

The Island Current

Published on City Island, New York

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

Volume 38 Number 10

December 2009

One Dollar

SEASON'S GREETINGS!



Photo by RICK DeWITT

FROM THE STAFF OF THE ISLAND CURRENT

BRIEFLY...

MUSEUM SHOW-AND-TELL OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 1 to 5 p.m. Bring your old photographs, artifacts or memorabilia to the museum and share them and your memories with your friends and neighbors. We will scan your old photographs on the spot (and ask you to identify as many people in them as you can), so that you can keep the originals. Refreshments will be served. And take this chance to shop at our Museum Gift Shop. For more information, call 718-885-0507.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR: Grace Church will hold its Sixth Annual Christmas Café and Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering all handmade crafts and decadent baked creations from the parish kitchens. The café will be open all day, starting with light breakfast fare and serving lunch from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. Please join in this festive holiday tradition! Grace is located at 116 City Island Avenue, at the corner of Pilot Street (across from the Lido).

"BLUE CHRISTMAS" SERVICE: Grace Episcopal Church offers a "Blue Christmas" service on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 5 p.m. Blue Christmas is specifically designed to help ease some of the pain often associated with this time of year. By sharing special prayers, scripture and music, those who attend will be reminded that at Christmas God's Word comes to shine light in the darkness. The Holy Eucharist and the Laying on of Hands for Healing also will be offered. For more information, please contact Mother Patty Alexander at 718-885-1080 or RevPPA@aol.com.

ORGANIC FOOD CO-OP: Once a week for 24 weeks each year, members of an organic food coop on City Island pick up fresh vegetables and fruits grown by Stoneledge Farm in Cairo, New York, and delivered to a home on City Island. Although current members are deeply committed to the program, they learned recently that unless membership increases, the farm will no longer be able to service City Island. Inquiries can be made about the program by contacting Christine Williams at williams10464@aol.com. The provider's website is www.Stoneledgefarm.org.

CI THEATER GROUP AUDITIONS FOR "WAIT UNTIL DARK." Auditions for this exciting thriller by Frederick Knott will be held on Dec. 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Grace Episcopal Church Parish Hall, City Island Avenue at Pilot Street. Performance dates will be Feb. 19, 20, 21, 25, 26 and 27. For more information, call 718-885-3066 or check the website at www.cityislandtheatergroup.com.

BOOKFAIR AT BARNES & NOBLE TO BENEFIT P.S. 175 PTA. On Dec. 11 and 12, every purchase made at the Barnes & Noble store in Bay Plaza using the school bookfair number will result in a donation to P.S. 175. As we face continued budget cuts, these funds can be used to help maintain and support school enrichment programs, class trips and much more. The P.S. 175 school bookfair number is 10097061. On Saturday morning, Dec. 12, the bookfair will also feature student performances and readings, a book signing by Island resident Eric Sanderson, author of "Manahatta: A Natural History of New York City." If you can't make it to the store on those days but still wish to make a purchase, Barnes & Noble will donate cash back to the school between Dec. 11 and 17 for your on-line purchases of books, DVD's, CD's, games and gift cards. Just go to www.bn.com/mybookfair and put in the school bookfair number (10097061).

CITY ISLAND COOKS: Recipes wanted from all our cooks (and eaters) on City Island. The PTA of P.S. 175 is compiling the ultimate City Island Cookbook. Recipe Collection Sheets are available in the school office. Recipes can be dropped off at P.S.175 or sent online to 11X175PA@schools.nyc.gov. Everyone is encouraged to submit a favorite recipe by Dec. 23, 2009. The books should be available for sale by April 2010. For more information, contact Leslie Hanley at 646-300-3522 or by the PTA e-mail.

SUPPORT WESTCHESTER SQUARE: City Islanders are asked to support a lawsuit filed by the Westchester Square Merchants that attempts to stop New York City from renting new but unsold luxury apartments to homeless families at twice the market value. A Westchester Square developer recently entered into such an arrangement with the Department of Housing Services without prior notification to the community, a situation that is occurring throughout the city. The court date for the case between the NYC Dept of Homeless Services and the Westchester Square Merchants/WZIO is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 7, at 9:30 a.m. at the Bronx Courthouse; there will be a press conference at 9 a.m. John Bonizio, president of the Westchester Square Merchants, will have buses available for people interested in attending the proceedings and showing support. Contact Joe Regina at 718-597-4629 or at westsqmerchants@aol.com to reserve your seat and get additional information.

City Island Deli & Pizza

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

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



EDITOR: Karen Rauhauser Nani

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

DISTRIBUTION: Emily Leni
SUBSCRIPTIONS: Rose Kolb
ADVERTISING MANAGERS: Joan Ramftl, Margaret Lenz
BUSINESS MANAGER: Judith Rauh

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

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

Typeset by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, Witworks Studio Graphic Design, 33 Earley Street, City Island, N.Y. 10464
Printed by Hi-Speed Printing Co., 560 South Third Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10550
The Island Current (USPS 114-590) is published monthly except for January and August by the Island Current Inc., a not-for-profit organization. Subscription rate, \$12.00 per year. Single copies, \$1.00. All subscriptions, editorial, advertising and other correspondence must be mailed to: The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, Bronx, NY 10464. Display advertising deadline is the 10th of the month preceding publication, call 885-0984 or 885-0760. Copyright 2009 by The Island Current, Inc., 724 King Ave., City Island, Bronx, NY 10464. All rights reserved.
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT BRONX, NY.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Island Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464.

45 BLOTTER

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

- 1 – HARASSMENT
- 3 – BURGLARY
- 1 – DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI)

Police report the following incidents for the period from Oct. 20 to Nov. 20, 2009:

10/23 – On Tier Street at 9:15 p.m., residents reported harassment by unknown teen-

agers. No arrest was made.
11/12 – Police are investigating a rash of burglaries that began on City Island Avenue on Nov. 12, when the Island Café was broken into through the side window and property removed.
11/13 – At 9 a.m., a residential property on Carroll Street was burglarized and jewelry and property was taken without consent of the owner.
11/13 – The commercial establishment Lickety Split on City Island Avenue was broken into through the back door at 1 p.m.
11/19 – About 12 midnight, another commercial establishment on City Island Avenue was broken into and property was removed. Police from the 45th Precinct are investigating these burglaries.

AD RATES INCREASE

Without its advertisers, *The Island Current* could not exist. Although sales and subscriptions help us cover costs, the advertising revenue supplied by local businesses and organizations is what keeps us afloat. The costs of printing and postage have grown dramatically over the past 15 years since we last raised our rates, and we cannot afford to continue publishing the paper at a deficit. It is therefore with great reluctance that we announce a slight increase in our advertising rates beginning in 2010 from \$9 to \$10 per inch (an increase of 11 percent). We hope that our loyal advertisers will understand the situation and continue to support us as they have in the past. This change applies only to display ads, not to classified ads, which will remain \$6 for 20 words or less.

Reiki

Valerie Tarangelo, RMP
Reiki for Deep Relaxation
Supports all Healing Modalities
Hospitals, Nursing Homes,
Hospice, Home Visits
914-582-6514
chirci@aol.com

~ Give your Pet the gift of Reiki ~
Member International Assoc. of
Reiki Professionals
Practitioner of Usui Reiki Since 1987

Have a

Jolly Holiday

The specialty of the house is our wonderful patrons!
In your honor Santa's cooking up a special order of joy and contentment

CITY ISLAND DINER

BAR & GRILLE

PAINT & BODY SHOP

**Hoping your holidays are perfect in every way...
down to the last detail.**

718-655-9756 Steven Lischinsky 3551 Webster Ave.
Ultra Automotive Center Bronx, NY 10467

Marine Street Development On Track Again - Maybe

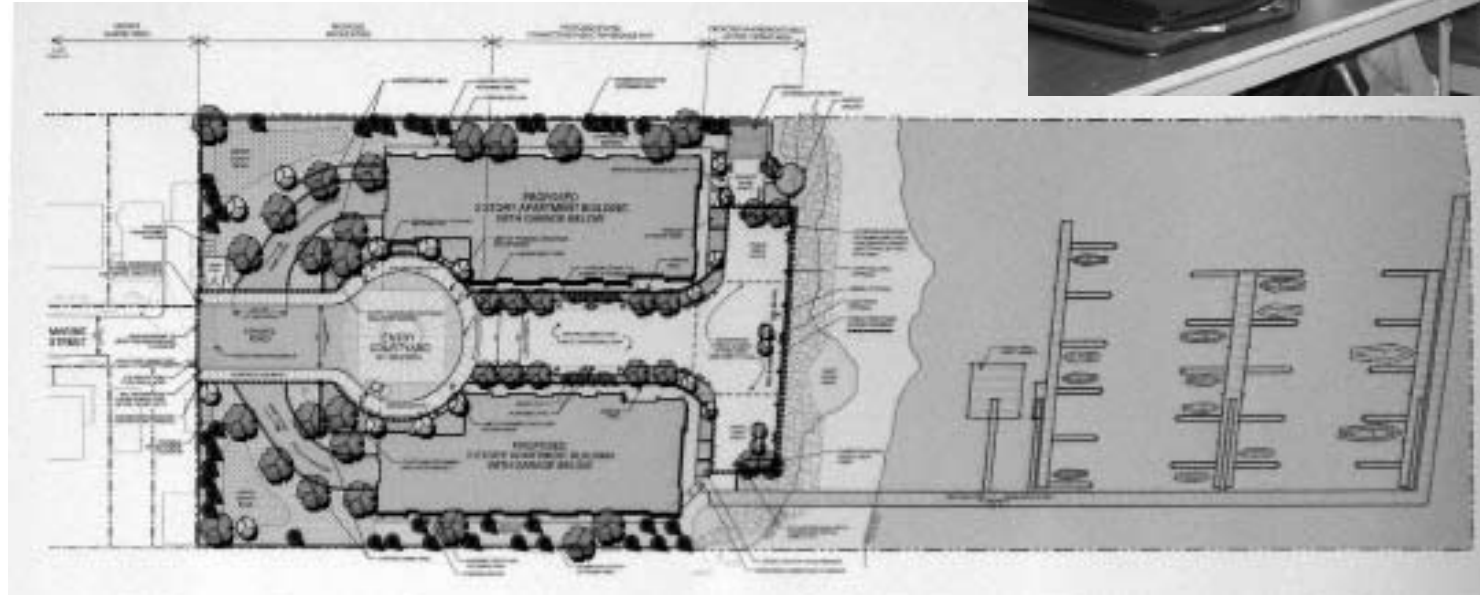
By BARBARA DOLENSEK

The November meeting of the City Island Civic Association drew a large crowd eager to see what representatives of Sea Breeze Estates had in store for their development of the east end of Marine Street, a project that has been in the works for 20 years with no visible signs of progress.

Robert Kandel, a lawyer representing the Goren brothers who own GBG Inc., which bought the property in 1989, along

the condominium apartments and then to the general public, and 93 parking spaces (well above the required number).

Although the original zoning change remains in effect, allowing for the construction of apartment buildings of this type—rather than the detached housing allowed in R-3A and R-2 zones, which cover most of City Island—the developer is asking for the approval of three relatively minor changes and must go through



with the project architect Chuck Knapp, addressed the Island residents and showed drawings of the proposed plans, as he explained how the project has evolved over the past two decades.

After the purchase of the property, the former site of Tri-boro Marine, the new owner proposed to the New York Department of City Planning a condominium consisting of two large apartment buildings that would contain 51 units. Although the Civic Association and Community Board 10 voted against the project, which required a zoning change from M-1 (manufacturing) to C-3 (commercial), City Planning and the City Council approved it in 1991, along with the demapping of Marine Street, which enlarged the site considerably. However, for reasons that remain unexplained, the project was never realized, and the land has remained vacant ever since.

Mr. Kandel explained that new laws regarding the environment and waterfront development have required some changes in the original concept. Because the site was used for boat construction for many years, the soil is seriously contaminated and must be remedied before construction can start. Also, it is now the law in New York City that large building sites on the water must allow for public access, which was in the original plan but has been adjusted to conform to the new regulations. The developer also decided to enlarge the size of individual units, thus reducing the number of units to 32, 16 in each of two large buildings that lie east to west on the property, with central access to the waterfront between them. Included as well are 41 boat slips, which are to be sold separately, offered first to purchasers of

the process of obtaining input from the community as well as from various city and state agencies.

When Mr. Kandel opened the meeting to questions, Islanders were quick to raise many objections to the development. It was pointed out that Marine Street is very narrow and that the extra traffic, construction vehicles and public access would pose huge problems for current residents of the street. Although it was quickly noted that construction would be carefully monitored to allow residents to move freely on and off the street, no one answered regarding the issue of increased traffic once the development was completed.

Site contamination was another issue of great concern to the neighbors, but it was explained that the removal of hazardous materials would be supervised by at least three government agencies and would be carried out in the safest possible way. Unanswered was the question as to why nothing had been done with the property since 1990 and why the site was allowed to deteriorate, attracting vermin and vandals.

Islanders also asked about what the developer had in mind regarding apartment sizes and ultimate price range. Mr. Kandel was quick to note that the property would be marketed to an upmarket audience, especially buyers with boats, and that the units would be sold and not rented. Residents pointed out that there are many unsold houses and apartments on City Island and that the market for relatively expensive small apartments was in no way a sure thing, even two or three years from now. Another primary concern was that the Island had already reached a saturation point so far as population was concerned.

Waterfront access for the public, although required by City Planning throughout New York City and generally welcomed in other areas, is not something that City Islanders like, for various reasons. This requirement was solved for the recently presented project at the former IUC site on Fordham Street by placing the access area outside the residential part of the development. Residents of the development at the east end of Bowne Street erected a gate on the site because fishermen were using the property as a spot for cleaning fish and leaving debris.

The Sea Breeze representatives were quick to note that although the development on Marine Street would not be gated, it was intended to include security cameras and lights, a management company and a condominium board and perhaps even a full-time security guard to protect



Photos by JANE PROTZMAN

Civic Association President Bill Stanton (standing l.) grills the representatives of Sea Breeze Estates (above photo). Schematic of the proposed development on east Marine Street (left photo).

