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One Dollar

Islander Coast Guardsman Rescues Star of "Master and Commander"

By KAREN NANI



Photos courtesy of ROBERT SWIECIKI
Island resident and Coast Guardsman Bobby Swieciki (top photo, right) and his crewman Thomas Watson (left) helped rescue Academy Award-winning actor Russell Crowe from a beach in Long Island Sound on Sept. 1, 2012. Bobby was also on the scene for the rescue of passengers after the crash of US Airways Flight 1549 in the Hudson River in January 2009 (middle photo). He is currently the coxswain of a three-man crew fast-response boat (bottom photo) stationed in Eatons Neck, Long Island.



Like many kids who grew up here, lifelong resident Bobby Swieciki gained a love of swimming, boating and the water during his first 19 years on City Island. He began to think about a career "involving the water" as he attended P.S. 175 and then again after graduation from Blessed Sacrament/St. Gabriel High School in New Rochelle in 2005.

So he applied to the U.S. Coast Guard and was accepted in May 2006 after an anxious year on the waiting list. It appears to be the right life decision, since Coxswain Swieciki has already been involved in two newsworthy, successful Coast Guard operations: the rescue of passengers after the crash of US Airways Flight 1549 in the Hudson River in January 2009 and, most recently, the rescue of Academy Award-winning actor Russell Crowe from a beach in Long Island Sound.

Bobby began his USCG career stationed in Cape May, New Jersey, where he attended boot camp. "Boot camp is what everyone hears about—living in small barracks with strangers, lots of pushups and officers yelling and waking you up in the middle of the night," he told *The Current*.

After boot camp, his first assignment

was, enviably, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, where, as a Seaman First Class, he learned the basics of crewing on a Coast Guard search-and-rescue vessel, along with law enforcement, first aid and other skills. The Cape Cod station was a "small boat station" covering Cape Cod Canal, Buzzards Bay and Cape Cod Bay. Seaman Swieciki crewed on 25-foot high-speed response boats, which have the capability of capsizing and self-righting.

After two years, he was assigned to Boatswains Mate A School in Yorktown, Virginia, where he was part of a highly competitive class of 40 experienced seamen training for their first permanent position.

He was up to the challenge, and after three months of training in navigation and search and rescue procedures, he finished among the top five in his class, which meant that he had one of the first picks for his next assignment. Bobby decided to stay close to home, and he chose the USCG station in Montauk, Long Island. He was a crewmember aboard the 87-foot Coast Guard cutter *Ridley* and other vessels that patrol the waters from Maine to the Hudson River.

On Jan. 15, 2009, Bobby and his crew

were escorting ferries in the Hudson River when they watched, in shock, as a US Airways jet landed two minutes from where they were patrolling. They responded to the scene (see photo) and were part of the successful rescue of the 155 passengers and crew members, including the now famous Captain "Sully" Sullenberger.

Then in the summer of 2010, Coxswain Swieciki was assigned to the small boat station in Eaton's Neck on the north shore of Long Island, outside of Northport Harbor. Many City Islanders spent carefree summer weekends anchored in Eaton's Neck, including this reporter and the late Bill Clancy who wrote the "Boat Show" column for *The Current*. In the 1960s and '70s, there were often as many as 100 boats rafted up for weekend barbecuing and overnight stays in the protected harbor, which has a quaint Coast Guard station at the end. Pleasure boats are no longer allowed to drop a hook on the beach, so only about 30 boats anchor offshore these days on a typical summer weekend, according to Bobby.

Nevertheless, excitement followed him to Long Island Sound in his assignment to Eaton's Neck. After the boating tragedy on July 4 this past summer when a crowded power boat capsized in Oyster Bay and

three children died, Coast Guard patrols were increased around any maritime event.

On Sept. 1, Bobby and his two boatswain's mates, Thomas Watson and Seth Pritt, were assigned to patrol the waters around Huntington Lighthouse, where a concert was being held. The three-man crew was aboard a small response boat with Coxswain Swieciki at the helm. They had completed a nine-hour tour of stopping speeding vessels and conducting safety inspections among the more than 300 boats anchored for the concert.

They were heading back to Eaton's Neck about 9 p.m. when one of the crew members reported that he heard someone shouting from the shore. "I immediately shut off everything, including the engines and the radio, so we could listen," Bobby reported, and he turned the spotlight in the direction of the shouts. He and his crew spotted two men with kayaks on a deserted beach east of Lloyd's Neck. "It was a pitch black, moonless night, and they had run out of daylight and were lost."

The kayakers asked where Cold Spring Harbor was, so Bobby instructed them to paddle out to the Coast Guard vessel, where

Continued on page 15

Proposed Housing Development Headlines SRO Fellowship Meeting

By KAREN NANI



Photo by PAUL NANI

The first Fellowship Friday meeting at Grace Church on Sept. 14 turned into a standing-room-only event as residents rallied against the planned four-story 200-unit assisted living facility on the vacant property on City Island Avenue at Schofield Street. Bill Stanton, of the City Island Civic Association, urged the crowd to support a legal fund to make the developer adhere to local zoning rules.

The first Fellowship Friday meeting at Grace Church drew a packed house of more than 125 residents on Sept. 14 as the issue of a proposed housing development on Schofield Street was raised. Islanders and guests listened with concern to a call for action against the construction of a 214-unit structure being proposed as an assisted-living facility for the elderly.

The meeting was the first in a new Friday series sponsored by Grace Episcopal Church featuring "events or talks of interest to the entire community." Organizers billed the evening as an informal session in which several Island organizations would present information about their groups. At the last minute, however, the meeting turned into a standing-room-only event when announcements went out from the City Island Civic Association, among others, that residents needed to rally against "the threat posed by the planned four-story assisted living facility on the vacant property on City Island

Avenue at Schofield Street."

Joanne Brogan, junior warden at Grace Church, opened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. and welcomed the large crowd, saying, "We are very excited about the turnout and the great start to this new community event at Grace." She thanked Brenda Prohaska and others and then introduced Grace's new priest-in-charge, the Reverend Ruth Anne Garcia. Reverend Garcia was delighted to have the chance to meet so many concerned Islanders in one evening and was impressed by the showing of community activism.

The first speaker was Barbara Hoffman of the City Island Garden Club. She reviewed the activities of the club including the renovation of Hawkins Park and the placement of attractive planters along City Island Avenue. She urged attendees to join and support the Garden Club, especially during its annual beautification drive in the spring.

Continued on page 7

BRIEFLY...

BOATING SAFETY CLASS will be held by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary on Wednesday, Oct. 10, 17 and 24 at the Harlem Yacht Club, 417 Hunter Avenue from 7 to 10 p.m. Cost of materials \$75. Call Alan Lesser at 845-323-0265 or e-mail alan-lesser@gmail.com for more information.

POTS (Part of the Solution) will be the subject of a talk to be given by Christopher Bean, executive director of POTS, at Grace Episcopal Church on Friday, Oct. 12, the second in the series of Friday Fellowship meetings at Grace. He will explain some of the services that POTS has provided to about 14,000 of our Bronx neighbors, including 4,000 children, during the past year. For three decades POTS has served the poorest congressional district in the nation and prides itself on never turning away someone in need and has seen a 60 percent increase over the last five years. The talk will be at 7 p.m. in Grace's parish hall at 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, and those who attend may participate in a working session in which 400 sandwiches will be made for distribution by POTS.

ACCESS TO THE HUTCH: The Hutchinson River Restoration Project (HRRP), with technical input from B. Laing Associates, environmental consultants, has surveyed and evaluated 11 potential sites for a possible canoe and kayak launching site on the Hutchinson River. With input from the community, the three sites with the most potential for a viable launch have been selected. In order to help make a final selection, the community has been asked to attend a meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street. HRRP has been funded for this project by the Environmental Protection Agency to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in partnership with the New York New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program.

THE JEREMY BACON TRIO will perform at Grace Episcopal Church on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 4 p.m. in the third concert of the 2012-2013 series. Jeremy Bacon is an extremely creative and dynamic jazz pianist, and he brings with him Thomson Kneeland (bass) and Kendra Lou (vocals) for an afternoon of cool jazz. Mr. Bacon recently moved to City Island with his wife, the Rev. Ruth Anne Garcia, the new priest in charge at Grace Church. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased in advance on the church's website: www.gracecityisland.org. Audiences at the two previous concerts in the series were delighted by the a cappella holiday music performed by Sing We Enchanted in January and Brian Conway's incomparable Irish fiddling in May. Both are scheduled to return to Grace in 2013.

THE METRO CARD MOBILE VAN, thanks to AARP Chapter 318 and Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, will be parked in front of the Trinity United Methodist Church, at City Island Avenue and Bay Street on Monday, Oct. 29, 2012, from 1 to 3 p.m. Seniors and the disabled may apply for reduced fare Metro cards. Please bring Medicare card and valid photo I.D. Metro card questions will be answered. Everyone is welcome.

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN POSTER PAINTING will take place in front of the Club House, 274 City Island Avenue, on Saturday, Oct. 20, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (inside the building if it rains). The event is free and all supplies will be provided. All ages are invited to participate, and finished posters will be put up by each artist at a favorite store on City Island. Sponsored by Atlantic Emeritus Realty, Kelly and Bob Carmody and members of the Club House.

THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER, the classic comedy by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, will be presented by the City Island Theater Group on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 9, 10, 16 and 17, at 8 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 11 and 18, at 3 p.m. All productions are at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street. Reservations can be made by calling 718-885-3066 or e-mailing tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com.

THIS YEAR'S HAUNTED HOUSE, "Fun-pocalypse," will be presented by the City Island Community Center and the City Island Theater Group on Halloween night only, Wednesday, Oct. 31, at the Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, between 6 and 11 p.m. Admission \$5 per person. As always, this will be a scary and wonderful event. Don't miss it!



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Court Decisions Rendered on Islanders' Cases

By KAREN NANI

Court decisions were reached on the cases of two Island residents, Frank Mastracchio and Thomas McMahon. They were arrested on March 1, 2012, along with six others, for allegedly operating a sports betting operation.

On Aug. 22, Mr. Mastracchio, 56, pled guilty to attempted promotion of gambling in the first degree and one charge of criminal possession of a weapon, according to the Bronx District Attorney's office. He was sentenced in Bronx Supreme Court to a conditional discharge for both charges.

"He has to stay out of trouble for a year," a spokesperson for the District Attorney told *The Current*. "He does not have to serve any jail time at present. If Mr. Mastracchio is re-arrested before one

year, he would have to report back to the court and possibly get re-sentenced on the [original] charges."

On Sept. 6, the case against Mr. McMahon, 29, was closed and the record was sealed. There are no current or pending charges against him. The District Attorney's office had no further comments about the case. The McMahon family was happy to report to *The Current* that "the case against Thomas has been dismissed and he continues to be a proud member of the New York City Fire Department."

The crimes alleged in the original indictments occurred between December 1, 2009, and June 23, 2011 (see the April 2012 issue of *The Current*).

The cases were heard by State Supreme Court Justice Steven Barrett.

45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during the August and September 2012. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 2 – GRAND LARCENY AUTO
- 1 – ASSAULT
- 3 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
- 1 – DEAD ON ARRIVAL (DOA)
- 2 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE
- 1 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

Police provided details on the following incidents and arrests for the period from Aug. 21 to Sept. 24, 2012.

8/31 – An off-Island male, 35, was arrested and charged with assault on Reville Street and City Island Avenue at 7 p.m. The perpetrator allegedly slapped and pulled the hair of the complainant, causing injury.

9/4 – An Island male, 18, was arrested at 4:12 p.m. on Hawkins Street and charged with criminal possession of marijuana. The defendant was observed by police trying to conceal a bag of marijuana in a pack of cigarettes.

