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One Dollar

Presidential Candidate Celebrates Birthday on City Island

By KAREN NANI



Former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani began his 63rd "birthday party" with breakfast at the Sea Shore Restaurant on City Island on May 29, 2007. The celebration was part of a four-borough campaign fund-raising swing promoting Mr. Giuliani's presidential candidacy for the 2008 national election.

Mr. Giuliani, a Republican candidate for President, was hosted by City Island residents Daniel and Sally Connolly. Mr. Connolly is a lawyer who worked in the former mayor's administration and is currently a director of Giuliani Partners.

The candidate arrived around 9:30 a.m. and was greeted by members of the media and enthusiastic flag-waving members of City Island's Cub Scout Pack 211, led by Angelo Bellocchio, Pat Branley and Peter Green.

Mr. Giuliani reminded reporters, gathered at the entrance, of his New York roots. "I was born in New York, went to college in the Bronx [Manhattan College] and attended law school in Manhattan [NYU]. I won't take New York for granted," he said referring to his run for the Republican presidential nomination.

After posing for pictures with the scouts, he was greeted with applause as he entered the Sea Shore's dining room. He shook hands with the 100 or so guests, including many Island residents, who welcomed him back to City Island, recalling his town hall meeting at P.S. 175 in 1998.

The former mayor was officially intro-

duced to the crowd by Mr. Connolly, whom he thanked, along with Herman Badillo, the former Bronx Borough President, who was also in attendance at the breakfast.

Mr. Giuliani began with some brief remarks about his candidacy. He reiterated one of his campaign themes—that having been mayor of the largest city in the country prepares him well to be President of the United States. He summarized his accomplishments as mayor by saying: "I made the city better, stronger and safer."

He then took questions from the audience. Exotiq owner and Chamber of Commerce officer Paul Klein asked about how he would handle the economy as President. Mr. Giuliani responded by saying that he will keep jobs in United States the same way he kept them in New York. He believes the United States could become a leader in developing ethanol fuel, for example, and export it to the rest of the world.

Islander Tom McMahon asked about how he would improve the veterans hospitals, given the recent revelations about the poor conditions at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. The former mayor cited his experience running the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation. "I ran the second largest hospital system in the country. The Veterans Hospital System is the largest," he said. Mr. Giuliani claimed to have made New York City's hospitals more efficient by reducing costs and providing better health care. He said the veterans hospitals need reorganization, and he claims,

he is the man to do it, based on his resumé of improving the city's system.

One audience member asked about the war in Iraq. "We cannot walk away," Mr. Giuliani told the crowd. "It would embolden terrorists, in particular in Iran, which is developing nuclear weapons. A hasty de-

parture could lead to a regional war and possibly interruption of oil production. This would be disaster."

Peter La Scala, president of the City Island Chamber of Commerce, expressed concern about jobs going overseas. The

Continued on page 7



Photos by RICK DeWITT and CINDY AUTH

Former New York City Mayor and Republican presidential candidate Rudolph Giuliani began a four-borough birthday celebration with breakfast at the Sea Shore Restaurant on Tuesday, May 29, 2007. He was greeted by members of Cub Scout Pack 211 (top right photo), a crowd of reporters (bottom left photo) and introduced by Islander Daniel Connolly (bottom right photo). Mr. Giuliani took questions from Islanders who attended the fund-raising event and posed with Mr. Connolly's sons, Nicholas and Robert.

EAGLES FLY!



Photo by RICK DeWITT

This year, the Boy Scout Troop 211 Eagle Scout Award Ceremony on Saturday, June 9, celebrated the achievements of five Eagle Scouts, a record for City Island. Pictured here (l. to r.) are scoutmaster Ed Esposito, Christopher Hennessy, Edward Ciarletta, Peter Coyle, Tom Delaney, Stephen Erosa and scoutmaster Waldo Persteins.

BRIEFLY...

JOIN THE "ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW" CAST.

Be a part of our one-night-only performance at the City Island Community Center. Become your favorite character. Don't just see the show—be the show. Auditions will be held on July 10 at 8 p.m. in the City Island Community Center, located at 190 Fordham Street. We need cast members, stage crew, make up artists, costume and wig donations. For more information, visit us at www.cityislandcommunitycenter.com or e-mail us at cityislandcommunitycenter@gmail.com.

MARITIME/WARRIORS FOOTBALL CAMP: Coach Clayton Kendrick Holmes of the Maritime College Privateers and Coach Jay Demers of the Warrior Football Club have announced the third annual football camp at Maritime College from July 23 to 27, and they invite players ages 7 to 14 to attend. Sessions will be held Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; campers will get two sessions of instruction, as well as time for swimming at the indoor pool, kayaking, softball, touch football and other activities. Participants may attend by the day (\$45) or for the whole week (\$175). All activities are monitored closely by Maritime and Warrior staff. For additional information or registration forms, call Coach Holmes at 917-817-7425 or Coach Demers at 718-829-7574.

CELL PHONE DEMONSTRATION: A gathering to protest the construction of cell phone towers on top of 205 City Island Avenue, across the street from P.S. 175, is being planned for Saturday, July 14. For information about time and place, send an e-mail to PaintCityIsland@aol.com.

CI to Get Special Summer Police Officers

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Captain William McSorley, commanding officer of the 45th precinct, announced to the City Island Civic Association at its May meeting that a special group of five police officers would be assigned to patrol City Island during the summer months, a program similar to that initiated last year.

The officers will be on duty from Wednesday through Sunday from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. or midnight, depending on conditions on the Island. Their duties will include traffic control, as well as usual patrolling and preventive police work.

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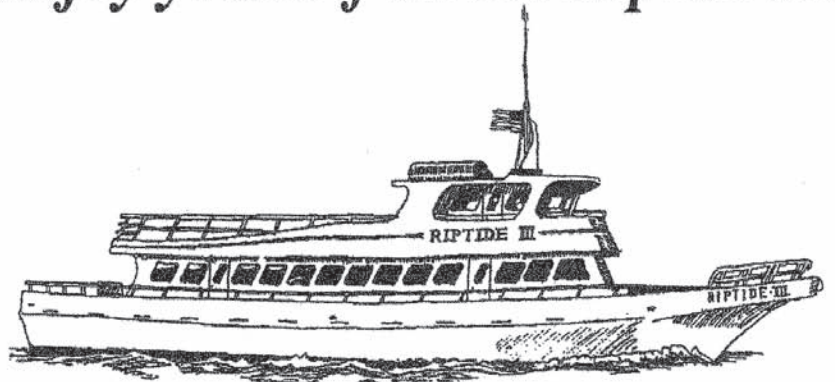
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Photo courtesy of NuConcept School Photography

Members of the 2007 graduating class of Public School 175. First row, bottom (l. to r.): Graduates Katherine Rosco, Elizabeth Balfe, Melanie Joseph, Marissa Ferris, Amanda Heffernan; faculty Karen Heil; Jacqueline Jensen; Amy Lipson, principal; Josephine Rondi, assistant principal; and Jeanne McDonald; graduates Imani Zelaya, Samantha Emmert, Danielle Bufano, Demi Salvo, Chanel Vazquez. Second row: Tina Gisante, parent coordinator; Peter McConnell, faculty; graduates Kristen Bligh, Amanda Connell, Melissa Pryor, Rebecca Taffet, Kristina DiIorio, Mariah Freyre, Kayla Faccilongo, Maria Radoman, Alyssa Molloy, Julia Doyle, Sarah Graves, Natasha Ivanov, Ariana Joubert, Romane Baker, Alexandria Kerr; Wayne Lafreniere faculty. Row three: Olaf Huerta, Henry Sanchez, Polii Tas, Nicholas Ivanov, Mark Lischinsky, David Anderson, David Butterworth, John Broughal, Vincens Miria, Stephen Caranante, Michael Scotti, Christopher Russo, Alexander Miccoli, Peter Longo, Tristen Criveau. Top row: Jack McCabe, Brandon Esola, Luis Lagos, Serxhio Zefi, Tomasz Wasik, Besnik Novovic, Salvatore Kulka, Nicholas DiMauro, Hart Deese, Andres Werkhoven, Ryan Pena, Nicholas Euvino, John Labate.

The Graduates of 2007

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

At St. Mary's graduation on June 15, principal Jane Dennehy made the following presentations.

The General Excellence Awards, with \$50 each donated by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, were presented to Jahsi Weste and Danielle Mitchell.

The American Legion Award with a \$100 savings bond from Post 156 for the best essay entitled "Should the American Flag be Protected?" was awarded to two students (a tie) Franco Ortiz and Kyree Hurd. A \$100 savings bond was donated by the Ladies Auxiliary of Leonard Hawkins Post 156 to Danielle Mitchell for the best essay entitled "Should Women Be Permitted to Serve in Combat?"

Awards were also given in individual subject areas, including the Religion Award to Benny Santiago, the Reading Award to Kasandra Ramirez, and both the Language Arts Award and Computer Award to Whitney Whitaker. Nicholas Forman received the Mathematics Gold Medal. Awards for Science and for Physical Education were presented to Dylan Blake, and the Social Studies Award went to Benny Santiago. Brittney Alston was the recipient of the Creative Writing Medal; the Art Award went to Ashley Rivera and Olivia Owens received the Music Award.

The AARP Chapter # 3303 Award for Most Improved Student and a \$100 check and certificate were presented to Nicole Waters; Gold Medals donated by St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church as well as a certificate from the Serra Club and a \$50 check donated by the AARP Chapter # 318, for service at the altar, were presented to Nicholas Forman and Benny Santiago.

