limited and registration is required; call 718-885-1461 or info@bpmm.org. Cost: \$20 children age one and up; members \$15 (adults and children under one free).

The Bronx Arts Ensemble Holiday Concerts will take place on both Saturday, Dec. 11, and Sunday Dec. 12, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. This concert with music for St. Nicholas is free, but space is limited and tickets are required. Call the Bronx Arts Ensemble at 718-601-7399 for tickets. The Museum will not be open for guided tours those afternoons.

Candlelight tours will be given on Saturday, Dec. 11, between 6 and 8 p.m. Christmas trees inspired by children's holi-

day stories adorn rooms throughout the mansion, and costumed docents will highlight 19th-century holiday traditions. Light refreshments will be served. Registrations are requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost: \$10 adults, \$7 seniors and children 6-17.

Why spend school vacation days at your house when you could spend them in ours? On Martin Luther King Day, the museum will hold one of its BPMM Adventures, Great Explorations, on Monday, Jan. 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Solve mansion history mysteries during a fun-filled day of creative crafts, cool games and more. The event is recommended for children in grades 1 through 4. Registration is required. Call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org before the deadline, which is Monday, Jan. 3. Cost: \$30; members \$25.

Our annual Winter Owl Walk and Talk will take place on Sunday, Jan. 23, from 4 to 6 p.m. Dr. Robert DeCandido, also known as "Birding Bob" to legions of New Yorkers who avidly follow him around city parks looking for feathered friends, will answer your every owl question. Learn which owls are most often spotted in Pelham Bay Park at this time of year and then, fortified with hot cocoa, follow the maestro around the grounds to observe his technique for summoning these amazing creatures from their treetops. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost: \$10 adults; \$7 seniors and children; members \$7 adults; \$5 seniors and children.

On Saturday, Feb. 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. enjoy "Be Mine Victorian Valentine Workshop." This is your chance to show you care—not with a boring, store-bought card, but with a handmade, full-of-charm, sure-to-woo valentine. Learn about the history of valentines and the use of printed "scraps" commonly used to create them in the 19th century while you create your memorable valentine. A fun workshop for the family—it's not just girl stuff! Registration is required; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpmm.org. Cost: \$5 adults/seniors/children.

Holiday Giving Through P.O.T.S.

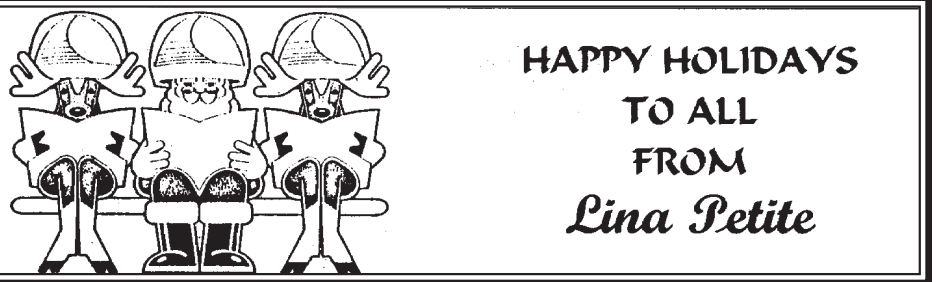
Share the spirit of this holiday season, join in this season of giving and help a needy neighbor. P.O.T.S. (Part Of The Solution) offers food and social services to needy men, women and families in the Webster Avenue area of the Bronx. Part of the program includes providing new, clean clothing to anyone who comes to them in need. Please help refurbish their supply. What is needed are warm hats, gloves, socks; sweats (pants and shirts, medium or large for men and women), underwear (t-shirts, briefs, boxers for men and women); disposable razors; baby dia-

pers size 4, 5 and 6; and baby formula with iron.

To join in the giving, purchase the "gifts" you wish to donate and please do not gift wrap the items. NOTE: For this collection, we cannot accept used clothing.

Drop off the items from Dec. 4 through 12 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church lobby in the gift box by the tree or at Kaleidoscope, 280 City Island Avenue. All items must be in by Sunday, Dec. 12.

For further information, please call Jane La Scala at 718-885-2137.



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A Season for Giving: City Island Celebrates the Holidays

By MONICA GLICK

Lists are being made, parties organized and decorations purchased. Holiday music fills the airwaves, and the air is abuzz with anticipation of celebrating with family and friends. During the season of giving on our City Island home, shops, galleries, restaurants, cafés and businesses are delivering the joy of good times and great gift ideas and so much more!



Seashore Restaurant

Giving a feast in food and fun! The inside décor at **Sea Shore Restaurant** (591 City Island Avenue) shouts “holidays” from the minute you spot the beautiful big tree in the cozy lounge area. Check out the hand-painted holiday-themed mirrors in the main dining room while enjoying a delicious steak or a lobster you hand-picked on your way to your table. If you want a feast for a home or business



Aggie's Roll

party, try **Aggie's Roll** (150 City Island Avenue), our newest business, for baking and catering for all occasions. You can always create a platter for a spontaneous holiday gathering from the fine offerings at **Scavello's IGA City Island Market** (385 City Island Avenue).



Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery

Giving sounds to celebrate! **The Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue) offers holiday treats for your ears. Sundays are filled with holiday-themed performances, including one on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 3 p.m. by City Island's Freddie Lando and his “golden voice.” There is, of course, the annual holiday party at this café gallery on Sunday, Dec.

19, at 3 p.m., featuring songwriter Theresa Sareo. Ring in a New Year here on Friday, Dec. 31, with “jazz man” Lou Volpe.



Chase Bank

Always “sounding good” are **Chase** (207 City Island Avenue) gift cards. “Sounding like a plan” might be a stop in at the winter wonderland of **Artie's Steak & Seafood** (394 City Island Avenue), and sipping a chardonnay while feasting on a chardonnay-poached salmon with little-neck clams and New England mussels, all in a cherry tomato broth. Looking for a new wine? Try a red wine named after City Island found exclusively at **JGL Wines & Liquors** (358 City Island Avenue). Jerry Lavallo can also offer “sound” choices for a multitude of wines and spirits.



Early Ruth Antiques

Giving passion for the past! Paintings peeking out from the glass doors of **Early Ruth Antiques** (319 City Island Avenue) beckon you inside to explore, and there's so much to fall in love with. Treasures from decades fill Captain Smitty's **Silver Arrow Antiques** (275 City Island Avenue), as well as **Quality Antique Furniture** (270 City Island Avenue), just across the street. Capture the present in portraits by Ron Turner of **Focal Point Gallery** (321 City Island Avenue). And while you're there, check out his 20 percent off sale on some jewelry to treasure, as well as his latest artist exhibition.



Focal Point Gallery

The **City Island Nautical Museum** (190 Fordham Street) is open Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and their marble trivet, coasters and tree ornaments with a nautical chart of City Island make wonderful gifts for sailors home from the sea. And you



City Island Nautical Museum

never know what you'll find among the plethora of offerings from **Trader John** (239 City Island Avenue).



Kaleidoscope

Giving gift ideas great and small! Several artists fill **Kaleidoscope** (280 City Island Avenue) with an abundance of gift ideas, from art to ornaments. Check out items like key chains, money clips and bracelets that can also be engraved! **Calico Juno Designs** (310 City Island Avenue) is branching out, adding scarves and purses to Bonnie Riconda's unique jewelry designs. And **Corona's Hidden Treasures** (327 City Island Avenue) still has something to give when it comes to gifts and owners John and Carolyn Corona are just wonderful people to talk with! Get the perfect tree to put all those presents under from Skip Giacco at **Lickety Split** (295 City Island Avenue) and maybe even pick up a wreath for your door or a holly branch arrangement. Other holiday decorations, cards and such can be found just across the street at the **City Island Pharmacy** (290 City Island Avenue). Be sure to give a “hi” to Olivia while you're in there; she's simply adorable!

Giving art and other ways to get creative! **Fe Fi Faux Studio & Gallery** (276 City Island Avenue) can give your wall a makeover turning sheet rock into marble, maybe. And at **Cheryl Brinker's Studio Gallery** (276 City Island Avenue), you can view photography from Marc Hohenstein, with a changing window display. As she does every year, City Island artist Toby Liederman opens her home studio, **Ceramics...and More** (30 Pilot Street) for holiday gift ideas. Or you might want to get something stitched up just in time for boat or home at **Remy's** (272 City Island Avenue).