9/12 – At the corner of Fordham Street and Fordham Place at 10:35 p.m., police arrested an Island male, 27, and charged him with criminal possession of a controlled substance.

9/14 – At 8:30 p.m. on City Island Avenue, a complainant parked his vehicle in a restaurant parking lot. Upon returning, he discovered the vehicle had been taken by unknown persons. Police are investigating the incident of grand larceny and reviewing the video surveillance tapes of the area.

9/14 – At 11:11 a.m., the body of a male in his 60s was found floating face down in the water near the marina at 150 City Island Avenue. Identification cards were found on the victim and matched the name from a missing person report. Police referred the case to Missing Persons. No foul play is suspected.

9/15 – In the parking lot of a restaurant on City Island Avenue, an off-Island male, 21, was arrested and charged with criminal possession of marijuana.

9/15 – Police from the 45th Precinct are investigating an incident of criminal mischief that occurred at 5 a.m. A complainant boarded a New York City bus at Fordham Street and told the bus driver that an unknown male had held her against her will. A pick-up truck then pulled up alongside and an unknown person threw something at the bus shattering one of the windows.

9/19 – On King Avenue at 10:50 p.m., police stopped an off-Island male, 25, for operating a vehicle with no headlights. The driver could not produce a valid driver's license, and police found a controlled substance in plain view. The defendant was arrested and charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance.

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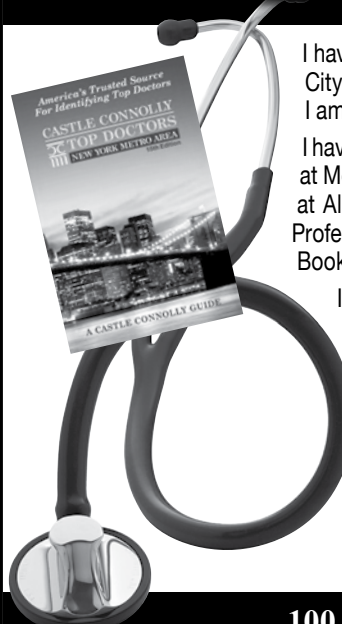


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I have many years of experience in Primary Care as well as consulting at Montefiore Hospital. I have taught medical students and residents at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and am a Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine there. I have been recognized in Connolly's Book of "Top Doctors".

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THE NO-NAME STORM



Photos by MIKE RAUH, KAREN NANI and ERIC RAUHAUSER

Wind gusts of over 50 mph from the south churned up the waters of Eastchester Bay and Long Island Sound on Sept. 18, 2012, causing several boats to break loose from their moorings and crash ashore on Winters Street and Pell Place beaches (photos, left). A 31-foot sailboat, named *Prelude*, from the Morris Yacht and Beach Club, washed up so high on the beach that it had to be taken away by a barge-mounted crane. Three of the boats that broke loose came from the Stuyvesant Yacht Club. The first, a 39-foot sailboat named *Aquarius*, drifted north and was taken under tow near the Harlem Yacht Club. The second, *Lickety Split*, broke free after being hit by another SYC boat that had broken loose and ended up drifting west to Evers Marina in Country Club. The boat that hit it, a sailboat named *Osprey*, had an unhappy meeting with the City Island bridge, was dismantled and ended up on the rocks near the Orchard Beach woods. Two City Islanders, Dennis Pryor and Lucas Scarano, decided to go sailing in the high winds and their laser sailboat capsized. They safely swam the boat ashore on High Island, but a resident saw the boat capsize and called 911. Responders from FDNY trucks, police and fire boats, and EMT units reached the boys on High Island and, after confirming they were OK, appeared annoyed at the young sailors' recklessness (photos above).

CIVIC MEETING BRINGS OUT THE CROWDS

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by PAUL NANI

The new commanding officer of the 45th precinct, Captain James McGeown, introduced himself to the community at the September meeting of the City Island Civic Association.

The September meeting of the City Island Civic Association drew more than its usual attendance, thanks to a number of issues facing the community. Although Comptroller John Liu was not able to attend, as he had planned, the new commanding officer of the 45th Precinct, James McGeown, came to the meeting with Lieutenant Trapani. After introducing himself, he informed the group that he was learning about the various issues on City Island and was fully prepared to deal with them, as his predecessor, Captain Russell Green, had done.

The central issue under discussion at the meeting was the proposed assisted-living facility that had been the subject of intense interest at the Grace Church Fellowship meeting on Friday, Sept. 14 (see article on page 1). Residents are very concerned that if the Bureau of Standards and Appeals (BSA) approves the project as outlined in the application and Dr. Mignone fails to obtain a license to operate an assisted-living facility, he could nonetheless construct a massive apartment building on the site.

Officers of the Civic Association are researching the land use and zoning regu-

lations to determine how to approach the BSA when the required public hearing is held. However, it is clear that an experienced attorney with special knowledge of these issues and who has worked with BSA in the past will be essential if the community is to persuade BSA to turn down the application. The Bureau is said to approve 97 percent of all applications, and although the local community board may hold a public hearing, its vote is only advisory.

Bill Stanton, Civic president, made an impassioned plea for donations to the Civic legal fund, SONE (Save Our Natural Environment), which was founded some years ago to help fight unwanted developments on City Island. He argued that if Dr. Mignone were granted variances to construct his building here, the average value of houses on the Island would be likely to decline, and he asked every resident to donate at least \$100 to the legal fund.

Tom Smith, treasurer of the Civic, reiterated Bill's conviction that \$100 was a worthy investment in the future of City Island. He said that residents should make out checks to the City Island Civic Association or to SONE, and mail them to the City Island Civic Association, P. O. Box 117, Bronx NY 10464.

CI Post Office At Risk

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Rumors have been circulating that the City Island branch of the U. S. Postal Service (USPS) will soon close its doors. But the rumors are not true, at least not yet.

According to employees at the City Island branch, the USPS has initiated a study of this branch (and 17,000 others) in order to search for ways to cut costs. It is no surprise that this is taking place, as the USPS has been suffering financial problems for many years.

If it is determined that the cost of running the City Island branch is not practical, the USPS may set up a satellite station in another, smaller space on the Island where residents will be able to purchase stamps, mail packages, obtain money orders and

have post office boxes. The major change would be that the mail carriers would have to work out of a central location in Co-op City rather than from the City Island station.

The results of this study may not be known for another year or so, and when any decisions are made regarding the branch, the community will be given plenty of advance notice. And as Millie Robles, manager of the City Island branch, told *The Current*: "This post office is an important part of this community, and I believe it will be around for many more years to come. The logistics involved in relocating the City Island station are so many that I don't think they will close it."

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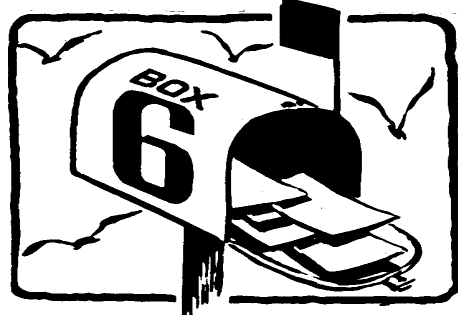
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<p>ACTOR RUSSELL CROWE LOSES BEARINGS IN L.I. SOUND. ISLANDER BOB SWIECKI HAS HAND IN RESCUE.</p>	<p>SCHOOL BACK IN SESSION PARENTS URGED TO DRIVE SAFELY</p>	<p>ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PUMPKIN SALE FOR AMERICAN LEGION POST 156</p>	<p>FELLOWSHIP MEETING AT GRACE CHURCH DRAWS CROWDS</p>
<p>METHOD ACTING, SCHMETHOD ACTING. I TRIED TO PULL FROM MY EXPERIENCES ON MASTER AND COMMANDER... I GOT NOTHING!</p>	<p>DON'T WORRY, KIDS. STOPPING ON RED IS ONLY A SUGGESTION.</p> <p>RUN FOR YOUR LIVES KIDS! PHEW! I'VE GOT TO GET HAZARD PAY!</p> <p>BEEP! BEEP!</p> <p>LET ME IN. I DON'T CARE IF YOU'VE BEEN WAITING. I'M READY TO LEAVE NOW!</p>	<p>HEY FRED, HAVE YOU SEEN THE POST COMMANDER TODAY?</p>	<p>AND LAST, BUT NOT LEAST OF THE ISSUES AFFECTING C.I. - I'D LIKE TO APPEAL TO MR. VACCA TO OUTLAW ALL STORMS LIKE THE ONE THAT'S GOING TO HIT US IN 4 DAYS.</p>
	 <p>I GOT THE CUTEST LITTLE DRESS AT...</p> <p>OH, I'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE!</p> <p>WAY TO SET GOOD DRIVING EXAMPLES FOR YOUR KIDS, MOMMIE-JAMMERS!</p>	 <p>I CAN'T EVEN SQUEEZE THROUGH THIS MESS IN MY SMART CAR!</p> <p>NO, BUT I KNOW HE'S REALLY INTO THESE PUMPKIN SALES!</p>	 <p>HOW DOES HE KNOW?</p> <p>NO MORE HUD</p> <p>SAVE OUR SOUND</p> <p>SHHH, NEVER DOUBT AN OLD SALT.</p>



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.

Traffic Hazards

To The Editor:

As a City Island resident, I often take a daily walk from one end of City Island Avenue to the other, and I can predict the exact spots where owners of property will disregard the rights of pedestrians.

Have you ever walked by the Sunoco gas station at the corner of City Island Avenue and Ditmars Street to find a car, van or SUV parked in your way? If I walk by this corner, I am forced to go around into the street, to squeeze between two vehicles or cross to the other side. Often when cars pull out of the station to make a fast turn, they almost hit me. I have to stop in my tracks to let them go by! I thought pedestrians had the right of way.

Just the other day, as I pulled in to the station to buy gas, a van pulled up onto the sidewalk and parked parallel to my car. The weekend traffic officer in charge of that intersection was walking in to the gas station mart for his break. "This is great," I thought. "I am finally going to have my say." I told the officer that he had just walked by an illegally parked van on the sidewalk, and pointed it out to him. Since he is a traffic officer, I noted, he needed to tell them to leave or issue a summons. The officer refused. He wouldn't tell them to move and said he can't issue summonses. "Call 911," he said, throwing up his hands. He then argued that the gas station has to take care of it, even though I insisted that the sidewalk is our public space.

Another situation exists in front of Seafood City, where patrons often ignore the arrows pointing in to the parking lot and leave via the entrance. The other evening, one driver just missed hitting my husband and me. The same goes for the fishing boat parking lot near Jack's Bait and Tackle and at the Johnny's Reef and Sammy Fish Box lots. There is no attendant watching out for cars that turn in and out and their patrons are often in a hurry. While exiting, the drivers seem totally shocked to see pedestrians.

What is the answer to solving this annoying and unsafe dilemma? The police department will apparently not be issuing summonses, and why don't traffic agents have the right to do so? Lot owners won't put up signs or have their attendants caution patrons to watch for pedestrians or install tire destructors for those exiting the entrances. If any readers can come up with a solution, I'd like to hear it.

Jane Rothman

Pump-Out Boat in Jeopardy

To the Editor:

The operation of a pump-out boat exclusively for the New York City waters of western Long Island Sound is in jeopardy. The pump-out boat was introduced by Going Coastal in 2010 as a free service to recreational boaters.

Since its introduction, the pump-out boat has serviced more than 1,000 recreational boats docked and moored at local marinas and boat clubs preventing more than 15,000 gallons of sewage from entering city waters.

