

# The Island Current

Published on City Island, New York

Second Class Permit  
Paid at Bronx, N.Y.  
USPS 114-590

Volume 38 Number 3 April 2009

One Dollar

## Clam Digger Attempts to Survive 'Alaska Experiment'

By KAREN NANI



Photos by KAREN NANI and courtesy of DISCOVERY CHANNEL

John Ulmer Jr. participated in a Discovery Channel adventure called "Out of the Wild: The Alaska Experiment." The first episode of the eight-week survival show is scheduled to air on April 14 at 9 p.m. on the Discovery Channel. Shown above are (back row, right) John and the other participants, and back home with his parents, Linda and John, and sisters, Kristin and Debra (left photo).

John Ulmer Jr., who was raised on Earley Street, enjoys watching shows about the rugged outdoors and surviving in the wild. So last September, he answered a call for applications to participate in a new Discovery Channel show called "Out of the Wild: The Alaska Experiment."

John was one of thousands of applicants, but the producers liked what they saw in his video introduction and his City Island experiences, including Boy Scouts, camping and fishing. So they flew him to Los Angeles in July 2008 for an audition, and in September he was selected as one of 11 participants to try to survive in the Alaskan wilderness.

The first episode of the eight-week show is scheduled to air on April 14 at 9 p.m. on the Discovery Channel (cable channel 27, but check your provider's listing for channel and times). John agreed to an interview with *The Current* and provided a preview of the show's first episode.

The show is uniquely different from other survivor shows in that no one is voted off, nor is there a winner. According to the show's press release: "The participants signed on, not for a million-dollar prize (there isn't one), but simply for the chance of a lifetime to challenge themselves in tough yet breathtakingly beautiful terrain."

"I never regretted my decision to join the experiment," John told *The Current*, despite the fact that for six weeks he was cold, wet, tired and hungry. He was so hungry, in fact, that he lost 45 pounds during his attempt at the 60-mile journey, to the shock of his parents, Islanders Linda and John Ulmer.

The group experiment began with a flight to Anchorage, Alaska, for John and 10 other candidates from around the United States. The group took a three-day survival training course called "Learn to Return" given by former U.S. Army Rangers and Coast Guard members. The course included navigation training and other tests so severe that at the end of the three days, two people were eliminated, leaving a group of nine for the actual experiment—five men and four women.

Their occupations and experiences varied greatly, including a police officer from New Jersey, a personal trainer from California, a customer service rep from Illinois, a landlord from Kentucky and a horse trainer from Maryland. John is the Assistant Director of Housing for Rockefeller University in Manhattan.

So why did an administrator like John, who manages five residential buildings on the East Side for faculty and researchers, think he can survive in the wild? "I stay in shape by running, hiking and rock climbing. I've also completed some small triathlons," he explained.

John needed all his strength and training for the adventure, described by the producers as follows: "nine amateur hikers, campers and outdoor enthusiasts are flown into the rugged Alaska interior, given part of a map and some basic tools and told to hike to civilization—ideally before harsh and potentially deadly winter weather sets in."

They started out from Lake Tsusena, 100 miles from the nearest town, with a map and a large pile of gear. They were literally stripped of all their own possessions, including cell phones, camera, money, food, toiletries, clothes, lighters and so on, and each one was given weatherproof clothing, boots and a backpack. They were allowed to keep one personal keepsake, so John carried a photo of his nieces and nephews, Emma, John, Luke, Allison and Cameron. (John is single but has three sisters, Debra, Kristin and Karen).

First, they had to decide which gear from the original pile to take and how to pack it into individual backpacks. Then the journey began with a five-mile hike to the first shelter on the map and the first night in the wilderness. The "shelter" was an open air lean-to that had to be covered to protect them from the elements. The first morning, they awoke to a 32-degree rainy day.

For the next six weeks, the group was followed by a camera crew, who filmed them but did not provide any assistance or support in their efforts to survive (the crew actually

Continued on page 7

## FILMING ON CITY ISLAND: NICE OR NOT?

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



City Island became a film set on Monday and Tuesday, March 9 and 10, 2009, for the final episode of the television program "Life on Mars." For two days, no parking was allowed from Ditmars to Centre Street, and streets were blocked, including Bridge Street on Monday and City Island Avenue on Tuesday. ABC-TV would not allow the stars to be filmed or interviewed, but Jason O'Mara, the show's star, was kind enough to have his photograph taken with resident Emily Leni.

City Island has been a popular location for making movies for nearly a century (footage for the oldest existing feature film, "Richard III," was made here in 1912 by Harry Carey), and television programs from "Car 54, Where Are You?" to "Law and Order" have been routine for decades. But the most recent shoot, for the television series "Life on Mars," caused unusual frustration for Island residents and businesses when much of City Island Avenue was taken over for two days, on March 9 and 10, 2009.

The director of "Life of Mars" decided that for the final episode (the series was recently canceled) he wanted to clear City Island Avenue of all cars so that he could make it look like 1973, an important feature of the show. He also planned to stop traffic altogether during the filming of a 360-degree view of the Avenue at some point on Tuesday.

Signs were put up on Thursday, March 5, from Ditmars to Horton Street calling for no parking along City Island Avenue from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the following Monday and Tuesday, and many Islanders were upset enough to call both the location manager for the show and the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting to complain. As a result of these calls, Deputy Commissioner John Battista

visited City Island on Friday morning and had signs removed from Centre to Horton.

It was not until Friday afternoon that Community Board 10 was informed of the shoot, which was within the 48-hour period required by the permit. However, in spite of the fact that Kenneth Kearns, district manager of the board, quickly e-mailed the Civic Association and the Chamber, the entire community could not be informed except by e-mail before the event.

Although the parking signs were in place Sunday night along City Island Avenue indicating that there could be no parking all day Monday, filming activity actually took place on Bridge Street, which was closed to traffic for much of the day.

Because of the disruption caused by the filming, Ken Kearns of Community Board 10 and Barbara Dolensek of the Civic Association called for a meeting with the Office of Film on Tuesday, March 24. They learned that because film companies often do not submit permit requests until the last minute, the office has little time to inform community boards of their precise plans. The city requires that notices about no parking be put in place at least 24 hours before shooting is schedule.

Deputy Commissioner Battista noted that

Continued on page 12

## MARCH GLADNESS!



Photo by CONCEPTION PHOTOGRAPHY

It was an exciting season for the St. Mary, Star of the Sea 2008-2009 basketball program, especially for the Girls Varsity Team, who were the Bronx-Manhattan A Division champions. The girls were only the second team in the organization's history to compete in the City championship round. Shown above are the champs and their very proud coaches (top row, l. to r.): Coach Carlo Volpe, Vittoria Volpe, Jennifer Branley, Paige O'Donnell, Kylie Negron, Victoria Strazzera and coach Frank Strazzera; bottom row: Birla Storm Gonzalez, Nicole Dammacco, Gabrielle Vitiello, Brianna Saunders and Amber Tudor. For more St. Mary's basketball results, see article on page 5.

# BRIEFLY...

**BARTOW-PELL ANNUAL SPRING EGG HUNT:** Saturday, April 4, is one day when it is okay to put all your eggs in one basket. From 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., let your children discover the joy of a spring egg hunt in the elegant formal garden at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum on Shore Road. Then let them get creative with a variety of arts and crafts: egg painting, decorating and planting flowerpots to take home, and more. They will even meet the Spring Bunny hopping around and can have their pictures taken with him. Light refreshments will be served. Please bring your own basket. The fee is \$15 per child (\$10 for members); adults and children over 13 are free. Appropriate for ages 2 to 12. Registration is requested; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail [info@bpmmm.org](mailto:info@bpmmm.org).

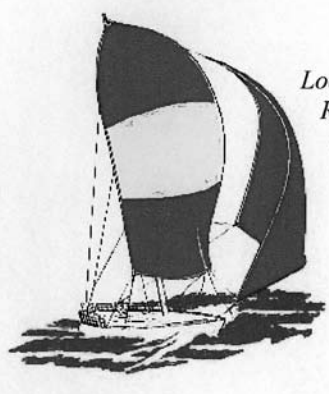
**CLOTHING DRIVE** held by the Bronx Masons will take place on Saturday, April 25, 2009, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the City Island Masonic Temple, 241 City Island Avenue. All clothes donations received will go to St. Athanasius Church in the South Bronx. Please, if possible, for quicker distribution, separate clothes into individual bags labeled "Men's," "Women's" and "Children." These clothes will go to needy recipients. This is a one-day event.

**2009 CITY ISLAND HEALTH FAIR FOR SENIORS,** sponsored by the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Council Member James Vacca, Congressman Joseph Crowley and Presbyterian Senior Services, will visit City Island on Wednesday, April 29, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Grace Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street. Doctors, nurses, physical and occupational therapists and social workers will be on hand to do health screenings and to answer your health-related questions.

**The SAILMAKER MARINA**

**Seasonal Slip Rentals**

*Located on the former site of the historic Ratsey & Laphorn Sailmakers....  
Offering a quiet, residential atmosphere  
With easy access to Long Island Sound  
Private, gated parking  
Water & electric at each slip*



190 Schofield Street  
City Island, NY 10464  
718-885-2700  
[www.sailmakermarina.com](http://www.sailmakermarina.com)

**STEPHEN B. KAUFMAN**  
Attorney at Law

**"We Can Help You"**

2916 Bruckner Blvd., Bronx, NY 10465 • (718) 822-0500 • Fax (718) 822-4715

- Personal Injury
- Medical Malpractice
- Accident
- Wills & Estates

ALPERT & KAUFMAN  
217 BROADWAY, NYC 10007 (212) 349-2000

**INCOME TAX RETURNS**  
Personal And Corporate Income Tax Returns  
Professionally Prepared

Proudly Serving The City Island Community For Over 10 Years  
All Forms • Reasonable Rates

Please Call (914) 738-3329 To Schedule An Appointment  
Catherine Schaller, C.P.A. Vincent Mazzaro, C.P.A.

THE ISLAND CURRENT  
P.O. Box 6  
City Island, N.Y. 10464



Member

EDITOR: Karen Rauhauser Nani

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

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

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

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

PHOTOGRAPHY: Rick DeWitt.

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS: Russell Schaller Sr., Stephanie Ribaudo, Marge McNulty, Lorraine Nicoletti. Masthead and special artwork by the late Theodore J. Mazaika.

Typeset by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, Witworks Studio Graphic Design, 33 Earley Street, City Island, N.Y. 10464  
Printed by Hi-Speed Printing Co., 560 South Third Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10550  
The Island Current (USPS 114-590) is published monthly except for January and August by the Island Current Inc., a not-for-profit organization. Subscription rate, \$10.00 per year. Single copies, \$1.00. All subscriptions, editorial, advertising and other correspondence must be mailed to: The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, Bronx, NY 10464. Display advertising deadline is the 10th of the month preceding publication, call 885-0984 or 885-0760. Copyright 2009 by The Island Current, Inc., 724 King Ave., City Island, Bronx, NY 10464. All rights reserved.  
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT BRONX, NY.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464.

# 45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during February and March 2009. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list nor are complaints for crime occurring on the mainland.

**February and March**  
**4 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**  
**1 – ASSAULT**  
**1 – PETIT LARCENY**

Police report the following incidents for the months of February and March 2009:

2/14 – At 1 Centre Street, four tires were slashed on a vehicle inside a garage. No arrest was made.

2/25 – In front of 246 City Island Avenue, an unknown person shattered a front window and fled the scene.

3/4 - Police from the 45th Precinct are in-

vestigating an assault by four unknown males who attacked another off-Island male and caused visible swelling.

3/7 – Police arrested a suspect at 421 Minneford Avenue as the result of a fight inside the location in which an Island male was stabbed with a knife.

3/13 – In front of 721 King Avenue, an unknown person committed criminal mischief by damaging the back door of a parked vehicle.

3/15 – A witness observed a perpetrator smashing the windows of a vehicle with a baseball bat opposite 373 City Island Avenue.

## Correction:

The e-mail address given in the letter from Ruth Cronk in the March issue of *The Current* was wrong; the correct e-mail address is [FayJI@aol.com](mailto:FayJI@aol.com).

134 Years and 4 Generations of Community Service



726 Morris Park Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10462-3620  
1 (718) 828-1800  
Toll free 1 (888) 828-1800

732 Yonkers Avenue  
Yonkers, New York 10704-2029  
1 (914) 375-1400  
1 (888) 375- 1400 Toll free

[www.ruggieroandsons.com](http://www.ruggieroandsons.com)  
after hours: (718) 885-2504

This firm is a family owned corporation whose only shareholders are Vincent & Robert Ruggiero - (NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs)

**TRINITY UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**  
Invites You to Attend...



**Thursday, April 9**  
Maunday Thursday Service - 8:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 10**  
Joint Worship service with other United Methodist Churches at Calvary United Methodist Church  
12 noon-3:00 p.m.

Joint service with Grace Episcopal at Grace - 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 11**  
Joint Tenebrae Service with St. Mary's at St. Mary's - 8:00 a.m.

**Sunday, April 12**  
Easter Sunrise Service at Pelham Cemetery at 6:00 a.m.  
Easter Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. at Trinity

# CITY ISLAND SURVEY

You can fill out the survey below online at: <http://tinyurl.com/an726z> or you can drop it off at the City Island Diner, On Board Laundromat, the Island Cafe, the Starving Artist Gallery, or Dunkin' Donuts. Thank you for taking the time to help improve City Island. It will take less than 5 minutes to complete.

### 1. How long have you lived on City Island?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 5-10 years
- 10+ years
- I do not live here

### 2. How old are you?

- Under 18
- 18-32
- 32-49
- 50-65
- 65+

### 3. How many children live with you?

None	1	2+
Under 2 years old	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-6 years old	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7-12 years old	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13-18 years old	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 4. How often do you eat out in the following places?

	Once or more a week	1-2 times a month	1-2 times every six months	never
City Island	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bronx	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Westchester	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manhattan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 5. How would you best describe your dining out experience?

- I usually eat alone or with my significant other
- I usually eat with friends or a group of friends
- We usually eat as a family
- None of the above

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Please select the TWO promotions below that are most valuable to you.

- 10% - 20% off
- Buy one, get one free
- Family Day/Night
- Free gift/item with purchase
- Midweek specials
- Weekend specials

### 7. What would persuade you to shop more on City Island than you do now?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 8. What businesses and services would you like to see on City Island that we don't currently have? Select up to FIVE.

- Boat/Kayak Rentals
- Book store
- Boat Tours
- Jewelry Store
- Yoga/Stretching/Tai Chi
- Butcher
- Card Store
- Sporting Goods
- Clothing Store
- More Organic Food
- Dancing/Club
- Electronics/Computer/Phone
- More Cafe's
- Art Supply
- Bike Shop
- Bakery
- More Gift Stores
- More Antiques
- Gym
- Shoe Store

Please tell us more about your answer or add other options. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 9. What do you like most about living on City Island?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 10. Would you be willing to participate in a "City Island Day," in which Islanders will join together to clean up their homes and the "main street" area, gathering trash and eliminating graffiti and generally making things look better? The day would end with a party in the neighborhood.

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Thoughts on a Main Street

By QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE FOR CITY ISLAND



In these tough economic times, we need to try especially hard to be grateful for all that we have. It is too easy to take things for granted. However, in addition to the obvious gifts in our lives—our health, family, and friends—let us not forget about our community.

City Island is a unique place to live and offers its residents many benefits. People are drawn here for several reasons. We have two



Not so nice. ▲▼



wonderful elementary schools. We are 20 minutes from mid-town Manhattan. We are surrounded by water and beautiful views. Most of all, we have great neighbors. We are, for the most part, a safe, caring community, and none of this has changed with the roller coaster of the financial markets, at least not yet. But bad news is happening all around us, and we must take real action to protect and preserve what we have worked so hard to achieve.

Every town has a Main Street on which visitors, possible home buyers and renters base their first impressions. Our Main Street is City Island Avenue. We have some lovely shops and restaurants, Hawkins Park, and occasional community parades. The Garden Club has been tireless in its efforts to add color and beauty, and the kids at Lickety Split make everyone smile.

But we really have to do more. We all must do our part to help City Island Avenue thrive.

Business owners need to keep their storefronts and sidewalks neat and clean. Residents need to help pick up trash and put it where it belongs. We are happy to hear that some residents are planning to get flower boxes for the storefronts and to enhance the empty windows of our vacant shops by exhibiting art work by local artists.

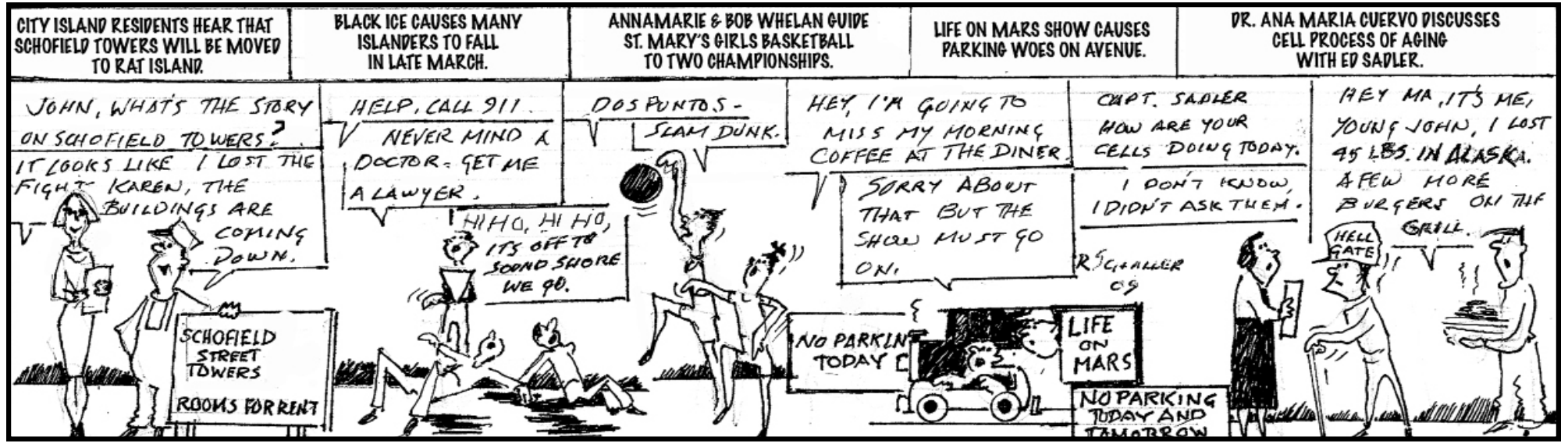
The sight of so many vacant shops is a real problem, as everyone knows. Many

(though not all) owners get more money in tax write-offs than they could ever charge in rent, and this discourages them from renting at reasonable, fair-market value. So the stores remain empty. It is disheartening and unfair to the rest of us who truly care. That said, we can do our part to keep from creating even more vacancies. We have to support our local businesses as best we can.