At **City Island Tattoo** (314 City Island Avenue), the art is on you, literally. And check out City Island's newest fun spot, **Gabrielle's** (312 City Island Avenue). Sample holiday-themed edibles, baked by Rita Michele; there are surprises with purchases and lots of fun holiday “stuff”! Maybe you'll choose to whip up some holiday art at home in your kitchen! Stop by **Connie's New Way Market** (307 City Island Avenue) for all the ingredients and even get some recipes from Sara! There's also fare for fixin' at **Moe's Island Grocery & Deli** (466 City Island Avenue).

Giving a way to just get going! Start a day packed with present-shopping at **City Island Diner** (304 City Island Avenue).

They'll serve you up delicious pancakes, French toast or an egg platter. Skip the coffee and try a delicious hot chocolate instead, whipped cream piled high. You can even end a long day of holiday buying with some holiday cheer at the **Snug** right next door. If it's a Tuesday, you can even get a fat, juicy burger for half price! **The Island Café** (205 City Island Avenue), **Papa John's Deli** (325 City Island Avenue) or **City Island Deli** (520 City Island Avenue) can also get your day started or give you a snack for the afternoon.

And if you want to “get going” on getting those holiday linens ready for table and window display, then **On Board Laundromat** (323 City Island Avenue) right next door to Papa John's is where you want to be.

To “get going” on that fitness pledge even during the holiday season with a visit to **Krunch Time** (538 City Island Avenue). Or perhaps it's a game you need to get your party started. There's plenty to play at **Seafood City** (459 City Island Avenue). And just across the street there's plenty to find in fine cigars at **Don Amadiz** (470 City Island Avenue). To wind down a bit, enjoy a game of pool at **Fella's** (522 City Island Avenue).

Giving a path to pampering! **The Art of Beauty** (413 City Island Avenue) is back in its original spot after last October's fire. This beauty salon has a new look and Eva and her sister, Michelle, can give you a new look for hair and nails. You can visit the Island's longstanding **Lina Petite Salon** (474 City Island Avenue) and get yourself holiday pretty. And for your nails, try stopping by **Bay Rose Nail Salon** (329 City Island Avenue) or **Nail Island** (462 City Island Avenue). And for the men, there is, of course, the **Hollywood Barber Shop** (403 City Island Avenue).

After you're beautiful, have fun at **Brian Dempsey's Ale House** (288 City Island Avenue) with weeknight food specials, karaoke nights and lots of fun times. Treat yourself to a delicious sweet treat from **Sugar and Spice** (536 City Island Avenue). The PIE2 sounds intriguing (pecan pie on the bottom half, and pumpkin pie on the top). There are also this bakery's Thursday Night Dinners when chef Alex Pertsovsky and pastry chef Virginia Ng outdo their already innovative weekday offerings.

Don't forget to pamper your “best friend” at **Doggie Island** (268 City Island Avenue).



Jack's Bait & Tackle

Giving a taste for the sea! **Jack's Bait & Tackle** (551 City Island Avenue) is offering 10 to 30 percent off its fishing and boating items. Learn more there about a winter codfish cruise! You can also reel in some buys across the street at **Island Bait & Tackle** (632 City Island Avenue). Perhaps you'd prefer the already caught and delicious fish fare at **JPs Restaurant** (703 Minneford Avenue), **Lobster Box** (34 City Island Avenue), **The Harbor** (565 City Island Avenue), **Sammy's Fish Box** (41 City Island Avenue), or the **Lobster House** (691 City Island Avenue). The spicy hot piri piri shrimp appetizer at the **Original Sammy's Shrimp Box** (64 City Island Avenue) sounds intriguing, as do the

Continued on page 22

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

DECEMBER

Wed., Dec. 1, **Hanukkah Menorah Lighting**, Hawkins Park, 5:30 p.m., sponsored by Temple Beth-El and the Chamber of Commerce.

Sat., Dec. 4, to Sun., Dec. 12, **P.O.T.S. Christmas Giving Program**, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church lobby in the gift box by the tree. Donate new articles of clothing, including sweatshirts and pants, gloves, hats, or socks. Call 885-2137 for information.

Fri., Dec. 3, and Sat., Dec. 4, **Annual Christmas Fair**, Trinity United Methodist Church. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 4, and Sun., Dec. 5, **St. Mary's Thrift Shop Christmas Sale**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Mary's School Gym and in the Thrift Shop, 595 Minneford Avenue.

Sat., Dec. 11, **Christmas Crafts Fair, Bake Sale and Grace Café**, Grace Episcopal Church, City Island Avenue and Pilot Street, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 18, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: pasta with meatballs or meat sauce.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year!

JANUARY

Tues., Jan. 25, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

Grace Episcopal Church

All are warmly welcomed to join us for any of our regular weekly worship services, which are as follows: Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at 10 a.m.; evening prayer is offered every Monday at 7 p.m.; and morning prayer is offered every Wednesday at 10 a.m. The Laying on of Hands for Healing is offered on the second Sunday of the month, at the close of our regular worship.

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

Sunday, Dec. 5, 9:50 a.m.: "Lambs" babysitting available (Parish Hall).

Monday, Dec. 6, 3 to 9 p.m.: Blood Drive in honor of Emily Sexton and in thanksgiving for the Jacobi Hospital Trauma Team (Grace Church Parish Hall). Everyone eligible to give the gift of life is urged to come out in support of Emily Sexton. The blood drive will be held in conjunction with the New York Blood Center. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Lisa at 914-784-4643, or lflore@nybloodcenter.org.

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7 to 8:30 p.m.: Bible Study and "Hearts and Hands" Knitting Ministry (Parish Hall).

Saturday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Seventh Annual Grace Church Christmas Crafts Festival, featuring the very popular "Grace Café".

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m.: Bible Study and "Hearts and Hands" Knitting Ministry (Parish Hall).

Friday, Dec. 17, 6:30 p.m.: Christmas caroling in the neighborhood. All are welcome to join us! Meet in the Grace Parish Hall and we will set out from there.

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7 to 8:30 p.m.: Bible Study and "Hearts and Hands" Knitting Ministry (Parish Hall).

Friday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, the "Christ-Mass".

Saturday, Dec. 25, 10 a.m.: Christmas Day Service of Holy Eucharist.

Rev. Patricia Alexander

Temple Beth-El

Happy Hanukkah from Temple Beth-El, an all-inclusive, egalitarian, multiethnic Jewish congregation for people of all ages. We are located at 280 City Island Avenue, between Beach and Bowne Streets. Sabbath services are conducted every Friday at 7:30 p.m. Jews of all traditions and people of all faiths are welcome.

Dec. 1: The first lighting of the Community Menorah at Hawkins Park will be led by Rabbi Shohama Wiener at 5:30 p.m. There will be songs, dignitaries and hot apple cider. This is a nice (brief) event for people of all faiths to welcome the holiday. Please join us.

Dec. 5: A Hanukkah party led by Reb David Marcus will be at the temple from 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be latkes, doughnuts, dreidels, music and fun.

Dec.10, 7:30 p.m.: Reb David leads Shabbat Service with musical accompaniment and a baby naming.

Dec.17, 7:30 p.m.: Our first ever Spiritual Sharing Group will be led by Rabbi Shohama. Come and experience something new and special as we begin an exploration of group and individual spirituality.

Jan.14: A special Kabbalat Shabbat service will be led by Rabbi Shohama with Dr. Allen Weaver, Pastor of Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle. Dr. Weaver will give a talk about Miriam, Moses and Martin (Luther King). The service starts at 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 21: The second Shabbat Spiritual Sharing group starts at 7:30 p.m.

Ken Binder

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

Sunday, Nov. 28, marked the beginning of the holy season of Advent, a time of preparation for the coming of Our Savior at Christmas. We wish everyone a happy, peaceful season!

Our monthly holy hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday, Dec. 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome.

Our annual Thrift Shop Christmas Sale will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 4 and 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Mary's School Gym and in the Thrift Shop. Come! Browse and shop for bargains.

Wednesday, Dec. 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a holyday of obligation. Masses will be at 7 and 8 a.m., 12 noon, and 7:30 p.m. It is under this title that we honor Mary as the Patroness of the United States.

Sunday, Dec. 12, is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Her statue will be given a special place in the sanctuary at all the Masses on that day. Our Lady of Guadalupe has been declared the patroness of all the Americas.

All are welcome to join us in the rectory for our monthly coffee hour after the 10 o'clock mass on Sunday, Dec. 12. On that same day, our St. Mary's choir will bring their joyful voices for an evening of Caroling at Pilot Cove at 7 p.m.

Our annual Ceremony of Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday evening, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Come join us for a joyous, prayerful evening in preparation for Christmas.

The joyful celebration of the Birth of Christ will begin with our 8 p.m. Liturgy on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, preceded by the singing of Christmas Carols at 7:30 p.m. Masses on Christmas Day will be at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon. A very Happy Christmas to all!

