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One Dollar

First Islander Inducted into Bronx Walk of Fame

By KAREN NANI



Photos by RON TURNER and courtesy of the BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

City Island resident Vincent Pastore was inducted into the Bronx Walk of Fame in May 2016. He was honored for his many acting roles in the theater, movies and television.



Vincent Pastore, a star of screen and stage and a City Island resident since 2000, is among the 2016 class of honorees for the Bronx Walk of Fame. Mr. Pastore joins more than 100 "homegrown heroes" who have been inducted since 1997 during Bronx Week and is the first City Island resident to be added to the Walk of Fame street signs lining the Grand Concourse.

So how did the actor and singer, most famous for his role as the mobster "Big Pussy" in the HBO series "The Sopranos," wind up living in City Island? His story of becoming a mussel sucker is interestingly intertwined with his acting career.

Mr. Pastore ("Vinny"), who turns 70 this year, grew up in New Rochelle but often spent time on City Island with, among others, his childhood friend Skip Giacco. In a recent interview with *The Current*, he said: "When Skip moved to City Island in 1987, I moved into his aunt's house in Pelham Bay for the convenience to Manhattan and auditions. Then in 2000, I moved to Fordham Street near where Skip and his wife, Louise, live."

When they were growing up, he and Skip had formed an a capella singing group called the "Crystal Kings," and they performed in different venues in the Bronx and New Rochelle. Mr. Pastore then made his living managing night clubs in New Rochelle, including Peachtree's and Dudley's Tavern.

But he had majored in dramatic arts at Pace University and always wanted to be an actor. So at the age of 42, he had had enough of night clubs and "decided to try acting full time," he told Miriam Kleinberg, who interviewed him for *The Current* in 2000. She described him this way: "Deciding to make acting your life's work at any age is a true act of courage. It is a serious, precarious business with an 85 percent unemployment rate. Anyone who tries it must have determination and a huge tolerance for repeated rejection."

Mr. Pastore's determination paid off, and he has received many roles and accolades over his 28-year career. He has appeared in numerous films, including "Goodfellas," "Carlito's Way," "The Godfather Part III," and two movies filmed on City Island: "Awakenings," the story of former resident, Dr. Oliver Sacks, and one of Angelina Jolie's first films, "Love is All There Is."

In addition to his television role on "The Sopranos," for which he won a Screen Actors Guild Award, he has appeared on "The Celebrity Apprentice" with Donald Trump. Mr. Pastore said it was a great experience, and he raised \$50,000 for his ex-wife's charity, the Lustgarten Foundation, which leads the battle against pancreatic cancer. Speaking of Mr. Trump's current presidential aspirations, Mr. Pastore said that he is not endorsing him, but he respects Mr. Trump and believes he would make a great leader.

Meanwhile, Mr. Pastore shows no signs of slowing down as an actor, writer and even producer. He has his own company, called the Renegade Theater Company, which has produced off-Broadway plays. His business partner is Maureen Van Zandt, the wife of Steve Van Zandt from "The Sopranos" and a member of Bruce Springsteen's E Street band. Their next show is called "40 CPS," which will open at the Cutting Room in Manhattan on June 27.

He appeared on stage in 2014 in Woody Allen's "Bullets Over Broadway." He also continues to perform in music with

the appropriately named Gangster Squad band. Their next show is at Resorts Casino in Queens on June 30.

Not bad for an actor with a very late start by today's standards. Mr. Pastore continues to win awards and roles. He was most recently honored by the Boys and Girls Town of Italy as Celebrity of the Year. "This was a nice award. My grandparents came from Calabria and Naples, and my father's family lived on Arthur Avenue in the Bronx." Although his parents have passed away, Mr. Pastore has a daughter, Renee, and a granddaughter, Maia, who live in Washington D.C.

His success as a working actor is matched by his enthusiasm for City Island

and the Bronx. "I love living in the Bronx. This borough is a great mixture of cultures and ethnic groups—a true cross-section of today's America. And my home, City Island, is growing each year. It's New York City's very own Martha's Vineyard."

In fact, Mr. Pastore purchased a home on Fordham Street in 2005, is a member of the Fordham Street Beach Club, and is thrilled that City Island is being featured more and more in films and television. "I love that shows like 'Billions' and 'The Family' have been filmed here along with movies like 'Solitary Man.' Danny DeVito came over to my house when they were filming that movie at the Diner. City Island is becoming Hollywood on the Sound!"

Rodman's Neck Renovation Put on Hold Again

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

New York City has done it again. Or rather, not done it. Over 23 years ago, the mayor assured City Island that the New York Police Department would construct sound abatement at the Rodman's Neck firing range so that neighboring communities would no longer have to suffer from the noise of gunfire. That promise was not kept, and this year, the very same promise was broken again when it was learned that a capital expenditure of \$150 million for the renovation of Rodman's Neck had been eliminated from the mayor's budget.

The Island Current has reported on this continuing saga for many years. In 1993, the Police Department asked local officials to have the parkland on which the range is located transferred to the NYPD and agreed that it would implement lead removal and sound abatement. The New York State Senate and Assembly approved the parkland alienation, and on June 22, 1993, Mayor David Dinkins wrote a letter to the speaker of the New York State Assembly in which he stated: "The City is committed to reducing the noise emanating from those operations to the maximum feasible extent. To that end, the City will undertake a feasibility study regarding the construction of effective sound barriers.... The City will make its best efforts to bid out and complete the study and construction within a year." (Lead removal was finally accomplished, but not for another several years.)

On June 1, 1994, Commissioner William J. Bratton wrote to Assemblyman Stephen B. Kaufman: "With respect to the development and construction of sound barriers at the facility, it is our intention to have Marcor Environmental pursue the development of noise attenuators."

On January 22, 1996, when nothing had been done, Mr. Kaufman filed a lawsuit on behalf of several City Island residents. He withdrew the suit, however, after receiving a letter on June 19 of that year from the Assistant Corporation Counsel, who wrote: "Funds have been allocated to the Police Department for fiscal year 1998 to implement a noise abatement pilot project at the range. Accordingly, we expect to begin the process of selecting a contractor and installing noise abatement measures sometime after July of this year."

On April 10, 1998, John J. Colgan, NYPD Deputy Commissioner, wrote to the

Civic Association: "Having transmitted our project proposal to the Department of Design and Construction earlier this week, it is the Police Department's reasonable expectation that project construction at all six range enclosure sites will be completed by September 30, 1999." The Civic was later informed that the pilot sound-abatement model was a failure and the entire project was abandoned.

On June 25, 2004, an officer of the Civic Association received a letter from the commanding officer of the Firearms and Tactics Section stating: "The Sound Abatement project, which is expected to lower the noise created by firearms training, is still tentatively scheduled for the Fall 2004."

On April 5, 2007, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly held a press conference regarding the proposed new police academy at College Point, Queens, and announced that the new academy would have indoor shooting ranges to replace the facility at Rodman's Neck.

On July 28, 2015, Commissioner Bratton acknowledged to the City Island Civic Association that he had decided not to move the firing range to Queens, blaming the City Council for not allocating sufficient funding. He said that he intended to establish a capital budget to renovate the range and that sound abatement would be a top priority. He confirmed that he had put \$28 million in the NYPD budget for fiscal year 2016 to cover the cost of designing the renovation project. (He reaffirmed this commitment in a letter he wrote to the Civic Association on March 16, 2016, but gave no schedule for the sound abatement aspect of the project.)

In April 2016, Council Member James Vacca reported that the NYPD had asked the mayor for a minimum of \$150 million in capital funding specifically for Rodman's Neck, although the schedule for the sound-abatement segment had not been announced. However, on April 26, Mayor Bill de Blasio released his version of the FY17 budget, and all capital funding for Rodman's Neck had been removed.

On May 23, at a City Council hearing, Mr. Vacca asked the commissioner to explain the lack of capital funding for

Continued on page 5

BRIEFLY...

THE BLESSING OF THE FLEET will take place on Sunday, June 26, beginning at 1 p.m. (1300 hours). Multi-denominational clergy will bless vessels from the Fenton Marine Dock with the cooperation and support of the City Island Power Squadron and the Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post. Participation is by water only and boats are to assemble at 12:30 p.m. at the Hart Island Ferry Dock in City Island Harbor. Communication on VHF Channel 71 begins at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 718-652-3056.

BPMM ADVENTURES: Children entering grades 1 through 6 are invited to spend a week at Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. this summer, having fun and learning about gardening, sustainability and local history. This unique program mixes core activities in the organic children's garden with exploration of the 19th-century mansion, the Northeast Woodlands wigwam and family life in both. Kids will also enjoy engaging crafts, wildlife investigations, creative cooking, nature hikes, and more. There will be three sessions (July 11-15; July 18-22; Aug. 8-12). The cost is \$210 per session; members \$180; scholarships are available. Register at least two weeks in advance by emailing or calling info@bpmm.org or 718-885-0507.

ATTIC TREASURES TAG SALE is being held at the Manor Club on Saturday and Sunday, June 18 and 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. You never know what treasures you may find as you explore the many assorted household items, jewelry, clothing, glassware, furniture, holiday items and much more! The Manor Club is located at 1023 Esplanade in Pelham Manor.

ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR: On June 4 and 5, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., the City Island Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the annual spring fair along the sidewalk from Bay Street to Schofield Street. Featured will be 50 or more artists, craftspeople and local businesses. There will be jewelry, candles, photography, painting, clothing, woodwork, glassware, skincare, face painting, food and more. Live music will be provided by the Lickety Split Band and roving musicians. For more information call Paul Klein at 718-885-9100.

"BACH TO THE FUTURE" is a concert that will be presented at Grace Church at 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 5. The group Sing We Enchanted will perform selections from the Baroque period through modern day accompanied by the Rockland String Quartet and harpsichord. Tickets are \$25, but you can get two tickets for \$45 at the Grace Church table at the Craft fair. For more information, visit gracecityisland.org or call 718-885-1080.

45 BLOTTER

Due to scheduling conflicts this month, *Blotter* information was not available. May incidents will be listed in the next issue.



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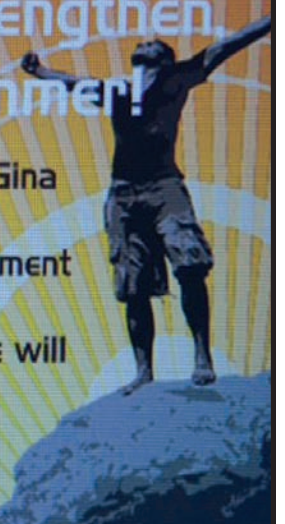

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NO LONGER A BRIDGE

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by MARK NANI

Demolition of the original City Island Bridge took a major jump in May 2016 as the first section connecting the bridge to City Island was completely dismantled.

The bridge contractor recently removed one complete span of the old bridge, along with several smaller sections, where the existing piers stand, and at the same time began preparing the foundation for the new permanent bridge.

Each span of the old roadway will be removed one section at a time. First the asphalt of the sections is cut with a powerful concrete saw, and then a core drill is used to carve out “pick holes” in the asphalt. These holes are support mechanisms that allow the contractor’s crane to grab the asphalt block and lift it off the deck. Once the top layer of asphalt is removed, the contractor’s excavator comes in to grab the excess debris.

With the span removed, the contractor can now mobilize the BG-30 drilling rig to install drilled shafts for the new bridge. These shafts will eventually be formed into piers that will support the bridge superstructure. There will be 8 drilled shafts in the water and 54 drilled shafts on land to enable the construction of a new east and west abutment for the permanent bridge.

The contractor recently began to build a cofferdam on the east side of the bridge,

a water-tight enclosure that will allow the construction crew access to areas that are normally under water. A construction crane helps to drive metal sheeting into the ground around the perimeter of the old abutment, and water will then be pumped out of enclosed section so the crew can work on building the new east abutment.

Renovation of the Catherine Scott Promenade seawall is well under way. Crews have removed broken elements of the façade and installed protective netting to prevent debris from falling into the bay. The crew is currently installing steel rebar into the face of the seawall.

Traffic control agents resumed duties on City Island on the Mother’s Day weekend and will stay through the summer in order to help mitigate traffic congestion. They are scheduled to be on site from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 1 to 10 p.m. on weekends.

Nearly all construction-related activities have been completed at Turtle Cove. The boxed culvert has been fully installed, and the roadway has been restored to four lanes of traffic. The few remaining activities involve parkland restoration, but this will not impact the community.

Road Resurfacing Starts on City Island

On or about the week of May 31, weather and field conditions permitting, the City of New York Department of Design and Construction (DDC) will begin a construction project to install some curbs, sidewalks and roadways on City Island. This project has an anticipated completion date of Fall 2016.

The streets on which the work will be done include: Minneford Avenue between Cross and Kilroe Streets; Kirby Street between King Avenue and the dead end; Ditmars Street between City Island Avenue and west end of the street; Ditmars Street between Minneford and King Avenues; Beach Street between Minneford Avenue and the dead end; Bridge Street between

Minneford and City Island Avenues; Tier Street between City Island Avenue and William Avenue; Marine Street between City Island Avenue and the dead end on the east; Minneford Avenue between Sutherland and Bridge Street; City Island Avenue between Bridge Street and City Island Avenue. Work scheduled on this project includes some curbs; some sidewalks; milling and paving

The DDC is committed to maintaining a work site that is safe and clean. However, dust, noise and heavy equipment are common elements of construction, and the department asks for patience during the project. There may be limited street access on certain blocks, but deliveries to residential properties and emergency vehicle access will be allowed. Pedestrian access to houses will be maintained at all times. Street parking may be temporarily interrupted in order to complete construction. “No Parking” signs will be posted.

The contractor is permitted to work between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., but typical work hours will be Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There is no night or weekend work expected on this project. For more information, call the Community Construction Liaison, Ms. Brianna Benitez, at 646-565-9223 or e-mail Sand349fmccl@gmail.com. Visit the NYCDDC web site at www.nyc.gov/DDC. During non-construction hours, please contact the New York City Government Services and Information Hotline at 311.

