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One Dollar

DOT BRIDGE MEETING PRODUCES LITTLE INFORMATION, MUCH FRUSTRATION

By BILL STUTTIG



Photos by RICK DEWITT

A “pre-construction” meeting about the new bridge with the Department of Transportation (DOT), held at P.S. 175 on Monday, Sept. 23, 2013, attracted a large crowd of Islanders who oppose the bridge design and took the opportunity to voice their opinions and offer other alternatives to the futuristic cable-stayed design. Deputy Chief Engineer Bob Collyer (inset) was unable to answer many of the questions, which related to the inappropriate nature of the design for City Island, the excessive costs, and safety issues, as well as why DOT has ignored Island protests since 2002.

A meeting held on Sept. 23, 2013, at Public School 175 was billed as a New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) pre-construction information meeting hosted by Community Board 10.

In all practical reality, it should have been called a community frustration meeting. DOT representatives on hand offered only a 10-minute presentation on the status of the project, which is scheduled to begin construction very shortly, and then took questions and comments for the next 90 minutes. During that time, dozens of Island residents and community leaders received little or no response to their repeated strong expressions of dissatisfaction with a process that shut community input out for more than a decade while producing a final design that by obvious general consensus does not meet the aesthetic or practical needs of the Island's residents, businesses and visitors, while unnecessarily costing city taxpayers an estimated \$150 million.

Although most residents in attendance seemed to concur with the DOT's long-held contention that the City Island bridge needs replacement after more than 114 years of service, no one agreed with the final design of a cable-stayed bridge supported by a tower reaching more than 150 feet in the air, many times greater than the height allowed for Island buildings under the City Island Special District Zoning laws.

The DOT's Deputy Chief Engineer Bob Collyer began the information presentation by explaining that the physical condition of the existing bridge rates as a 3.3 on a scale of 1 to 7 with a rating of 3 necessitating lane closures and the enforcement of weight restrictions. The current rating is estimated to decrease by approximately 0.1 each year, Mr. Collyer said, meaning that such restrictions will be necessary in a couple of years if the current bridge

is allowed to remain as is. He said that construction of the temporary bridge will begin next month in the area just south of the existing bridge on the Rodman's Neck side and will take approximately a year and a half to complete. The temporary bridge will have the same width as the existing bridge and include sidewalks for pedestrian and bicycle access to the Island, he said.

After the temporary bridge opens, the existing bridge will be dismantled and construction of the new bridge will begin. This part of the process will take approximately two years, Mr. Collyer said, after which the temporary bridge will be removed and the process will be completed. The entire construction period is estimated to last approximately three and a half years.

Mr. Collyer added that during the construction project, traffic agents will be posted to help maintain the flow of traffic and that DOT will also provide a full-time community liaison throughout the entire lengthy construction period to help address community concerns at all stages of the process.

He added that the construction contractor, Tutor Perini, has already been given notice by DOT to proceed.

After Collyer's brief presentation, Community Board 10 District Manager Ken Kearns, who moderated the evening, asked for comments and questions.

Long-time City Island community leader Barbara Hoffman was the first to speak and asked why a new bridge couldn't be constructed off site and then floated into place, like what was done with the recently replaced Willis Avenue Bridge connecting Manhattan and the Bronx. “Why is this taking three and a half years?” she asked.

Bob Collyer responded that the new Willis Avenue Bridge took more than two years to construct off-site before it was floated into place and that the DOT does



not have the time and same circumstance in City Island's case, mainly because the City Island bridge is the only means of access and egress to the Island and that there must always be a functioning bridge in place.

Mrs. Hoffman also objected to what she claimed to be DOT's deliberate misleading of the public by ignoring the City Island community's consistent on-the-record objections to the bridge design over the past decade, while purposely omitting those objections from its public filings and press statements.

Barbara Dolensek followed up Mrs. Hoffman's remarks by objecting to DOT's insistence that there was community consent in the selection of the design, saying instead that the City Island community was addressed only twice over the past 12 years and was presented with a “take-it-or-leave-it” design by DOT's contractor Gandhi Engineering, more than a decade ago. She said that only after consistent protest from the community was the original tower height lowered to 50 meters (nearly 170 feet), a design still very far from what the community has consistently requested. Mrs. Dolensek also pointed out that the DOT has constantly ignored the Island's Special District Zoning, which forbids structures higher than 35 feet, as well as the low-rise character of the Island.

She also objected to the fact that the French cable-stayed bridge designer, who consulted with Gandhi, has no history of designing this type of bridge over salt water or of dealing with climate conditions that bombard the East Coast yearly with nor'easters and hurricanes. She also questioned the ability of an engineering firm that would come up with an estimate of \$25.5 million in 2002 that was inflated to an estimate of \$150 million. Tutor Perini, the contractor, came in with a low bid of \$102 million, but the firm is well known for cost overruns.

“The DOT has been giving us a whole lot of misinformation over the years,” Mrs. Dolensek charged, “and the City Island community and the Community Board have had no vote on the matter. We were just handed this bridge. We don't see how you can get away with this without having a public hearing and a City Council vote,” she added.

City Island Chamber of Commerce President Skip Giacco expressed his grave concern that the inappropriate aesthetics of the new bridge design will likely have a severe detrimental effect on the

commercial viability of the Island and its businesses. “The City Island Bridge says ‘welcome to our neighborhood,’” Mr. Giacco said, “This [new bridge design] says ‘welcome to Las Vegas.’”

Island community leader John Doyle provided one of the most effective presentations of the evening, pointing out that a \$102 million dollars difference between the cost of the contracted bridge design and the design of a simple causeway connecting the Island to the mainland -- which the overwhelming majority of community residents present at the meeting seem to prefer. He pointed out \$102 million could pay for an additional 2,000 police officers on New York City streets; 23,000 children served by afterschool programs; and 10,000 additional pre-kindergarten seats in city schools. Mr. Doyle also pointed out the irony of a city government that each year threatens to take away the Island's FDNY ladder company to save approximately \$55 million but yet insists on spending an extravagant \$102 million on an oversized bridge that will require a great deal of reinforcement because of its size and the effects on salt on the steel cables and is not what the community wants or needs.

Many residents repeatedly expressed their anger over having their right as citizens in a democracy trampled on by not having a public hearing to review the project, a right that is required by the city's required Uniformed Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). The construction of a bridge is not subject to ULURP, except that in this case, some changes required for the bridge do call for the Department of City Planning (DCP) to grant a certification, which they cannot do without a public hearing and a City Council vote. In what Islanders believe is an effort to avoid those steps, DOT has said that ULURP will take place after construction has begun, when it will presumably be too late to make any changes.

The one question that was repeatedly asked throughout the evening—either at the microphone or shouted from the back of the room—was who approved the bridge design, and no satisfactory answer was ever provided.

Island resident and P.S. 175 educator Moira Spencer asked that representatives of the community's elected officials speak to the meeting about what can be done to stop the progress of the current bridge design. She was informed that none on the

Continued on page 3

BRIEFLY...

CLOTHING AND BOOK DRIVE: The Bronx Masons will hold a drive to collect winter clothes, coats and books on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 241 City Island Avenue on the corner of Schofield Street. They can only accept items on that day. If possible, please separate items into men's, women's and children's clothing bags for faster dispersal. All donations will go to POTS (Part of the Solution).

GRACE CHURCH PRESENTS AN ALL HALLOWED "EVE"NING WITH FREDDIE LANDO: On Oct. 26, at 7 p.m., Grace Church invites all good souls to an evening filled with great music, dancing and Halloween merriment. The evening will feature Grace choir member, Freddie Lando, also known as "the golden voice of da Bronx," who delights audiences on a local, regional and national level with his singing voice and octave range. Fred performs music from many genres, including music of the Rat Pack, the 50s, rock 'n' roll, doo-wop, Broadway, Neopolitan classics and even opera! It is sure to be a fun time. Folks are invited to come in costume or their party clothes and to pair their choice of attire with dancing shoes! All costumed guests will be entered in the costume contest. The cost of admission is \$15, which includes one beverage (soft drink or wine); snacks will be available. To reserve a table please e-mail gracecityisland@yahoo.com and put "Halloween event" in the subject line, or call 718-885-1080.

ED SADLER WAY. On Saturday, Oct. 5, east Schofield Street will be named in honor of Captain Edward Sadler, who lived there for 95 years and contributed a great deal to the City Island community throughout his life. The ceremony, to be conducted by Council Member James Vacca, will begin promptly at noon on the corner of Schofield and City Island Avenue.

HALLOWEEN PARADE, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, will take place on Thursday, Oct. 31, starting at Hawkins Park. Marchers are asked to start assembling at 5:30 p.m.; the parade will start promptly at 6. There will be prizes for the best costumes.

CITY ISLAND AND THE MOVIES is the subject of a talk featuring clips from various films that will be given by Barbara Dolensek at the City Island Branch Library on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 1 to 2 p.m.

19TH ANNUAL TOUR DE BRONX, produced by the Bronx Tourism Council in partnership with the city's bicycling and pedestrian advocacy group, Transportation Alternatives, will take place on Sunday, Oct. 27. Nearly 6,000 cyclists will participate in this free cycling event, the largest in New York State. There are two courses, one 25 miles long and the other 40 miles long; the latter will visit City Island so residents should be aware of bike riders on City Island Avenue and some side streets. Those who wish to participate need to register (go to tourdebronx.org/register). The ride starts at the Bronx County Building at Grand Concourse and 161st Street and ends with a music festival at the New York Botanical Garden. Check-in time is 9:30 a.m.; the 25-mile route departs at 10:40 a.m. and the 40-mile route departs at 10:30 a.m.

HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE, sponsored by the Community Center and the City Island Theater Group, will take place in the Community Center at 190 Fordham Street from 6 to 11 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during August and September 2013. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 1 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 1– AGGRAVATED UNLICENSED OPERATION OF A VEHICLE
- 1 – BURGLARY
- 2 – ASSAULT
- 2 – GRAND LARCENY

Police provided details on the following arrests and incidents for the period from Aug. 23 to Sept. 23, 2013.

8/23 – At 9:30 p.m., on City Island Avenue, a female patron of a restaurant reported her passport, wallet and credit cards stolen (grand larceny). She had left the items on the table where she dined and walked to her car. Upon returning, she found the items missing.

8/29 – Police from the 45th Precinct are investigating a report of grand larceny on Minneford Avenue at 6:46 p.m. The owner of a residence reported items missing from her home, which was under renovation.

9/1 – At 12:58 a.m. on City Island Avenue at Schofield Street, an Island female, 22, was arrested following an automobile accident. The driver was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle when police determined that her license had been revoked.

9/3 – An off-Island male, 21, was arrested and charged with assault on City Island Avenue at Rochelle Street at 10:35 p.m. The defendant allegedly punched the victim in the eye following a verbal dispute.

9/13 – On Fordham Street at 5:30 p.m., unknown persons committed a burglary by cutting the locks and entering a business through a rear gate. The perpetrators removed property from a shipping container. The 45th Precinct Evidence Collection team was notified and is investigating.