The New Year begins with the celebration of the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary,



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Reb David Markus, Senior Counsel to the Leader of the NY State Senate (as well as the rabbinic intern at Temple Beth-El of City Island), conducted a non-partisan community forum entitled "What's at Stake in New York State" at Temple Beth-El on Sunday, Oct. 24, about Election 2010.

Mother of God. This is not a holy day of obligation this year. However, to give everyone the opportunity to assist at Mass at the beginning of a new year, we will have an Anticipated Mass on Friday, Dec. 31, at 5:15 p.m. Masses on Jan. 1 will be at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. A very Happy, Peaceful New Year to all!

Our regular Sunday schedule will begin the evening of Jan. 1 with our usual 5:15 anticipated Mass.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

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

On Dec. 12, Pastor Susan Chadwick will host her annual holiday open house at the parsonage next door to the church on Bay Street starting at 1 p.m. On Dec. 19 at 10 a.m., the Sunday school children take over the service and present their annual Christmas Pageant, followed by a coffee hour with a very special guest. The Christmas Eve service is held at 10 p.m. on Dec. 24.

Don't forget to stop by the Budget Corner during its regular hours, you never know what you may find!

And finally, the members and friends of Trinity United Methodist Church would like to wish everyone a holiday season filled with much joy and happiness. May God bless each of you.

Rick DeWitt

Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 156

Our squadron would like to pay tribute to Russ Schaller Sr., Bob Branizza, Tom Costello and Bob Booth, who were this year's Bronx Veterans Day parade honorees and longtime honorees of our post.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, the annual Pearl Harbor Ceremony will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Legion monument triangle near the City Island bridge. Please come out and pay tribute to our troops who died on that day 69 years ago.

Monday, Dec. 20, will be the Post Christmas party, which starts at 7 p.m. Come on out and have a drink and some award-winning snacks.

Dues (\$30) are now due. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m.

**Fred Ramftl Jr.
Vice Commander, Membership**

City Island Nautical Museum

Our lecture last month on Hart Island drew a crowd as large as we had for the talk on Robert Moses in October. Norman Brouwer, for many years marine historian at the South Street Seaport Museum, spoke of Hart Island's history and showed photographs he took there in 1985 (no one is allowed to take photographs there now). Several members of the audience spoke of their own recollections, especially Tom McCarthy, who worked there for several years and has done a good deal of research on the subject himself.

The museum was happy to host a meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission at which a number of important City Island structures were discussed as potential landmarks. One of those buildings is in fact the former P.S. 17 building in which the museum is housed.

Be sure to drop by the museum during the holidays, especially if you have family members visiting from out of town. We have some elegant gifts to offer for a modest donation, including Christmas tree ornaments with the nautical chart image of City Island.

Many thanks to those of you who renewed your membership for 2011, and a special note of gratitude to those of you who made special donations. We are very fortunate to have received a grant again this year from the city's Department of Cultural Affairs, thanks to Council member James Vacca, but we rely on private donations and our membership dues to keep the museum open in the afternoon on both Saturday and Sunday.

Barbara Dolensek

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080



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

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

Fifth Annual Holiday Party: A Members-Only Event! Friday, Dec. 10, 7 to 10 p.m. The CICC Board invites all our members for a fabulous evening of food, drinks and fun. This year's entertainment is our own local Blue Collar: A Funkin Blues Band. See you there!

First Annual Holiday Dance Party - 7th and 8th Grade Island Youth: Friday, Dec. 17, 7 to 10 p.m. Rock & roll, hip-hop, snacks and beverages. Music by DJ Scubba. Advanced tickets only: \$10. Contact Lisa LaBriola, labtwin@verizon.net and 917-776-5469 or Michael Shanley, bxshanley@optonline.net and 917-721-8747.

SPECIAL EVENTS/NEW PROGRAMS
Holiday Crafts with Laury Hopkins For Grades K-2, Mondays, Dec. 6, 13, 20. For Grades 3-5, Tuesdays, Dec. 7, 14, 21, from 3:15 to 4:30. \$25 per student. Please call Laury at 718-885-3202 to sign up or for more information (leave a message). Space is limited.

Tai Kwando Classes for men, women and children. Lil Dragons/Hapkido for teens and adults; Body Blast Cardio Kickboxing for men and women. For schedule, fees and information, please call Jahbumnim Eddie at 917-742-2007 or visit www.dragon-spathacademy.com.

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

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

Mommy and Me Fitness: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m. A high-energy aerobics class that allows you to bring your children along up to the age of 6. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

Fall Art Classes by Laury Hopkins: **Storytime Art for PreK** ages 2 ½ and up. Must be accompanied by responsible adult. Monday or Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. **Story and Picture for Grades K-2.** Mondays 3:15 to 4:15 or 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. **Animal World for Grades 3-4.** Tuesdays 3:15 to 4:15 or 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.; **Portfolio Prep for Grades 5-8,** Thursdays 3:15 to 4:30 or 4:45 to 6 p.m.; All classes limited to six students; no exceptions. Ten classes beginning in September; the schedule to be determined by school/holiday calendar. \$100 per class. For more information or to sign up, call Laury at 718-885-3202.

ADULT PROGRAM

Gentle Yoga-Qi Gong Class with Norma: Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Get into shape, relax the body and mind and have some fun doing it! This class is a combination of low-impact Hatha Yoga and Qi-Gong (free form Tai Chi) and mild stretches. Although this class is geared to those who have not exercised in a while, all levels are welcome. Price per class is \$7. Please bring a yoga mat, yoga strap and yoga blocks. Most of these items are available at Barnes &

Noble, Modell's, Target or K-Mart. Straps and blocks will be available for purchase on the day of the class. For more information, please call 718-730-3442. Namaste.

Fit for Life with Sarah: Hi-Lo impact aerobics, strength training/toning, kickboxing and more. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SheWorkHer: Tired of feeling like the "little woman" when it comes to basic home repair? Join us every other Monday and learn plumbing, electrical, carpentry and more. SheWorkHer is for women dedicated to helping women learn just how much they can do with a few tools and the right knowledge and save hundreds of dollars doing it yourself. Call Nancy today at 646-235-1175 and reserve your spot.

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

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

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

Amy Gottlieb

Legion News

The annual Bronx Veterans' Day Parade # 26 is now history. Three of my comrades and I served as grand marshals, and we all considered this quite an honor. Robert Branizza, Thomas Costello and I covered the route in antique cars; Robert Booth was not able to join us, unfortunately.

Bob Branizza and Tom Costello had interesting experiences during their tenure in the military. Tom, an infantry soldier, was captured at Anzio, Italy, and Bob, navigator of a B-24, was captured after being shot down over Berlin. Both were guests of the German government for the duration of the war. I was more fortunate, as the German army ran out of gas on the east side of the Meuse during the Battle of



Photos by RICK DEWITT

Many Islanders gathered on Sunday, Nov. 14, to listen to marine historian Norman Brouwer (photo left) speak of Hart Island's history and to share his photographs of the old buildings and monuments there.



the Bulge, while my squadron, without our aircraft, were on the west side. There are profiles of all of us available in past issues of *The Island Current* on file in the Nautical Museum library.

I have no reports of anyone on sick call. I did talk to Jennie Varian and she reports that both she and Donald are doing well at Meadowview Assisted Living at the Wartburg. I'm sure Jennie would like to hear from some of her old friends. The address is 2 Wartburg Place, Mount Vernon, NY 10552.

We mourn the passing of John Frawley; may he rest in peace.

There is one meeting in the month of December, on Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be brief and followed by the Post Christmas party. The commander reports that the meeting associated with the annual Christmas party is always well attended, and he feels that this phenomenon is the result of good food and a little libation.

Pearl Harbor Day is Dec. 7, and the Sons of the Legion will conduct the annual service at the monument at the City Island bridge on Saturday, Dec. 4. The troops will muster at the Post at 11 o'clock and march to the bridge. Please try to attend.

The children's Christmas party will be on Sunday, Dec. 19. See the Bulletin for details.

For your WW II buffs, it was 5 a.m. on Dec. 16, 1944, on a bitter cold morning with very heavy icy winter fog, when the German army launched a massive attack through the Ardennes forest, taking the green American troops by surprise. The battle would last until Dec. 23, when the weather cleared, and both the 9th and 8th Army Air Force were able to get into the air and General Patton's 3rd Army arrived on the ground. Then the tide of war once again turned, and this heralded the final 100 days of the Nazi Reich.

At ease and parade rest until the next newsletter.