Following the presentation, Sandi Lusk of the Westchester Square Homeowners Association addressed the group and raised an issue that may relate to the Sea Breeze development. She reported that a developer in Westchester Square recently rented his unsold condominium apartments to the City of New York, which moved in over 30 homeless families without informing the community. Her group has initiated a lawsuit, with the assistance of Council Member James Vacca and former State Assemblyman Steven Kaufman, in an effort to bring attention to this controversial matter. She asked for City Island's support of the lawsuit, since developers here may be tempted to rent to homeless families at twice the market rate if they are unable to sell their units (see *Briefly*).

the property.

After the question-and-answer period, Mr. Kandel said that there would be future occasions for discussion with the community as the project went through the approval process for various minor applications. Residents will work with the Civic Association's development committee to prepare more questions for the development to answer and, hopefully, resolve.



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Hawkins Park is open again with all its new finery—a new gate, new benches and new walkways—and its beloved traditions, especially the dolphin, here providing a seat for Ruby Rios Turner, who poses with her friend Gwyn Hopkins.

COOKING WITH FIRE

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Firefighters will soon be saying goodbye to rusty counters, pesky burners and shoddy outlets, thanks to a \$200,000 renovation of the kitchen and dining area at the City Island firehouse on Schofield Street. With designs now completed, the project, funded by the New York City Council, is on track to begin in late March or early April of 2010.

Council Member James Vacca has been working with the Fire Department to expedite the project since he took office in 2006. The project was initially earmarked by Mr. Vacca's predecessor, Madeline Provenzano, and Mr. Vacca kept it in the budget. He led the successful fight to keep Ladder 53 open in spite of budget cuts earlier this year.

"Now that we kept Ladder 53 open, I am pleased to report that the City Council

is putting its money where its mouth is," Mr. Vacca said. "We are committed to bringing this firehouse into the 21st century in more ways than one and to give our firefighters a state-of-the-art facility worthy of the job they do every day."

The funding allocated by the City Council will make possible a total renovation of the firehouse kitchen and dining area, including new range equipment, shelving, work surfaces, flooring, lighting, plumbing, and fixtures; a reconstruction of the pantry; the replacement of the exhaust fan and fire suppression system; and various types of electrical work.

FDNY officials recently completed the design for the project and the Department of Design and Construction will oversee the project.





Editorial

It seems like only yesterday that *The Island Current* published its December issue for 2008, but time has flown and here we are about to enter a new decade. The year 2009 has been a significant one for City Island. Like the rest of the country, we have faced a serious economic crisis, which has threatened to affect our daily lives as well as our sense of security, but we have confronted the crisis with an unusual sense of community togetherness, something for which City Island has not often been praised in the past.

Like any community, City Island has its share of problems—traffic, vandalism, drug dealing, building violations, empty storefronts and more—but the year 2009 was remarkable for the new energy that residents and business owners alike are putting to good use in improving the situation. We applaud those who worked hard in the past running the City Island Civic Association and the Chamber of Commerce, but we warmly welcome the new officers of those organizations and support their determination to work together on behalf of the community. We were delighted that a large group of residents turned out for a meeting at the 45th Police Precinct to ask for help, and we are grateful to the precinct for responding with effective coverage.

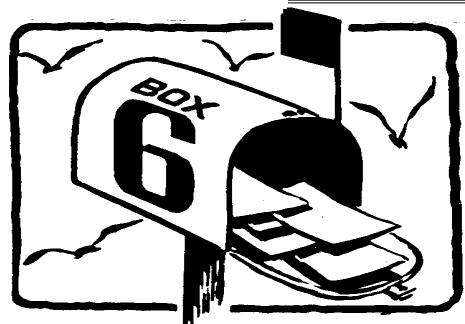
When Ladder Company 53 was threatened with elimination by city budget cuts, we gathered together and fought City Hall in various ways, and with the help of our elected officials, especially Council Member James Vacca, we managed to convince the city that reducing our fire protection would put the community at grave risk. The fact that several serious fires took place during the year only convinced us—and, we hope, the city’s administration—that City Island’s fire station should remain intact.

We all watched the empty storefronts increase in number along City Island Avenue, and community organizers worked together this year to try to improve the situation—taking a survey of Islanders about local business, placing artworks in empty storefronts to improve their appearance, organizing two clean-up days along City Island Avenue, publicizing the buildings that absentee or negligent landlords fail to maintain and—perhaps most important—urging Island residents to shop locally in order to keep our neighbors in business. Thanks to the efforts of Senator Jeff Klein and his office, the ever-present graffiti was brought under control and largely eliminated.

We were delighted when the Parks Department, spurred by the Garden Club of City Island, managed to move ahead with its renovation of Hawkins Street Park, drawing on money budgeted long ago by former Council Member Madeline Provenzano. But when the dolphin statue was about to be moved, members of the community banded together to petition the Parks Department to keep it in place. The dolphin is still there, surrounded with rubber matting required by law (in spite of there not having been any injuries in the last half century), and the new fencing, benches and plantings are finally in place for everyone to enjoy. And we thank the Garden Club for its plantings along City Island Avenue, especially at the Legion triangle.

The City Island community also rose to the occasion to help those affected by the fires that displaced residents and businesses, most recently To-Go Express and the Art of Beauty, which were offered working space and facilities immediately after the fire destroyed their building at 415 City Island Avenue. We also saw the Boy Scouts working hard to improve the fence at Pelham Cemetery and the eighth-grade students at P.S. 175 performing numerous good works around the Island.

We face numerous challenges in the coming year, coping with issues that have not yet been resolved and dealing with problems that we can’t even anticipate, but we believe that City Islanders are in a unique position to confront these intelligently and with a sense of community in which we can all take pride.



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.

Cell Tower Alert

To the Editor:

I am writing this as an appeal to my fellow City Islanders in the hope that they will once again raise their voices in outrage against the cell phone towers that are installed directly across the street from P.S. 175. It is my understanding that the first five-year increment of a 30-year renewable lease will expire in December 2009 and that

the “renewable” portions of the lease are at the option of the communications entities and not the landlord.

For the past five years, the cell phone towers have transmitted close-range RF Radiation into our homes, school and playground, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no tangible proof that the towers have caused physical harm, but it should be noted that a number of residents who live in close proximity to them have been diagnosed with cancer and other serious illnesses.

In the early days after construction of the towers, we held a demonstration at the school, had a petition signed, contacted our representatives, received publicity in the media—to no avail. Now that we face 25 more years of constant radiation bombardment, City Islanders are urged to continue the battle against this unsightly, unwanted and unhealthy insult to our community.

A recent appeal for help was made to Congressman Crowley’s office. We were told that the most effective method would be for Island residents to write letters to his office expressing their distress at the situa-



The cell towers atop the apartment building on City Island Avenue across from P. S. 175 continue to raise concerns among some Islanders.

tion. Therefore, we ask all City Islanders and off-Island sympathizers to write to Congressman Joseph Crowley, 3425 E. Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465, asking that Verizon Wireless and AT&T Wireless remove their base station from its City Island location. It would be especially helpful if you would send copies of your letter to Mayor Bloomberg and to Kenneth Kearns, District Manager of Community Board 10.

Nancy Friedman

Thanks from To-Go Express

To the Editor:

We are so very grateful to all the people who came forward in our time of need. Our tremendous loss due to the fire has been unbearable, but it is overshadowed by the continuing support, help and prayers given to us. City Island is such a great community, and we are very proud to be a part of it. There are so many Islanders, off-Islanders, patrons, friends and even strangers whom we wish to thank for opening up their hearts in so many ways. The list is endless and keeps on growing. Your support gives us hope and courage for the future.

We ask that you continue to support us by ordering from Augie’s Deli, 520 City Island Avenue (718 885-1083), where Chef Rafael is now working and cooking up his delicious To-Go Express dishes. We greatly appreciate your continuing patronage and we are so very grateful to Augie for opening up his heart and his kitchen to help Rafael keep doing what he loves.

We owe so many thanks to each and every one of you. It has made such a difference in our lives and enables us to keep moving forward. God bless everyone for caring so much and for making it possible for us to come back bigger and better than ever!

Patrice & Rafael Ortega

Questioning Validity of Marine Street Development

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

Dear Councilman Vacca,

On Nov. 24, at the City Island Civic Association meeting, developers for the property at the east end of Marine Street on City Island made a presentation to the com-

munity regarding the proposed development for the property, which has been vacant for 20 years. As you probably know, the planned development of this property came into question in the early 1990s, when you were district manager of Community Board 10 and plans were stalled due to concerns over the high levels of lead found in the soil of this former shipyard. To my knowledge, those concerns have never been alleviated.

The developers have now returned to the community for a third time, with another variation of a planned condo complex/marina, albeit this time slightly scaled down. Questions raised by the residents regarding construction methods (including trucking contaminated soil through the street), increased traffic and the requirement for public access to a previously closed waterfront, were never adequately addressed by the attorney nor by the architect representing the unidentified developers.

Although these concerns all need to be addressed more fully, the major concern I have regarding this project is its future financial viability. One question I asked at the meeting is whether they fully expect to be able to sell two-bedroom apartments for \$750,000, the price they quoted, and they said yes. I strongly doubt that, given the current economic and political climate in this city and nation.

Ironically (or maybe not), the next speaker for the evening, after the developer representatives left, was Sandi Lusk, who updated Islanders regarding the plight that Westchester Square residents are having with housing for the homeless proposed for another ill-conceived so-called luxury development on St. Peter’s Avenue, an issue that you are at the forefront of right now. Along with others, I see the proposed development on Marine Street as another St. Peter’s in the making. Developers in this city today, under the Bloomberg policies for housing the homeless, have nothing to lose. If they build an ill-conceived project with no chance of selling at their asking price, it is easy for them—they just rent the project to the city’s homeless services for \$90 a day, or \$2700 per month of taxpayer funds. It has been happening all over the city, and I believe that waiting for another “pie in the sky” development to be built with no sure chance of success is just asking for another St. Peter’s disaster to occur again. The only sure way to stop this from happening is to

Continued on page 17

SUPPORT CITY ISLAND THIS HOLIDAY!



Photos by KAREN NANI

The annual Christmas tree lighting in Hawkins Park, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, on Saturday, Nov. 28, at 7 p.m., marked the start of the joyous holiday season and a reminder to Islanders to do their shopping and reveling on City Island, especially in these lean economic times. Santa and his helpers, Chamber vice president Paul Klein, former Council Member Madeline Provenzano (bottom photo), and Assemblyman Michael Benedetto threw the switch to illuminate the beautiful tree, which was dressed with ornaments made by students from City Island schools. Caroling was led by Ken and Elizabeth Farnum of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church. The annual menorah lighting in Hawkins Park will take place on Friday, Dec. 11, at 5:30 p.m., followed by singing of traditional Chanukah songs and an open house at Temple Beth-El. Let the joyous season begin, and support City Island businesses!

PEACE AT LAST: Range Closure Back on Schedule

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by KAREN NANI

The relocation of the New York Police Department firing range at Rodman's Neck is back on schedule after a scare that only the pistol range would be moved and that rifle and shotgun firing would remain. Rifle and shotgun training represents 638,000 of the 10.5 million annual rounds fired at Rodman's Neck (shown above). After some negotiation with the City Council, however, the NYPD agreed to move both pistol and rifle firing to the new Police Academy in College Point, Queens.

Although Island residents were informed in April 2007 that the New York Police Department firing range at Rodman's Neck would eventually be moved to the proposed new Police Academy in College Point, Queens, the NYPD revealed in late October 2009 that although the pistol range was moving, the rifle range would stay at Rodman's Neck. Thanks to the quick response of Council Member James Vacca, however, that will no longer be the case.

The City Council's approval of the new site was put in jeopardy when city officials revealed that, although the new facility would include an indoor pistol range as planned, it would no longer house the NYPD's rifle and shotgun range. Rifle and shotgun training represents 638,000 of the 10.5 million annual rounds fired at Rodman's Neck.

The City Council was given only a few days to approve the plan, but Mr. Vacca and Council Speaker Christine Quinn postponed the vote until the NYPD agreed to redesign the College Point facility to accommodate the vast majority of rifle fire as well, leaving behind just 19,000 annual rounds, or less than 0.2 percent, at the Bronx range. The remaining gunfire, which will take place at limited hours, will remain at Rodman's Neck, because the NYPD's sniper unit must train outdoors and shoot over longer distances than would be possible at the new facility.

Although Island residents will continue listening to gunfire, which on many days begins at 8 a.m. and continues into the evening hours, until at least 2014, when the new firing range is scheduled for completion, there was a general feeling of relief, especially among residents on the west side of City Island, that at some point

the noise of gunfire would become a thing of the past. Environmentalists are also relieved to know that the tons of lead will no longer be regularly pumped into the earth at Rodman's Neck, which has served as a police training facility since the 1960s and previously housed a military training center.

On Nov. 16, the New York City Council approved the siting of the new 40-acre Police Academy in Queens, and it will consolidate training operations from sites scattered across the city, including most of the firing range now at Rodman's Neck. Several other facilities on Rodman's Neck, including a network of small buildings used for crime simulations and the bomb detonation pit, will remain, although the NYPD has agreed to a community meeting to address noise and environmental concerns.

"This is a huge win, not only for City Island but for the many communities in the east Bronx that wake up every morning to deafening bursts of gunfire," said Mr. Vacca. "When the city announced plans for a new academy in Queens, we had a commitment that this would finally mean relief for our community. There was no way we were going to pass up this chance to finally end a nuisance that has been plaguing our community for almost 50 years. I am extremely grateful to Speaker Quinn and the Mayor's Office for recognizing the needs of my community."

Construction is scheduled to begin by the end of this year at the College Point site, which currently houses an NYPD tow pound. The indoor firing range that will replace the Rodman's Neck facility is part of the project's second phase, which could be completed by early 2014.

*Happy
Holiday
Season*
 To All Our
 Friends And Neighbors

 Thank You For
 Your Support
 Throughout The Year



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.

Everyone is invited to **Toby Lieder-**man's 28th annual holiday open house/open studio on Sunday, Dec. 6, between 3 and 7:30 p.m. Greet the season with good company, good art and some hot apple cider. If you can't make it, please call 718-885-3423 to plan another day to visit and to look for holiday gifts. Toby's photograph will be on view at the Focal Point Gallery's annual City Island Artists Exhibition, and her notecards are available at the City Island Nautical Museum gift shop, 190 Fordham Street (open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.).