Thousands of people in the Bronx and Queens North Shore region rely on the continued operation of this program, since a pump-out boat makes it convenient for boaters to empty their holding tanks in an environmentally acceptable manner. Since recreational boats generally congregate in shallow, closed-in areas that are slow to flush, nutrients and bacteria may become concentrated in the water. Using a pump-out boat decreases the supply of nutrients to the water and reduces pathogens that may cause waterborne diseases.

Today, water access is expanding and recreational fishing, recreational boating, kayaking, swimming, bird watching and coastal tourism are on the rise. A new marina mooring field will open at Clason Point. Clearly, the ability of the area to sustain traditional maritime uses is dependent on the presence of active and informed water quality stewardship strategies, which includes pump-out facilities for boaters. Existing landside pump-outs are limited and often inaccessible for deep draft vessels such as sailboats. Going Coastal's pump-out boat is an integral tool to keep our coastal waters clean. For all these reasons and more, it is vital to continue operation of the pump-out boat over City Island and Throggs Neck.


Only \$5,000 in public funds is provided each season by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Clean Vessel Act Program to support the pump-out boat. Hammonds Cove Marina generously donates seasonal wet slip and dry storage for the pump-out boat, which provided the program considerable savings. The pump-out boat depends on direct access to city sewage, which Hammonds Cove Marina also provides through a stationary pump-out facility maintained by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

A pump-out vessel is a cost-effective means of keeping local waters clean. The boat and crew serve an active stewardship role in the community by educating boaters and marina operators about clean practices. The plans to expand this program include water quality monitoring and floatable debris monitoring of Bronx waters.

If you want to help, go to www.going-coastal.org, click on "projects" and scroll down to the Pump-Out Boat section. Above it you can click on "Donate to support this effort." You can also join Going Coastal by going to the website or by calling 347-946-4318.

Barbara La Rocco, President
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Caleb Carman

To The Editor:

After seeing the photograph of Caleb Carman's headstone in the September issue of *The Current*, I thought readers would be interested in seeing a photograph of him. He was my great-great-grandfather on the side of my father, John A. Martin. My grandmother, Jessica May Rolfe, who died in 1974, is also buried in Pelham Cemetery. The frame of this picture has crumbled a bit at the top but it remains a very beloved possession.

Suzanne Capps (née Martin)

Bill Clancy Nostalgia

To the Editor:

I write with cold hands (it's 40 degrees in our Wisconsin north woods cabin), a warm heart, tears in my eyes after reading Greg Clancy's letter about Bill (see September issue of *The Current*), and a great deal of nostalgia.

Now to reassure Greg, I am delighted to read that he will continue the yearly boat show article. Greg: just make sure you get it in on deadline and don't try to cash that check! (I must live up to my reputation.) I'm still as cheap as ever, so I suggest minimal expenses—but that is up to the current editor, Karen.

The Current is a wonderful read! You all work hard and it shows. Congratulations on jobs well done. I'm thrilled to read about so much activity on the Island and to see how many people are involved.

Sally "McCheap" McPherson



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The Man Who Came to Dinner . . . and Stayed . . . and Stayed

By MARY MCINTYRE

This November, the City Island Theater Group will present "The Man Who Came to Dinner," a comedy in three acts by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart. The play, which opened in 1939, is set in a small town in Ohio during the few weeks before Christmas, when a famously outrageous radio personality, Sheridan Whiteside, has been invited to dine at the home of a wealthy factory owner, Ernest W. Stanley. The play is loosely based on Kaufman and Hart's relationship with a real-life radio personality of that time, Alexander Woollcott, who played himself in the West Coast production, joined by Harpo Marx playing a character based on himself. The play eventually was adapted for a musical production, and for radio and television, starring an extensive list of well-known actors of that era.

Just as Whiteside is entering his host's home, he slips on a patch of ice outside the front door and injures his hip. He and

his entourage soon become entrenched in the Stanley home, disrupting the entire household and dominating their lives. As Christmas approaches, Whiteside and his razor-sharp secretary, Maggie, host a parade of exotic visitors while all kinds of creatures take up residence in the house with them. Eventually Mr. Stanley orders Whiteside out of his house and as he leaves, he once again. . . .

This is a production with an extensive cast, a larger-than-life set, and a real challenge to any prop department, but as usual, CITG is up to the challenge.

Performances will take place over three weekends in November, at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 9, 10, 16 and 17, and there will be two matinees, Sunday, Nov. 11 and 18, at 3 p.m. As usual, the performances will all be at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street. For reservations, please call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com.

"The Laramie Project"

By BRUCE A. WEIS



Photo by MARY MCINTYRE

The "Laramie Project" cast, which presented a staged reading of the play on the weekend of Sept. 22, 2012: (l. to r.): Suzanne Velcheck, Cathy Romanovitch, Nic Anthony Calabro (in back), Katrina Snyder, Paula Jean Rocheleau (in front with glasses), Susan Rauh, Christopher McGowan, Shante Skyers, Jenny Leclerc, Andy Ravick (in back), Rose DeMonte (in front), Sarah Harrold, Lindy Tabano (in front) Danny Conover and Thomas Losito (in back). Missing: Frank Siciliano, Eileen Fox, Emily McSpadden and Denis Zepeda.

The City Island Theater Group has never been shy about presenting shows with an emotional punch. Productions of "Doubt" and "The Crucible" have been interspersed over the years with more traditional musicals and comedies, such as "Sweet Charity" and "Lend Me a Tenor."

The most recent CITG effort, an excellent staged reading of "The Laramie Project," continues in this tradition. The play focuses on an outrageous event that nearly all of us can remember from the not-so-distant past—the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay University of Wyoming student in Laramie, Wyoming. The facts of the case are beyond dispute; Matthew was taken from a Laramie bar to a remote location, tied to a fence and savagely beaten, robbed and left to die.

The play was written by Moisés Kaufman and the Tectonic Theater Project (Leigh Fondakowski, Stephen Belber, Greg Pierotti, Barbara Pitts, Stephen Wangh, Amanda Gronich, Sara Lambert, John McAdams, Maude Mitchell, Andy Paris and Kelli Simpkins), who traveled to Laramie a number of times to review court records and conduct hundreds of interviews with residents of the town. Drawing on these interviews and on published news reports, the group wrote "The Laramie Project," which premiered at Denver's Ricketson Theatre in February 2000. The show has subsequently been produced in Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand, as well as in Laramie itself.

The play is divided into three acts and includes more than 60 characters in a series of short scenes. In the original production, eight actors handled these roles; the CITG used 19 actors in a tightly scripted and blocked presentation, in which they quickly switched between characters, making minor costume and prop changes as necessary, taking center stage and then yielding to the next actor.

The play was billed as a staged CITG reading, but it was far more than that. The best thing about the evening was the high level of good acting; rather than simply reading lines, the actors emoted, often brilliantly. Although each actor carried a

script, the audience quickly forgot that the scripts were there as the drama unfolded on the stage.

So many good actors handled so many roles, at such a fast pace, that it seems meaningless to link each actor with all the roles they played (although I swear I could do it). The cast included Nic Anthony Calabro, Danny Conover, Rose Demonte, Eileen Fox, Sarah Harrold, Jennie LeClere, Thomas Losito, Christopher McGowan, Emily McSpadden, Susan Rauh, Andy Ravick, Paula Jean Rochelau, Cathy Romanovitch, Frank Siciliano, Shante Skyers, Katrina Snyder, Lindy Tabano, Susan Velcheck and Denis Zepeda. I hesitate to praise any one performance because there were just so many, and if I compliment one good thing, it's only fair to praise them all, but I only have 500 words here, so let me just mention one: Christopher McGowan soliloquy as Matthew Shepard's father. Wow.

Elizabeth Paldino, familiar to CITG audiences as an actress, has wanted to bring this project to the CITG stage for a long time, and she did a great job as its director, from the somber beginning to the lights twinkling in the distance at the end. Hannah Glick was an efficient Production Stage Manager; Carol McCabe costumed the production and shared Production Manager duties with Nick Salas. The lighting was designed by Joe Burck and carried out by Celeste Ploumis; Kyle Caso handled the sound and Barbara Dolensek rounded up props, as well as moderating an interesting discussion with members of the cast and the audience after the Sept. 23 matinee.

One of the most powerful moments in the production was the speech given by Fred Phelps, leader of the Westboro Baptist Church, an anti-gay organization based in Kansas that picketed Matthew Shepard's funeral in 1998. Although many political, legal, religious and social strides have been made in the acceptance of gay rights since 1998, the fact that Westboro Baptist continues to protest performances of "The Laramie Project," as well as funerals, indicates that this play continues to send a strong message.

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

Marc Kaplan is now offering **Tai Chi at Dragons Path Academy**, 229 City Island Avenue, on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. For information, call Eddie at 917-742-2007.

The **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) will add flowers to your fall with a new art exhibition opening Saturday, Oct. 6; *Bronx Flowers,* prints by City Island's Anoosh Donahue, will start with a reception the first October Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m. Songwriters are on stage for Sundays and a Friday or two in October, including Matt Turk (Sunday, Oct. 7, 3 p.m., with a live broadcast on the Internet via Starving Artist TV on UStream); Fred Gillen Jr. (Sunday, Oct. 14, 3 p.m.); and this features a CD release for Gillen's "Silence of the Night", and City Island's Kayla Faccilongo and Jenn "Angel Wings" Santise (Friday, Oct. 12, 8 p.m.). There will be Calypso music with the Palms of Maracaibo (Sunday, Oct. 21, 3 p.m.) and jazz violin with Jonathan Russell (Sunday, Oct. 28, 3 p.m.). For the complete October lineup, please visit www.StarvingArtistOnline.com.

The **Uptown Coffeehouse** presents Drew Nelson on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 6 p.m. at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, lower level. Songwriter, storyteller, multi-instrumentalist, Navy veteran and fly fisherman, Mr. Nelson tells the stories from the journeys he has taken. His music is a mix of Americana and roots-rock with traditional folk. He was the lead guitarist in the band Back Alley John Revue, and he has played backup for Melissa Etheridge, B.B. King and Taj Mahal. Admission is \$15; children under 12, \$5. Bronx Cultural Cards are accepted. Call (718) 885-2955 for more information or visit www.uptowncoffeehouse.org.



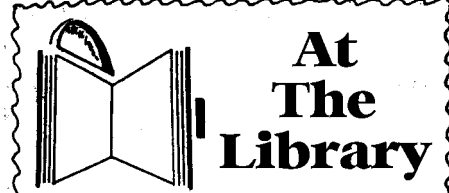
As a service to our readers, *The Island Current* will periodically list recent sales of residential and commercial property as found in the public record. This feature is designed to give a general idea of the fair market values of property on City Island. An update will be published every few months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

Address	Closing Date	Sale Price	Type
47 Fordham Street	8/3/12	\$290,000	one-family
152 Tier Street	8/8/12	\$230,000	condo
190 Fordham Street	8/9/12	\$95,823	condo
106 Horton Street	8/20/12	\$400,000	one-family
606 King Avenue	8/22/12	\$715,000	one-family

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City Island Branch Library Events for October 2012

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

We are proud to announce the winner of the Summer Reading Program of 2012. She is Michelle M. Medina and she read 145 books. Congratulations!

October Children's Programs

Story Time: Read-aloud picture books: Every ongoing Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 10.

Bilingual Birdies: Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 11 a.m. Newborn to 5 years.

Special Children's Program: Harvest Moon: Join us for this trio of Native American folktales that is sure to delight all ages. With music, dance and theatrical flair, our master storyteller will share a rich oral tradition and transport you to another time and place. Friday, Oct. 19, at 3:30 p.m.