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus

Rotary Club of the Bronx

The Rotary Club of the Bronx is excited to announce that it will be co-sponsoring a little boy from Kosovo for Gift of Life surgery in December. Our co-sponsor is the Yorktown Rotary Club.

It was a Thanksgiving in earnest for all concerned as he arrived with his parents

on Nov. 24, just in time to join in a fine all-American holiday. If all goes well with his preliminary examinations, he will have his life-saving heart surgery well before Christmas, soon after Hanukkah. We will all be celebrating this beautiful gift of life and the holidays will have extra meaning this year.

Come celebrate with us at our Annual Holiday Party at the Harbor Restaurant on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 12:15 p.m. Members of the Bronx Opera Company will be performing for us. It is always a heartwarming way to start the season. Tickets are \$45 each, which includes the luncheon and entertainment. Please call Mary Springman at 718-617-1600 to make reservations. It is usually a packed house, so call early!

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner



Holiday Services

Temple Beth-El

480 City Island Avenue

Wednesday, Dec. 1: Hanukkah Menorah Lighting. 5:30 p.m. in Hawkins Park.

Sunday, Dec. 5: Hanukkah party at the Temple from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with traditional holiday refreshments.

Trinity United Methodist Church

113 Bay Street

Sunday, Dec. 12: Pastor Sue's Open House, 1 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 19: Children's Christmas Pageant, 10 a.m. Children's Christmas Party following the service.

Friday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 10 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Grace Episcopal Church

City Island Avenue at Pilot Street

Friday, Dec. 17: Christmas Caroling in the Grace Church neighborhood, 6:30 p.m. All welcome. Meet at Grace Parish Hall.

Friday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Holy Communion Service, 10 a.m.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

City Island Avenue near the Bridge

Sunday, Dec. 19: Lessons and Carols Concert, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve, Carols at 7:15 p.m. and Mass at 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon. No anticipated Mass for Sunday.

Friday, Dec. 31: Anticipated Mass for Feast of Mary, Mother of God, 5:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 1: New Year's Day (Feast of Mary Mother of God), Masses at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., 5:15 p.m. (anticipated Mass for Sunday).

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Public School 175

The last few weeks have been exciting for the P.S. 175 community. On Tuesday, Oct. 26, we hosted our annual Family-Pajama Night for children in kindergarten through grade 3 and our fourth- and fifth-graders watched a Halloween movie and snacked on delicious treats. On Thursday, Oct. 28, our sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders attended their Halloween dance. These were fun-filled evenings enjoyed by all! We are especially grateful to all of our teachers who volunteered their time to make these nights so much fun for our students and their families.

Many of our classes have taken enriching and exciting field trips already this year. The third grade visited the Botanical Garden and the American Museum of Natural History; the fourth grade took its annual trip to St. Paul's Church; the fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth grades visited the American Museum of Natural History; and the seventh and eighth grades visited the Botanical Garden.

This year's Penny Harvest program has begun. Mr. Scopp, our student government leader, organized the collection of pennies (nickels, dimes, quarters and bills too!) to be donated to a charity selected by the student body, still to be determined.

The Lincoln Center Institute is once again working with our students and teachers in kindergarten through third grade. The first work of art they are studying this year is "Mountain Music," which culminated in a live musical performance at the school. In the spring, teachers and students will be doing a dance study of "Ghostcatching," which is choreographed and performed by Bill T. Jones.

Lynne Hurdle-Price continues to work weekly with students on character development, anti-bullying and student leadership skills. She has been working with students in grades two through eight on how to be respectful of each other and how to talk about and respect each others' differences.

Once again, all classes will be participating in community service projects this year. Lower-grade classes will do class activities; the middle grades will work on small group activities, while our eighth graders, who are required to provide 10 hours of service in order to graduate, will work on individual activities. We are happy to once again be

collaborating with Brenda Prohaska and the Community Center on community service projects for our eighth-grade students! While some students are working to find their own projects, others have been working with Brenda to find meaningful ways to contribute to their community. This is just another wonderful example of how well our community and school work so well together!

Citizens of the month for October were: Jayden Rogers and Matthew McGaughan (kindergarten); Jennifer Gjonaj and Aidan Hanley-Piri (first grade); Rachel Middleton and Maria Leni (second grade); Joseph Cruz and Jayline Diaz (third grade); Anthony Paradiso and Jayana Hauser (fourth grade); Lydia McElroy and Jada Sanabria (fifth grade); Elena Kola and Ashley Livingston (sixth grade); Francesca Paradiso and Michael Pirraglia (seventh grade); and Brianna Reilly and Alexander Rosas (eighth grade).

Citizens of the month for November were: Kenzi St. Clair and Jessica Desgroseilliers (kindergarten); Christina Lachman and Johanna Doyle (first grade); Cole Wiehler and Rasmus Pedersen (second grade); Serena Balassi and Jade Villafana (third grade); Angelo Ejli and Harry Banham (fourth grade); John Tomsen and Gianna Cambria (fifth grade); Samantha Germosen and Mario Castillo (sixth grade); Hannah Glick and Amanda Devlin (seventh grade); Nigel Green and Michele Lombardo (eighth grade).

Upcoming events include the Hollyrock Game Show and our annual Holiday Sing.

A special thank-you to our wonderful City Island community for all the support they showed for the PTA's Election Day sale. It was a huge success and we are most grateful to our PTA for all their hard work, which enhances the education we are able to provide for our students.

Please keep in mind these important dates: Friday, Dec. 24-Friday, Dec. 31, school closed; classes resume on Monday, Jan. 3.

We wish the entire City Island community a peaceful and joy-filled holiday season.

Organization News

Continued from page 13

Boy Scout Troop 211

The troop would like to thank the Chamber of Commerce and the City Island community for recognizing our efforts in providing a challenging, adventurous and safe environment for active youth at their annual awards dinner on Nov. 13. Troop leaders plan and hold a meeting nearly every Friday night from September through May and offer at least one activity per month. (It's like planning and taking a family trip every month with 15 adopted sons!) Although it is a rewarding experience, the pace and routine can be taxing, so we are grateful when we get recognized for these efforts.

Troop 211 has had a busy end of 2010. Our two camping trips in October and November included a one-mile hike with full packs, wall climbing, fire-building contests, archery, animal tracking and, of course, lots of hot chocolate. You may also have seen our scouts in uniform giving out our popular "Winter Safety" brochures, which provide safety tips on winter driving, exposure to the elements and electric heater use in the home.

If you want to know more about our latest activities, check the Troop 211 Bulletin Board in the window of 246 City Island Avenue. If you would like Troop 211 to provide your business with winter safety brochures for your customers or if you know a young leader who wants to join our troop, please e-mail Troop211ideas@yahoo.com.

Waldo Persteins, Scoutmaster

PSS Transportation Program

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

For further information and a complete schedule of transportation and exercise programs, call Patty at 718-885-1891. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services, the NYC Department for the Aging and the NYC Arthritis Foundation.

Pat Grondahl

PSS Healthy Exercise Program

At this very busy time of year, it is especially important to take care of yourself. Please join us at Zumba with Stephanie on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Center; Cardio Fitness with Mary on Tuesdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Sittercise with Patty on Tuesdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Orchard Beach Walk on Wednesdays (leave Pilot Street at 9:30 a.m.); Yoga Stretch with Michael on Thursdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Arthritis Exercise with Patty on Thursdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Indian Folk/Zumba with Adelaide on Fridays at 10 a.m. at Grace Church Hall.

Remember that you can attend all classes for \$20 per month, or all classes for \$6 per week. Or you can contribute to individual classes at \$2 for exercise and \$4 for dance.

Pat Grondahl

City Island Republicans

We have plenty to celebrate this year! We took back the House of Representatives with at least 61 new seats, five still undecided, two of them in New York State. We picked up enough seats in the State Assembly to erase Sheldon Silver's veto-proof majority, and control of the State Senate has still not been decided at press time. We hoped to get unofficial results, but because workers at the Board of Elections are extremely busy, we did not receive them before going to press.

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, we will hold our Christmas party at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion Post 156

Welcome to our new members, who were sworn into the auxiliary: Jane Gelsi and Barbara Stiene.

A really nice time was had by all at the Serviceman's Dance, which was held at the Post on Nov. 20. A job well done!

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the Post. This will be our "Trim-the-Tree" meeting. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share with the others. Also, keep in mind that there is no meeting scheduled for January 2011.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Regina Murphy

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Assemblyman
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Photo by KATHY LAMANTIA

Hutchinson River Restoration Project president Eleanor Rae received a grant on Oct. 31 from Peter Kostmayer, CEO of the Citizens' Committee of New York City. Pictured here (l. to r.) are Violet Smith, Helen Friedman, Toby Liederman, Inge Otto, Peter Kostmayer, Eleanor Rae, Patty Grondahl, Rose Zervas and Thelma Leemans.