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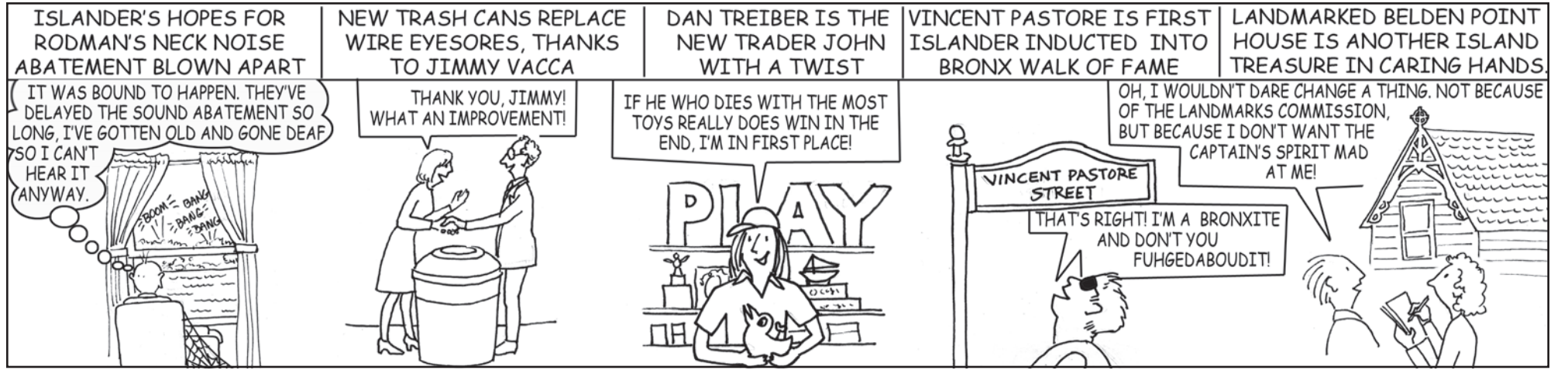


Photos by RICK DeWITT and ETHEL LOTT

Construction of the new bridge prevented the annual Memorial Day parade on May 30 from completing its usual route to the monument by the bridge. So organizers from the Leonard Hawkins Post 156 changed tactics and placed a wreath on a makeshift memorial in front of the American Legion hall on City Island Avenue, along with the traditional stops at Hawkins Park and Pelham Cemetery. Commander John Muhlfeld and Chaplain Joe Goonan led the remembrances of those who died in conflicts past, including the 400 City Islanders who lost their lives in different wars (the highest percentage for a single community in New York State). The armed forces were represented in City Island’s 2016 parade by sailors from the *USS Bainbridge* and the *USS Farragut* (with Island veteran Bill McGee, top photo), as well marines from the *USS Bataan* and from Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. The Ladies Auxiliary; the Saffron United Pipe Band from Babylon, Long Island; the City Island Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts; and members of the Garden Club and the Little League were also among the marchers. Mayor Bill de Blasio sent a proclamation declaring May 30 as “City Island Memorial Parade Day.” Sons of the American Legion commander Walter Natiw and Ladies Auxiliary president Annemarie Rogers (bottom photo, third and fourth from left) greeted Community Board 10’s John Marano, Assembly Member Mark Gjonaj, State Senator Jeff Klein, Joe Goonan and Assembly Member Michael Benedetto in front of the memorial, as everyone breathed a humid sigh of relief that the rain had stayed away.



On Saturday, May 14, 2016, the Bronx Tourism Board presented the 2016 Bronx Tourism Award to the City Island Chamber of Commerce; accepting the award were (l. to r.): Jo Heck, Chamber treasurer; Maria Caruso, Chamber tourism chair; Louise Giacco, Chamber first lady; Olga Luz Tirado of the Bronx Tourism Council; Skip Giacco, Chamber president; Janine Franciosa, Chamber consultant; Paul Klein, Chamber vice president; and Vincent Pastore, who was inducted into the Bronx Walk of Fame at the awards ceremony.



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.

City Island Gateway Project

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

Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, Department of Transportation, NYC

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg,

A group of City Island citizens has been working for several years on a project we call the City Island Gateway Project, which involves rehabilitating DOT-controlled and private property next to the City Island bridge for public recreation and environmental education. Briefly, we would like to develop the property in concert with the City of New York to create a recreational area adjacent to Pelham Bay Park/Orchard Beach, which will include family-oriented activities such as kayak rentals and eco-tours, bike rentals, fishing boats, scuba diving, arts and music, healthy food restaurants, dock-and-dine possibilities and educational programs.

The community as a whole and all of our elected officials (see attached letter signed by all) are in support of such a project, which we feel will enhance the entrance to City Island and improve access to features in Pelham Bay Park, along with creating jobs and cleaning up a city-owned site that is derelict and in serious decay. It is a fire hazard and an eyesore.

Councilman James Vacca's office has been trying for months to set up a meeting with you and our group to work out a plan for the property. It would be incredible to have this property refurbished at the time of the opening of the new City Island Bridge, but without a commitment from DOT, we are unable to move forward in obtaining donations to fund the purchase of the private parcel, which is surrounded by the city property and is crucial to the success of our plan.

I am hoping that this letter will explain our urgency to meet with you in the near future in order to move this wonderful project forward. A Monday or Friday meeting is preferred due to our work schedules. We would like to coordinate the meeting with Councilman Vacca, who has been supportive of our cause.

Thank you for your consideration. We know that your time is valuable.
Susan Bellinson

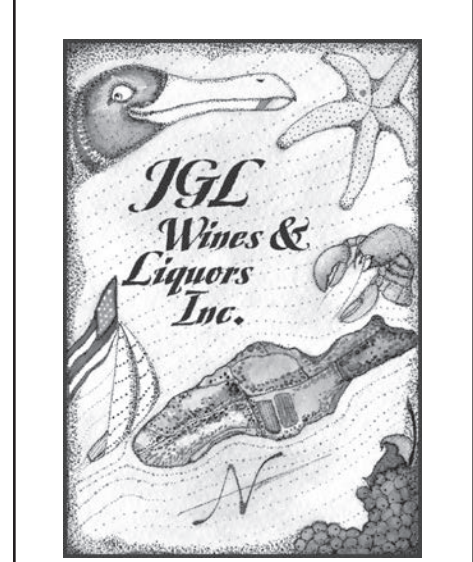
sidewalk and the other straddling mine and my neighbor's sidewalk. The tree boundaries have been marked off on my sidewalk and green stickers were affixed therein to relay the glad tidings. Fresher air! More scenic! However, I'm reluctant to share in the enthusiasm because:

- 1) I haven't had a tree on my front sidewalk since buying the place 16 years ago;
- 2) We haven't asked for a tree;
- 3) My wife doesn't want a tree;
- 4) I don't want a tree.

I therefore have several questions for you. How did I win the tree lottery? How does the city decide who gets a tree? What if I don't want any trees? Who pays for the sidewalk restoration after said trees are planted? Do I need a lawyer? What about my neighbor across the street who tells me he doesn't want a tree either? And how soon does this process take? My wife and I have tired of life in the Big Apple, thanks to the present mayoral administration in particular and quality of life issues in general, and this may be the impetus that makes me, the last member of my family still residing in the Bronx, to up and go.

I look forward to your reply.

Anthony L. Roccamo



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Objections to Indiscriminate Tree Planting

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

Dear Councilman James Vacca:

First, congratulations on your successes to date.

Second, I came home two or three weeks ago to learn from my wife that New York City has decided to grace my front sidewalk with two trees, one wholly on my

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Photo by FRED RAMFTL JR.

On Monday, May 16, 2016, a brush fire in front of the day-hab center south of Cross Street drew several firefighters to the scene, along with ambulances and police officers. The fire leapt up to a balcony above Archie's Tap and Table next door, but the fire was put out quickly and there was little damage. The congestion caused by firetrucks on City Island Avenue, however, caused traffic to back up for some time.

Rodman's Neck

Continued from page 1

Rodman's Neck, but Mr. Bratton did not respond. An NYPD Deputy Commissioner for Budget began to explain that the design portion of the project had not been completed so the budget could not be determined, but Mr. Vacca disputed that assessment, reviewed the history of the Rodman's Neck project and stormed out of the hearing.

NBC news followed up the following day by interviewing Mr. Vacca at Rod-

man's Neck, as well as a resident of City Island and a teacher at Villa Maria Academy in the Country Club area who reported that the constant noise of gunfire made the students nervous. Mr. Vacca made no secret of the fact that he is furious with both the commissioner and the mayor.

The commissioner was asked by *The Island Current* for his view of the latest situation, but no response was forthcoming.

Officers of the City Island Civic Association now recognize that the only recourse may be a lawsuit demanding that the promises made over two decades ago are finally kept.

City Island and Trees

The NYC Department of Parks & Recreation informed *The Current* on April 25 that a tree in Ambrosini Field next to P.S. 175 had been vandalized the previous weekend. The bark on the lower half had been completely peeled off around the tree's circumference, guaranteeing imminent death. Parks will have to remove and replace the tree, as the department is responsible for all trees on public property in the city.

Representatives of the Parks Department ask that anyone witnessing a tree being damaged call 311. Removing or damaging a tree's protective layers of bark and inner skin can expose its sap to parasites and fungus, which can have harmful long-term effects, including death.

Many residents have noticed recently that their sidewalks have been marked for tree planting (see letter on page 4). Parks forestry experts regularly review streets where there are few trees and request new ones, or they respond to residents who wish to have new trees planted. Once the sites have been selected, they determine the appropriate species and work with the utility

companies to be sure there are no conflicts. A resident who does not want a tree can call 311 to place the request.

Parks takes responsibility for planting the tree and restoring the sidewalk; the department also makes certain the newly planted trees are sufficiently watered during the first few weeks. In especially dry periods, however, watering by residents is welcomed. The planting contractors are responsible for the care of the trees for at least two years. The cost for the program is borne by the city through the MillionTreesNYC program.

A resident who notices that a tree's roots have damaged his or her sidewalk may call 311, and Parks will evaluate the damage and make repairs as necessary. For more information about sidewalk repair visit <https://www.nycgovparks.org/services/forestry/trees-sidewalks-program>.

If a sidewalk tree branch poses a hazard to a house, wires or other property, a call to 311 will result in a visit from a Parks forester to evaluate the damage. Last year Parks hired a pruning contractor to remove branches from sidewalk trees throughout City Island. It is illegal, however, for any private resident to prune, cut down or seriously damage any of these trees.

Serving CI with Cookies and the Community Center

By KAREN NANI



Photos by PAUL NANI

Islander Brenda Prohaska was surrounded by her friends and family as she was honored at the 45th Precinct's Community Council annual breakfast on May 11, 2016 (top photo). She was introduced by John Doyle (bottom photo, left) and congratulated by Bronx Borough Commander Larry Nikunen and 45th Precinct Commanding Officer, Danielle Raia.



A large contingent of Islanders cheered as clam digger Brenda Brennen Prohaska was honored at the 45th Precinct's Community Council annual breakfast on May 11, 2016, at Villa Barone Manor. She was cited for her leadership of the City Island Community Center and her work with the Girl Scouts.

Brenda was introduced by John Doyle of the City Island Civic Association, who is also the Sergeant at Arms for the 45th Precinct Community Council. John described Brenda as a "community activist who has done more than anyone else to improve the situation for youth on the island."

Brenda was born in 1971 and grew up on City Island. She left for a few years to live in different places, including Westchester, Florida and Las Vegas, but she moved back in 1996. She and her husband, Mike, currently live on Centre Street with their three children, Dusty, Russell and Travis. Brenda has been involved with the Community Center on Fordham Street for 15 years and is currently president of the board. She is also the Girl Scout cookie manager for the northeast Bronx and led a troop on City Island for over 10 years.

She is well known for her "blast e-mails" alerting Islanders to yard sales and other events of interest. Brenda currently works for the charitable organization Part of the Solution (POTS) on Webster Avenue, which runs a program that helps struggling families in the Bronx.

In her acceptance remarks, Brenda told the crowd and other honorees that "I love living in the Bronx, and I'm overwhelmed by the amount of support by the many Islanders that came to the breakfast."

New York City Council Member James Vacca called Brenda a "sparkplug" and described her as someone who frequently steps up to volunteer when no one else does. Brenda's efforts extend beyond City Island as a team leader for the Breast Cancer Walk at Orchard Beach and coordinator for the beach cleanup done by the American Littoral Society.

A special guest to this year's breakfast was NYPD Commissioner William Bratton, who acknowledged the honorees and praised the efforts of the Bronx Borough Commander Larry Nikunen and the 45th Precinct Commanding Officer, Danielle Raia.

The annual 45th Precinct event has honored City Islanders in the past. Last year, Paul Nani was recognized for his efforts as traffic coordinator for the Civic Association, and the previous year Skip Giacco was honored; both of them attended the 2016 breakfast.

Other honorees at this year's event included Bishop Angelo Rosario of the Church of God's Children; Lynn Gerbino, Throggs Neck Community Activist; Hanna Acampora of Community Board 10; Father Robert Grippo from St. Theresa's Church; and Alan Carena from Country Club.

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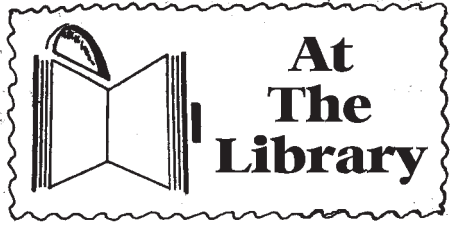
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What's Going On In There?
From June 3 through June 26, the **Focal Point Gallery**, 321 City Island Avenue, will exhibit "Artist's Choice." Artists have until June 1 to submit their entries. For more information, call 718-885-1403. There will be an opening reception on Friday, June 3, from 7 to 10 p.m.