It is tempting and often more convenient to go to CVS or Stop & Shop or any number of other businesses and services in Westchester and elsewhere in the Bronx. Those large stores have parking lots and large-volume discounts, and we are all tightening our belts. But we can try a little harder. Many of our local merchants are offering discounts, specials and even free entertainment. In order to understand just what it is that Island residents and visitors want from City Island, we have prepared a survey (see at left). You can find it online at <http://tinyurl.com/an726z> or visit [www.cityislandave.com](http://www.cityislandave.com). You can fill it out and submit it online or you can print it out, fill it in and drop it off at five Island shops: the City Island Diner, the IGA, the On Board Laundromat (323 City Island Avenue), the Island Café and the Starving Artist Studio and Gallery (249 City Island Avenue).

We have all seen some truly great small businesses come and, sadly, go for lack of substantial support. If the Avenue looks desolate, so does the neighborhood, and that is detrimental to all of our property values. It also negatively affects tourism and reduces income from potential renters.

Let's come together as the great community we are and not take City Island for granted. Let's realize that we are fortunate enough to be a part of such a place. If we all have pride in our own property and take the time to keep it up and to appreciate our beautiful island and support the local businesses and services, then we can thrive as a community and protect the value of our homes in doing so.



**Editorial**

Every editorial these days seems to start with the words "In these difficult financial times..." and, unfortunately, *The Island Current* offers no exception. We are staffed by a hard-working group of volunteers and supported by our wonderful advertisers and loyal readers, and for now we are able to absorb the extra costs of printing and paper. The postal costs, however, are making it impossible for us to stay within our budget for subscriptions, and so, very reluctantly, we are forced to raise our subscription rate from \$10 a year to \$12, the first increase in nearly 10 years. We hope that our subscribers will understand and will continue to remain an integral part of the *Island Current* community.



We welcome letters and opinions. Letters longer than 250 words will be edited, with every effort made to preserve their substance. We reserve the right not to print letters that are copies, libelous, inaccurate or in bad taste, or those that cannot be verified. Include your phone number. Anonymous letters will not be printed, but names will be withheld upon request.

**Thanks**

To the Editor:

I would like to thank those who supported me during the recent passing of my father, Vincent Raymond Hecker Jr. Those who really touched me include Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kelly, the Robert Carmody family, Ms. Marie Savarese, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Doyle, the Pirraglia family, Jack Grogan, the Schaller family, Pat Dolphin, Joe Thompson, Jack Hartigan, the O'Sullivan family and my dad's friends from the American Legion.

Vincent Raymond Hecker III

**Stop the Insanity!**

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

To: Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg

I read in the New York Post paper that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State Department of Environmental Conservation have granted permits to allow the city's Department of Sanitation to build a garbage transfer station right next to the

end of a LaGuardia air strip and that contracts will be awarded within the next two to three months.

This should never have been allowed to happen. Where is everyone's common sense? Haven't any lessons been learned from the near-tragedy of US Air 1549?

Residents of City Island have had the experience of living near a dump and we know how many birds will be attracted to this potential site and all the ramifications that could lead to a possible airplane disaster in the area! Such a dump will attract an insurmountable number of birds. A marine transfer station handling over 5,000 tons of garbage a day will most definitely interfere with the flights leaving that area at LaGuardia and have the possible consequences of sucking birds into their engines.

It sounds as if the Federal Aviation Administration isn't doing their job in allowing this marine transfer station to be built! Please do everything in your power to put a stop to this lunacy! Thank you very much.

Margaret B. McNulty

*Editor's Note: Mrs. McNulty received a response from the Department of Sanitation assuring her that at no time would garbage at the site be exposed to the outdoors.*

**City Island Deli & Pizza**

Catering For All Occasions  
Up to 8 Foot Heroes  
Try Our Full Line of Pizza,  
Calzones & Take Out Dinners  
**WE DELIVER!**  
520 City Island Avenue  
718-885-1083

**BODY WORK**

- Insurance Estimates
- Unibody Specialists
- Frame Straightening
- Direct Repair Shop For Insurance Companies
- Color Matching
- Windshields & Windows
- Fiberglass

**CITY ISLAND AUTO BODY INC.**

- Collision Specialists
- Body Work & Mechanical Repair Technicians
- All Makes - Foreign & Domestic

**TOWING**

- 24 Hour Towing Service Available
- Free Towing Available On First Party Insurance Claims

138 City Island Avenue • City Island, New York 10464

**Office: 718-885-1856**  
**Fax: 718-885-1572**

**CITY ISLAND PHYSICAL THERAPY**

Now with 2 Locations  
190 Fordham Street (within the Community Center)  
340 City Island Ave. (within Dr. Sanders' office)

• WE ALSO DO HOMECARE •

JANINE MANTZARIS, P.T.  
CALL TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
PHONE: 917-577-1752  
FAX: 718-885-1191

*Free Shop at Home*

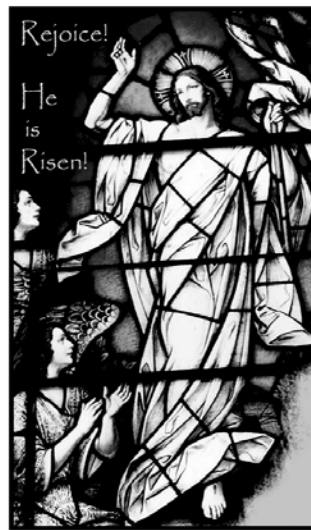
*Lumia Decorators*

**REUPHOLSTERING, SLIPCOVERS & DRAPERIES**

- ★ Kitchen & Dining Chairs Recovered
  - ★ Table Pads ★ Foam Cushions Cut to Size
  - ★ Complete Selection of Blinds & Shades
- All Work Done On Our Premises*



Showroom at 616 Main Street, New Rochelle, NY  
(914) 576-0500 • (718) 822-8003



"He is risen, he is risen!  
Tell it out with joyful voice:  
He has burst his three days' prison;  
let the whole wide earth rejoice.  
Death is conquered, we are free,  
Christ has won the victory."  
- The Hymnal 1982

Come and experience the freedom of  
Jesus Christ for yourself –  
join us for the services of  
Holy Week and Easter.  
All are welcome!

**Palm (Passion) Sunday, April 5:**  
The Reading of the Passion and The Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM

**Maunder (Holy) Thursday, April 9:**  
The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 PM

**Good Friday, April 10:**  
Ecumenical Service with  
Trinity Methodist Church (at Grace), 7:30 PM

**Easter Sunday, April 12:**  
Festival Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM

Grace Episcopal Church:  
*Celebrating 160 years of mission and ministry on City Island*  
116 City Island Avenue (at Pilot Street), City Island - 718.885.1080  
www.gracecityisland.org  
The Reverend Patricia Phaneuf Alexander, Vicar

# A Championship Season for St. Mary's Basketball

By KAREN NANI



Photos by CONCEPTION PHOTOGRAPHY

**Boys Varsity.** Top row (l. to r.): Cian Byrne, Sean Dilla, Brenton Howell, William Ortega, Dylan Cullen, coach Mark Amos; bottom row (l. to r.): Michael Candelaria, Desmond Albright and Devin Navarro. Not pictured: Ty Mankiewicz, Amir Smith, Evan Spencer and Malik Barnes.

It was an exciting year for St. Mary, Star of the Sea basketball under the direction of Annamarie and Bob Whelan. In all, four teams made it to the championship playoffs and two were winners. The Girls Varsity won the Bronx-Manhattan A Division championship, and St. Mary's Girls Junior Varsity won the title for the B Division championship.

In the third year under the direction of the Whelans, about 100 children participated in the 2008-2009 basketball program. They entered seven teams into competitive play in the Bronx Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), and four of the teams played in their division championship games. The organizers couldn't be more proud of the accomplishments of all the coaches and players.

Mrs. Whelan told *The Current* that it was a great season. The Girls Varsity, after winning the Bronx County championship, earned a spot to play in Staten Island

for the City championship. The girls were the second team in the organization's history to compete in the City championship round. Even though the outcome was not in their favor, the girls' hard work and dedication were commendable. Congratulations to Carlo Volpe and Frank Strazzerza for leading the girls to a magnificent season.

This season also included another team championship. The Girls Junior Varsity, coached by Bob Whelan, won the Bronx B Division Championship. The girls overcame an 11-point deficit with three minutes remaining in the fourth quarter to defeat a tough Santa Maria team.

Trophy Day was held in St. Mary's gym on Sunday, March 22, and more than 200 children, players, parents and grandparents attended. The Whelans recognized the helping hands of Cynde and Armando Candelaria, Maria Pirraglia, Joe and Lynn Goldman, Elle McGuire, Jami Reilly, George and Moira Spencer, Vicky Vitiello and Rose Kolb



**The Girls Junior Varsity Team.** Top row (l. to r.): Kaylin Fitzpatrick, Brianna Reilly, Ashley Howell, Coach Robert Whelan, Catherine Graves, Erin Schlottman, Ashley Goldman and Nia Drew; bottom row: Francesca Strazzerza, Chelsea Negron, Briana Whelan, Lily Kolb and Alexis Candelaria. Not pictured: Anastasia Lacina, Jordan DeSantis and Katie Moore.



**The Boys Junior Varsity Team.** Top row (l. to r.): coach Barry Rowser, Isaac Rowser, Walter Brennan Jr., Anthony Gonzalez, Brandon Rosenblatt, Jonathan Nagy, Alexej Xhokaxhiu and coach Tommy Orzo; bottom row: Scott Cruz, Nicholas LaBriola, Michael LaBriola, Emmett Shanley, Michael Pirraglia and Dominik Comerico. Not pictured: Jean Luis Gonzales.

in particular for making the season wrap-up so special. The Whelans also expressed their gratitude to Josslyn and Chris Rice for all of their help with the uniforms, sweatshirts and water bottles.

A summary of each team's season follows.

### Boys Varsity

It was another sensational year of basketball for the 2008-2009 St. Mary's Boys Varsity team. It was a roller coaster of a season, but the boys pulled it all together when it counted. The final outcome was a 15 and 10 record, with a chance at the CYO Division B Championship. Although, the team came up short against St. Theresa's, the boys were invited to Cardinal Hayes High School to participate in the Tom Murray Basketball Classic. There they came up victorious against St. Brendan's!

Coach Amos extended his deepest appreciation to all of the team members: Amir Smith, Jerome Smith, Sean Dilla, Brenton Howell, Devon Navarro, William Ortega, Michael Candelaria, Ty Mankiewicz, Cian Byrne and Desmond Albright. Each team member brought something uniquely special to the game and made it a fantastic season. May they continue to shine on in their future endeavors! Their coach wishes them all the best of life and basketball always.

### Girls Varsity

A well-deserved congratulations to the St. Mary's Girls Varsity basketball team on becoming the Bronx-Manhattan County Champions. They finished their season in first place with a 19 and 1 record. Entering the A Division playoffs, they needed three more wins to capture the championship. And win they did! Down by one with 12 seconds on the clock, Paige O'Donnell hit the game winning shot. It was a perfect way to end the CYO careers of all of the eighth-graders. All of their hard work for the past six years paid off in incredible fashion. Playing together since the third grade under the supervision of coaches Carlo Volpe and Frank Strazzerza, these girls have grown into superb ball players.

Participation trophies were awarded to Jennifer Branley and Nicole Damacco. Coaches Awards went to Victoria Strazzerza,

Gabrielle Vitiello, Birla Storm Gonzalez and Brianna Saunders. The Most Improved Player award went to Kylie Negron. The Outstanding Offensive Player award went to Amber Tudor, and Outstanding Defensive Player award went to Paige O'Donnell. Lastly, Vittoria Volpe received the MVP trophy.

The girls and parents would like to thank coaches Volpe and Strazzerza for all their hard work. It wasn't easy, but they both did a fantastic job. The coaches in turn, would like to thank the girls and the parents for this incredible journey. Six years have never gone by so fast, and they thank them for the time of their lives!

### Boys Junior Varsity

St. Mary's A Tyro Boys team had a very exciting and fun-filled season.

The team started the season slowly with a 5 win and 8 loss mark after 13 games. The boys continued to work hard to improve while coming together as a team. In the second half of the season, the team avenged many of their early season losses on their way to a 12 and 10 final record. The boys were victorious in their first three playoff games and earned a spot in the B division championship game.

Although they fell one point short in this epic battle, they finished the season as champions in the eyes of their proud coach, Tommy Orzo.

The Boys B team also had a great season and played hard. They lost in the playoffs by only three points to St. Claire's. Coach Larry Saulnier thanked all the parents, assistant coaches and volunteers for their support.

### Girls Junior Varsity

The Girls Junior Varsity had an electrifying season. The girls posted a regular season record of 11 wins and 7 losses. They practiced extremely hard throughout the season and it paid off in the playoffs. The JV team played their first two playoff games unchallenged, posting victories with a 20 point difference in both games. The girls then played a tough Santa Maria School team for the Bronx B division Championship. The game was played at Villa Maria Academy, and St. Mary's trailed for the first three and a half

*Continued on page 14*



Licensed Realtors

*Betty Lavelle-Esola & Sue Kawczynski,*



Residential

Houses

Commercial

Condos

Rentals

Co-ops

City Island ♦ Country Club ♦ Throgs Neck ♦ Pelham Bay

[www.cityislandrealestate.com](http://www.cityislandrealestate.com)

718-885-9600

562 City Island Avenue, City Island, NY 10464

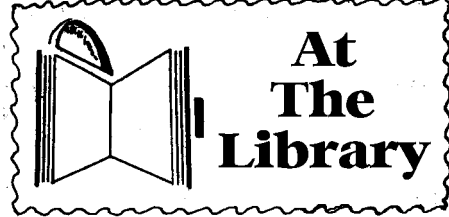


If you have a new business, or if your old business is offering a new service, write to The Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464 by the 10th of the month.

April at **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) offers the following lineup: Friday, April 3, 8 p.m., John Guth; Saturday, April 4, 8 p.m., Project Mercury; Sunday, April 5, 3 p.m., Freddy "Golden Voice" Lando; Friday, April 10, 8 p.m., Laura Berman; Saturday, April 11, 4 to 6 p.m., the Art of Lindsey Morano (opening reception); Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m., Two Guitars (Gus Wieland and Brian Conigliaro); Friday, April 17, 8 p.m., Josh Jedwab; Saturday, April 18, 8 p.m., Bennett Harris's Saturday Night Blues Party; Sunday, April 19, 4 p.m., City Island Jazz Quartet (led by Roger Scala and featuring Lou Volpe on guitar); Friday, April 24, 8 p.m., "Take the Stage" Open Mike Night (songwriters/comics/poets/actors—all are welcome!); Saturday, April 25, 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., Rubber Soul, a Beatles tribute band (sold out); Sunday, April 26, 3 p.m., Peter C. North. For more information—and to have a listen—visit [www.starvingartistonline.com](http://www.starvingartistonline.com).

Calling All Young Artists Ages 18 and younger for the **Focal Point Gallery's 19th Young Artist Exhibition**. The artwork can be drawings, paintings, sculpture or photography. Just bring in the work, and Focal Point will mat, frame and hang the art in an exhibition.

Young artists' work can be dropped off at any time but the deadline for all art is May 19, 2009. For further information, call 718-885-1403. This event is made possible with the public funds from the Bronx Council on the Arts through the 2008-2009 JP Morgan Chase Program Management Support.



**Adult Programs**

**Basic Computer Instruction:** Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Given in English, Spanish and Albanian.

**Book Groups:** The public is invited to join our book discussion group. The book for the month of April is "The Camel Bookmobile," a novel by Masha Hamilton. Wednesday, April 29, at 2:30 p.m.

**Wii Bowling for adults and seniors:** Friday, April 3 and 24, at 1 p.m.

**Parent Internet Workshop:** Wednesday, April 8, at 10:30 a.m.

**Children's Activities**

**Baby Story Time:** Thursday, April 9, at 1 p.m.

**Picture Book Program:** Every Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

**Easter Arts and Crafts for Valentine's Day:** Tuesday, April 7, at 3:30 p.m. Ages 5 to 8.

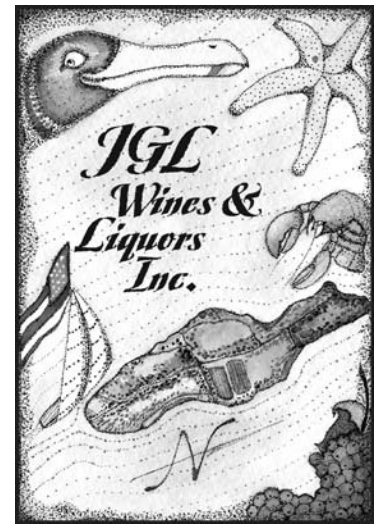
**Preschool Program:** Coming in May for ages 3 to 5.

**Young Adult Activities**

**Yu-Gi-Oh:** Every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

**Teen Time:** Starting April 2, Street Fighter Tournament, Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

We are located at 320 City Island Avenue at Bay Street. For information about any of the programs above, call the City Island branch at 718-885-1703.