An Attitude of Gratitude for Our Children and Ourselves

By JOHN SCARDINA

In the midst of our material possessions—even the least fortunate of us often have more than most of the world's people—it is easy to take our gifts for granted. Even when beset by hardship, we find that an attitude of gratitude is a valuable tool for emotional well-being. How can we engender this attitude in ourselves and our children?

Say "thank you" as if you mean it. Don't just toss off that phrase, but make eye contact and give a smile. Work with your child to make this a meaningful exchange: it really sets a tone.

Stop and say grace before a meal. A moment of silence, a simple prayer, a song (my grandchildren like to sing the "Johnny Appleseed" grace), any conscious moment to be grateful goes far. (It also improves digestion and allows the cook to sit down before everyone digs in!)

Make a gratitude list. Have each family member list 10 things they are grateful for and post the lists on the refrigerator. When you or your child is feeling especially beset by the world, take out the list

and read it.

Realize that it isn't just about you. Human beings have evolved as social beings and need the nurture and care of one another. (Current brain research stresses the development of the "social brain" as a vital part of maturation.) Let your family and friends know that you are grateful for their presence in your life.

Give the gift of "presence" as well as "presents." This phrase has been spoken by many people and is among my favorites. The simplest and most direct way to share of yourself is to be there for another person in their times of need as well as in their times of joy.

Blessings to all as this holiday season unfolds.

Island resident John Scardina is a certified school psychologist, child development expert and parent educator. Join his parenting courses at the City Island Community Center and Bronx Community College. Also check out John's website at www.ThinkLaughLearn.com.



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 ~ Psalm 96:1-3

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Friday, December 17 th 6:30 PM: Christmas Caroling in the Grace Church neighborhood	Friday, December 24 th , 7:00 PM: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, the "Christ-Mass"
Sunday, December 19 th 10:00 AM: The Fourth Sunday of Advent	Saturday, December 25 th 10:00 AM: Christmas Day Service of Holy Eucharist

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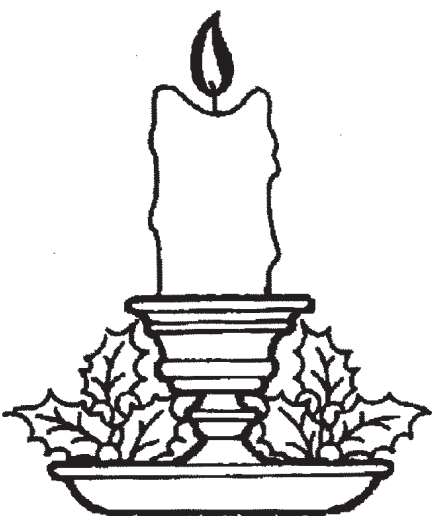
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Merry Christmas



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Photo by RICK DeWITT

In October, Trinity United Methodist Church held its annual fall food and bake sale. Lots of delicious home made goodies were for sale and the Budget Shop was open. Helping out that beautiful day was (l. to r.) Ellen Hebard, Betsy Gray, Violet Smith, Pat LaPorte and Inge Otto. If you missed the Trinity home made goodies, you can catch their Christmas Fair on Dec. 3 and 4.

MR. AMERICA'S PERSONAL TRAINING

By BUTCH NIEVES

Don't Complicate Things

The main reason that you're not happy with your weight is because of what you eat. It's not all your fault. Have you ever stopped to notice how many times you're bombarded by food marketing each day? Ads come at you from magazine pages and television commercials, on websites and billboards, each one boasting of cheap, convenient and tasty ways to cure your hunger.

The question "What's for dinner?" has never been more complex than now. Extensive menu options and large entrees have distorted your concept of a proper meal, and before you know it you've fallen into the trap of the chain restaurant, the drive through, and the take-out line. But wait. Truly healthy eating is simple.

First you need to block out the blizzard of food marketing around you. Remember that advertisers want your money, and they don't stop to consider if the food they promote will expand your waist. That's your job.

It's safe to say that, with few exceptions, any food that you see being marketed should be avoided. When was the last time you saw an ad for grilled white fish, steamed broccoli and a side order of brown rice?

So what does truly healthy eating look like? A healthy meal contains lean protein, fresh vegetables and a modest serving of whole grains. Just as importantly, a healthy meal does NOT contain: refined sugar or corn syrup, fried or fatty food; full-fat dairy food; or processed food with chemical additives.

Healthy Breakfast

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. What you decide to eat when you first wake up will set the tone for the rest of your meals that day. Try these healthy options: scrambled egg whites, sliced tomato and whole grain toast, or whole-grain oatmeal, sliced fruit and a protein shake; or a homemade breakfast sandwich made with a multi-grain English muffin, lean turkey slices and an egg

Healthy Lunch

It is important to plan your lunch ahead of time in order to avoid turning to a fast food joint or vending machine. Pack your lunch the night before and carry it with you. Try these health options: dark baby greens topped with chopped chicken breast and diced tomatoes; albacore tuna (packed in water), mixed with finely chopped cucumber over brown rice; a homemade sandwich with sprouted grain bread with lean turkey slices, lettuce, tomato and mustard.

Healthy Dinner

Dinner is the meal where most people splurge and eat far more calories than they should. Eating at home is the first step in reducing your dinnertime calories. Try these healthy options: grilled white fish, sautéed spinach and whole wheat couscous or a baked chicken breast, steamed broccoli and brown rice.

Although healthy eating is a huge factor in achieving your ideal weight, exercise is the other half of the equation. Your exercise routine should be challenging and should be done on a regular basis. A personalized fitness program will leave your body no choice but to shed those unwanted pounds.

Happy holidays!

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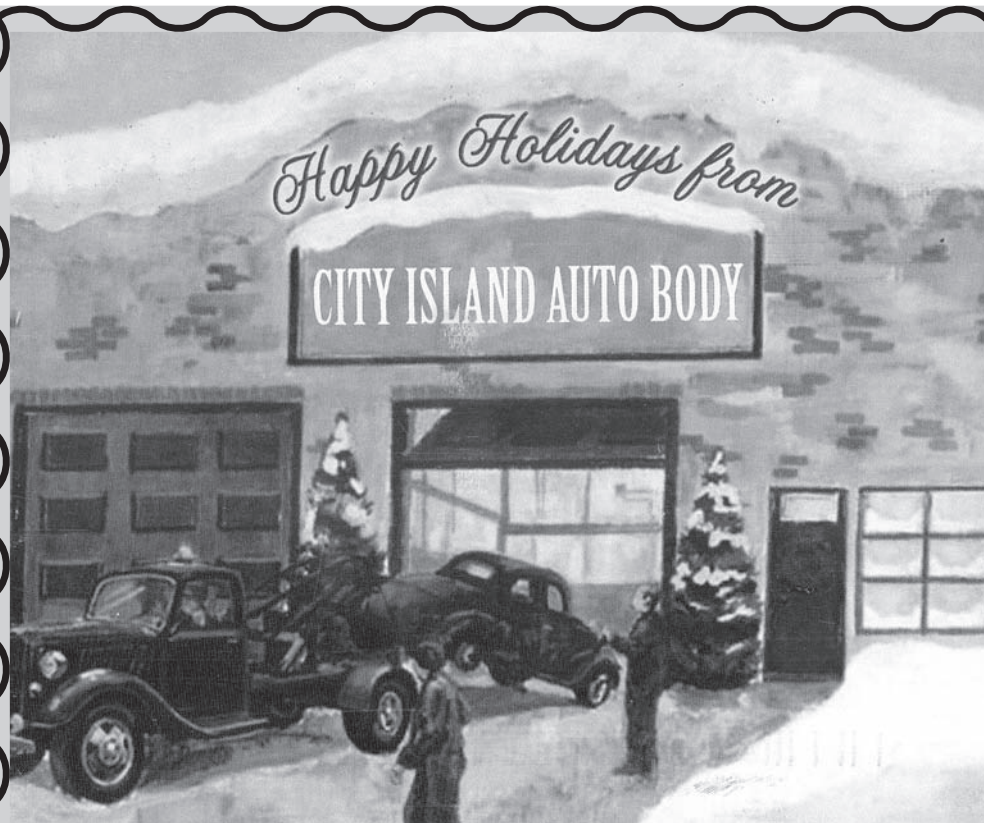
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Selected Filmography of Tom Wilkinson

Tom Wilkinson is a British character actor who began his career on television in the late 1970s and graduated to the silver screen with a memorable role in the highly controversial film **Priest** (1995). He plays Father Matthew Thomas, who shocks a new young priest, Father Greg Pilkington (Linus Roache), with his liberal views of sexuality. Father Greg is struggling with homosexual leanings and indignation over a young girl's confessional revelation of sexual abuse by her father. This film is an examination of how faith, conscience and feeling can sometimes conflict with dogma, ideology and tradition.