PROGRAMS AT THE CITY ISLAND LIBRARY
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JUNE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS
Loony Life Labs Series "Ready, Set, SCIENCE!" A Summer Reading Kick-Off Celebration for All Ages. Get in the game this summer using science! Observe the power of all sorts of forces including gravity, centrifugal force and inertia, and learn how these are used in sports to keep your mind and body fit! Presented by Mad Science. Friday, June 24, 3 p.m.

Circle Time: Children from birth to 3 years old and their caregivers can enjoy stories, songs, and finger plays while spending time with other toddlers. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. First come / first serve basis. Every Tuesday from 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Read & Play: Children from birth to 3 years old and caregivers can take part in wonderful stories, discover amazing toys, and meet new friends in this fun, informal program. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. First come / first serve basis. Every Friday from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Craft-A-Way: Drop in and participate in creating projects related to a theme or holiday. June 17 at 12 noon. Ages 1-4.

LEGO League: Bring your imagination and join us for fun with Legos! Blocks of various sizes will be provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 5-11. Thursday, June 23 and 30, from 3 to 4 p.m.

JUNE TEEN AND TWEEN PROGRAMS
After School Lounge: Come to the library after school for studying and a chance to unwind. Every Monday through Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m.

Friday After School Activities: 3 p.m. June 3: Cards, board games and puzzles; June 10: iPad Lab; June 17: Wii Gaming

JUNE ADULT PROGRAMS
Powerful Tool For Caregivers: A six-week educational series that provides self-care education programs for caregivers and includes tools and strategies to better handle the unique challenges they face. Mondays from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Estate and Gift Planning Seminar: Are you working on your estate plans or need to update them? How can you best provide for family and loved ones while also supporting your favorite charities? We are pleased to present an educational seminar for Library patrons and supporters. Presented by John Bacon, Director of Planned Giving. For reservations, please call 212-930-0093 or e-mail plannedgifts@nypl.org. Saturday, June 11, 1 p.m.

Animal Care Center Mobile Adoption Van: Adopt a cat, or a dog, take home a new friend. Saturday June 18, 12 to 4 p.m.

Spring Writing at the Library: Writing is Good Communication. Explore a different style of writing each week. Are you writing a short story or a comic farce,

a letter of consolation or a how-to-do-it manual? Our twin goals for all writing are to grab a person's attention and be understood clearly. Communicate to others with a smile for yourself. Open to all. Every Thursday at 4 p.m. Led by Gail Hitt.

Afternoon Computer Lab: These sessions will be geared toward adult students who have already learned the basics and are ready to begin tackling more specific questions. Every Thursday from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

Island Writers-Creative Writing Group. This is a group for all who are interested in writing professionally or personally. Come check us out. It's free, special and open to all! Meets every Tuesday

at 1 p.m.

Intro to Computers: Come to the library, ask questions about how to use computers and sharpen your skills through computer use. "How do I turn the computer on?" "How do I set up my own e-mail account and e-mail family and friends?" Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Résumé Workshop: Designed to assist in creating a new or updated résumé. Topics include cover letters and resources for job opportunities. A flash drive is required to save your work. Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

One-on-One: Computer Training: Stop in or call to make an appointment for one hour of personalized instruction that

addresses your questions and concerns.

Saturday Afternoon Movies: 1 p.m. June 4: "In the Heart of the Sea"; June 18: "Creed"; June 25: "The Danish Girl"

Please check flyers or call in advance in case of any unscheduled changes, additions or cancellations. For events in other branches, please check our website at www.nypl.org.



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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
20 Hawkins Street	3/1/16	\$1,625,000	2 family
48 Fordham Street	3/18/16	\$367,000	1 family
54 Marine Street	3/24/16	\$650,000	lot
190 Schofield Street	4/5/16	\$115,000	condo
626 City Island Ave.	4/8/16	\$695,000	commercial
162 Marine Street	4/13/16	\$180,000	1 family
30 Earley Street	4/21/16	\$950,000	1 family
25 Deepwater Way	4/28/16	\$485,000	condo

PSS City Island Center

Join us all month for City Island Center's June Jamboree to celebrate our 3 year anniversary!!!

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May 2016

Dear City Island Merchants & Donors:

On behalf of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 156 (C 19 not for profit Veteran's Organization) Bronx County NY, please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation for your generous donation. Generous gifts from donors like you provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission helping those in need.

Your donation assisted us in raising funds to support our annual Cancer Bingo. All funds raised are donated to helping Veterans and families with who are coping with cancer. With the help from your donation, we exceeded our goals for 2016.

There is no way to fully express our gratitude for your donation. We at the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Unit # 156 are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors like you who answer the call to give.

Legionally yours,
Anne Marie Rogers, President

Barbara Dennis Honored



City Island resident Barbara Dennis was given a singular honor on April 14, 2016, when she was presented with the Distinguished Nursing School Alumna Award by the St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospi-

tal Alumni Association, the first nurse to be so honored by the association.

Mrs. Dennis, now retired, was associate director of nursing and recruitment at St. Luke's Hospital, having graduated from the St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing. For the past 125 years, the Hospital Alumni Association has held a dinner where the accomplishments of individuals whose careers exemplify the highest standards of medical practice are recognized.

Mrs. Dennis has been a resident of City Island for the past 26 years and is an active volunteer for numerous organizations, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Metropolitan Opera, Symphony Space and the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum. She is a trustee and active docent for the City Island Nautical Museum and serves on the vestry at Grace Episcopal Church. In addition to her volunteer work, she is a member of the Corinthians, a non-commercial membership association of over 500 amateur yachtsmen and women (beginners and experts), whose goal is to promote sailing among boat owners and non-owners alike.



Photos by BARBARA DOLENSEK and MATT PANZA On Friday, May 20, 2016, Dan Treiber and his wife, Reina Mia Brill, celebrated the grand opening of their "General Store" in the old Trader John store on the corner of City Island Avenue and Schofield Street. Constructed about 1860, the building housed Springer's Market until 1928, when it became Robson's Marine Supply. Waldemars Persteins purchased the building about 1940, and his son John eventually changed the name to Trader John's Marine Supply. Dan (left), who grew up on City Island, purchased the building from Trader John's widow and plans to restore it. In the meantime, he has filled the shop with toys and a whole array of artifacts, including old signs, keys, lamps, badges, posters, nautical bits, models, buttons and tools.

175 BELDEN STREET, "THE CAPTAIN'S HOUSE"

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



PHOTO BY BARBARA DOLENSEK

This picturesque cottage on the east end of Belden Street is a designated New York City Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

City Island is rich in architectural history, but the first significant building to be given landmark status, and certainly one of the most charming, is hidden away at the east end of Belden Street at the southern end of the Island.

Built in the 1860s, the house is a fine example of a picturesque cottage, which was a simple, inexpensive type of residence that developed in the middle of the 19th century in rural locations. At the time the house was built, City Island, then part of Pelham, NY, was a rural community, with farms and oystering as its main businesses, along with boat-building, which started up in the late 1850s.

The first person to live at 175 Belden Street was Cornelius W. Lawrence, who had been born on City Island in 1836 and worked as a Hell Gate pilot from the time he was a boy. He was also a carpenter and builder, and it is likely that he built the house himself, probably in the 1860s. He died in the house on Nov. 23, 1902, at the age of 66. To honor the memory of the first inhabitant, the current owner has named 175 Belden "The Captain's House."

Cornelius's son, Frederick Lawrence, inherited the cottage. He too had been born on City Island, perhaps in this very house, and educated at the schoolhouse on the Island that was located in what is now Hawkins Park. Frederick attended medical school at New York University from 1891 to 1895 and established a medical practice on the Island, which he continued until his death in 1930. Many people revered him as a doctor because of his knowledge and experience, and he saved many lives.

The late Captain Edward Sadler, a third-generation Islander himself, used to recount how he had been delivered by Dr. Lawrence and remained his patient for many years. Dick Sadler, Ed Sadler's son, remembers his father describing Dr. Lawrence sitting on Duryea's Pier, which used to extend from Belden Point into Long Island Sound, patiently removing fishing hooks from fishermen's fingers!

The third owner of the 175 Belden Street house was Henry Hagedorn (1873-1940), who incorporated the coal and ice company he ran with his two brothers in 1908. His nephew, Herman Hinck, who was born in 1899 and died in 1971, became the fourth owner in 1940. He had a moving and storage company in Astoria, and the house remains in the Hinck family today.

Aside from its interest for its distinguished owners, the house is unique in several respects. It was designated a landmark by the New York Landmarks Commission in 1979, the first landmark on the Island, and in 1982 it was listed on the National

Register of Historic Places. It is considered a rare example of the picturesque style in New York City, its design reflecting a style described in Andrew Jackson Downing's influential books "Cottage Residences" (1842) and "The Architecture of Country Houses" (1850).

The house is distinguished by its jigsaw brackets, dormers, porches and bays, which are typical of the picturesque cottage style, and certain elements—the high-peaked gable, arched windows and wood trim—reflect the neo-Gothic style that was popular at the time. Although these elements are relatively simple on the Belden Street house, similar ornate woodwork is often referred to as "gingerbread," and the style was nicknamed "carpenter gothic."

As the designation of the Landmarks Commission puts it, "On a more theoretical level, the small porches, bay windows, and dormers associated with the type and used on the Belden Street house were intended to express the domestic purpose of the cottage—good and simple living."

The Commission estimates that the house was built about 1880, but the current owners believe that it was probably built as early as the 1860s. At that time the street was called Windmill Street, but the name was later changed to Belden Street, for William Belden, a prominent (but ultimately disgraced) financier who ran a resort in the old Horton mansion that became the Morris Yacht Club in the 1930s and burned down in 2006.

It is a tribute to the owners that the Belden Street house retains its original character, and a great deal of effort has gone into making sure of that. In 2002, for example, the New York Landmarks Conservancy granted them a low-cost loan to enable the replacement of the slate roof. To this day the plantings around the house are in line with Downing's principles of landscaping, and when you walk down this narrow street, you can easily imagine yourself back in the 19th century.

In designating the Belden Street house as a landmark, the Landmarks Commission noted that "Much of City Island's distinctive 19th-century architecture was built during the latter half of the century when the island's economy boomed. Many fine 19th-century houses remain today and combine with more contemporary buildings on the island to give the community an exceptional character. No. 175 Belden Street is one of the most notable houses on the island. As one of the few picturesque cottages to exist in the five boroughs, it is a special part of the city's architectural heritage."



Bartow-Pell Events

A new exhibition, “Wish You Were Here: Vintage Postcards of Pelham Bay and City Island,” will run from June 3 through Aug. 18, with an opening reception on Friday, June 3, from 5 to 8 p.m. Before email and social media there were postcards! Tour bygone places and spaces of the east Bronx through hand-colored postcards dating to the turn of the 19th century. These views of historic inns, beaches, street scenes, leisure activities and more—all from the collection of local historian Thomas X. Casey—offer insight into changes in landscapes and lifestyles over the past century.

First Friday! On June 3, the Night Owls, an instrumental piano trio, perform everything from New Orleans grooves and West Coast jazz to ‘70s pop tunes and TV theme songs from 6 to 8 p.m. Enjoy the music, explore the museum and stroll the garden; light refreshments available. The trolley makes an hourly loop starting at 5:25 p.m. from the Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island. Registration requested. Cost \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and students; members free.

Sing for Hope Piano, Thursday, June 9, through Sunday, June 19. BPMM is one of 50 NYC sites selected to host an artist-painted piano, which is then donated to an organization in the city. Come play a tune on our piano or listen to one of our guest musicians (visit www.bpmm.org for schedule). The piano will be accessible daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

June Luncheon. On Thursday, June 9, 12–2 p.m., support the Bartow-Pell Conservancy and enjoy an elegant “déjeuner dans le jardin” with special guest Elizabeth Hyde, author of “Cultivated Power: Flowers, Culture, and Politics in the Reign of Louis XIV.” She will take us through the gardens of Versailles to explore the collection, cultivation and display of flowers in late 17th-century France. Visit bpmm.org for details and tickets or call the museum. RSVP required.

Exhibition Talk. On Thursday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m., local historian and collector Thomas X. Casey discusses his collection of more than 6,000 vintage Bronx postcards. Casey is co-author of “Northwest Bronx” and “Bronx Views” and a founding member of the East Bronx History Forum. Reception afterwards. Registration requested. Free.

New York Path through History Day. On Saturday, June 18, from 12 to 4 p.m., costumed docents lead free guided tours on Saturday afternoon at quarter past the hour. Stroll the garden and woodland paths at your leisure. Free.

Take Dad Out to the Ball Game 1864. On Sunday, June 19, from 1 to 3 p.m., celebrate Dad with a Father’s Day “base ball match.” The New York Mutuals play with 1864 rules, balls, bats, and uniforms—but no helmets or gloves! After the game, kids join in the fun with a game of rounders with team members. Admission includes a mansion tour before or after the game and a raffle for the game ball! Registration requested. Cost: \$10 adults; \$8 seniors, students, and members; \$5 children 12 and under.

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A Current Review

Love, Sex and the IRS

By BRUCE A. WEIS



Photos by RICK DeWITT and MARY MCINTYRE

The City Island Theater Group's hilarious production of "Love, Sex and the IRS" entertained audiences in May with a talented cast: (top photo, seated l. to r.) Michael Sanacore, Denis Zepeda, Ashley Wool, Jean Eifert, standing: Penelope Golden, David Morabito, Angel Muniz and Phil Dante. The window at 282 City Island Avenue promoted the show by displaying an eye-catching array of feminine undergarments.

For its second effort of 2016, the City Island Theater Group executed a sharp turn perfectly, transitioning from a production of "The Diary of Anne Frank," which, however brilliantly executed, could never be a laugh riot, to a show that is: "Love, Sex and the IRS." With this show, CITG chose to mount a different breed of production. Unlike the usual venerated Broadway classic that earned awards on multiple continents and is beloved by theater goers everywhere, "Love, Sex and the IRS" was written between takes, in a dressing room on the set of the first Star Trek movie.