The *Island Current* Catherine Scott Literary Award with a \$50 check was given to Whitney Whitaker. The St. Mary, Star of the Sea Home/School Association Award, given to the ranking top two students, along with a \$100 savings bond, was presented to Jahsi Weste and Danielle Mitchell; both students were also recipients of the NYS Senate Student Leadership Award from Senator Jeff Klein's office.

The St. John's University Women in Science Society Certificate of Recognition was presented to Danielle Mitchell, and the Comptroller of the City of New York William C. Thompson, Jr. Certificate of Recognition of Outstanding Overall Achievement and Service went to Whitney Whitaker and Olivia Owens.

Jahsi Weste and Nathali Garcia received the Triple C Award for Commitment, Character and Courage from the NYS Office of the Attorney General Andrew Cuomo. The NYS Office of the Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli Certificate for Leadership Potential

and Commitment to Service was presented to Nicole Waters, and the Farenga Brothers 2007 Community Affairs Award Letter was given to Benny Santiago.

The Principal's Award for the student who exemplifies the true spirit of St. Mary's, which included a gold medal and \$50 check donated by the Home/School Association, was presented to Nathali Garcia, and the Federation of Catholic Teachers Memorial Award of \$250 in memory of Peter Caddell was given to Olivia Owens.

The Computer Inc. Student of the Year Award for Excellence and a \$100 certificate was presented to Kasandra Ramirez. In the Computer Typing Contest for Speed and Accuracy, first place went to Kasandra Ramirez, second place to Whitney Whitaker and third place to Nathali Garcia. Honorable mention went to Brittney Alston, Kyree Hurd and Jahsi Weste.

Congratulations to all the award winners and all the 2007 graduates!

Public School 175

At the June 22 graduation ceremony, principal Amy Lipson made the following presentations.

The Mary P. Fitzpatrick Award for Academic Excellence was presented to Rupert Deese. The City Island Chamber of Commerce Award for General Excellence was given to Kristina DiIorio and Samantha Emmert, the NYCSPA Principal's Award for Excellence went to Kristina DiIorio, and Marissa Ferris was the recipient of the Lucrezia A. Fusco Award for Effort and Perseverance.

At the Awards Dinner on June 20 the following presentations were made: the UFT Citizenship Award for Academic Achievement and Character was given to Natasha Ivanov, the America Legion Essay Contest Award from Leonard Hawkins Post 156 was presented to David Anderson and the award from the Ladies Auxiliary was given to Ariana Joubert.

The Alice Persteins Award for Outstanding Service to School or Community went to Andres Werkhoven; the Alice Connolly Service Award was given to Kristina DiIorio; the Ena P. Ellwanger Award for Compassion, Humor, Integrity and Love of Learning was presented to Brandon Esola; Ariana Joubert was the recipient of both the Gloria Misurki Award for Fairness, Involvement and Concern for Others and the Catherine Scott Literary Award from *The Island Current*.

The NYS State Senate Jeff Klein Civic Award was presented to Brandon Esola; the Assemblyman Michael Benedetto Perseverance Award went to Nicholas DiMauro; the NYC Comptroller Achievement Award was given to Samantha Emmert and Tomasz



Photo courtesy of Life Touch

The St. Mary, Star of the Sea School graduates for 2007 are pictured above, top row (l. to r.): Brittney Alston, Bria Carter, Nathali Garcia, Yasmine Garcia, Elizabeth Miles and Danielle Mitchell. Second row: Olivia Owens, Kasandra Ramirez, Ashley Rivera, Nicole Waters, Whitney Whitaker and Dylan Blake. Third row: Nicholas Forman, Kyree Hurd, Francis Ortiz, Benny Santiago and Jahsi Weste. Bottom row: Fr. Michael Chalinor, Pastor, Ms. Jane Dennehy, Principal, and Mr. Peter Caddell, teacher.

Wasik; the NYS Comptroller Achievement Award went to Elizabeth Balfe.

The City Council Citation for Achievement was presented to Jonathan Labate; the NYC Commission on Women's Issues Leadership Award was given to Ariana Joubert; the CSA Award for Outstanding Leadership went to Rupert Deese.

Julia Doyle received the Christine Jorgensen Hansen Community Service Award; Alexandria Kerr was the recipient of the Blanche Schwartz Effort Award; the Philip Abinanti Award for Service and Leadership was given to Kristina DiIorio; the UFT Millie Scheintaub Award for Leadership and Service went to Tomasz Wasik.

The Association of Assistant Principals Certificate of Merit was presented to David Anderson and Katherine Rosco; the AARP Chapter # 3303 Award for Most Improved Student went to Imani Zelaya; the AARP Chapter # 318 School Service Award was given to Maria Radoman.

The UFT presented awards in individual subject areas: English Language Arts, Rupert Deese, Samantha Emmert, Ariana Joubert; Mathematics, Stephen Caranante, Kayla Faccilongo; Science, Mariah Freyre, Sergio Zefi; Social Studies, Kristina DiIorio, Rupert Deese, Samantha Emmert, Andres Werkhoven; Computers and Technology, Peter Longo, Katherine Rosco, Rebecca Taffet;

Foreign Language, Kristina DiIorio, Nicholas DiMauro, Kayla Faccilongo.

Regents Mathematics Awards were given to Rupert Deese, Kristina DiIorio, Samantha Emmert and Tomasz Wasik. Regents Science Awards were presented to Rupert Deese, Kristina DiIorio and Samantha Emmert.

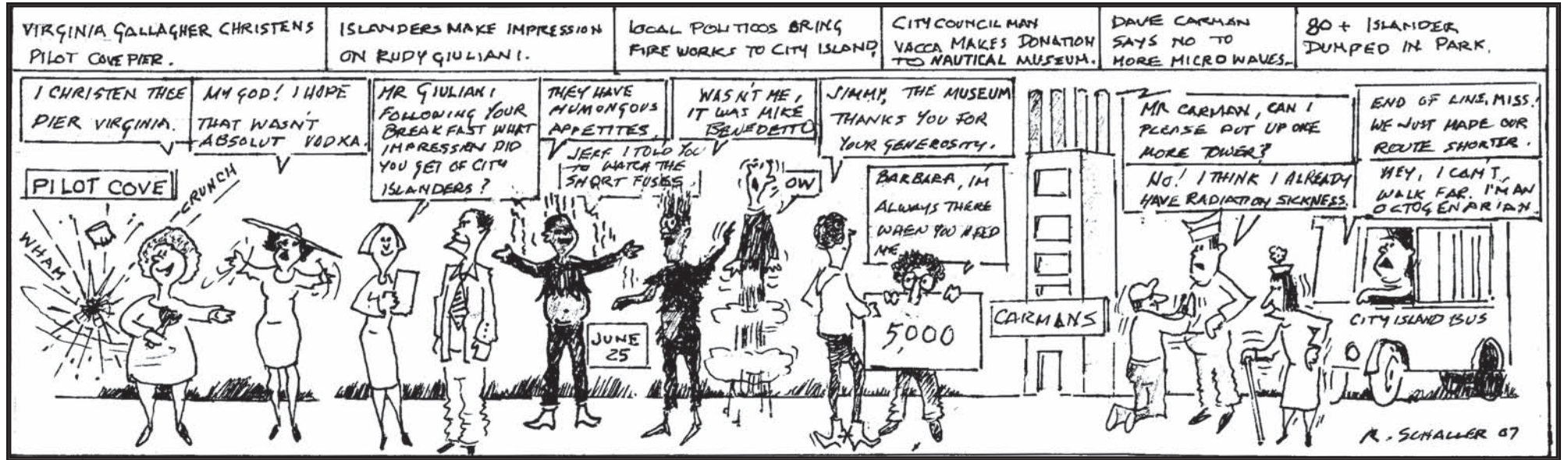
Physical Education Awards were given to Romane Baker, Olaf Huerta and Alyssa Molloy. Art Awards went to John Broughal, Ariana Joubert and Maria Radoman.

The Attendance Award was given to Besnik Novovic.

The P. S. 175 Academic Achievement Awards (honor roll) were given to Rupert Deese, Kristina DiIorio, Samantha Emmert, Natasha Ivanov and Andres Werkhoven. The P.S. 175 Effort Awards were presented to John Broughal, Nicholas DiMauro, Marissa Ferris, Mariah Freyre, Jonathan Labate, Besnik Novovic, Demi Marie Salvo, Christopher Russo, Chanel Vazquez and Imani Zelaya.

The P.S. 175 Service Awards were given to David Anderson, Elizabeth Balfe, Rupert Deese, Kristina DiIorio, Julia Doyle, Salvatore Kulka, Jonathan Labate, Jack McCabe, Alexander Miccoli, Maria Radoman, Tomasz Wasik and Andres Werkhoven.

Congratulations to all the 2007 graduates!



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.

Fans of Betty Boop and The Far Side

Copies of the following letters were shared with The Current.

Dear Michael Shanley:

Just got your article today and it was great! I did not know Helen Kane went to St. Anselm's (where I went, class of 1965, and my Dad, class of 1941). I also want to mention that the cartoon voice of Betty Boop was another South Bronx girl, Mae Questel, who also did Olive Oyl. You can find her at imdb.com.

Tom Casey

Dear Michael Shanley:

I live in Brussels and subscribe to *The Island Current*. I was born on City Island in 1950, grew up there and moved away in 1974. I regularly enjoy reading *The Current*; your column in particular is always a pleasure. "The Far Side of the Bridge" is highly interesting and offers unique reporting about Bronx County. Your writing is excellent; readers learn new facts and gain new insights about the Bronx.

Great work! Thank you.

Tom McGuire

Heartless Bus Driver

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

Mayor Michael Bloomberg
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

I wish to report to you an incident that occurred on June 17, 2007, near City Island in the Bronx, where I have lived for 41 years.