In **The Full Monty** (1997), a poignant and funny film, Tom appears as Gerald, an unemployed man who is too ashamed to admit his plight to his wife, so he pretends to go to work everyday. He is enticed into joining some unemployed steelworkers he once supervised. Gaz (Robert Carlyle) and Dave (Mark Addy) have hatched a scheme to make money by stripping in a local club. Tom's character is my favorite, especially in a memorable scene in the unemployment office when they start to move to the music.

Tom Wilkinson has a leading role in **The Governess** (1998), a period film set in the 1830s in which he plays scientist Charles Cavendish, who is trying to solve the problem of fixing photographic images on paper. He is married to a bored and snobbish wife (Harriet Walter), who has hired a governess, Rosina da Silva (Minnie Driver). Charles tries to repress a consuming passion for this beautiful, mysterious woman, to whom he teaches his craft in this visually interesting movie.

Shakespeare in Love (1998) is an Oscar-winning film that considers the concept of Shakespeare (Joseph Fiennes) with a case of writer's block. He meets his match in the lovely Viola de Lesseps (Gwyneth Paltrow), whose dream is to act on the stage at a time when women were prohibited from doing so. Tom appears as stage-struck financier Hugh Fennyman, part of an excellent supporting cast that includes Geoffrey Rush, Colin Firth, Ben Affleck and Judi Dench, who steals her scenes as Queen Elizabeth.

Tom received an Oscar nomination as best actor for his portrayal of Matt Fowler, a respected New England family physician, who with his wife, Ruth (Sissy Spacek), deals with the tragic loss of their son, Frank (Nick Stahl), in the haunting drama **In the Bedroom** (2001). The outstanding cast also includes Marissa Tomei as Natalie, Frank's girlfriend.

Normal (2003) is an exceptional HBO television movie in which Tom stars as Roy Applewood, who on the 25th anniversary of his marriage to Irma (Jessica Lange) finally admits his life-long belief that he was born as a woman. The way in which this dilemma is treated is heart-wrenching with both anger and support coming from unexpected places.

The Girl with a Pearl Earring (2003) is the story of the painter Johannes Vermeer (Colin Firth) and his muse, scullery maid Griet (Scarlett Johansson). Tom plays Vermeer's patron, van Ruijven, who also has his eye on Griet. Every frame of this sumptuous film could be stopped and viewed as a painting.

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (2004) is a quirky movie in which Joel Barish (Jim Carrey) and Clementine Kruczynski (Kate Winslet) have memories of each other erased by Dr. Howard Mierzwiak (Tom Wilkinson), a scientist with his own secrets. This film features fascinating visual effects.

Tom received a supporting actor Oscar nomination for his role in **Michael Clayton** (2007), as Arthur Edens, a law firm's star litigator who has a meltdown of epic proportions. George Clooney appears in the title role as the firm's "fixer," who is supposed to get Arthur under control.

Recount (2008) is an HBO movie that tells the story of the historic 2000 presidential election, in which it took 36 days before George W. Bush was declared the winner over Al Gore. The excellent ensemble cast is led by Kevin Spacey as Gore's senior advisor Ron Klain and Tom as James A. Baker III, who led the Bush effort. This is an engrossing film that looks at both sides in equal measure.

I am very much looking forward to seeing Tom portray Joe Kennedy Sr. in the television series **The Kennedys**, which is currently in production. And until next time, happy viewing. . . .

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FOREVER WILD?

The only thing wild about the new bridge over the marsh at Turtle Cove is the controversy it has stirred up. Some of the jolliest people we know are on the war-path, and, frankly, who can blame them? (See the letter from Jack Rothman in this issue of *The Current*.) Can anyone imagine a structure like that going up in Central Park? It would be front page news in the New York Times. Heads would roll. Maybe even the Mayor's.

Really, if it had to be done at all, wouldn't a modest span of stone and earth have been a better, more appropriate choice? Instead, we get "Ode to Sterility," a gleaming modernist sculpture from the future that screams from all angles to be paid attention to. Is this what we have to look forward to when the city finally gets around to the new City Island Bridge?

What didn't help was the way in which the development at Turtle Cove was portrayed in last month's *Island Current*—way too one-sided, for our tastes. Granted, that area (and many, many others around here and elsewhere) had been overrun by invasive plant species and something may have needed to be done. But by the same token, those creeper vines were home to many nesting birds, some of which are not easy to come by, such as the marsh wren, willow flycatcher and clapper rail. And those trees that were cut down to widen the

path were the roosting place of many of the same egrets that feed in the mud there on a regular basis. We have often commented in this column about the presence of the egrets there, comparing them to ornaments on trees.

Anyway, Mayor Bloomberg did promise New Yorkers one million new trees. We only wish he had told us then that he would have to cut some down in order to make room for them. Maybe we should be thankful he didn't promise a billion new trees.

Dr. Robert DeCandido (aka Birding Bob), who did his PhD research in Pelham Bay Park and knows its flora and fauna, both native and non-native, intimately, puts it all this way: "As I have watched restorations in Pelham Bay Park through the years, they are marked by a thorough lack of planning. For example, did anyone do a species inventory in this area before the work was considered? Why was the original work, including the cutting of trees with yellow warbler nests, done during the breeding season? I expect that left to its own devices the Parks Department will have a wonderful park, but to lose many of the very species that compose the park is kind of like walking into a museum that has no artwork."

Or as Jack puts it in his letter and on his website (www.cityislandbirds.com), bleakly but correctly, we fear: what was supposed to have been "Forever Wild" is now in danger of being "Forever Lost."

SANDMEN ALL NIGHT AND DAY!



Photos by KAREN NANI

The Orchard Beach sand replenishment project began in October, 2010 and contractors, under the auspices of the Army Corps of Engineers, worked around the clock during November. The ship *Padre Island* (top photo) made repeated trips to the north end of Hart Island to deliver over 250,000 cubic yards of sand via 3,500 feet of underwater hose. At the south end of the Orchard Beach promenade, Parks Department work on extending the jetty over 350 feet out into the water continued during both low and high tides. Over ten heavy duty trucks delivered large stones to the site while cranes and back hoes moved them into place (bottom photos). The project is scheduled to be completed in February 2011. Islanders are wondering if they will continue to work on Christmas Day! Visitors to the beach can view the project from the promenade.

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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.



Dorothy Urban

Dorothy Urban

Dorothy May Bartels Urban, 86, beloved wife of Frank Otto Urban and mother to Richard Urban and Lynn Warner, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010, with her family by her side.

Dorothy Bartels was born on May 5, 1924, on City Island, where she lived for the first 80 years of her life. She was a true clam digger and was proud to call City Island her home. Dorothy and Frank Urban were married on June 8, 1947 and enjoyed more than 44 years of marriage. Frank passed away in January of 1991.

Dorothy's passion was her family. It was the love for her family and being a wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and sister that gave her the most happiness. Her pride in being Mom, Granny and "Sweet Aunt Dot" was always her highest priority. Her two favorite days of the year were Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve, for it was on these holidays that her family was always together and enjoyed each other's company, as well her infamous pies for dessert.

Dorothy's favorite pastime was being with her three grandsons, Stephen, Ryan and Bobby. Her eyes lit up whenever she saw them. She recently welcomed her first "granddaughter-in-law," Nichole, into the family.

Dorothy Hoffmann

Dorothy Hoffmann, a lifelong resident of City Island, died at Calvary Hospital on Wednesday, Nov. 17, at the age of 84. A true clam digger, she was born on Aug. 11, 1926, in the house at 88 Centre Street where she lived her entire life. Her father, Edward, was an architect and had built the house for her mother, Viola, when they were first married. Viola was a bookkeeper at Nevins Shipyard.

Dorothy was an only child and enjoyed the attention and advantages of loving parents. She attended P.S. 17 through the eighth grade and eventually went on to become a bookkeeper at a Gristede's Supermarket in New Rochelle, where she worked

until she retired. She remained single and had no children.

One of the most interesting facts about Dorothy's life is that she never ventured further than New Rochelle, not even to Manhattan or Queens. She was content with life on City Island and did not seek a social life beyond her participation in select activities at Trinity United Methodist Church.

She suffered from various infirmities during the last several years of her life and was cared for by her loyal and trusted friends Maria and Frank Murray.