358 City Island Avenue  
City Island, NY 10464  
jgl358@verizon.net  
718-885-0200

**BRUCKNER PET LAND**  
We carry a large variety of pet products for all your pet needs.  
**FREE HOME DELIVERY**  
Please call John  
718-597-7120

**ERAB SHANTY**  
361 CITY ISLAND AVENUE  
885-1810  
OPEN 7 DAYS (11a.m.-2a.m.)  
DAILY LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS  
PARKING AVAILABLE

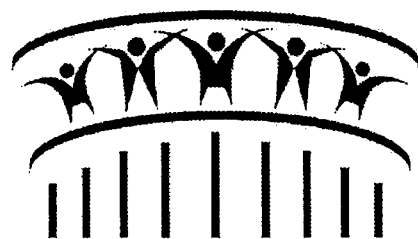
**Molly Schroeder, Ph.D.**  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Cognitive/ Behavioral  
Psychotherapy  
(914) 632-3013  
office in New Rochelle  
[www.westchestertherapy.com](http://www.westchestertherapy.com)

Fix your Bike - Buy a Bike  
Go by Bike  
  
Metro Bicycles - Westchester  
396 Main Street, New Rochelle  
Open Sunday Across from New Roc City  
914-633-6336

*Cormac McEnery, Esq.*

*Elder Law  
Estate Planning  
Wills & Trusts*

(718) 885-1234  
562 City Island Avenue, City Island, NY  
email: [cormac@cormacmcenery.com](mailto:cormac@cormacmcenery.com)  
[www.lawyers.com/mcenery](http://www.lawyers.com/mcenery)



**NAELA**<sup>TM</sup>

National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.

MEMBER

# Closure of Ladder Company 53 Threatened for July 1, 2009

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Because of budget cuts, Mayor Bloomberg and his administration have proposed numerous drastic cuts to the city budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009. One of the cuts scheduled from the Fire Department is complete closure of City Island's ladder company; 15 other fire houses in the city are also scheduled for closure.

On Jan. 16, Ladder 53 was to have been non-operational between the hours of 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. every day; however, because the Fire Department has been overstaffed, the company has remained open for all but four days, as of the time *The Current* went to press. Should the Fire Department lose this extra staff because of attrition before July 1, the ladder will close down at night but remain operational during the day.

However, unless the Fire Department comes up with other ways of saving money, or the Mayor has a change of heart about City Island, which is unusually vulnerable since it is so isolated, the ladder company will close down around the clock in July.

Council Member James Vacca, who has been outspoken in his efforts to keep City Island's fire house intact, recently became chair of the City Council's Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services. He held a public hearing on Friday, March 20, to discuss the budget with Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta and other officials, and several City Island residents were in attendance.

In his testimony, Mr. Scoppetta told the Council committee that while he regrets closing any fire houses, the budget for his department is 90 percent operations, so he has no choice but to cut essential services. He said that with the closing of 11 fire companies in July and 5 more in January 2010, projected savings would be nearly \$17 million in fiscal year 2010.

He pointed out that the Mayor has offered a reduction in fire company staffing so that 60 of the 198 engine companies in the department that operate with five firefighters would operate with four, like all of the other engine companies. It would be necessary for the fire unions to accept that reduction, which would not involve loss of personnel, only reassignment. However, he indicated that the unions were not likely to view this alternative favorably. An Island firefighter told *The Current* that the union position was understandable, as it would give the Fire Department cause to lay off firefighters.

Mr. Scoppetta described the various criteria he and his staff used for deciding which companies to close; these included number of structural fires worked by the companies, total runs, medical emergencies and the impact of the company closing on the communities they serve. He proudly announced that response times and deaths caused by fire in New York City were far lower than they had

been in previous years.

Mr. Vacca's first question to Mr. Scoppetta was about City Island: he thanked the commissioner for having visited City Island earlier in the week and asked whether he had decided to reconsider the ladder company closure in light of City Island's obvious vulnerability. Mr. Vacca pointed out that since the beginning of December, there had been a drowning rescue by the ladder company and a serious fire, both occurring at night. Mr. Scoppetta responded by claiming, inaccurately, that the engine company had effected the rescue and that the fire on Schofield Street burned all buildings to the ground in spite of the ladder company's having been on the scene. He did not seem to believe that the ladder company was essential to City Island's safety since the island is not a "high rise" community.

In their questions to the commissioner, other members of the committee also indicated that fire company closures were not acceptable, and they wondered why the Commissioner wanted to risk losing the gains that the Fire Department had made in recent years. They indicated that risking life and limb was far more serious an issue than any number of other city services that would be fully funded in this budget crisis. Council Member Alan Jay Gerson spoke for most members of the committee when he proposed that when the full budget comes for a vote to the committee and the full City Council, they place an objection to any fire department closings.

After the hearing, an Island resident managed to speak directly with Mr. Scoppetta and corrected his errors, which he said had been the result of not "remembering every detail exactly." She asked whether he had been up and down all the side streets, which he said he had, and he acknowledged that City Island had a lot of wooden houses close together. She pointed out again that there were many buildings that could not be accessed by an engine alone and that there were 34 restaurants and many boatyards in residential areas. He was very polite but of course remained noncommittal.

Members of the City Island community who have written to the Mayor have expressed anger in receiving form letters from the Commissioner (not the Mayor) in which he speaks of the department's success in reducing response time but fails to acknowledge that the response time for the ladder company of City Island has, in fact, doubled.

The City Island Civic Association is preparing to approach communities off City Island as well as some of the restaurants on the Island in an effort to gather support in persuading the Mayor to intervene in this issue. Those who are interested in helping with this effort are asked to e-mail [civici@yahoo.com](mailto:civici@yahoo.com).



Photo by BOB BERENT

A canned-food drive to benefit the Food Bank of the JCC of Pelham Parkway, which helps 1,000 families a month with emergency food, was conducted by Temple Beth-El of City Island. Sponsored by the 75th anniversary events committee headed by Michael Eiron, the drive was considered successful in enabling members and friends of the temple to follow the custom of sending gifts to the poor (mishloah manot). Shown in the photograph are Cheryl Yehudit Berent and Michael Eiron with one of the many cartfuls of food collected, observed by Marc Kaplan as Queen Esther. Paul Klein and the staff of Exotiga International Arts were a great help serving as a drop-off location when the temple was closed.

## ELECTION FOR NEW BOROUGH PRESIDENT

By FRED RAMFTL JR.

When City Island resident Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión Jr. resigned last month to take a position in the Obama administration, Mayor Michael Bloomberg was required to call a special election for a new borough president to take place 45 days later.

The election will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., and voting will take place at the usual polling place, the gymnasium of P.S. 175, which is located at 200 City Island Avenue.

Unlike a usual election, a special election for any New York City office is non-partisan. The usual party labels are forbidden, and there are no primary elections. All candidates, therefore, have to create their own party line. Any candidate who obtains at least 4,000 signatures from borough vot-

ers can get onto the ballot for borough president, and this creates a level playing field for all candidates. All registered voters are strongly encouraged to come out and vote. Those who need absentee ballots may call the Bronx Board of Elections at 718-299-9017.

At the time *The Current* went to press, no cut-off date for postmarking ballots, but votes should allow at least a week for the ballot to be delivered.

The last day to register to vote by mail for this election was on March 27, but those who wish to register in person at the Board of Elections, on the 5th floor at 1780 Grand Concourse, have until April 11 to do so.

As of press time, the two candidates known to be running for borough president are Anthony J. Ribustello (People First) and Ruben Diaz, Jr. (Bronx Unity Party).

## 'Alaska Experiment'

Continued from page 1

camped one mile away each day at a fully stocked facility). But there was a failsafe button for those who couldn't "survive." Each member of the group carried a GPS signal, which could be pressed at any time, sending for a helicopter to take them back to

civilization and out of the experiment.

According to the first episode, things went downhill very quickly for the group. Despite the hunters and fishermen among them, they failed to catch anything but a few rodents to eat during the first three days of the journey. "It was like cave man days. We had to catch our own food and start our own fires. Eight of us shared a roasted mouse on the third day," John said.

So hunger set in quickly, and they had to survive on mostly berries. When asked what he began to crave most, John laughed and said, "chocolate, beer and steak."

Things didn't get any easier as the group began to dwindle in size and grew hungrier and more desperate over the next six weeks. It was always raining and cold; they encountered dangerous wildlife; and the demanding terrain took its toll.

So did City Island's "survivor" make it to the end of the journey? You will have to watch Discovery Channel starting April 14 and find out. This reporter has been sworn to secrecy, but judging by the spectacular scenery in the first episode and John's engaging personality, it will be worth staying tuned.



### THE COOKIE FACTORY

**1844 Givan Ave., (718) 379-6223**

Over 70 varieties of cookies, party cakes & pastry trays for all occasions

**Easter Cookie Baskets**

Largest selection of SUGAR FREE PRODUCTS

Cookies • Cakes • Pies

Cheesecakes & Cannolis

**ALL PRODUCTS KOSHER**

*"Pride in Our Community"*

### ATLANTIC EMERITUS REALTY, INC.

Licensed Real Estate Broker  
Sales - Rental - Residential - Commercial

Robert T. Carmody - Licensed Real Estate Broker  
**Associates**


Maria Swieciki • Candy Mancuso • Debra Saulnier

Pre-qualified buyers waiting!  
300 City Island Avenue  
718-885-0088 phone 718-885-1426 fax

Visit our website at: [www.aerhomes.com](http://www.aerhomes.com) or [www.cityislandhomes.com](http://www.cityislandhomes.com)

### HOME INSPECTION SERVICES

**885-1068**



**Robert J. Leavy**  
Engineer  
NYS Licensed

**FREE  
HEALTH  
KIT**

# City Island Seniors: *Do you have a health concern?*

**Come to the 2009 City Island Health Fair!**



**The Visiting Nurse Service of New York, Councilman James Vacca, Congressman Joseph Crowley and the Presbyterian Senior Services are pleased to announce **the 2009 City Island Health Fair.****

**When:** Wednesday, April 29th

**Time:** 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**Where:** **Grace Church Hall** (116 City Island Avenue – at the corner of City Island Avenue and Pilot Street)

The 2009 City Island Health Fair will have doctors, nurses, physical and occupational therapists, and social workers on hand to do health screenings and answer your health related questions.

***Bring this ad to the 2009 City Island Health Fair and you'll receive a free health kit from the Visiting Nurse Service of New York.***



# RAT ISLAND: LEGEND AND HISTORY

By BRENDA PROHASKA



Photo courtesy of City Island Nautical Museum

Rat Island, circa 1890. The house is long gone but the island is there, awaiting a new owner.

A few hundred yards off the east end of Beach Street on City Island is a tiny island about 2.4 acres in size (at high tide) located between City Island and Hart Island in City Island Harbor. Along with the Blauzes and Chimney Sweeps, Rat Island is one of the Pelham Islands that were purchased by Thomas Pell from the Siwanoy Indians in 1654.

The island is uninhabited and has little vegetation, since it is made up of Manhattan schist bedrock, although at least one and perhaps two small structures once stood on the property. The island is irregular in shape and has a double-humped appearance, since a shallow channel known as Devil's Path cuts into the bedrock on the southern side of the island. At high tide, therefore, Rat Island looks like two separate rocks, but at low tide one can see that the channel is filled with mussel shells. A purple-blue "beach" of mussel shells lies on the west side of the island, and there are patches of reeds growing in the rocks.

Local legend Bryce Kirk reports that the water on the east side of the island runs about 60 feet deep, whereas the west side is rocky and shallow, about 4 to 6 feet deep, toward the area known as Green Flats. During warm weather, birdwatchers have observed a pair of great blue herons sleeping there during the

day and feeding along the shores of City Island in the early morning and in the evening. Swans and Canada geese have also been transient inhabitants, along with sea gulls, and bird feces have turned the island white.

So far, all of this information is supported by historical documents, navigational charts and eyewitnesses. But there are plenty of legends connected with this tiny island, all of them interesting and most of them inaccurate.

First of all, the name. No one claims to have ever seen rats on the island, so the origin of the name is lost in the mist of time. According to historian Bill Twomey, author of "The Bronx: In Bits and Pieces," Ed Dros, who worked at a prison on nearby Hart Island during the 1950s, thought the island was probably named for the "rats," or escaped prisoners swimming to City Island. However, Tom Nye, curator of the City Island Historical Society, found the name Rat Island on a chart drawn in 1851, and the name is probably much older than that. Islander Russell Schaller, whose father worked as a warden on Hart Island, remembers that prisoners did try to escape by swimming ashore (under cardboard boxes so they could not be seen) and likely stopped at Rat Island to rest.

Some Internet sources claim that in the 1800s Rat Island was the location of a hospital

that served as a typhoid quarantine center for about 40 infected people, but this is probably not true. For one thing, Rat Island isn't large enough for such a structure, and the originator of the legend may have confused it with North Brother Island, which lies in the East River southwest of Hunts Point, and was the site of such a hospital from 1885 until World War II.

Another legend is that Rat Island was used as a "Pelham pesthouse" during the yellow fever scares that occurred relatively frequently in the New York area during the 19th century. A pest house is an old term for a hospital used to quarantine patients with communicable diseases, and it was common for islands to be used to isolate them. Since Rat Island was technically part of the town of Pelham until 1888, when New York City began acquiring land to form Pelham Bay Park, it is possible that Pelham had earlier used it as a quarantine station. Bill Twomey proposes that New York City planned to use Rat Island for a similar purpose but this is unlikely, as the city had already set up a yellow fever quarantine hospital at the south end of Hart Island in 1870 soon after it had purchased Hart Island from the Hunter family in 1868.

The remains of cobblestone walls and a foundation are still on Rat Island, but it is not known who built the original structure or for what purpose it was used, although one can assume that it was abandoned because of flooding and storm damage. According to Bill Twomey, the island was owned by a man named Gilbert Horton (1821-93), whose house there is said to have been demolished

in 1893 but who retained ownership until at least 1897, when the island's block and lot number were recorded on the Bronx tax maps. It is possible that Horton, who lived in Sag Harbor before moving to Pelham, New York, put up a summer cottage on the island, and it is probably his house that was photographed in the 1890s.

In 1908, the island was bought for back taxes by Dr. H.A. Parmentier, a dentist, who leased it in 1931 to the Mount Vernon Club, of which he was a member. Again according to Bill Twomey, the island became "a haven for artists and writers, and one name associated with it was Chester Beecroft, a writer and film producer" who lived in Pelham and was an active member of the New York Athletic Club. Islander Barbara Hoffman, who grew up on King Avenue, remembers seeing a building there during her childhood in the 1940s, and this may have been a cottage built by Parmentier and used by the club.

The present owner of Rat Island is longtime Islander and dockbuilder Edmund (Red) Brennen, who purchased a tax lien in 1971 for what he was told consisted of 33 city lots, several of them underwater, from a Manhattan real estate lawyer named Elliot Zites. He has never been able to find any legal description of the property, although he holds the deed, and the island is listed by the city as one lot.

The history of Rat Island may be cloaked in mystery, but it is by no means over, as the island is once again for sale. Artists' and writers' colony, anyone?

## DR. DOANE HONORED

City Island-born geneticist Winifred Doane, professor emerita of Arizona State University and a respected researcher and educator, was one of eight Fellows honored on Feb. 15, 2009, for "commitment to the achievement of equity for women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics" by the Association for Women in Science (AWIS), in conjunction with the annual American Association for the Advancement in Science (AAAS) meeting held in Chicago.

The Women in Science honorees, which included a chemist, a physicist, a psychologist, three biologists and two science educators, will join a network of 142 other fellows, chosen from 50 chapters across the United States.

Dr. Doane received her official certificate and a pin in an informal ceremony on Feb. 26 on the steps of ASU's Old Main, officiated by Susanne Neuer, associate professor in the School of Life Sciences and president of the local chapter of AWIS that Dr. Doane founded in 1996. Dr. Neuer was also selected to serve on the AWIS national board in 2008.

Dr. Neuer said: "Winifred belongs to that generation of women who have had to overcome obstacles of gender discrimination which we today can hardly imagine. Becoming an AWIS Fellow is a well-deserved recognition of Winifred's role as a trailblazer and inspiration to today's generation of women scientists."

Dr. Doane, who grew up on Pilot Street, the daughter of Harold Vandervoort Walsh, received her doctorate in zoology/genetics from Yale in 1960, in a climate that was just starting to open up to women in science careers. Her research, which employed cutting-edge technology, led to the discovery of a number of genes in the fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*. Key among her discoveries were the control genes for tissue-specific expression of the *Amy* genes (amylase) and *adipose*, the first obesity gene found in fruit flies. These studies transported her onto the Genetics Study Section review panel for the National Institutes of Health, which strengthened her career, and translated into significant federal funding during her years at Yale and later at ASU.

She remembers that, "Although Yale was the first graduate school in the U.S. to accept female graduate students, when

you got your degree back then they didn't expect women to do anything with it except to teach in a small liberal arts college." She was at the forefront of her field in 1977, when she (and her fly mutants) came to ASU's Department of Zoology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"Politics at Yale stifled. The attitude there was that 'one out of six professors will make tenure.' It was always a matter of knocking you down, particularly if you were a woman," Dr. Doane notes. "Here at ASU, the focus was on helping faculty, male and female, succeed."

She estimates that, during her 21 years at ASU, she taught genetics to more than 2,500 undergraduate students, advised 280 undergraduate students, and served as research advisor and mentor for 44 undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral trainees. She was also the founder and first president of the Central Arizona Chapter of the Association for Women in Science, and a founding council member of the ASU Emeritus College, which was established in 2004. Doane is an AAAS Fellow and has published more than 120 research papers and book articles related to her work. She currently serves as the editor of the "Emeritus College Newsletter" and was a panelist for a podcast titled "Emeritus College: Reflecting on 50 Years of ASU as a University," which recently aired on ASUtv.

Although she officially retired in 1998, Dr. Doane has left an indelible mark on the science community in Arizona and ASU, as well as nationally and internationally, through her students and contributions to the field which she studied for more than half a century. She continues to maintain the fruit flies that carry her "skinny gene" (*adipose*), now the subject of intensive research in laboratories throughout the United States. "It's most gratifying to have my favorite gene finally recognized for what it might offer," she notes.

"Despite progress, there is still high attrition of female scientists following graduate school," Dr. Neuer says. "Winifred has embodied the mission of both ASU and AWIS, pursuing cutting-edge, collaborative and cross disciplinary research, while serving as a role model for success. . . . Stories like Winifred's serve to raise the awareness of future generations and offer the insight to overcome the remaining obstacles to gender equity in science."