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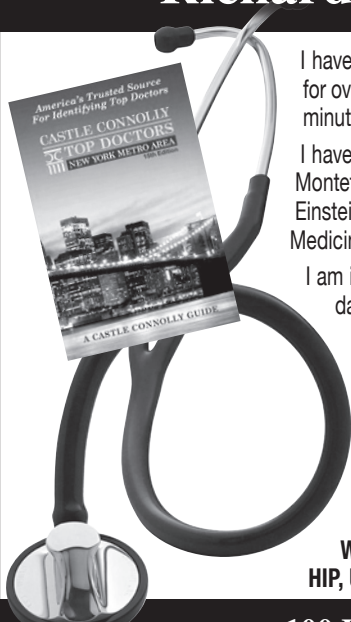
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I have been in solo Internal Medicine practice in neighboring Co-Op City for over 35 years and have lived on City Island for twenty years. I am seven minutes away by bus and there is free parking available.

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ITALIAN HOSPITAL SOCIETY PROJECT UPDATE

On Sept. 17, the attorney for Dr. Domenico Mignone, president of the Italian Hospital Society, submitted to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) revised plans and a financial analysis of the assisted-living project proposed for the vacant lot at Schofield Street and City Island Avenue.

The City Island community has until Oct. 8 to respond to these revisions, and a public hearing on the issue is scheduled for Nov. 19, 2013.

The attorney for the City Island Civic Association will be preparing a response to these plans, which are considerably different from the first submission. Those plans were rejected by the BSA in June, when over 50 Island residents attended the hearing to protest the project. At that time, the BSA chair asked the applicant to "go back to the drawing board" and come up with a new set of plans that would be more consistent with the character of City Island and to provide a financial analysis to justify the applicant's request for a zoning variance to build a residence on the site, which is now zoned manufacturing.

The new plans show that the building has been set back from the sidewalk along both City Island Avenue and Schofield

Street and has three stories rather than four. The number of parking spaces has been reduced from over 100 to 50, still in an underground cellar, and the mechanicals (electrical and other systems) are now on the first floor. The number of units has been reduced, as has the space for each apartment. The drawings indicate that a single room will be 310 square feet and that double rooms or suites, with two beds, will afford less than 300 square feet per person. The average cost per bed, including food service, is anticipated to be \$4,000 a month.

The Civic Association is concerned that if the BSA grants the variance and the applicant does not proceed, a developer could build a multi-family structure using the approved dimensions. The applicant does not have an assisted living license and it does not appear that he can obtain one. Senator Jeffrey Klein, who had allocated \$1 million in state funding to support Dr. Mignone's construction of an assisted-living facility in his district, told *The Current* that the funding has been withdrawn from the project and reallocated to other projects.

Residents who wish more information are asked to email the Civic Association at city.island.civic@mac.com.



Photo by RICK DEWITT

Concerned Islanders turned out in good numbers in an effort to get answers to long unanswered questions about the new bridge design.

Bridge Meeting

Continued from page 1

Island's four elected legislative representatives chose to personally attend the vital meeting. Ben Randazzo from State Assemblyman Mike Benedetto's office and Mike Grubiak from State Senator Jeff Klein's office did briefly address the meeting and promised a continued fight against this bridge from their respective representatives.

On Aug. 30, four of the Island's elected legislators, Congressman Joe Crowley, City Councilman James Vacca, along with Klein and Benedetto, co-signed a letter of protest to Mayor Michael Bloomberg jointly asking him to review the bridge design process and arrange for a long-overdue public hearing on the Island before any construction begins.

In response, the Mayor had the city's Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan write a letter to the elected officials on Sept. 19, addressing some of the concerns expressed in the joint letter but providing no clear outlet for the community to express their concerns via the ULURP process before construction begins.

During the last part of the meeting, a number of additional concerns were raised by Island residents, including the possible outsourcing of construction supplies to foreign firms, to which the audience was assured by DOT that no supplies would be purchased from foreign firms in connection with this project.

Residents also expressed concern over winter weather and the melting ice and

snow that will form on the cables, which will be more than 150 feet above the roadway, and how that will adversely affect the safety of drivers and pedestrians below. Mr. Collyer assured the meeting that procedures are in place to clear ice and snow from bridge cables as is done with the Throggs Neck and Whitestone Bridges. But one resident effectively pointed out that those bridges have alternate routes, whereas the City Island bridge is the only means of exit and access for City Island residents and cannot afford to be shut down for even a few hours without hardship on the residents and businesses.

Other concerns mentioned were the loss of the bridge park and the Veterans Memorial Triangle during the three-and-a-half year construction. It was also pointed out that plans have called for access to Bridge Street from the bridge to be cut off during much of the construction period, causing what could be irreparable harm to the businesses and restaurants on the northeast corner of the Island, not to mention long-term inconvenience for residents of that section of the Island.

While many of the approximately 200 Island residents at the meeting expressed frustration over the inadequate answers provided by DOT staff during the two-hour informational meeting, Community Board 10 District Manager Ken Kearns did ask those with outstanding questions to e-mail them to the Community Board 10 district office, and he promised to do his best to get answers as quickly as possible. The e-mail address is bx10@cb.nyc.gov; copies should also be e-mailed to the Civic Association: city.Island.civic@mac.com.

TASTY FAIR



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

The weekend of Sept. 21 and 22, 2013, was sunny and brisk, and the arts and crafts on display were very appealing. Along with craftspeople, various local nonprofits—the City Island Nautical Museum, the City Island Theater Group, Grace Episcopal Church, the Hutchinson River Restoration Project, and Bartow Pell Mansion Museum—attracted visitors. The big draw, however, was the clam chowder contest, reviving an old event from a decade ago.



Photo by RICK DEWITT

Senator Jeff Klein hosted the first annual City Island Clam Chowder Festival during the annual City Island Chamber of Commerce Arts & Crafts Fall Fair on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2013, in Hawkins Park. Fairgoers tried samples of 16 different chowders from 14 participating restaurants and then voted for their favorites. The Lobster House won first place in the People's Choice chowder; the Harlem Yacht Club won second and To-Go Express won third. Sammy's Fish Box won for the best Manhattan clam chowder and the Sea Shore won for the best New England clam chowder. Senator Klein, Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, Food Network Star and City Island native Michael Proietti, and Island Current Fleet Captain Chris Cullen judged the competition.

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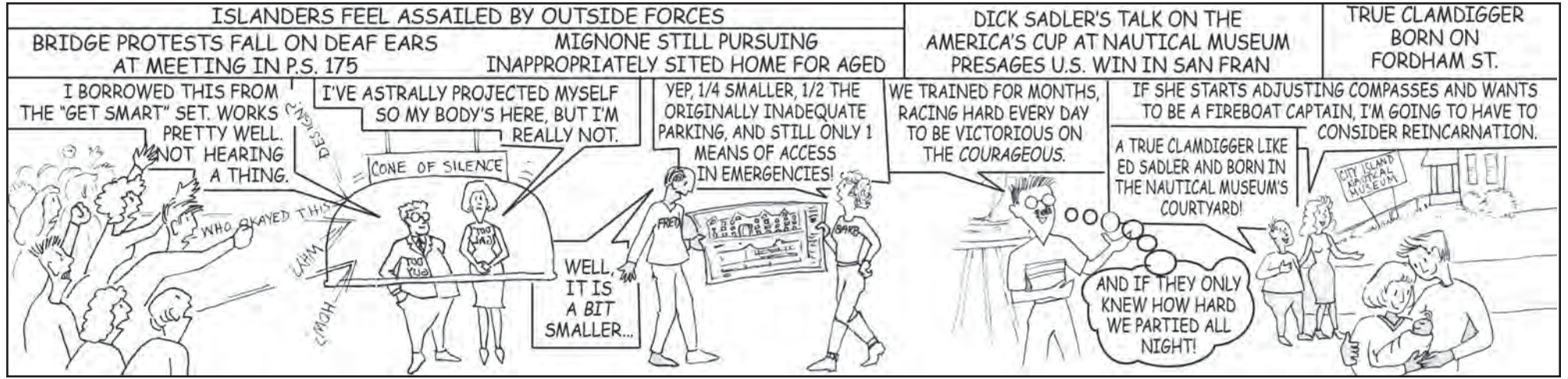
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City Island Preliminary Results in Mayoral Primary

- Republican ticket:
 Joe Lhota: 97 votes (76 percent)
 John Catsimatidis: 24 (19 percent)
 George McDonald: 7 (5 percent)
- Democrat mayoral ticket:
 Bill de Blasio: 122 (36 percent)
 Christine Quinn: 96 (28 percent)
 Bill Thompson: 82 (23 percent)
 Anthony Weiner: 28 (8 percent)
 John Liu: 14 (4 percent)
 Sal Albanese: 3 (1 percent)
- Democratic comptroller ticket:
 Scott Stringer: 197 (60 percent)
 Eliot Spitzer: 132 (40 percent)



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.

Unsupported Bridge Design

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

To: Mayor Michael Bloomberg

As you know, the contract with Tutor Perini to build a new cable-stayed bridge to City Island has just been authorized, in spite of the fact that the majority of the City Island community is very unhappy with the bridge design, not only because it is inappropriate for the low-rise nautical community but also because it is excessively expensive, a fact caused by the oversized and inappropriate design.

We the undersigned have chosen to support the City Island community in this matter, because we believe that your administration and the officials at DOT have imposed this bridge on the community with no regard for its views on the matter.

Since 2003, members of the City Island community, including the City Island Civic Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the City Island Historical Society and the Garden Club of City Island have written to you and to the commissioner of DOT and others to protest the fact that there was never a public hearing on this issue. But these letters have clearly had no effect; indeed, they do not appear in the 600-plus-page draft document published by DOT relating to the bridge project, as if they had never been written.

Hundreds of petition signatures objecting to this type of bridge have been gathered, and various social media efforts have attracted hundreds more supporters for the community's position on the bridge design. Many newspaper and local television pieces have appeared on the subject clearly expressing community views.

Although City Islanders regret the loss of their historic bridge, most recognize that a new bridge is necessary, but they have consistently and strongly objected to this design many view as oversized, nearly 150 feet higher than the current bridge and many times the height allowed for buildings by City Island Special District Zoning

laws enacted in 1977 to help preserve the island's nautical historic character. DOT has chosen to postpone its required ULURP process until the construction is under way, presumably to avoid a public hearing on this issue.

This cable-stayed bridge was proposed over a decade ago, and many things have changed during that time. We understand that this bridge was originally proposed to City Islanders as a complement to the city's bid for the 2012 Olympic Games. It is deeply unfortunate that we did not get the chance to host these games, but it is equally regrettable that this design was allowed to move toward completion, especially since it was designed by a firm that had never designed a bridge over water, let alone a cable-stayed bridge.

Over the past decade, new materials and bridge designs have been implemented that are far more efficient and easier to install and maintain than the tall cable-stayed bridges, which require several years of on-site construction and costly measures to prevent corrosion and wind resistance. We are also concerned that since the design was approved by DOT, revised estimates have been made of the rising sea level, which indicates that this bridge may become outdated and overwhelmed well before the predicted 100 years have elapsed.

Although City Island is a tourist destination for its restaurants, fishing boats, yacht clubs, and art galleries, it is attractive for its small-town atmosphere, which would be destroyed by a huge "signature" bridge. And the three-year period during which the Island would be served by a narrow temporary bridge would unquestionably hurt the restaurant business, perhaps permanently.