As recalled by Billy Van Zandt, one of the play's authors: "In 1979, I was bored out of my skull on the set of the first Star Trek movie ["Star Trek: The Motion Picture"]. Jane Milmore [his then-girlfriend and the co-author] smuggled a Smith-Corona onto the lot, and we passed the time between takes in my dressing room writing what eventually became "Love, Sex and the IRS." We had never written a full-

length play before, and the play was meant as nothing more than a showcase for me to do a lot of 'I Love Lucy' gags. We had no idea of the success we would have with the play." It has been performed in more than 10,000 theaters, in Japan, Brazil, Germany, Canada, England, France and Spain, as well as in the United States.

Mr. Van Zandt reports that "our friends Kathy Reed and Denis Lynch put on the first production, which opened at what is now the Gristmill Restaurant, in Tinton Falls, New Jersey, on June 1, 1979. Kathy also talked us into changing the name of the play, from 'Tax My Mistress.' When the play opened to rave reviews, [we] showed it to Samuel French publishers, who agreed to publish the play and told us they would take the next two." Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore have since written more than 20 plays together.

"Love, Sex and the IRS" is a farce set in the late 1970s, and, for all the show's energy, the plot is fairly simple. Jon (Denis

Zepeda) decided a couple of years earlier to claim on his income tax form that he and his roommate, Leslie (Michael Sanacore), were a married couple, as a way to get a bigger tax refund. The facts that Leslie is a man and that they both have girlfriends becomes problematic, however, when Jon receives a letter from the IRS stating that agent Floyd Spinner (Phil Dante) will come by to interview them. True to the formula of farce, the solution is to have Leslie dress up as Jon's wife in order to fool the tax man. Needless to say, one complication after another forces the pair to pile one lie on top of another to create an ever shakier house of cards.

And the complications don't stop there. Jon's mother, Vivian (Jean Eifert), drops by unannounced, on Saturday, just as Leslie is getting comfortable in his new gender. Jon's girlfriend, Kate (Ashley Wool), is in on the scam, but she is also toying with dropping Jon for Leslie. Leslie's girlfriend, Connie (Penelope Golden), isn't in on the scam and isn't quite sure what to make of Leslie's new wardrobe. Mr. Jansen, the superintendent (David Morabito), is a constant presence, trying to make sure terms of the lease are being followed. And to make matters worse, when Agent Spinner shows up, the plan to get him drunk falls apart when Vivian Trachtman beats him to the bottle. As a grand finale, Reverend Gruner (Angel Muniz) is brought in to make an honest woman, or man, out of Leslie.

Denis Zepeda, a CITG regular, fills the role of Jon perfectly, moving from friendly to calculating to frenzied as his life unwinds over the course of the show. Michael Sanacore, as Leslie, surely deserves an award that just occurred to me, for Greatest Character Transition in a Single Season. Last seen with CITG in "The Diary of Anne Frank," Michael transitioned from a snarling Nazi to a cross-dressing urban musician in the space of a single show. Another contender for this award would be Penelope Golden, also an "Anne Frank" cast member; her headband-wearing Connie spent the show in a marvelous state of confusion, trying to make sense of her boyfriend's sudden affinity for lingerie.

Jean Eifert, as Vivian, successfully displayed shock, denial, frustration and despair at her son's seeming dissolution, before turning things around at the end with justice of the peace Arnold Grunion. When all seems lost, Angel Muniz, as Arnold, pulls the frazzled pieces of the show together with a few well-timed weddings. Phil Dante, the IRS agent Floyd Spinner, suffers some hard use in the second act, but he evolves from a hard-nosed pen pusher to a bureaucrat with heart of gold (and a number of questionable deductions). Ashley Wool, as Kate, went energetically and appealingly from indecision to resolution, as she confirmed her character's life goals. Finally, David Morabito, as the beer-guzzling superintendent, channeled Schneider from "One Day at a Time" perfectly, as he desperately tried to keep track of events.

The crew worked as hard as the cast, especially the director, Joseph Burck, who expanded his usual roles as set designer and lighting engineer to do a masterful job of directing the play. Costumes as usual were the work of Carol McCabe and Cheryl Brinker, who perfectly matched the late 1970s period piece. Denis Zepeda also played more than one role, handling sound design as well as the role of Jon. Sharon Jacob and Jay Langkamp ran the board at each performance. Prop mistress was Barbara Dolensek, who provided a dead plant and borrowed a lot of empty liquor bottles as well as a lava lamp. The set was constructed by Dan Srdoc, whose windows were beautifully painted by Cheryl Brinker.

Hannah Ludemann was the Production Stage Manager, no mean feat for this play, thanks to all of the frantic energy on stage; she was ably assisted by Assistant Stage Manager Amanda Livingston Martin, another graduate of "Anne Frank" and owner of the lava lamp. Production Manager was Nick Sala, president of the theater group, who once again managed to keep everything on track.

The City Island Theater Group's next production will be "Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" in November of 2016. We need a barber chair.



The drizzling rain didn't keep Garden Club volunteers from planting the boxes along City Island Avenue on May 6, 2016 (l. to r.): Judy Judson, Barbara Dolensek, Kathy Gibbons and Cheryl Brinker.



Photos by JANE PROTZMAN

The annual luncheon of the Garden Club of City Island on Thursday, May 19, at the City Island Yacht club, was a great success, with more than 85 guests. Here, from left to right, are Carol Della Femina, director of the 9th District Federated Garden Clubs of NYS; Judy Judson, president of the Garden Club of City Island; Elena Nuesslein, treasurer; Barbara Harrison, vice president; Ellen Murphy, recording secretary; and Francine Alheid, luncheon chair.

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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

JUNE

Sat. and Sun., June 4 and 5, **Spring Arts and Crafts Fair**, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., City Island Avenue.

Sat., June 25, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: chicken with peppers, onions and potatoes.

Sun., June 26, **Blessing of the Fleet**, 1 p.m. off Fenton's Marine Dock, VHF Channel 71 beginning 12:30 p.m.

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

Thurs., June 30, **Annual Bronx Fireworks Extravaganza**, Orchard Beach, 6 to 10 p.m.

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.

The Youth Choir will perform during the service on June 12, and they are hosting a coffee hour after the service to raise funds for Imagine No Malaria.

Save the date for the annual worship service at the Fordham Street Beach Club on Aug. 14; a picnic will follow the 10 a.m. service. All are welcome.

The Budget Corner is open, and since a staff of volunteers have been busy gleaning donated items, it is full of great bargains. The shop is open the first and third Saturday of each month and occasional Saturdays. With only a few weeks left until it closes for the summer, now is the time to stop in and shop, or donate your gently used goods. As always, Trinity United Methodist Church is thankful for the City Island community's continued support of the Budget Corner.

Rick DeWitt

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island (TBE), "your shul by the sea," at 480 City Island Avenue is a stimulating non-denominational place for observance of Jewish traditions. Jewish Renewal is the style of our deeply spiritual, innovative, all-inclusive and open-minded worship. Rabbi Shohama Wiener and Rabbi David Evan Markus lead services with music by Your Band by the Sea. Events begin promptly, so please come 15 minutes before listed times. Services are followed by a celebratory Oneg, light refreshments. Reminder: for the health and comfort of all, please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne. Find out more information at our website, www.yourshulbythesea.org. We welcome you to follow us on Facebook.

Friday Kabbalat Shabbat services are on Friday evenings from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Friday June 3, with Rabbi David
Friday June 10, with Capt. Bob Berent
Friday June 17, with Rabbi Shohama and Rabbi David

Friday June 24, with Capt. Bob Berent

Events and Classes

Sunday June 5: 4 to 6 p.m. Folk Dancing: "Hard Times Require Furious Dancing." Join folk dancers Susie Goldberg and Ed Brubaker for lessons in international folk dance, including Israeli, Greek and Balkan dances (their specialty). Ed and Susie danced

in a Balkan troupe that performed at Carnegie Hall. Suggested donation \$15. Refreshments will be served. Join the fun. Please RSVP to barbarahgold@gmail.com or call/text 917-545-6448.

Mondays in June 6, 13 and 27: (no class June 20) 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Prana Yoga led by Daniella Haney a certified instructor in transformative breath, body and spirit for deep healing. Suitable for all, dress in loose clothing. Suggested freewill offering \$10/session. RSVP to Daniella at kycnyc@aol.com.

Friday through Monday, June 10-13. Shavuot Retreat at Isabella Freedman (Falls Village, CT). Join Rabbi David, a group of transformational Jewish Renewal clergy, and congregants from synagogues across the Northeast, for a weekend celebration of Shavuot, the Festival of Revelation. Co-sponsored by ALEPH and Hazon, our weekend of learning, prayer, song, dance and gourmet organic food. Registration required via the Isabella Freedman website: hazon.org/calendar/shavuot. Consult TBE newsletter for TBE-member discount code. For additional financial aid support or additional information, contact us at yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

Tuesday June 21, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Mitzvah and Mysticism (session 6). Join Rabbi David for this final session of our spring 2016 Adult Education Series; delve into the traditional roots and mystical wings of the mitzvot (sacred acts) of Jewish spiritual life. With study, discussion and spiritual experience. Free for members, \$10 for nonmembers.

Wednesday June 22, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Rabbi Shohama's Spiritual Direction Circle (existing participants). Congregants not already part of this group who are interested in spiritual direction should please read our Spiritual Direction page, then contact us for intake at yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

Sunday June 26, 4 to 5 p.m. Meet the Diet Deva: author MyrnaLyn. Join us for a talk and "meet and greet" with the Jewish Diet Deva, MernaLyn, author of "The 10 Second Diet." MyrnaLyn describes her book as "an enlightening, informative and innovative approach to dieting and healthy well-being, while making the process of losing weight easier and happier." This is the event for anyone who would like to improve the quality of their life, whether or not they want to lose weight. It is for successful dieting and successful living." www.the10seconddiet.com.

Looking Ahead

June 11 to 14: Shavuot Retreat at the Isabella Freedman Retreat Center- Falls Village, CT. Join Rabbi David, Rabbi Rachel Barenblat, Reb Eve Ilse and renowned Renewal leaders for an extraordinary Shavuot weekend of learning, song, organic feasts, dance, meditation, yoga and more. Offered in partnership with ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal.

Seeking

Musicians: contact Rabbi David via yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

Computer geek for database management and design, e-blast flyers. E-mail us at yourshulbythesea@gmail.com.

Oneg sponsorships: For special occasions or memorials, contact Violet Smith at 718-885-0978 or violetsmi@aol.com.

Paul Klein

American Legion Ladies Auxiliary

In the spirit of "Service, Not Self," the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support the American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, the mili-



The American Legion Women's Auxiliary thanked City Islanders who supported the successful Cancer Bingo in April. They also participated in the Memorial Day parade and festivities on Monday, May 30. Shown above are the past presidents of the Auxiliary: Susan Vaughan, Nilda Nye, Annemarie Rogers, Linda Ulmer and Ann-Marie Goonan along with Laura Booth, the new president of the Auxiliary.

tary and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

With that in mind we hope to begin a new phase of the Women's Auxiliary Unit 156 of Development and Revitalization. We are looking for active and diverse members who believe in our mission to join us in leading our unit to awareness, growth and expansion. We need your assistance to support and advocate for our veterans, active military and their families. If interested in eligibility and membership, please e-mail Ms. Doreen Wall, membership chair, at AmericanLegionMembership156@gmail.com.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, June 5, at 12:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post. The cost of admission to our year-end brunch is \$35. For tickets, please contact Laura Booth, president, at lamc2051@verizon.net. We hope to see all active and new members.

Have a safe and wonderful summer.

Joanne Valetta

Garden Club of City Island

May was a busy month for the Garden Club. On Friday, May 6, Garden Club members braved the rain and wind to install summer plants in the planter boxes along City Island Avenue. In spite of the weather, the members, wearing their rain boots and foul weather gear, had a great time. CAS Property Care has begun grooming the tree pits and cleaning the Avenue. Thanks to donations to the Beautification Fund, they will continue to do this work through the fall. As always, residents and businesses have been very generous in their donations.

Garden Club members took their spring trip to the New York Botanical Garden for a tour of the new lilac collection. It was a spectacularly beautiful day, and the garden was in full bloom. The tour was followed by lunch at the Garden. Thanks go to Carol Wilkinson, our program committee chair, for organizing the tour.

The annual Garden Club Luncheon was held on May 19 at the City Island Yacht Club. On Tuesday morning before the luncheon, club members created more than 30 beautiful gift baskets, which were raffled-off at the luncheon. Local businesses were very generous in donating gift certificates, which were also part of the raffle. Lunch was provided by Stephane Kane, steward at the CIYC. After an invocation by Father Knapp, State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and Carol Della Femina, director of the Ninth District Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, gave short presentations. Judy Judson, president of the Garden Club, thanked the many people who made the luncheon a success, including Francine Alheid, luncheon chair, and her committee. Judging by the atten-

dance and the laughter, the luncheon was a big success.

If you have an interest in civic beautification and promoting gardening, please join us the first Monday of the month (with the exception of August) at the City Island Yacht Club at 10 a.m. Our program chair is responsible for the wonderful presenters during the year. In addition, day trips to area public and private gardens are an experience you won't want to miss. Annual dues are \$35. The meeting is followed by coffee and fresh baked goods provided by our Hospitality Committee.

Judy Judson

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

Sales! Sales! Sales! June is sales month at the Thrift Shop. Lots of great buys. Clothing, bags, books, linens, bric-a-brac. Every day is a sale day. Bag sales, half-price sales, big bag sales. We are open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our last day before the summer break is June 30. We will reopen the third week in September. Come, shop and enjoy coffee and cake with fellow shoppers.

Arlene Byrne

AARP Chapter 318

The month of June is our last month for meetings before the summer break. We meet on June 1 at 1 p.m. in Trinity Methodist Church Hall on Bay Street for our regular meeting. On June 8, we will celebrate with a luncheon at the Lobster House near the bridge at 12 noon. Cost is \$45 per person. We will not meet in July or August but will resume meetings in September (Sept. 7 and 21). Come and enjoy a fun afternoon with fellow members and bring a friend.