She was buried on Saturday, Nov. 20, in Pelham Cemetery, next to her mother and father. A graveside service was conducted by Rev. Susan Chadwick of Trinity United Methodist Church and was followed by a repast at the Crab Shanty.



Carl Steiner

Carl A. Steiner

Carl Steiner, a longtime resident of City Island, passed away on Oct. 11, 2010, at the age of 89.

Carl's love of boating brought him to City Island, where he and his wife, Vera, lived on Ditmars Street for over 35 years.

He was an active member of the Morris Yacht Club, where he served on many committees. He eventually became commodore of the club and president of the Morris's "Happy Hookers" fishing group.

Carl's participation, sense of humor and love of a good time also made him a popular member of the AARP and City Island's Post 156 of the American Legion.

Carl was predeceased by his beloved wife and her daughter, Alice Ten Eyck Johnson. His is survived by Vera's son, Ronald Ten Eyck and Ron's wife, Edwina. He is also survived by six grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, one great-great grandson and many loving and devoted nieces and nephews. He will be missed by his family, friends and neighbors.

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LESSONS AND CAROLS CONCERT

Sunday, December 19
7:30 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Carols: 7:15PM
Mass: 8:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM
and 12:00 Noon
(No Anticipated Mass for Sunday)

NEW YEAR'S EVE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

Mass: 5:15 PM
(Anticipated Mass for Feast of Mary, Mother of God)

NEW YEAR'S DAY

(Feast of Mary, Mother of God)
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)
Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM

5:15 P.M (Anticipated Mass for Sunday)



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CLAM BY KRISTI MINCIELL, 2010

CITY ISLAND, NEW YORK
Times and heights of high and low water (Eastern Standard 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

DECEMBER 2010									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Wed	0116	0.23	0719	7.78	1408	-0.27	2000	6.92	Wed 01
02 Thu	0218	0.05	0820	8.04	1506	-0.69	2059	7.07	Thu 02
03 Fri	0315	-0.13	0915	8.25	1601	-0.99	2153	7.21	Fri 03
04 Sat	0407	-0.25	1006	8.37	1651	-1.14	2243	7.30	Sat 04
05 Sun	0456	-0.27	1053	8.37	1739	-1.11	2330	7.33	Sun 05
06 Mon	0543	-0.18	1139	8.25	1825	-0.92			Mon 06
07 Tue	0016	7.30	0627	0.00	1223	8.03	1909	-0.61	Tue 07
08 Wed	0101	7.23	0709	0.25	1305	7.74	1951	-0.22	Wed 08
09 Thu	0144	7.12	0749	0.54	1347	7.40	2031	0.19	Thu 09
10 Fri	0228	6.99	0827	0.83	1428	7.05	2105	0.57	Fri 10
11 Sat	0313	6.86	0905	1.08	1512	6.71	2131	0.88	Sat 11
12 Sun	0401	6.75	0949	1.27	1604	6.41	2200	1.10	Sun 12
13 Mon	0452	6.68	1047	1.38	1709	6.18	2241	1.25	Mon 13
14 Tue	0546	6.66	1200	1.38	1817	6.06	2330	1.32	Tue 14
15 Wed	0637	6.72	1305	1.25	1916	6.04			Wed 15
16 Thu	0023	1.32	0723	6.84	1400	1.01	2007	6.12	Thu 16
17 Fri	0118	1.23	0759	7.02	1449	0.70	2052	6.25	Fri 17
18 Sat	0210	1.06	0832	7.26	1534	0.37	2129	6.44	Sat 18
19 Sun	0300	0.84	0909	7.53	1614	0.05	2202	6.67	Sun 19
20 Mon	0347	0.59	0950	7.80	1653	-0.24	2236	6.94	Mon 20
21 Tue	0434	0.33	1032	8.03	1731	-0.48	2315	7.20	Tue 21
22 Wed	0522	0.11	1117	8.17	1811	-0.64	2358	7.43	Wed 22
23 Thu	0611	-0.04	1205	8.18	1854	-0.70			Thu 23
24 Fri	0044	7.59	0702	-0.12	1254	8.03	1940	-0.65	Fri 24
25 Sat	0133	7.66	0757	-0.11	1347	7.74	2029	-0.50	Sat 25
26 Sun	0226	7.64	0858	-0.03	1445	7.34	2124	-0.27	Sun 26
27 Mon	0324	7.55	1013	0.06	1550	6.91	2228	-0.02	Mon 27
28 Tue	0432	7.46	1135	0.06	1713	6.56	2344	0.18	Tue 28
29 Wed	0552	7.44	1249	-0.10	1840	6.45			Wed 29
30 Thu	0058	0.24	0706	7.54	1354	-0.34	1949	6.51	Thu 30
31 Fri	0203	0.18	0810	7.70	1453	-0.61	2049	6.66	Fri 31
JANUARY 2011									
01 Sat	0304	0.09	0908	7.78	1548	-0.74	2143	6.86	Sat 01
02 Sun	0358	-0.04	1001	7.90	1639	-0.86	2233	7.04	Sun 02
03 Mon	0448	-0.13	1049	7.94	1726	-0.86	2320	7.17	Mon 03
04 Tue	0534	-0.13	1134	7.88	1809	-0.73			Tue 04
05 Wed	0003	7.23	0617	-0.05	1216	7.72	1850	-0.50	Wed 05
06 Thu	0044	7.22	0656	0.11	1253	7.49	1926	-0.21	Thu 06
07 Fri	0121	7.16	0729	0.31	1326	7.22	1954	0.10	Fri 07
08 Sat	0153	7.06	0753	0.50	1352	6.95	2005	0.35	Sat 08
09 Sun	0219	6.95	0815	0.67	1420	6.68	2025	0.52	Sun 09
10 Mon	0245	6.86	0850	0.83	1456	6.43	2101	0.68	Mon 10
11 Tue	0321	6.79	0934	0.97	1540	6.20	2144	0.85	Tue 11
12 Wed	0404	6.74	1025	1.09	1631	6.01	2232	1.01	Wed 12
13 Thu	0453	6.74	1124	1.13	1729	5.90	2325	1.12	Thu 13
14 Fri	0548	6.81	1238	1.04	1837	5.94			Fri 14
15 Sat	0024	1.11	0645	6.98	1359	0.76	1948	6.14	Sat 15
16 Sun	0126	0.96	0743	7.25	1457	0.36	2044	6.47	Sun 16
17 Mon	0230	0.67	0838	7.58	1546	-0.09	2130	6.86	Mon 17
18 Tue	0329	0.28	0928	7.92	1630	-0.52	2213	7.27	Tue 18
19 Wed	0422	-0.14	1017	8.19	1713	-0.89	2256	7.65	Wed 19
20 Thu	0514	-0.52	1105	8.36	1755	-1.14	2341	7.95	Thu 20
21 Fri	0604	-0.79	1153	8.37	1837	-1.24			Fri 21
22 Sat	0026	8.12	0655	-0.90	1243	8.20	1922	-1.18	Sat 22
23 Sun	0114	8.15	0748	-0.85	1334	7.86	2009	-0.95	Sun 23
24 Mon	0205	8.02	0848	-0.64	1430	7.39	2101	-0.57	Mon 24
25 Tue	0301	7.77	0959	-0.35	1534	6.87	2204	-0.13	Tue 25
26 Wed	0408	7.47	1117	-0.11	1659	6.44	2325	0.25	Wed 26
27 Thu	0535	7.26	1231	-0.04	1826	6.29			Thu 27
28 Fri	0043	0.44	0654	7.25	1338	-0.11	1935	6.37	Fri 28
29 Sat	0151	0.42	0800	7.38	1438	-0.27	2035	6.60	Sat 29
30 Sun	0251	0.28	0858	7.56	1532	-0.44	2129	6.87	Sun 30
31 Mon	0345	0.09	0950	7.71	1622	-0.55	2218	7.12	Mon 31



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Council member James Vacca and State Senator Jeff Klein delivered proclamations to the Chamber of Commerce at its annual awards dinner (l. to r.): Skip Giacco, Chamber president; James Vacca; Paul Klein, Chamber vice president; and Jeff Klein.