Given the fact that New York has not fully recovered from the economic turnaround and the damage incurred by Hurricane Irene and Superstorm Sandy, we can only wonder at the great cost the city is prepared to undertake for a project that does not have the support of the community for which it is intended. A more appropriate low-rise causeway-type bridge would be more economical and more efficient, could be largely produced off-site, and would require a far shorter construction time.

With this in mind, we request a review of this matter and a long overdue public hearing on City Island before any construction begins, so that the community can have input on a project that will affect it for the next hundred years.

Respectfully,
Congressman Joseph Crowley
State Senator Jeffrey Klein
Assemblyman Michael Benedetto
Councilmember James Vacca



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Fred Ramftl Jr. VP City Island Civic Association
Community Service Award

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Steve



Photos by JOE LARONGA
 During the week of Sept. 17, 2013, this historic City Island house was moved from its original place on the lot at 65 Schofield Street to make room for additions at the back of the property. The house was built by William Scofield, a farmer who moved to City Island as one of the community's first settlers. The interior of this Italianate-style residence, the oldest intact house on City Island, had deteriorated but it will be rebuilt and the original appearance of the building restored under the direction of architect Zachary Schweter (right). The project is expected to take a year to complete.



A Current Review

The Laramie Project Revisited

By BRUCE A. WEIS



Photo by MARY MCINTYRE

The cast of "The Laramie Project," a staged reading presented by the City Island Theater Group over the weekend of Sept. 20-22, 2013. On the steps: Danny Conover and Angelica Parone; front row (l. to r.): Deborah Erickson, Paula Rocheleau, Jennie Leclere, Christopher McGowan, Susan Rauh; back row: Katrina Snyder, Eileen Fox, Andy Ravick, Nic Anthony Calabro, Rose DeMonte, Thomas Losito, Drucila Pacheco, Cathy Romanovitch, Frank Siciliano and Denis Zepeda. Missing: Emily McSpadden and Susan Velcheck.

On Friday, Sept. 20, the City Island Theater Group revived in a single performance its 2012 production of "The Laramie Project," a staged reading of the play about the death of Matthew Shepard, followed on Sept. 21 and 22 by two presentations of the Tectonic Theater Group's companion production "The Laramie Project, Ten Years After." The first play focuses on events surrounding the outrageous 1998 murder of a gay University of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard, in Laramie, Wyoming. "The Laramie Project, Ten Years After" takes a slightly wider view, dealing with events that took place after the tragedy.

Both plays were written by Moisés Kaufman, Leigh Fondakowski, Stephen Belber, Greg Pierotti, Barbara Pitts, Stephen Wangh, Amanda Gronich, Sara Lambert, John McAdams, Maude Mitchell, Andy Paris and Kelli Simpkins of the Tectonic Theater Project. The group traveled to Laramie repeatedly after the 1998 tragedy, reviewing court records and conducting hundreds of interviews with inhabitants of the town. Drawing on these interviews and published news reports, the group wrote "The Laramie Project," which premiered at Denver's Ricketson Theatre in February 2000.

The show was subsequently produced in Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand and finally in Laramie itself in November 2002. Ten years after Matthew Shepard's murder, members of the Project returned to Laramie to conduct follow-up interviews with residents featured in the original play. The goal was to gain a perspective on life in Laramie after the tragedy, and to "check with the town itself on the progress or permanence that had occurred." The sequel debuted as a reading at nearly 150 theaters across the United States and internationally on Oct. 12, 2009, the 11th anniversary of Shepard's death. Most openings were linked by webcam to the New York City opening at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, where Matthew's mother, Judy Shepard, and the play's producers and writers gave an opening speech.

Each play includes more than 60 characters in a series of short scenes. In the original productions, eight actors handled these roles, but both of the tightly scripted and blocked CITG presentations required 19 actors. The CITG actors quickly switched between roles, making minor costume and prop changes as necessary (often passing bits of costume and props back and forth), taking center stage and then yielding to the next actors.

The CITG presentations were billed as staged readings, which sounds far more static than they were. One of the remarkable things about the evenings I spent at

these shows was the sheer volume of good acting on the CITG stage. Rather than simply reading lines, the actors emoted, often brilliantly, donning different personalities as they switched from one character to another. Although each actor carried a script, the audience quickly forgot that the scripts were even there as the drama unfolded on the stage.

Happily, the 2012 and 2013 CITG productions of "The Laramie Project" were done with nearly identical casts. While Deborah Erickson, Drucila Pacheco and Angelica Parone were new to the show for 2013, the remaining 2012 Laramie Project actors—Nic Anthony Calabro, Danny Conover, Rose Demonte, Eileen Fox, Jennie LeClere, Thomas Losito, Christopher McGowan, Emily McSpadden, Susan Rauh, Andy Ravick, Paula Jean Rocheleau, Katrina Snyder, Susan Velcheck and Denis Zepeda—were all in the 2013 project and brought their experience, talent and commitment to the show with them.

As with the 2012 production, I hesitate praising any one performer, as there were so many great performances from such a large cast. I cannot resist saying, however, that Christopher McGowan's soliloquy as Dennis Shepard, at the close of "The Laramie Project" was even better and more moving than last year's.

The backstage crew for both years was nearly identical. Elizabeth Paldino had wanted to bring the original production to the CITG stage for some time before finally getting her chance in 2012. Once again, she did an excellent job directing both the original show and the sequel. Hannah Glick returned as production stage manager. Carol McCabe costumed the production and shared producer duties with Nick Salas, CITG president. Joe Burck Jr. designed the lighting for "The Laramie Project" with his usual talent (overcoming an unnamed organization's tampering with his light stands), while Celeste Ploumis handled the actual theater illumination during performances.

Many performances of "The Laramie Project" have been picketed by members of the Westboro Baptist Church. One of the most powerful moments in "The Laramie Project" was a portrayal of the speech actually given by Fred Phelps, the leader of the church as he picketed Matthew Shepard's funeral. The fact that the church continues to picket performances of the play (a schedule of planned Westboro picketing is available on the organization's website) makes the message relayed in "The Laramie Project, Ten Years After" even more important to us all.

These productions were funded by Richard DePierro and Stanley S. Passo, in memory of Dominic Consoli.

Candidates Lhota and Castsimatidis Visit City Island

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Compared to the City Island Civic Association meeting in July, when media chasing Anthony Wiener virtually hijacked the Community Center, the August meeting was a marvel of calm. Council Member Jimmy Vacca spoke in support of Bill Thompson, Democrat candidate in the primary election for mayor, but most of the meeting was devoted to the two primary Republican candidates, Joe Lhota and John Catsimatidis.

Joe Lhota spoke first and surprised everyone with the revelation that he had been born on Horton Street and had been baptized at St. Mary, Star of the Sea (although he slipped up and referred to Staten Island, quickly apologizing for his error). He spoke of his experience in city government, first as deputy mayor under Rudolph Giuliani and then in his most recent role as chair of the MTA.

He told the audience that he is concerned with quality of life issues, helping the middle class, supporting the voucher system in education, and keeping crime low. As to stop and frisk, he feels the NYPD needs all the support it can get. He was familiar with City Island issues and said there were many other ways to cut the city budget that did not include cuts at fire houses. He also applauded the idea of a different bridge design and explained that unlike Mayor Bloomberg, he, like Mayor Giuliani, would hold town hall meetings in all of the city's communities, taking his commissioners with him rather than allow-

ing them to proceed without interference.

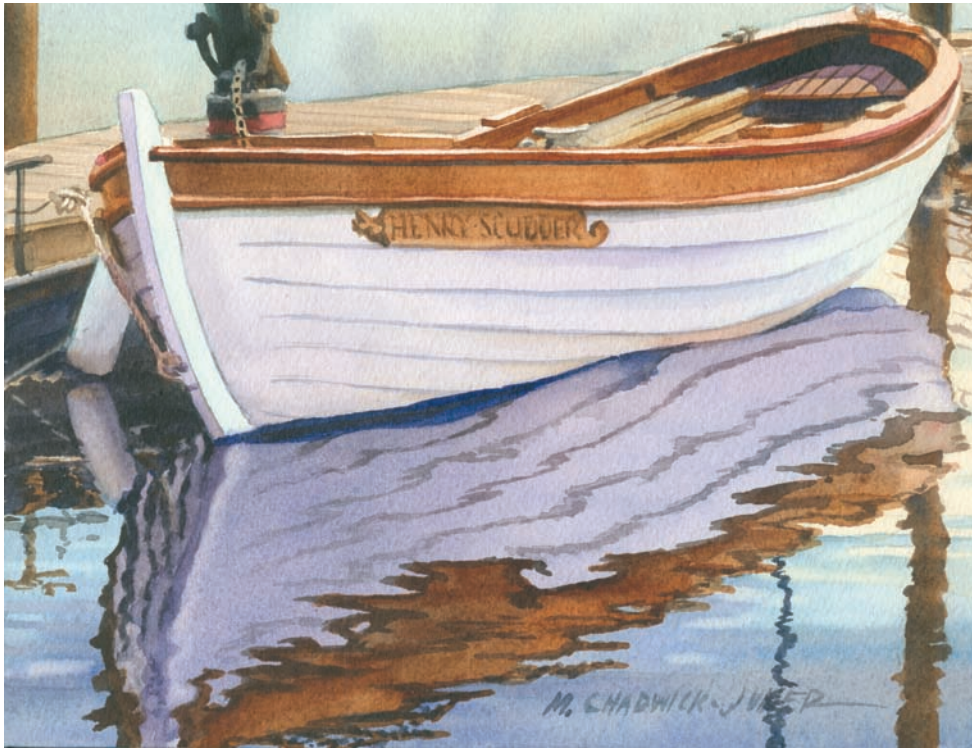
Mr. Lhota believes that the Mayor of New York City needs to go around the city and deal with real issues, such as safety, road repair, funding programs for disadvantaged children and parking facilities for train stations.

John Catsimatidis then addressed the meeting, claiming that because the City Council is almost entirely Democratic, it is necessary to have a Republican mayor to keep the checks and balances in place. He talked about how he achieved great success by working hard, in spite of being an immigrant, and he believes that America is the land of opportunity. He said he was running for mayor not because he needs the job but because he wants to work for the city.

Mr. Catsimatidis is pro-business but believes that senior citizens should get what they are entitled to and that children should be taught skills so they can earn 50K a year instead of dropping out and working for minimum wage. He said he thought trucks need to find another way to Connecticut to avoid NYC where they cause traffic and pollution. He feels that we need a mayor who can come up with ideas and that common sense must take priority. He likes the idea of a deputy mayor in each borough, and a mayor who will actually address the issues of the communities. He was not aware of the bridge issue but asked to be given information about it. He then went around the room shaking hands with everyone he saw.



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"The Henry Scudder", a watercolor painting by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner will be one of the paintings on exhibition at Fe Fi Faux Gallery in November.



"Intrepid," an oil painting by Tim Moses will be one of the artworks on exhibition at Focal Point Gallery in November.



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.

Fe Fi Faux Gallery at 276 City Island Avenue will exhibit more than 200 daily paintings by Island artist Marguerite Chadwick-Juner during the month of November. Although some of these paintings have been showcased before, they have never before been available for purchase. This long-awaited exhibition takes place just in time for holiday gifting. The opening reception is on Friday, Nov. 1, at 7 p.m. and will be supported by the City Island Beer Company. Those who have asked for "dibs" on particular paintings from past showings should contact the gallery at 718-885-2024 to secure their pieces before the opening.