The **Focal Point Gallery's** annual City Island Artists Exhibition will be on view during the month of December at 321 City Island Avenue, beginning Friday, Dec. 4, with a reception at 7 p.m. For more information, call 718-885-1403.

The **Island Current Fleet's** Long Island Sound blackfish season is in full swing and will be sailing every day until Dec. 20. Starting mid-January the goal will be winter codfish aboard the new Island Current III out of the winter location from Snug Harbor, Rhode Island.

All three boats are currently sailing every day; day trips depart at 8 a.m. and return to port at about 4:30 p.m. All three boats in the fleet can be chartered out privately for any day or evening. In fact, the fleet still offers special weekday charter rates and group rates for 10 or more passengers. The open boat fare is \$65 for adults, \$60 for seniors and \$40 for children. This includes free bait, tackle, rods, reels and parking. The new location is Jack's Bait and Tackle, 551 City Island Avenue at Cross Street. There are even special 50/50 blackfish trips for serious anglers, which sail every Monday and Wednesday, leaving at 6 a.m. There is a strict 12-person limit and the cost if \$120 per per-

son. The unique aspect of this trip is that the boat takes \$720 and the other \$720 goes to the angler who catches the largest blackfish of the day.

We are currently sailing with all three boats every day; our day trips depart at 8 a.m. and return to port at about 4:30 p.m. All three boats in the fleet can be chartered out privately for any day or evening. In fact, we are still offering our special weekday charter rates and group rates for 10 or more passengers. The open boat fare is \$65 for adults, \$60 for seniors and \$40 for children. This includes free bait, tackle, rods, reels and parking. We are now located at Jack's Bait and Tackle, 551 City Island Avenue at Cross Street. We have special 50/50 blackfish trips for serious anglers; these sail every Monday and Wednesday, leaving at 6 a.m. There is a strict 12-person limit and the cost is \$120 per person. The unique aspect of this trip is that the boat takes \$720 and the other \$720 goes to the angler who catches the largest blackfish of the day.

Attention pet owners! In early December, just in time for the holidays, Susan and Joe DiFrancesco will open **Doggie Island** at 268 City Island Avenue, offering dog and cat supplies, dog grooming services, self-serve pet wash. Those who choose the self-serve pet wash will be able to rent a tub by the half hour for washing their pets; Doggie Island will provide the shampoo, towels and brushes, and the customer can leave the mess behind. Be sure to call ahead for availability. For safety reasons, aggressive dogs will not be allowed. The dog groomer, an Island resident, has over 20 years experience and is a graduate of the New York School of Dog Grooming. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 pm., Friday and Saturday from 10 to 8 and on Sunday from 10 to 6. Closed Monday. Early drop-off can be provided by appointment. For more information or to schedule an appointment, e-mail info@thedoggieisland.com or call 914-523-6734.

Come to **Reina Mia Brill's** open house on Dec. 6 from noon to 6 p.m. at 75 Earley Street and admire (and buy) wonderful knitted wire and ceramic creatures or imported furniture from Bali. These will make great gifts for all ages at all price points. There will be live music from 5 to 6 p.m.



The People of Trinity United Methodist Church


December 4th & 5th
Christmas Fair

December 6th
2nd Sunday in Advent - Worship 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Sue's Open House - 1:00-5:00

December 13th
3rd Sunday in Advent - Children's Pageant 10:00 a.m.
Children's Christmas Party following the service

December 20th
4th Sunday in Advent - Worship 10:00 a.m.

December 24th
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10:00 p.m.



The officers and members of
The American Legion, Post 156
salute all those serving in the military.

We have a special place in our hearts for the following City Islanders and their family members who are on active duty during the holidays:

MAJ. BARTON BUCHANAN	PVT. KIMSON IT
SEAMAN ROBERT A. BOOTH	OFFICE CANDIDATE PAUL IT
CPL CHARLES BRILL	PO1 JAMES JONES
LTC. H.A. CLANCY	S/SGT. MATHEW MCCUE
MAJ. MICHAEL CLANCY	CORY MAYER
MASR RICHARD FERRIS	LT. CHRISTOPHER MULLER
LCDR CLAIRE GANAL	MAJ. KERRY MURPHY
LCDR EDMUND GANAL	PFC 3 RACHEL SMITH
LT. ETHAN HEBEN	BM3 ROBERT SWIECIKI
CPO PETER J. HOWARD	

If you would like to write to any of these active duty personnel, contact Commander Dave Carman, 550 City Island Avenue, Bronx, NY 10464.

Free Shop at Home

Lumia Decorators

REUPHOLSTERING, SLIPCOVERS & DRAPERIES

- ★ Kitchen & Dining Chairs Recovered
- ★ Table Pads ★ Foam Cushions Cut to Size
- ★ Complete Selection of Blinds & Shades

All Work Done On Our Premises

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
candlelight tour preview
5:30 to 8:30 pm

holiday celebration

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

- puppet shows
11:00 am & 12:30 pm
- horse-drawn hayrides
12:00 to 2:00 pm
- pictures with santa
10:00 am to 2:30 pm
- holiday boutique & baked goods
10:00 am to 3:00 pm



BARTOW-PELL MANSION MUSEUM
815 SHORE ROAD, PELHAM BAY PARK
For reservations & information 718.885.1461 info@bpmm.org www.bpmm.org



Nick Vrettos and Barbara Dolensek were among the Island adults who helped organize the Clean-Up Day on Saturday, Nov. 7. More than 40 Islanders, adults and kids alike, helped clean City Island Avenue from the bridge to Belden Point.

EIGHTH GRADE SERVICE TEAM

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photos by BRENDA PROHASKA

Community Center president Brenda Prohaska helped to form the Eighth Grade Community Service Team with support from Amy Lipson, principal of P.S. 175, and the eighth-grade homeroom teachers, Ms. Heil and Ms. Marron. On Nov. 7, the students participated in City Island Clean-Up Day, and many residents came up and thanked them for their efforts. The small group of dedicated eighth-graders also cleaned up the Kilroe Street beach.

Most parents know that eighth-graders at P.S. 175 have to fulfill a community service requirement in order to graduate, but not until this year has someone stepped forward to help direct students to places where their service is actually needed. No one who knows her will be surprised to learn that the Community Center president Brenda Prohaska, who likes to keep City Island connected, is the one who stepped forward to form the Eighth Grade Community Service Team, with a special component relating to crime prevention.

The idea behind the team is based on the conviction that if middle school students develop a sense of community pride and have a positive experience doing good deeds, they are less likely to become destructive in their own community. The Department of Justice was so impressed with this anti-crime initiative that they recommended that the Citizens Committee for New York City provide funding to support the Community Center's program. The Citizens Committee is a not-for-profit organization that supports resident-led volunteer programs to improve quality of life in communities throughout the five boroughs.

Amy Lipson, principal of P.S. 175, and the eighth-grade homeroom teachers, Ms. Heil and Ms. Marron, have fully supported the program, which is a win/win for both the eighth-graders and the community. The team is trying to get most of their work done before the cold weather sets in, although this will not be easy, given the busy schedules of activities, high school test preparation and open houses.

The primary purpose of the Eighth Grade Service Team is to provide a positive community-service experience for eighth-graders by directing them to areas of service they will find enjoyable and satisfying. Many projects have been based on the suggestions of the students themselves. Brenda Prohaska has been working with them to refine and implement the projects as they progress. She has been reaching out to many different organizations in the community in order to place the eighth-graders where their work will be most appreciated.

On Nov. 7, the students participated in City Island Clean-Up Day, and they were



noticed! Many residents came up and thanked them for their efforts. The same positive response occurred when a small group of dedicated eighth-graders cleaned up the Kilroe Street beach, which was in terrible shape. Neighbors expressed their gratitude for the tremendous amount of work the kids did and complimented them on their hard work.

Residents have also seen the kids outside IGA, Connie's and the pharmacy collecting pet food and money to help Yolanda Cirulli in her work with stray and abandoned animals on the Island. Yolanda was extremely grateful both for the donated food and for the money, which will go toward spaying and neutering the animals.

Other projects that the team has taken on include attending the November meeting of the City Island Civic Association, volunteering at the St. Mary's and Trinity Methodist thrift shops, helping with the Haunted House on Halloween, baking for P.S. 175's Election Day sale, holding a reading day for kindergarteners with cookies and milk, organizing for the P.S. 175 Card Party Fundraiser, helping out the Girl Scouts and at the Community Center, and obtaining signatures for petitions objecting to the design of the proposed City Island bridge.

Students also participated in an excellent anti-drug and anti-crime talk presented by P.S. 175 parent and Island resident Lieutenant Jimmy Mantzaris, who enjoyed speaking to the eighth-graders and has offered to help out with the program. Many eighth-grade parents, as well as the parents of students in other grades, have been offering their support as well.

This is the program's first year, and it has been a very rewarding experience for Brenda and the students. Ms. Lipson and the staff of P.S. 175 have been overwhelmingly supportive, and it is hoped that the community at large will continue to appreciate the hard work that these students are doing for City Island. Anyone with suggestions for the team is asked to call the Community Center at 718-885-1145 and leave a message. And if you see kids out there on the Avenue raising funds for a good cause or pitching in on a community project, be sure to tell them how much you appreciate their efforts.

CRAZ SHANTY
 361 CITY ISLAND AVENUE
 885-1810

OPEN 7 DAYS
 (11a.m.-2a.m.)

DAILY LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS

PARKING AVAILABLE

THE COOKIE FACTORY
 1844 Givan Ave. (718) 379-6223

Largest selection of SUGAR FREE PRODUCTS
 Cookies • Cakes • Pies
 Cheesecakes & Cannolis

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

ALL PRODUCTS KOSHER
 CORPORATE GIFTS & COOKIE PLATTERS

Please Place Your Holiday Orders Now!

VSH CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS, INC.
 RESIDENTIAL. COMMERCIAL. ALTERATIONS. EXTENSIONS.
 P.O. BOX 1253 BRONX, N. Y. 10452 EMAIL: VSHCCI@OPTONLINE.NET
 GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY!

FREE ESTIMATES
 1(646) 302-8447

DISCOUNTS: 30% RENOVATION! 15% SENIOR CITIZENS! 10% PAINT SUPPLIES! 5% LABOR!
 2 ROOMS: \$599 W/ 3RD ROOM FREE! 4 ROOMS: \$899 W/ 5TH ROOM FREE!

FULLY INSURED. LICENSED: NYC-DCA: H.L.C.#1119934 - H.L.S.#1096314
 WESTCHESTER COUNTY DCP: H.L.C. #WC-21708-HO9
 CUSTOMER (S) HAVE THREE BUSINESS DAYS -
 TO CANCEL TRANSACTION PRIOR TO START OF JOB. TAX NOT INCLUDED.

(718) 885-0429 • Fax: (718) 885-2120
 P.O. Box 58 • City Island, NY 10464

ALL PRO MARINE CONTRACTING CORP.

Dock Building & Pile Driving
 Bulkheads & Surveys • Towing & Salvage

Merry Christmas



Photo by Ron Turner © 2008

Peace on Earth
Good will towards men

Cormac McEnery, Esq.
(718) 885-1234
562 City Island Ave
City Island, NY 10464
www.cormacmcenery.com
email: cormac@cormacmcenery.com

A Member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

Counting to Ten for the Holidays A City Island Season for Celebration

By MONICA GLICK

Count to 10. On City Island, it's not just a stress-reducing exercise. Here, it's also a way to find everything you need for a perfect holiday season, thanks to our businesses, galleries, shops and restaurants.

TEN toys, and then some, may be found at *Exotica International Arts* (280 City Island Avenue). Owner Paul Klein can take you on a journey as well, by showing the crafts of more than 10 countries!

There are tens of pairs of earrings, not to mention bracelets and necklaces, to be found at *Calico Juno Designs* (310 City Island Avenue). Bonnie Riconda's jewelry designs incorporate her love of brilliant, bright colors and a light feeling of airiness. This new shop on the City Island scene has recently added to its inventory and now features other artists' works and handcrafted wearable accessories such as nuno-felted and crocheted scarves, bags and hats.

There is sure to be a wine to please—definitely more than 10 to choose from—at *JGL Wines & Liquors* (358 City Island Avenue). And don't forget to check out the bubbly to toast the New Year!

Our friends at *Island Produce* (292 City Island Avenue) can find you the 10 best fruits and vegetables to pile high in a basket, a treat at your home or when visiting family.

At *Artie's Steak & Seafood* (394 City Island Avenue), you're sure to get to 10 at least 10 times over when counting the sparkling lights in the decorations that make you think "holiday" as you feast on delicious pasta and seafood dishes. And after a long day of shopping, you can count on being satisfied by chef-owner Spiro Chagares' wood-grilled T-bone steak.

And if it's treasures you're searching for, stop by *Corona's Hidden Treasures* (327 City Island Avenue), where these gift items are anything but under wraps. Say "hi" to John and Carolyn Corona while you're there!

Stop in to *Remy's* (272 City Island Avenue) too during the holiday season; she'll use multiples of 10 to stitch up all the right stuff for the boat lovers in your life or for your home!



Lickety Split

NINE trees, and counting, are on hand at *Lickety Split* (295 City Island Avenue), where Skip and Louise Giacco serve up holiday trees and wreaths with the same style they dish out delicious ice cream at other times in the year!

And once you get your tree, the *City Island Pharmacy* (290 City Island Avenue) offers the perfect decorations, as well as a great selection of wrapping paper, cards and even gifts for under the tree or for the nights of Chanukah or Kwanzaa.

There are nine signature burgers on

the menu at *Brian Dempsey's Ale House* (288 City Island Avenue), not to mention fun specials most weeknights, including Monday's \$4 burgers and Wednesday's 20-cent chicken wings.

And you're sure to find at least nine choices of fine cigars at *Hispaniola Cigars* (470 City Island Avenue).