Rosetta Woods

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Overeaters Anonymous:

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



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

Welcome the green days of summer with our Summer Party on Saturday, June 25, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Enjoy seeing friends and neighbors, delicious food, the music of Skip Giacco and his band and support your Community Center as well. Early Bird tickets are \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Tickets at the door are \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. RSVP for Early Bird tickets by calling 718-885-1145.

Summer Camp programs for children are still accepting registrations. Please contact the instructors ASAP. See information below.

Join the CSA now for the June 6 delivery of fresh organic produce; meat, poultry and eggs are available as well.

Remember that the Community Center is here for you and your families, so please support the programs and let us know if there is something you would like to see on the schedule.

Annual membership to the City Island Community Center is only \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Please consider joining. To join the Center, to request our brochure, and for up-to-date information, visit www.cityislandcommunitycenter.org, call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook and check FB for any changes in classes.

The Center is run by a volunteer board of directors who meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Center Main Room at 190 Fordham Street. All members are encouraged to attend this open meeting. We always welcome volunteers and donations.

COMING UP

Summer Party, Saturday, June 25, 6:30 to 10 p.m. See information above.

City Island Community Supported Agriculture: Mondays, June 6, 5 to 6 p.m., delivery begins. The CSA provides fresh organic fruits and vegetables throughout the summer and fall. We now have meat, poultry and eggs available. For information contact laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com or call 917-238-0529.

Summer Art Workshop Camp for Children: July 11 through 15, from 9:30 to 1:30. Children ages 7 through 12 will meet four hours a day to draw, sketch, paint on canvas and work with papier mâché with artist/teacher Lorainne Cantori. The children will explore the work of William Hopper, Mary Cassatt and Amedeo Modigliani. There will be a special City Island landmark painting, an exhibit and reception and more. The students will bring their lunch. The fee is \$210. To enroll, or for information, call Lorainne at 914-552-5268 or e-mail her at ceasardante@optonline.net.

Summer Irish Dance Workshop Camp: In August all ages and levels learn the art of Irish step dance with Caitlin Nora Kelly. To enroll or for information e-mail caitlin.nora.kelly@gmail.com or call 914-262-4517.

NEW PROGRAMS

Ballroom Dance: Wednesdays, 7 p.m. In June the featured dances will be the tango fox and the East Coast swing with instructor Maurice Bonilla. It's lots of fun and soon you may be "Dancing with the Stars." For information, call 347-920-3127.

Bollywood Dance: Saturdays, Tweens, 12 and under, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Teens/Adults, 2:30 to 3:30. Join Lalitha Cosme to explore the dance, energy, movement and culture of Indian films. To register or for more information, e-mail lalithadance@gmail.com.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Irish Dance for Children: Mondays: Step dancing for all ages. Tiny tots 6 to 6:30 p.m., beginners 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., intermediate 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. All classes taught by

Caitlin Nora Kelly. For information, e-mail caitlin.nora.kelly@gmail.com. or call 914-262-4517.

Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep: For high school prep or just for fun! To enroll, call Geri Smith at 718-885-1503.

ADULT PROGRAMS

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

Belly Dance/Shimmy By the Sea with Kristin, aka Gypsy Curves, Sundays, new time: 4:30 p.m. \$20 per class. Call Kristin Amezcua 646-625-1575 for information.

Chair Yoga with Michael: Friday, 10 a.m. Stretch and flex with an easy combination of yoga, tai chi and pilates. For information, call Betty at 718-885-1095.

Chess & Card Club: Tuesday at 7 p.m. Come play cards. Wednesday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid T.V. Have fun. If you plan to attend, call Bill at 718-541-3995.

City Island Civic Association: Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month. Join your community in action.

City Island Culinary Club: First and third Mondays at 7 p.m. Have fun with other Islanders who like to cook, share your favorite recipes and pick up some new cooking skills. Mondays 7 p.m. June 6, bring in diner recipes, June 20, tasting session for diner recipes. For information, call Kenny Selesky at 917-533-7873.

City Island Drawing Society: Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find your inner da Vinci and enjoy the art of drawing with Joshua Glick. For information, call 917-721-1419.

Weight Watchers Meetings: Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with Debbie. Trim down and be healthy with the support of a great group. Join any time; it is never too late. For more information, call Elena at 718-885-2268.

Yoga with Jo Ann: Tuesday, 7 to 8:15 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. \$10. Gentle level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and if possible, a yoga blanket. For information, e-mail joanngny@aol.com or call 917-853-4719.

Zumba with Julia / Kickbox with Maria: Saturday, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Want to lose those extra pounds and that belly fat? Well, here is your chance. Join this high energy 90-minute workout with toning. For information, call Julia at 917-601-5514 or Maria at 347-267-0591.

Zumba with Lettie: Thursday, 6 p.m. Lettie's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. Classes are \$10. For information, call 917-292-4228.

Patty Grondahl

American Legion Post #156

The next regular meeting has been moved to Sunday, June 12, at 11:45 a.m. Dues for 2016 (\$50) are now past due.

The post is in need of a webmaster. Anyone interested should contact the Post.

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

We are sad to report that member Brian Sullivan died. It was wonderful how many members and City Islanders turned out for Brian. Irene Hartigan, wife of Judge Advocate Jack Hartigan, also passed away, as did associate member Kenny Madden.

Temple Beth-El should be commended for allowing us to hold our annual Post memorial service at their house of worship. They were welcoming and generous and demonstrated their appreciation for our troops.

Thanks to the SAL for making sure that the annual golf outing went off smoothly and for the wonderful pasta night held on April 30.

On a happy note, thanks to all of those who helped stuff envelopes for the annual Memorial Day raffle. And thank you to the Bronx Tourism Board for providing the trolley for all of those who could not walk the route of the parade and to Joe

Mondello for providing the sound. Thanks to Ed Shipp for once again making sure that City Island is properly decorated and Bob Mennona for negotiating the Fleet Week details allowing the visiting troops to march in our parade. Kudos to J & R Tours, which will provide transportation for those service members and for having their drivers vetted to allow easy access to where our troops are stationed.

Any retired veterans willing to help out around the Post contact John Muhlfeld at 718-885-0639. Help is greatly appreciated.

We are always in need of new members. The Post pays the dues of members who are on active duty. Younger people are necessary for the continuation of the Post.

Thank you to the entire City Island Community for all of your support over the past 97 years.

John Muhlfeld

PSS City Island Center

The mission of PSS City Island Center is to provide neighborhood adults 60 and over with the tools to live life to their fullest, keeping them healthy, engaged and connected through innovative programs and classes. We are not your everyday senior center!

The center is located at 116 City Island Avenue in Grace Church Hall and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. A delicious lunch is served every day from 12 to 1 p.m. Suggested donation: \$2. Programs are funded by PSS and the NYC Department for the Aging.

All programs and events are subject to change. Please call ahead to check if you have not attended before. To receive our newsletter and calendar of events send your email to pattis@pssusa.org.

Highlights:

June Jamboree!

June 3: 1 p.m. City Island Radio- WCIR presentation

June 6: National Donut Day- stop by for lunch and enjoy a free donut!

June 8: 11 a.m. Tour the World with Jane Protzman. This month: Safari in Botswana and Namibia

June 13: Party Express- Games, prizes, music, stopover for free ice cream starting at 12:30

June 17: Father's Day Celebration and Comedy Show starts at lunch 12 p.m.

June 21: And They're Off! Horse racing-Iced Tea Juleps. Starts at 11 a.m.

June 28: Three-Year Anniversary Event at Lobster Box; seating is limited. Reserve your spot by June 17.

June Physical Exercise: The exercise program offers classes at various levels of fitness. Drop in and try one of our classes for yourself. Mondays: Tai Chi for Arthritis at 9:15 a.m.; Tuesdays: Cardio Fitness at 9:15 a.m. and Yoga Stretch at 1 p.m.; Wednesdays: Zumba at 9:15 and Arthritis Workshop at 10:15 a.m.; Thursdays: Learn Tai Chi at 9:15 a.m.; Fridays: Fit for Life at 9 a.m. and Yoga Stretch at 10:30. Arthritis Workshop, Yoga Stretch and Tai Chi classes suggested donation is \$1 each. The suggested donation for all other exercise classes is \$3 each.

June Programs: Mondays: Learn Canasta at 10:15; Individualized Computer Instruction at 1 p.m.; Tuesdays: Conversational Spanish at 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays: Calligraphy at 1 p.m.; and Haircuts by Brenda on June 8 and 22 for \$10; Thursdays: Acrylic Painting at 10 a.m.; Bingo at 12:30 p.m. on June 16; Birthday Party June 23; Fridays: Radio Theater at 1 p.m. June 3 only; Father's Day Celebration/ Comedy Show June 17; Bake and Tag Sale June 10.

Information, Referrals and Assistance: Need help with filling out forms or applying for certain benefits? Don't know if you are eligible for benefits? We can help. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the Center.

Caregivers Support. If you are car-

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

Transportation Services. Off-Island shopping trips leave at 9:30 and include Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, Target, Farmers' Market, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. All shopping trips require you to sign up ahead of time as we have limited seats. Sign up is available starting the Thursday before, for the following week's trips. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-Island shopping trips. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Roe at 347-834-6466 for pickup or trips.

Patty Attis

Rotary Club of the Bronx

The Rotary Club of the Bronx is thrilled to be celebrating our own Bea Castiglia-Catullo at our President's Dinner on June 23 at the Marina Del Rey. Bea, who has led a life exemplifying the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self," will be turning 100 years young this year. She is the founder and president of R.A.I.N. Senior Services, an organization she began as a young nurse with \$500 of start-up money from one of her grateful patients, Monroe Lovinger. She was caring for her ailing mother-in-law at home and saw the lack of services for seniors in the Bronx, and this became her motivation. In the years since, R.A.I.N. has grown into a multimillion dollar organization with many branches all over the Bronx.

Bea was among the first group of women recognized as the 25 Most Influential Bronx Women several years ago, and she has been honored by almost every politician and organization in the Bronx. Not one to rest upon her laurels, however, at the tender age of 94 she began dreaming of a way to reach out to the "hungry and the homeless." She knew that if a person has an address, programs like meals on wheel can deliver food, but, she asked, "what about those who have no home?" Her idea was for a mobile food kitchen that would travel throughout the Bronx giving meals to the homeless.

Her seed money came from a friend who had won the lottery, but the real backing came from a chance encounter at a fundraiser. A friend brought a gentleman over to meet the amazing Bea and she began to talk about her idea. It turned out that he was the CEO of the Bob Hope Foundation. This chance encounter led to the idea being pitched to the foundation, which is now run by Bob and Dolores Hope's children. That is how the Cucina Dolores Mobile Food Kitchen came to fruition and has been feeding the hungry and homeless in the Bronx for the past two years. How many people can say they have created something so meaningful so late in life?

The Rotary Club of the Bronx is very proud of Bea and hope that Governor Cuomo will be attending the dinner. It is sure to be crowded with many Bronx luminaries. Tickets are \$100 in advance and \$125 at the door. The cocktail hour starts at 6 p.m. All are welcome to celebrate Bea's passion, service and her 100th year along with us. RSVP by June 13 to Mary Springman at 914-954-4748 or send RSVP and check to Rotary Club of the Bronx, P.O. Box 49, Bronx, NY 10464.

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Episcopal Church, located at 116 City Island Avenue on the corner of Pilot Street, a place of worship and fellowship, warmly welcomes you to the following.

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

Continued on page 12



Remembering Alan Rickman

Alan Rickman, who died this past January of pancreatic cancer, was a wonderful British actor, widely known for his role as the snarling Professor Severus Snape in the **Harry Potter** series. The films have a stellar cast, including Daniel Radcliffe as Harry, Rupert Grint as Ron, and Emma Watson as Hermione, who are perfect in the roles of students at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, and it is delightful to see them grow over 10 years of the films. The school is run by Albus Dumbledore played by Richard Harris and then Michael Gambon. Other key characters include teachers Maggie Smith as Professor McGonagall, Emma Thompson as Professor Sybil Trelawny, Gary Oldman as Sirius Black, Ralph Fiennes as Lord Voldemort, Helena Bonham Carter as the evil Bellatrix Lestrange, John Cleese as nearly-headless Nick and John Hurt as Ollivander who sells Harry his first magic wand.

For those who are not familiar with the story, Harry Potter is a child whose parents are killed by an evil being before the film begins. He is taken to live with his Aunt Petunia (Fiona Shaw), Uncle Vernon (Richard Griffiths) and spoiled cousin Dudley (Harry Melling), where he is treated very badly. They are muggles, people who have no magical powers. To Harry's astonishment, on his 11th birthday, he learns that he is a famous wizard who has survived the attack that took the lives of his parents. He is whisked away by the giant Hagrid, played by Robbie Coltrane, to begin his new life at school.

All of the films are uncannily envisioned precisely the way I saw them in my own imagination when reading the books. However, they are films in which the stories are the star. The special effects, while spectacular, do not eclipse the narrative but rather complement the telling. They do have some very scary moments, so it is a serious PG rating. The series includes: **Harry Potter: and the Sorcerer's Stone** (2001), **and the Chamber of Secrets** (2002), **and the Prisoner of Azkaban** (2004), **and the Goblet of Fire** (2005), **and the Order of the Phoenix** (2007), **and the Half-Blood Prince** (2009), **and the Deathly Hallows—Parts 1 and 2** (2010–11).

Rickman first came to my attention in the film **Die Hard** (1988). It starred Bruce Willis as New York City cop John McClane, attempting a reunion with his estranged wife Holly (Bonnie Bedelia) in Los Angeles on Christmas Eve. During the company Christmas party, the building where she works is taken over by a group of terrorists. They are led by two of the silver screen's great villains, Alan Rickman and Alexander Godunov. The tension doesn't let up for a moment in this roller-coaster ride of a "Christmas" movie.