Island resident Tim Moses will have a one-man show of paintings, drawings and odds and ends at the Focal Point Gallery, 321 City Island Avenue, from Nov. 1 to 30. Tim works in various media and his subjects include local scenes, Pelham Bay Park, marine life, boats, abstracts, botanicals, and other material new and old. The opening reception is Friday, Nov. 1, from 7 to 10 p.m. and everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be served. Telephone 718-885-1403 for further information. During the month of October, several of Tim's paintings of America's Cup 12-meters will be on exhibit at the City Island Nautical Museum.

REAL ESTATE REVIEW

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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
158 Hawkins Street	6/10/13	\$385,000	1 Family
421 Minneford Ave.	6/17/13	\$300,000	1 Family
171 Fordham Street	6/19/13	\$396,000	1 Family
21 Winters Street	6/19/13	\$400,000	1 Family
313 City Island Ave.	6/26/13	\$70,000	Store
29 Carroll Street	7/9/13	\$250,000	1 Family
123 Horton Street	8/2/13	\$322,000	1 Family
341 King Ave.	8/9/13	\$440,000	1 Family

At The Library

City Island Branch Library Events for October 2013

Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

October Children's Programs

Wednesday Read-a-Loud: Every ongoing Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 3, we will have having a read-a-loud for children at the same time as our Zumba! program. For more information about upcoming children's programs, please call the branch at 718-885-1703, or check online at www.nypl.org.

October Teen Programs

Relax with Wii: Play Wii, bring a book, do your homework and sneak in a snack. Monday through Friday from 3 to 5 p.m.

October Adult Programs

Introduction to the Internet: This workshop is designed to introduce anyone who has never been on the Internet before. Gain proficiency in using e-mail, utilizing social media and finding resources on the NYPL website. Every Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon.

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

Saturday Afternoon Movies: Every Saturday that we are open, we will present a movie or a lecture/discussion. Please check our flyers in the library or call for Saturday movies or lecture programs. All events begin at 1 p.m.

Zumba! We will be putting on a "Zumba" Exercise DVD and dancing our way to fitness on Tuesdays from 2 to 3 p.m. Please notice that this coincides with the Tuesday Read-a-Loud. Feel free to bring your children to the Read-a-Loud and get your Zumba! on while they listen to a few stories. Every Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 3 p.m.

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

Island Writers: This is a creative writing workshop that meets in our community room once a week. "When we write, we find ourselves writing answers to questions we didn't know we had." Every Tuesday afternoon from 1 to 2 p.m. Presented by Gail Hitt.

Watercolor With Carol: Carol Urban, an artist who was born and raised on City Island, will speak on watercolor painting. She will discuss the processes of watercolor painting, including subjects, sketching a composition, and how to begin and end a painting. Then she will demonstrate some brush techniques she uses to gain certain effects. Saturday, Oct. 5, at 1 p.m.

City Island in The Movies: Did you know that Hollywood, independent and foreign movie companies have made films on City Island for more than 100 years? Some are famous, others will be a delightful surprise to discover. Come join us as City Island resident and historian Barbara Dolensek will speak about the movies and television shows filmed here. Clips of the actual films will be screened. See if you can identify which houses and streets made cinema history. Saturday, Oct. 19, from 1 to 2 p.m.

We are located at 320 City Island Avenue and Bay Street. Please call the branch at 718-885-1703 for events in October and for any unscheduled changes, additions or cancellations. You can visit us at www.nypl.org for more details and for programs in other branches throughout the city.

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Bartow-Pell Events

Friday, Oct. 4, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., BPMM and the Bronx Music Heritage Center, BPMM and BMHC present the renowned Dr. Valerie Capers for an evening of jazz piano. The free Bronx Seaside Trolley makes a continuous loop from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost \$10 adults, \$8 seniors & students; members free.

On Sunday, Oct. 6, 1-3 p.m., antique and unique cars will rally to benefit BPMM. Bring a picnic and see and be seen in your wheels. Registration required. Cost \$30 donation per car. Call (718-885-1640) or e-mail (info@bpmm.org) for details.

High Time for Low Tea on Saturday, Oct. 12, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Enjoy a true Victorian low tea in the mansion's Orangerie served by docents in period dress. Learn about low versus high tea, tea history, and etiquette, all while delighting in delicious, traditional tea-time treats. Appropriate for ages 10 and up. Registration required. Cost \$20 per person, members \$15.

Ninety Years of Fashion History, 1890-1980. Join us on Sunday, Oct. 13, from 4:30

to 6 p.m. for the inside scoop on what the fashionable wore from 1890 to 1980 by Bard Graduate Center scholar Sarah Pickman. Registration requested. Free.

Local Author Spotlight on Thursday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. Yale professor Edward Ball discusses Eadweard Muybridge, who invented stop-motion photography but was also a murderer whose trial was a media sensation. Book signing and reception after the presentation. Registration requested. Cost \$10 adults; \$7 seniors and students; members free.

Volunteer Garden Clean-Up Day on Saturday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Help make the grounds of BPMM look as beautiful as they can be. Long sleeves, pants, and sturdy footwear strongly recommended. Light refreshments available. Registration requested. Free.

Cemetery Walk + Victorian Ghost Stories. Saturday, Oct. 26, 6:30 p.m. Cemetery Walk, 7:30 p.m. Ghost Stories. Take a guided, candlelit walk to the Pell Cemetery followed by a delightfully spooky staged reading of Victorian ghost stories by the City Island Theater Group. Space is limited. Registration required. Cost \$20 adults, \$15 seniors and students; members \$15 adults; \$10 seniors and students.

What Is Emotional Intelligence (EQ) and Where Can I Get Some?

By JOHN SCARDINA

EQ—emotional intelligence—can be defined according to four parameters: how to name and manage feelings; how to solve conflicts successfully and non-violently; how to make friends and maintain relationships; how to be optimistic and bounce back from hardships.

Many of us know individuals with lots of IQ—cognitive intelligence of a verbal or mathematical or spatial nature—and very little EQ. These individuals may often be quite successful in their fields of expertise, yet challenged by the “stupid life stuff” that makes up much of our lives.

John Dewey, a pioneer in American education theory, felt that the goal of education was to “build a new world.” He also felt that schools should train students, not only in a future trade, but in “habits of mind” that lead to a more fulfilling life: an ability to think “outside the box” and a willingness to work with others and share ideas. That’s where the EQ comes into play...

How can we help our children—and ourselves—to develop EQ?

- Be clear about naming feelings:

develop a “feelings vocabulary” that goes beyond “I feel good” or “I feel bad.” Use a chart on the refrigerator (there are many such charts available on the Internet) that allows a child to point to how they feel.

- When a child shares a difficult feeling, do the following: a) pause; b) empathize (“That must be a challenge...”); c) pause; d) ask “what are you going to do about it?”; e) express confidence (“I am sure you can come up with a plan”).

- Learn simple conflict resolution skills. Here’s a formula that might work well: “I feel _____ when you _____ because _____. I would like _____.”

- Model what it means to be a good friend: mutual appreciation, honesty, loyalty, support in times of need, shared interests and availability. Point out these traits when your children show you the ways in which they are already good friends.

EQ can be as important as IQ in school and in life. Let’s be sure to nurture one another as well as develop our emotional intelligence skills.

John Scardina is a school psychologist, child development specialist, and parent educator. Check out his website www.ThinkLaughLearn.com. His parent group discussions will resume in the fall at the CI Community Center.



Photos by JANE PROTZMAN

On Sunday, Sept. 15, Dick Sadler gave a talk at the City Island Nautical Museum to a standing-room-only crowd, describing his experiences on the crew of *Courageous*, which successfully defended the America’s Cup in 1977 under its skipper Ted Turner. He also gave a brief history of the Cup, beginning with the *America* in 1851, and ended with exciting footage of this year’s cup races in San Francisco. The America’s Cup, especially City Island’s contribution over the years, is celebrated in the museum’s current exhibition, to which several local artists have contributed beautiful images.

BASEBALL AND JUDAISM

By ELLEN RUTH TOPOL

As the baseball season heads into the World Series, Temple Beth El of City Island invites all baseball lovers to attend a talk on “Baseball and Judaism,” which will be given by Professor Stanley Rothman of Quinnipiac University on Sunday, Oct. 6 at 3 p.m.

Did you know that there was once a Jewish baseball player who was also a spy? And did you know that there was a baseball team called The House of David? These are just some of the facts that Professor Rothman will reveal in his talk. He will also discuss several Jewish people who have contributed to baseball, including Morris Berg, Bernard

Dreyfus, Hank Greenberg and, of course, Sandy Koufax. He will also talk about other minority leagues, such as the Negro Leagues and the Women’s Professional League.

For several years, Professor Rothman has given talks at joint meetings of the Mathematics Association of America and the American Mathematical Society on the subjects of teaching statistics with baseball, a new probability formula for batting streaks, and what it will take in today’s game for a player to hit .400 for a season. His current research includes developing the “Linear Theorem of Baseball,” which can be used to predict a team’s winning percentage by figuring the difference between runs scored and runs allowed.

Professor Rothman now uses baseball research to introduce undergraduate students to research in mathematics. His current baseball research includes developing a new formula for assigning probability to a player’s duplicating various batting streaks, the most famous being Joe DiMaggio’s 56-game hitting streak. He is the author of “Sandlot Stats: Learning Statistics through Baseball” and also writes a popular baseball blog, which can be accessed at sandlotstats.com.

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Organization News

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

Current Calendar

OCTOBER

Sat., Oct. 19, **Winter Clothing and Book Drive**, sponsored by the Bronx Masons, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 241 City Island Avenue at Schofield Street. (See Briefly this issue).

Thurs., Oct. 24, **Monthly meeting of Community Board 10**, 7:30 p.m., P.S. 304, 2750 Lafayette Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465.

Sat., Oct. 26, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's Schoolyard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: beef stew.

Sat., Oct. 26, **All Hallow'd "Eve"ning**, featuring Freddie Lando, Grace Church, City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, 7 p.m. (See Organization News this issue).

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

Thurs., Oct. 31, **Halloween Parade**, starting at Hawkins Park; assemble at 5:30 p.m.; start at 6. Costumes for best costumes.

Thurs., Oct. 31, **Haunted House**, City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, 6 to 11 p.m. Sponsored by the Community Center and the City Island Theater Group.

NOVEMBER

Sat., Nov. 2, **Pasta and Square Dance Night**, Trinity Methodist Church, City Island Avenue at Bay Street.

Tues., Nov. 5, **Election Day**, P.S. 175, 200 City Island Avenue, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

City Island Republicans

We will be out campaigning for Joe Lhota for mayor and John Burnett for comptroller. Our ticket can win if we get out and vote.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Anyone in need of an absentee ballot for the primary or general election should call the Bronx Board of Elections at 718-299-9017.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Grace Episcopal Church

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

Holy Communion Rite I: every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Please join us for these events during the month of October:

Oct. 4: Spaghetti and Meatball dinner (5:30 to 8:30 p.m.)