I was a passenger on the #29 bus from Pelham Bay Park to City Island at about 6:30 p.m. when the driver stopped at the traffic circle before the City Island bridge and told everyone to get off the bus. The traffic was very heavy because of Father's Day, and I guess he decided that he did not want to deal with it.

I am 82 years old and have a bad left leg. I walk with a cane and have great difficulty getting around. There was no way I could walk over half a mile to my apartment at 307 City Island Avenue.

The other passengers began walking but I could not follow them. Luckily, one of them took pity on me and tried to get

help from a police officer who was stationed near the entrance to the Rodman's Neck Firing Range. He told her he could do nothing to help.

We stood helplessly by the road as car after car passed us by, trying to outmaneuver each other onto the road to City Island. Finally, after about an hour, a City Island resident who was driving a car saw my situation, and she picked me up and drove me home. As we passed Cross Street, we saw a police van with several officers standing next to it. Surely one of them could have been called to help me at the circle. Surely one of them could have helped to prevent the traffic backup that the bus driver was unwilling to deal with.

I am sure you are aware that on summer weekends, City Island—a lovely small community—is invaded and overtaken by people who come to eat at the restaurants, and they cause us no end of noise, traffic and illegal parking. Although our Civic Association has repeatedly asked for police assistance or traffic agents to help direct traffic on busy weekends, no police officers from the 45th precinct were at the circle, which resulted in the traffic tie-up and caused many cars to speed down the fire lane.

The temperature was very high that Sunday and if it had not been for good Samaritans—residents rather than city employees—I might not have survived that horrible ordeal.

Anna Getely

cc: Commissioner Raymond Kelly
MTA Office of the Inspector General Barry Kluger

Cell Tower Response

Copies of the following letters were shared with The Current.

The Honorable Michael R. Benedetto
New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

Assemblyman Benedetto:

How can this be happening less than 100 feet from a NYC public school? Do something! Get these towers removed! Are my children going to develop tumors when they are 25 and have all the elected officials say "Well, we didn't know"? Ridiculous! Studies are needed on the safety of these towers. If you cannot say they are NOT a danger, then they should not be there. How can the FCC insist on brain cancer warnings on the cell phones but not on the towers that send the signal? They show complete disregard for our health!

Christine Scheurich Werkhoven

Dear Ms. Scheurich-Werkhoven,

Thank you for your e-mail in regard to the City Island telephone cell towers. I am unaware of any city or state regulation in regard to cell phone towers and their placement. At present, cell phone towers may be placed almost anywhere. In the City of New York, all a landlord needs to do is to file an application with the Department of

Buildings and they can place a cell tower atop the buildings. Several years ago Councilman Vallone tried to have a city regulation passed but got nowhere with it.

I have been working with Assemblyman Gianaris from Queens on state legislation on this issue, and we have introduced a bill (A5648C) that would prohibit the construction of cell towers until the Department of Health studies what the effects would be on various locales. We are working to enact passage.

Michael Benedetto, Assemblyman

Dear Ms. Freedman:

This is a follow-up to our telephone discussion of a short while ago regarding your recent inquiry concerning non-ionizing radiation from cellular phone transmission facilities. Your name and phone number were passed along to me as a result of your earlier call to Theresa Spano of EPA Region 2.

As I indicated when we spoke a little while ago, EPA has very little involvement in the area of non-ionizing radiation, a broad category which includes radiofrequency (RF) energy, the type emitted by cellular phones, phone towers, cordless phones, and wireless internet services. EPA responsibilities are essentially limited to some inter-agency committee work by our Washington D.C. headquarters office. There are, however, other federal agencies and State agencies which do have specific responsibilities or, at the least, considerable information regarding non-ionizing radiation in general and RF emissions specifically.

You can find much relevant information at the sites listed below. These sites are primarily devoted to radio frequency (RF) emissions and the agencies which regulate or otherwise have responsibility relevant to this type of radiation. These include the Federal Communications Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. You might also wish to contact the New York State Department of Health by phone at 518-402-7550.

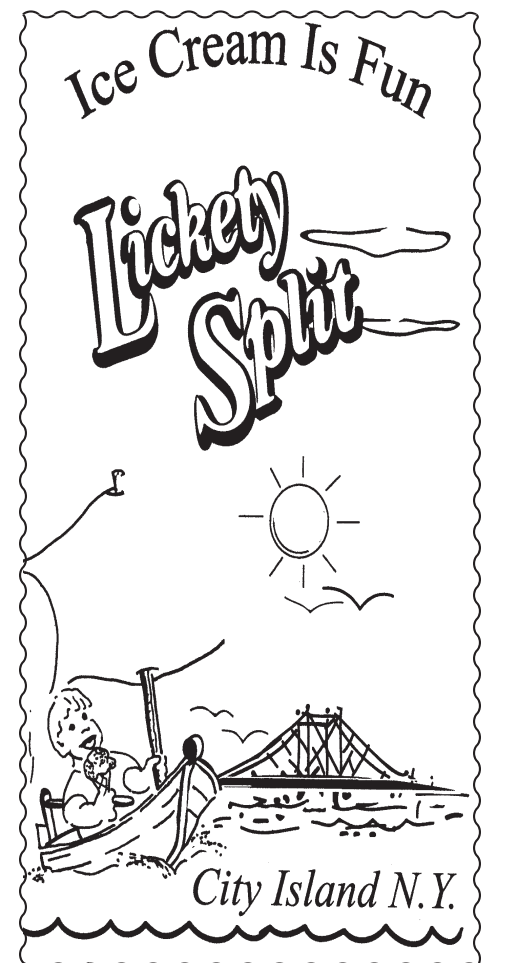
When we spoke, you indicated that there is a building in your neighborhood on which new cellular phone towers were constructed and that the owners and/or management of that structure made arrangements for the installation of the antennas with which you are concerned. You may wish to contact those building officials and make inquiries (either through them or directly) with the company or companies which effected the

installation and maintain the system. These companies should be familiar with the regulations and guidelines to which they are subject. They should be able to explain to you the status of their compliance with such rules based on the known output of the devices which they installed and any other measurements or calculations which they have made with respect to the devices installed in your area.

Finally, you may also wish to check with local municipal officials concerning any regulations or permitting processes to which RF installations might be subject. You can probably do this most easily by going to NYC's main website or simply calling 311 and getting referred to the appropriate City agency which handles these matters.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have problems reaching any of the contacts I have provided or otherwise wish to discuss this matter further, please call me at 212-637-3502 or send me a return e-mail message.

Michael DeBonis,
EPA Region 2 Radiation and Indoor Air Branch



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PARKING AVAILABLE

VACCA TO HOST SENIOR SERVICE DAY ON CI

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by LESTER MARKS

City Councilmember James Vacca announced a funding allocation of \$3,000 to the City Island Nutrition Program on May 24, 2007. Here he is joined by Mattie Page and Yolanda Carrillo (seated l. to r.) and Ann Squillante (standing).

Council Member James Vacca, in conjunction with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, will host a Senior Service Day at the City Island Library on Thursday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. This event will provide information on various city programs that assist seniors and provide health-related services.

"I want to encourage seniors from City Island to come out to this Senior Service Day and avail themselves of the services provided. There are many city benefits such as HEAP, Lifeline, and SCRIE that seniors are entitled to but don't access," Mr. Vacca said. "In addition, Visiting Nurse Service will be there to provide blood pressure screenings, information on healthcare proxies and other assistance for residents."

Mr. Vacca and his staff will be on hand to assist seniors with applications for:

- HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program)
 - Tax Exemption Forms for Senior and Disabled Homeowners and Tenants
 - Lifeline Program
- Social workers from the Visiting Nurse Service of NY will provide assistance with:
- Access-A-Ride Applications
 - Healthcare Proxies
 - Blood Pressure Screenings
 - Information on Medicare Advantage Program

The City Island Library is located at 320 City Island Avenue. For more information on this event, please call Council Member Vacca's office at 718-931-1721.

Pilot Cove's New Pier



Photos by DIANNE O'SULLIVAN

On Thursday, June 14, 2007, Virginia Gallagher presided over the official opening of the new pier at Pilot Cove Manor. The 300-foot long pier is for use by residents of Pilot Cove who enjoy fishing or strolling along Long Island Sound. Mrs. Gallagher is shown above addressing the crowd and accompanied by longtime Islander Ed Sadler as they prepare to christen the pier, built by an Island dock-building firm.

C.I. Yacht Club Celebrates Centennial

By FRANK HOFFMAN



Photos by ALAN ROCHE

The City Island Yacht Club celebrated its 100th anniversary on May 19, 2007, during its "Going into Commission" ceremony.

At its annual "Going into Commission" ceremony on May 19, 2007, members of the City Island Yacht Club took the opportunity to celebrate its 100th official year since its incorporation on April 23, 1907.

The club actually started up some years before that date, in 1903, when a group of sailors from the Harlem River organized a club that they called the "Millionaires' Club," although they adopted the City Island Yacht Club as the formal name.

In 1905 a clubhouse was set up in a building at the Herman Cordes Yacht Yard near Bowne Street, the present location of Seafood City. A member named Ike Tabor designed the club burgee, which was raised at this location for the first time on May 30, 1905. Julius Guttman became commodore in 1906, and in 1907 the club was granted a certificate of incorporation, with Samuel Smith as commodore. Dues were 50 cents a month.

In 1910 the club moved to Cross Street and City Island Avenue, where Jack's Bait and Tackle is now, and Robert Jacob, the shipbuilder, donated a flagpole, which had been the main mast of the yacht *Queen Mab*, which had had a major overhaul in 1901 at the Jacob yard. This pole was used at all subsequent locations of the club until it was replaced by the current steel pole in 1961. By now the dues had risen to \$12 a year.