October Young Adult Programs

Board Games: Every Monday at 3:30 p.m.

Music Video Choice: Every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

"Yu-Gi-Oh!": Every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

Game On: Every Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

Tweens and Teen Lounge: Every Friday at 3:30 p.m.

October Adult Programs

Introduction to the Internet: Ongoing Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register in advance.

Resumé Writing Workshop and Online Job Search: Ongoing Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register in advance. A flash drive to save your



Photo courtesy of NYPL
Michelle Medina was the winner of the Summer Reading Program of 2012. She is 6 years old, a student at St. Mary, Star of the Sea School and read an amazing 145 books! With her is Ms. Irma Cancel, interim library manager at the City Island Library.

work is highly recommended.

Introduction to Facebook: Find lost friends and make new ones. Call branch for which Friday this program will be presented.

Film: "The Avengers" (2012), Saturday, Oct. 6, at 1 p.m. No tickets required.

Lectures: Captain Tom Walker (Ret. NYPD) presents "How Sherlock Holmes Solves Today's Crimes." He will discuss his new book about how Sherlock Holmes came to assist the NYPD, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in solving the Son Of Sam case, the Unibomber, the Mad Bomber and the yet unsolved Anthrax cases. Captain Walker is the author of several popular books, including the famous "Fort Apache The Bronx" and "Death of A Bronx Cop." This is a one-time event, a "Sherlockian" experience you will not forget. Saturday, Oct. 20, at 2 p.m.

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

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Fellowship Meeting

Continued from page 1

The next speaker, anxiously awaited, was Bill Stanton, president of the City Island Civic Association, who spoke about the issue at the top of everyone's mind. "Dr. Domenico Mignone, in spite of community opposition to this facility, has applied for a variance to disregard zoning laws in order to avoid a public hearing and a City Council vote."

Mr. Stanton briefly reviewed the history of this project, which was first presented to the community last year as a 200-unit, four-story, block-long "Italian-American home for seniors." At that time, the Civic Association, the Chamber of Commerce and Community Board 10 expressed concern over the small size of the apartments, the relatively high market-rate rentals proposed, the insufficient parking, the density of the structure, the lack of recreational facilities and other issues.

The lot selected for the project, which is owned by Joseph Briody of Mount Vernon, is zoned manufacturing, and no residences can be built on it, hence the need for a variance. The lot was once part of Nevins Yacht Yard; more recently, it has been used to store cables for Cablevision and is now storing trucks and automobiles. Part of the lot was once occupied by a building that contained the Island Pub, Moe's Deli and several apartments, but it was demolished in 2009 after a fire, and the lot was sold to Mr. Briody, who incorporated it into the rest of the property.

Barbara Dolensek, a Civic Association officer, joined Mr. Stanton and explained to the worried crowd that when the Department of Buildings denied Dr. Mignone's application in August 2012, he applied directly to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA), a board of five members appointed by the mayor that is said to approve 97 percent of the applications it receives. "If BSA grants the variance," she said, "Dr. Mignone would not have to go through the ULURP process that requires more community input and a vote from both the Borough President and the City Council."



Dr. Domenico Mignone

Dr. Mignone, president of the Italian Hospital Society, is working with the George A. Fuller Company, a subsidiary of Capelli Enterprises, a very well-funded developer in Westchester County. State Senators Jeff Klein and Diane Savino, who understood that the development would be an assisted-living facility, earmarked \$3 million in state funding support for construction, so the project as it was presented to the Bureau of Standards and Appeals on Sept. 4, 2012, has been redesigned as assisted living. Dr. Mignone has no experience operating any such facility, being in private practice as an obstetrician and gynecologist. The Italian Hospital Society once operated Cabrini Medical Center, which closed in 2008 and filed for bankruptcy in 2009, with \$167 million in debts.

"He wants to make a profit off the backs of Islanders," Mr. Stanton told the anxious crowd. "He keeps changing the plan and I'm convinced he will open it up to government-subsidized housing if he can't rent all the units to elderly paying tenants."

The Civic Association believes that Dr. Mignone's primary function in this development is to make it easier for Capelli to get the zoning variance, since the not-for-profit

status of the Italian Hospital Society would make it unnecessary for the developer to show a "hardship" in his scheme to bypass the zoning law.

A new wrinkle in this latest version of the project, which would also require a variance, is that part of the first floor will be built slightly below grade so that the building will not exceed 35 feet in height, as dictated by Special City Island District Zoning, the intention of which is to preserve City Island's historic character. The developer also plans to put parking spaces for cars and the mechanical systems for the building in a basement, in spite of the fact that the lot is in a flood zone.

Ms. Dolensek explained it would be necessary for the community to hire a lawyer expert in matters of land use and zoning regulations because Dr. Mignone has a lot of resources to help argue his case. And Mr. Stanton followed up by saying: "We have some funds in the association's account, but we are asking for \$100 per Island family to build a defense fund. Think of it as \$100 invested now to prevent a possible 30 percent depreciation in your property values if this development goes through," he implored the crowd.

The next speaker, Ken Kearns, district manager of Community Board 10, echoed the concerns of the Civic leadership that this development is not favorable for the community and risks reducing the quality of life on City Island.

"Board 10 turned Dr. Mignone down in 2011, and now he is trying to bypass the board and disregard the wishes of the community." But he cautioned the assemblage that the case has to be made not on emotional grounds but legally, on the basis of zoning regulations, land use, traffic congestion and pressure on existing Island resources. He promised that there would be a public hearing at Board 10 on the issue before the planned Board of Standards and Appeals hearing, which has not yet been scheduled.

After this issue was discussed, the crowd thinned out as the next speakers valiantly presented overviews of their organizations, including Ellen Bruzelius of the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, Brenda Prohaska representing the City Island Community Center, P. S. 175's community service group and the Girl Scouts, Pastor Ezra Yew of Trinity Methodist Church, Nick Sala of the City Island Theater Group, Jonathan Vargas of the City Island Library and Skip Giacco of the City Island Chamber of Commerce, which also stands in opposition to the proposed Schofield Street development.

The final speakers of the evening were Eleanor Rae from the Hutchinson River Restoration Project, Ken Fisher from the Bronx Masons, Toby Liedermann of the Women's Herstory group and Virginia Gallagher of Pilot Cove Manor.

On Friday, Oct. 12, the next Grace Fellowship event will be a benefit evening to prepare 400 sandwiches for POTS (Part of the Solution) which serves those in need in the Bronx. City Islanders have long supported the efforts of POTS, and this offers another opportunity to lend a hand.

Bartow-Pell Events

Come on the First Friday, Oct. 5, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., and enjoy the magic of the mansion at night and the classic bluegrass sound of the Birdhive Boys. Tour the mansion, stroll the garden and enjoy light refreshments. Then hop on the free Bronx Seaside Trolley, which makes a continuous loop from the #6 Pelham Bay Park subway station to BPMM to City Island and back. Registration requested. Cost \$8 adults, \$5 seniors & students; members free.

Saturday, Oct. 6 and Sunday, Oct. 7, will be Historic House Trust Festival and OpenHouseNY Weekend, with free guided tours by costumed docents from 12 to 4 p.m. Tours start at quarter past the hour.

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

And on Sunday, Oct. 7, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., chef, writer, and James Beard Award-winning cookbook author Judith Choate gives a fascinating talk on "The Versatile Vegetable." After the talk, enjoy pumpkin baked goods from Judith and our own children's garden. Registration requested. Free.

The members' Fall Bridge Luncheon will take place on Thursday, Oct. 11, from noon to 2 p.m. Call for details.

The "Learn to Knit" fall series will be held on Saturdays, Oct. 20, 27, and Nov. 3, from 11 to noon. Learn all the basics of knitting in three classes taught by Sasha Fisher. Class size limited to 10. Suitable for ages 12 and up. You must supply your own materials; a list will be provided upon registration. Registration and pre-payment required. Cost for series of three classes \$60; students \$45; members \$45.

The volunteer garden clean-up day will be held Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Roll up your sleeves and don your gardening gloves to help us keep the garden and grounds of BPMM looking beautiful! Light breakfast will be available. Please bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Registration requested. Free.

On Saturday, Oct. 27, at 6:30 p.m., enjoy BPMM Investigations beginning with the cemetery walk at 6:30 p.m., and a paranormal talk at 7:30 p.m. Take a guided candlelit walk to the Pell Cemetery, followed by a talk by paranormal investigator Dan Sturges on his team's findings during recent mansion investigations. Space is limited. Registration is required. Cost: \$20 adults, \$17 seniors and students; members \$16 adults; \$14 seniors and students.

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Organization News

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

Current Calendar

OCTOBER

Thursday, Oct. 4, **45th Precinct Community Council Meeting**, Leonard Hawkins Post, 550 City Island Avenue, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 6, **Annual Food Sale**, Trinity Methodist Church, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bay Street and City Island Avenue.

Fri., Oct. 12, **Last day to Register to Vote**. Call the Board of Elections at 718-299-9017 for more information.

Thursday, Oct. 25, **Community Board 10 Meeting**, Schuyler House, 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 27, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's Schoolyard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: beef stew.

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

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

Wed., Oct. 31, **Halloween Parade**, starting at the corner of Fordham Street and City Island Avenue, 5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

Tues., Nov. 6, **Election Day**, P.S. 175, 200 City Island Avenue.

Sat., Nov. 17, **Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner**, 7 to 11 p.m., Pelham/Split Rock Golf Course (see ad this issue).

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

In honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, which occurs on Thursday, Oct. 4, our blessing of the animals will take place on Sunday, Sept. 30, at 2 p.m. in St. Mary's school yard or in the school gym in case of rain.

Our monthly holy hour will resume in October on the second Friday, Oct. 12, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are invited to attend this special period of prayer. (The second Friday schedule is just for October. We will return to the first Friday in November.)

During this month there will be a special meeting for the parents of students in our Confirmation program. Parents and students will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7:15 p.m. in St. Mary's school gym.

Oct. 21 is designated as World Mission Sunday, a day of prayer that all may grow in their awareness of the work our missionaries do in third-world countries. We all are called to assist in the mission of the Church in spreading the Gospel.

On Sunday, Oct. 28, there will be a special Enrollment Mass at 10 a.m. for all those who are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on April 30. Parents and students will participate in this initial event in preparation for the sacrament.

There will be no classes in our Religious Education program on Wednesday, Oct. 31, because of all the Halloween festivities. The next day, Nov. 1, is the Feast of All Saints and a holy day of obligation. Masses in St. Mary's are at 7 and 8 a.m., 12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

St. Mary's Thrift Shop will be open on Thursdays and Saturdays during the month of October from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come and browse through our gently used men's, women's and children's clothing, shoes, bags, linens, household appliances, CD's and tapes, records, books, toys, games and bric-a-brac. Look for special sales and Halloween costumes and decorations when you visit. Meet fellow shoppers and enjoy a com-

plimentary cup of coffee and remember that donations are always greatly appreciated

Arlene Byrne

AARP Chapter 318

AARP Chapter 318 meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in Trinity Methodist Church hall on Bay Street. Our fall calendar is as follows:

Wednesday, Oct. 3. Members will meet at Pelham Cemetery at 1 p.m., near the flag at a cross (which was placed there by AARP 318 as a 9/11 memorial) and in honor of our troops. A short service will be followed by coffee and cake at the Methodist church hall. Donations for our Penny Auction to be held on Oct. 17 will also be accepted at this meeting.

Wednesday, Oct. 17. Penny Auction at 12 noon. The cost is \$7, which will entitle you to one card of chances for prizes, hot dogs, coffee and cake.

Tuesday, Oct. 23. A tentative date for Octoberfest in Staten Island. Plans to be discussed at the Oct. 3 meeting.