## ISLAND DOCTOR AWARDED \$10 MILLION GRANT

Dr. Ana Maria Cuervo, a City Island resident and faculty member at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is one of four scientists at Einstein who were recently awarded a five-year grant of \$10 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study autophagy, a fundamental cell process that may hold the key to aging.

Autophagy, which literally means "self-eating," refers to several surveillance systems that all cells rely on to find, digest and recycle molecules within them that have become damaged. This cellular recycling both cleans up the cell and provides it with energy, since digested products can be used as fuel. Many studies have documented that autophagy becomes less efficient with age, allowing protein and other cellular components to gradually accumulate inside cells and, almost certainly, to interfere with normal cell function.

The research consortium is led by Dr. Cuervo, an associate professor of developmental and molecular biology, anatomy and structural biology, and medicine at Einstein and one of the world's leading experts on autophagy. With the help of the NIH grant, Dr. Cuervo and her colleagues will test their hypothesis, that impaired autophagy may explain the decline in organ function, weakened immunity and other functional losses associated with aging.

More specifically, the researchers will look at the role of two different types of autophagy in liver and brain function as well as immunity, under normal and stressful conditions. They will analyze how these two types of autophagy change as the liver, brain and immune system age in order to determine how changes in autophagy that



Ana Maria Cuervo.

occur with age contribute to the aging of the entire organism, to the gradual deterioration of cognitive function, to the failure with age of two essential immune functions (antigen processing and presentation, and T helper cell activation and tolerance), and to abnormalities in lipid metabolism.

"These studies will involve the cooperation of all four of us on the Einstein faculty who have jointly received this NIH grant," Dr. Cuervo says. "We are hopeful that this research project will lead to fundamental insights that will help us understand, treat or even prevent the metabolic alterations and decline in cognitive and immune function that affect us as we age. Strategies that can keep the autophagic pathways of our cells operating efficiently as we get older could help us to enjoy healthier lives well into old age."

The Einstein researchers have set up a Web site, [www.aecom.vu.edu/cuervo/private/defaultPPG.htm](http://www.aecom.vu.edu/cuervo/private/defaultPPG.htm), which describes their research effort in more detail.

## 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

#### APRIL

Thurs., April 2, 9, 16, 23, **P.S. 175 Kindergarten Registration** for City Island residents only, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, 200 City Island Avenue.

Sat., April 4, **Clean-up Day at Ambrosini Field**, 10 a.m., sponsored by the City Island Little League.

Thurs., Fri, and Sat., April 9, 10, 11, **Boy Scout Easter Flower Sale**, in front of Trinity Methodist Church, Bay Street and City Island Avenue.

Thurs., April 16, **Community Board 10 meets**, 7:30 p.m., Villa Barone Restaurant 3289 Westchester Avenue (at Pelham Bay Station).

Sat., April 18, **Little League Opening Ceremony**, 10 a.m. Ambrosini Field, City Island Avenue near Winters Street.

Sat., April 25, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: cooked ham sliced with potatoes.

Tues., April 28, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

#### Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Church celebrates Holy Communion, the Eucharist, every Sunday at 10 a.m., and you are warmly welcome to join us. Church School is offered approximately three times a month, beginning at 10 a.m. Please call Church School director Harlan Sexton at 718-885-9749 for dates and more information.

Please join us for our Holy Week and Easter Services this year. For more information, you may contact Mother Patty Alexander at 718-885-1080 or [RevPPA@aol.com](mailto:RevPPA@aol.com).

Palm Sunday, April 5: The Liturgy of the Palms and the Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Maundy (Holy) Thursday, April 9: The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 10: Ecumenical Service with Trinity Methodist Church (at Grace), 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12: Festival Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Sunday, April 26: "Bring a Friend to Church Sunday," 10 a.m. All Grace parishioners are asked to invite a friend to join them for worship today, so that others may experience the love of Christ firsthand through the liturgy and people of the Episcopal Church. This is also a perfect time for interested visitors to come and see Grace Church. All are welcome.

**Rev. Patricia Alexander**

#### Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island celebrated our 75th year with a gala anniversary dinner dance at the Lido Restaurant on Saturday, March 28. It was the event of the year, as we honored the three churches of City Island and our American Legion post, the very organizations that assisted our birth and development. We thank all our friends and members for their attendance and support.

Temple Beth-El, an all-inclusive egalitarian, multiethnic, Jewish congregation for all ages is located at 480 City Island Avenue, between Beach and Bowne Streets, and conducts Sabbath services each Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Our doors are open to all. We follow the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, primarily in English, with easy-to-read type-

face and singable Hebrew.

Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, is a day set aside for all of us to remember and learn about the horrors of the Holocaust. Rabbinic intern Molly Karp will guide us through the program on Sunday evening, April 19. (Check our Web site or call Mort and Violet Ellis at 718-885-2820 for the time.)

Finally, the 75th anniversary events committee thanks everyone who contributed to our canned food drive. The food pantry of JCC of Pelham Parkway was most appreciative. We also thank the staff at Exotiq International Arts, 280 City Island Avenue at Hawkins Street, for their assistance as a drop-off point.

Visit our Web site: [www.yourshulbythesea.org](http://www.yourshulbythesea.org).

**Bob Berent**

#### Trinity United Methodist Church

Our worship service and Sunday school begin at 10 a.m. Bring your children for Sunday school to further their knowledge of the teachings of Jesus Christ. We often have a coffee hour after the service. Please come and join us for worship and fellowship.

The Budget Shop will be open April 4, 14, 18 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please call Jay Howard at 718-885-2191 to volunteer.

A plea to all City Islanders: we need a volunteer to lead the Budget Shop behind the scenes. You do not need to be a member of Trinity. The Budget Shop is our main fund-raiser, and we really need help and some new ideas. Please call Myra Martin at 718-885-1049 or Ellie Hebard at 718-518-7241 to review the responsibilities of the behind-the-scenes leader. A working crew has already been established but we need a leader.

April 5: Palm Sunday begins our Holy Week schedule.

April 9: Holy Thursday; Trinity service is at 8 p.m.

April 10: Good Friday; we worship together at Grace Episcopal at 7:30 p.m.

April 11: Saturday; Tenebrae, 8 a.m. service at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church.

April 12: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service. An informal ecumenical gathering for the annual outdoor Easter Resurrection celebration will meet at 6:30 a.m. inside Pelham Cemetery. This celebration will consist of prayer, praise and singing, with scripture readings by members of the community and a meditation entitled "Resurrection, A Living Hope" by George Cavaliere. If the weather is severely inclement, the service will be held at Trinity in Fellowship Hall, 113 Bay Street.

April 12: Easter Sunday Service at 10 a.m. at Trinity.

We wish everyone a happy Easter and a happy Passover.

A reminder: Please keep Saturday, May 2, open to attend our Spring Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will have plenty of homemade goodies for sale at our bake table and lovely items at our church table. Luncheon will also be available. Please come to enjoy our fair, celebrate spring and help support our annual spring fund-raiser. If anyone is interested in helping out at the fair, please call Ellie Hebard 718-518-7241.

**Ellen G. Hebard**

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

Our monthly Holy Hour, with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, will be held on Friday, April 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome to attend this special period of prayer.



Photo by PATRICIA GRONDAHL

**Islander Tracy Tomsen teaches Yoga Stretch on Thursdays at 10 a.m. as part of the Healthy Senior Exercise program at Grace Church.**

Sunday, April 5, will begin the holiest week of the church year as we prepare to commemorate the sacred mysteries of the passion, death and resurrection of Our Lord. We will begin on Palm Sunday with the blessing and distribution of palms at all the Masses. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m. we will have the service of tenebrae consisting of psalms, readings and the chanting of the Lamentations of Jeremiah. The solemn commemoration of the Lord's Supper will take place on Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. followed by adoration until 10 p.m. On Good Friday, we will have the Stations of the Cross at 12 noon. The solemn commemoration of the passion and death of Jesus will take place at 4 p.m. After a day of silence and waiting on Saturday, the solemn Easter vigil will take place at 8 p.m. that evening and our joyful alleluias will continue on Easter Sunday at all our Masses: 8 and 10 a.m. and 12 noon. We wish a blessed Easter to all!

Because of the celebration of Holy Week and Easter Week, there will be no religious education classes on April 8 or April 15.

Our monthly Hospitality Hour will be held on Sunday, April 19, after the 10 o'clock Mass. All are invited to join us for coffee and light refreshments.

His Excellency, Bishop Dominick Lagonegro, will be here at St. Mary's on Tuesday afternoon, April 28, to administer the sacrament of confirmation to our eighth-graders in our religious education program and in St. Mary's School. The ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. We congratulate our young people on this special event in their lives.

The April meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday, April 27, at 7 p.m. in the rectory.

**Sr. Bernadette, OSU**

#### AARP Chapter #318

Chapter #318 will hold its April meetings on April 1 and 15 at the Trinity Methodist Church Hall at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Our June luncheon is tentatively scheduled for June 17 at the Lobster House. Further details will be discussed at the next meeting.

It is with deep regrets that I report the death of two of our dedicated members: Robert McLaughlin and Florence Quinn.

**Carmelia A. Ramftl**

#### City Island Republicans

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue.

For the first time since 1977, we have a candidate actively campaigning for Bronx Borough president. Our candidate, Anthony J. Ribustello, will appear on the ballot as the People First candidate. We actually have a chance to elect him as our next borough president on April 21, since every vote could make a difference, due to an extremely low

turnout. Anthony is opposed to the cutbacks at our firehouse along with any other firehouse. He is directly affected by the Ladder 53 cuts since he resides across Eastchester Bay in Country Club. In addition, he faces many of the same issues that we do on City Island.

I am also happy to report that county headquarters is screening several candidates for mayor. We are also looking at running people for comptroller and public advocate.

The spring gala held on March 19, 2009, was a big hit. Almost 300 people attended this great event, and everyone had a ball.

The City Island Republicans would like to congratulate the honorees of the event—Brooklyn Senator Marty Golden, John Catsimatidis, Marion MacQueen and Bob Williams.

Again, remember to vote for Anthony on April 21.

**Fred Ramftl, Jr., President**

#### Nautical Museum News

After its reopening in December 2008, the City Island Nautical Museum has launched itself into a lively program of activities, thanks to the contributions of numerous volunteers and to city agencies that have provided grant money, and to the museum's new docent, Christopher McGowan.

Now that the museum is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturdays as well as Sundays, more visitors are enjoying the new exhibits and the refurbished interior spaces. Behind the scenes, several volunteers, including Jane Protzman, Ellen Murphy, Evyonne Baker, Boo Dennis and Jeanne Pezone, are busy cataloguing the collection and the books, scanning rare photographs, mastering the new computer and tending the museum's Web site ([www.cityislandmuseum.org](http://www.cityislandmuseum.org)).

Barbara Healy Hoffman—who launched the museum's new model minesweeper on Sunday, March 29, in the footsteps of her mother, who had launched two City Island-

*Continued on page 12*

### 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 hall, 116 City Island Avenue (at Pilot Street).



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

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

**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.deirdreomara.com](http://www.deirdreomara.com).

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

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

**Drama Club:** Thursdays 7 to 8 p.m. \$1 dues per week. Ages 8 through 14. Community Center membership is required for these classes. Call Laury Hopkins at 718-885-3202 to sign up or for more information. Leave a message!

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

**ADULT PROGRAM**

**Salsa Dance:** Dance your stress away to the basic beats of salsa. No partner necessary. \$50 per month or \$15 per class. Friday nights, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Call Nilsa at 917-838-6501.

**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 pm. The fee for each one-hour class is \$15. Call 845-358-0260.

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

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

**Yoga:** A beginner to intermediate class that includes Hatha and Namaste yoga with some Saroopa (restorative yoga). Also tai-chi, which will help balance the immune system and reduce pain. Please contact Marc Kaplan for inquiries at [marc@ohm-chi.com](mailto:marc@ohm-chi.com) or call 718-885-2445.

**Weight Loss Program:** If you would like to join a weekly weight-loss group, one will be starting soon at the Community Center, tentatively scheduled for Thursday evenings. Call Deana Weyhrauch at 917-418-1377

**Bosu Balance Training:** Every Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. for an hour. \$15 per class. One-on-one personal training is also available. Call Janet at 646-544-4292 for more information or to make your reservation!

**FAMILY PROGRAM & MIXED AGE GROUPS**

**Vilma's Music Together:** Music and movement for children ages birth through 5 and adults that love them! Saturdays 10 to 10:45 a.m.. For more information, call 718-882-2223, visit [www.funmemusicitogether.com](http://www.funmemusicitogether.com) or e-mail [info@vilmasmusicitogether.com](mailto:info@vilmasmusicitogether.com).

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

Amy Gottlieb

**Holiday Services**

**Grace Episcopal Church**

City Island Avenue at Pilot Street  
 April 5, Palm Sunday: The Reading of the Passion and Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.  
 April 9, Maundy Thursday: Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 p.m.  
 April 10, Good Friday: Ecumenical Service with Trinity Methodist at Grace Church, 7:30 p.m.

April 12, Easter Sunday: Festival Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

**Trinity United Methodist Church**

113 Bay Street  
 April 5: Palm Sunday, 10 a.m.  
 April 9: Holy Thursday, 8 p.m.  
 April 10: Good Friday Ecumenical service at Grace Episcopal Church, 7:30 p.m.

April 11: Tenebrae Service at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, 8 a.m.

April 12: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at Pelham Cemetery on King Avenue, 6:30 a.m. Easter Worship at Trinity Church, 10 a.m.

**St. Mary Star of the Sea Church**

City Island Avenue near the bridge  
 April 4, Saturday: Confessions, 4:30 to 5 p.m. Vigil Mass at 5:15 p.m.  
 April 5, Palm Sunday: Masses at 8, 10 a.m. and noon. Blessing of Palms at all masses.

April 9, 10 and 11, Thursday, Friday and Saturday: Tenebrae, 8 a.m., psalms and readings. No morning mass.

April 9, Holy Thursday: Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 p.m. Procession to the Repository; adoration to 10 p.m.

April 10, Good Friday: Stations of the Cross, 12 noon, Commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus, 4 p.m. Confessions, 5 to 6 p.m.

April 11, Holy Saturday: Confessions, 9 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. Solemn Easter Vigil, 8 p.m.

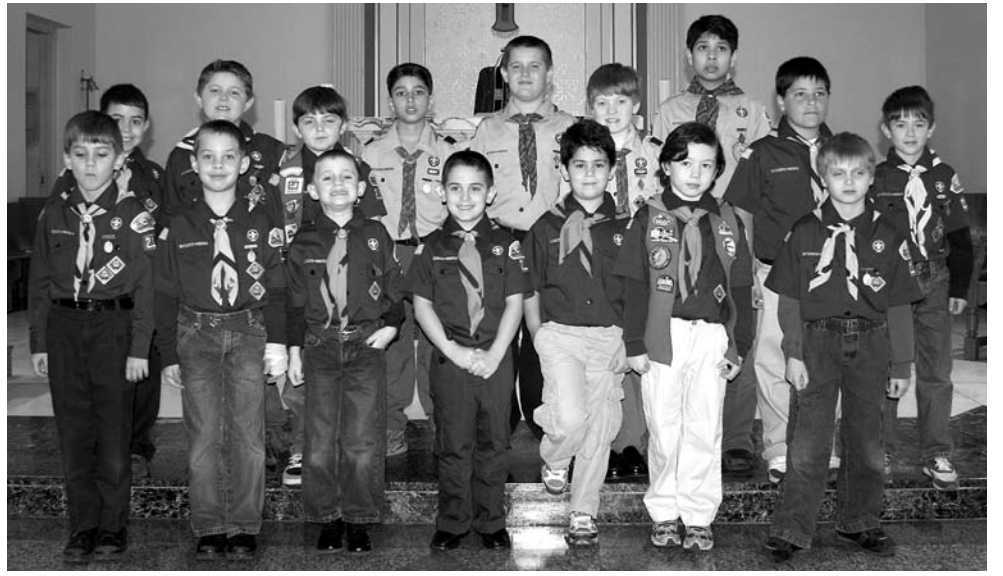
April 12, Easter Sunday: Masses at 8, 10 a.m. and noon.

**Legion News**

Another month has come and gone. Spring arrived March 20 with an early morning snowfall, which was short-lived. An azure blue sky soon replaced low, fast-moving gray clouds.

By the time this issue of *The Current* goes to press, our annual St. Patrick's Day dinner will be history. You may recall last year's problems. Early arrivals for the first seating devoured a lion's share of the corned beef, leaving the second seating a tad short on the beef. The chefs, realizing that the corned beef would not be enough to satisfy the insatiable appetites of Post chow hounds, added more cabbage and potatoes to the menu. Even cutting the corned beef razor thin did not resolve the problem. A hue and cry could be heard from the memorial at the bridge to Belden Point and would not be soon forgotten. An in-depth investigation by a committee selected by the commander determined that shrinkage was the prime problem. This year the commander decided to employ the culinary expertise of the World of Foods. It was an excellent choice, buffet style, all you could eat for \$20; wine, beer and soda and Irish coffee provided the necessary libation. There were no complaints, only praise for a job well done.

As usual, I made a faux pas in the last Legion newsletter. Randy Peterson was a regular member and not an associate member.



Photos by ANGELO BELLOCCHIO

Pictured in the top photo are Cub Scout recipients of medals and their supporters at St. Mary, Star of the Sea, on March 15 were: (front row, l. to r.): Aiden Saulnier, James McGaughn, Brandon McGaughn, Angelo Nieves, Paul Mazzella, Jadon Torado, Joseph Zayas; (back row): Joseph Leni, Joseph Gvonaj, Joseph Kramer, Michael Bellocchio, Nicholas Gvonaj, Jack Green, David Verghese, Nicholas Cablo, John Tomsen. The photo below shows the scouts on their great overnight adventure at the Norwalk Maritime Aquarium on the weekend of Feb. 27.

Plaudits to Comrade Treat, who keeps the membership ball rolling when many local posts are foundering or throwing in the towel.