In 1913, the club moved again, to the former home of Captain Charlie Barr, who set the record for crossing the Atlantic in his three-masted yacht *Atlantic*; he had won the America's Cup in 1901 sailing *Columbia* and again in 1903 sailing *Reliance*. On May 13 of 1913 the club went into commission. Its big race was held on June 1 for the Lannon and Schultz trophies.

In 1919, a new location was found, this time on west Pilot Street, on the site of the Pickwick, directly across the street from the club's present location. A merry-go-round windlass was set up on Pilot Street, and boats were hauled up the beach on wooden rails.

Two years later, the club moved into the house that is now its clubhouse on Pilot Street. Although membership had suffered because of World War I, the number of members grew considerably during the 1930s. The clubhouse was expanded, a dock was built and a marine railway installed. In 1930 property on Reynolds Street was acquired to expand the facilities. Commodore Henry Sayers, who owned Minneford Yacht Yard, started an interclub racing program, the forerunner of the Sayers series.

The club members breathed a sigh of relief when prohibition ended in 1933 and the club got its liquor license back. But the Great Depression caused sailing to decline, as did the club's membership. Nevertheless, sailing on City Island was significant enough to call for a weekly column in *The New York Times* during the season, and the names Sayers, Rodstrom, Hoffmann, Devereux and Callahan were prominent among the winning skippers.

Many of the club's members served in the armed forces during World War II, and after the war, sailing and membership grew again. In 1954, the club hosted the Atlantic Coast Star Class Championship, which was defended by Islander Herb Hild, who had won the trophy in 1953. Herb is the former owner of Hild Sails (now Doyle) and the father of current club member Hope Hild of sailboat *Harm's Way* and the uncle of the club's bookkeeper, Holly Hild Vincent.

In 1957, the club celebrated its golden anniversary under its commodore George H. Chadwick, grandfather of Rob Chadwick, Marguerite Chadwick-Juner and the Reverend Susan Chadwick, all current residents of City Island.

Although the City Island Yacht Club is well loved by residents as one of the most attractive spots on the Island, a favorite spot for weddings and special parties, it remains an active sailing club that looks forward to another 100 years.

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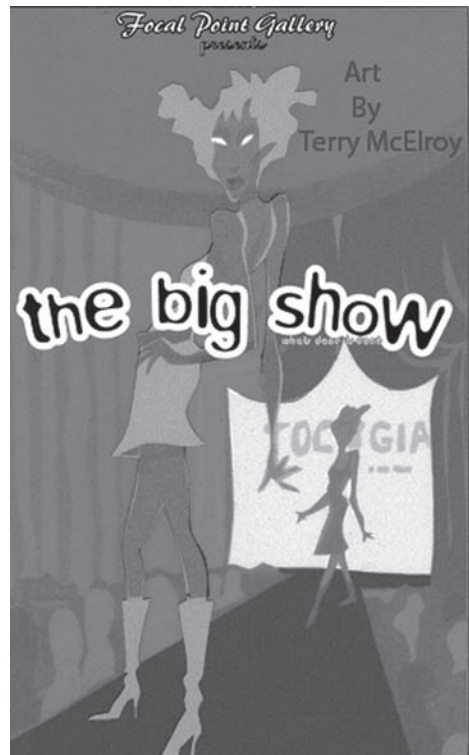
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If you have a new business, or if your old business is offering a new service, write to *The Current*, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464 by the 10th of the month.



For the month of July, the **Focal Point Gallery**, 321 City Island Avenue, will exhibit works of art by Terry McElroy. The opening reception will be Friday, July 6, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 718-885-1403.



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
461A Minneford Ave.	2/9/07	\$215,000	1 Family
95-B Schofield Street	3/5/07	\$360,500	1 Family
1 Landing Way	3/21/07	\$910,000	Condo
430 City Island Ave.	4/2/07	\$725,000	2 Family
16 Tier Street	4/2/07	\$925,000	1 Family
156 Marine Street	4/4/07	\$475,000	1 Family
81 Tier Street	4/30/07	\$700,000	2 Family
173 Rochelle Street	5/23/07	\$640,000	1 Family

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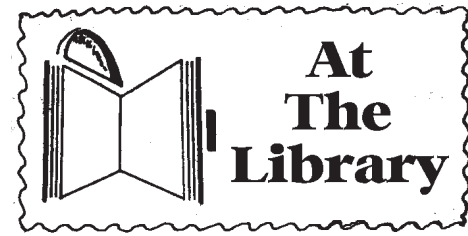
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The City Island Artists' show at Focal Point Gallery during the month of June attracted a crowd at the opening.



From the Children's Room

Caricatures: Wednesday, July 25, at 2 p.m. Learn to draw caricatures of your favorite celebrities and friends. Pre-registration is required.

Read Aloud: Every Tuesday and Thursday in July and August at 2 p.m.

Arts and Crafts: Wednesday, July 18, at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required.

Summer Reading Program: The New York Public Library's 2007 Summer Reading Program registration starts in June. "Uncover the World—Get a Clue @ Your Library" is the theme for this summer. Why sign up? Children and teens who read for fun during the summer start school ready to learn in the fall. At the end of the summer, children and teens will receive a certificate of participation.

As of July 2007, the City Island Library will be open six days a week. For information about any of the programs above, call Evelyn Gerges at the City Island branch at 718-885-1703.

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Presidential Candidate

Continued from page 1

former mayor said the global economy is good for New York and cited recent record tourist levels in the city, which in turn is good for businesses, restaurants, etc. He believes the U.S. can offer better products and services than the rest of the world and the rest of the world will, in turn, buy them.

In a lighter moment, cub scout Michael Bellocchio wished Mr. Giuliani a happy birthday and asked, "Why do you want to be President?" "For the same reason I wanted to be mayor," he responded. "I believe I can make it better—fix it, make it stronger and more secure. I reduced crime in New York City and improved quality of life." Then Mr. Giuliani joked: "I thought you

would ask about the Yankees. They haven't won [the series] since I left office in New York."

When asked about the recent immigration bill in Congress, the speaker stressed the need to cover the basics: to determine how many immigrants are in the country and whether they are here legally. He said the current system with more than "five different cards" is too complicated. He has no problem with people who want to work, pay taxes and obey the law. They are welcome and if they send money home to their family, "that's fine."

Among the many other Islanders in attendance were Mike Rauh, Jacqueline Kall, Arthur Rauhauser, Ed Sadler, Jane LaScala, Father Michael Challinor, Ed Heben, Mort and Violet Ellis and Helen McMahon.

FAIR WEATHER



Photos by RICK DeWITT

The annual summer Arts and Crafts Fair, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, was held under sunny skies on June 2 and 3, with nearly 50 vendors selling their works along City Island Avenue. There was music in Hawkins Park to serenade shoppers as they purchased paintings, photography, jewelry, flowers and other artful offerings.

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Organization News

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

Current Calendar

JULY

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

Saturday, July 28, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's Schoolyard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: barbecued or baked chicken with rice.

Tuesday, July 31, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

AUGUST

Saturday, Aug. 25, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: chef's salad (lettuce, tomato, cucumber, ham, turkey, etc.).

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

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, Sept. 4, **Pelham Masonic Historical Society Annual Meeting**, 8 p.m., 241 City Island Avenue. All members are welcome.

Friday, Sept. 28, **Annual Clabake sponsored by The Rotary Club of Bronx** from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Morris Yacht Club. The public is invited. \$15 per adult, children under 12 free.

City Island Republicans

The weather has gotten hot, just in time for petitions. Every year at petition time, the temperature travels up the thermometer. Currently, several club members are traveling City Island collecting signatures for the petitions. We need to collect signatures from the community in order to get the candidates on the ballot, so if one of our club members comes around asking for your signature, please sign the petition. Furthermore, this is a county committee year, and we need to get our county committee people on the county committee so that the Republican Party can remain an official party in the Bronx.

I am happy to report that, as of right now, the poll worker course will be given on City Island this year. Anyone who works the polls must take the class. There are many poll worker slots available. If anyone is interested, please call Fred Ramftl at 718-885-0984. The pay is \$200 for the primary, \$200 for the election, \$25 for taking the poll worker course, plus another \$30 if you work both the primary and general election.

Fred Ramftl

Garden Club

The next meeting of the Garden Club will be a luncheon/meeting for members on Friday, July 6, at 12 noon at the City Island Yacht Club.

The Garden Club is continuing to add plants and maintain planters at the library and other locations on City Island, including the Legion Triangle, Hawkins Street Park, the Welcome sign at Bridge Park and the City Island Nautical Museum on Fordham Street.

Phyllis Goodman

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

The annual Ushers' Dinner was held at the Lido Restaurant on Tuesday evening, June 19. Our honoree this year was Mr. Robert Branizza, who was recognized for 65 years of service to St. Mary's. A plaque was also presented to Marie Livingston in honor of her husband, Mort, who had also served as a long time usher in our parish and who passed away on June 3.

We welcome Fr. Alexander Iheonunekwu, who will be returning to us from Nigeria for the summer months. Father had served here at St. Mary's for more than five years before returning to his home country. He will be on duty here during July and August.

Some of our children will be participating in the Summer Bible School, which will be held at Trinity Methodist Church July 2, 3, 5 and 6. We wish them all a good experience.