Sammy's Shrimp Box

EIGHT seafood restaurants dot our Island home, from *JP's Restaurant* (703 Minneford Avenue) to the *Lobster Box* (34 City Island Avenue). At some time during the holidays—or even after—try the fisherman's platter at the *Sea Shore Restaurant* (591 City Island Avenue) with deep-fried jumbo shrimp, scallops, filet of sole and tender calamari, or the broiled filet of salmon seasoned with fresh herbs at *The Harbor* (565 City Island Avenue), or the baked whole red snapper at *Sammy's Fish Box* (41 City Island Avenue). Maybe what you're craving is the North Atlantic swordfish from the *Original Sammy's Shrimp Box Restaurant* (64 City Island Avenue) or one of several lobster "feasts" at the *Lobster House* (691 City Island Avenue). In the end, though, it may be the deal of a meal—the lobster special—from the *Crab Shanty* (361 City Island Avenue).

Divide eight by two and you've got the number of antique shops you'll spot

on a stroll down City Island Avenue. You've got the unexpected at *Early Ruth Antiques* (319 City Island Avenue), and lots to find at *Midtown Antiques* (310 City Island Avenue), where Mort and Violet Ellis can help you locate the right gift year-round. There's also the legendary Captain Smitty at *Silver Arrow Antiques* (275 City Island Avenue) to consult on gift ideas, along with Leon across the street at *Quality Antique Furniture* (270 City Island Avenue).

SEVEN courses await you seven days a week at *Ohana Japanese Hibachi Seafood & Steakhouse* (500 City Island Ave-

nue). And on every one of those nights, there's a show with your supper, as cooking becomes an art with Ohana's talented (and humorous) chefs!

If it's travel you'd like to do via your food selection, then City Island serves it well. There's food with a Spanish-Caribbean flair at *Tapas City Island Restaurant & Lounge* (435 City Island Avenue); they've also got karaoke on Thursdays, as well as belly dancers on other nights! If you're searching for Italian food, look no further than the *Lido Restaurant* (101

original to each time of year. Take half of six, and you have the number of days that Chef Al is in the kitchen cooking up all of this spot's breakfast and brunch favorites, Fridays through Sundays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FIVE days a week you'll find Eva and crew of the *Art of Beauty Salon* (240 City Island Avenue) working away as they recover from the October fire that forced their relocation. The beauty is flowing here, and Michelle and Louise are still on hand to give you a relaxing manicure and pedicure as well!

It may be the same spot, but it's definitely a new look for *Lina Petite Salon* (474 City Island Avenue), where stylists await your visit to help you with your just-right holiday look!

Your five fingers on each hand, not to mention your five toes on each foot, are longing for the fine treatment they'll get at *Bay Rose Nail Salon* (329 City Island Avenue) or *Nail Island* (462 City Island Avenue).

But careful not to chip those nails as you hit one of the five times three balls on the pool table at *Fella's Bar* (522 City Island Avenue).

And any day during your five-day work week, enjoy breakfast at *Island Cafe* (205 City Island Avenue) or *Papa John's Deli* (325 City Island Avenue).



Starving Artist Café & Gallery

City Island Avenue) or *Portofino* (555 City Island Avenue). Northern Mediterranean fare is to be found at *The Tree House* (273 City Island Avenue), with their place for parties across the street at the *Euro Café*.

Or, if you've traveled too much and just want to stop and take a break—maybe a seven-minute one, but definitely longer—you'll find welcoming hearts in the newly re-opened *Filomena's Pizza & Pasta* (286 City Island Avenue); it's good to have them back! And you're sure to get served take-out in seven minutes, give or take some minutes, at the *City Island Chinese Restaurant* (84-86 City Island Avenue).

If it is travel off the Island you seek, Dianne and John of *O'Sullivan's Travel* (travelo@aol.com) can help you see seven places and then some!

SIX shrimp in a basket, and more, await you at *Seafood City* (459 City Island Avenue) or *Tony's Pier Restaurant* (1 City Island Avenue).

Stop by *Connie's New Way Market* (307 City Island Avenue) and ask Sara to suggest six treats for the holiday season. There are at least six party platters to be had at the *IGA City Island Market* (385 City Island Avenue), and even more to choose from if your needs are later in the night at *Moe's Island Grocery & Deli* (466 City Island Avenue).

A six-course prix-fixe menu await you on the first Thursday of every month at *Sugar and Spice* (536 City Island Avenue). Chef Alex Pertsovsky and pastry chef Virginia Ng create those six courses,

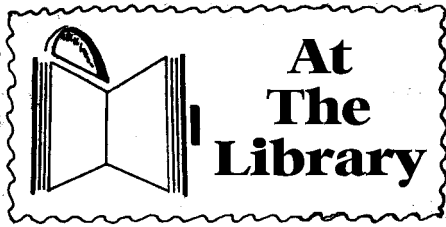
FOUR nights a week you'll hear live music, from singer-songwriters to jazz, at *Starving Artist Café & Gallery* (249 City Island Avenue) during December. Singer-songwriter Theresa Sareo showcases the artists' holiday party on Sunday, Dec. 20, starting at 3 p.m. A holiday karaoke celebration is on the schedule for Saturday, Dec. 26, at 8 p.m. and there's a jam session (all musicians, all instruments welcome) on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 3 p.m. There's also New Year's Eve with jazz legend Lou Volpe; call for details and reservations!

Four paws will be pattering at the brand new *Doggie Island* (268 City Island Avenue). This shop will feature gourmet pet food fare and dog grooming services.



Crab Cakes at the Black Whale.

THREE reasons—Sunday brunch, dinner-and-a-movie Tuesday, and a three-course prix-fixe dinner—are among the many to visit *The Black Whale* (279 City Island Avenue). This dining spot will host a New Year's party, and check to see what holiday happenings are in store at its restaurant within the *City*
Continued on page 22



**At
The
Library**

December Children's Programs

Baby Lapsit Program: Wednesdays, Dec. 2 and 16, 10:30 a.m. Birth to 18 months. All welcome for story time and music.

Pre-School Program: Thursdays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17, at 10:30 a.m. Ages 3 to 5.

Christmas Arts and Crafts: Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 11.

Technology Program for Parents: "How to help your child succeed in doing research." Come join us on Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 10:30 a.m.

Picture Book Program: Thursdays Dec. 3, 10 and 17, at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 11.

Green Apple Kids Free Green Workshop: Make a custom holiday gift from recycled material. Saturday, Dec. 5, at 12 noon.

**January 2010
Children's Programs**

Sarah from "Solar One": Kids will build their own toy race cars. Saturday, Jan. 9, at 12 noon.

Picture Book Program: Thursdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28, at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 11.

Toddler Program: Thursdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28, at 10:30 a.m. Ages 18 to 36 months.

Lapsit Program: Wednesdays, Jan. 6 and 20, 10:30 a.m. Birth to 18 months.

Arts and Crafts: A Winter Craft. Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 11.

**Young Adult Programs
December 2009-January 2010**

Graphic Novel Rewrite: Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Manga Overdrive: Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Yu-Gi-Oh: Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Teen Time Game On: Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Adult Programs
December 2009-January 2010**

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

Resume Writing Workshop: Need help in writing or updating your resume? Come to our workshop. Wednesdays, Dec. 9, 16 and Jan. 6, 20 from 10 a.m. to noon.

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

**CITY ISLAND AUTO
BODY INC.**

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

TOWING

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

138 City Island Avenue • City Island, New York 10464

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

BODY WORK

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

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

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

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

**Best Wishes
for a
Happy
Holiday
Season**

Assemblyman
Michael R. Benedetto

SEASON'S GREETINGS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

ISLAND CURRENT FLEET

BOOK YOUR 2010 PRIVATE CHARTERS

"The Ultimate in Party/Charter Fishing"

New 76' ISLAND CURRENT III (up to 110 Pass.)
50' ISLAND CURRENT II (up to 49 Pass.)
ISLAND CURRENT (up to 21 Pass.)

Day & Night Fishing 7 Days a Week • Group Rates • Senior Discounts
Special Weekday Charter Rates • Best Catches • Fast • Clean
State-of-the-Art Vessels • Top Notch Crew

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

CAPT. CHRIS 917-417-7557 ★ VISIT US AT WWW.ISLANDCURRENT.COM

Tight Lines, Capt. Chris & Crew

SPIRITS SEND HALLOWEEN PARADE OFF COURSE?



Photos by RICK DeWITT and RON TERNER

This year's annual City Island Halloween parade on Oct. 31, 2009, sponsored by the City Island Chamber of Commerce among other local organizations, was enjoyed by many of the costumed participants, despite some confusion about the parade route. Police brought up the rear of the parade, but the ghosts and goblins in front didn't know the new route. Some ended up going down the wrong streets or flying off course on their broomsticks. In the end, a good time was had by the marchers, who ended the evening with a visit to the Community Center's Haunted House.

A Current Review THE SECOND WEEKEND OF ONE-ACT PLAYS

By BRUCE WEIS

The City Island Theater Group presented the second weekend of its 2009 Festival of One-Act Plays during the weekend of Oct. 23-25 on the group's home stage, in the newly repainted Parish Hall of Grace Episcopal Church. The festival included as many as 15 complete (if short) productions, of which 8 were presented on the second weekend (for a review of the first weekend, see the November issue of *The Current*).

The evening performance on Oct. 24 opened with "The M Word" by Alan Ball, directed by Matthieu Regney. Although the "Man" (Steven Bendler) manages not to use a Power Point presentation, he effectively presents a proposal of marriage as if it were a long-term business prospectus. The "Woman" (Susan Rauh), the target of his presentation, handles the marriage, or is it merger, in a manner befitting the occasion.

Next came "The Chocolate Affair" by Stephanie Alison Walker, which was directed by Elizabeth Paldino. Beverly (played by Wendy Wyckoff) seems at first to be looking for Mr. Goodbar in a bag containing her daughter's Halloween candy, until we realize that she is reliving her own childhood angst through her daughter's childhood traumas. Her enablers are well played by Chris Manetakis (M & M) and Denis Zepada (Mr. Goodbar).

In "DMV Tyrant" by Christopher Durang, directed by Torrey Rodriguez, a confrontation between a clerk at the Department of Motor Vehicles (Camille Kaiser) and a hapless man in search of a driver's license, demonstrates exactly why guns, knives and other weapons are not allowed in government offices meant to serve the public. No jury could possibly have convicted her target, well played by a long-suffering Christopher Meindl.

In "The Woman Who Wanted Her Husband," the suspicious wife (Connie DelVecchio) never has a chance against the Other Woman, an actress (played by Eileen Fox) who may or may not be having an affair with her husband. The actress makes it abundantly clear that attitude and presentation are everything, although it also helps to be good on your feet. This piece was adapted from the short play "A Matter of Husbands" by Ferenc Molnar and was directed by longtime CITG actress Lindy Tabano.

Following intermission, "Post-It Notes On A Marriage" by Paul Dooley and Winnie Holzman, directed by Susan Rauh, tracks a marriage from its romantic beginnings to its touching conclusion, through messages a husband and wife (Bill Kozy and Katrina Snyder) have left for one another on Post-It notes over the course of their relationship.

A slight misunderstanding lies at the heart of "Rosa's Eulogy," a soliloquy by Richard Strand, directed by Christopher Meindl. The anguish of the sole character (Bernadette Barnes) at a random death

melts away when a significant (and unsuspected) piece of background information becomes apparent.

In "The Man Who Couldn't Dance" by Jason Katims, directed by Maria Provenzano, Eric (Steven Bendler) illustrates how a good man can be haunted by his inability to form and keep a long-term relationship. His former lover, Gail (Wendy Wyckoff), represents an attachment that Eric appears to wish he had been able to hold on to.

The last play, "Set For Life," written by Robert Mulroy and directed by Christopher Meindl, brings an aggressive young woman named Carol (Mary Mulroy) into the life of a respectable widow, Kay (Dale Walkonen), whose late husband may or may not have been Carol's father. We learn that new limbs on the family tree aren't always welcome and a friendly cup of tea may not be what it seems.

As we reported last month, the acting and the directing of these short one-act plays were excellent, and it was especially interesting to watch plays directed by veteran CITG actors. Some of them managed to direct and act both, and the arrangement of plays to accommodate everyone's roles (the work of CITG president Nick Sala) was nothing short of amazing.

The staging of the plays over both weekends was well thought-out. For most of the plays the set was minimalist—a dark backdrop against which were arranged lighted objects that were specific to each play. This allowed for quick scene changes and minimal delays between the plays. The overall effect was that of continuity, as the successive plays seemed to flow naturally one after the other without interruption.

The company's sound and lighting system has improved with each year of the theater group's 10 years. A newly acquired remote direction system allowed each director to have precise control over his or her play's sound and lighting effects. Costumes and props were effective and appropriate to each show, lending the desired effects without distracting the audience from the performance.

This fourth Festival of One-Act Plays caps another successful season for the City Island Theater Group, which celebrated its 10th anniversary at a gala party on Saturday, Nov. 14. At the party, which was attended by actors, directors, stage crews, subscribers, supporters and elected officials, State Senator Jeff Klein presented the group with a check for \$10,000, which along with Council Member James Vacca's grant, will help the CITG keep up the good work in the future.

Although nothing is written in stone, the proposed program for the year 2010 will include the thriller "Wait Until Dark" in February, a comedy in May, to be announced, and a musical in the fall. *The Island Current* will announce audition and production information as it becomes available, and I for one look forward to many more years of great performances.

EDMOND (Teddy) PRYOR
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1925 Williamsbridge Road Bronx, New York 10461
 300 City Island Avenue City Island, New York 10464

(718) 829-0222
 www.pryorlaw.com

Happy Holidays to Our Customers and Friends!

A-QUALITY GLASS & SHADE CO.

Insulated Glass and Parts
 Mirrors*Table Tops*Blinds*Shades
 Storm Windows and Doors

Tel: 718-885-2100 or 718-885-2155
 Fax: 718-885-2126
 104 Hawkins Street, City Island, NY 10464

What's a party without music?
DJ Amanda Bear
 PARTY RENTALS
 FOR ALL YOUR PARTY NEEDS

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

NEW YORK • NEW JERSEY • CONNECTICUT

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

Harlem Yacht Club
 INCORPORATED 1883
BEST CLUB ON THE ISLAND

ISN'T IT TIME YOU CAME TO LOOK US OVER?
 Congenial Bar • NY Skyline View
 Friendly Membership • Anchorage
 Restaurant • Winter Storage
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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

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

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

DECEMBER

Sat., Dec. 5, to Sun., Dec. 13, **POTS Christmas Giving Program**, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church lobby in the gift box by the tree. Donate new articles of clothing, including sweatshirts and pants, gloves, hats, or socks. Call 718-885-2137 for information.