Comrade Ed Shipp reports that things are all shipshape, but he tells me that he could always use a few good men and women to help place flags on the Avenue and at the cemetery. Contact Ed at the Post if you can help. You don't have to be a member to volunteer.

Progress continues to be made in the myriad Post projects. Stop by and see the new restrooms.

Keep this date in mind: Monday, April 20, will be Membership Recognition Night, when we pay homage to those with years of continuing service.

There was some confusion with regard to the demise of Earl Rickard Jr. He was a contemporary of mine; his son, not a junior, would be approximately 60 years of age. Earl Jr. was also known to his peers as Spider.

Sick call: Comrades Joseph DeLuca and Buddy Pontecorvo are both in rehab, Joe in the Schaffer Nursing Home at Sound Shore and Buddy at Dumont Masonic Home in New Rochelle.

Thomas Diehl sent me an interesting article, vintage the Big Deuce. Charlie Brown was a B-17 flying fortress pilot with the 379th Bomber Group, Kimbolton, England. He was limping home after a bombing mission over Germany. His plane was badly damaged, one motor gone, the compass knocked out. The nose was smashed, holes were everywhere, and the tail and rear sections were all but shot off. As he passed over a German airfield, Franz Steigler was dispatched to intercept and shoot him down. When the German pilot Steigler drew abreast of the B-17, he could not believe his eyes. Franz flew alongside the side of the B-17, close enough to see a scared Charlie Brown struggling to control his damaged and blood-drenched plane. Lacking workable navigation equipment, Brown was heading east rather than west. Franz waved at Charlie to turn 180 degrees and escorted the bomber to the North Sea and England. When Franz landed, he told his C.O. that the B-17 was shot down. Back in England, Brown and his crew were told never to mention their good fortune in

having met this benevolent German. More than 40 years later, Charlie Brown was able to locate Franz and found that for 50 years they had lived only 200 miles apart, Franz in Canada and Charlie in Seattle. They would meet at a 279th group postwar reunion with 25 other people who are alive today because Franz never fired his guns.

Meetings for the month of April are as follows; regular meetings Monday, April 6 and 20; executive board meeting Monday, April 13.

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus

**Healthy Senior Exercise Program**

The exercise classes at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street, remain the same. Monday: Sittercise with Patty Grondahl; Tuesday: Cardio-fitness with Mary Immediato; Thursday: Yoga Stretch with Tracy Tomsen, and Friday: Arthritis Foundation Exercise with Patty. All classes begin at 10 a.m.

The Wednesday Orchard Beach walks will resume in April. The van leaves Pilot Street at 9:30 a.m. Call Tony at 347-834-6466 for transportation to and from the beach.

It is not too late to join the Diabetes Self-Management Workshops. The sessions provided by North General Hospital will run for six Tuesdays, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., March 31 through May 5.

There will be a health fair at Grace Church on Wednesday, April 29, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., sponsored by the Visiting Nurse Service, Council Member Jimmy Vacca, Congressman Joseph Crowley and Presbyterian Senior Services. Health-care professionals, including nurses, doctors, social workers and physical therapists, will be on hand for resources and services such as blood-pressure screening and Medicare counseling. Join your neighbors to learn how to better take care of your health and enjoy healthy refreshments. Giveaways galore and much more.

For more information on any of the above, call Patty Grondahl at 914-882-9578.

Pat Grondahl



### My Favorite Wedding Films

My son Dan married the beautiful Reina Mia Brill on March 22, and in their honor I am writing reviews of my favorite wedding movies. We begin with a classic, **The Philadelphia Story** (1940), in which socialite Tracy Lord (Katharine Hepburn) prepares to marry George Kittredge (John Howard), much to the consternation of her ex-husband, C. K. Dexter Haven (Cary Grant). When tabloid reporter Macaulay Connor (Best Supporting Actor Oscar-winner James Stewart) and his photographer, Elizabeth Imbrie (Ruth Hussey) enter the exclusive Lord-Kittredge wedding, there are riotous results. This is one of director George Cukor's finest screwball comedies. (This film was remade in 1956 as the musical **High Society**, with Grace Kelly, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra as the leads, and was equally enjoyable.)

The Lerner and Loewe musical **Brigadoon** (1954) stars Gene Kelly as Tommy and Van Johnson as Jeff, two New York City business tycoons on vacation in the Scottish Highlands. They discover a tiny town where a wedding is about to take place, and they are captivated by the joy and simplicity of the lives led by the inhabitants, who have kept their innocence because when they go to sleep each night, they awaken 100 years later. When Tommy falls in love with Fiona Campbell (Cyd Charisse), only a miracle can keep them together.

**Steel Magnolias** (1989) is the story of a group of women friends who meet regularly at the local beauty salon owned by Truvy (Dolly Parton), who is assisted by Annelle (Daryl Hannah). The movie begins as M'Lynn (Sally Field) prepares for the wedding of her daughter, Shelby (Julia Roberts), to Jackson (Dylan McDermott). Shelby's father (Tom Skerritt) is busy shooting blanks at birds in the trees so they won't "crap" on the wedding guests, much to the extreme distress of the crotchety neighbor Ouiser (Shirley MacLaine), who "has been in a bad mood for 40 years." Other important characters are Clairee (Olympia Dukakis), a rich widow who frequents Truvy's and Spud (Sam Shepard), Truvy's husband. This moving film skillfully combines sadness with humor and love.

**The Wedding Banquet** (1993) is the story of a gay Chinese male, Wai-Tung (Winston Chao), who is happily ensconced in New York with his lover, Simon (Mitchell Lichtenstein). Wai-Tung's parents,

who are still living in China, constantly pressure him to get married because they want grandchildren. To get his parents to stop hassling him, he decides to marry Wei-Wei (May Chin), a struggling artist who has no green card and wants to stay in America. When his parents decide to come to New York for the wedding, they turn his life upside down. This film is special because of the genuine warmth of all the characters.

**Four Weddings and a Funeral** (1994) is a delightful British comedy starring Hugh Grant as Charles, always a wedding guest, never a groom, who is besotted by an American, Carrie (Andie MacDowell), when he serves as best man at a wedding they are both attending. On hand are Charles's best friend, Tom (John Fleet); Tom's sister, Fiona (Kristin Scott Thomas); their gay friend Gareth (the vivacious Simon Callow) and his partner, Matthew (John Hannah); Charles's roommate Scarlett (Charlotte Coleman), and sweet David Bower as Charles's deaf brother. The most hilarious scene is with Rowan Atkinson as a very nervous, newly ordained clergyman. If you want to see a host of happy endings, be sure to stay for the photo display at the very end.

From India comes the incredibly joyful **Monsoon Wedding** (2002). The Verna family of Delhi has arranged a marriage for their daughter Aditi (Vasundhara Das) to Hemant (Parvin Dabas), a computer programmer from Houston. The meeting, engagement and wedding all take place within a few days, but there are complications as Aditi is in love with a married man. There is a delightful romantic subplot with P.K. Dube (Vijay Raaz), the wedding planner, who is smitten with the family maid, Alice (Tilotama Shome). There is also a very serious undercurrent with Aditi's cousin Ria (Shefali Shetty) and her aversion to an old family friend. Another film featuring Indian nuptials, this time set in England, is **Bend It Like Beckham** (2003), another film not to be missed.

**My Big Fat Greek Wedding** (2002) was written by Nia Vardalos who stars as Toula, a rather frumpy, unattractive 30-year-old woman who works in the family business. Being single at 30 is a source of great concern to her parents. According to her father, the funny Michael Constantine, Greek women were put on this earth to marry Greek men, have Greek children and feed everyone. When she meets the spectacularly non-Greek Ian Miller (John Corbett), she falls head over heels in love. Ian is a kind-hearted vegetarian who finds the genuine and unpretentious Toula much more to his liking than all the two-dimensional women he has previously met. It is lovely to watch her bloom into a desirable woman, and how Toula and Ian work out the problems of a mixed marriage is often hilarious. This is a feel-good movie of the best sort.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .

### Filming on CI

*Continued from page 1*

because of City Island's geography, with one main street and a fire lane, at least 50 percent of filming requests for the Island are, in fact, turned down. In this case, they required the film company to hire traffic agents to monitor the traffic on Tuesday because of the director's need to close the Avenue for the filming. Mr. Battista also said that the police are not authorized to ticket or tow cars parked in a film company's no-parking zone; ticketing and towing are only authorized when the signs are put in place by the Department of Transportation.

Mr. Battista urged residents with complaints in the future to call both the location manager of the film crew and the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting. In the meantime, he encourages local restaurants and other vendors to offer discounts to film crews through his office in order to increase their own business during the filming. For more information, visit [www.nyc.gov/film](http://www.nyc.gov/film).

For those who are eager to see what City

Island looked like in 1973, be sure to watch the last episode of "Life on Mars," which is scheduled to be aired on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at 10 p.m.

**Hull Inspections & Cleaning  
Prop & Zinc Replacements  
Search & Recovery Experts**



**530 City Island Avenue  
885-1588 • 1-800-540-7386**



**New items available at the City Island Nautical Museum's gift shop, open every Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.**

which will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2009, at 8 p.m. at the Post. We are looking for some good ambitious men to help operate our squadron.

### Organization News

*Continued from page 10*

built minesweepers in 1943 and 1953—has taken charge of the museum's gift shop, which now offers visitors a wonderful array of new products, including t-shirts, mugs, leather bookmarks and pens (see photo), along with copies of books about the history of City Island.

A well-attended event took place on Saturday, March 14, when Islander Dick Sadler gave an inspiring presentation about his experiences on the crew of the City Island-built 12-meter sloop *Courageous* when she successfully defended the America's Cup, skippered by Ted Turner, in 1977.

The museum was very pleased to have a full spread of photographs appear in the New York Daily News on Tuesday, March 24, and we hope it attracts a good deal of attention throughout the city.

During the month of April, the museum looks forward to welcoming this year's fourth grade at P.S. 175, along with last year's fourth grade, which raised funds that enabled the museum to renovate its School Room exhibits.

These events and renovations have been made possible by generous grants from New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs, through the office of Council Member James Vacca, and by the Bronx Council on the Arts.

Landscaping work has also begun on the front yard of 190 Fordham Street, thanks to the generosity of the Garden Club of City Island.

For information about the museum and its programs, visit the Web site or call 718-885-0507.

**Barbara Dolensek**

### Sons of the American Legion Squadron #156

At our March 12, 2009, meeting, a report was given on the bathrooms, and we are happy to say that they are almost completed. The toilets will be ready for their first flush by Memorial Day.

The pigs' knuckle party was a huge success, as usual. We raised money for the State Commander's Emergency Relief Fund.

We will be taking nominations for the different squadron offices at our April meeting,

Next month we will let you know how our state commander enjoyed his visit to the Bronx.

During the month of June, we are looking into holding a car wash to raise funds for the squadron. Details will follow in the upcoming months.

We would like to remind all members that dues are now past due. Dues are \$30 and can be mailed to or dropped off at the post.

Any male who is a descendent of a veteran who served during the American Legion's stated time periods set by Congress is eligible to join the squadron. Anyone interested may call Fred Ramftl at 347-680-7695 or Scott Murphy at 646-314-1000 for more details.

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

### Cub Scout News

Our fine young scouts have been very busy lately. The Webelos are working hard on their Boy Scout requirements and are doing an outstanding job. On Feb. 28, the Webelos were invited on a very interesting trip with the Boy Scouts of Troop 211 to the Intrepid Museum in Manhattan, where they learned about the history of the ship and enjoyed the simulator.


The pack continues to grow with a new recruit and welcomes Angelo Nieves to the rank of Tiger. Angelo quickly earned his Bobcat merit badge in record time. Good job, Ang.

On Feb. 27-28, the entire pack and their families enjoyed sleeping at Norwalk Maritime Aquarium for a night of fun-filled educational experiences. On Sunday, March 15, 10 scouts were awarded their Individual Religious Medals at the 10 o'clock Mass at St. Mary's by Father Mike, an outstanding historical record for the pack.

That same day the scouts and their families enjoyed their annual trip to Medieval Times, where the scouts showed off their custom painted swords and outfits. They all defended their maidens, who came along for the trip.

A reminder that registration is always open for any young boy who might be interested. Our meetings are held every Tuesday evening at Trinity Methodist Church Hall at 113 Bay Street.

**Angelo Bellocchio**



**EARLY RUTH ANTIQUES**

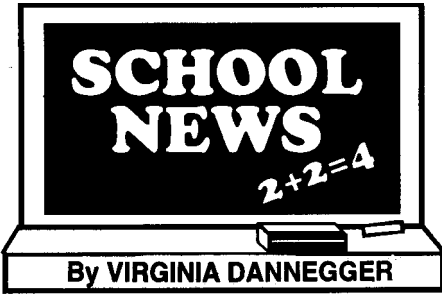
319 City Island Avenue  
City Island, NY 10464

*Specializing in Unique Art  
of the 20th Century*

*Open by Appointment*

Call:  
718-885-3162  
718-885-0228

*"Flowers"*  
Oil on canvas by Linda Martin  
West Virginia folk artist



**Public School 175**

There was a lot going on at P.S. 175 in March! Students in Grades 3 through 8 finished taking their New York State mathematics assessments and are continuing their academic studies.

Students in all grades worked diligently on their Science Fair projects, which were displayed during Parent-Teacher conferences on March 19. Lower-grade students worked on group projects, and the upper-grade students worked on their projects individually and in pairs. Students did a beautiful job preparing their displays, and it was evident that a lot of hard work went into the presentations and that much learning had taken place.

Our students attended several exciting trips this month. Second- and third-graders visited the New York Botanical Garden, where they studied the history of chocolate and vanilla, the plants from which they come and the products they produce. Kindergarten and first-grade students attended a performance of "The Wizard of Oz" at Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, and kindergarten and Grade 2 attended a performance of "Seussical."

Seventh-graders went on a class trip to Philadelphia, where they enjoyed a guided tour of many of the historical sites and visited the Franklin Institute Science Museum, where they explored the wonders of science through many hands-on exhibits.

Our phenomenal PTA held its annual Card Party at the Lido Caterers. Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated parents,

the event was a tremendous success! We are very pleased that funds raised from the event will enable the PTA to continue to assist us in providing exciting and enriching experiences and opportunities for our students. Many thanks to the businesses in our community that supported the party!

The eighth-grade graduation committee has been busy planning for all of the end-of-year events that will be taking place. Parent meetings are being held in preparation for graduation and senior activities. We look forward to seeing all of the eighth-grade parents at these meetings.

Upcoming April events include: first-grade trips to FDNY-Fire Zone and Green Meadows Farm; third-grade trip to the Bronx Zoo to study animal adaptations; fifth-grade trip to see "Wicked" on Broadway; sixth-grade trip to Greenkill.

Please keep these important dates in mind: on-going kindergarten registration for City Island residents ONLY will take place on Thursday mornings, beginning April 2, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Seventh-graders will be going to Boston on May 1. Eighth-grade graduation will take place on Wednesday, June 24, at 9:30 a.m. The graduation dance is the same evening from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Seashore Restaurant. The eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C., will take place from May 27 to 28. The kindergarten moving-up ceremony will take place on Tuesday, June 23, at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a family celebration in the gym, complete with a DJ and Sunny the Clown!

The Citizens-of-the-Month for March are: Jaden Perreira and Kaltrina Rugova (kindergarten), Brandon McGaughan and Amanda Campbell (first grade), Samantha Negron and Bakara Hope-Felix (second grade), Erik Lomonaco and Michael Valenti (third grade), Megan Ploch and Esther Kramer (fourth grade), Ameer Baksh and Michael LaBriola (fifth grade), Stephanie Morrissey and Samantha Pryor (sixth grade), Gregory Garcia and Jade Riley (seventh grade), Nancy Navarro and Abigail Adams (eighth grade).



Photos by BRENDA PROHASKA

P.S. 175 held a "Goes Green" card party on Friday, March 20, 2009, at the Lido Restaurant. Hosted by chairperson Brenda Prohaska and principal Amy Lipson, the fund-raiser was supported by many local City Island businesses, as well as Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, who donated a 32-inch flat screen TV, and Senator Jeff Klein, who donated \$300.

PTA board members Lou Lomanoco, Jen Etzel, Lisa Fine, Michael Shanley and Phyllis Gitter-Russell were supported by the many volunteers, including Susan Rosendahl, Maryann Albertelli, Roberta Gonaj, Michelle Branley, Maria Valenti, Violet Smith, Rose Kolb, Christine Williams, Leslie Hanley, Kim Moran, Pat Branley, Eddie Esposito, Celeste Zayas, Nancy Henriquez, Donna Manasseri, Amy Gottlieb-Elroy and Candy Mancuso. Shown above are the student volunteers: Abbie Adams, Jennifer Branley, Dylan Cruz, Shaun Moran, Anna Rothschild, Nicolas Santiago, Kevin Saulnier, Shaylin Scott and Gabrielle Vitiello.

**C**  
**Citrin Cooperman & Company, LLP**  
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
**Edward D. Heben**  
 CPA/ABV, CVA, AEP  
 Partner  
 709 Westchester Avenue  
 White Plains, NY 10604  
 914-949-2990 • Fax: 914-949-2910  
 www.citrincooperman.com  
 eheben@citrincooperman.com

**IS YOUR HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE BEING CANCELED?**

**We continue to work with the most reputable insurance companies to get you the coverage you need.**

**Call us today for a free quote!**

**Or request a quote online at:**

[www.islandinsuranceagency.com](http://www.islandinsuranceagency.com)

**ISLAND INSURANCE AGENCY**

498 City Island Ave. P (718) 885-1050  
 Bronx, NY 10464 F (718) 885-3419  
 Email: [info@islandinsuranceagency.com](mailto:info@islandinsuranceagency.com)

**LOBSTER BOX**

34 City Island Ave. • City Island, NY 10464 • Tel: 718-885-1952  
 Email: [info@lobsterboxrestaurant.com](mailto:info@lobsterboxrestaurant.com) • [www.lobsterboxrestaurant.com](http://www.lobsterboxrestaurant.com)

*Best View Overlooking the Sound*

*Great Dining Experience*

*Warm Atmosphere*

*Excellent Service*

**TRY OUR SPECIALS EVERYDAY**

**CHILDREN'S MENU • TAKEOUT AVAILABLE  
 PARTY FACILITIES AVAILABLE**

**\*Free**  
*Piña Colada or Wine or Dessert*

**\*PLEASE BRING THIS AD FOR YOUR FREE PIÑA COLADA, GLASS OF WINE OR DESSERT**

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • LUNCH & DINNER • 12 NOON TO 12 MIDNIGHT  
 AMPLE FREE PARKING**

**LOBSTER BOX**

by hmmmhedy@earthlink.net



**Boys Bantams.** Top row (l. to r.): Dr. Richard Cordaro, Deion Rodriguez, Jonathan Martinez, Diajee Horner, Michael Valentine, John Manna and coach Mike Whelan; bottom row: Daniel Johnson, Matthew Valentine, Damien Thorne, Joseph Cordaro and Andrew Whelan. Not pictured: Justin Munafo and assistant coach John Manna.