Monday, Oct. 29. AARP Chapter 318, with the assistance of Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, will have the Metro Card van parked in front of the Methodist church from 1 to 3 p.m. Seniors and disabled individuals may apply for reduced fare Metro cards. Please bring your Medicare card and a valid photo I.D. with you. Metro card questions will be answered. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, Nov. 7. Pizza and bingo. Come join us! New members are always welcome.

Rosetta Woods

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 Sunday school learning materials for the new season are titled "Grow, Proclaim, Serve," and the fall lesson will cover the story of Moses.

The Fall Trinity Group Bible Study will begin Oct. 28 and conclude on Nov. 25. The meetings will take place in Trinity Fellowship Hall at 11:15 a.m. and end at 12:30. The meetings consist of roundtable discussions based on the public readings of the texts under study. George Cavalieri, Lay Leader/Speaker at Trinity, will moderate the group, with others occasionally leading the group as appointed. The study is a continuation of the study that began in Lent and will now complete the New Testament book of the Acts of the Apostles.

No preregistration is required, and the New Testament is provided, along with an outline for study. The main purpose of these studies is to promote and provide an opportunity to present the evangel, or the good news of God, to our community and church.

The Budget Corner will reopen soon, full of freshly donated, gently used items. If you have been holding donations for the summer, you will soon be able to drop them off and browse the shop.

Rick DeWitt

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island, an unaffiliated, all-inclusive and egalitarian synagogue, has for 78 years provided an exciting place for observance for Jews of all ages who come from many different communities and cultures. We are a spirited congregation that gathers together under the leadership of the stimulating and innovative Rabbi Shohama Wiener and Reb David Evan Markus, our associate spiritual leader.

Located at 480 City Island Avenue,

between Beach and Bowne Streets, we conduct Sabbath services each Friday night at 7:30 p.m. Our doors are open to all, and we follow the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, primarily in English, with easy-to-read typeface and singable Hebrew.

Our special services this month will be on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 6:30 p.m. (Simchat Torah Family Service) with Rabbi Shohama, Reb David and Reb Eva, and on Friday evening, Oct. 26, at 7:30 p.m. with Reb David and Reb Eva officiating. All other Friday night services will be community led, usually with Bob Berent and his accordion.

The temple and the Bronx Council for the Arts will again host classical music concerts on two Sundays at Temple Beth-El. The free musical series will feature the Bardekova Ensemble in two different programs. The concerts are free and open to the public at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 21, and Nov. 4.

A new monthly class called "Spirit and Song: The Liturgy and Spirituality of Welcoming Shabbat," led by Reb David, will begin on Thursday, Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m. This monthly class series will deepen familiarity with welcoming the Sabbath in synagogue and at home. By learning the meaning and symbolism of traditional prayers and songs, we will enrich our personal spirituality and our community's celebration of what our tradition calls a weekly taste of perfection. This class is ideal for anyone interested in learning more about our liturgy, its history and how we make it our own in our own day. Sessions will be Thursdays at 7:30 on the following dates: Oct. 25, Nov. 15, Dec. 13, Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 7, April 11, May 9 and June 13. Participants will be expected to purchase a few inexpensive books. Registration is due by Oct. 7. To register or ask questions, please e-mail Reb David at davidevanmarkus@gmail.com.

Bob Berent

Grace Episcopal Church

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

Worship Schedule

Holy Communion Rite II, Sundays at 10 a.m.

Lambs Babysitting available first Sunday: Oct. 7, at 9:50 a.m.

Evening Prayer, Mondays at 7 p.m.

Church Events

Welcome Home Sunday: Oct. 7, 10 a.m., Grace Church and Hall. A fall celebration to welcome back members whose travels and obligations have kept them away from the Grace community in the last months and a chance to welcome anyone currently seeking a spiritual home. Please let us welcome you!

The Blessing of the Animals: Oct. 7, 1:30 p.m. Grace Church Courtyard. "All creatures great and small...the Lord God made them all." Let us offer a blessing for the animal friends who bless our lives. We welcome all pets (on leashes or in carriers for their protection and that of others) and their people.

Hearts and Hands: Monday, Oct. 8, 7:15 p.m. Grace Church Hall. This knitting group provides caps, shawls and lap robes for Calvary Hospital patients. All are welcome!

Friday Night Fellowship: POTS (Part of the Solution) Benefit, Oct. 12, 7 p.m. Grace Church Hall. Come and help prepare 400 sandwiches for those in need. A representative from POTS will be attending, so come learn more about this great organization and the amazing work it does to help our Bronx neighbors. Just bring yourself. The ingredients will be there! All are welcome!

Grace Church Concert Series presents Jeremy Bacon Jazz Trio, Sunday, Oct. 14, 4 p.m., Grace Church. The Jeremy Bacon Trio, featuring Danish vocalist Kendra Lou, will present an evening of soulful jazz that is innovative and unforgettable, like a haunting melody that keeps coming back to you. Advance tickets (\$25) available by cash or check from Grace Church members or through Paypal on the Grace Church website <http://www.gracecityisland.org>. Same-day tickets (\$30) will be available at the door.

Rev. Ruth-Anne Garcia

City Island Republicans

In a month will be one of the most important elections in history, and New York has an important United States Senate race. Wendy Long has the Republican and Conservative lines. We encourage everyone to see what she is about. Her website is www.wendylongfornewyork.com, where more information is available. The last day to register to vote or change your party is Oct. 12.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Post.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

American Legion Ladies Auxiliary

Our first meeting of the season on Sept. 2 was attended by many, and we welcomed two new members. Our next meeting will be held Oct. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Post. This meeting will include our popular Baby Shower event.

Oct. 20 is our Post pig roast and Oct. 26 will be the SAL Halloween Party. Have yourself a good Columbus Day and a snappy, spooky and fun Halloween.

Maryann Occhicone

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



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

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

Uptown Coffeehouse: Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 at the door or you can pay on PayPal through our website: www.uptowncoffeehouse.org Dates: Drew Nelson, Oct. 7; Amy Black, Nov. 4; The Kennedys, Dec. 2; Cliff Eberhardt, Jan. 13.

Martial Arts Movie Night presented by Dragon's Path Academy, \$5 with concession stand, 7:30 p.m. Last Friday of every month.

City Island Parenting Group: An ongoing topic-oriented discussion group for parents with John Scardina. All are welcome; come once or every month. We try to meet the fourth Tuesday of the month in the dance studio at 7 p.m.

Haunted House: The City Island Community Center will host a haunted house on Wednesday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 11 p.m. \$5 at the door.

NEW CLASSES

Art and Craft Classes: Pre-school class and a kindergarten through third grade class designed to improve cognitive skills and confidence. Fun, fun, fun classes will ignite the imagination, featuring painting, collage, paper sculpting, printmaking and many other projects. Pre-school, 2 to 3 p.m.; K-third grade, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Six classes for \$125. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914-633-1695.

Introducing Fashion Designing: Fashion design classes will include the creation of a fashion journal, including a brief introduction to the history of fashion. There will be an introduction to textile designing, including tie dyeing and texture creations that will be applied to the final fashion show. Thursdays from 4:30 to 5:30 starting Oct. 4. Six classes for \$125. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914-633-1695.

Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep: For high school prep or just for fun! Started Monday, Sept. 24. Taught by Geri Smith, former LaGuardia High School teacher and exam auditioner. \$90 for five-week session; \$25.00 material fee (after the session ends, students may bring materials home). For registration or more information, call 718-885-1503.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

Irish Dance: The Deirdre O'Mara School of Irish Dance teaches step danc-

ing in a fun, competitive environment for all ages. A confidence-building and cultural experience for all who participate. Wednesdays after school. Call Deirdre at 201-679-1450 or visit www.deirdreomara.com.

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

ADULT PROGRAM

Zumba with Julia: Want to lose that belly fat? Well, here is your chance to Zumba with Julia. It's a high-energy Zumba workout for an hour. Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30. \$10 per class. Call 917-601-5514. It's fun!

Fit For Life: A balanced cardio and strength training class for all experience levels. Classes offered Monday and Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122 or e-mail sarahfitforlife@yahoo.com. Classes are \$8.

Zumba with Letti: Thursdays at 6 p.m. Letti is a fantastic Zumba instructor who brings a lot of creativity and energy to her classes. Classes are \$10 or a five-class card for \$40.

Yoga Stretch with Norma: Thursdays at 7 p.m. This is an easy hatha vinyasa class suitable for all fitness levels. These yoga stretch poses helps remove any fears or challenges in doing these exercises, and it also assists with stress reduction and weight management. This class focuses on stretching and toning muscles that are often neglected but are so important to keeping you healthy and mobile. And best of all, yoga stretch is easy and fun enough for beginners or those who haven't exercised in a while. \$10 per class; call 718-885-0535.

Zumba Gold: A fun filled dance and exercise session with a salsa beat, geared for age 50 and up. Classes are \$4 each. Meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

Belly Dancing: Shimmy by the Sea. Theresa Mahon (a.k.a. Salacia) teaches the oldest documented dance in the history of mankind—Egyptian belly dancing. It is a low-impact way to get in shape and tone your body while having lots of fun. Terry has been a professional belly dancer for 25 years and a teacher of the art for 17 years. Classes are held every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. The fee for each one-hour class is \$15. Walk-ins are very welcome, as are spectators interested in seeing what the class is all about. Questions can be directed to Salacia at 845-358-0260.

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

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

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

Sarah Persteins

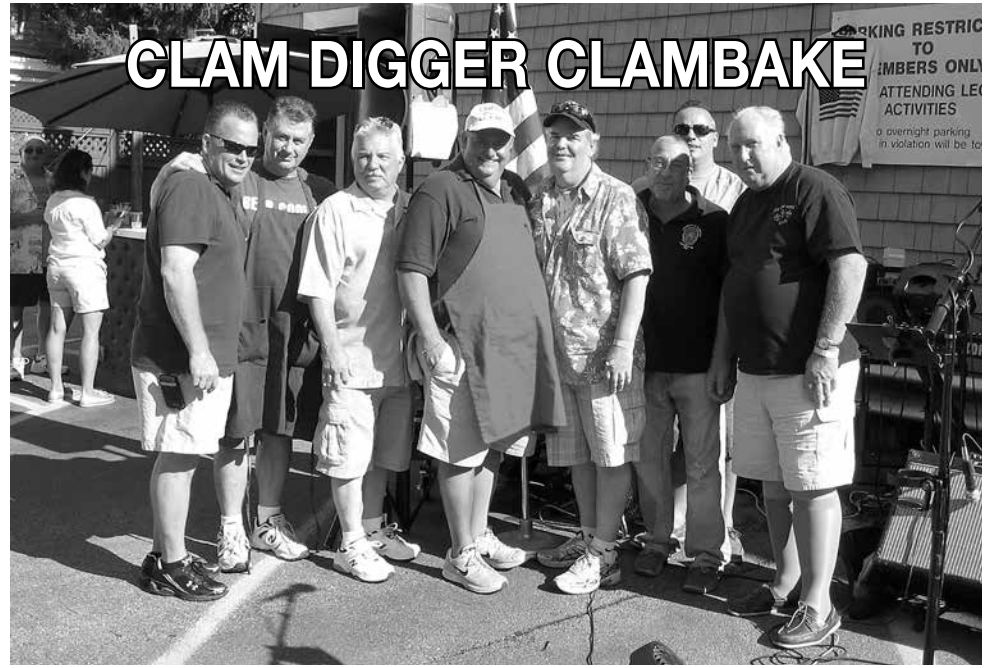
American Legion Post #156

Due to rain, the annual clambake sponsored by the SAL was held on Sunday, Sept. 9. We want to thank all of those who helped make it a success. Proceeds paid for the new 60-inch television at the bar.