Fri., Dec. 4, and Sat., Dec. 5, **Annual Christmas Fair**, Trinity United Methodist Church. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 5, and Sun., Dec. 6, **St. Mary's Thrift Shop Christmas Sale**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Mary's School Gym and in the Thrift Shop, 595 Minneford Avenue.

Fri., Dec. 11, **Chanukah Menorah Lighting**, Hawkins Park, 5:30 p.m., sponsored by Temple Beth-El and the Chamber of Commerce.

Sat., Dec. 12, **Christmas Fair and Bake Sale**, Grace Episcopal Church, City Island Avenue and Pilot Street, 10 a.m.

Sat., Dec. 19, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: Cooked ham sliced with potatoes.

Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year!

JANUARY

Tues., Jan. 26, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

Holiday Services

Temple Beth-El

480 City Island Avenue

Friday, Dec. 11: Chanukah Menorah Lighting. 5:30 p.m. in Hawkins Park.

Friday, Dec. 11: Chanukah Family Open House following Menorah Lighting back at the Temple. Musical presentation by Monica and Elliott Glick of Starving Artist Gallery. Rabbi Shohama Wiener will lead the evening service, accompanied by Cantor Elaine Faver, followed by Chanukah treats.

Friday, Jan. 15, 2010: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration, 7:30 p.m.

Grace Episcopal Church

City Island Avenue at Pilot Street

Friday, Dec. 18: Christmas Caroling in the Grace Church neighborhood, 6:30 p.m. All welcome. Meet at Grace Parish Hall.

Sunday, Dec. 20: Blue Christmas Service, 5 p.m. Laying on of Hands for Healing.

Thursday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Holy Communion Service, 10 a.m.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

City Island Ave. near the Bridge

Sunday, Dec. 20: Lessons and Carols Concert, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve, Carols at 7:15 p.m. and Mass at 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Thursday, Dec. 31: Anticipated Mass for Feast of Mary, Mother of God, 5:15 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 1: New Year's Day (Feast of Mary Mother of God), Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Trinity United Methodist Church

113 Bay Street

Sunday, Dec. 6: Second Sunday in Advent Worship, 10 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 6: Pastor Sue's Open House, 1 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 13: Children's Christmas Pageant, 10 a.m. Children's Christmas Party following the service.

Sunday, Dec. 20: Fourth Sunday in Advent Worship, 10 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 10 p.m. All are invited to attend.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

As we begin this month, we also begin the season of Advent, a time of preparation for the coming of Our Savior at Christmas. We wish everyone a happy, peaceful season!

Our monthly holy hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday, Dec. 4, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome.

Our annual Thrift Shop Christmas Sale will be held on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5 and 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Mary's School Gym and in the Thrift Shop. Come browse and shop for bargains.

Our St. Mary's choir will bring their joyful voices for an evening of caroling at Pilot Cove on Sunday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a holy day of obligation. Masses will be at 7 and 8 a.m., 12 noon, and 7:30 p.m. It is under this title that we honor Mary as the patroness of the United States.

Saturday, Dec. 12, is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Saturday Mass at 5:15 p.m. will be the Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent, but we will honor Mary under this title in a special way at that time. Please join us for a joyful celebration and a reception after Mass in the school hall. Our Lady of Guadalupe has been declared the patroness of the Americas.

All are welcome to join us in the rectory for our monthly coffee hour after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 13.

Our annual Ceremony of Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday evening, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Come join us for a joyous, prayerful evening in preparation for Christmas.

The joyful celebration of the birth of Christ will begin with our 8 p.m. liturgy on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, preceded by the singing of Christmas carols at 7:15 p.m. Masses on Christmas Day will be at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon. A very happy Christmas to all!

The New Year begins with the celebration of the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. This is a holy day of obligation. Anticipated Mass will be on Thursday, Dec. 31, at 5:15 p.m. Masses on Jan. 1 will be at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon. A very happy, peaceful New Year to all!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

PSS Healthy Senior Exercise Program

The fabulous Zumba classes with Stephanie continue at the Community Center on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Meanwhile, the schedule at Grace Church Hall remains the same with: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. Cardio Fitness with Mary; 10:30 a.m. Sittercise with Patty; Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Yoga Stretch with Michael; 10:30 a.m. Arthritis Exercise with Patty. We will try to arrange transportation for Orchard Beach walks on Wednesdays. Call Tony at 347-834-6466 or Patty at 718-885-1891 for transportation help for all programs. Our exercise programs are for your benefit and not for profit. They are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services, the NYC Department for the Aging and the Arthritis Foundation.

Pat Grondahl

City Island Republicans

This past November we had one of our greatest victories in New York in decades. From Montauk to Buffalo, we picked up seats in every corner of the state.

May the momentum continue into 2010, when we have a good shot to take the State Senate back and add seats in the Assembly, along with electing statewide Republican officials.

We will be having a great ticket on our ballot for City Island next year. As several top officials at the Bronx Board of Elections have said, we will be getting new voting equipment for next year.

In the next few weeks, the Bronx Board will relocate to new county headquarters at 3020 Middletown Road. The office is on the ground floor and visible from the street, thus allowing more seasoned poll workers to enter easily.

The next meeting of the City Island Republicans will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue.

Fred Ramftl, Jr.

Legion News

As you no doubt realize, I missed the deadline for last month's newsletter. I was duly chastised by the *Current* staff, but fortunately our copy editor had the foresight to save last's month's copy, which I needed for reference.

In keeping with our new schedule, there were just two meetings in November and, as usual, they were well attended. We had some hardworking volunteers at the annual pumpkin sale, which was a great success.

The annual Veterans' Day ceremony held at the grove and Post 156 was well represented. I talked with Mike Jawski, and he was doing well after surgery. Buddy Pontecorvo is home again, and John Ulmer is also on the mend. All thank Post members for remembering them in their prayers. I spoke to Mike again for an update, and he is progressing slowly. He sends everyone his regards and thanks for their concern. Remember all of our housebound members in your prayers.

I intended to write about my squadron's reunion last October but I'm sorry to say that there are not many of them left. At the last reunion, we picked up a few family members for the first time. Among them was Trish Pitcher, whose father, Capt. Herbert Pitcher, never saw his daughter, as he was shot down the day he found out that she had been born.

I am often asked if I remember what I was doing on Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor Day. I was playing football at the City Island circle. We were the City Island Skippers, a local sandlot team of repute. Do you recall what you were doing? There will be a ceremony this year at the memorial by the bridge. The time will be posted at the Post. The United States declared war on Japan on Dec. 8, and on Dec. 31, 1946, we celebrated the official end of the war.

Meetings for the month of December are as follows: Monday, Dec. 7, is the executive board meeting; the regular meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 21. After a brief meeting we will have our annual Christmas party. The commander notes that this meeting is always well attended. We will hold the annual children's party on Dec. 19.

Comrade Treat reminded me that we recently lost four members: James Robert, George Murphy, Siegfried Schulz and William Chilson. No date has been set for the ceremony in which the departed will be duly transferred to Post Everlasting.

The Post's 90th anniversary party held Nov. 21 was a social and financial success. Over 180 members and friends attended.

Until February, at ease....

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus



The exhaustion of the long trip from Nigeria shows in the face of 3 year old Austin Egberuare. The Rotary Clubs of the Bronx and the Pelhams brought him here for life-saving heart surgery at Montefiore Children's Hospital.

Bronx Rotary Club

The Bronx Rotary Club is pleased to announce that their newest Gift of Life child from Nigeria. Three-year-old Austin Egberuare and his mother, Gloria Ifeoma, arrived safely in New York on Nov. 8, 2009. They are staying with a host family, Megan Charlop and Richard Powers of the Bronx. The Bronx Rotary Club is co-sponsoring this child with the Rotary Club of the Pelhams.

On Monday, Nov. 16, Austin had successful corrective heart surgery, which his doctors said went extremely well. Austin's mother had a lot of support during the operation, which took five to six hours. Riverdale Rotarian Gilda Chirafisi, chair of District 7230 Gift of Life, Inc., Pelhams Rotarian Lyn Roth-Jacobs (a former Islander), Bronx Rotarians Ed Hicks and Jim Romeo and host Megan Charlop were by her side during those anxious hours.

After resting and healing at the Montefiore Children's Hospital through the weekend, Austin went back to his host family with his mother for the rest of his recovery period.

This little boy would not have survived without this surgery. The Bronx Club celebrated an especially meaningful Thanksgiving this year for having helped give Austin a future of possibilities through the Gift of Life.

To learn more about the Gift of Life program or the Bronx Rotary and how you can participate, please visit www.bronxrotaryclub.org.

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner



REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

Sundays at 2 p.m., St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, City Island Avenue near the Bridge.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church hall, 116 City Island Avenue (at Pilot Street).

Molly Schroeder, Ph.D.

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Cognitive/Behavioral

Psychotherapy

(914) 632-3013

office in New Rochelle

www.westchestertherapy.com



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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fourth Annual Holiday Party!: Friday, Dec. 4, 7 to 10 p.m. The Community Center thanks our valued supporters with food, drinks and live music. Free for members, \$10 for non-members. Or join for 2010 that night!!

Holiday Stress/Holiday Joy: Simple Ideas for Parents to Create Healthy Family Celebrations: This is a free parent presentation by John Scardina, certified school psychologist and parent educator with over three decades of experience working with children, who is delighted to be living and working on City Island. Monday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 718-885-9305 or e-mail johnscardina@hotmail.com.

Holiday Craft Workshop: Saturday, Dec. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.! Bake sale, door prize! Photo ornaments and other glittery creative crafts. \$5 donation requested.

Eighth Grade Service Team: The Community Center is very proud of our new program, "The Eighth Grade Service Team." The program is designed to serve the community at large, and all eighth-graders will be warmly received at any time; just call the Community Center at 718-885-1145.

NEW CLASSES

Yoga With Emily: Yoga class now being offered on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. All levels are welcome. Call Emily Wilson at 347-886-4546 with any questions.

Art Classes with Laury. Storytime Art, 12:45 to 2 p.m., Monday or Thursday, for preschoolers accompanied by an adult. \$100 for 12 classes, Jan. 25 through May 10; \$10 for individual classes must call ahead. **Exploring Sculpture** in a variety of materials. Kindergarten through third grade 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. or 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Monday. \$100 for 12 classes, Jan.

25 through May 10. **Drawing and Painting,** with inspiration from modern sources. Grades 4-8 3:30 to 5 p.m., Tuesday \$120 for 12 classes, Jan. 26 through May 4. **Drama and Theater Arts** for ages 7 to 11. Thursdays 3:30 to 5 p.m. Masks, costume design, improvisation, stage make-up, creative movement and more. \$100 for 12 classes, Jan. 28 through April 29. A schedule with exact dates will be given out at the beginning of classes. There will be no classes during spring and winter breaks. For more information or to sign up, call Laury at 718-885-3202.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

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

Sally's Playground: Where children ages 1 through 5 enjoy indoor play. Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Contact Sally at 718-885-0349 with questions. \$7 per child (\$4 for each additional sibling). Come and join the fun!

Family and Me Fitness: An exercise program for children (infant to 5) and parent(s). Music and stretching to benefit the children, toning and aerobic movement to benefit the adults with a focus on having fun. Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 10 a.m. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

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

ADULT PROGRAM

Bosu Booty Camp: Sundays at 11 a.m. For a great workout, call Janet at 646-544-4292.

Ashtanga Yoga with Vincenza: Yoga Instructor certified by Synergy Yoga Center of Miami. Tuesday nights 7:30 for 1 hour. Please bring a yoga mat. Vma-donia59@aol.com or 917-440-3618.

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

Belly Dancing: Shimmy by the Sea. Theresa Mahon (aka Salacia) teaches the oldest documented dance in the history of mankind—Egyptian belly dancing. It is a low-impact way to get in shape and tone your body while having lots of fun. Terry has been a professional belly dancer for 23 years and a teacher of the art for 15 years. Classes are held every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. The fee for each one-hour class is \$15. Call 845-358-0260.

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

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

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

Amy Gottlieb



Cub Scout Pack 211 at their annual Halloween pizza party with their siblings.

Temple Beth-El

On Friday, Dec. 11, join us for the Chanukah Menorah lighting ceremony, which will take place in Hawkins Park at 5:30 p.m. Then come to the temple, which is located at 480 City Island Avenue, for an open house and a musical presentation by Monica and Elliott Glick of the Starving Artist Café & Gallery. Next, Rabbi Shohama Wiener will lead the evening service, accompanied by Cantor Elaine Faver, to be followed by Chanukah treats.

On Jan. 15, the Rabbi and the Cantor will again be conducting the Friday service, starting at 7:30 p.m.; this will include a special tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The temple's executive board and congregants wish their friends and neighbors on City Island a joyous holiday season and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Violet and Mort Ellis

City Island Nautical Museum

It's hard to believe that it's been nearly a year since we reopened our doors after the fire damaged the porch and the hallway in July 2007. Not only have we enjoyed more visitors than usual, thanks to the fact that we are open now on Saturday afternoons as well as Sundays, but we have had great press in the New York Times, the New Yorker and the New York Daily News. We have also hosted a number of events, including the christening of our model minesweeper and Dick Sadler's talk about his experiences crewing for Ted Turner on *Courageous* in the 1977 America's Cup defense. We also hosted a Civic Association meeting of various Island residents with Christine Quinn, City Council Speaker, and James Vacca, Council Member for our district.

We owe Jimmy Vacca thanks for his generosity in securing a grant for us from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, which will enable us to mount our second annual City Island exhibition of views of City Island by Island artists during the coming year. In the meantime, we have on display now some 1977 photographs by David Rosenfeld and Doug Frapwell of the construction and launching of historic City Island-built 12-meter sloops. All of you whose sailboats are now out of the water can spend your time admiring these classic pictures and enjoying our Nautical Room exhibits.

Of interest to residents are the Community Room and the School Room, which are filled with documents, photographs and mementos of days gone by. Visitors will also be happy to see lovely paintings by the late Alice Payne, recently donated to the museum by her daughters, as well as some of her notebooks containing Island memorabilia.