Oct. 6 at 2 p.m.: Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.: Friday Night Fellowship. We will make sandwiches for Part of the Solution (POTS), an outstanding non-profit organization that runs the largest food pantry in the Bronx. Please roll up your sleeves, put on a hairnet and join in the fun.

Oct. 26: All Hallowed "Eve"ning featuring Mr. Freddie Lando at 7 p.m. For reservations, please e-mail gracecityisland@yahoo.com with Halloween event in the subject line or call 718-885-1080.

Eileen Marcus

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

Come see our fall collection featuring winter coats, warm sweaters, Halloween costumes and decorations. Also enjoy our complimentary coffee and cakes. All are welcome. We are open every Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arlene Byrne

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #156

We would like to remind all members that dues are now past due. They are \$30 and can be mailed or dropped off at the Post and placed in the SAL Box.

We would like to thank everyone who came to the golf outing and the clam-bake. Both events were very successful. A special thanks goes out to all of those who helped, especially Chef Gene Valesio and his gourmet seafood.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m.

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

All old flags should be deposited in the red, white and blue mailbox next to the flagpole. They will be retired with dignity. The annual Halloween party will be on Friday, Oct. 25. Details to follow.

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

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Rotary Club of the Bronx

The Rotary Club is very proud to have sponsored Gift of Life heart surgery for our 17th child, 16-month-old Jaedan Ramkaran from Trinidad. He came through his surgery perfectly but had to remain at Montefiore Children's Hospital a few days longer than normal to weather a post-surgical fever.

Among the club's many charitable projects is its \$1,000 donation to the Outreach program, which provides bulk meals of macaroni and cheese and rice and beans and provides packing materials and equipment for packaging into six-serving parcels.

Memorial United Methodist Church in White Plains has volunteered their space for the evening of Oct. 19 for the packaging effort. Anyone can participate, and according to Outreach personnel, even five year-olds can help. In fact, family participation is highly encouraged as a means of developing awareness of the needy families in our communities and a sense of service.

Volunteers from the Bronx Rotary Club will be getting help from Boy Scouts of America Bronx Council District Executive Jeff Ampratwum and some of his scouts. So far the clubs in District 7230 have raised enough money for 450,000 meals for people in the Bronx, Westchester and Manhattan. If you would like to participate in feeding hungry families by packaging on Oct. 19, please contact Ed Hicks at bike4luv2@aol.com or call 917-403-3662 for more information.

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

American Legion Ladies Auxiliary

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 1, at 7:30 p.m. We did very well at our Cancer Bingo, so let's keep up the good work. The Legion pumpkin sale will be held on Oct. 4 and 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. until we sell it all! Don't forget: Legion calendars will be on sale. \$20 each; these make great gifts.

The Legion SAL will have a Halloween party on Friday, Oct. 25. Please check in at the Legion hall for the time.

Have a great Columbus Day on Oct. 14 and many happy Halloween wishes to our trick-or-treaters. Be careful out there and enjoy.

Maryann Occhicone



Photos by EYVONNE BAKER

The newly relocated Presbyterian Senior Services (PSS) lunch and activities program was in full swing over the summer at Grace Episcopal Church on City Island Avenue at Pilot Street (top photo). For more information about the program, contact Patty Attis, acting director, at 718-885-0727. The center is open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, and lunch is served at 11:30 a.m.



Island resident Olga Lopez at the exercise table during the grand opening of the PSS Senior Center at Grace Church on Monday, Sept. 23, 2013. Her t-shirt reads: "It took me 89 years to look this good."

AARP Chapter 318

Our chapter meets at 1 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of each month in Trinity Methodist Church Hall on Bay Street. At our meeting on Oct. 2, we will have Maria Alonso from Novo Nordisk, who will speak on nutrition and diabetes. At the Oct. 16 meeting, we will have our annual Penny Auction, beginning at 12 noon. Come and enjoy hot dogs, raffles, cake and coffee. Our Octoberfest will take place on Friday, Oct. 18. The festivities will be held at Platzl Brauhaus in Pomona, New York. The cost is \$78. Join us for a wonderful fall event, and bring a friend. New members are always welcome.

Rosetta Woods

Garden Club of City Island

The Garden Club held its first meeting of the new season in September and elected new officers: Barbara Hoffman, president; Barbara Harrison, vice president; Judy Judson, treasurer; Joanne Brogan, assistant treasurer; Ellen Murphy, recording secretary; and Barbara (Boo) Dennis, corresponding secretary. In an effort to promote continuity and provide a learning curve for our officers, we also elected Judy Judson as president elect, Carol McCabe as vice president elect and Joanne Brogan as treasurer elect.

The club's committees have been revitalized, and we are planning many more speakers, workshops and trips for the new year. At our meeting on Monday, Oct. 7, at 10 a.m. at the City Island Yacht Club on Pilot Street, Susannah Strazera, a horticulturalist at Wave Hill Gardens and Cultural Center, will speak on "Trees and Bushes of the Fall." Ms. Strazera will have a slide presentation and handouts for the group.

Non-members are welcome.

The Garden Club would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents and businesses of City Island for their generosity in supporting our Beautification Fund drive this year. We were able, once again, to continue brightening City Island Avenue with regularly replenished planters and to maintain the many public areas and parks here on the Island. We are looking forward to an exciting year and would like to encourage prospective new members to attend a meeting, learn what we do and how they can participate, and perhaps join us in our beautification efforts.

City Island Theater Group

We are pleased to produce Neil Simon's well-known "Barefoot in the Park" on Nov. 15, 16, 21, 22 and 23 at 8 p.m., as well as Nov. 17 at 3 p.m. All performances will be in Grace Hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street. Cast members are Steven Bendler, Phil Garfinkel, Kevin Gordon, Camille Kaiser, Thomas Losito and Laura Shelly. Maria Provenzano will direct the production.

"Barefoot" is a romantic comedy about Corie and Paul Bratter, newlyweds (six days), and their adjustment to married life in a fifth-floor walk-up apartment in New York City, and, more significantly, their adjustments to very opposite personalities.

Mary McIntyre

Trinity United Methodist Church

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

On Nov. 2 Trinity is having a Pasta and Square Dance Night. The square dance caller/teacher is Don Coy. Singles and beginners are welcome. For reservations call Ellie at 718-518-7241, e-mail rehat230@aol.com, or Pat at 917-592-6922, e-mail PATL724@aol.com. Tickets are \$12.00 per person.

A group Bible study will begin Oct. 27 in Fellowship Hall. It will run for five consecutive Sundays from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 sharp. This season will resume the study of Apostle Paul's Letter to the Romans, which is the handbook of authentic Christian teaching. It is the letter that changed the world. The power of God is in its gospel message, and it is undiminished by time and present circumstance or social change. No pre registration is required and all materials are provided.

The Budget Corner is open! The fall schedule is Oct. 1, 4, 12, 15, 18, 26 and 29; Nov. 1, 9, 12, 15, 19 and 23. Take advantage of the great prices while planning your Halloween costume. As always, Trinity United Methodist Church is thankful for the City Island community's continued support of the Budget Corner.

Rick DeWitt



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.org, call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Weight Watchers Meetings: Thursday evenings at 5:30 with Debbie. A new 17-week series will be starting Oct. 17. If you are interested in joining us for the meetings, stop by our open house on Oct. 3. We need a few more people to have the 17-week series, so don't hesitate. Join us and we can make it through the holiday season together. For more information, call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Teen Dance: Dances for teens in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Come join your friends for a night of fun. The dates for the dances are Oct. 19, Nov. 23 and Dec. 14, 7 to 10 p.m. The dances are free.

Monthly Parenting Discussions with John Scardina. We laugh, we cry, and we learn from one another: join us as we each share our experience, strength, and hope on this journey of parenthood! The next meetings will be Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

Family Bingo Nights: Come join us for a great night filled with laughter, joy and great prizes for the family. Friday, Oct. 11 and Nov. 15. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Bingo cards are \$5 and Community Center members get one free card.

Movie Nights return in October. Join Jay Howard at the Community Center for the adventure-filled movie "Kon-Tiki" on Wednesday, Oct. 16. Get your flashlights and a friend and come enjoy "Scary Movie" on Friday, Oct. 25, hosted by Eddie Castro.

The annual Haunted House will be Halloween night from 6 to 11 p.m. Come experience our horrific fun-pocalypse. A \$5 donation is appreciated.

NEW PROGRAMS

Feng Shui will be returning soon. For more information on this great program, call Barbara at 914-315-6556.

Scrapbooking classes and paper-crafting events with Desiree are coming to the City Island Community Center soon! Feel free to check out our website at www.demalihandcrafts.com or call 914-562-5857 for details.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

Jill's Playgroup: for pre-school children on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 12:30 p.m. No charge but donations are appreciated. Call 917-330-0922 for more information.

Art and Craft Classes: Starting on Thursday, Oct. 3, for pre-school from 1 to 2 p.m., for ages 3 to 5; K-2, 3:15 to 4:15. Six classes for \$125, including materials. Classes will feature painting, collage, paper sculpture, printmaking and many other projects that will ignite the imagination! The classes are designed to improve cognitive skills, confidence and creativity. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914-633-1695.

Introduction to Acting: Grades 3-6. These classes are designed for children to express themselves in a fun and warm environment with theater, songs and dance. Using lines from their original play, they

will learn how to create characters, giving them an outlet to bring their imaginations to life. The unique combination of dancing, singing and acting classes for children gives them a newfound confidence and fosters a love of the performing arts. A final performance for family and friends. For more information or to sign up, call Eileen at 914-633-1695. Leave a message! Don't wait until the last minute!

Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep:

For high school prep or just for fun! Taught by Geri Smith, former Laguardia High School teacher and exam auditioner. \$90 for five-week session, \$25 materials fee (after session ends students bring materials home). For registration or more information, call 718-885-1503.

ADULT PROGRAM

Zumba with Julia: Want to lose that belly fat? Well here is your chance to Zumba with Julia. It's a high energy Zumba workout with me for an hour. Saturday mornings from 10 to 11 a.m. \$10 per class. Call 917-601-5514. It's fun!

Zumba with Letti: Letti is a fantastic Zumba instructor who brings a lot of creativity and energy to her classes. Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Classes are \$10 or 5 class card for \$40.

Yoga Stretch with Norma: Thursdays at 7 p.m. This is an easy hatha vinyasa class suitable for all fitness levels. These Yoga Stretch poses helps remove any fears or challenges in doing these exercises, while it also assists with stress reduction and weight management. This class focuses on stretching and toning muscles that are often neglected, but so important to keeping you healthy and mobile. And best of all, Yoga Stretch is easy and fun enough for beginners, or those who just haven't exercised in a while. \$10.00 a class. Call 718-885-0535.

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

Aerobics with Mary: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9 to 10 a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793.

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

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

Sarah Persteins

American Legion Post #156

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

Our annual pumpkin sale will be held from Friday, Oct. 4, through Sunday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Pumpkins, flowers, shirts and other items for the season will be sold.

Save the date! The Military Ball will be held on Friday, Nov. 8, at the Villa Barone Manor. Details to follow!

We have many new shirts on sale. Stop by the Post and check out our new styles.

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

Vice Commander Mike Treat reports that membership dues are now due. They are \$45 and can be mailed or dropped off at the Post.