Now that the weather has finally cooled down, things at the Post are heating up. Since football season is here, stop by the Post to cheer on your favorite teams. We also have food and weekend drink specials.

Vice Commander Ed Shipp's annual pumpkin sale will be held from Friday, Sept. 28, through Sunday, Sept. 30, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A pig roast is scheduled for Oct. 20 from



Photos by ANN SULLIVAN

The annual Legion clambake was finally held Sunday afternoon, Sept. 9, after being rained out Saturday evening. The food was prepared by Gene Valesio and his able assistants, Jimmy Livingston, Peter Booth, John Cahill and Bob Whalen. It included Gummy's clam chowder, shrimp, mussels over linguine, steak, chicken, and, of course, clams both on the half shell and steamed. Music was provided by "Time Line, who did a great job keeping everyone up on the dance floor working off all those recently acquired calories. The outside bar was tended by Laura Blair (bottom picture, at right), assisted by Brianna Whalen (left) and Ashley Livingston. Many Legionnaires contributed to the successful event, including (top photo, l. to r.) Bob Whalen, John Cahill, Vic Anderson, Jim Livingston, Peter Booth, Gene Valesio, John Fusco and Commander Dave Carman.

4 to 9 p.m. More details to follow.

A website for the Post is under construction.

The annual calendar sale will begin soon. Anyone who wants a particular number should speak to Joe Goonan.

The annual legislative breakfast will be held at the Turner Club on Oct. 14.

Save the date! The Serviceman's Dinner will be Saturday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. More information in due course.

At our September meeting, we welcomed six new members. Starting in October, monthly meetings will return to their normal schedule. The next meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. The executive board meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 15, at 8 p.m.

Just a reminder that we are here for your party needs. When hosting your next party, consider having it at the Legion Post. Members receive a discount on hall rentals.

We were sorry to hear that Legionnaire Michael Castellano recently died, as did social member Andrew Hawkins.

Thomas Lynch

Sons of the American Legion

The annual clambake sponsored for the first time by the SAL was a success. The proceeds went to the new television in the bar, and the football games will

look great now.

Our annual Halloween party will be held on Friday, Oct. 26, from 9 p.m. to midnight. \$20 per person cash bar or \$40 all you can drink. There will also be music, food and prizes.

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

New members are always welcome. If you are male descendant, step-descendant or adopted son of a veteran as established in the dates set by Congress, we would love to have you as a member. Stop by the Post to pick up an application. We have eight new members since July 1.

Member John DiCasamirro is recovering from a hip replacement.

Just a reminder! When booking your next party, consider the Legion Post. We are here for all of your party needs. Members receive a discount rate on all hall rentals.

Now that the weather has finally cooled down and football season has started, things at the Post are heating up. Stop by to cheer on your favorite teams. We also have food and weekend drink specials.

The annual pumpkin sale will be held from Friday, Sept. 28, through Sunday, Sept. 30, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Animal Rescue

Any review of movies about the rescue of animals must begin with the plethora of films concerning whales. In **Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home** (1986), set in the future, whales are extinct but are needed to save the earth from a destructive space probe. Captain Kirk (William Shatner) and crew, including Mr. Spock (Leonard Nimoy), Dr. Leonard McCoy (DeForest Kelley), Montgomery Scott (James Doohan), Sulu (George Takei), Chekov (Walter Koenig) and Uhura (Nichelle Nichols) must go back in time to 20th-century earth to recover two humpback whales, who are the only earth beings who can communicate with the probe. Catherine Hicks co-stars as Dr. Gillian Taylor, a scientist in charge of the two whales the crew wish to take to the future. Directed by Leonard Nimoy, this is the best of the Star Trek movies because of its humor.

Free Willy (1993) is the touching story about Jesse (Jason James Richter), an orphan, and Willy, the killer whale he befriends while performing community service after vandalizing a marina. Dwight (Mykel T. Williamson), the policeman who catches him, arranges for Jesse to stay with a new foster family, Glen and Annie Greenwood (Michael Madsen and Jayne Atkinson). When the marina's owner, Dial (Michael Ironside), threatens Willy's life, Jesse joins with trainers Rae (Lori Petty) and Randolph (August Schellenberg) to save him.

Inspired by actual events from 1988, the rescue adventure **Big Miracle** (2012) recounts the tale of Adam, a small-town news reporter (John Krasinski) and Greenpeace activist (Drew Barrymore), who are joined by rival world superpowers to save a family of majestic gray whales trapped by rapidly forming ice in Alaska. Ted Danson plays oilman J.W. McGraw, who wants the positive publicity he will get by helping them. Also lending hands are two Minnesotans with a portable de-icer, the Alaska National Guard, the Reagan administration, the Soviets and even a journalist.

The best film in this group is **Whale Rider** (2002). Set in modern-day New Zealand, it is the story of Pai (Keisha Castle-Heuges), a young Maori girl whose twin brother dies in childbirth along with her mother. Pai's grandfather Koro (Rawiri Paratene) is devastated when his son Porourangi (Cliff Curtis) refuses to take over as tribal chief and deserts the family for a career as an artist. Pai, left in the care of Koro and Nancy Flowers (Vicky Kaughton), is heartbroken that her grandfather thinks of her as just a worthless girl. When a pod of whales is washed ashore, Pai is presented with an insurmountable challenge and the opportunity to prove herself.

Moving to other sea creatures, we shift to **Dolphin Tale** (2011), a sweet film about Sawyer Nelson (Nathan Gamble), a boy who helps save a maimed dolphin named Winter, and how the dolphin helps to save him. After helping Winter on the beach, Sawyer goes to the animal hospital where Winter has been taken and is befriended by young Hazel Haskett (Cozi Zuehlsoff), whose father, Clay (Harry Connick Jr.), runs the facility. The film also features Ashley Judd as Sawyer's mother, Kris Kristopherson as Hazel's grandfather and

Morgan Freeman as a prosthetics specialist.

A fine film for the entire family is **Finding Nemo** (2003), an animated story about Marlin, a very nervous, overprotective father of his son, Nemo. When the two get separated, Marlin sets out on a quest to find his son. Dory, a blue tang fish with a bad memory, and Bruce, a great white shark who has adopted a 12-step program to curb his ravenous appetite for fish, accompany Marlin. There is a wonderful scene in a dentist's office where Nemo winds up in a fish tank. The escape attempts are inventive and masterful in this delightful family movie.

Turtle Diary (1985) stars Glenda Jackson as Neaera Duncan, a famed author and illustrator of children's books. While suffering from writer's block, she visits the turtle tank at the local aquarium, where she meets shy bookstore clerk William Snow (Ben Kingsley). With the enthusiastic cooperation of the aquarium's head keeper, George Fairbairn (Michael Gambon), they attempt to steal the turtles and set them free on the south coast of England.

Project X (1987) is a top-secret government project wherein grounded pilot Jimmy (Matthew Broderick) is assigned to teach chimps how to operate a flight simulator. To his horror, Jimmy discovers that his charges are to be subjected to high levels of radiation to test potential human endurance. With Teri (Helen Hunt), the researcher who has taught sign language to Willie (Virgil, a gifted chimpanzee), the two do what they can to save the simians from destruction.



Prancer (1989) stars Rebecca Harrell as 9-year-old Jessica, a motherless schoolgirl raised by her bereaved and embittered father (Sam Elliot), an apple farmer. Jessica, who still believes in Santa, comes upon a wounded reindeer in a remote part of the forest. She is convinced this is Prancer, but no one will believe her. Will she be able to save him and reunite him with Santa?

When a car crash kills her mother, 13-year-old Amy Alden (Anna Paquin) is sent to rural Ontario to live with her inventor father, Thomas (Jeff Daniels), in the 1996 film **Fly Away Home**. Amy struggles with her grief by taking over a bunch of goose eggs uprooted by a developer's bulldozer. She raises the goslings, eventually teaching them how to fly with her father's

help in this lovely, inspirational family film.

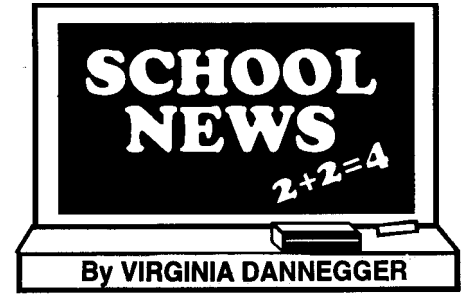
The Horse Whisperer (1998) involves a riding accident that leaves a horse named Pilgrim and a girl named Grace (Scarlett Johansson) badly injured. The family is advised to have Pilgrim put down but the idea is resisted by Grace's mother, Annie (Kristen Scott Thomas). Annie reads about a famed "horse whisperer" named Tom Booker (Robert Redford), who heals troubled animals. The heart of the film is in Big Sky country, where Booker runs a cattle ranch with his brother Frank (Chris Cooper) and Frank's wife, Diane (Dianne Wiest). Although refused by Booker on the telephone, Annie sets out with a mother's ferocity, taking Grace and Pilgrim to Booker's ranch in Montana and insisting that he help them.

Set in Yorkshire, England, **Chicken Run** (2000) is the story of a group of chickens desperate to escape from a chicken farm before they are turned into pies. It is an extremely clever stop-action animation film that everyone in the family can enjoy.

Eight Below (2006) is the story of Jerry Shepard (Paul Walker), a guide at a National Science Foundation Research Base in Antarctica. Dr. Davis McClaren (Bruce Greenwood) insists that Shepard take him to Mount Melbourne to find a rare meteorite. After an accident and with an impending heavy snowstorm, they wind up being evacuated, but they are forced to leave their team of sled dogs behind. The animals must survive a cruel and punishing winter on their own, while Walker desperately tries to arrange a rescue mission.

Water for Elephants (2011) recounts the tale of Jacob, a veterinary school dropout (Robert Pattinson) who meets and falls in love with Marlena (Reese Witherspoon), a beautiful bareback rider in a traveling circus run by her volatile husband, August (Christoph Walz). Set during the Great Depression, the film shows how August tries to overcome the circus debt with a new star attraction, Rosie, the elephant, whom he treats very cruelly. This old-fashioned story is told as a flashback by an old man (Hal Holbrook).

And until next time, happy viewing. . .



St. Mary, Star of the Sea School

Principal Jane Dennehy and assistant principal Robert Garrison are pleased and excited to start the 2012-2013 academic year with the following teachers: the Pre-K teacher is Ms. Ocasio, assisted by Mrs. Torres and Mrs. Vega. Ms. Nesheiwat will teach kindergarten with Ms. Moises as her assistant. The first-graders will be taught by Sr. Joan McKinney; the second grade will have Ms. Garcia, and Mrs. Bivona will teach the third grade. Mrs. McMahon and Mrs. Moore will teach Grades 4 and 5, respectively. The sixth-graders will have Mr. Garrison; the seventh grade will be taught by Mr. Moore, and Ms. Zangaglia will have the eighth-graders. The music director is Mr. Goewey; the art instructor is Ms. Moises; Mrs. O'Halloran will run the computer program, and Mrs. Pineau will teach physical education.

Public School 175

The following faculty members are being welcomed by principal Amy Lippson for the 2012-2013 school year. Mrs. Miskimmon and Ms. Bellon are teaching kindergarten; Mrs. Stevelman has the first grade, and Mrs. Carter-Spencer and Ms. Aiola are working with the second-graders. Grade 3 teachers are Mrs. Cambria and Mrs. Mazzella; the fourth grade has Ms. Ramos, Ms. Palazzo and Ms. Forman, and the fifth-graders have Ms. Montanare. The sixth grade will be taught by Mrs. Fretwell and Ms. Lawless. Seventh- and eighth-grade students have Mr. Scopp for social studies, Ms. Espina for math, Ms. Heil for science; ELA will be taught jointly by Ms. Marron and Ms. Kim. The computer program will be guided by Ms. McArdle; physical education will be run by Mr. Sabatello, and the guidance counselor is Mrs. McDonald.