Be sure not to miss our Dec. 13 open house to which everyone with old photographs, artifacts and other articles of historic importance are asked to bring them to the museum during the afternoon hours (1 to 5 p.m.). We will scan photographs for our own records, but we hope that Islanders will also take the time to share memories and experiences with each other during the afternoon.

Our new gift shop is full of terrific

new items that will fill stockings or make wonderful holiday gifts for Islanders past and present (see the advertisement in this issue). If you can't make it to the museum during our weekend hours and would like to place an order, call Barbara Hoffman at 718-885-1616.

Don't forget that this is a good time to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the museum and to renew your membership for 2010. Dues are still the same: \$20 for individuals, \$10 for seniors and juniors; \$25 for families. Send your check to City Island Historical Society, P. O. Box 82, City Island, NY 10464.

Enjoy the holiday season; we look forward to seeing you at the Dec. 13 open house!

Barbara Dolensek

Grace Episcopal Church

All are warmly welcomed to join us for any of our regular weekly worship services, which are as follows: Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at 10 a.m.; Evening Prayer is offered every Monday at 7 p.m.; and Morning Prayer is offered every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Here is an overview of what's happening at Grace Church during Dec.:

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7 to 9 p.m.: Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke begins. Join us in the Parish Hall as we read, study, and pray together through Luke's "orderly account" of the life of Christ. Bring your dinner, if you'd like, as well as your own Bible (ideally a study Bible). The New Revised Standard Version is suggested, but you should feel free to use whichever translation you prefer. For more information, please contact Mother Patty at 718-885-1080 or RevPPA@aol.com.

Saturday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Sixth Annual Grace Church Christmas Crafts Festival, featuring the very popular "Grace Café."

Friday, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m.: Christmas caroling in the neighborhood. All are welcome! Meet in the Grace Parish Hall and we will set out from there.

Sunday, Dec. 20, 5 p.m.: "Blue Christmas" Service, with the Laying on of Hands for Healing.

Thursday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service with Children's Pageant.

Friday, Dec. 25, 10 a.m.: Christmas Day Holy Communion Service.

Rev. Patricia Alexander

Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 156

The Post's 90th anniversary dinner was great. Everyone had a ball!

The Squadron will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2010. We have our annual pig's-knuckle feast coming up at the end of February and are trying to get other events off the ground.

The \$30 dues for 2010 are now being collected. We are also accepting back dues. Anyone interested in joining may call 718-885-0639.

Fred Ramftl, Jr.
Vice Commander, Membership

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



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

HAILING PORT SERVICE INC.

19 Schofield St.
City Island, NY 10464

Jane La Scala

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



*The stockings were hung
by the Chimney with care ...*

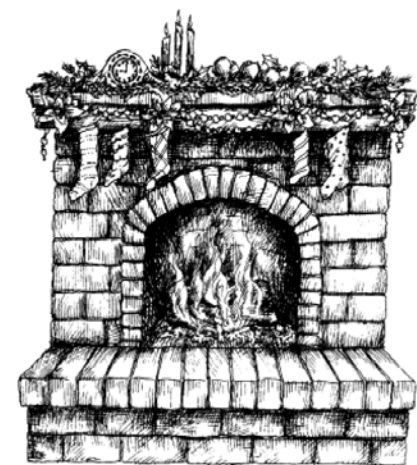


*In hopes that St. Nicholas would soon
be there.*



Merry Christmas

City Island Real Estate, Ltd.
562 City Island Ave, City Island, NY 10464
(718) 885-9600
www.cityislandrealestate.com
agent@cityislandrealestate.com



St. Mary's 'POTS' Filled with Islanders' Generosity

By JANE LASCALA

Although 2009 has been a challenging year, many of us have much to be grateful for. In thanksgiving for our good fortune and our blessings many of us reach out to those less fortunate, and each year we are invited to help needy neighbors. POTS (Part of the Solution) offers us the opportunity to provide food, social services and essentials to needy men, women and families in the Webster Avenue area of the Bronx.

Part of the POTS program includes providing anyone who comes to them with clean new clothing, and we can help refurbish the supply. Needed are: warm socks, hats, gloves and mufflers; sweat pants and tops for men and women; t-shirts and briefs for men and women; disposable razors, baby diapers in sizes 4, 5 and 6 and baby formula with iron. Gifts do not need to be wrapped.

Drop these items off in St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church lobby. Collection dates

run from Dec. 6 through Dec. 13. We cannot accept used items for this collection, some of which will go to help local families.

For the past 12 years, St. Mary's has run an on-going program preparing food or providing staples for the POTS food pantry throughout the year. Food and staples are collected once a month on a designated Saturday. The drop-off site is St. Mary's schoolyard between 4:30 and 5 p.m. If you want to join, you can follow the POTS menu (shown in the *Current Calendar* under *Organization News* each month). Or you can call one of the volunteers listed below to be added to the calling chain. Staples include juice, coffee, sugar, canned vegetables, desserts (cookies, cakes), paper plates, napkins, hot/cold cups and cleaning supplies.

If you plan to prepare food, all food must be cooked, but not hot, and be enough for 10 servings. Please use an 8x11-inch tin with a cover or wrap the tin in foil, and then place the entire tin inside a plastic bag. Also in constant demand throughout the year are baby diapers and baby formula with iron.

POTS is very appreciative of the caring and generosity we extend to them through these collections. You can visit the website at www.potsbronx.org.

For more information, call Jane La Scala at 718-885-2137 or Rosetta Woods at 718-885-0926. Happy holidays!

Marathon, New York City Style

By JUDY RAUH



Photo by JUDY RAUH

City Island's long-distance runners (l. to r.): Mike Rauh, Dave Kos, Marje Kos, John Ulmer and John Peters. Not pictured: Charlie Morales.

More than 40,000 runners took part in the 2009 ING New York City Marathon, an annual five-borough race that took place this year on Nov. 1. Meb Keflezighi of the United States completed the 26.2 miles with a time of 2 hours 9 minutes 15 seconds. He was the first American to win the New York race since Alberto Salazar in 1982. Derartu Tulu of Ethiopia won the women's title in 2:28:52.

John Peters and John Ulmer competed in their first ING NYC Marathon, although both had done several triathlons and half marathons. The ever-active John Ulmer, who has been running for four years, finished in 4:25:21. He has run several Olympic-distance triathlons, as well as six to eight sprint triathlons. This spring, he was one of the finishers in the Discovery Channel's "Out of the Wild," a reality

show featuring survival in Alaska.

John Peters crossed the finish line in 4:33:58 and was thrilled to have done it. After the death of his father in December 2006, John started running in his memory with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training. He has finished triathlons in New York City, Westchester and Chicago.

Not pictured with the group was Charlie Morales. This was his 12th New York City Marathon, and he crossed the finish line in 4:50:27.

Marje and Dave Kos were part of the ham radio team, again at the 25-mile mark. In the past, they both competed in the ING New York City Marathon, as well as several marathons in several states. In fact, they have each run more than 40 marathons in their running career. Marje and Dave completed the Philadelphia Half Marathon on Nov. 22 in 2:37:48.

Mike Rauh completed his 32nd consecutive New York City Marathon in 4:56:18. It had been a busy week for Mike. On Oct. 29, Mike emceed the "Run with Champions" race in Central Park. Sponsored by the New York Road Runners Foundation, the event included a 400-meter race for the very youngest "Mighty Milers" and a one-mile run for the older kids. After the races, Mike hosted a question-and-answer session, in which the children handed him their written questions, and he elicited answers from a group of elite runners. Mike also announced Van Cortlandt Park's Halloween Fun Run on Oct. 31. The kids (and the officials) all wore costumes.



DR. STEVE'S APPLIANCE SERVICE

"This Doctor Makes House Calls"
1 Year guarantee on parts.
25 Years of Experience on All Brands

10% OFF WITH THIS AD

718-671-0700
Serving City Island and Surrounding Areas



BEST WISHES FOR A HEALTHY & HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

Congressman Joseph Crowley

Paid for by Crowley for Congress

SCHUYLER HILL
FUNERAL HOME

James E. McQuade • Owner

3535 East Tremont Avenue • Bronx, NY 10465
718-792-0270 • fax: 718-823-4770
www.schuylerhill.com

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

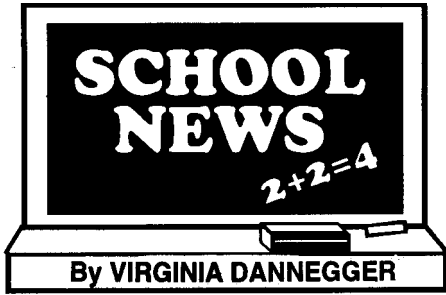
Board Certified Internist
Associate Clinical Professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Active in teaching medical students at Montefiore Medical Center

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

RICHARD B. CHERNAIK, M.D.

MEDICARE ACCEPTED

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



St. Mary, Star of the Sea

The new school year has been a busy one as well as a productive one. Our students are happy and learning, and our teachers are excellent and supporting the education process of their students wholeheartedly. We have the best staff of teachers that any student could ever want. St. Mary, Star of the Sea School is truly blessed.

Our classes have gone on many field trips already: pre-kindergarten has visited the Pumpkin Farm at Green Meadows. Our kindergarten and first grade really enjoyed the Big Apple Circus at Lincoln Center. The resident botanists in the second grade spent a wonderful day at the New York Botanical Garden and returned with freshly harvested vegetables used in a wonderful lesson on plants. The third and fourth grades traveled to the New York Hall of Science for a fun-filled and interesting day of hands-on science.

The students in the fifth and eighth grades thoroughly enjoyed the SONY Wonder Lab of Technology. They said it was one of the best field trips they have ever gone on, and some have gone back with their parents for a second visit. A great part of this trip is that there is no admission fee. Grade 7 went the distance to Liberty Science Center and was very impressed with the exhibits and exhibitions. There was much for the students to learn and to do. The sixth-grade social studies curriculum certainly came to life at Medieval Times, where our young knights and damsels were fascinated by the history, tradition and the pageantry that they witnessed in Rutherford, New Jersey. One of our own princesses was even crowned the "Queen of Love and Beauty." There are many more great trips planned for the spring.

We would like to recognize the following students who have already been named Student of the Month. These young people represent the very best of St. Mary, Star of the Sea School. The following students were presented with certificates during first Friday mass: Amy Lillman, Matthew McGaughan, Aniyah Diaz- Earle, Joseph Burton, Anna Borovinskaya, Elijah Francis, Keira Lane, Arielle Clarke, Matthew Lovera, Robert Moran, Jared Candelaria, Bryton Snowball, Nathaniel Correa, Christina Ortega, Nicholas Baratta, Avery Morant, Star Morach, Leah Martin, Bryce Gowan, Eric Tirado, Ahmari Fails, Timothy Hudson, Jessica Hines, Jonathan Martinez, Alicia Jones, Shannon Saulnier, Dana Johnson, Jahquell Terry, Maya Lugo, Jadica Marrero and Daniel Green. These children really make us very proud. Congratulations to Connor Saulnier, who completed a week-long youth leadership conference. Connor was unanimously nominated by faculty and staff to take part in this significant event.

Thanks to all who participated and volunteered for our fun-filled Halloween activities as well as Turkey Bingo. Great fun was had by all. We really honor our holiday traditions and appreciate those who help us make things happen. Our new Home-School Executive Council has many plans in the works. We are so grateful to Ms. Rosalind Walker, Ms. Kenya Harris, Mrs. Kate Green and Ms. Kristen McConaghy, who are the parents who are at the heart of our activities. They are so willing to donate their time, energy and resources to help in our mission of educating the whole person as well as making school fun. Thus far, our parents have run our annual fall Book Fair, the SMSS Halloween parade and party and are gearing up for the Children's Christmas Sale.

For future reference, our open house for prospective parents and students will be held on Sunday, Feb. 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Our registration for new students will begin on Feb. 16 at 9 a.m. Please call

718-885-1527 for any specifics regarding this process. Ask for the principal, Mrs. Jane Dennehy, who will be happy to set up an appointment to meet with you and your child.

We wish you all a very happy and holy holiday season.

P.S. 175

The last few weeks have been exciting for the P.S. 175 community. On Tuesday, Oct. 27, we hosted our annual Family Pajama Night for children in kindergarten through Grade 3. Our fourth- and fifth-graders watched a Halloween movie and snacked on delicious treats while the sixth through the eighth grade attended the Halloween Dance. It was a fun-filled evening enjoyed by all!!

Many of our classes have taken enriching and exciting field trips already this year: kindergarten students visited Green Meadows Farm in Queens; second and third grades attended the Science Circus at Hostos Community College; third- and sixth-graders visited the New York Botanical Garden to study the life cycle of plants; the fourth grade took its annual trips to St. Paul's Church and to the Bartow-Pell Mansion for a program entitled "The Original Bronx Natives—Who Were They?" to study the Native Americans that lived in this area; the fifth grade visited the Hall of Science, where students explored the many aspects of hands-on science, and also attended an American Indian dance performance at Hostos Community College.

This year's Penny Harvest program took place in November, organized by Mr. Scopp, our student government leader, who supervised the collection of pennies (nickels, dimes, quarters and bills too!). The money will be donated to a charity selected by the student body. We are hoping that we will exceed what we donated last year. City Harvest will also be taking place in the coming weeks.

The Lincoln Center Institute is once again working with our students and teachers in kindergarten through the third grade. The first work of art they are studying this year is "Rhapsodies and Rondos," which will culminate in a musical performance by the Chamber Music Society Artists. In the spring, teachers and students will be doing a study of "The Man who Planted Trees." This captivating unique blend of comedy, puppetry and inspiring storytelling tells the tale of a French shepherd who sets out with his dog to plant a forest and transform a barren wasteland. This unforgettable story shows students the difference one man (and his dog!) can make in the world.

Once again, all classes will be participating in community service projects this year. Lower-grade classes will do class activities, middle grades will work on small group activities, and our eighth-graders, who are required to provide 10 hours of service in order to graduate, will work on individual activities. We are happy to be collaborating with Brenda Prohaska and the Community Center on community service projects for our eighth-grade students! Although some students are finding their own projects, others have been working with Brenda to find meaningful ways to contribute to their community. This is just another wonderful example of how well our community and school work so well together!