We want to thank Phil Tomsen and Jimmy Livingston, who recently covered the poles in the hall with rope. The hall now has a nautical flavor.

Football season is here. Come and watch your favorite teams on our many television sets. Also, come and check out our new floor.

The calendars are on sale for 2014 at \$20. Proceeds go to maintaining our home.

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

We have space for your next party. We can accommodate up to 100 people. Members receive a discount on all hall rentals. Call Joe Goonan at 718-885-1637.

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

We are in need of flag stewards to help put up the flags this year. Anyone interested should contact the Post at 718-885-0639.

On a sad note, we recently lost Ladies

Auxiliary member Eileen Moore. Eric Eckland is out walking the Island again after his recent fall. Peter Del-Debbio is recovering from complications that resulted from several recent surgeries. Jack Hartigan is doing well after recent laser surgery.

The Post would like to thank everyone for their continuous support throughout the year!

Thomas Lynch

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

At the beginning of September, we said good-bye to Fr. Alexander, who was with us for several months. He has returned to his work in Nigeria.

Our monthly holy hour will resume on the first Friday of the month, Oct. 4, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are invited to participate in this special period of prayer.

In honor of the feast of St. Francis, which occurs on Friday, Oct. 4, we will have the blessing of the animals on Sunday, Oct. 6, at 2 p.m. in St. Mary's school yard or in the school gym in case of rain.

Our monthly coffee hour will resume on Sunday, Oct. 13, after the 10 a.m. Mass. All are welcome.

Oct. 20 is designated as World Mission Sunday, a day of prayer for all missionaries throughout the world. It is also a day for each of us to reflect on how we can assist the mission of the Church by spreading the Gospel.

During this month, there will be a special meeting of parents of students in our Confirmation program. Parents and students will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 7:15 p.m. in St. Mary's school gym.

As October ends, we begin the month of November with the beautiful feast of All Saints on Nov. 1. This is a holy day of obligation, and all should make efforts to attend Mass. Masses at St. Mary's are at 7 and 8 a.m., 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island, Your Shul by the Sea, an unaffiliated, all-inclusive synagogue, offers a stimulating place for observance of Jewish traditions. The spirited congregation is led by our innovative Rabbi, Shohama Wiener, our joyful and musical associate spiritual leader, Reb David Evan Markus, and our multi-talented rabbinic intern, Reb Eva Sax-Bolder. For 80 years, Temple Beth-El has welcomed all who come to celebrate and pray here as our services embrace diversity at 480 City Island Avenue. We extend an invitation to the City Island community and beyond to join us at these events.

Friday night Sabbath services commence at 7:30 p.m. We use a prayer book written primarily in English with some text in Hebrew, also transliterated, allowing all words to be easily sung and read. Your Shul by the Sea Band offers a delightful quality to our services, and some of us are inspired to dance as we welcome the Sabbath.

Every Friday evening Temple Beth El opens its doors for Shabbat services. When the clergy is not there, services are led by congregants. Often our own Bob Berent and his wonderful accordion grace our celebration. Our special events and services for October are as follows: led by clergy:

Friday, Oct. 11, Shabbat Lech Lecha, 7:30 p.m. Rabbi Shohama, Reb David and Your Band by the Sea.

Friday, Oct. 25, Shabbat Chayei Sarah, 7:30 p.m. Reb David, Reb Eva and Your Band by the Sea.

Introductory Hebrew, five consecutive Thursdays beginning Oct. 3, 7:30 to 9 p.m.; taught by Justina Ora. Free for members and non-members.

Spirit of the Year class led by Reb David, second Wednesday of each month, 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Wed., Oct 9, at 7:30 p.m. Reb David's class on Sukkot.

Botanical Garden Walk on Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. with Reb Eva. In order to get free admission to the garden, you need to arrive between 9 and 10 a.m. We will meet by the front gate on Southern Boulevard at 9:45 a.m. Once in the gardens, we will have key Shabbat prayers, singing/chant-

ing, meditation walk and a picnic lunch. Attendees are asked to bring their own food and to RSVP to Mike Eiron at 718-792-3709 or e-mail Michaeleiron@optonline.net or Reb Eva lbolder@aol.com.

On Oct. 6, Baseball & Judaism, a lecture by Professor Stanley Rothman of Quinnipiac University at 3 p.m.

Oct. 20, at 3 p.m. The book club will discuss "An Island called Home: Returning to Jewish Cuba" by Ruth Behar. Please come, even if you have not read the book or have not finished it.

Shabbat Morning Learner's Minyan will be led by Reb Eva starting early in 2014.

Dates are subject to change, so those interested should check our website: www.yourshulbythesea.org for the latest updates. You can also call or e-mail Mike Eiron for further details at Michaeleiron@optonline.net.

Temple Beth El is a fragrance-free zone in consideration of those with allergies.

Ellen Ruth Topol

PSS Healthy Seniors

Fitness Program

Exercise is an important key to good health, especially for older people. We hope more seniors will join our wonderful and affordable exercise classes as listed below.

Zumba Gold with Dee, Mondays at 10:30 a.m. at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street; **Cardio Fitness with Mary,** Tuesdays at 9 a.m. at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue; **Arthritis Exercise with Patty:** Tuesdays at 10 a.m. at Grace Church Hall; **Yoga Stretch with Michael:** Thursdays at 9 a.m. at Grace Church Hall; **Fit for Life with Sarah:** Fridays at 9 a.m. at Grace Church Hall. Note: To make ends meet a little better, all classes will be \$3, except Arthritis Exercise, which will continue to be free.

Senior Writing Group

We cannot change the past. But we can write the story with a different ending. Come write out new endings and beginnings, too. Every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. Grace Church Hall. Call Gail for more information at 718-885-0444. No charge. All are welcome.

Volunteering

We are pleased with our many volunteers and appreciate their help in many areas, including clerical, computer, arts and crafts, visiting and help with parties and events to name a few. We welcome all new volunteers in helping make this senior center the absolute best for our seaside community.

Telephone Reassurance

If you live alone or know someone who lives alone, a telephone call everyday might be of benefit. Please call Debbie at 718-885-0727.

Caregivers Support

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

Transportation Services

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

Program Services

Call Patty at 718-885-0727 to receive our detailed monthly calendar featuring trips, events and activities. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services and the NYC Department for the Aging.

Patty Attis



Public School 175

Principal Amy Lipson is excited to be starting the 2013-2014 academic year with the following teachers: Mrs. Miskimmon and Ms. Bellon are teaching kindergarten, and Mrs. Stelman and Ms. Aiola will be working with the first-graders. The Grade 2 teacher is Mrs. Carter-Spencer, and Mrs. Cambria and Mrs. Mazzella will teach the third grade. Teachers in the fourth through eighth grades are Ms. Saldana, Ms. Lawless, Ms. Montenare, Ms. Espina, Ms. Baehrel, Ms. Greenspan, Mr. Scopp, Ms. Fitzmaurice, Ms. Heil and Ms. Ramos.

Mr. Sabatello will run the physical education department; Ms. McArdle is in charge of computer technology. The guidance counselor is Mrs. McDonald, and the parent coordinator is Mrs. Gisante.

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IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY

GEARING UP FOR WINTER

The autumnal equinox, the Day of the Dead, All Souls' Day. The hero's journey, separation, initiation, return, if one chooses to invoke Joseph Campbell. Death and rebirth. It is all connected, nature and us.

Fall rolls in, and we truly ache for a self-imposed hibernation. Time to relax, curl up, turn in, bundle up. Yet October is a busy month in the garden and a beautiful one in the Northeast. Shrubs and trees start their descent in a fiery finale, so water them well to give them a boost come spring. Cut down perennials at the end of the month but leave your grasses for winter interest. Some plants, like monarda and rudbeckia, look lovely with their brown seed heads and are a good source of food for the birds.

Man your rakes—no leaves left on the lawn—but let some remain in the beds, as they compost down to crumbly, nutritious leaf mold. This year I am planting alliums and miniature daffodils in drifts among the perennials. I am still adding the English bluebell every year to the woods, trying as best I can to create sheets of them. Brent and Becky has a great bulb color catalogue. Vegetable harvesting is bountiful this time of year, so bring on the soup.

I dry gourds for the next season to use as bird houses, and sometimes I spray them silver or gold for indoor decoration. You can pot up your herbs, such as thyme and rosemary, for your windowsill and dry or freeze them for future use. Dig up the cannas and dahlias and dry them in the sun; then store them in paper bags in your garage or anywhere that is dry, dark and cool.

Bales of hay and cornstalks provide lovely props for pots of mums and cabbage, and don't forget to seed some of



A spray painted gourd.

those fine half-hardy annuals like leucanthemum daisies, nigella, and the Legion of Honor red poppies. These tiny granules of life will be ready to crack open their shells come March and your plants will bulk up early.

I will be beating back the dismal dark with music to listen to, art to see, and books stacked high waiting to be read. Clocks fall back, the daylight diminishes and perhaps this season makes us sad, but nothing a little walk in the woods won't cure. One of the best things about this season is that the mosquitoes will be gone! Our culture promotes external busyness, but let's not forget the spaces between the work, the pauses, where the real work is. It is here, where one lies fallow, that creation and growth can begin. So Happy Autumn, my friends. Make hay while the sun still shines.

Mary Colby is a gardener and fine artist, whose studio and gallery, Fe Fi Faux, is on City Island.



Prestidigitators (a.k.a. Magicians)

The most famous of all stage magicians is Harry Houdini, and his life has been the subject of many a film. The classic film **Houdini** (1953) stars Tony Curtis in the title role as legendary magician/escape-artist Harry Houdini, and Curtis's real-life wife, Janet Leigh, as Houdini's wife, Bess. The movie follows Houdini's progress from sideshow entertainer to high-priced prestidigitator, and it also shows his efforts to expose phony mediums. Among the many inaccuracies in the film is that his actual death was from a punch to the stomach that ruptured his appendix. Both Curtis and Leigh were carefully instructed on the set by professional magicians, who swore the stars to secrecy concerning the tricks of the trade.

For a more accurate portrayal of Houdini's life, there is the TV movie **The Great Houdinis** (1976), which diligently avoids covering the same ground as the 1953 Houdini film biopic. Starring Paul Michael Glaser and Sally Struthers as the Houdinis, the movie focuses on the conflict between Harry's Catholic wife, Bess, and his Jewish mother (Ruth Gordon). The spiritualism angle re-creates Houdini's meetings with "true believer" Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Peter Cushing).

The documentary **Houdini** (2008) was made possible because a private collector auctioned off the largest collection of personally owned Harry Houdini artifacts and memorabilia, thus providing an unprecedented peek behind the curtain at the world's great showman and magician. The film explores the life and magic of the great escape artist through his most prized possessions: the Chinese Water Torture Cell, the milk can, his straitjackets and handcuffs, and lock picks that were "key" to his handcuff escapes, revealed to the public for the first time.

Turning to fictional characters, we have the classic film **Magic** (1978), starring a very young Anthony Hopkins as Corky, a rather sleazy, unsuccessful magician. When he turns ventriloquist and starts using the dummy Fats in his act, his agent, Ben Greene (Burgess Meredith), helps him become very successful. However, Corky becomes increasingly paranoid and tormented by the dummy. He eventually runs away to a Catskills resort, where he finds his unhappily married

high school girlfriend, Peggy Ann Snow (Ann-Margret). In preparing for the role, Anthony Hopkins took Fats home with him and was so freaked out by the dummy that he had to call the director to get it removed from his home in the middle of the night.