Truly, Madly, Deeply (1991) is the British version of **Ghost**. It is a moving story of Nina (Juliet Stevenson), who cannot seem to recover from her grief over the death of her live-in lover, Jamie (Rickman). When Jamie's ghost appears, she is deliriously happy to have him back until he fills their home with a bunch of ghost buddies. When Nina meets quirky Mark (Michael Maloney), she must make a difficult choice.

Bob Roberts (1992) was Tim Robbins's brilliant writing and directorial

debut in which he has the title role. It is a searing satirical mockumentary about an exceedingly manipulative, "rebel conservative" senatorial candidate who writes and performs reactionary folk music. His songs include "The Times are Changin' Back" and "This Land was Made for Me." As his campaign manager, Lukas Hart III (Rickman) says, "Here is a man who not only had a brilliant mind and wonderful wit but could also sing."

Sense and Sensibility (1995) is the story of the newly impoverished Dashwood family struggling to make ends meet after the man of their family dies. Emma Thompson wrote the Oscar-winning screenplay and stars as the serious Elinor Dashwood, who loves the already spoken for Mr. Edward Ferrars (Hugh Grant). Marianne (Kate Winslet), her imprudent sister, is swept off her feet by a scoundrel, Mr. John Willoughby (Greg Wise) but is loved from afar by the wealthy Colonel Brandon (Rickman). How it all resolves is pure Jane Austen at her best.

Parodying television series such as **Star Trek** and its fans, **Galaxy Quest** (1999) is the story of the TV show *Galaxy Quest*, whose actors have been relegated to appearances at Sci Fi conventions subjected to doting fans. The cast of the defunct television series includes Tim Allen as Jason Nesmith (Cmdr. Peter Quincy Taggart), Sigourney Weaver as Gwen DeMarco (Lt. Tawny Madison), Rickman as Alexander Dane (Dr. Lazarus), Tony Shalhoub as Fred Kwan (Tech Sgt. Chen), Sam Rockwell as Guy Fleegman (unnamed character/Security Chief "Roc" Ingersoll), and Daryl Mitchell as Tommy Webber (Lt. Laredo) as the child pilot. At a convention Mathesar (Enrico Colantoni) the leader of an alien race, which believes that the TV show is real, asks the actors for help. They mistake him for an enthusiastic fan, with hilarious results. The TV show's stars wind up embarking on an intergalactic voyage that is all too real to them.

In the romantic comedy ensemble film **Love Actually** (2003), the stellar cast includes Hugh Grant as the British Prime Minister in love with his secretary Natalie (Martine McCutcheon) and at odds with the President of the United States (Billy Bob Thornton). Emma Thompson is Karen, the Prime Minister's sister, who is married to Harry (Rickman), a man contemplating an affair with his secretary. Emma's best friend is recently widowed Daniel (Liam Neeson), whose grade-school stepson Sam (Thomas Sangster) is suffering the pangs of first love. Colin Firth is Jamie, a cuckolded writer who falls for Aurelia (Lúcia Moniz), his Portuguese housekeeper. Newlywed Juliet (Keira Knightly) is idolized by Mark (Andrew Lincoln), her husband's best friend. John (Martin Freeman) and Just Judy (Joanna Page) are adorable as innocent stand-ins in a porn film. Bill Nighy steals every scene as a has-been vulgar rock star, Billy Mack.

Something the Lord Made (2004) is the story of Vivien Thomas (Mos Def), a black man in the 1930s, who is originally hired as a janitor but proves himself adept at assisting the "Blue Baby doctor," Alfred Blalock (Rickman), with his medical research on congenital heart defects. When Blalock insists that Thomas follow him to Johns Hopkins University, they must find a way to skirt a racist system to continue their study of infant heart disease.

In Victorian London, **Sweeney Todd** (2007) stars Johnny Depp in the title role of the barber Benjamin Barker, married to the gorgeous Lucy (Laura Michelle Kelly), with whom he has a lovely daughter, Johanna (Jayne Wisener). Lucy's beauty attracts the attention of the corrupt Judge Turpin (Rickman), who falsely accuses the barber of a crime that he did not commit and ultimately becomes Johanna's guardian. After 15 years in exile, Benjamin returns to London, taking the new identity of Sweeney

Todd and seeking revenge against Turpin. He meets the widow Mrs. Lovett (Helena Bonham Carter), who is the owner of a meat pie shop. He opens a barber shop above her store and initiates a criminal rampage against those who made him suffer and lose his beloved family. This rather gross, macabre musical is a perfect vehicle for Tim Burton's masterful direction.

Set in 17th-century France, **A Little Chaos** (2015) is a romantic drama in which Rickman has a featured role and for which he served as director. It tells the story of Sabine (Kate Winslet), a talented landscape designer, who is building a garden at Versailles for King Louis XIV (Rickman). Court intrigue abounds as Sabine struggles with class barriers and becomes romantically entangled with the court's renowned landscape artist, André Le Notre (Matthias Schoenaerts).

Released posthumously, and dedicated to Alan Rickman "in loving memory," **Eye of the Sky** (2016) is absolutely riveting. It stars Helen Mirren as Colonel Katherine Powell, a British military officer in command of a top-secret drone operation to capture terrorists in Kenya. Rickman is Lieutenant Colonel Frank Benson, charged with supervising a group of non-military government officials who are witnessing this mission via satellite imagery. Other significant participants in the operation are drone pilots Steve Watts (Aaron Paul) and Carrie Gershon (Phoebe Fox) and undercover Kenyan field agent Jama Farah (Barkhad Abdi), who uses short-range video bugs for ground intel. There are people working in at least eight locations, seven of which are operating thousands of miles away from the actual mission site. The political ramifications and morality of every act and the reluctance of the powers-that-be to make decisions increase the tension so that the audience can hardly breathe while watching this quintessential modern war film.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .

Organization News

Continued from page 11

service, we offer coffee hour, a time for refreshments and fellowship.

On June 4 and 5, Grace Church parishioners will man our booth at the spring Arts & Crafts Fair, selling fresh baked goods and handing out informative flyers about the church's rich history, ministries and outreach services. You won't want to miss the New Music Ministry's Grace Tones, who plan to sing a few hymns and a sing-along.

We will be promoting and selling tickets to the "Sing We Enchanted" concert taking place at the church on Sunday, June 5, at 5 p.m.

Sunday School lessons are going strong and will take place this month on June 5 and 19. No extra time is needed; students will begin the service with the entire congregation at 10 a.m. and, then leave with their teacher for lessons and activities, including arts and crafts, for 30 to 40 minutes during the service. They will rejoin the congregation after the exchange of peace. All interested parents and children are welcome.

The Grace Tones, our musical ministry made up of members of the church choir and singers from on and off the Island, perform at area nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. We will meet for a rehearsal on June 5 at 12:15 p.m. and visit Beth Abraham Health Services later in June. If you would like to sing for this "feel good" cause, please contact Sandy Dunn at accentfix@gmail.com.

Hearts and Hands is a group of parishioners who knit and crochet comfort items (hats and blankets) for patients at Calvary Hospital. The group will meet on Monday, June 20, at 6:30 p.m. in Grace Church Hall, and we invite other crafters to join us. For more information, please call Lori Swink at 914-523-7413.

Please visit our website at www.gracecityisland.org.

Sandy Dunn

City Island Republicans

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. Petitions will be distributed and poll workers need to attend.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #156

We would like to remind all members that 2016 dues are past due. They are \$30 and can be mailed or dropped off to the Post and placed in the SAL Box. Any member unpaid for more than two years will be dropped from the roles.

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

Thanks to Bob Salerno, Tom Vivolo, Joe Scotti and all the others who helped make pasta night a great success.

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

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

Fred Ramftl Jr.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

On June 3, the first Friday of the month, we will have our monthly Holy Hour with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome. This will be our last scheduled Holy Hour before the summer months.

All are invited to join us at our monthly coffee hour on Sunday, June 12, after the 11 a.m. Mass. We will not gather during the summer months, so do join us in the month of June.

On Sunday, June 19, we will honor all our Fathers with a special blessing at all the Masses.

St. Mary's Thrift Shop will be open on Thursdays and Saturdays during the month of June. It will close at the end of the month for the summer.

Have a safe, healthy and happy summer!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

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Taking from the Old and the New To Help Parents Raise Children

By BILL STUTTIG

City Island resident John Scardina has been working as a school psychologist and parent educator for the better part of 30 years, offering to today's mothers and fathers an old-fashioned approach to parenting that also relies heavily on the latest research and knowledge about child development in an ever-changing technology-based world.

"You wouldn't go to a doctor and accept a recommendation for surgery based on 25-year-old research. So why should we do that in raising our children?" the life-long educator explained during a recent interview, adding that what we know about child psychology and learning and teaching strategies is changing very quickly, and that it is imperative for educators to incorporate that knowledge into their lessons.

Scardina regularly offers his expertise from more than 40 years as an educator and psychologist—an expertise that incorporates both the old and the new—in helping parents as part of a City Island-based parent consulting business "Think, Laugh, Learn."

The life-long educator, who writes a regular column on parenting in *The Island Current*, said: "I have written some articles for parents about taking advantage of where we live, because a lot of kids today don't spend enough time outside, and we have a remarkable environment here for that to happen." He added: "Instead of kids today having Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD) they have Nature Deficit Disorder because they just are not getting out."

Mr. Scardina moved to a house on City Island in 2009 with his wife after many years living in the West Chester, PA, area. He holds a BA in religion from Princeton University and an MA in education, counseling and consulting psychology from Harvard University.

Aside from working with individual parents and students on City Island, he consults three days a week at a Friends' Academy on Long Island, and before moving to the tri-state area he worked extensively in West Chester schools, where he still does some work. He consults for several other



John Scardina

schools in the tri-state region, including P.S. 175 on City Island.

In his work with the students and teachers on City Island Mr. Scardina recently said that teachers were working with students during a stressful three-week critical-testing period. In order to ease the tension during that period, the teachers allowed the students more time in the schoolyard to unwind from the grind they were going through. A short while later, the teachers realized that the performance of the students was improving noticeably since the policy change. He responded by asking them why they weren't employing that strategy all the time. Recent research shows the importance of face-to-face time, the importance of play. Kids have to get out more. Studies in Finland, where a lot of good work is being done, show that kids benefit from extra recess—20 minutes for every 45 minutes of classroom work they believe."

Mr. Scardina added that he believes the demands of this technology-based world make the need for recreational outdoor time even more critical. "There is a difference between the kids being raised in the '80s and now," he believes. "And there is no going back with the technology. Schools need to continue to incorporate the technology. When I was a kid, we had encyclopedias, but now you can pick up

your phone and access the entire universe." But he also finds that with the ease of the new technology come challenges for both parents and students, challenges that were not even thought of 50, 40 or even 30 years ago.

For example, he said, "some of the challenges facing parents today are how do you incorporate technology and not lose social skills. How do children develop the social skills they need to handle social media? It is so easy to be hateful and invasive and bully other children using social media. It is a whole other universe and families have to adjust."

His main advice to parents regarding the use of technology by their children is to establish limits, to set aside time for screen time but also for non-screen time. "Have dinner together, vacation together and go outside together without the devices," he advises.

"Parents need to be well-educated as to what these devices can do," he believes. Although many web-based games are far advanced in developing creativity and critical thinking skills, which he fully endorses, "a lot of games," he explains "create access to the Web, and sometimes through fairly innocuous means kids can stumble onto websites that are not appropriate for them."

"A lot of parents don't realize all the things that you can do with a phone, and my advice is to be aware and to establish a place in the home where everyone plugs in their devices for the night before they go to bed." But regardless of technology he adds, "I definitely believe in an old-fashioned approach in terms of parenting. A family is not a democracy. Parents are not supposed to be their kid's friends—they are to be parents."

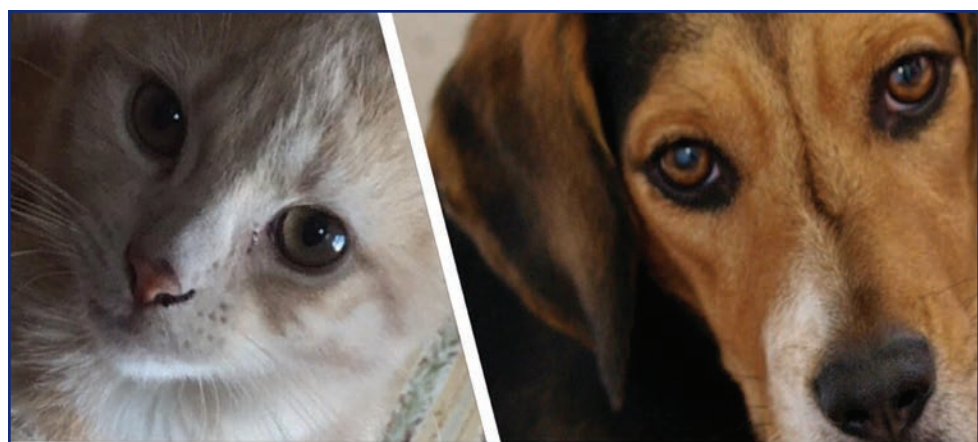
"When we were kids, if we got in trouble in school, we got double-trouble when we got home. But nowadays, a child gets in trouble in school and the parent is on the phone to the school asking what happened and demanding to talk to the teacher. This

is sending the wrong message." He believes that there is too much "emotional first-aid" given to children who encounter social dilemmas as part of the normal process of growing up. "Instead of solving problems for them we need to be asking our children what they are going to do about the problem," he said, adding that children need to develop social-solving skills on their own, skills that they will use and need throughout their lives, not just as children. "When we continually rescue our kids from situations, the message we are sending them is really 'I don't think you can handle this.'"