Citizens of the month for September were: Hannah Gannon and Samantha Kucerek (kindergarten); Carmine Testa and Isabel Whelan (first grade); Jade Villafana and Paul Mazzella (second grade); Denise Cornejo and Grace Connolly (third grade); Connor Hanley-Piri and Anita Beqiraj (fourth grade); Shemar Myrie and Elion Borici (fifth grade); Katie Moore and Amanda Beqiraj (sixth grade); Alison McIntyre and Samantha Pryor (seventh grade); and Cyan Byrne and Jonathan Dyal (eighth grade).

Citizens of the month for October were: Mark Piri and Aidan Hanley-Piri (kindergarten); Miracle Mazzariello and Wesley Hranyczny (first grade); Jonathan Mazzella and Steven Rice (second grade); Conner Ninivaggi and Madelyn Ploch (third grade); Carlo Fine and Iyanni Olin (fourth grade); Paige Brown Collins and Danielle Giocondo (fifth grade); Chloe Brelsford and Michael LaBriola (sixth grade); Sarah Williams and

Samantha Fontana (seventh grade); and Alana Percorelli and Jenna Desgroseilliers (eighth grade).

Upcoming events include the "Hollywood Game Show," the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade Holiday Dance and our annual Holiday Sing.

A special thank you to our wonderful City Island community for all the support they showed for the PTA's Election Day

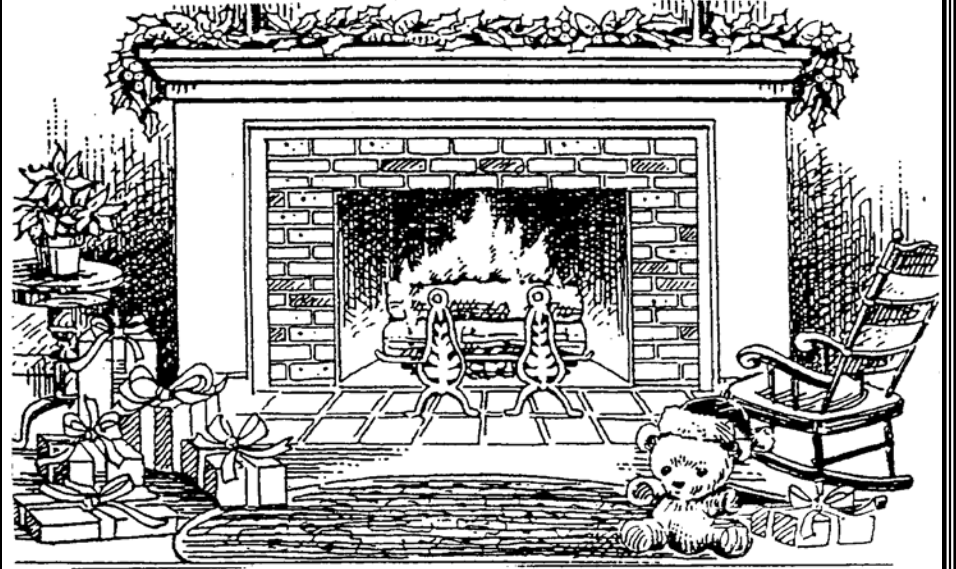
Sale. It was a huge success, and we are most grateful to our PTA for all their hard work, which enhances the education we are able to provide for our students.

Please keep in mind these important dates: Wednesday, Dec. 23–Friday, Jan. 1, School closed; classes resume Monday, Jan. 4.

We wish the entire City Island community a peaceful and joy-filled holiday season!

PEACE ON EARTH

Good friends and neighbors like all of you make the holidays truly wonderful. Thanks!



"Pride of Our Community"

ATLANTIC EMERITUS REALTY, INC.

Licensed Real Estate Broker
Sales-Rental-Management-Residential-Commercial

300 City Island Avenue
City Island, New York 10464

(718) 885-0088
Fax: (718) 885-1426

Robert T. Carmody
Broker

Associates

Donald Kolb • Maria Swieciki
Candy Mancuso • Debra Saulnier

Moving to a new neighborhood? Contact us, we could help.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE
WWW.ATLANTICEMERITUSREALTY.COM

St. Mary,
Star of the Sea Church

Christmas Schedule
2009

LESSONS AND CAROLS CONCERT
Sunday, December 20
7:30 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
Carols: 7:15 PM
Mass: 8:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY
Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM
and 12:00 Noon

NEW YEAR'S EVE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31
Mass: 5:15 PM

(Anticipated Mass for Feast of Mary,
Mother of God)

NEW YEAR'S DAY
(Feast of Mary, Mother of God)
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM
and 12:00 Noon



O Holy Night

Box 6

Continued from page 4

stop this development during the city's approval process.

I am asking you to write a letter to the City Planning Commission voicing your concerns and those of City Islanders and other constituents of yours who are currently struggling to save their community from Bloomberg's dictatorial policies, which are driving out the city's middle class, the same middle class that comprises the great majority of your council district and your political support.

Thanks for your consideration,

Bill Stuttgart

Blights on Our Community

To the Editor:

I don't know which is worse, the creeping strangling vine usurping our Pelham Bay Park and the Hutchinson River Parkway or the creeping violation of home and business owners' rights and sanctity with our latest rash of thefts. Each is the result of neglect and disrespect. Each is a blight and attention needs to be paid.

If you've not been aware of our dying woods, observe the rolling, suffocating albeit graceful and almost sculpture-like tree mantles bordering the ball field near the City Island circle. We all know that a plague kills swiftly when not nipped in the bud (be it of woods or personal property). Then follow these stranglers all over our parks and roads. This is our rude awakening as to how far our Parks Department allowed this lethal blight to spread before taking any action (and now it's chemical and maybe toxic action taken perhaps too late).

Where are the family, friends and cohorts of the criminals who are breaking into our Island homes and businesses? Why won't they help us to deter them? How can they not know that several have been drugging or drinking on Bowne or Tier or Hawkins Streets, to name just a few? Why are many of them our own neighbors? Why is there not vigilant 24/7 on-site investigation of any potential crime or law-infracture areas—by parents as well as police?

Why are we so lax to ask questions and make demands or is it growing indifference and false comfort? The cost is a great one: safety, pride, a long life and quality of life. My family and I refuse to pay this. How or why can you?

C.H. Mason

Parade of Supporters

To the Editor:

The Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the Civic Association, Barbara Dolensek for the City Island Historical Society, Laury Hopkins, Rick DeWitt and family, the Lions Club, the Bronx Business Alliance, and the P.S. 175 PTA for their generous contributions and hard work in helping us create the Haunted House at the City Island Community Center. Not only did everyone have a great time, but we were also able to raise \$400 for the Center.

The following businesses also supported the annual Halloween parade: Amadiz Cigars, Buddy's Hardware Store, Calico Juno Designs, City Island Diner, Crab Shanty, Exotiq, JGL Wines and Liquors, Lickety Split, Pedro's Fruit and Vegetables and the Lido Restaurant.

Many thanks to all the supporters of these great annual traditions on City Island.

**Skip Giacco
President,**

City Island Chamber of Commerce

City Island Reflexology

David Cook
190 Fordham St
718-885-1494



Healing and Revitalizing
Your Body
Safely & Naturally

Thank You

To the Editor:

The Teen City Island Hip-Hop Gospel Concert Memorial in memory of Gary Gunzl held at the Lido on Nov. 13 was a huge success as a result of the generosity and kindness of the many Islanders and merchants who made it possible. Special thanks to Artie's Restaurant, Laura Artis, Atlantic Emeritus Realty; Captain Mike Diving Service; Carman's Service Station; George Cavalieri; Rev. Susan Chadwick; Yolanda Cirulli; City Island Auto Body; Victor of City Island Deli; Donna and Susan of the City Island Diner; City Island Pharmacy; Joe Valenti and the Crab Shanty; Dennis; the Gunzl Family; Infinity NY Church; Jack's Bait & Tackle; Johnny's Reef; Haim Joseph; The Library Pizzeria; Steve Melendez; Bill Murphy; Mr. and Mrs. Murray; Murcado at The Laurels; Anna Marie Naumana; Papa John's; A-Quality Glass; Pastor Dimas and Tiffany Salaberrios; The Sea Shore Restaurant; Ginutis Sipas; Violet Smith; Scott Winters.

Yolanda Cirulli

Unhappy Reville Street Residents

To the Editor:

In response to your "Local Views" column in the November 2009 issue of *The Island Current*, we were quite disturbed and question your paper's judgment in using a picture of our homes under the heading "Eyesores, Safety Hazards and Anomalies."

Please be advised that our home is none of the above. You could have used the before-and-after effect to highlight the enormous improvement our homes have made to Reville Street, when you compare what was there before. Our neighbors can attest to that. However, you chose to quote Shakespeare to poke fun at our home. This was insensitive and unfunny. Focusing on a moot issue such as a decorative balcony was quite pointless and should have been of no concern to you or anyone else.

Considering the number of problem areas in City Island that should be addressed, it was a waste of time to focus on an architectural decorative structure. Perhaps you thought it would be a humorous item. However, we did not find it funny. Printing such inappropriate and trivial remarks that have a negative impact on your new neighbors is mind-boggling and not in the best interest of your paper.

Mrs. A. Barbosa

To the Editor:

I am writing on behalf of myself and my neighbors at 140-146 Reville Street. It is quite clear to me that your editorial staff did not review the content in your newspaper. How dare you print a picture of my house and my neighbors under your "Eyesores, Safety Hazards and Anomalies"? You thought you were doing a public service by putting these locations in front of the public, but we are tax-paying, law-abiding homeowners on City Island who keep our houses in pristine condition. How can you allow someone to make fun of us so blatantly?

I am not surprised that people feel this way. I heard people say this before, four years ago when the houses were being built. If people didn't like the way the houses looked, they didn't have to buy one. What I am amazed at is that the editor and staff allowed this to be printed. It is just an architectural ornamentation, a decoration. Get it—a faux balcony. It's not that deep!

I demand that you print an apology to me and my neighbors in your next issue. There are houses here that are falling down, dirty and neglected, empty stores up and down City Island Avenue. Why don't you feature those in your paper? These are situations that homeowners could actually do something about, short of building a

staircase. I actually buy the *Island Current* every month, as probably do my neighbors, when in fact you are just mocking us and where we live. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

Donna Torres

Editor's note: We very much regret that the residents of Reville Street were offended by our column "Island Views," which termed a decorative balcony on their houses an architectural anomaly. As the title of the column indicates, these were views expressed by Island residents who were asked by Ms. Kleinberg for their opinions, and although these houses were not presented as eyesores, this was obviously not interpreted as such by some readers. We have over the past few months published photographs of a number of true Island

eyesores, where the owners have allowed properties to deteriorate, and we do not apologize for those. But we had no intention of implying that this situation exists on Reville Street, and we do apologize to everyone who read it otherwise.

Seniors Van Damage

To the Editor:

PSS City Island Senior Programs are without a van because of a hit-and-run driver. We are not able to take seniors to medical appointments, meal or exercise programs, shopping trips or recreational activities. If anyone knows who damaged the City Island Nutrition Program van on Saturday, Nov. 14, between 6 and 6:30 a.m., please call me at 718-885-1891.

Patty Grondahl

SPOTLIGHT ON FONTANA

By **BRENDA PROHASKA**



Longtime City Islanders, the Fontanas, have run their family business, a bridal shop, in Scarsdale, New York, since 1945. Recently they hosted a showcase of the shop's collection at the Split Rock Golf Course club house, and Islander Mary Dannegger modeled one of the bridal gowns from their 2010 collection. Nancy Fontana also works with City Island's Girl Scout Troop 1065.

The Fontana family has lived on City Island for many years and has run their family business, a well-known bridal shop, in Scarsdale, New York, since 1945. Cory and Nancy Fontana (formerly Nancy Rodstrom) have waterfront property on Minneford Avenue, where they rent several bungalows, which may have been the first Island homes for many current residents. The Fontanas' two daughters attend P.S. 175, and the family has always been generous in support of the school.

The Fontanas hosted a number of memorable events at their shop, the Fontana Bridal Salon, during the fall of 2009, and an elegant showcase of the shop's spring 2010 collection of designer evening and bridal gowns. The affair took place in the new catering space at the Split Rock Golf Course club house, where fancy dresses, hors d'oeuvres and cocktails were served up to an enthusiastic crowd. One popular Fontana model was City Islander Mary Dannegger, who showed off bridal gowns; Dusty Prohaska and Sabrina Fontana joined her by modeling the latest fashion in junior bridesmaid gowns.

Then there were the Fuglies, and what fun they were! Nancy Fontana pre-made "Fugly" dolls for City Island's Girl Scout Troop 1065, so they could stuff and sew them up and earn their sewing badge in the process. The girls had a great experience, and the Fugly dolls were a big hit with their fancy material and designer Fontana labels. The dolls were such a hit that Nancy may make some to sell in the store, possibly bride and groom Fuglies.

The most recent event sponsored by the Fontanas took place at the shop, which is located at 678 White Plains Road in Scarsdale, on Tuesday night, Oct. 27. A



few times a year, the Fontanas invite the vendors they work with to show their wares, and customers are invited so that everyone can see what is available. Some vendors came from City Island, but there were many others who are prepared to serve a variety of wedding needs. The Fontana models pranced around in their fabulous dresses, and everyone enjoyed the evening, during which champagne and some samples from the Ritz Carlton caterer in White Plains were served. In addition to bridal gowns, the shop also offers a wide array of elegant evening gowns and communion dresses.

Those who might be interested in Fontana's bridal events should call the store at 914-472-1441 and ask to be put on their mailing list. Information about forthcoming events is also available online at www.fontanacouture.com.



Pandemic

With the worldwide fear about the H1N1 virus turning into a deadly pandemic, it is interesting to note that Hollywood has been considering this topic for years. A classic film based on the Michael Crichton novel is **The Andromeda Strain** (1971). When a deadly virus is brought to earth by a U.S. space probe, a group of scientists—Dr. Jeremy Stone (Arthur Hill), Dr. Charles Dutton (David Wayne), Dr. Mark Hall (James Olson) and Ruth Leavitt (Kate Reid)—are called in to help stop the spread.