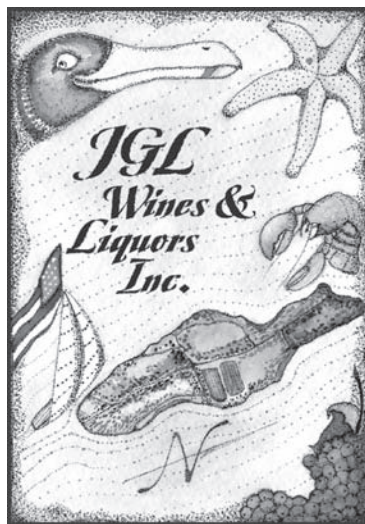
Our second annual golf outing, which was postponed from June 6, has been rescheduled for Friday, July 13. The day will begin at 7 a.m. at the Pelham Bay Golf Course. Tickets are \$125.00 per player, which includes breakfast and lunch at the course and a steak dinner at the Lido Restaurant. We hope that this new date will be convenient for many. For more information, please call John Livingston at 718-885-0903 or Jimmy Livingston at 718-885-3127.

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

Plans will get under way during the summer months for our Outdoor Mass on Sept. 22. This is always a lovely evening, and this year it will be part of the bicentennial celebrations for the Archdiocese of New York. Please mark your calendars.

Have a safe and pleasant summer!

Sr. Bernadette, osu



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Trinity United Methodist Church

Summer is upon us, and this is the time for vacations and lots of relaxing fun. The one thing we should be mindful of during the slow days of summer is that God never takes a vacation, nor does he slow down. Our worship services are still at 10 a.m. every Sunday. However, the children do take a vacation from Sunday school. All, including the children, are welcome at our services.

The Budget Shop officially closed for the summer on June 19, but we will have a Blast Off Sale sometime in July. Look for postings and come partake of some of the great bargains we will have to offer. We look forward to seeing you there.

Trinity would like to extend a sincere thanks to all who helped out at Budget this past year. The shop is an important part of Trinity, as well as of the community, and we hope that everyone reading this will spend some time this summer thinking about volunteering. Budget takes a lot of work, and we hope that some of you who enjoy shopping there would consider spending some time helping us out. If you are interested, please call Ellen Hebard at 718-518-7241, or Myra Martin at 718-885-1049.

We here at Trinity wish you all a safe, healthy and blessed summer. See you in September!

Anne Sill



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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rocky Horror Picture Show Auditions: Rocky Horror Picture Show Auditions: Be a part of our one-night-only performance. Become your favorite character. Don't just see the show—be the show. Auditions will be held on July 10 at 8 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room. We need cast members, stage crew, make-up artists and costume and wig donations. For more information e-mail us at cityislandcommunitycenter@gmail.com or call 718-885-1145.

Indoor Community Tag Sale: Will resume in September.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

Wonderkind Preschool: Where learning is child's play. Ages 2 to 5 years. Monday through Thursday from 12 noon to 3 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Eight-week sessions. Class size is limited to six children per session. To register and for continuous and up-to-the-minute information, go to www.wonderkind-preschool.com.

Ice Skating Ballet: Off-ice jumping

and conditioning and introduction to ballet. The cost of the class per week per student is \$24. If you have any questions or to register, please call Gina Robinson at 914-715-3229 or Lindsay Palazzo at 914-844-5424.

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

Martial Arts: Marrero's Martial Arts Academy teaches Tai Chi soft and hard, kickboxing, self-defense, self-discipline, physical fitness and tournament prep. Ages 7 and up. Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m. Call José at 646-671-7264.

Sally's Playground: Will resume in September.

Girl Scouts "Where girls grow strong" Troop #1075: A place for girls to come together and develop strong friendships to last a lifetime. Camping, sweetheart dance, Girl Scout cookie sale, Hall of Science and sleepovers are just a few exciting things that will take place throughout the year.

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

ADULT PROGRAM

TNT (Tuesday Night Tap): Adult jazz/tap classes. Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m. Call Corinne Grondahl at 718-309-8041.

Belly Dancing with Miriam: Thursday nights at 7 p.m., Sundays at 5 p.m. Call Miriam at 347-602-8968 for more information.

Aerobics with Mary: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Half-hour low impact



Photo by JENNIFER RIVERA

Russell Schaller and Barbara Dolensek, trustees of the City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum, were happy to receive a check for \$5,000 from New York City made possible by Councilman James Vacca (right).

at 8:30 a.m. and Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 to 10 a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793.

FAMILY PROGRAM & MIXED AGE GROUPS

Vilma's Music Together: Music and movement for children ages birth through 5 and adults that love them! Friday or Saturday from 10 to 10:45 a.m. For more information, call 718-882-2223, visit www.vilmasmusictogether.com or e-mail info@vilmasmusictogether.com.

Knitting Club: A club for women/children to learn and share their knitting skills. Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Call Carol at 718-885-3190 for more information.

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

Amy Gottlieb-McElroy

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El, "Your Shul by the Sea" (at 480 City Island Avenue, between Beach and Bowne Streets), is an all-inclusive egalitarian, multiethnic Jewish congregation with Sabbath services each Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

Rabbi Shohama and Cantor Elaine will lead the Kabbalat Shabbat services on Friday, July 6. Reb David Daniel and Cantor Elaine will lead the Kabbalat Shabbat services on Aug. 3. Bob Berent and/or Mort Ellis will lead the other services.

Our next event will be our annual summer dance (see below). Our Shabbat by the Sea (with optional dinner) is being planned for Friday, Aug. 17 (see our Web site for details when they become available or call 718-885-2820). Finally, our various classes, including yoga and tai chi, will resume in the fall.

Our summer dance will be held on Thursday, July 12, at the Stuyvesant Yacht Club (at the foot of Centre Street). Join us from 7 to 11 p.m. for an evening of music, dancing and refreshments. Hot and cold appetizers, plus coffee and tea, will be served. A cash bar will be available. Casual attire recommended and no partner required.

Advance tickets are available at Midtown Antiques and Exotica International Arts. \$18 for TBE members, \$22 for non-members. Otherwise, tickets will cost \$25 (for all) at the door. For information, call 718-885-2820 or 3090.

Have a happy, healthy and safe summer—and visit our Web site at www.yourshulbythesea.org

Bob Berent

Legion News

Looking back, Memorial Day was a great success, thanks to the efforts of General Robert Mennona (ret.), Bill Clancy, our commander Dave Carman and all those who labored to put it all together. More than 900 hot dogs were consumed and copious amounts of liquid refreshments. Commander Carman reported that although there was no official hot dog eating contest, it was obvious that comrade Tom McShane would have won.

Several photos of the parade appeared in the Bronx Times Reporter, and I was queried with regard to identifying the parade participants. On page 8, top left, the photo reading from left to right: comrade Michael Rauh, county commander Phil Crimmins and commander Dave Carman. I might add that all were in step. The photo at top right pictured Greg Penny and comrade Tom McShane. The photo below had county commander Phil Crimmins, Councilmember James Vacca, State Senator Jeff Klein, Borough President Adolfo Carrión Jr., Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, comrade Rauh and (incognito) comrade Joe Goonan.

Sick call has Linda Ulmer back in the hospital, comrade John Bunyan at home and comrade Joseph Bartels in the hospital after a tumble. Please remember them in your prayers.

We mourn the passing of past commander Mort Livingston, who was eulogized by his son-in-law, comrade Thomas McMahan, at a standing room only mass at St. Mary's.

We wish to thank comrade John Muhlfeld and the O'Sullivan family for their very generous monetary gifts to the Post.

You probably have noticed, by this time, that the siding and roofing have been completed. If you have not ventured into the bar, you will want to bring a sweater or jacket. The new air conditioning works great.

We are in the process of updating our list of those on active duty. Please let us know if you have a family member that we have not accounted for.

Winners of the Memorial Day raffle were Randy Peterson, first prize; Dennis Murphy, second prize; and Dennis Skea, third prize.

These will be the meetings for the summer months: executive board meets on Mondays July 9, Aug. 13 and Sept. 10; regular meetings will be on Mondays July 16, Aug. 20 and Sept. 17.

The installation of officers will take place at the regular meeting on July 16.

The commander and troops wish everyone an enjoyable summer. At ease until October.

Russell Schaller



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Robert Branizza: Duffer Par Excellence

By RUSSELL SCHALLER

Many Islanders know Robert (Bob) Branizza, longtime resident, World War II veteran and golfer of repute. Not a clam digger, Bob has resided on the Island since 1929, when he and his parents migrated here. I have known Bob for years, as my family migrated to the Island a year after his did.

Bob was the first subject of my series of vignettes about WWII veterans; you may have read about his interesting wartime exploits in *The Current*. He joined the Army Air Corps during the war with the hope of becoming a P-38 pilot, but he was selected instead to become a navigator on the heaviest four-engine bombers.

The Allies decided that the United States would handle daytime operations, while the British handled night operations. Our casualties were high, and many bomber crews were fortunate to survive even a few missions. And so it was with Bob, who was shot down on his fifth mission, a sortie over Berlin. Captured a week later, he was remanded to a prisoner of war camp and spent months in captivity before he was released by General Patton's Third Army at Mossberg, Germany, on April 28, 1945.

After he was discharged, Bob returned to City Island and married his wife, Donna (now deceased), and went to work for the New York Telephone Company. He purchased a corner lot at King Avenue and Tier Street and built a ranch-type house, where he raised his daughter, Jean, and a son, Robert. He lives in the same house today.

Not too many golfers (a.k.a. duffers) ever get a hole-in-one, but Bob has achieved two in six decades. His first ace was made at Green Lakes State Park in Fayetteville, New York, in 1951. After a hiatus of more than 50 years, Bob recently aced the 14th hole at South Shore Golf Course on Staten Island, where he has been playing for 20 years. He doesn't mind the commute, which frequently finds him on the road at 5 a.m.