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No More Bullies: Be An Upstander, Not A Bystander

By JOHN SCARDINA

Everyone has a story: Who took my lunch money. Who told tales about me. Who pushed me into doing something I would never normally do. When these stories go on and on, reflecting persistent harm despite our pleas to stop, then bullying is taking place. Now we find children who don't want to go to school, or to Girl Scouts or Little League, because they know that someone is there waiting to torment them. Indeed, it seems that bullying is something many people experience, but does that mean it needs to be tolerated?

Research suggests that bullying—which includes cyberbullying through social media—is epidemic. As parents, what can we do? The old “just hit them right back” mantra creates more victims and more consequences for the victim as well as the perpetrator. We need to de-escalate the conflict, not escalate it. When you add parents confronting one another to the mix—you've seen the stories!—the situation gets out of hand. Yet there is a solution, and it lies in our communal response.

Communities thrive when people share common values. City Island can be a community where certain behaviors become intolerable. If everyone spoke up when people were rude in public, or drove like a maniac, or trashed the sidewalks, then we might make some progress. If every child would be willing to help another child, we can isolate the bully and stop this behavior. In being proactive, we need to learn to be upstanders and not bystanders.

What are the traits of an upstander?

- A willingness to stand up for a friend, to speak up when necessary;
- An ability to stay safe yourself; do not put yourself in harm's way by confronting the bully and escalating the conflict;

- An ability to talk humbly about your own experience rather than about the bully or the victim;
- A willingness to stand up for a friend—to speak “truth to power” as needed;
- An ability to stay calm: nobody benefits when emotions get heightened;
- An ability to stay safe yourself—talk humbly about your own agenda rather than accuse the bully (“Yeah, I have been afraid to shoplift myself, so I can understand Johnny's hesitancy”);
- An ability to distract the bully from the victim and to suggest an alternate activity (“Let's just go play some hoops”);
- An ability to support the victim, both physically and emotionally;
- A willingness to follow up with the victim (an encouraging phone call that night, a weekend play date, a plan to meet before school, etc.);
- A willingness to report the incident to those in charge: this is about reporting a dangerous situation, not “snitching” on an individual. Adults who are aware of bullying—even without getting names—can change the situation. Silence does not bring about change, and we can all be change agents if we choose to be.

Every child needs an ally. Even just one friend makes a world of difference. Encourage your child to form relationships where upstander behavior is valued. Talk with other parents so that you are all giving your children the same message. This is a learned process, but it can be done!

City Island resident John Scardina is a school psychologist, child development specialist, and parent educator.

RAIN DELAY, THEN FAIR



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Wind and rain forced cancellation of the first day of the annual Arts and Crafts Fair sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. When the sun finally re-appeared on Sunday, Sept. 9, Islanders and visitors came out to browse the vendors and dance to the music in Hawkins Park.

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Obituaries

The Current will print obituaries free of charge upon notification by a member of the deceased's immediate family. Call 718-885-0760 or write to P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464, including your telephone number.



Dorothy Lavelle

Dorothy Lavelle

Dorothy Lavelle, a former resident of Winters Street on City Island, passed away at the age of 83 on Sept. 12, 2012, in Clearwater, Florida.

Dorothy was an active member of CI-VAC (City Island Volunteer Ambulance Corps) during the 1970s and was a parishioner of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church.

She leaves her husband of 64 years, James Lavelle; her children Patricia Wall (Stephen), Robert Lavelle (Linda), Maureen Lavelle, Michael Lavelle (Eunice) and Elizabeth Esola (Bill), as well as her grandchildren, Jessica, Brenda, Pamela, Brian, Brandon, Emily and Erin, and great-grandchildren Brianna, Alexander, Xander and Aiden.

A celebration of her life was held in Clearwater, Florida.

Robert A. Martin

Robert A. Martin, a former resident of

City Island, died at the age of 87, on Sept. 5, 2012, at the Sunrise Senior Community in Marlboro, New Jersey. Mr. Martin was born in the Bronx and lived for a time on City Island before moving to Rockland County.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and worked as a mechanical engineer for the Triboro Bridge and Tunnel Authority.

He is survived by his wife, Jacquelyn McKenna Martin; his two daughters and sons-in-law; Melanie and Ken Cigas of Freehold and Valerie and Chris Cronk of St. Augustine, Florida; his brother and sister-in-law, John and Dorothy Martin of Queens, New York; and his grandchildren, Kyle, Leah and Bryce Cronk.

Committal and military honors were held at the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Arnetown, New Jersey.

Josephine Rodstrom

Josephine C. Rodstrom, 87, the youngest daughter of Captain Charles Rodstrom and Cora A. Rodstrom, died Sept. 14, 2012, in Gainesville, Florida.

Josephine, known as Jo, was born on City Island. She attended P.S. 17, class of 1938, and Evander Childs High School. She transferred to the newly built Christopher Columbus High School when it opened and graduated in 1942. Summer projects included working for her brother Robert, who for several years ran the frozen custard stand on City Island Avenue at Horton Street. In 1946, she graduated from Hunter College, where she was a member of Pi Mu Epsilon, the mathematics honor society. Using her love of mathematics and statistics, she secured a position doing market research for Lever Brothers, in the iconic Lever House in Manhattan. She later did research for Abraham and Strauss and worked at Consolidated Yacht Yard.

Jo was a most unusual personality, since she developed Ollier Disease as a child and required mid-thigh amputation as a young adult. But she asked no quarter for her dis-



Clam diggers all (clockwise from lower right): Cora Addie Waterhouse Rodstrom, Sister Helen Rodstrom, Josephine Rodstrom, Cynthia Rodstrom Kinsella and Adelaide Rodstrom Rosenfeld.

ability. Her outgoing nature caused her to be admired and much loved.

She is survived by her brother, Wesley L. Rodstrom of Port St. Lucie, Florida; her

sister, Cynthia Rodstrom Kinsella of Vero Beach, Florida; and many nieces and nephews. Preceding her in death are her siblings Adelaide Rodstrom Rosenfeld, Sister Helen RSCJ, Charles, John, Frank and Robert.

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

OCTOBER 2012									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Mon	0101	7.83	0715	0.24	1310	8.16	1942	-0.08	Mon 01
02 Tue	0136	7.59	0739	0.53	1336	7.96	2012	0.24	Tue 02
03 Wed	0204	7.35	0746	0.78	1354	7.77	2027	0.57	Wed 03
04 Thu	0226	7.14	0808	0.98	1420	7.62	2045	0.83	Thu 04
05 Fri	0253	6.99	0845	1.19	1455	7.47	2120	1.08	Fri 05
06 Sat	0331	6.87	0928	1.43	1538	7.32	2204	1.30	Sat 06
07 Sun	0417	6.79	1018	1.63	1626	7.17	2255	1.47	Sun 07
08 Mon	0509	6.77	1112	1.75	1721	7.07	2351	1.52	Mon 08
09 Tue	0608	6.86	1213	1.71	1822	7.06			Tue 09
10 Wed	0053	1.41	0710	7.09	1321	1.47	1926	7.19	Wed 10
11 Thu	0157	1.13	0808	7.45	1430	1.02	2028	7.42	Thu 11
12 Fri	0255	0.74	0859	7.88	1532	0.46	2122	7.70	Fri 12
13 Sat	0346	0.31	0945	8.33	1624	-0.10	2212	7.96	Sat 13
14 Sun	0432	-0.08	1030	8.72	1714	-0.59	2300	8.16	Sun 14
15 Mon	0518	-0.38	1115	9.01	1802	-0.91	2347	8.24	Mon 15
16 Tue	0604	-0.52	1202	9.14	1851	-1.03			Tue 16
17 Wed	0036	8.20	0652	-0.49	1250	9.09	1944	-0.94	Wed 17
18 Thu	0128	8.02	0743	-0.27	1341	8.84	2041	-0.67	Thu 18
19 Fri	0223	7.75	0839	0.09	1436	8.42	2148	-0.29	Fri 19
20 Sat	0327	7.43	0949	0.50	1540	7.92	2302	0.07	Sat 20
21 Sun	0452	7.19	1120	0.79	1714	7.50			Sun 21
22 Mon	0014	0.29	0616	7.20	1240	0.81	1846	7.37	Mon 22
23 Tue	0120	0.35	0725	7.40	1349	0.61	1954	7.44	Tue 23
24 Wed	0220	0.28	0825	7.69	1449	0.29	2054	7.58	Wed 24
25 Thu	0316	0.17	0918	7.96	1544	-0.04	2146	7.71	Thu 25
26 Fri	0406	0.07	1007	8.17	1635	-0.30	2235	7.77	Fri 26
27 Sat	0452	0.05	1052	8.28	1720	-0.43	2319	7.75	Sat 27
28 Sun	0534	0.11	1134	8.28	1803	-0.43			Sun 28
29 Mon	0001	7.66	0613	0.26	1212	8.18	1842	-0.29	Mon 29
30 Tue	0039	7.51	0645	0.47	1244	8.01	1917	-0.07	Tue 30
31 Wed	0113	7.34	0705	0.69	1306	7.84	1945	0.20	Wed 31
NOVEMBER 2012									
01 Thu	0140	7.18	0712	0.84	1319	7.72	1956	0.43	Thu 01
02 Fri	0156	7.07	0738	0.93	1345	7.65	2014	0.58	Fri 02
03 Sat	0221	7.04	0816	1.05	1421	7.57	2049	0.71	Sat 03
All times are Eastern Standard Time beginning Sunday, November 4									
04 Sun	0157	7.03	0759	1.18	1403	7.46	2031	0.84	Sun 04
05 Mon	0239	7.03	0847	1.29	1450	7.32	2118	0.94	Mon 05



Photo by LINDA GILL

A guinea hen in the Orchard Beach parking lot.



Photo by JOHN SHERIDAN

Conchs on City Island.

CASE CLOSED CONCH

Many thanks to Linda, who answered our call last month for help on the guinea hen situation in Pelham Bay Park. She has had her own encounters, as the picture below makes clear, but it was the fellow she put us in contact with who provided the most information.

It turns out that the guinea hens have been brought to the Rodman's Neck area by some of the folks who go there regularly. They like seeing the hens around, we were told. The birds remind them of home in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. The person we spoke with has brought one male to the area, but other people have brought as many as six males and females. You can get them, he told us, from the places that sell live chickens here in the Bronx.

Guinea hens are highly adaptable birds. Ours are the helmeted guinea fowl kind, which are native to Africa. As adaptable as they may be, however, not all have escaped the cars that sometimes whiz through the parking area on Rodman's Neck. And then there are the poachers. We were told that

until recently many of the hens had been captured for food. This is not happening so much anymore, though, because they are being guarded by a growing group of regulars who prefer to see them around. At last count, there were about seven remaining guinea hens building nests in the woods there. For the record, young guinea hens are called keets. Look for them in the late fall and winter.

Here and there we have read of conch fishing in Long Island Sound. It always struck us as something aberrant, like a whale in Eastchester Bay. Not anymore. We recently came across three conchs on the beach at low tide. This led us back to the internet and a little more research. Apparently, the market for these large snails is burgeoning. Some of the conchs caught here in Long Island Sound are being shipped to China. For the lobster fishermen who are doing most of the catching, the timing for these developing new markets could not have been finer. As the lobster population is being re-regulated back to health, fishermen can use their same pots to supplement their incomes.