The title of **The Prestige** (2006), a film set in the late 19th-century Victorian era, is a term that refers to the climactic surprise with which a magician ends a successful trick. This is the story of a rivalry between two entertainers in search of the perfect "prestige." It stars Hugh Jackman as Robert Angier and Christian Bale as Alfred Borden. Both perform competing versions of the same tricks in different theaters and show up at each other's performances in disguise, sometimes to steal secrets, sometimes to sabotage tricks and cause public embarrassment. The film is filled with plot twists and visual sensations that upstage the acting. Also on hand are Scarlett Johansson as the lovely assistant, Olivia; Rebecca Hall as Borden's wife, Sara; Michael Caine as Angier's engineer and manager, Cutter; and David Bowie as the inventor Nikola Tesla.

Told in flashback by Vienna's Chief Inspector Uhl (Paul Giamatti), **The Illusionist** (2006) is the story of the philosophical and political duel between Eisenheim the Illusionist (Edward Norton) and Crown Prince Leopold (Rufus Sewell). Between them is the captivating Sophie von Teschen (Jessica Biel), Eisenheim's childhood sweetheart and Prince Leopold's possible future princess. The film is a fascinating investigation of the boundaries between politics, religion and art.

Although the eight Harry Potter movies and three epic Lord of the Rings films are filled with people performing magic, each is set in a time and place where magic is genuine and there is no sleight of hand to fool and audience. This year's films **Oz the Great and Powerful** and **The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** were great disappointments. In the former, the decent cast cannot overcome a script that lacks a sense of the magical. In the latter, it was really sad to see Steve Carrell, Steve Buscemi and Jim Carrey all try and fail to be funny.

Two recent documentaries profile teenagers in their quest to master prestidigitation. **Make Believe** (2010) follow finalists in the Teenage Magician Contest at the annual World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas. Contestants travel from Japan, South Africa, California, Colorado and Illinois in their quests to win a contest that will help them launch a professional career. The documentary visits their homes, gets their stories, talks to their friends and parents and trails them backstage in Vegas—but it mostly watches them practice relentlessly, over and over and over.

Magic Camp (2013) examines Tannen's Magic Camp, an annual weeklong July assembly of aspiring illusionists at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. The film follows a few young people who are working toward a big closing competition: a 15-year-old who overthinks onstage; a 12-year-old dyslexic; a 19-year-old with a history of Tourette's syndrome and attention deficit disorder; and one 16-year-old girl who is one of only seven girls among 96 boys in attendance.

The thriller **Now You See Me** (2013) recounts the adventures of a magician super-group, "the Four Horsemen," who manage to rob a bank in Paris without leaving their Las Vegas stage. The four are J. Daniel Atlas (Jesse Eisenberg), Merrit McKinney (Woody Harrelson), Jack Wilder (Dave Franco) and Henley Reeves (Isla Fisher). They are pursued by FBI agent Dylan Rhodes (Mark Ruffalo) and Interpol detective (Melanie Laurent). Also on hand are Thaddeus Bradley (Morgan Freeman), whose life is dedicated to debunking the fakery in high-end magic, and Arthur Tressler (Michael Caine), the group's rich, arrogant sponsor.

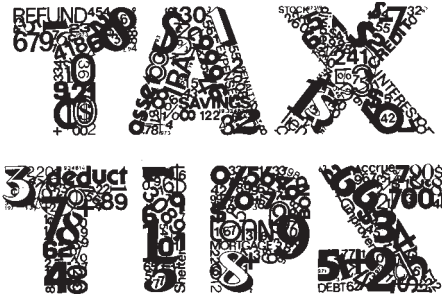
And until next time, happy viewing. . .

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

Beware of Tax Scams

Were you thinking about taxes as you enjoyed the warm summer months? Not likely! But the IRS wants you to know that scammers have never stopped thinking about taxes and devising clever ways to dupe you out of your money.

Tax scams can happen at any time of the year, not just during tax season. Three common year-round scams are identity theft, phishing and return-preparer frauds. These schemes are on the top of the IRS's Dirty Dozen list of scams this year. They are illegal and can lead to significant penalties and interest, even criminal prosecution.

Here's more information about these scams that every taxpayer should know.

1. Identity Theft. Tax fraud by identity theft tops this year's Dirty Dozen list. Identity thieves use personal information, such as your name, Social Security number or other identifying information without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may also use another person's identity to fraudulently file a tax return and claim a refund.

The IRS has a special identity protection page at irs.gov/uac/Identity-Protection and is dedicated to identifying theft issues. It has helpful links to information, such as how victims can contact the IRS Identity Theft Protection Specialized Unit, and how you can protect yourself against identity theft.

2. Phishing. Scam artists use phishing to trick unsuspecting victims into revealing personal or financial information. Phishing scammers may pose as the IRS and send bogus e-mails, set up phony websites or make phone calls. These contacts usually offer a fictitious refund or threaten an audit or investigation to lure victims into revealing personal information. Phishers then use the information they obtain to steal the victim's identity, access their bank accounts and credit cards or apply for loans. The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by e-mail to request personal or financial information. Please forward suspicious scams to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov. You can also visit irs.gov and select the link "Reporting Phishing" (irs.gov/uac/Report-Phishing).

3. Return-Preparer Fraud. Most tax professionals file honest and accurate returns for their clients. However, some dishonest tax return preparers skim a portion of the client's refund or charge inflated fees for tax preparation. Some try to attract new

clients by promising refunds that are too good to be true.

Choose carefully when hiring an individual or firm to prepare your return. All paid tax preparers must sign the return they prepare and enter their IRS Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN). The IRS created a webpage to assist taxpayers when choosing a tax preparer. It includes red flags to look for and information on how and when to make a complaint. For more information on this subject you can visit irs.gov/chooseataxpro.

For the full list of 2013 Dirty Dozen tax scams, or to find out how to report suspected tax fraud, visit irs.gov/uac/Newsroom/Protect-Yourself-from-the-Dirty-Dozen-Tax-Scams.

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.

Erna P. Italiano

Erna Pauline "Nanny" Italiano, who lived on City Island from 1946 to about 1960, passed away on Aug. 7, 2013, at the age of 87.

She was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, to the late Emmerich and Stephany Hodl. She was married to Matthew P. Italiano and raised four children on City Island. The family moved to Towson, Maryland, in the early 1960s and settled in the Baynesville area. Erna loved to square dance and to play cards and Scrabble.

She will be missed by her many friends, some of which were lifelong. Erna was preceded in death by her husband, Matthew; her daughter Christine V. Italiano; and her son Charles W. Italiano. She is survived by her sons Matthew C. Italiano of Oak Island, North Carolina, and John Italiano of Parkville, Maryland, and her grandchildren, Susan Mueller, Anne, Stephen, Nicole, David and Chris Italiano of Maine, and two great-grandchildren Mary and Claire Mueller.

Arthur Douglas Fenton

Arthur Douglas Fenton passed away on Sept. 13, 2013, at the age of 68 after a long battle with cancer. He lived on Bay Street until 1976, when he and his wife moved to St. Alphonse, Nova Scotia.

Arthur was the son of the late Arthur and Vivian (Trotta) Fenton. He was a kind, humble man and was devoted to his family. He worked at Comeau Sea Foods as a machinist for over 35 years. He was a passionate builder. When he wasn't building at work, he was building at home.

He is survived by his wife, Dianne; his sons and their wives, Keith and Sheila and Mark and Jacqueline; his brothers William, Robert, Glenn and Kenneth.

Linda M. Phelps

Linda Phelps, who grew up on City Island, passed away in Ocala, Florida, on

June 26, 2013, at the age of 81.

She was born in the Bronx to David Alenmore Smith and Eithel Westerdoll Smith on Sept. 9, 1931. The family lived on Carroll Street and Linda attended P.S. 17. Her father, known as Al, worked as an engineer on several yachts on City Island and then on Stella Polaris, owned by Lyman Short of Oyster Bay, where the Smiths moved when Linda was still in elementary school.

Linda went to Freeport High School in Freeport, New York, and graduated from SUNY Geneseo. She then became an elementary school teacher who taught throughout the United States and abroad, thanks to her husband's Air Force service. They moved to Ocala Palms in 2001.

Linda is survived by David, her husband of 57 years; her daughter and son-in-law, Jeanne and James Sobel of Washington, D.C.; her sister, Hazel Smith, of Ocala; and several nieces and nephews.



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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

OCTOBER 2013									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Tue	0344	1.18	0954	7.54	1601	1.07	2212	7.50	Tue 01
02 Wed	0419	0.90	1025	7.77	1638	0.67	2240	7.64	Wed 02
03 Thu	0446	0.61	1044	8.02	1709	0.27	2301	7.80	Thu 03
04 Fri	0512	0.33	1107	8.31	1741	-0.08	2330	7.95	Fri 04
05 Sat	0544	0.08	11.41	8.59	1817	-0.34			Sat 05
06 Sun	0007	8.05	0621	-0.07	1220	8.77	1857	-0.47	Sun 06
07 Mon	0049	8.06	0703	-0.09	1303	8.83	1941	-0.43	Mon 07
08 Tue	0134	7.96	0748	0.04	1349	8.72	2028	-0.24	Tue 08
09 Wed	0224	7.76	0837	0.29	1440	8.45	2123	0.07	Wed 09
10 Thu	0318	7.48	0933	0.64	1535	8.06	2229	0.43	Thu 10
11 Fri	0421	7.21	1040	0.97	1640	7.64			Fri 11
12 Sat	0007	0.65	0545	7.07	1229	1.09	1810	7.34	Sat 12
13 Sun	0129	0.58	0728	7.25	1357	0.80	1958	7.42	Sun 13
14 Mon	0234	0.33	0836	7.63	1503	0.31	2105	7.66	Mon 14
15 Tue	0332	0.03	0932	8.03	1600	-0.20	2201	7.90	Tue 15
16 Wed	0424	-0.24	1023	8.36	1653	-0.62	2251	8.05	Wed 16
17 Thu	0513	-0.39	1110	8.56	1741	-0.87	2338	8.08	Thu 17
18 Fri	0558	-0.41	1154	8.61	1827	-0.92			Fri 18
19 Sat	0022	8.01	0640	-0.28	1235	8.53	1911	-0.77	Sat 19
20 Sun	0104	7.84	0719	-0.02	1313	8.34	1952	-0.47	Sun 20
21 Mon	0144	7.62	0753	0.31	1347	8.08	2031	-0.07	Mon 21
22 Tue	0222	7.37	0815	0.67	1417	7.79	2105	0.37	Tue 22
23 Wed	0259	7.14	0833	0.99	1446	7.51	2130	0.78	Wed 23
24 Thu	0335	6.95	0907	1.27	1522	7.25	2151	1.11	Thu 24
25 Fri	0416	6.81	0951	1.53	1606	7.01	2231	1.36	Fri 25
26 Sat	0509	6.74	1042	1.72	1658	6.82	2321	1.51	Sat 26
27 Sun	0622	6.77	1141	1.80	1800	6.72			Sun 27
28 Mon	0019	1.55	0723	6.91	1250	1.70	1919	6.75	Mon 28
29 Tue	0120	1.43	0810	7.13	1407	1.40	2022	6.89	Tue 29
30 Wed	0216	1.19	0844	7.42	1505	0.97	2104	7.09	Wed 30
31 Thu	0304	0.87	0915	7.75	1552	0.49	2142	7.31	Thu 31
NOVEMBER 2013									
01 Fri	0347	0.52	0951	8.11	1635	0.02	2221	7.54	Fri 01
02 Sat	0430	0.19	1031	8.45	1717	-0.38	2303	7.74	Sat 02

All times are Eastern Standard Time beginning Sunday, November 3



Over 65 volunteers, many of them Girls Scouts and P.S. 175 eighth graders, pitched in at the Annual Beach Clean Up sponsored by the American Littoral Society and led by Islander Brenda Prohaska. The group collected over 25 bags of debris and gathered information for the Ocean Conservancy. Shown above is Patty Grondahl providing instructions to the Girls Scout volunteers.