Although Bob has had two hip replacements, he stands ramrod straight. Now 85 years young, this octogenarian plays 18 holes three days each week with other members of an early-bird golf club.

For his latest feat, Bob used a seven iron on the 115-yard, par-3 hole. Should you happen by and see Bob working in his garden, stop and offer him congratulations.



Selected Filmography of Cate Blanchett

Cate Blanchett is a phenomenal actress with an astonishing range, not seen in anyone except perhaps Meryl Streep. Born in Melbourne, Australia, in 1969, Blanchett made her first film in *Paradise Road* (1997), about female prisoners of war in the Pacific. She then almost immediately went on to receive an Oscar nomination for the title role of (Queen) *Elizabeth* (1998). She co-starred with Ralph Fiennes in the title roles in *Oscar and Lucinda* (1998), in which she played a strong-willed 19th-century gambler from the Australian Outback. She was featured as Lady Gertrude Chiltern, a manipulative Londoner, in *An Ideal Husband* (1999). She played Connie Falzone, a New Jersey Italian-American housewife in *Pushing Tin* (1999). In *The Talented Mr. Ripley* (1999), she appeared as Meredith Loague, a rich society girl.

Blanchett began the new millennium as Lola, a gold-digging Parisian showgirl, in the French film *The Man Who*

Cried (2000). She was especially believable as Annie Wilson, an Appalachian redneck with psychic powers in *The Gift* (2000). In *Bandits* (2001), she starred as Kate Wheeler, a kidnapped executive housewife who seduces both her captors. She had an abbreviated appearance as Petal, a disheveled slut from Poughkeepsie in *The Shipping News* (2001). In *Charlotte Gray* (2001) she played the title role of a British woman who parachutes into France and fights with the Resistance. She appeared in all three *Lord of the Rings* films (2001, 2002, 2003) as the Elf Queen, Galadriel. She also had the title role in the compelling story of *Veronica Guerin* (2003), a very reckless Irish journalist who was murdered by drug dealers in 1996.

As prolific as she has been since her performance in *Elizabeth*, I believe Blanchette's best work is her most recent. In 2004, she won an Academy Award as best supporting actress for her performance as Katharine Hepburn, the paramour of Howard Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio), in *The Aviator*. She is the penultimate scene stealer. Although there is no physical resemblance between the two women, she adapted familiar mannerisms and convincingly captured Hepburn's voice and accent. She also managed to humanize Hughes, a reputed womanizer. When she falls for Spencer Tracy and leaves the screen, we miss her in the story.

Babel (2006) is a movie that has four stories going at once until they are tied together at the end in a fascinating and believable way. The most prominent plot involves Susan (Blanchett) and Richard (Brad Pitt), an American couple visiting Morocco. Susan is shot in a freak accident, her husband tries to get her rescued. (Incidentally, I think Pitt's performance in this film is one of the best in his career.)

The Good German (2006) was not very well received because the plot is very confusing, but the lush black-and-white cinematography is the star of the film, seamlessly meshed with historic footage from post-WWII Germany. Nevertheless, Blanchette is extraordinary as Lena, a German wife who turns to prostitution in order to survive. When she first appears on the screen, she is almost unrecognizable because she immerses herself so completely into her character. This performance is like nothing she has ever done before, and it is little wonder that journalist Jake Geismer (George Clooney) has returned to Germany to find his lost love.

Blanchette received another Oscar nomination for her role as Sheba, a married art teacher who has a penchant for teenage boys in *Notes on a Scandal* (2006). The awesome Dame Judi Dench is Barbara, a spinster teacher at Sheba's school who wants to be more than just her friend. This is a riveting tale of obsession and desire, with performances by two of the most prominent actresses working today.

Blanchette's work includes her capacity to speak in the following accents: British, Elizabethan English, Edwardian English, Irish, Scots, Australian, French, German and a range of American accents, from Southern and Midwestern to New England and New Jersey. Her work runs the spectrum from queen to slut, with a wide, varied, international assortment in between. I suspect she will continue to surprise us with her wondrous range, so keep a look out for her both on DVD and at the cinema.

And until next time, happy viewing...



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Monday	At Sea	Sailing
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Wednesday	St. Johns, Antigua	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday	Bridgetown	9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday	St. Georges, Grenada	8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday	Roseau	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday	Tortota	7:00 am - 1:00 pm
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Obituaries

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



Mort Livingston

Mort Livingston

Mort Livingston, a resident of City Island for 56 years, died on June 3, 2007, at the age of 81.

He was born in New Jersey but moved to City Island in 1951 and soon afterward married Marie Paladino. They raised four children here: Jimmy, John, Helen and Robert.

Mort served in the U. S. Navy during World War II and was a past commander of the American Legion Post 156. He was a member of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, where a funeral mass was celebrated on June 7.

For the past 20 years, Mort and his wife wintered in West Palm Beach, Florida, but everyone in the family always looked forward to their return every summer. Mort was known as the "guy with the jokes" and always had a one-liner ready for anyone he met.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years and by his children and their spouses: Jimmy and Caroline Livingston, John and Ann Livingston and Helen and Tom McMahon, all of City Island, and by Robert and Karen Livingston of Silver Beach. He also leaves 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

June Russell

June Russell, 73, a resident of City Island, New York, lost her courageous battle to cancer on May 18, 2007, at Sound Shore Hospital in New Rochelle.

She was born June Boxman on May 16, 1934, in the Melrose section of the Bronx to Jack and Julia Boxman, the middle of three children, Gloria, June and Sanford.

She met her husband, George Russell, in the Arthur Avenue section of the Bronx and was married on Dec. 19, 1957.

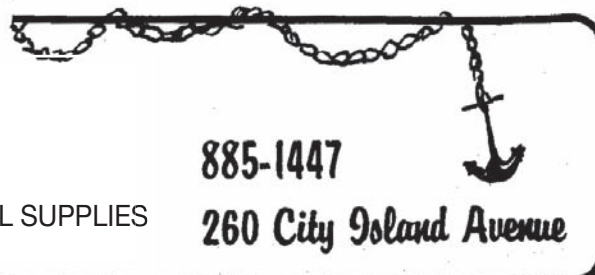
In June of 1967 she and George moved to City Island with their three children, George, Thomas and Dennis, and they had a fourth child, Peter, in June of 1970. June Russell loved the community and volunteered with the Ladies Guild and AARP # 3303. She loved being home on City Island surrounded by family and friends, and she found comfort in the view coming over the City Island bridge to her home.

June Russell is survived by her husband and her four children, George Russell of Yonkers, N.Y.; Thomas Russell of Tega Cay, S.C., and Dennis and Peter Russell of City Island. She is also survived by her four daughters-in-law, Jeannie, June, Diane and Phyllis Russell and seven grandchildren, Kelly, Michael, Paul, Jennifer, Julia, Lauren and John Russell.



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

New Tax Law: Will It Affect You?

President Bush signed the Small Business and Work Opportunity Tax Act on May 25, 2007. This law is part of a larger bill that provides funds for the troops and increases the federal minimum wage over a two-year period to \$7.25.

To help offset the cost of the increased minimum wage, the law provides a number of tax breaks for businesses. Some individual taxpayers may find their tax bills are

increased by the revenue raising portions of the law.

Here's a brief overview of the tax changes:

- The limit for the Section 179 election to expense business equipment purchases is immediately increased from \$112,000 to \$125,000, with the phase-out amount increased from \$450,000 to \$500,000.

- The Work Opportunity Tax Credit for hiring certain disadvantaged workers was set to expire at the end of 2007. The new law extends the credit through August 31, 2011, and broadens the credit to include more veteran groups.

- The FICA tip credit will continue to be based on the old \$5.15 minimum wage even though the minimum wage increases to \$7.25 an hour.

- Married couples who jointly operate an unincorporated business and who file a joint return may elect not to report their income as a partnership. Instead of filing a partnership return, they can each report their income on Schedule C of Form 1040.

- The age limit for the "kiddie tax," the taxing of a child's unearned income above a certain amount at the parents' higher rate, is increased from age 18 to 19. For full-time students, the kiddie tax will apply until age 24. This change is effective for tax years beginning after May 25, 2007, which for most taxpayers means the change will become effective in 2008.

Among other provisions in the law are tax incentives to help taxpayers recovering from Hurricane Katrina and some S corporation changes. Be sure to contact your tax advisor on how these recent changes might affect your business and personal tax planning for 2007.