When he is not consulting with parents, teachers and students, Mr. Scardina devotes much of his free time to charity work around the globe through his involvement with the Quaker faith. He said he recently visited with the Aymara people of Bolivia, who live in extreme high elevations and suffer from a lack of clean-drinking water as a result, so that "20 percent of kids die there before they reach their fifth birthday." Through a faith-based group he works with, he has helped establish a website called *Quaker Bolivia Link*, which solicits donations to help purchase needed clean water for this remote population. People interested in donating or learning more can go to the website at www.qbl.org.

As part of Mr. Scardina's work with another organization called Alternatives to Violence, he recently traveled to El Salvador to help communities in that nation plagued with extreme gang violence. "The gang situation in El Salvador is out of control, and parents have to be extraordinarily careful with their kids," Mr. Scardina said, adding that he has recently done similar work on Palestine's volatile West Bank.

When he is home on City Island and not working, he pursues a love of music—performing at local venues—writing and sailing. He is a certified sailing instructor with the American Sailing Association. "We love City Island," he said, "and we are here to stay."





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P.S. 175 students gave a performance of "The Lion King" at Albert Einstein-Jack D. Weiler Hospital auditorium in the Bronx on Thursday, May 5, 2016. The annual fifth-grade play is supported in part by the Bronx Arts Ensemble.

SCHOOL NEWS




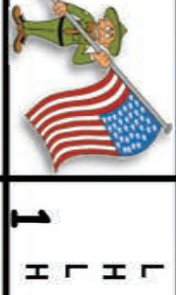

2+2=4




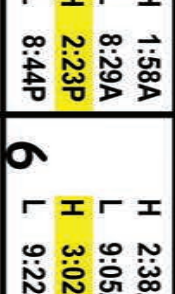
By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Public School 175

Best wishes to all the eighth-graders who, pending successful completion of promotion requirements, will be attending the following high schools in September: **Archbishop Stepinac:** John Albertelli; **Bard High School Early College:** Jessica Lachman; **Beacon H.S.:** Eleni Mantzaris; **Bronx Collaborative H.S.:** Deandre Morgan; **Bronx H.S. of Science:** Gesilda Noka; **Bronx Lab School:** Adonna Garrett,

Albieris Sosa; **Brooklyn Tech H.S.:** Krisanta Ojo; **Cardinal Hayes H.S.:** Jaiden Marrero; **Cardinal Spellman H.S.:** Rudy Etzel; **Collegiate Institute for Math and Science:** Francis De Los Santos; **High School for Contemporary Arts:** Jayline Diaz; **High School for Violin and Dance:** Shatima Bengcion; **High School of American Studies:** Adrian Kuka; **Iona Prep:** Brandon McGaughan, Angelo Nieves, Jaden Torrado; **Lehman H.S.:** David Ventura; **Mount St. Michael:** Alfred Beqiraj; **Preston H.S.:** Serena Balassi, Kiana Cancel, Caitlin Knapp; **Salesian H.S.:** Dmytro Berenzniuk, Benjamin Chadwick, Joseph Cruz, Nicholas Kola, Paul Mazzella, Jack Morrissey, Steven Rice; **St. Barnabas H.S.:** Meghan McConaghy; **St. Raymond H.S.:** Enrique Ramos; **Truman H.S.:** Donte Mitchell; **Urban Assembly New York Harbor School:** Sarah Stark; **Ursuline:** Alexa Gjonaj.

Island Current			June 2016						Tide Calendar				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
L = Low Tide H = High Tide													
6:47A 12:32P 6:53P	12:41A 7:39A 1:26P	1:35A 8:31A 2:21P	2:31A 9:23A 3:17P	3:30A 10:15A 4:15P	4:33A 11:09A 5:14P	5:36A 12:04P 6:12P	2:48A 8:22A 2:53P	3:59A 9:35A 4:02P	5:59A 10:53P 5:59P	7:06A 11:59A 6:59P	8:17A 12:50P 7:50P	9:28A 1:01P 8:51P	10:39A 1:12P 9:52P
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
L 12:34A H 6:37A L 12:58P H 7:08P	L 1:32A H 7:35A L 1:51P H 8:02P	L 2:26A H 8:29A L 2:41P H 8:52P	L 3:17A H 9:19A L 3:28P H 9:39P	L 4:04A H 10:07A L 4:10P H 10:22P	L 4:48A H 10:51A L 4:47P H 11:00P	L 5:27A H 11:30A L 5:17P H 11:27P	L 6:02A H 12:03P L 5:36P H 11:37P	L 6:30A H 12:20P L 6:03P H 11:44P	L 6:51A H 12:38P L 6:39P H 11:51P	L 7:19A H 12:55A L 7:19A H 12:02P	L 7:55A H 1:17A L 7:55A H 1:17A	L 8:36A H 2:02A L 8:36A H 2:02A	L 9:22A H 2:50A L 9:22A H 2:50A
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
L 6:02A H 12:03P L 5:36P H 11:37P	L 6:30A H 12:20P L 6:03P H 11:44P	L 6:51A H 12:38P L 6:39P H 11:51P	L 7:19A H 12:55A L 7:19A H 12:02P	L 7:55A H 1:17A L 7:55A H 1:17A	L 8:36A H 2:02A L 8:36A H 2:02A	L 9:22A H 2:50A L 9:22A H 2:50A	L 10:08P H 3:37A L 10:08P H 3:37A	L 10:44P H 4:24A L 10:44P H 4:24A	L 11:30P H 5:11A L 11:30P H 5:11A	L 12:16P H 6:02P L 12:16P H 6:02P	L 1:02P H 6:53P L 1:02P H 6:53P	L 1:48P H 7:44P L 1:48P H 7:44P	L 2:34P H 8:35P L 2:34P H 8:35P
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
L 3:42A L 10:12A H 4:18P L 10:43P	H 4:39A L 11:07A H 5:15P L 11:50P	H 5:42A L 12:08P H 6:19P L 12:43P	L 1:20A H 6:54A L 1:21P H 7:29P	L 2:46A H 8:18A L 2:47P H 8:45P	L 3:52A H 9:35A L 3:58P H 9:53P	L 4:50A H 10:38A L 4:58P H 10:53P	L 5:45A H 11:34A L 5:53P H 11:47P	L 6:35A H 12:26P L 6:45P H 12:39P	L 7:24A H 1:16P L 7:35P H 1:28A	L 8:12A H 2:04P L 8:24P H 2:17A	L 9:00A H 2:52P L 9:12P H 3:06A	L 9:48A H 3:40P L 10:00P H 3:54A	L 10:36A H 4:28P L 10:48P H 4:42P
26	27	28	29	30									
L 10:43P H 4:18P L 10:43P	L 11:50P H 5:15P L 11:50P	L 12:08P H 6:19P L 12:08P	L 1:21P H 7:29P L 1:21P	L 2:47P H 8:45P L 2:47P	L 3:58P H 9:53P L 3:58P	L 4:58P H 10:53P L 4:58P	L 5:58P H 11:53P L 5:58P	L 6:58P H 12:53P L 6:58P	L 7:58P H 1:53P L 7:58P	L 8:58P H 2:53P L 8:58P	L 9:58P H 3:53P L 9:58P	L 10:58P H 4:53P L 10:58P	L 11:58P H 5:53P L 11:58P
<p>Tide Calendar July 2016</p> <p>Island Current</p> <p>Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday</p> <p>L = Low Tide H = High Tide</p> <p>   </p>													

Island Current			August 2016						Tide Calendar				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
L = Low Tide H = High Tide													
4:39A 10:33A 4:52P 10:53P	5:32A 11:25A 5:44P 11:44P	6:20A 12:13P 6:33P 12:33P	7:06A 1:06A 7:19P 1:59P	8:03P 1:42P 8:03P 2:32P	8:44P 2:23P 8:44P 3:02P	9:22P 3:02P 9:22P 3:42P	4:39A 10:33A 4:52P 10:53P	5:32A 11:25A 5:44P 11:44P	6:20A 12:13P 6:33P 12:33P	7:06A 1:06A 7:19P 1:59P	8:03P 1:42P 8:03P 2:32P	8:44P 2:23P 8:44P 3:02P	9:22P 3:02P 9:22P 3:42P
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
H 3:15A L 9:32A H 3:37P L 9:54P	H 3:51A L 9:43A H 4:10P L 10:20P	H 4:29A L 10:13A H 4:46P L 10:58P	H 5:18A L 10:56A H 5:32P L 11:54P	H 6:35A L 11:46A H 6:29P L 12:42P	H 7:49A L 12:42P H 7:49A L 1:46P	H 8:35A L 1:27A H 8:35A L 2:27A	H 9:32A L 2:25A H 9:32A L 3:25A	H 10:30A L 3:20A H 10:30A L 4:20A	H 11:30A L 4:10A H 11:30A L 5:10A	H 12:30A L 5:00A H 12:30A L 6:00A	H 1:30A L 5:50A H 1:30A L 6:50A	H 2:30A L 6:40A H 2:30A L 7:40A	H 3:30A L 7:30A H 3:30A L 8:30A
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
H 1:30A L 8:01A H 1:56P L 8:30P	H 2:20A L 8:47A H 2:46P L 9:25P	H 3:13A L 9:38A H 3:39P L 10:32P	H 4:13A L 10:38A H 4:41P L 11:59P	H 5:29A L 12:02P H 6:02P L 12:41P	H 6:35A L 1:01A H 6:29P L 1:41P	H 7:49A L 1:51A H 7:49A L 2:41P	H 8:35A L 2:41A H 8:35A L 3:41P	H 9:32A L 3:30P H 9:32A L 4:41P	H 10:30A L 4:19A H 10:30A L 5:41P	H 11:30A L 5:09A H 11:30A L 6:41P	H 12:30A L 6:00A H 12:30A L 7:41P	H 1:30A L 6:50A H 1:30A L 8:41P	H 2:30A L 7:40A H 2:30A L 9:41P
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
L 3:29A H 9:27A L 3:46P H 9:51P	L 4:24A H 10:21A L 4:41P H 10:44P	L 5:14A H 11:10A L 5:31P H 11:32P	L 6:01A H 11:56A L 6:17P H 12:17P	L 6:50A H 12:46A L 7:07P H 1:07P	L 7:40A H 1:36A L 7:51P H 1:57P	L 8:30A H 2:26A L 8:41P H 2:57P	L 9:20A H 3:16A L 9:31P H 3:47P	L 10:10A H 4:06A L 10:21P H 4:37P	L 11:00A H 4:56A L 11:11P H 5:27P	L 11:50A H 5:46A L 12:01P H 6:17P	L 12:40A H 6:36A L 12:51P H 7:07P	L 1:30A H 7:26A L 1:41P H 8:07P	L 2:20A H 8:16A L 2:31P H 8:57P
<p>Tide Calendar September 2016</p> <p>Island Current</p> <p>Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday</p> <p>L = Low Tide H = High Tide</p> <p>  </p>													

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

JUNE 2016									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Wed	0248	0.14	0822	7.40	1453	0.10	2052	8.32	Wed 01
02 Thu	0359	-0.36	0935	7.54	1602	-0.15	2155	8.57	Thu 02
03 Fri	0459	-0.81	1039	7.70	1703	-0.36	2253	8.75	Fri 03
04 Sat	0554	-1.12	1137	7.83	1759	-0.48	2348	8.81	Sat 04
05 Sun	0647	-1.26	1232	7.88	1853	-0.47			Sun 05
06 Mon	0041	8.73	0739	-1.20	1326	7.86	1946	-0.33	Mon 06
07 Tue	0135	8.52	0831	-0.98	1421	7.77	2040	-0.09	Tue 07
08 Wed	0231	8.22	0923	-0.62	1517	7.64	2136	0.22	Wed 08
09 Thu	0330	7.86	1015	-0.21	1615	7.51	2235	0.54	Thu 09
10 Fri	0433	7.51	1109	0.21	1714	7.41	2334	0.80	Fri 10
11 Sat	0536	7.23	1204	0.57	1812	7.37			Sat 11
12 Sun	0034	0.97	0637	7.05	1258	0.84	1908	7.40	Sun 12
13 Mon	0132	1.01	0735	6.97	1351	1.01	2002	7.48	Mon 13
14 Tue	0226	0.96	0829	6.96	1441	1.09	2052	7.57	Tue 14
15 Wed	0317	0.83	0919	7.00	1528	1.10	2139	7.67	Wed 15
16 Thu	0404	0.67	1007	7.06	1610	1.08	2222	7.74	Thu 16
17 Fri	0448	0.52	1051	7.11	1647	1.04	2300	7.78	Fri 17
18 Sat	0527	0.38	1130	7.15	1717	0.97	2327	7.81	Sat 18
19 Sun	0602	0.27	1203	7.17	1736	0.87	2337	7.89	Sun 19
20 Mon	0630	0.18	1220	7.23	1803	0.73			Mon 20
21 Tue	0001	8.04	0651	0.08	1238	7.38	1839	0.60	Tue 21
22 Wed	0037	8.19	0719	-0.03	1311	7.56	1920	0.49	Wed 22
23 Thu	0117	8.27	0755	-0.10	1351	7.72	2005	0.43	Thu 23
24 Fri	0202	8.25	0836	-0.10	1436	7.84	2053	0.42	Fri 24
25 Sat	0250	8.12	0922	-0.05	1525	7.91	2145	0.46	Sat 25
26 Sun	0342	7.89	1012	0.07	1618	7.92	2243	0.52	Sun 26
27 Mon	0439	7.60	1107	0.21	1715	7.91	2350	0.54	Mon 27
28 Tue	0542	7.32	1208	0.33	1819	7.92			Tue 28
29 Wed	0120	0.44	0654	7.13	1321	0.39	1929	7.99	Wed 29
30 Thu	0246	0.12	0818	7.11	1447	0.30	2045	8.15	Thu 30
JULY 2016									
01 Fri	0352	-0.28	0935	7.25	1558	0.10	2153	8.35	Fri 01
02 Sat	0450	-0.65	1038	7.46	1658	-0.11	2253	8.51	Sat 02
03 Sun	0545	-0.91	1134	7.65	1753	-0.26	2347	8.58	Sun 03
04 Mon	0635	-1.03	1226	7.78	1845	-0.30			Mon 04



To Tree or Not to Tree?