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SAILING LIFE ON CITY ISLAND

By JOYCE MULCAHY

Storm Sailing

The rain pelted our faces, while the usually calm waters off City Island churned frothy white caps and waves. Severe weather whipped up a special brew of chaos for those attempting to race on Saturday morning, Sept. 8. This was my first storm on Long Island Sound with winds gusting 25 to 45 knots (ca. 30 to 50 mph). My only cup of coffee had spilled in the cockpit earlier, and now I was wishing I had had two cups before leaving home, although what I lacked in caffeine, I was quickly making up in adrenaline.

When the rain wasn't a wall of water obscuring our sight, City Island was well within view, yet it felt as if we were in the middle of the ocean. With a 30-mile race to Captain's Island in Connecticut ahead of us and a second storm due to move in near nightfall, we were eager to get started. Lightening the mood, the captain aboard said of the driving rain, "I feel like I'm getting acupuncture," which was followed by my asking if "my mascara was running." While steering clear of other boats and ducking the forceful swing of the boom when tacking, we joked that if the race committee would simply start the race, we would be there and back in an hour!

Nearly an hour and a half after the race was supposed to start, we continued to be buffeted by the wind and waves and were very, very wet. As nearly 20 boats and sails took a beating in the storm, restlessness grew. "Let's start this race already!" someone rumbled over the radio. I had to agree. When you're already out in the storm and anticipating a race, you're ready for action. As we were wondering why the race committee wouldn't begin the race and set us loose, someone suggested that we switch from the race committee to the NOAA National Weather Services channel on the radio. Small craft advisories were in effect (yes, we were indeed a small craft, someone confirmed), and tornado warnings for Brooklyn and Queens were being announced in the stilted computerized voice over the radio. "thunder" is pronounced *th-oo-nder* and "tornado" *tor-nay-oodoo*. You'd think the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration could provide a more soothing voice while warning us of impending doom, like the British woman on my car's GPS, or maybe more aptly Porky Pig's, "Th-th-th, that's all, folks!" And so it was: race cancelled.

"See you next year," a voice came over the radio. Disappointing, but in the end a wise decision.

We headed back to the mooring field, and although we were mere feet away from fellow crew members, we could barely hear each other over the increasing wind and rain. Thankfully, the launch driver came and retrieved us and brought us to drier ground. After peeling off my foul-weather gear, I eagerly anticipated the dark-n-stormy (a dark spiced rum and ginger beer drink, a sailor's favorite) that awaited me at our crew's table. That first sip never tasted so good.

As the afternoon wore on, different crews came in to the yacht club telling their own versions of their tempest-tossed morning. Shortly after the race was cancelled, when the wind was fiercest, several boats lost complete sight of City Island, even a visual bearing on exactly where they were. That's hard to believe, unless you were sitting in the middle of the storm on Sept. 8. Two tornadoes touched down that day in Queens and Brooklyn. And several hours later, as we sat in comfort on the yacht club deck, a wall of black clouds came in from the south and west, headed right for us. Roiling thick, dark clouds passed overhead, the wind blew, the rain teemed and then, suddenly, it was all over. Within minutes, the leaves on the trees barely moved and the water became placid, but the sailing stories of the day's deafening wind and white-out rain continued into the evening.

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Gardening Tips: Sow Your Seeds Early!

By MARY COLBY

Seed catalogs used to arrive in December and offered something that we could gaze at happily over a cup of hot cocoa in front of the fire. Today they arrive about Labor Day, early enough to order hardy annual seeds that can be sown in October, November and even December now that our weather is getting milder. If the seeds are scattered about, mimicking natural seed dispersion, spring will be a bounty of early color.

If your soil is free-draining and sunny, try some poppies, especially California, legion of honor and somniferum (or bread) poppies. Don't sow them all together, please, unless Easter eggs are your cup of tea. What goes nicely with any of those poppies is the delicate leucanthemum, which is a white, fresh and delicate daisy. These bloom ahead of the Shasta daisies so you can stagger the daisy family to go from spring right into September with the Montauk daisies. (Remember that the Montauks need a severe cutting back by July 4 with a light trim in early August so they don't fall all over themselves.)

Another good annual you can sow now is *Verbena bonariensis*, which is tall and wiry and thus adds another layer and dimension of color to the garden if you pepper the seeds about. They look beautiful in September with asters and late tall heleniums (sunflowers) and phlox David. A note on asters: never be without them because they extend the season by months.

My other favorite hardy annual to sow in late autumn is *nicotiana*, whose flowers are white and open at dusk, when white is so beautiful in the gloaming. Tulips look great with a filler, so why not sow dill? Unless you have unlimited space, discard the dill when the tulips go, however, and start again in the fall, since you will want to make way for plants that will go the distance through the summer, such as dahlias, cannas and medium-sized grasses like *Molina caerulea* and *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Yaku jima.' For a good froth, try *Ammi majus*, a beefier queen Anne's lace.

So try planning some hardy annual seeds this year and get a jump on spring. Sow thinly, and they will not disappoint.

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Create a New You in Three Steps

Are there things about yourself that you'd like to change? Your weight, your habits, and maybe even your outlook on life? We are trained to think that change is hard, that it takes time. But it really doesn't have to be. I'm here to argue that lasting change happens in an instant.

I understand that this goes against mainstream belief. Most people believe that change has to be a struggle. We expect to try and fail numerous times before ultimately giving up or succeeding. Think about this: How many people do you know who struggle with their weight? They want to make a healthy change by getting in shape, but the change never seems to happen.

What is it in your life that you want to change? Do you have inches to lose? Do you have preventable diabetes? Do you have a pair of skinny jeans that you want to fit into? What is keeping you from making this change in your life?

According to professional speaker and author Tony Robbins, it is the preparation for change that takes time. In the end there's a single instant when the change occurs. Here are the three steps that can instantly create a lasting change and a new you.

Step 1: Believe that something must change. Do you sort of want to get into shape, or do you absolutely have to lose the weight? Does dropping a few pounds sound good, or is living another day in your current body simply unbearable? In order to make a lasting change you must believe wholeheartedly that things must change.

Step 2: Believe that you must change it. It is vital that you take full responsibility in making the change rather than assigning responsibility elsewhere. Sure, others may help you, but in the end you are the one who is going to make it happen. You have

to want this change enough to make it your personal mission. No one else can do it for you.

Step 3: Believe that you can change it. Don't let past failures get you down. The truth is that you are capable of amazing things when you put your mind to it. Believe that you are able to lose weight or to make any other positive change in your life.

Why do most people fail to make change stick? They rely on willpower. This works for a while, but you'll soon revert back to what's comfortable. The solution? Change what you are comfortable with. People are motivated by two things: 1) avoiding pain and 2) gaining pleasure. When you want to change a behavior pattern the key is to associate pain with the behavior that you don't want and pleasure with the behavior that you do want.

You know that you want to lose weight and that to do so you need to quit eating comfort food late at night. You also know that you need to start exercising on a regular basis. Up until this point your brain is trained to associate pleasure with eating comfort food late at night and to associate pain with exercise.

It's time to retrain your brain to feel good about exercise and to feel bad about eating late at night. Think about all of the negative things about being overweight and connect these unpleasant thoughts to your late night snack. Now think about all of the wonderful things about being in shape and connect these pleasant thoughts to exercise.

Don't believe the adage that "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." Advances in neuroimaging techniques prove that the brain actually has dynamic properties throughout life. This means that your brain is always evolving. Through practice, you are able to change your habits and change yourself.

In other words, you are capable of making big changes in your life. Remember, change happens in an instant. So go on, create a new you!

Rescuing Crowe

Continued from page 1

they were pulled aboard. "We gave them a lift because it was unsafe for them to try to get back by themselves." The boat then brought them into Huntington Harbor and dropped them off at Coney's Marina about 11 p.m. It was then that Bobby's crewman recognized one of the kayakers as Russell Crowe.

"He was very grateful for our help," Bobby told *The Current* (see photo). "He

just needed a little bit of help. It wasn't really a rescue; it was more just giving someone a lift," he said modestly. He added that no one was injured, and the two men were wearing life vests.

Mr. Crowe, who is reportedly filming the movie "Noah" in Long Island, chatted with the crew. Clam digger Swieciki told him about City Island, which Mr. Crowe did not know about but was interested in. The star of "Gladiator," for which Mr. Crowe won an Oscar, thanked "the boys from the U.S Coast Guard for guiding the way" on his official Twitter feed.

Celebrity rescues aside, is Bobby happy with his choice of joining the USCG? "Oh, yeah! I plan to make it my career for 20 years." We should all be grateful for career Coast Guardsmen like Bobby, who, in addition to rescue missions, also provide important tactical support against terrorist threats.

But he is first and foremost a City Islander. He recently bought a house on Winters Street, and his very proud parents, Bob and Maria, still live on Bay Street.

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Welcome back to City Island—Brian and Kim Moore. The newlyweds are thrilled to be on the East Coast again.

Happy 27th wedding anniversary wishes on Oct. 12 to Bay Street's Maria and Bob Swieciki, with love from Stephen, Bobby and Maria.

Happy 26th birthday wishes on Oct. 29 across the miles to Sunjay Sebastian. We miss you!

Happy 50th birthday greetings to new City Island resident Nicholas Penn, who will celebrate his big day on Oct. 14. Nicholas formerly lived in Country Club. Welcome!

Happy October anniversary wishes to Judy and Mike Rauh, John and Linda Wright and their cousins Mike and Roseann Bunyan.

If you're running in the New York City Marathon on Nov. 4, please call Judy Rauh at 718-885-2079. We'd like to run a photo in *The Current*.

Grandma, Grandpa, Mirmar and Nana wish their delicious grandchildren, Thora and Waverly, a splendid first birthday on

Oct. 12. Also, many thanks to the best parents in the world, Dan Treiber and Reina Mia Brill, for bringing such joy into all our lives.

Happy first wedding anniversary to Ditmars Street's Amanda and Mike with love from your friends and family.

Congratulations to former Fordham Street resident Patrick Woods, who graduated from Albany Law School on May 11, 2012. Patrick was the Editor-in-Chief of the Albany Law Review and the valedictorian of his class. Patrick is starting a two-year clerkship at the Court of International Trade with Judge Richard K. Eaton. He and Liz will be living for the next few years in Woodlawn. Liz is employed as a lawyer by Legal Services in Yonkers.

Happy 26th birthday on Oct. 22 to King Avenue's Mark Nani, with love from your friends and family.

Birthday wishes to Fordham Street's Emmett Shanley, who turns 14 on Oct. 26.

Happy birthday on Oct. 9 to Helen Vaughan, with love from everyone!

Wedding bells rang on Sept. 22 for Tanya Kraemer and Aaron Abdis. The ceremony was held at Grace Episcopal Church followed by a reception at the Davenport Beach Club. The proud parents of the radiant bride are Terrace Street residents Bob and Susan Kraemer (of SuSu Balloons), and her twin sister, Amanda, was the maid of honor. We wish the newlyweds a lifetime of happiness!

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

Maria Swieciki



Photo by KAREN NANI

Tanya Kraemer and Aaron Abdis were married on Sept. 22, 2012. Shown above at the reception are (l. to r.) the bride's twin sister, Amanda Kraemer; the bride's parents, Bob and Susan Kraemer; the bride and groom; the groom's parents, Kathryn and Paul Abdis; and the groom's brother, Peter Abdis.



Photo by JOHN WOODS

Patrick Woods being congratulated by his brother, Jack, at his graduation from Albany Law School in May 2012.

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