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

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

Tide chart by Tom Smith

JULY 2007

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Sun	0654	0.2	1242	7.2	1841	0.8			Sun 01
02 Mon	0037	8.1	0725	0.0	1316	7.5	1924	0.6	Mon 02
03 Tue	0119	8.2	0801	-0.1	1356	7.7	2010	0.5	Tue 03
04 Wed	0205	8.1	0842	-0.1	1440	7.9	2100	0.4	Wed 04
05 Thu	0254	7.9	0926	0.0	1528	7.9	2153	0.4	Thu 05
06 Fri	0347	7.7	1014	0.1	1620	8.0	2252	0.4	Fri 06
07 Sat	0444	7.3	1106	0.3	1717	7.9			Sat 07
08 Sun	0003	0.5	0548	6.9	1205	0.5	1820	7.9	Sun 08
09 Mon	0129	0.4	0703	6.7	1314	0.7	1930	7.9	Mon 09
10 Tue	0247	0.2	0828	6.6	1438	0.7	2046	7.9	Tue 10
11 Wed	0353	0.0	0940	6.8	1552	0.6	2155	8.1	Wed 11
12 Thu	0451	-0.3	1041	7.0	1654	0.5	2255	8.2	Thu 12
13 Fri	0545	-0.4	1136	7.2	1750	0.3	2350	8.3	Fri 13
14 Sat	0635	-0.5	1227	7.4	1842	0.3			Sat 14
15 Sun	0040	8.3	0722	-0.4	1314	7.5	1930	0.3	Sun 15
16 Mon	0128	8.1	0807	-0.2	1400	7.6	2016	0.4	Mon 16
17 Tue	0213	7.9	0848	0.1	1443	7.5	2100	0.6	Tue 17
18 Wed	0257	7.6	0927	0.4	1526	7.4	2143	0.8	Wed 18
19 Thu	0340	7.2	1000	0.8	1608	7.3	2226	1.0	Thu 19
20 Fri	0425	6.8	1026	1.1	1651	7.1	2311	1.3	Fri 20
21 Sat	0515	6.5	1052	1.3	1737	7.0			Sat 21
22 Sun	0005	1.5	0614	6.3	1130	1.6	1830	6.9	Sun 22
23 Mon	0107	1.6	0717	6.2	1219	1.7	1929	6.9	Mon 23
24 Tue	0209	1.5	0818	6.2	1316	1.8	2024	7.0	Tue 24
25 Wed	0305	1.4	0912	6.3	1421	1.8	2113	7.2	Wed 25
26 Thu	0355	1.1	1001	6.5	1524	1.7	2154	7.4	Thu 26
27 Fri	0440	0.9	1043	6.8	1616	1.4	2228	7.7	Fri 27
28 Sat	0520	0.5	1118	7.1	1702	1.1	2302	8.0	Sat 28
29 Sun	0556	0.2	1147	7.4	1745	0.7	2340	8.2	Sun 29
30 Mon	0630	0.0	1217	7.7	1828	0.3			Mon 30
31 Tue	0021	8.4	0704	-0.3	1254	8.0	1912	0.1	Tue 31

AUGUST 2007

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Wed	0104	8.4	0741	-0.4	1334	8.3	1958	-0.1	Wed 01
02 Thu	0150	8.3	0821	-0.4	1418	8.4	2047	-0.2	Thu 02
03 Fri	0238	8.0	0904	-0.2	1505	8.3	2140	0.0	Fri 03
04 Sat	0330	7.6	0951	0.0	1557	8.2	2241	0.2	Sat 04
05 Sun	0428	7.2	1044	0.4	1655	8.0			Sun 05
06 Mon	0001	0.5	0536	6.7	1148	0.8	1804	7.7	Mon 06
07 Tue	0128	0.6	0709	6.5	1319	1.1	1934	7.6	Tue 07
08 Wed	0241	0.5	0833	6.6	1446	1.1	2055	7.7	Wed 08
09 Thu	0344	0.2	0939	6.8	1553	0.9	2200	7.9	Thu 09
10 Fri	0441	0.0	1036	7.2	1651	0.6	2255	8.1	Fri 10
11 Sat	0532	-0.2	1126	7.5	1743	0.4	2345	8.2	Sat 11
12 Sun	0618	-0.2	1212	7.7	1830	0.2			Sun 12
13 Mon	0031	8.2	0701	-0.1	1254	7.8	1914	0.2	Mon 13
14 Tue	0112	8.0	0740	0.0	1333	7.8	1953	0.3	Tue 14
15 Wed	0151	7.8	0814	0.3	1409	7.7	2029	0.4	Wed 15
16 Thu	0225	7.5	0839	0.6	1438	7.6	2058	0.7	Thu 16
17 Fri	0254	7.2	0852	0.8	1504	7.4	2120	0.9	Fri 17
18 Sat	0323	6.9	0914	1.1	1532	7.3	2150	1.2	Sat 18
19 Sun	0358	6.6	0950	1.3	1609	7.1	2232	1.4	Sun 19
20 Mon	0442	6.3	1034	1.6	1654	7.0	2323	1.7	Mon 20
21 Tue	0536	6.2	1124	1.8	1746	6.9			Tue 21
22 Wed	0029	1.8	0652	6.1	1222	2.0	1847	6.9	Wed 22
23 Thu	0205	1.7	0822	6.3	1328	2.0	1957	7.1	Thu 23
24 Fri	0309	1.4	0917	6.6	1442	1.7	2102	7.4	Fri 24
25 Sat	0359	1.0	1000	7.0	1547	1.3	2153	7.8	Sat 25
26 Sun	0442	0.6	1036	7.5	1640	0.8	2237	8.1	Sun 26
27 Mon	0521	0.2	1111	7.9	1727	0.2	2320	8.4	Mon 27
28 Tue	0558	-0.2	1148	8.3	1812	-0.2			Tue 28
29 Wed	0003	8.5	0636	-0.5	1227	8.6	1857	-0.5	Wed 29
30 Thu	0047	8.5	0715	-0.6	1310	8.8	1944	-0.7	Thu 30
31 Fri	0134	8.3	0756	-0.5	1355	8.8	2034	-0.6	Fri 31

SEPTEMBER 2007

DAY	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Sat	0222	8.0	0841	-0.2	1443	8.6	2129	-0.3	Sat 01
02 Sun	0316	7.5	0931	0.2	1536	8.3	2237	0.2	Sun 02
03 Mon	0417	7.0	1029	0.7	1638	7.9			Mon 03
04 Tue	0001	0.5	0541	6.6	1152	1.2	1805	7.5	Tue 04
05 Wed	0120	0.7	0716	6.6	1331	1.3	1943	7.5	Wed 05
06 Thu	0229	0.6	0828	6.8	1444	1.2	2054	7.7	Thu 06
07 Fri	0330	0.4	0929	7.2	1546	0.9	2152	7.9	Fri 07
08 Sat	0423	0.2	1021	7.5	1640	0.5	2244	8.1	Sat 08

Morris Yacht & Beach Club Commission Ceremony



Despite its lack of a clubhouse, the Morris Yacht & Beach Club on City Island's southern tip is still going strong. The club held its 108th Going Into Commission Flag Raising Ceremony on Saturday, June 9, 2007, to a large group of onlookers. While plans are under way to replace the clubhouse, which burned in March 2006, the club still maintains an active membership and continues to gain new members. A new travel lift will add to the attraction of boaters from all around Eastchester Bay. The club held its dinner dance at the Lido Restaurant. Pictured above (l. to r.) are Steve Lott (past Commodore), Steve Breines (past Commodore), Paul Laddomada (past Commodore), Diane Jecker (Commodore), William Gerhard (Vice Commodore), Carl Steiner (past Commodore), and Tex Stephenson (visiting Commodore Harlem Yacht Club).



Our Little Pearl

Don't drop your letters and packages and things into the new and very patriotic mailbox in front of the American Legion building. It's for flags, not mail. If you have an old flag in need of retirement, deposit it there and the guys at the Legion will see to it that it is appropriately laid to rest. Well done, fellas. And kudos to you for the new siding job. The place looks great!

Perhaps Jeffrey made the mistake of mailing his letter to us from the new mailbox. How else to explain why his letter dated the 18th of May was not received by us until the 18th of June? He wanted us to know about a wild turkey behind the Lobster Box restaurant. We hadn't heard and can only hope that it escaped the chef there.

We didn't hear the click of the click bug in our own backyard either, but we sure did see it. You'd think it had seen us, too, by the look of it, but those aren't eyes on its back; those are spots.

Christine and John wish they hadn't eyed the opossum on Minneford Avenue. One opossum is enough when you are not expecting one. A mother and its young holding on for the ride can be quite an unsettling encounter.

Has anyone else noticed the mockingbirds? The newly hatched chicks (listen for their high pitched screeching) have the adults on edge. We had one especially edgy parent whooping it up on Bay Street from dawn to dusk, making all sorts of interesting bird sounds. We have identified the monk parakeet (a.k.a. Quaker parrot), the Carolina wren ("tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea"), and even the "mew" of the catbird. Our neighbor Ilana claims to have

heard a cell phone in the mockingbird's vast array of mimicked calls. We believe it!

Christine went to the aid of what she thought was a red-tailed hawk on the side of the road. It probably had been hit by a car heading north onto the Hutch. The downed hawk turned out to be a great-horned owl. It also turned out that Christine wasn't the only one who noticed it. Both John and Maria saw it and, like Christine, thought it was a hawk. Hopefully, if the bird had owlets, they were strong enough to fend for themselves.

We read with a strong sense of satisfaction the story in the news about some horseshoe crab poachers who had been apprehended on Long Island. You may have noticed the horseshoe crabs last month: they come out of the water during the late May/early June spring tides (spring tide is when the tide is at its highest, under the full moon and the new moon) and burrow into the sand—female first, then the male—to lay and then fertilize their eggs. They have been doing it this way since prehistoric times. And now it seems that the blood of the horseshoe crab has medicinal value and that some nefarious individuals have been cashing in, contrary to what the law allows. No more. Agents from the Department of Environmental Conservation have been working overtime to put an end to this practice. More power to them, we say.

Here on the other Island, the one that counts—City Island—let's all try to stay within the law this summer. It's a small island and getting smaller, it seems. But if we keep to our common sense, everyone can enjoy all that our little pearl has to offer, particularly in summer. See you in September.

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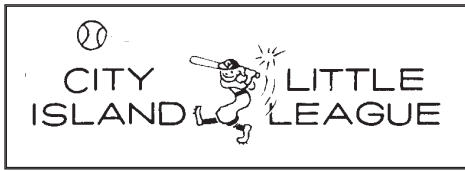
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The 2007 Little League season has come to an end. Although we had a memorable season at Astor, we are really looking forward to playing on our own turf come 2008.