Regular readers of this column will recall our fondness for the trees of City Island. We have often attempted to draw attention to what we consider to be the Island's finest specimens: the classic American elm on Fordham Street, for example, or the grafted pink and white dogwood on the Methodist Church property on Bay Street. In the past, readers have even been encouraged to share some of their own favorites.

In addition to this, we practically mourned when a new neighbor elected to take down a couple of old maples. From a distance, these two trees blended together at the top to give the appearance of one massive tree for the ages. And when the tags on the massive oak at the intersection of Park Drive and Orchard Beach Road turned out to be tags for just a trim as opposed to tags for a complete removal, we breathed a genuine sigh of relief.

After all that, we are probably the last people anyone would have thought would take issue with the City's recent drive to plant new trees on City Island. And yet that is exactly what we feel compelled to do. From our point of view, the whole enterprise seems less like an attempt to beautify than it is an effort to unload surplus city stock. Homeowners have not been consulted, and while it is true that the sidewalks where the new trees are being planted are city property, it is, after all, the home and business owners who have to live with and ultimately care for them.

We know one homeowner who, in the past, has had to pay a plumber to clean out the roots of a poorly placed tree

that had made their way into a sewer line. We know of another who has had a new tree planted right beside a dozen other already mature evergreens. It won't be long, she says, before the new tree will be growing into the old. We also know of homeowners who have had their views of the water compromised. Who could blame them for any resentment they may feel?

When some of these issues were raised with the City before to the plantings, home and business owners were once again reminded to whom the sidewalks belongs. But the City gets to have its cake and eat it too on this one: when it comes to snow removal, cleaning up and other general maintenance of sidewalks, the home and business owners, not the City, are responsible.

And that is the point really. Most City Islanders take a certain pride in the curb appeal of their homes and businesses. When we sweep out there or tidy up it is more about this sense of pride than fear of some fine. We may not actually own the sidewalks but we may as well. In the past, the City has acknowledged this reality, or so it has always seemed. In the past, homeowners would request new trees and be given choices as to kind. In the past, home and business owners would have been consulted.

Perhaps it would have been better if the people responsible for these new trees would have taken some of the points we have raised here into account. It is difficult to deny the beauty, even majesty of an awakening, healthy tree in spring, teeming with bird life; but so too is arrogance difficult to deny. As always, we welcome your feedback and invite your input at jdsstrat@msn.com.

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IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY



Photo courtesy of Chilternseeds.com

Poppy somniferum lilac peony

Beautiful Poppies

Everyone loves poppies, from the ubiquitous Flanders Field single red, Monet's favorite, to the giant oriental perennial poppy, goliath. Most poppies love the soil on City Island and can be grown with little effort.

Annual types, from the ferny-leafed California poppy with its chalice flowers of liquid gold to the salt-and-pepper seed pods of the somniferum opium poppy, are easily seeded in September or April directly into the soil. The little California will self-sow, and in places that you would never think to plant it, like cracks in the pavement. The seeds are so tiny that you must seed very thinly so as not to overcrowd them, as they will need to be six inches apart.

Somniferum poppies are legal to grow in the United States, and you will need a toothpick after eating a poppy seed bagel. The range of flower shapes go from single to peony form in cheerleader pom-pom fullness. Save the seed pods for winter arrangements.

Another beautiful poppy that is a very hardy perennial and will bloom from May through September is the atlanticum poppy. It flutters delicately on thin wiry

stems, and throughout the season the seeds can be collected and dried for future scatterings.

There is the ladybird poppy, diminutive and cute with black blotches in the center of lipstick red, mimicking the lady bug.

All of these poppies thrive on well-drained soil, and the poorer the soil the better. Try Thompson and Morgan seeds for a nice selection. Oriental poppies, big and bright are long lived and enjoy a richer mixture. Patty's plum is beautiful cloaked in dusty purple. Livermore red, always a winner. Then there is Romneya, the giant poppy shrub, and for those of you who are lucky enough to grow it, I turn green with envy. It does have underground runners and will be slightly invasive but who cares? Lovely as it is, I would plant it up with juniper and let it run. It stands three to four feet high, and the flowers, white and crinkly and eight inches across, have yellow anthers fringing the middle. Be still, my heart.

Lastly the holy grail in any plant department, the very difficult to grow four-foot blue Himalayan poppy. Martha Stewart claimed to grow it in her Connecticut garden, but I am sure they shipped them in for the photo shoot, for these poppies need cool summers and mild winters to thrive. England and the Pacific Northwest are where they can be seen or else in books.

So there is still time to scatter seeds for successive bloom time. Keep your soil moist until germination is complete. Actually, you can seed them until July out in the garden.

I am off to the Chelsea Flower Show in London, my report will be forthcoming in the summer edition of *The Island Current*.

Mary Colby is an artist and gardener whose studio is at 276 City Island Avenue. She can be reached at 917-804-4509 for consultation and design.



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Photos by KAREN and MARK NANI
 City Island was represented at the America's Cup sailboat racing trials in New York Harbor on Mother's Day, May 8, 2016, the first time cup races were held in New York since 1920. The points earned during the matches count toward the 35th America's Cup in Bermuda in 2017, which will pit reigning champ Oracle Team USA (top photo) against the winner of the multi-city lead-up series. Six international teams from the United States, New Zealand, Great Britain, Sweden, Japan and France held six races over the weekend (second photo). The large carbon-fiber catamarans bear little resemblance to the beautiful yachts built on City Island in the 20th century, including those shown on the shirt Paul Nani wore to the races and the 12-meter *Constellation* built by Minneford Shipyard in 1964 (bottom photos).



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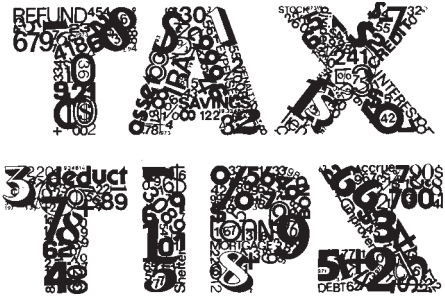
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LOOK FOR IT ON CI FIRST



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

You Receive a Tax Notice from the IRS. Now What?

The tsunami of tax returns filed from January to April is now entering the final stages of being processed, which is why there is a veritable flood of tax notices emanating from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). You may be receiving one of them, and here is some advice about what to do when you get such a missive.

It's important to understand the situation that the IRS is facing as an organization. Since 2010 the IRS has been eviscerated by budget cuts. Funding is down 17 percent after adjusting for inflation. There are about 13,000 fewer employees; and the biggest decreases have taken place in enforcement, with 23 percent fewer revenue agents.

In the meantime, the IRS is required to process 9 million more returns than in 2010, to completely revamp foreign account tax compliance rules (mostly to fight terrorism) and to implement and administer the Affordable Care Act. Lastly, with obsolete computers and servers, it faces a far better equipped and funded identity theft shadow industry.

Here are some bits of advice if you receive a notice.

1. *Don't ignore it.* Too often clients bring their accountants these notices with only a few days to go before more penalties will be imposed. This goes for New York State notices, too.

2. *IRS notices usually deal with a specific issue about your tax return.* That's why accountants counsel their clients not to panic when they receive an IRS notice. With significantly fewer IRS workers, these notices are overwhelmingly computer generated, whereas an audit notification is only a few sentences on a single page signed by a human being. It is worth noting that full audits are way down

from 2010 simply because there are fewer people to do them.

3. *If the notice says that the IRS corrected your tax return, review the information in the notice and compare it to your tax return.* Unless the amount the IRS is demanding is relatively nominal, it is helpful to have a professional review the changes the IRS is proposing. Surprisingly large percentages are simply wrong, or incorrectly calculated, or the IRS doesn't have all the facts relating to a taxable transaction.

4. *You may or may not be able to handle most notices without calling or visiting the IRS.* Anyone who has tried getting past the gnarled tangle of phone menus that the IRS puts up to prevent you from speaking to a human being can only be thankful if they get any questions answered at all. It is not uncommon for 50 percent or more of the calls to go unanswered. Professionals try to avoid speaking to IRS agents because they cannot be sure the agent on the line is versed in the relevant tax law. They generally trust the IRS tax rules and regulations as provided on their website. Areas where IRS human agents come in handy are in penalty abatement or taxpayer advocacy issues.

5. *Keep copies of any notices you get from the IRS.*

6. *Don't fall for phone and phishing e-mail scams that use the IRS as a lure.* First of all, the IRS rarely if ever sends e-mails because the agents consider faxes a more secure means of communication and think e-mails are vulnerable to hacking. Never respond to an "e-mail from the IRS." Do not click on any embedded link or attachment and do not forward it to your accountant, although you may report that you received such a communication. Phone calls from the IRS are rare and generally occur only after several initial attempted communications via traditional mail. Whether or not you can remember having received any such prior notices, get the employee number and name of the agent calling you and pass it along to your accountant.

No one looks forward to an IRS notice. If an accountant prepared your taxes, he or she is already well versed in your tax situation and is better equipped to deal with an IRS notice. IRS notices should not be taken lightly.



Photo by BARBARA DOLENSEK

Ena Ellwanger (at the podium) was one of many speakers who attended the celebration of the life of Miriam Kleinberg, City Island resident and teacher at P.S. 175, in the Grace Church Hall on Saturday, May 21.

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.



Helene M. Janssen

Helene M. Janssen (née Schuck) of Maple Shade, NJ, died on May 22, 2016, at

the age of 87.

She was born on July 31, 1928, and grew up on City Island. She attended Aquinas Hall High School and Katherine Gibbs and worked at NBC in Manhattan before marrying Richard J. Janssen in 1953. The couple moved to Virginia, Massachusetts and finally New Jersey, where Helene was a resident for 43 years.

Helene worked as an alcoholism counselor, home health aide and executive housekeeper before retiring in 1993. She actively volunteered at her church and at Kennedy Memorial Hospital. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, knitting, crocheting, playing piano, singing, bird watching, baking and baseball.

She is survived by her sons Richard Jr. (Kathleen) and Ken Christian and his son, John, and her daughters, Mary-Lynn, Linda, Ellen Schwartz (Gary) and her son, Noah; and her daughter-in-law, Melissa and her twin daughters, Arabella and Paris. Helene was preceded in death by her son Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made to Samaritan Healthcare and Hospice, Virtua Memorial Hospital, Mount Holly, NJ, or the South Jersey Food Bank.

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Photos by MATT PANZA

Gone are the banged up wire trash can eyesores on the Avenue (photo, above left). These handsome new trash cans (photo above) were made possible by funding provided by Councilmember James Vacca.

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Joseph William Noschese

Congratulations to Centre Street's Joseph William Noschese, who was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business and Management. Joseph graduated from Boston College's Carroll School of Management and, upon returning to New York, will begin working this month. Proud parents, Joe and Carmen, celebrated this happy occasion on May 23 and continued with a week of festivities in Boston.

Former Island resident Jimmy Immediato and his wife, Daniella, welcomed their new daughter, Gia Theresa, born Feb. 24. Big brother James was almost as excited as proud grandparents, Mary and James Immediato. Congratulations to the happy family!



Gia Theresa Immediato, held by her brother James, was born on Feb. 24, 2016, and will be christened in June.

Birthday greetings on June 19 to Minneford Avenue's Debra G. Erickson. Lots of love from Mom, Elzie and Kenny.

It's a boy! Welcome to the world, John



John Patrick Denehy arrived on April 18 to proud parents Rachel and Sean Denehy.

Patrick Denehy, born on April 18. Beaming new parents are Earley Street's Rachel and Sean Denehy.

Happy, happy birthday wishes on June 29 to Marine Street's Ann Butterworth, with love from the Butterworth and Doyle families.

Over highways and byways to Huntsville, Alabama from Long Island, NY—a very happy birthday greeting to my very special pal of 69+ years—Carolyn (Foley) Peters. So many fond memories of walking City Island Ave, City Island Park and Fordham Street. Enjoy your big day on June 21. From your pal Barbara (Haas) Lynch.

Congratulations to TV and film star Vincent Pastore, who was recently inducted into the Bronx Walk of Fame on May 15 during Bronx Week.

Belated congratulations to Anthony Mazzella on his retirement from PSS and NYC Dept. for the Aging. We are so proud of you for your hard work and dedication. Now, go ENJOY! Love, your family.

Happy June birthday greetings to the Sailmaker's John Iovieno, with love from the Swieciki and Iovieno families.

Happy eighth wedding anniversary to Anthony and Meredith. How quickly time flies! Carpe Diem. Enjoy your day. Love, Mom and Dad Ribaud.

Birthday wishes to my wonderful daughters-in-law! Meredith celebrates on June 3 and Danielle on June 15. Have a joyous celebration—and yes—we'll baby-sit! Love, Mom and Dad Ribaud.

Shared birthday wishes on June 7 to the *Island Current's* Karen Nani and Margaret Lenz and also to Ginger Dannerger and Rose Kolb, whose special day is June 4.

Happy birthday on June 1 to Tier Street's Marion Rosenfeld, with much love from your family and friends.

Happy June birthdays to Judy Rauh and her brother, John Wright. Enjoy!

Get well wishes being sent to Bay Street's Marlene Cioffi, who is recuperating at home after knee surgery.

Best wishes for continued success to Amanda M. Hanglow, who recently graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor's degree in nutri-



Islander Anthony Mazzella celebrated his retirement from the PSS Senior Center and the NYC Department for the Aging with his grandchildren.

tion. Amanda will now pursue a career as a physician's assistant. Her mother, Colleen Curran, now retired from the NYPD, and her sister, Lauren Hanglow, could not be prouder! Keep up the good work!



Photo by COLLEEN CURRAN

Islander Amanda Hanglow graduated from Penn State University in May and celebrated atop the school's mascot, the Nittany Lion.

And a very happy Father's Day to all our hardworking dads and grandfathers. Enjoy your special day!

Maria Swieciki

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