## Basketball

*Continued from page 5*

quarters until their triumphant run kicked in. Down 10 points with time running out, the girls' tenacious defense forced seven turnovers which gave the girls the victory.

Outstanding performances were brought forth by Erin Schlottman, Briana Reilly, Briana Whelan, Kaylin Fitzpatrick and Francesca Strazera. All of the girls on the JV team should be commended on a job well done. See you next September.

### Boys Bantams

The Boys Bantams began the season a bit slowly but built chemistry with one another during practice and games. Midway through the season, when their record was 3 and 5, they came up against an undefeated opponent. The boys faced the challenge head on and handed the team their first defeat. It was the turning point of the season: the boys finished the remaining eight games of the season with a record of 6 and 2. It was a great accomplishment! Good luck to the fourth-graders as they move up to Junior Varsity. The coaches look forward to working with the players once again next season.

### Girls Gidgets

The 2008-2009 Gidgets had a tough act to follow, considering the fact that last year's St. Mary's Girls Gidgets were the B Division champions. This task was even more daunting since there were no returning starters and

eight first-time players (including four second-graders). However, through hard work and determination, the season was quite successful, starting off with a third place finish in the St. Francis Xavier pre-season tournament. The regular season followed, highlighted by winning streaks of three and four games each. They finished with a record of 9 and 9, which landed them the number-one seed in the B Division playoffs. Unfortunately, the girls ran into a hot St. Barnabas parish team in the first round and lost by three points.

Coaches George Spencer and Larry Saulnier want to thank the girls for all their hard work in making this a successful season.

### Intramurals

Although the Intramural roster for this season was half the size of last year's, the team still had a great season of drills, learning and playing games. The young players developed a good team attitude and aggressiveness. Coaches Jack and Mark have them well prepared to play on the Boys Bantam team next season. Steven Rice shot 5 for 6 in the foul shooting contest, and Joseph Leni shot 3 for 15 for second place. Intramural Coach Jack Grogan has been with the St. Mary, Star of the Sea basketball program for over 15 years. The organizers would like to say thank you for his many years of dedication. He will truly be missed.



**Girls Gidgets.** Top row (l. to r.): coaches George Spencer and Larry Saulnier; middle row: Christine Rice, Deirdre Spencer, Alicia Jones, Ashley Livingston, Destiny White-Foster, Sydney Saulnier, Shannon Saulnier; bottom row: Dava Lee Candelaria, Christine Whelan, Samantha Negron, Samantha Volpe and Krystal Mensah-Stone.



**Intramurals.** Top row (l. to r.): Coach Mark Amos, Joseph Leni, Steven Rice, John Wilson, Nicholas Badillo and coach Jack Grogan; bottom row: Michael Amos, Robert Henriquez and Joseph Cruz.



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

## Are You A Tax Cheat?

Tax avoidance is not a crime, but tax evasion is. What happens when you cheat on your taxes? Well, you could lose out on a cabinet position, and you might even end up in jail. Alternatively, you could get hit with additional tax, interest and penalties. From minor offenses to major tax fraud, here is a list of some tax machinations that could get you in a world of trouble and some examples of what could happen to you if you cross the line when filing your taxes.

**Late payment of taxes.** This will result in the assessment of interest charges on what you owe. The IRS currently uses an annual rate of 5 percent, and you might also be assessed a penalty, which would result in additional monies owed. That penalty could be 0.5 percent a month on what you owe, up to a maximum of 25 percent.

**No Social Security number.** If you file a tax return with no Social Security number specified, you could get hit with \$50 penalty for each missing Social Security number. If you or someone in your family do not have a Social Security number, you will need to apply for one or get an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number via the Social Security Administration.

**Late filings and refunds due.** If you are entitled to an overpayment refund, you must file your tax return within three years of the original due date or you lose the refund. That's right! The IRS will keep it and deny you the right to collect. You are still obligated to file your tax return, but the IRS will keep any money that was supposed to be refunded and no amount of pleading or begging will help.

**Late filings and taxes due.** If you file your taxes late and owe money, you can get into a little more trouble. Your penalty will be 5 percent per month, up to a maximum of 25 percent on the tax due on your return. The minimum penalty is the smaller of \$135 or 100 percent of your unpaid tax.

**Filing a frivolous return.** If you file a

tax return without sufficient detail for the IRS to determine the correct amount of tax you owe or, if you take a frivolous position on something (such as a really silly deduction), you could get hit with a \$500 penalty on top of any additional tax, interest and other penalties you might owe.

**Inaccurate filing.** If the IRS determines that you were negligent or ignored tax regulations to such an extent that there was a large difference between what you said you owed and what you really owed (a substantial understatement), you could be hit with a 20 percent penalty on the amount owed. Check your work and make sure that there are no mathematical or other errors on your tax return.

**Late payment of employment taxes.** The IRS really gets serious when an employer withholds money from an employee's paycheck but fails to send the money in right away. There is a 10 percent penalty on the total amount due once the deposit is 16 days late.

**Trust fund recovery.** To discourage employers from going for long periods of time without remitting withholding and other employment taxes, there can be a penalty of 100 percent imposed on what is owed, plus interest. This penalty is on top of the regular penalties for the late payment of employment taxes previously noted. Trust fund penalties are typically reserved for employers who are notoriously delinquent. This penalty literally doubles the amount an employer owes to the IRS.

**Tax preparer fraud.** Your tax preparer can also be on the hook for penalties related to your tax return at both the federal and state levels. In general, these penalties are meant to discourage tax preparers from preparing fraudulent returns, promoting abusive tax shelters or, engage in reckless behavior when preparing a tax return. These penalties can easily be \$1,000, \$5,000 or more, depending on the severity of the facts and circumstances.

**Criminal tax fraud.** If the IRS thinks you have engaged in tax fraud, which is much worse than a mistake or a simple failure to report income, you can really get in trouble with this one, especially if the IRS can prove intent. Fraud and false statements could get you up to three years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. An attempt to evade taxes or a conspiracy to defraud the United States could get you up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. These penalties could be applicable to each and every instance of fraud conviction.

**INTERIOR DESIGN  
GENERAL CONTRACTING**  
by Jeri Stark

Kitchens - Bathrooms - Extensions  
Flooring - Window Treatments  
Layout & Design

Call (914) 760-3934 for consultation

[www.jeristark.com](http://www.jeristark.com)

250 William Ave  
City Island, NY

**Property  
Appraisal  
Services**

Commercial Real Estate Appraisers

261 City Island Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10464  
718-885-3800

We are proud to relocate our offices to City Island

# Adventures of a Storyteller: Frank Hoffman

By BRUCE A. WEIS



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Frank Hoffman.

Frank Hoffman is a clam digger in the strictest sense of the term; he was born not in some mainland hospital to parents who happened to live on City Island, but physically on the Island. He arrived on New Year's Day 1932 in the front bedroom of the third house on the north side of Winter Street, behind what is now Carman's service station. Doctor Martin officiated.

A retired electrical engineer, Frank still lives on City Island, with his wife, Barbara, in a large house on King Avenue that commands a panoramic view of City Island Harbor. A past commodore of the City Island Yacht Club, Frank and Barbara sail extensively, and each serves as a City Island community leader. Frank's journey from that front bedroom to 2009 is an interesting story, or rather a series of interesting stories. As he says, everything in life is a story.

Frank's father, John Hoffman, was born in Jersey City and worked first for the Pennsylvania Railroad and then the Edison Company (as his son later would). John served in France during World War I with the United States Army, having followed his younger brother into the service via the New Jersey National Guard in order to bypass an age restriction.

"My father went down to enlist," Frank told *The Current*, "and at 27 years old, in 1917, he was too old. They wanted their recruits younger, although by the time the war was over, they would take them up to the age of 45." In order to join the Army, John Hoffman first enlisted in the National Guard and ended up serving with the 29th division.

When the soldiers in the division returned from France, their colonel, who had some dealings with an Atlantic City hotel, asked the men to march in Atlantic City, along the boardwalk. "They got their uniforms cleaned and they were bused from Camp Dix. They had a wonderful parade and a big party in the convention center.

That's all he talked about, never much about the war." Frank found a book titled "The 29th Division" and discovered his father's name and serial number in the index; lo and behold, in the book was a picture of that parade!"

Frank's mother, Kathleen Bohan, was born in Ireland and sailed to the United States in 1915 aboard the White Star liner *Arabic*. "She was from a large family. There were six children, and there was just nothing in Ireland," he says. "My mother told me that as the *Arabic* was going along the southern coast of Ireland, they saw the *Lusitania* pass them at about noontime. That very afternoon, sailors informed the passengers that the *Lusitania* had been torpedoed and had sunk.

Frank couldn't find a connection between his mother's ship and the *Lusitania* until a few years ago, when a newly published book described the German submarine that sank the *Lusitania* on May 1, 1915. Apparently it had first tried to torpedo a passenger ship that disappeared into a fog bank. The German captain identified that ship as the *Arabic*. "Thanks to the power of the Internet," Frank says, "I got a picture of the captain of the submarine and the submarine itself that nearly sank my mother."

Frank's parents were part of the crowd of beachgoers that flooded City Island in the 1920s. They saw opportunity in a sign announcing a land auction of lots on the property that extended from Winter Street to Pell Place, Earley Street and Reynolds Street, so they bought two lots on Winter Street and began building a house. When construction finished in 1927, John and Kathleen were married at Saint Rose of Lima Church in Manhattan and held a reception in their new City Island home. Prohibition was in force at the time, but, fortunately for those celebrating the marriage, City Island was a beehive of bootleggers and liquor flowed at their reception. According to family legend, one of the guests, a federal agent and a friend of the young couple, asked if he could have a couple of bottles to take home!

During Frank's childhood, City Island was much different from what it is today. "By the time I was five or six," he says, "I could walk from Winter Street all the way to Belden Point without going through anybody's yard and without walking on City Island Avenue, because there were so many vacant lots."

Frank has a warm memory of a man named Nils Halvorsen, who "lived on Earley Street and worked for Nevins boatyard. I had gotten a rowboat from a boatyard, and it needed to be painted. I kept it in a vacant lot across the street from where I lived, and I was using scraps of sandpaper on it one day as Mr. Halvorsen was walking through the lot. I didn't know him, but he came over to me, looked at what I was doing, and said 'Stop, I'll bring you some sandpaper.' He

brought some sandpaper from Nevins and showed me how to use it. He would stop by to make sure I was doing it right. Later, when the sanding was done, he said, 'Okay. You wait and tonight I'll bring you some paint.' He brought me a little container of paint and a used brush."

"That was what City Island was all about. These men, they built the boats and they loved boats, whether it was a rowboat or a millionaire's yacht. They loved their work and they loved to see kids enjoying boats. If you go to the City Island Nautical Museum, you'll see a picture of Nils Halvorsen when he was a very old man, probably more than legally blind, where he lofted the *Constellation*."

At one time, the Robert Jacobs Shipyard was where Consolidated is now. The Minneford Yacht Yard was located where Minnefords is now but in the old days they built yachts where now they are simply marinas. From the public school to the laundromat stood a large L-shaped structure that was the famous Henry B. Nevins yard, where Halvorsen worked. At the foot of east Carroll Street, where the Boatyard Condominiums are now located, was Victor Anderson's dock, which was the first marina in the United States. "If you walked down that dock, it was like looking at Mrs. Astor's 400. It was a beautiful dock."

"Before World War II, what remained of the big steam yachts were anchored off City Island. They were 100 feet or more in length, and they were mostly anchored on the east side of the island, in what they called City Island Harbor. The waterboats that serviced the yachts were close to 50 feet long, with wooden tanks on them to carry water out to the yachts. The yachts were all steam driven in those days and they didn't have the wherewithal to desalinate sea water."

Frank remembers looking out on Eastchester Bay and seeing the remnants of the oyster farms. "They actually had these things partitioned off into sections controlled by different oystermen. There were big piles of shells where Jack's Bait is now. The oystermen used to bring the oysters in to the dock there and shuck them. Many people used the broken oyster shells for driveways, like gravel."

Frank also remembers the hurricane of 1938: "I was six years old. My mother told me there had been a big storm the night before and that there were boats up on the beach down at the end of Winter Street. Men were taking some boats off the street in carts." He also recalls the WPA projects on City Island. "They put the sewer system in over the winter of 1938 and '39. And if I recall correctly, the firehouse on City Island was part of a WPA project." (Ironically, our firehouse, birthed in the Great Depression, is tentatively scheduled to be cut back with the current economic calamity, but that's a different discussion).

"We played a lot of sports," he recalls. "There were a lot of vacant lots. The vacant lot down at the end of Winter Street was especially big." Boys got together, gen-

erations of boys, and cleared it off to play softball and football. People gave them used leather football helmets and leather shoulder pads. I think young people miss out a bit today," Frank says. "We used to listen to radio, to 'Captain Midnight' and 'Jack Armstrong' and 'I Love a Mystery' and 'The Lone Ranger.' We used our imaginations to picture the Lone Ranger with his horse and a silver bullet. I guess with television you don't have to imagine anything."

Frank remembers the Great Depression before World War II. "City Island was very hard hit during the Depression, very hard hit. Boat-building ceased, and sailmakers got very slow. They did pick up a bit of work from the 1937 America's Cup, but not much. Things were pretty slow on City Island. Then the Coast Guard came. They ran a fence on the south side of Belden Street, from where Johnny's Reef parking lot is now, all the way to the water, then over to the Morris Yacht Club property, then down behind to where Tony's restaurant is.

The Coast Guard put in a gate and their own barracks. They had dozens of picket boats, with which they patrolled Long Island Sound for a certain distance east and the East River for a certain distance down into Manhattan. The sailors lived on City Island and used Duryea's Restaurant (now the Lobster Box) as a mess hall."

He went to St Mary, Star of the Sea School and graduated in 1945. "The war in Europe was just about over, and the war in Japan was still going on when I graduated in June of 1945." Frank remembers his mother sitting in the convent one day a week, taking turns with the other mothers while school was in session, in case of an air raid. "Schools would have been notified, but no one was in the convent to answer the phone because the nuns were teaching. So they always kept a woman sitting there. My mother did that for the whole war." He remembers supporting the troops: "The Sunday News sold for 5 cents. For my war effort, I used to get a stack of the papers for a nickel apiece and sell them to the sailors for a dime. I was probably a war gouger."

When Frank was a student at St. Mary's, the new school hadn't been built yet. The convent now located on Kilroe Street actually faced on Minneford Avenue. When the new school was built, the convent was jacked up and swung around on its lot. The present gymnasium, slightly expanded, is the actual building where he attended school. "The gymnasium and the classes were so small that there were two classes in one room. First and second grade together, third and fourth, and fifth and sixth, and seventh and eighth. One sister would be teaching assignments to one class, and then she would have to switch back and forth," he laughs. "Some of us made it, some of us didn't."

Frank Hoffman graduated from Evander Childs High School in 1949. He remembers the United States economy as a disaster. "In Europe, the Marshall Plan had started, but Europe wasn't moving. Japan was . . . forget about it. There wasn't much going on." He went directly from high school to a job at Wheelers Shipyard in Clauson Point in the Bronx and after a year on to Con Edison. "I worked about a year with Con Edison, but I was in the naval reserve at Fort Schuyler and Korea was cooking." So Frank went to the West Coast and points west, and when he got out, he went to City College at night on the G.I. bill. "It paid off," he says.

Frank went back to work at Con Ed, where he got involved in electrical design. "I was a draftsman at first; then I got to be a supervisor and then I got to be a manager. Over the course of the years, I met an awful lot of really interesting people, a very diverse group. People in industry and real-estate developers from Manhattan who were building something and who wanted to build something on top of that. I worked for Con Edison for 42 years."

Frank received a copy of the system map of the Con Ed high-voltage system when he went to work there in 1951. "It got folded up and stuck in a desk drawer. I was in the same office, always on the 15th floor and always at the Third Avenue-14th Street corner. When it came time to move from one desk to another, I'd just pick everything up and move it. When I retired in 1993, I found the 1951 map. So I called and asked for a copy of the current map. I compared the two and found that only

Continued on page 16



## SCHUYLER HILL

F U N E R A L H O M E

James E. McQuade • Owner

3535 East Tremont Avenue • Bronx, NY 10465

718-792-0270 • fax: 718-823-4770

www.schuylerhill.com

**A Current Review**

**“THE RAINMAKER” SHINES!**

By PAUL NANI and RACHEL LANNICCI



Photo by MARY McINTYRE

This scene from “The Rainmaker,” presented by the City Island Theater Group, features (from left to right): Scott Griffith, Torrey Rodriguez, Matt Regney, Elizabeth Paldino and John Garcia.

The opening night of the City Island Theater Group’s performance of “The Rainmaker” by N. Richard Nash was accompanied by bad weather, but as usual even rain did not dampen the size or the enthusiasm of the crowd on Friday night, Feb. 27, at the Grace Church Parish Hall. Indeed, the audience became so engrossed in the play that the arrival of rain on stage was welcomed with applause as the final curtain came down.

Not to keep you in suspense, this show was absolutely wonderful and we loved it. What better way to kick off the 10th anniversary season of this staple of City Island culture than with a classic play and a wonderful cast. Under the direction of Nick Sala, the veteran players—John Garcia, Elizabeth Paldino and Matthieu Regney—and newcomers Scott Griffith, Torrey Rodriguez, Christopher Meindl and John Schwam—were at their best, bringing the hopes and trials of a 1930s drought-stricken ranch family to vibrant life.