Chamber Dinner

Continued from page 7

Last but not least was honoree and former Chamber of Commerce president Peter J. La Scala, who first came to City Island as a summer visitor to High Island in the 1930s. By 1944, Peter's parents had bought their first home on City Island, where he attended P.S. 17. His love of electronics led to employment in an electronics company in Mt. Vernon, and in the 1960s, he started an educational TV program that brought television into the classroom. In 1966, Peter and his brother, Pat, became the owners of Bridge Boat Sales, followed by City Island Yacht Sales in 1977, and became one of the largest power-boat dealers in the area with a full-service marina. Peter and his wife, Jane, were married in 1968 and settled on Schofield Street, where they raised their daughters Lauren and Anita. Peter helped develop a Junior Chamber and has been a

member of Community Board 10 for over a decade. He also serves on two committees and is the founder and president of the City Island Architectural Heritage Preservation Foundation. He was head usher at St. Mary's for seven years and served as chair of St. Mary's Parish Council finance committee. In his closing remarks, Adolfo Carrión thanked Peter and Jane for "opening their home to Linda and me and for extending a hand in friendship."

To remind everyone of the historic nature of this celebration, Peter presented Barbara Dolensek of the City Island Historical Society with a beautifully preserved copy of the original program for the first Board of Trade dinner in 1910. The document will be placed in the Nautical Museum, where visitors will be able to see how many early merchants on City Island are memorialized in the names of City Island streets.

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Season for Giving

Continued from page 11



The Shrimp Box Restaurant

"Feasts for Two" at the **Crab Shanty** (361 City Island Avenue). The outside decorations at the Shanty are sure to put you in a holiday mood. Maybe you want to take up diving in the New Year. Go see **Captain Mike's Diving Services** (530 City Island Avenue), and he'll help make it happen!

Giving a window to the world! A stop at **Ohana Japanese Hibachi Seafood & Steakhouse** (500 City Island Avenue) during the holidays or any time will be a fun-filled (and flame-filled) transport to delicious Japanese hibachi cuisine and sushi. If you're craving Italian, then visit **Lido Restaurant** (101 City Island Avenue) or **Portofino** (555 City Island Avenue). And for more of the world, there's the **Euro Café** (274 City Island Avenue), or the Caribbean offerings of **Tapas City Island Restaurant & Lounge** (435 City Island Avenue) They've also got belly dancers and Thursday karaoke!

Look out to the world beyond City Island with some fast fish food at **Tony's Pier Restaurant** (1 City Island Avenue) in "downtown" City Island. For an American bistro, there's the "midtown" City Island favorite, **The Black Whale** (279 City Island Avenue). Open seven days, it's got it all from Sunday brunch to a Saturday evening dinner. The winter salad is yummy, and the meatloaf or beef stew are great choices to warm up a winter night. Give a gift certificate for the Black Whale to a friend this holiday season or get one for yourself!

Giving a way to stop and take a break! Want to stop for a moment and just "see" the holidays! Then peer into the window at John McGowan's **Extreme Closet Makeovers** (292 City Island Avenue) and see Joe Burck's holiday village setup. And step inside to get the right stuff to organize life inside your closet, that is. Stop by **JJ Burck** (526 City Island Avenue) or **Buddy's Hardware and Yacht Supply** (260



Extreme Closets


City Island Avenue) for just the right item for around-the-house fixing.

Try a peppermint latte, a chocolate mint doughnut or some "holiday" munchkin doughnut-hole treats from **Dunkin' Donuts** (636 City Island Avenue) during the season of giving. They'll help you shake off any shopping stress to be sure! And Chef Rafael's **To-Go Express** (415 City Island Avenue) can serve you up delicious dishes to eat and enjoy at home. Welcome back to this favorite City Island spot, whose specials include lobster and shrimp in garlic sauce with broccoli over linguine, and chocolate cake for dessert. Get a gift certificate for a friend! There's also take-out available from **City Island Chinese Restaurant** (84-86 City Island Avenue), and **Filomena's Pizza & Pasta** (286 City Island Avenue) can provide a pizza pie or a great sandwich all to enjoy while wrapping presents or decorating the house. And if you're looking for a break off the Island during or after the holidays Dianne and John from **O'Sullivan's Travel** (travelo@aol.com) can help you out there!

As we welcome a New Year, remember that here on City Island, your neighborhood shops will just keep on giving so you get all the good times and great stuff you deserve!

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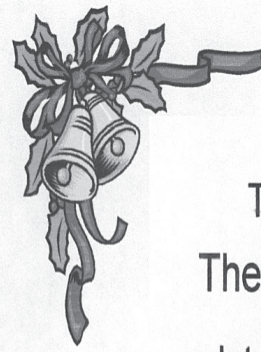
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| CPL. CHARLES BRILL | SSG. MATHEW McCUE |
| LTC. H. A. CLANCY | CORY MAYER |
| LTC. MICHAEL CLANCY | LT. CHRISTOPHER MULLER |
| LCDR EDMUND GANAL | MAJ. KERRY MURPHY |
| LT. ETHAN HEBEN | CHRISTOPHER NASH |
| CDR. KEITH HOLIHAN | PFC3 RACHEL SMITH |
| CPO PETER J. HOWARD | BM3 ROBERT SWIECIKI |
| PVT. KIMSON IT | |

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Photos by EYVONNE BAKER

On Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010, the family of the late Evelyn Gauss gathered at Grace Episcopal Church to dedicate new parish hall lighting in memory of her 70-year attendance at the church. The new lighting and fans, which replaced 30-year old fluorescents donated from an early IGA market renovation, were designed and installed by Kurt Ebinger and his crew from KEE Electric. Shown above at the dedication are (l. to r.): Mother Patricia Alexander, Ducky Rauhauser, Bud and Melinda Halligan, Robert and Carol McKenna, and Karen, Paul and Mark Nani.

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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.



Ryan Lodewick

We all send get-well wishes to Fordham Street's Emily Sexton, who is recovering in the Intensive Care Unit at Jacobi Hospital. A blood drive in Emily's honor will take place in the Grace Parish Hall on Monday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 9 p.m.

Long-distance congratulations to Sara (Sally) and Bob McPherson, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 12 at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Appleton, Wisconsin. Love and best wishes from your friends and the staff of The Island Current.

Happy Dec. 22 birthday wishes across the miles to Anjulee Sebastian, with love from your City Island friends and family.

A fond farewell to Frank B. Ring Sr., who has moved to Queens. Frank was a longtime volunteer at P.S. 175 and will be sorely missed.

Gregory and Meaghan Clancy are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Gregory Clancy, on Oct. 22. Thrilled grandparents are Timothy and Maura Nash of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and William Clancy of City Island.

Best wishes to Winters Street's Christine Mazzella and Craig DeCollibus of Setauket, New York, on their engagement. A spring 2012 wedding is planned. The proud parents of the bride-to-be are John and Liz Mazzella.

Congratulations to Island resident Roy Jansson, who received the Building Service Worker of the Year award sponsored by a number of Manhattan institutions, including Madison Square Garden. Roy was honored in October for his 17 years of service as a doorman at 44 West 55th Street and was featured in the publication "West Side Spirit." Roy is 74 years old and leaves City Island for work every morning at 5 a.m., rides a bus and two

trains to work, and clocks in at 6:30 a.m. He has been married 37 years to his wife, Livia, and they have three children and two grandchildren. Roy met his wife ballroom dancing, and they still compete in the salsa category in New York and New Jersey. Keep up the good (and fancy foot) work Roy!

Jeff and Desiree Hanlon are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Audrey Marie Hanlon, on Oct. 26. Big brother, Hunter, is very excited to welcome his new sister.

Happy Birthday on Dec. 5 to our cousin/aunt Jennifer Welsing.

Happy 22nd Birthday on Christmas Eve to our wonderful, beautiful daughter, Katie McCormick, with love from Mom and Dad.

Happy Dec. 4 birthday wishes to Bay Street's Maryann Emerick.

It's a beautiful baby girl for Victoria (Barron) and Adam Lodewick. Baby Ryan was welcomed after her Sept. 21st delivery by family on City Island which included her aunt and uncle, Annie and Jason Barron, her grandparents, Lee and John Raimondi and John Barron, and her great-grandparents, Joan Ciotti-Raimondi and Bob White. Ryan was lovingly named after her great-grandmother Jean (Ryan) White.

Happy New Year's Eve birthday wishes to Hawkins Street's Bobby Cavinee.

And a very happy and safe holiday wish to all our friends, neighbors and readers. See you next year!

Maria Swieciki



The 'Season of Giving' Begins!



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Islanders and visitors gathered in Hawkins Park on Saturday, Nov. 27, for a joyous beginning of the 2010 holiday season with the annual tree lighting sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce. The crowd, bundled up for the crisp, clear weather, joined Ken Farnum and the St. Mary's choir singers in a musical welcome to the season. The celebration of Hanukkah begins with the Menorah lighting scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 1, at 5:30 p.m. and sponsored by Temple Beth-El. Islanders expressed wishes for a peaceful holiday season and hoped that residents and visitors alike will drive safely and appoint designated drivers when attending holiday events.

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