Photos by JEFFREY GEORGE



PLAY BALL!

For the first time in a long time it looks as if there won't be any baseball in October around here. As *The Island Current* went to press, the Yankees were still clinging to a lifeline for the playoffs, but it didn't look good. And the Mets, well, let's just say that no one expected them to be anywhere near contention this year come October; and that they didn't disappoint. Again. So, for those readers experiencing withdrawal-like symptoms thanks to the lack of local baseball, we present to you here a window into a bygone era when baseball was played pre-professionally right here on City Island by teams like the Shamrocks, the Rivals and the Beldenites. The following excerpts have been culled from a newspaper that was published in Mount Vernon in the late 1800's called *The Chronicle*.

In an issue published in August 1884, it was reported that "the Beldenites went to Mamaroneck and played a game with the club of that place. 50 runs were scored, 31 by City Island, and 19 by Mamaroneck." Not to be outdone in terms of runs scored: "The Rivals of City Island played a game with the Pelhamville nine on Saturday last, which resulted in favor of the former, by a score of 42 to 11." Fans of the Mets and Yankees understand how badly either team could have used a mere two or three of those runs this past spring and summer.

Not to be outdone, the City Island Shamrocks "went to Willet's Point to score another victory—a complete whitewash," as one of the boys expressed it. Score 15 to 0." The writer went on to say about the

Shamrocks that "To-morrow (Saturday) they go to Brooklyn to play the return-game of the Y.M.A. of Bushwick Avenue." This happened in June of 1889, which is odd because in another earlier issue of *The Chronicle* the Shamrocks were said to have voted to change their name to the Minnefords.

The following was printed in December of 1888: "The Shamrock Baseball Club held a meeting last Friday night and voted unanimously to change the name of the organization to Minneford Baseball Club, the name by which City Island was originally known. They decided to have a ball as soon as Devaugh's new building is ready for occupancy."

The Devaugh referenced in the article was Joe Devaugh, a prominent City Islander at the time who had recently added on to a property of his. It was said of the addition that it was "sufficiently large for ordinary entertainments." No doubt those rascally Shamrocks knew an opportunity when they saw one. It is entirely likely that they had a few extraordinary entertainments planned that did not pass muster with Mr. Devaugh. Their party plans squashed, the Shamrocks-turned-Minnefords stayed the Shamrocks, after all. Or so it seems.

For pointing us in the right direction, we are once again indebted to Mr. Blake Bell and his Historic Pelham website. Mr. Bell has unearthed a boatload of bygone baseball stories that could be just the ticket this fall and winter for restless Met and Yankee fans, unable to contain themselves until spring training.

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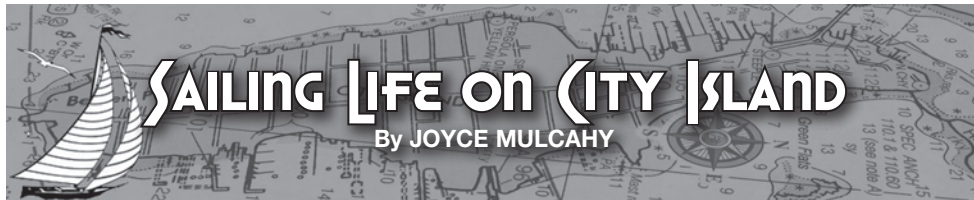
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SAILING IN OCTOBER

October may bring Long Island Sound a chill in the air, but it also blows in the one thing we sailors pine for most in late summer—wind! Regattas run this whole month in our area, and there is even a November Turkey Day Reach race out of Huguenot Yacht Club in New Rochelle. Many boats come out of the water in late October, however, and a collective sigh is audible from the sailing community. But what a great summer sailing season it was!

I began my first foray into ocean racing this year, competing aboard a 50-foot Aero Marine ketch sailboat named *Star*. We did the 186-nm Around Block Island race in May, and the 190-nm Around Long Island race in July. Lasting two to three days, these races are a test of perseverance and crew compatibility. During each of these races, the rain came down hard for many hours, and sleeping came in three to four hour shifts. Several mayday calls came over the radio in the Around Long Island race (not from us), and one boat had her floorboards covered in six inches of water! We contacted the Coast Guard to let them know we weren't too far and could come to their aid (as per maritime law), but other boats were closer and set out to rescue the damaged boat. Thankfully, all were safe.

On a leisurely cruise over five days, I traveled with friends aboard *Eagle*, a 33-foot X-Yacht sailboat, from City Island to Fishers Island, New York; Mystic, Connecticut; and Newport, Rhode Island. We sailed the first night in dense fog on a moonless night. Although we did not have radar on board our boat, we did have an instrument called a radar reflector, which "pings" back a radar signal to barges and other boats with radar.

Several barges in that long night would blast their resounding horns to let us know they were out there. In return, we sounded



Approaching the area where the ocean meets the Sound by Block Island.

our canned air horn. We did this a few times between us so we could tell the direction the barge was heading. Your imagination can have you seeing a giant barge emerge from the fog mere feet from your boat! Good thing it was only an overactive imagination and not reality.

The next morning, several hours after dawn, the fog lifted as we continued our cruising adventure on Fishers Island. On our return trip from Newport, the sky was so clear coming down the Sound that we could see the Milky Way. In moments like those, no one needs to speak as you take in the beauty of the water, wind and starry sky.

That trip was in early July, and here it is October. There are still sailing races and smaller day cruises to be had, but the season is coming to a close. Fortunately, if you live on City Island you walk a block and you meet a sailor, and the season past is immediately reflected upon, or the one to come is anticipated!



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



Magnolia Jane Mazzeo

A rare event occurred on July 6, 2013. Magnolia Jane Mazzeo was born in the courtyard of 190 Fordham Street making her a "true" clamdigger in the tradition of current residents Frank Hoffman and Gwyn Hopkins and the late Captain Ed Sadler. The baby was delivered by her father, now an honorary obstetrician. The proud parents are Drs. Jeannine and Arturo Mazzeo.

It's official! Alana Ribaldo is now a big sister. Brother Hunter Philip arrived on Sept. 17. Congratulations to thrilled parents, Philip and Danielle Ribaldo of Norwalk, Connecticut. Proud grandparents are Anthony and Stephanie Ribaldo of City Island and Joe and Donna Torre of Westchester; delighted great-grandmother is Anita Laterza of Cortlandt Manor, New York.

October birthday greetings go out to Joan Ramftl with love from your family. Happy birthday to my Grandma Joan! Love from Gianna!

Wishing a lifetime of happiness to Roger and Leah Nani, who were married on Sept. 7 at the Larchmont Shore Club. Ecstatic parents are Karen and Paul Nani of City Island and Fran and Mace Mentch of Cleveland, Ohio. The gang from Horton Street was also on hand for the wedding: proud grandfather Ducky Rauhauser, happy uncle Eric Rauhauser, and lovely Lyla MacDonald who was a junior bridesmaid.

Congratulations to Joseph Burck Jr. on his promotion from teller to personal banker at the City Island branch of Chase Bank. We all are so proud of you. Chris, Brenda, Ron, Herman and Margaret.

How could we forget? Newborn Arlo David Rota is also the great-grandson of Vera Thompson of Longwood, Florida, and George Rota of Madison, Wisconsin.

Happy October anniversaries to Mike and Judy Rauh, John and Linda Wright and Mike and Roseann Bunyan.

Birthday greetings on Oct. 10 to Hawkins Street's little Bob Carmody, who turns 17. All our love from Mom and Dad, Kelly, Grandma, Tiki and Alice.

Happy 28th wedding anniversary wishes on Oct. 12 to Bay Street's Bob and Maria Swieciki, with love from Stephen, Bobby and Maria.

Happy 23rd birthday wishes to Kelly Carmody, who will celebrate her big day on Oct. 20. With love from Mom and Dad, little Bob, Grandma, Tiki and Alice.

Happy 22nd birthday wishes to Mikey Carmody on Oct. 24 with love from your City Island family.

Happy 27th birthday on Oct. 29 across the miles to Sunjay Sebastian, with love from your City Island friends.

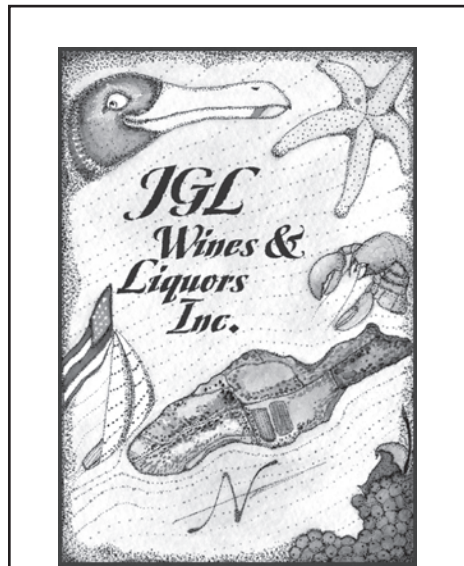
Happy anniversary to Mike and Amanda Libretto, who will celebrate on Oct. 1.

If you are running in the ING New York City Marathon on Nov. 3, or any other fall marathon, please call Judy Rauh at 718-885-2079 so that we can do a group photo for *The Current*.

City Island artist Lois Weingarten's "Masquerade" won third place for drawings in an exhibition held at the Rowayton Arts Center in Norwalk, Connecticut. You may be able to view it at www.rowayton-artscenter.org (the exhibition closed on Sept. 29). Don't miss Lois's America's Cup paintings at the City Island Nautical Museum, 190 Fordham Street.

And a very Happy Halloween to all. See you at the parade!

Maria Swieciki



358 City Island Avenue
City Island, NY 10464
jgl1358@verizon.net
718-885-0200



Photo by KIMBERLY COCCAGNIA

Roger Nani and Leah Mentch were married on Sept. 7, 2013, at the Larchmont Shore Club under sunny skies. Many City Islanders were on hand for the happy event, including (l. to r.) Eric Rauhauser, Ducky Rauhauser, Paul Nani, the bride and groom, Karen Nani, Mark Nani and Lyla MacDonald.



Lois Weingarten with her drawing "Masquerade" at the Rowayton Arts Center.



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