“The Rainmaker,” which was effectively directed by Nick Sala, tells the story of the Curry family’s struggle not only with a persistent drought but with their concern about the future of daughter Lizzie, who is approaching the age when women are supposed to wed. We have to hand it to Elizabeth Paldino, the only woman on stage. A veteran of seven CITG productions, she takes on each role with a passion and skill that are heartwarming to watch. She brilliantly brought Lizzie Curry to life, transforming a self-effacing plain Jane on the verge of becoming a spinster into a pretty, confident woman capable of love.

But let’s not overlook the enthusiasm of the rest of the cast. Rumor has it that little brother Jimmy (the very talented Torrey Rodriguez) rushed off the stage in one scene and crashed into a wall, making a sizeable hole. Talk about throwing oneself into a part!

Jimmy’s father, H.C. (beautifully played by Scott Griffith), was the epitome of a sympathetic father caring for three adult children each heading in a different direction—Jimmy into a possibly foolish love affair, Noah (played very expressively by Matt Regney) into a cranky middle age, and Lizzie into spinsterhood. H.C. is a man weathered by life but still possessing the ability to dream.

Just when all hope seems lost for the family, into their lives comes a dashing con man named Starbuck, a traveling dreamer who promises the family that he can make it rain if they will pay him \$100. John Garcia played Starbuck with great style, bursting onto the stage with his star-studded belt buckle gleaming at the audience and promising not only rain but also the hope of love for the skeptical Lizzie. However, he too must confront his own dreams and decide whether or not he really believes in them. Moments of drama and humor and on-stage fisticuffs were provided by the sheriff (a gruff but likeable John Schwam) and his deputy, File (sensitively played by Christopher Meindl), who is attracted to

Lizzie more than he realizes.

The cast was well supported by the ever-talented and ever-dedicated people behind the scenes. The set, built by Con Grondahl and John Byrne and designed by Dorothy Muccio, created a realistic farmhouse on stage with a sheriff’s office and a tack room tucked cleverly into stage left and right. The hardworking production stage manager was Maria Provenzano, who was supported by costume designers Carol McCabe (also production manager) and Norma Kerner, prop-mistress Barbara Dolensek, and lighting technician Susan Velchek. Susan Rauh produced the attractive program.

“The Rainmaker” was the first production of the season for the City Island Theater Group, which celebrates its 10th birthday this year. The entire community owes an enormous debt of gratitude to this group for the wonderful productions it has brought to City Island since it was formed in 1998 by Island residents Joe and Miriam Nixon. Presentations have ranged from original one-act plays to musicals, from Kiddy Kabarets to the first off Broadway production of John Patrick Shanley’s “Doubt” and from fundraisers for P.S. 175 to Christmas caroling on the City Island Seaside Trolley.

Staffed entirely by volunteers and funded by generous donations and grants from the community, the City Island Theater Group has entertained audiences with a wide range of superb theatrical performances. And “The Rainmaker” was no exception. We can hardly wait for the next production, which will be Neil Simon’s “Rumors,” coming in May.

Happy birthday, CITG, and many happy returns!

**Frank Hoffman**

Continued from page 15

two circuits on the old map appear on the new one, the towers along the Sprain Brook Parkway. Everything else is brand new.”

Frank Hoffman is informed but unenthusiastic about the pending City Island suspension bridge. “I personally think that the design of the bridge is not the proper design for a community like City Island,” he says. “I think that a causeway bridge would be more appropriate for our island.” Frank favors a pre-cast concrete design. “I can understand what they’re trying to achieve. They are trying not to have any structures in water, because of long-term maintenance requirements. The foundations for the concrete span can go where they intend to put the land foundations for this suspension bridge. The pre-cast concrete span sections are cast off-site and are trucked to the construction site and put in place with cranes. On-site construction time would be greatly reduced and be cost affective. I think it would be more attractive. They could put a stone façade on, similar to what they do on the parkways. When they put stone on, it’s very durable and it’s maintenance free. You don’t have to paint it. Look at the Triborough Bridge; they have to paint it every couple of years. Same with the Whitestone and Throgs Neck Bridges. Maintenance on those bridges is a continuing effort. Concrete would be a fraction of the cost.”

Frank’s wife, née Barbara Healy, is also active in the community, president of the City Island Garden Club, corresponding secretary of the Civic Association and a trustee of the Nautical Museum. “She’s a high-energy person, like myself,” Frank says. Frank’s first wife, with whom he raised three children, died in 1983. His daughter, Kathleen Green, lives on City Island with her husband Peter and two sons. Frank’s son, John, is married and lives in Simsbury, Connecticut northwest of Hartford with his wife Ann and a son and two daughters. His youngest child, Mary, died tragically in 2004, leaving a child and a husband Tony Shaw “a very, very good guy,” says Frank. “They came up for Thanksgiving and we saw them at Christmas, too.”

Frank is enthusiastic about the future. “I’ve been retired 16 years now, and I spend a lot of time at the yacht club. We are going to continue boating, and Barbara and I do a lot of traveling. We’ve made three trips to England and Ireland; we’ve been to France, to Italy, and there are a few other places we’d like to go. We always plan that. I keep busy.”

Clearly there will be plenty more stories for Frank to tell as he goes.

healthygiftbasketstore.com

Vegan  
Sugar Free  
All Natural  
Their own  
Easter Basket  
With no worries!  
Gluten Free  
Dairy Free  
Multiple Allergies

718-708-4590 / 877-708-6010

The Royal Basket Company

**Reiki**

Valerie Tarangelo, RMP

Reiki for Deep Relaxation.  
Supports all Healing Modalities

Hospitals, Nursing Homes,  
Hospice, Home Visits

914-582-6514  
chirei@aol.com

Member International Assoc. of  
Reiki Professionals

Practitioner of Usui Reiki Since 1987

LICENSED & FULLY INSURED  
MASTER ELECTRICIAN

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
NO JOB TOO LARGE OR SMALL

**KEE** INC.

ELECTRICIAL CONTRACTING  
Quality Work is our “KEE” to Success!

Office (718) 885-0824  
Emergency Service (914) 760-1106

**The Lowest Rates since the 1960s and We’ll Work Harder to Get You Approved!**

**We are Refinance Specialists!**

- ✓ **Good Credit – Great Rates!**  
Call for a quote
- ✓ **Low FICO Score - okay**  
We have more mortgage solutions than other lenders
- ✓ **Complicated tax returns - no problem**  
We are Mortgage Experts, Financially Sophisticated and Knowledgeable
- ✓ **Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FHA Specialists**  
Up to \$625,500 single family \$1,202,925 for 4 family
- ✓ **No Income Check, No Asset Check**
- ✓ **Approval Over the Phone**
- ✓ **Close in as few as 5 Days**

“Two banks asked us to supply personal and corporate financial statements going back three years and still couldn’t give us an approval - too complicated for them. Equity Now looked at every option and found the perfect loan solution. We refinanced for \$550,000 at a great rate, closed in 10 days, paid off all our credit card debt, and cut our monthly payments by over \$800.”  
Alan and Susan D., Shoreham, NY

Call City Island resident Jon Kiss at ext. 243

**1.800.692.LEND**  
equitynow.com

Equity Now  
Direct Mortgage Lender

Helping Homeowners since 1984  
An M.L. Moskowitz Co.

1370 Ave. of the Americas, NY, NY 10019. Lic.Mtg.Banker. We lend in AK, CA, CT, FL, HI, IN, MA, MD, ME, MO, MT, NJ, NY, PA, VA. Rest. & crit. apply Equal housing lender.



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

**APRIL 2009**

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Wed	0342	7.78	1037	0.42	1629	6.67	2240	1.02	Wed 01
02 Thu	0447	7.38	1215	0.67	1754	6.54			Thu 02
03 Fri	0019	1.23	0614	7.09	1339	0.60	1938	6.77	Fri 03
04 Sat	0202	0.96	0805	7.18	1445	0.33	2046	7.21	Sat 04
05 Sun	0310	0.43	0913	7.46	1542	-0.01	2142	7.67	Sun 05
06 Mon	0408	-0.14	1009	7.72	1634	-0.30	2232	8.06	Mon 06
07 Tue	0500	-0.62	1100	7.88	1721	-0.49	2318	8.31	Tue 07
08 Wed	0549	-0.93	1146	7.90	1805	-0.53			Wed 08
09 Thu	0001	8.41	0634	-1.02	1229	7.81	1846	-0.41	Thu 09
10 Fri	0041	8.36	0717	-0.90	1310	7.62	1923	-0.17	Fri 10
11 Sat	0118	8.19	0757	-0.61	1349	7.37	1954	0.17	Sat 11
12 Sun	0152	7.95	0836	-0.19	1426	7.11	2015	0.53	Sun 12
13 Mon	0223	7.67	0910	0.28	1503	6.86	2039	0.88	Mon 13
14 Tue	0255	7.39	0938	0.73	1541	6.65	2115	1.21	Tue 14
15 Wed	0333	7.11	1007	1.12	1626	6.50	2159	1.53	Wed 15
16 Thu	0419	6.85	1049	1.43	1725	6.43	2252	1.77	Thu 16
17 Fri	0513	6.65	1144	1.62	1838	6.47	2353	1.88	Fri 17
18 Sat	0624	6.56	1252	1.65	1939	6.63			Sat 18
19 Sun	0107	1.79	0749	6.60	1356	1.52	2027	6.87	Sun 19
20 Mon	0224	1.48	0843	6.74	1445	1.27	2104	7.16	Mon 20
21 Tue	0319	1.04	0924	6.91	1525	0.96	2134	7.48	Tue 21
22 Wed	0405	0.56	0959	7.10	1604	0.63	2206	7.83	Wed 22
23 Thu	0447	0.09	1036	7.28	1643	0.32	2243	8.17	Thu 23
24 Fri	0528	-0.29	1116	7.44	1724	0.10	2324	8.45	Fri 24
25 Sat	0610	-0.55	1159	7.53	1807	-0.02			Sat 25
26 Sun	0007	8.62	0655	-0.65	1244	7.54	1853	0.00	Sun 26
27 Mon	0053	8.64	0744	-0.58	1333	7.47	1942	0.17	Mon 27
28 Tue	0143	8.49	0837	-0.36	1425	7.32	2036	0.44	Tue 28
29 Wed	0236	8.18	0940	-0.04	1526	7.14	2140	0.76	Wed 29
30 Thu	0337	7.77	1055	0.25	1641	7.01	2306	0.98	Thu 30
<b>MAY 2009</b>									
01 Fri	0453	7.37	1212	0.41	1812	7.08			Fri 01
02 Sat	0039	0.92	0638	7.19	1321	0.40	1925	7.34	Sat 02
03 Sun	0152	0.60	0755	7.26	1422	0.27	2026	7.67	Sun 03
04 Mon	0254	0.17	0856	7.40	1518	0.11	2120	7.98	Mon 04
05 Tue	0351	-0.25	0951	7.52	1609	-0.02	2210	8.21	Tue 05
06 Wed	0442	-0.57	1040	7.57	1657	-0.08	2256	8.33	Wed 06
07 Thu	0530	-0.73	1127	7.55	1741	-0.03	2339	8.33	Thu 07
08 Fri	0615	-0.71	1210	7.46	1821	0.13			Fri 08
09 Sat	0019	8.23	0657	-0.54	1251	7.33	1857	0.36	Sat 09



**DO YOU SPEAK BUTTERFLY?**

Imagine there was a place you could go where you could feel color, taste music or touch an aroma in the air. Would you go? Our trip to see the Monarch butterflies was that kind of magical experience.

Actually, this was a trip that began a few years ago, in our own backyard. As we have written previously in "Sights and Sounds," the Monarch butterflies that we see on City Island in late summer and early fall are mostly migrants. They are on their way south, to their age-old mating grounds in the mountains of Mexico. What we have also noted in this column is that the individual butterflies we see passing through are as many as four generations removed from the last individuals that left the same mountaintops the previous spring. How they know their way back to the same trees on the same mountains is a mystery that has tantalized scientists for decades.

The way up the mountain of the Monarch butterfly reserve known as Cerro Pellon in the Mexican state of Michoacan is crude. A healthy man or woman can hike it in roughly three hours. By horse, it is approximately one hour and 45 minutes, the last 15 minutes of which must be done on foot. As you begin your journey up the mountainside, there is not one butterfly in sight. Upon reaching the 9,000-foot elevation point, the scenery drastically changes. The rewards of your arduous climb, as you will quickly see, are well worth the effort.

First, there are the sheer numbers of butterflies—millions upon millions of them in the air, on the ground, in the trees. It is a staggering sight that strains credulity. The colors you see could easily be mistaken for a spectacular display of fall foliage but they are actually Monarchs on trees. The branches themselves droop—and in many cases break—from the weight of so many butterflies in one place. And when the sunlight comes around the mountaintop and hits the branches of the fir trees, there is a rush of sound, a whoosh, as thousands of butterflies fly off the branch into the sunlight. It is indeed a pure spectacle of sight and sound.

For us, this fluttering sound of millions of butterfly wings was what was most impressive about Cerro Pellon. It was as if the butterflies were communicating in some way: with each other, with us. It was humbling to be there surrounded by this wonder of nature. We cannot imagine readers of this column not feeling the same.

As always, we can be contacted at [jdsstrat@msn.com](mailto:jdsstrat@msn.com), or write us care of *The Island Current*, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464.

VHF-Ch 16 Capt. Dan  
718-885-3420

**TowBOAT/U.S.  
City Island**

U.S. Coast Guard Licensed & Approved  
For Marine Towing Assistance & Salvage

P.O. Box 58  
City Island, N.Y. 10464

**GARY COTTAM** (718) 885-3328  
President/Owner Fax (718) 885-0219

  
Ventilation • Sheet Metal

**492 City Island Avenue • City Island, N.Y. 10464**

**VSH CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS, INC.**  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • ALTERATIONS • EXTENTIONS  
P.O. BOX 1253 BRONX, NY 10452  
1 (646) 302-8447



**GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY!**

- ⇒ KITCHEN/BATH REMODELING
- ⇒ CARPENTRY
- ⇒ ELECTRICAL
- ⇒ PLUMBING
- ⇒ FLOORING
- ⇒ FINISHED BASEMENTS

**FREE ESTIMATES!**

25% OFF ON CONST. AD ONLY.  
10% EXTRA OFF, SENIOR CITIZENS.

PAINTING SPECIAL: EXPIRES JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2009

⇒ 2 ROOMS \$249 W/3<sup>RD</sup> ROOM FREE!  
⇒ 5 ROOMS \$110 EACH W/6<sup>TH</sup> ROOM FREE!

**FREE STANDARD PAINT!**  
YOUR STYLE! YOUR WAY! GUARANTEED!

WE ACCEPT: CASH, MONEY ORDERS, CERTIFIED CHECKS & ALL MAJOR CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS. CUSTOMER(S) HAVE 3 BUSINESS DAYS TO CANCEL TRANSACTION PRIOR TO START OF JOB. TAX NOT INCLUDED. LICENSED. BONDED. INSURED. H.I.C. LIC# 1119934 \* H.I.S. LIC# 1096314 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!**

**Richard B. Chernaik, M.D.**  
*An Alternative to  
Supermarket Medicine*

Board Certified Internist  
Associate Clinical Professor at  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Active in teaching medical students  
at Montefiore Medical Center

\* \* \*

*I don't belong to any HMO. I don't  
believe medicine can be practiced on  
the run. Good care requires a compre-  
hensive history, a complete physical  
examination and, above all, meticulous  
attention to detail.*

RICHARD B. CHERNAIK, M.D.  
\* \* \*

**MEDICARE ACCEPTED**

100 Elgar Place, Building 35  
Telephone (718) 320-2188

## 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.



**William McDaniel holding an award he received from the ASPCA.**

### William McDaniel

William Dana McDaniel, a lifelong City Island resident, passed away at his home on Feb. 26, 2009, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Growing up on Marine Street, Bill was a third-generation clam digger and spent his summers as a young man on Long Island Sound, assisting his grandfather on his water boat, *The Arbus*. As a teen, Bill worked alongside his father at the Minneford Yacht Yard, where he had the opportunity to witness the golden age of boat building and yachting on City Island. His ever-present love of the sea continued through adventures on *The Gaspe*, which took him all over the New England coast as he crewed for his father on many family trips.

Bill found his calling with the New York City Fire Department in 1968. His dedication led to multiple citations for bravery and heroism in Ladder Company 38 and Engine 88 in the Bronx. On one occasion, after he pulled a woman from a fire and passed her on to one of his firefighter colleagues, she screamed for her dog. Being an animal lover himself, Bill went back into the blaze and rescued her beloved pet. From then on he was known as "the Woof," a nickname that he enjoyed and was honored to be called.

Bill became a piper in the FDNY Emerald Society, which enabled him to explore his beloved Scottish heritage. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1988 and retired from Ladder Company 3, Battalion 6, in 1996. His career was spent doing what he loved most, being with his brother firefighters and serving the public for a rewarding 27 years.

Bill's greatest joys in life, however, were his family and friends. He met his wife, Netta, at the Airways on Fordham Street, and they were married in 1969. They moved into a house on City Island, where they raised two children, Billy and Janet, who survive him. Bill is also survived by his brother, Russell, of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, his sister, Kim Latour, of Boothbay Harbor, Maine, and his granddaughter, Sabrina Joy Thomas, of Ewing, New Jersey.

Many Islanders will remember seeing Bill faithfully walking his loyal companion Sandy, whom he rescued after the dog was abandoned on City Island.

His life was celebrated at St. Mary, Star of the Sea on March 4, 2009, and he was laid to rest at Pelham Cemetery. Pipers played as friends gathered to honor a wonderful man who will be greatly missed.

### Vincent Hecker

Vincent Raymond Hecker Jr., a lifelong Island resident, passed away on Feb.



**Vinnie Hecker.**

13, 2009, at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center.

Vinnie, a true clam digger, was born on City Island on April 23, 1942, and graduated from P.S. 17 in 1955. He served as a U.S. Marine from 1959 to 1963 and was a member of the American Legion Leonard Hawkins Post 156.