Minors: Both AER Raiders and JP's Restaurant teams have finished their season, and a good number of players will be moving up to the next division in the spring. Both Raiders Coach Maria Piri and JP's Coach Kurt Ebinger pitched to their teams. In the beginning of the season, they racked up a lot of K's but towards the end of the 16-game schedule, both teams were knocked around a bit.

They saw some real promise from Raiders hitters Drew Cottam, Michael Valentine and Nicholas Texidor and fielders Deirdre Spencer and Matthew Cioffi. Connor Hanley-Piri was solid behind the plate and recorded the team's first double. JP's also had their fair share of hitters in Brianna Rodriguez, Joseph Cordaro, Nicole Ebinger, Christina Rice and future all-star Julian Gannon. Most dedicated players were the Raiders Michael and Christopher DeSantis and John Tomsen, who made all practices and games. Many thanks to the parents who helped out, especially Coaches George Spencer, Larry Saulnier and John Tomsen.

Junior Majors: Jack's Bait & Tackle finished the season with a 5-11-2 record, winning three and tying one out of their last seven games. In the last Sunday game, playing against the Padres, Jack's came back from a three run deficit to tie 4-4 in the sixth inning, with RBI singles from Emmett Shanley, Tommy Wright and A.J. Carrión. Pitcher Nick LaBriola had 13 strikeouts, including a 12-pitch, three up, three down fourth inning. The Iron Horse award goes to Sean Lyons, who not only made all 18 games, plus all practices (having your parents coaching helps), but played an additional two Junior Majors games and "played up" in two Majors games for a 22-game season.

Sammy's Fish Box has one game left to play as of press time, but the team's record



Photo by JOHN LYONS
John Tomsen of the Little League AER Raiders at bat.

of 13-4-0 has placed them in the top of the division. They continue to hit relentlessly in every game, beating the Yankees 22-2 and the Giants 18-2 in their last two games, with extra base hits from Andrea Amoroso, Danny Pirraglia and John Eric Valenti.

Majors: With only a few games left to play, American Legion's record of 9-5-1 puts them in second place and Ruggiero's and Sons 5-11-0 in sixth place. The Legion has secured a spot in the playoffs next week. Ruggiero's socked by weather, illness and school finals, was forced to officially forfeit three games. However, in Little League tradition, the forfeitures were played as scrimmage games, and Ruggiero's won all three. Even with a short staff, there were some sharp plays, including a two-out put-out at home by Nick Connolly. Ruggiero's had a spectacular come-from-behind victory against the Dodgers on June 12, with Joe Nochese as starting pitcher and Dylan Cullen in relief. Their pitching line-up has really settled in, thanks to starting pitcher Robert Pirraglia and reliever Nick Ruggiero for throwing some late season heat.

Juniors: The Junior Division All-Star game was held on Friday, May 25, with New Yorker Contractors own Brandon Esola, Kieran Spencer, Ryan Clark and Sal Kulka. The team, coached by none other than George Spencer, won by a stunning 10-0. New Yorker Contractors finished the season in second place with a 11-6-1 record. In the first round single-elimination game, they lost a 5-2 heartbreaker against Pelham Bay.

The summer leagues have begun forming and City Island already has several players on the Bronx Sharks of the Hutch River Bronx Baseball League. This is a high school level league for ages 18 and under and will be coached by Irwin Weinfeld and Tommy Vivolo. Some of the players are Robert Vivolo, Andrew McGuire, Jason Weinfeld, Karol Wojtczak, Andrew Micalski, Omar Salas and Keith Costanza. The July schedule is not out yet, but the Bronx Sharks will be playing at Rodman's Neck on Wednesday, June 27, and Thursday, June 28, at 5:30 p.m. Fans and autograph seekers are all welcome. The summer baseball teams for 12- to 13-year-olds and 9- to 10-year-olds are now being planned. If you have an interested player, please contact George Spencer (12 to 13s) or John Valenti (9 to 10s).

The City Island Little League's Trophy Day will take place on Saturday, June 30, 2007, at 10 a.m. at the Morris Yacht Club. Trophies will be awarded in all divisions and light refreshments will be served. We would like to thank the management at Astor Little League for allowing us to play at their field this year. A special thanks to City Island Little League president Bob Whelan for engineering the temporary move and to treasurer George Spencer for making sure we had the finances to make it happen.

Finally, Ambrosini Field is showing real signs of becoming a ballfield. If all goes well with the field construction this summer, we hope to announce the dedication of the field sometime this fall. Keep your fingers crossed and make sure those gloves don't collect dust this summer. Play ball!

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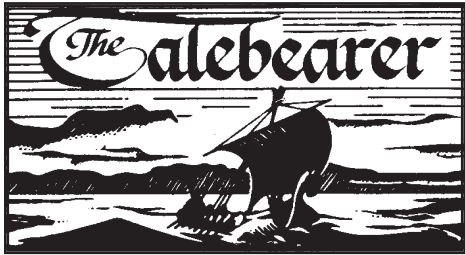
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Information for the Talebearer must be received in writing no later than the 15th of the month except July and December. Mail to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464; include your name and telephone number.

A fond farewell and much good wishes to the City Island School's Pete McConnell and Helja Harrison, who are both retiring after many years at P.S. 175. We will miss you both! Stephen, Mark, Danny and the rest of the P.S. 175 Class of 2000.

Happy Sweet 16 to Bay Street's Maria Christina Swieciki, who celebrates her big day on Aug. 22.

Happy first birthday on June 16 to Andrew Alexander. Proud parents are the Reverends Patricia (vicar of Grace Church) and Randy Alexander (rector of Christ Church, Pelham).

Congratulations to Scott and Joanne Meyer, who celebrated their first wedding anniversary on June 17. Mother Patty Alexander happily renewed their wedding vows since she was too busy to officiate on the wedding date last year (see prior announcement).

It's a boy! Congratulations on the May 10 birth of Michael Scott Quinto, whose proud parents are Theresa Pirraglia-Quinto and her husband, Scott Quinto. Thrilled big sister is Christina and proud grandpa is Salvatore Pirraglia, husband of the late Theresa Pirraglia.

Happy July birthdays to Susan Rauh and her sister, Beth Rota. It's a happy second wedding anniversary to Beth and Matt Rota, who were scheduled to come visit in June.

Best wishes for continued success to all the eighth-grade graduates of P.S. 175 and St. Mary, Star of the Sea schools.

Birthday wishes on July 9 across the miles in Missouri to former Islander and "Laurels" resident Dr. Ellen Dierenfeld, who now works at the St. Louis Zoo. Your Bronx Zoo and City Island friends miss you and your "boys."

Happy birthday on Aug. 30 to Bay Street's Samantha Emerick.

Happy July birthdays to Nicky Carmody (July 4) and his lovely wife, Laura (July 8). Love, Grandma Terry.

Happy July birthdays to Donny Kolb on July 25, Donald Kolb on July 26 and Billy Seiter on July 27. Love, Bella, Cody and Max.

Happy Aug. 24 birthday greetings to Mary Dannegger, who will turn 20. And happy birthday on Aug. 28 to Hans Dannegger.

Congratulations to Marissa Ferris on her eighth-grade graduation from P.S. 175 on June 22. Way to go! Marissa will attend Maria Regina H.S. in September. We are so very proud of you and wish you much suc-

cess in high school and through the years. Follow your dreams and success will follow! You are our shining star and we love you very much. Mom, Dad and all your family and friends.

Keep up the good work to Richard Ferris, who graduated from the U.S. Navy MA training school on June 20. Richard received his first orders and will be stationed in Atsugi, Japan, for three years as an MA3. However, he will be home in July for a two-week visit before he ships out and hopes to see as many of his City Island friends as possible. We are so proud of all you have accomplished in such a short period of time and wish you much success in all your future endeavors. Bravo, Zulu! All our love, Mom, Dad and your family and friends.

Congratulations to Civil Service Climber Pruner Christopher Martin, who recently passed his Climbing Test for the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Sign-up for Ladies Softball begins this September. For more information, please call either Cindy at 718-885-2998 or Candy at 718-885-9277.

James Russell Kearns, grandson of Russell F. Schaller, has joined the New York City Fire Department after three years with the New York City Police Department. He was appointed Nov. 10, 2006, and he wears his uncle's badge #4460. His uncle, Richard Kearns, a decorated firefighter, retired, was appointed Nov. 20, 1982. James Russell is assigned to Ladder 29, 138th Street and Cypress Avenue, which was the same house to which his uncle was assigned. James Russell, a.k.a. "J.R.," is the son of William and Marie Kearns. His maternal grandmother is Mrs. Dorothy Noble.

Congratulations to long time St. Mary, Star of the Sea parishioner Robert Branizza, a.k.a. "Hole-in-One Bob," who was recently honored for being an usher for more than 65 years. Bob began passing the basket before his tour of duty in the Army Air Corps during the Big Deuce, according to friend Russell F. Schaller. Back then, Bob recalls, weekly collections, for the most part, consisted of coins of the realm and were not silent as they are today with the envelope system.

Happy big birthday to Liz from Nick & Mom.

And to all our friends, neighbors and readers: We wish everyone a safe, happy and relaxing summer. See you in September!

Maria Swieciki

BLESSING THE 2007 FLEET



Photos by BARBARA DOLENSEK

The City Island Power Squadron and the American Legion Post 156 joined Island clergy for the Blessing of the Fleet on Sunday, June 10, 2007. Pictured above (l. to r.): Dave Carman, Andrea DeLuca, Bill Clancy, Sal Scotti, Father Michael Challinor of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Peg Morton, Gary Bieniewicz, Aliza Erber of Temple Beth-El, Hezikeigh Elliott, Mother Patricia Alexander of Grace Church and Patricia Serafinn.

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