He loved fishing and telling jokes and funny stories. He worked at the Club as a bartender for many years and later at the American Legion. During his years of service he held many titles and offices.

Vinnie is survived by his only child, Vincent Raymond Hecker III, and his daughter-in-law, Sharon Hecker, and his stepgrandchildren.



**Randall Peterson.**

### Randall Peterson

Randall Peder Peterson, a longtime Island resident and accomplished New York City dock builder, died on Feb. 14, 2009, at Calvary Hospital. He was 65.

Although he began his career with a private firm, Randall proudly became a member of dock builders' Local Union #1456 and worked his way up to foreman. Much of his work still stands in the waters that surround New York City, including the dock on the east end of Fordham Street.

A clam digger in the truest sense, Randall was one of the few people actually born on City Island—in a car, on the way to the hospital, on March 19, 1943. After his childhood and subsequent graduation from Columbus High School, Randall joined the Marines. He served for four years and was deployed around the world, most notably in Okinawa.

In 1965, after returning home, Randall married Alana Jean Penny, who predeceased him by five years, nearly to the day.

As a retired man and devoted father, grandfather, uncle, brother and son, Randall donated much of his time in later years to his loved ones. He took care of his mother and spent much of his time helping friends. He took an active role in the West Fordham Street Beach Club and lent his expertise to the construction of its dock. He also spent over 20 years as a City Island Little League umpire.

Randall is survived by his mother, Nelly; his children, Nancy, Pattie, Debbie and Randy; his grandchildren, Kyle, Alana, Chloe, Eric, and Lilly; his sister, Linda, and his brother, Ronald.

Funeral services were held on Feb. 18, 2009, at the Trinity United Methodist Church on City Island.

### Earl E. Rickard Jr.

Former Islander Earl "Spider" Rickard passed away on Dec. 7, 2008, in Lake Worth, Florida. He was 87.

Earl was born in the Bronx on June 19, 1921. His father, Earl Sr., was a professional singer-comedian; his mother Vera was a registered nurse. Young Earl often traveled the vaudeville circuit with his parents. He also spent many summers on City Island, finally settling down on the Island with his mother in the early 1930s.

After graduating from P.S. 17, Earl attended Evander Childs High School, where he lettered with the swim team. He loved sports and played football for the City Island Minnefords and Americans. Earl played on St. Mary's CYO basketball teams in the late 1930s and early 1940s, a time when the nickname "Spider" took hold. He was so well known by that name that he once told someone to send him a postcard addressed to Spider, City Island, and he got it.

Earl married Vera Toelberg in St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church on June 24, 1945; their marriage lasted 58 years until Vera's passing in 2003.

Earl served in the U.S. Army during World War II and joined the Leonard H. Hawkins Post 156 of the American Legion in 1945. He was elected commander in 1948, the same year the Post's current home went up for sale. Earl was instrumental in purchasing the building in 1949. Even after moving to Florida, Earl retained his membership in the Post for 63 continuous years. In 1999, the Post awarded him a life membership.

In the late 1940s, Earl began a 50-year career in the liquor and restaurant business. As a salesman for Key Liquors in the 1950s, he had many restaurant accounts in Manhattan and Westchester County, including Toots Shor's. During the 1960s, Earl ran the bar and restaurant operation of the Morris Yacht and Beach Club on City Island. He found time during those years to coach St. Mary's basketball teams, first in the late 1940s and again from 1962 to 1964.

Earl moved his family to Lake Worth, Florida, in 1969 and became the dining room manager at the Palm Beach Ocean

Hotel.

He is survived by his son, Earl Rickard III of Reno, Nevada; his daughter, Marianne McGlynn, and son-in-law, William McGlynn of Lantana, Florida; and sister-in-law, Ruth Tremamunno of the Bronx; and three nieces.

### Claire Gray

Claire Meany Gray, a longtime resident of City Island, died peacefully on March 16, 2009.

Claire was born in the Bronx on April 3, 1930, to the late Margaret Jones and Joseph Meany. Raised on City Island, Claire graduated from St. Mary, Star of the Sea School, Villa Maria Academy and the College of New Rochelle.

She married Hugh Roger Gray on May 30, 1953. They raised three children on City Island and were active participants in the community. After retiring to Cape Cod, Claire, who was an avid golfer, was a member of the Lady Niners Golf Club, and she also enjoyed playing bridge and traveling.

Claire is survived by her husband; her three children, Patricia Gray (married to Thomas Martin) of Closter, New Jersey, and Peter Gray (married to Mary Aiello) of New Rochelle; and eight grandchildren: Ryan and Lindsay Fallon, Stan and Keith Martin, and Zachary, Dylan, Jared and Jordan Gray. She is survived by her sisters, Margaret Fennel of City Island, Mary Ann Clayton of South Yarmouth, and Noreen Malone of Greensboro, North Carolina. She was predeceased by her older brother, William Meany.

Claire was loved by all who knew her and will be remembered for her kindness, strength, humanity and a gentle, generous spirit.

At the family's request, donations may be made in Claire's memory to the Alumni Fund of the College of New Rochelle, care of the Advancement Office, 29 Castle Place, New Rochelle, NY 10805.



## ANTHONY J. RIBUSTELLO FOR BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT

"Striving to make the Bronx a beautiful place to live, work and raise a family"

- Protecting our children from violent predators
- Improving the quality of life for our Seniors
- Fighting to keep our firehouses open for our community

Tuesday, April 21, 2009, Polls open from 6 am to 9 pm

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF ANTHONY J. RIBUSTELLO

# CLASSIFIED

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

**FINE ART PORTRAITS:** Studio on City Island. More than 30 years of photographic experience. Call Ron Turner at 718-885-1403.

**MOVERS!** No job too big or small! Van or Truck. Free Estimates. Call Rich, the Mover: 718-650-7515.

**34 Ft. SLIP FOR RENT AT NORTH MINNEFORD YACHT CLUB:** Reasonable: 305-215-0057 or 718 885-1935.

**BELTOP PAVING INC:** Asphalt paving, driveways, parking areas, sidewalks. Fully licensed & insured. Call Nick 718 994-9533.

**RESUMES WRITTEN, EDITED, LAID OUT:** From actors to lawyers. Concise, professional, superior. Get to the next level. Call Katie 718-885-2929.

**EUROPEAN WOMAN CLEANS ON CITY ISLAND:** Thorough work, excellent references. Call 347-603-2834.

**NOT JUST SMALL JOBS:** Carpentry-Remodeling-Repairs. Doors, windows, furniture repair, painting, locks, etc. Michael 718-885-1580.

**PIANO LESSONS:** Lifetime experience teaching children and adults. My home on a Steinway Grand Piano. Flexible hours. Call Diana 718-885-2091.

**AVON REPRESENTATIVE:** Avon is not just cosmetics. Jewelry, clothes, vitamins, videos, complete line of children's gifts, toys and more. Ask for catalogue. Call Emily 718-885-2430.

**WEBSITES CREATED:** Effective, great-looking websites from scratch or your old website fixed up. Easy, affordable, quick. Call Katie 718-885-2929.

**RAT ISLAND FOR SALE:** \$300,000. Call Red Brennen 561-747-7733.

**THERE'S A COMPUTER GURU** right in your neighborhood. City Island resident with over 25 years of computer experience can repair any software or hardware problem. Instruction available for all new PC owners. I even make house calls. References available. Call "Joe, the Computer Guy" 718-885-9366.

**MASSAGE THERAPY** in the privacy of your home. Gift certificates, references available. John Raimondi, L.M.T. 718-885-0619.

**KEYBOARD PLAYER AVAILABLE:** I play smooth and gentle music for special events. References available. Call Diana at 718-885-2091.

**PHOTO RESTORATION:** Take old photographs and have them restored like new. Copies made from negatives or prints. Framing available as well. Call Ron 718-885-1403.

**TOYS, GAMES, PUZZLES, PUPPETS,** craft kits & more! Now at Exotiq 718-885-3090 or shop online at [www.themagicofgifts.com](http://www.themagicofgifts.com).

**PASSPORT PHOTOS** taken at Focal Point Gallery 321 City Island Avenue. Call Ron at 718-885-1403.

**PORTRAIT PARTY FAVORS:** Make your next event memorable for your guests. Add a portrait station to your next special events. Every guest will go home with a framed full color portrait of themselves. Our professionally prepared and presented color portraits are party favors that will be cherished for years. Call 718-885-1403 or stop by Focal Point Gallery, 321 City Island Avenue.

**JEWELRY DESIGNED & REPAIRED:** Gold, silver, pearl & bead re-stringing. Exotiq 718-885-3090.

**FOR SALE:** New Construction 2 family 76A & 76B Winter Street, City Island with detached 2 car garages. Call for details. 718 994-9533.

**FANTASTIC ONLINE PROFILES WRITTEN:** Reveal your best self and head towards that special love connection you deserve. Call Katie 718 855-2929.

**LEARN DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY:** Photoshop 7 or black and white photography, developing film, printing, camera techniques. Call Ron 718-885-1403.

**VOICE LESSONS:** Ages middle school through adult. My home studio. Suffering from sleep apnea? Singing strengthens your throat muscles, which helps eliminate the effects of apnea. Flexible hours. Call Diana 718-885-2091.

**TAX PREP/ACCOUNTING:** Personal/Business/Extensions: All States and Federal. By City Island renter. 18 years experience. Home service, delivery. Reasonable rates. Senior discounts. E-mail [taxquick@yahoo.com](mailto:taxquick@yahoo.com) or call (646)213-7576.

**CITY ISLAND SOUVENIRS:** T Shirts, Sweat-shirts, mugs, life rings & postcards. Exotiq 718 885-3090.

**BOAT SUPPLIES:** BURCK'S 526 City Island Avenue Bronx, New York 718 885-1559. Customer parking. Mastercard/Visa.

**HOUSE FOR SALE ON CITY ISLAND:** New construction. Duplex with 3 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, living room, dining room, full basement, wood floors, central air/gas heat, granite countertops, mahogany deck, center of town, beach access. Call 347-920-1567.

**YOUR AD COULD BE HERE**

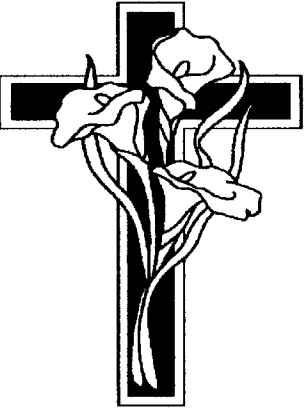


Right off the bat, we are off to a great start! Registration is now complete. In addition to our faithful Little Leaguers, many new players have enrolled in this year's 2009 City Island Little League. T-ball is available to our youngest players, who will learn the fundamentals of swinging a bat and fielding a ball. There will be lots of healthy competition among our minor and major league teams. Our seasoned City Island players are on a travel team, the Juniors, which will be managed by Charlie Kreig and coached by his son, Keith Kreig, who plays varsity baseball for Mercy College.

I want to bring two important dates to

**IGA CITY ISLAND SUPERMARKET**  
 385 City Island Avenue  
 718-885-3400  
 NEWLY EXPANDED  
 Full Supermarket Variety at Low Price  
 Catering for All Occasions  
 WE DELIVER

(718) 885-0429 • Fax: (718) 885-2120  
 P.O. Box 58 • City Island, NY 10464  
**ALL PRO MARINE CONTRACTING CORP.**  
 Dock Building & Pile Driving  
 Bulkheads & Surveys • Towing & Salvage



## St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

### Holy Week Schedule 2009

**CONFESSIONS**  
 SATURDAY- April 4  
 4:30 - 5:00 P.M.

**PALM SUNDAY - April 5**  
 VIGIL MASS - SATURDAY- 5:15 P.M.  
 SUNDAY - 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M. & 12:00 Noon  
 (Blessing of Palm at all Masses)

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

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 10**  
 8:00 A.M. -TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)  
 Consists of Psalms and Readings  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 12:00 Noon**  
**COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS - 4:00 P.M.**  
 Confessions 5:00-6:00 P.M.

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 11**  
 8:00 A.M. -TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)  
 Consists of Psalms and Readings  
 Confessions 9:00-10:00 A.M. & 4:00-5:00 P.M.  
**SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL- 8:00 P.M.**  
 (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 12**  
**MASSES - 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 Noon**

**GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**MONTESSORI SCHOOL IN PELHAM MANOR**  
 A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1973

- Montessori - Ages 3-6
- Toddlers - Ages 2-3

**CALL FOR OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION FOR 2009/2010**

Christ The Redeemer  
 1415 Pelhamdale Ave. (at Shore Rd.)  
 Pelham Manor, NY 10803  
 (914) 738-1127

**City Island Hardware and Marine Supply**

HARDWARE  
 HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
 MARINE GOODS  
 PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES  
 SPRING CLEAN-UP SUPPLIES

**885-1447**  
**260 City Island Avenue**

**HAILING PORT SERVICE INC.**  
 19 Schofield St.  
 City Island, NY 10464

**Jane La Scala**

Vessel Documentation (800) 634-0361  
 Insurance (718) 885-2137  
 Commercial & pleasure Fax (718) 885-2427

**City Island Reflexology**

**David Cook**  
 190 Fordham St  
 718-885-1494

Healing and Revitalizing  
 Your Body  
 Safely & Naturally



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.



Mary Dannegger

Birthday hugs and kisses to our "Aunt Judy" Iovieno on April 23, with love from Maria and Bob, Stephen, Bobby and li'l Maria.

Happy birthday on April 14 to Mari Doyle, with love from your family.

Congratulations to Mary Dannegger, who recently placed ninth in the first round of competition of the NCAA Fencing Championships held at MIT. Mary, who just started fencing when she began attending Sacred Heart University four years ago, was also named to the 2nd Team All Northeast Conference.

Birthday wishes go out to Anne McIntyre on April 22 and also to her mom, Peggy Eberhart, who will celebrate her big day on April 26.

It's a boy! Welcome to the newest resident of Fordham Street, Finn Beckett Schweter, son of Zachary and Elizabeth Schweter and brother of Jack. Finn arrived on Feb. 7.

Happy birthday to Jack Strnad, who turns 14 on April 28, with love and best wishes from your family.

Marine Street's David Butterworth will be



Finn Beckett Schweter with his parents, Zach and Elizabeth, and brother Jack.



Dan Treiber and Reina Brill at their wedding on March 22, 2009

celebrating his 16th birthday on April 30 with friends and family. Congratulations!

Birthday greetings on April 19 to Eileen Scott, with best wishes from your friends and family.

Happy birthday on April 25 to Chase Bank's Brenda Winston, with best wishes from the Chase staff and your many City Island friends and customers.

Happy April 25 birthday to our Talebearer, Maria Swieciki, with lots of love from your family.

Speedy recovery to Horton Street's Arthur Rauhauser, who had heart valve surgery in March at New York Hospital with follow-up cardiac rehab at Burke in White Plains. Get well soon, Ducky!

Maria Swieciki

**What's a Party Without Music**  
**DJ**  
**AmandaBear**  
**PARTY RENTALS**  
**FOR ALL YOUR PARTY NEEDS**

- Tents
- Slides
- Chairs
- Popcorn Machines
- Jumpy Houses
- Tables
- BBQ's
- Cotton Candy

**NEW YORK • NEW JERSEY • CONNECTICUT**

Phone: 347-326-5567  
 amandabearpartyrentals@aol.com  
 P.O. BOX 102  
 CITY ISLAND, NY 10464

**Harlem Yacht Club**  
 Incorporated 1883  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
 Sunday, April 19th - 1 to 4 P.M.  
**ISN'T IT TIME YOU CAME TO LOOK US OVER?**  
 Congenial Bar • NY Skyline View  
 Friendly Membership • Winter Storage  
 Phone Evelyn for Details—201-206-0122

**We're at the end of Hunter Ave. off Ditmars. Look us over; spend the afternoon. You might want to stay for dinner—or forever!**

Brochure: 718-885-3078-Membership, Evelyn Butler 201-206-0122-www.hyc.org-417 Hunter Ave. City Island

FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED

**OWENS BROS.**  
**TREE SERVICE**

\* Tree Removal  
 • Trimming  
 • Stump Grinding

Family Owned & Operated For Over 50 Years  
 Bronx Located

www.owensbrostreeservice.com **718-885-0914**

**Ultra Automotive Center, Inc.**  
 Quality Auto Collision Repairs  
 Insurance Estimates & Claims

3551 Webster Avenue  
 Bronx, NY 10467  
 Phone (718) 655-9756  
 FAX # (718) 798-8410

"We offer free pickup and delivery"

OWNED AND OPERATED BY A CITY ISLAND RESIDENT

(718) 365-1625 • (718) 365-1624  
 Emergency Service 7 Days a Week

**B & A PLUMBING & HEATING CORP.**  
 FULLY INSURED • GUARANTEED WORK

BILLY LIC. #1720 4452 PARK AVENUE  
 BRONX, NEW YORK 10457

Russell Schaller 885-3089

**Sound Salvage, Inc.**  
 marine services

MOORINGS, SALVAGE, TOWING  
 170 Fordham Street City Island, New York 10464

**DR. STEVE'S APPLIANCE SERVICE**

"This Doctor Makes House Calls"  
 1 Year guarantee on parts.  
 25 Years of Experience on All Brands  
**10% OFF WITH THIS AD**

718-671-0700  
 Serving City Island and Surrounding Areas

Send an **EASTER BOUQUET** of multi-colored egg-balloons

**SU-SU BALLOONS**  
 885-1834

**MOVING?** PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO: ISLAND CURRENT, P.O. BOX 6, CITY ISLAND, NY 10464

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

OLD ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT. # \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT. # \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ALLOW 6-8 WEEKS FOR CHANGE TO TAKE EFFECT.

**Subscriptions** *The Island Current*  
 P.O. Box 6 City Island, N.Y. 10464

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT.# \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Send a Gift Subscription to:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APT.# \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Rate: \$12 per year Gift Card to Read \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Rate on Request for Airmail, U.K. & Europe). All subscriptions prepaid.  
 Enclose check or M.O.—Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery of first issue.