Three very gory films have been based on Richard Mattheson's dark novel "I am Legend." **The Last Man on Earth** (1964) stars Vincent Price as Dr. Robert Morgan. **The Omega Man** (1971) and **I Am Legend** (2007) star Charlton Heston and Will Smith, respectively, as Dr. Robert Neville. Years after a plague kills most of humanity and transforms the rest into monsters, the sole survivor in New York City struggles valiantly to survive and find a cure.

Two more movies for those with strong stomachs are **28 Days Later** (2002) and **28 Weeks Later** (2007). In the first film, a handful of survivors try to find sanctuary four weeks after a mysterious, incurable virus spreads throughout the United Kingdom. In the sequel, order is restored, but a carrier of the Rage Virus enters London and unknowingly starts the spread of the deadly infection all over again.

The film **Outbreak** (1995) is an action thriller starring Dustin Hoffman as Dr. Sam Daniels and Rene Russo as Robby, his estranged wife. Sam heads a military team that includes Major Casey Schuler (Kevin Spacey) and Major Salt (Cuba Gooding Jr.), who report to General Ford (Morgan Freeman) and the evil General McLintock (Donald Sutherland). Their job is to contain a deadly hemorrhagic fever.

Twelve Monkeys (1995) stars Bruce Willis as James Cole, a man who travels back in time to gather information so that scientists in the future will be able to prevent the deaths of five billion people

caused by a deadly germ. He is aided by a psychiatrist, Dr. Kathryn Railly (Madeleine Stowe). Brad Pitt gives a Golden Globe-winning performance as the very crazy Jeffrey Goines, who seems to be a key to saving the world.

In **Lara Croft, Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life** (2003), Angelina Jolie, in the title role, fights an evil scientist who deals in killer viruses and hopes to sell a cure to the highest bidder. A similar plot is followed in **Mission Impossible II** (2000), which stars Tom Cruise as U.S. government secret agent Ethan Hunt, who is assigned to find and destroy Chimera, a virus engineered so that profiteers can make money selling its antidote. Ethan reluctantly allows Nyah (Thandie Newton) to seduce and stop the evil Sean Ambrose (Dougray Scott).

In **The X-Files: Fight the Future** (1998), the appearance of a deadly virus of extraterrestrial origin could destroy all life on Earth. FBI Special Agents Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dr. Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson), with the help of a paranoid doctor, Alvin Kurtzweil (Martin Landau), fight a secret conspiracy overseen by an international group of powerful men.

And the Band Played On (1993) is a superb docudrama starring Matthew Modine as Dr. Don Francis, a Center for Disease Control physician who is fighting the spread of AIDS. The cast includes Alan Alda as arrogant, self-serving Dr. Bob Gallo; Lily Tomlin as a San Francisco public health inspector, Phil Collins as a bath house owner, Richard Gere as a choreographer and Ian McKellen as a gay politician. The viewer will be riveted by the frustration experienced by those trying to fight the spread of the disease.

The Plague (2005) is an excellent History Channel documentary that chronicles the most devastating biological disaster in human history. This highly contagious disease decimated one-third of the population of Europe in the 14th century and forever altered the social and economic future of society.

The Painted Veil (2006), based on a novel by Somerset Maugham, is the story of Dr. Walter Fane (Edward Norton). When he discovers that his wife, Kitty (Naomi Watts), is having an affair with Charlie Townsend (Liev Schreiber), Dr. Fane takes her to a Chinese village to contain an outbreak of cholera. The real star of this film is the cinematography.

Stay well, get vaccinated and until next time—happy viewing. . . .

I Wish Each of You A Very Happy & Healthy Holiday Season



It is an honor to serve as your representative in the New York State Senate and I thank you for your continued support.

STATE SENATOR JEFF KLEIN

Serving Bronx and Westchester Counties
3712 EAST TREMONT AVENUE • BRONX, NEW YORK 10465
TEL: (718) 822-2049 • FAX: (718) 822-2321
JKLEIN@SENATE.STATE.NY.US
[PAID FOR BY NEW YORKERS FOR KLEIN]

GARY COTTAM
President/Owner

(718) 885-3328
Fax (718) 885-0219



Ventilation • Sheet Metal

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



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO ALL FROM
CARMAN'S
SERVICE STATION

VHF-Ch 16

Capt. Dan
718-885-3420

TowBOAT/U.S.
City Island

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

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

Christmas is Fun



Beautiful Fresh Trees

Decorated and Undecorated Wreaths

Bows & Garland
Free Delivery on
City Island



The Nautical Museum Gift Shop
features wonderful City Island items that will make gifts for family and friends on the Island or for those who have moved away.

Museum Leather Bookmarks - City Island T-Shirts - Mugs
Beautiful Marble Coasters and Trivets

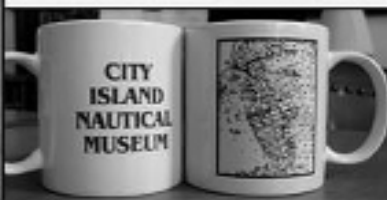
We also have for sale a selection of books about City Island by local authors and sailing books about some of the historic boats built on City Island before World War II.

Visit the Museum on Saturday or Sunday

from 1 PM to 5 PM

or call

Barbara Hoffman at
718-885-1616



The City Island Nautical Museum - 190 Fordham Street - www.cityislandmuseum.org

The Far Side of the Bridge

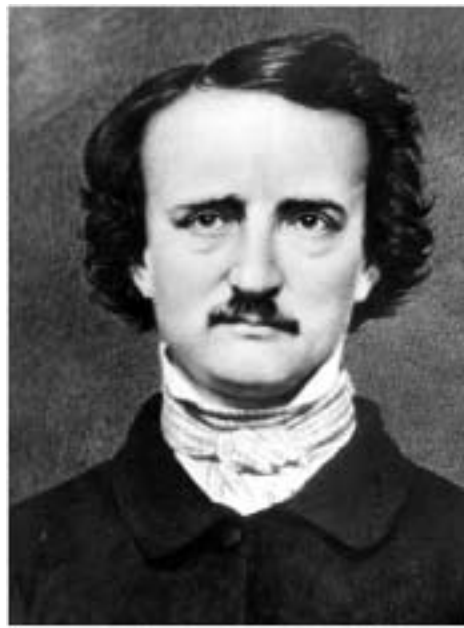
A Column about
Bronx County
By MICHAEL SHANLEY

Poe in the Bronx

As 2009 draws to a close, I dedicate my column to one of the greatest American writers of all time, Edgar Allan Poe. This year marks the 200th anniversary of his birth and the 160th anniversary of his death. Poe, the master of the macabre, of prose and mystery, wrote some of his greatest works while he lived in the Bronx, and the circumstances that brought him here served as an inspiration for and a theme in much of his writing.

Edgar Poe was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on Jan. 19, 1809. At the age of two, he was orphaned and sent to live with his godfather, John Allan, a wealthy Scottish merchant in Richmond, Virginia. Allan gave the young boy a home and his middle name. At the age of six, John Allan sent young Edgar to school in his native Scotland, followed by a few schools in suburban London. Poe returned to the United States in 1820.

At the age of 17, he entered the University of Virginia, which had been established by Thomas Jefferson a year earlier. He was forced to withdraw within a year because of gambling debts, and, unable to support himself, he enlisted in the Army. Through Mr. Allan's influence, Poe was admitted to the United States Military Academy at West Point on July 1, 1830, and it was there that Poe showed a remarkable propensity for writing prose. However, he was repelled



Edgar Allan Poe

by military discipline and deliberately provoked dismissal from the academy. On Feb. 8, 1831, he was tried for gross neglect of duty and for disobeying orders. He tactically pleaded not guilty to induce dismissal, knowing that he would be found guilty.

After his discharge from West Point, Edgar Allan Poe went to New York, where he decided on a literary career and became one of the first American writers to attempt to earn a living on writing alone. Here he



Poe cottage

published a volume of poetry entitled simply "Poems," partly financed by his fellow cadets at West Point, many of whom donated 75 cents to the cause. Collectively, they raised a total of \$170, and Poe dedicated the book to them with an inscription that read "To the U.S. Corps of Cadets this volume is respectfully dedicated."

Poe's early career was marked by frequent changes of residence. He returned to Richmond to write exclusively for the "Southern Literary Messenger," and his weird tales and biting critiques earned him wide recognition. In 1836, at the age of 27, he married his first cousin Virginia Clemm, who was only 13 years old at the time. After a slew of literary jobs that took the couple to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Richmond, the Poes took up residence in New York City. It was here in 1844 that Poe wrote "The Raven," which is probably his most famous poem. It was published anonymously and received critical acclaim but earned the struggling writer a mere \$9.

During that same year, Poe became editor of the "Broadway Journal," a weekly publication through which he sought to challenge the city's best-known literary journals, a move that led him into many damaging controversies. Indeed, his charge that Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poetry was plagiarized led to the journal's demise.

In 1846 Poe, his wife and her mother, Maria Clemm (who was both Poe's mother-in-law and aunt), moved from Manhattan to the rural village of Fordham in the Bronx. Here they rented a small cottage for \$100 a year. At the time, Fordham was a rural village, but it had recently been connected to the city by the New York and Harlem River Railroad. The Poes' move to Fordham was prompted by Virginia's failing health. She suffered from consumption, or tuberculosis, as it is known today, and it was hoped that the move would prove salutary to her. Despite her deteriorating condition and the small size of the cottage, the Poes were very happy in the Bronx. In a letter to a friend, Poe wrote, "The place is a beautiful one," and Maria wrote years later: "It was the sweetest little cottage imaginable. Oh, how supremely happy we were in our cottage home."

While living in the cottage, Poe became friendly with the faculty at what was then St. John's College, now Fordham University. He would often visit the college, and he found the Jesuits to be "highly cultivated gentlemen and scholars who smoked, drank and played cards like gentlemen and never spoke a word about religion." From the cottage Poe could hear the bells of St. John's, and it is believed that these bells are what inspired his famous poem "The Bells." The bell tower at Fordham University is still referred to as "old Edgar" in his memory.

In this home, Poe also wrote his well-known poems "Annabelle Lee," "Eureka" and "Ulalume," as well as his series "The Literati of New York City," a controversial gossipy discussion of literary figures and their work. Poe's final short story, "Landon's Cottage," was likely inspired by the Fordham cottage.

On Jan. 30, 1847, Virginia Clemm Poe

died in the front room of the cottage. Poe remained there for another two years and left the Bronx in 1849, leaving Maria Clemm alone in Fordham. This was the writer's last "official" residence. Poe became increasingly unstable after Virginia's death, and his indulgence in opium and alcohol aggravated his restlessness. He moved from one position to another.

On Oct. 3, 1849, Edgar Allan Poe was found delirious on the streets of Baltimore. He was taken to the hospital, where he died four days later. The actual cause of death remains unknown, but it is speculated that he suffered from delirium tremors associated with alcoholism, heart disease and epilepsy. Adding to the mystery, when found in the streets of Baltimore, Poe was clad in clothes that were not his own.

If withstanding the test of time is a barometer by which to measure one's greatness, then Edgar Allan Poe can certainly be counted among the greatest writers of all time. His writings are still read today by schoolchildren and scholars alike, and his influence on literature and popular culture is profound. Although he lived a short and tragic life, he remains one of the most beloved mystery writers in history. His contributions to American literature, poetry and the mystery genre cannot be underestimated.

Notes:

In 1895 the New York Shakespeare Society purchased the cottage with the promise that it would be maintained in the condition in which Poe used it.

In 1905 the New York State Legislature allocated \$100,000 for the restoration of the cottage and the creation of a park in which to house it.

In 1910 the cottage was moved a few hundred yards to its current location. That same year, Edgar Allan Poe was elected into the Hall of Fame for Great Americans (located on the campus of Bronx Community College, formerly New York University). His bust at the Hall of Fame is by the renowned sculptor Daniel Chester French.

On Nov. 13, 1913, Edgar Allan Poe Cottage and Poe Park was formally dedicated at the corner of Kingsbridge Road and the Grand Concourse.

In 1962 Poe Cottage was designated a New York City landmark and on Feb. 15, 1966, it was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Since 1975 Poe Cottage has been administered by the Bronx County Historical Society. It has been restored to its original appearance with authentic period furnishings. Further restoration is scheduled in the spring of 2010. A state-of-the-art visitor's center designed by world-renowned architect Toshiko Mori is scheduled to open in Poe Park in the fall of 2010.

Poe Cottage is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; on Saturday from 10 to 4 and on Sunday from 1 to 5.

Note: Michael Shanley is a native Bronxite and long time resident of City Island. He is a licensed tour guide for New York City specializing in Bronx County. Comments are welcomed at BxShanley@optonline.net

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO ALL
FROM
Lina Petite**

There's No Place Like Home!

Port of Kall Realty Ltd. 1893 -2010
Merry Christmas to Old Friends and New Neighbors!
Onward 2010!

JACQUELINE KYLE KALL • REALTOR
Certified Appraiser
Licensed Salespersons
Sheila Lyons • Christopher Kall • Thomas Porter, R.A. • Janice Coco

626 CITY ISLAND AVE. CITY ISLAND, N.Y. 10464
718-885-1111 718-885-1166 FAX 718-885-0087
Residential • Commercial • Waterfront • Sales • Mortgages



MR. AMERICA'S PERSONAL TRAINING

By BUTCH NIEVES

Where Did the Time Go?

The number one reason why people don't exercise is that they don't have time. At least that's what they tell themselves.

I know we are all busy. Between getting to and from work, balancing responsibilities and having time for yourself, there's little left over for workouts. And with the holiday season fast approaching, your busy schedule is sure to get even busier. There will be parties, shopping, decorating, cooking and family gatherings. It's no wonder that exercise quickly takes a backseat to holiday activities.

But you don't have to succumb to weight gain this holiday season. Escape the time crunch excuse in three easy steps:

Step One: Schedule Your Workouts: You've heard this before, and it makes so much sense. If you treat your exercise time with the importance of a work meeting, then you would never skip a workout and you would be in amazing shape.

Although the scheduling concept is brilliant in its simplicity, you have to put it into practice to reap the benefits. Pull out your calendar and a pen. Don't laugh, I'm serious! Just do it. If you want to get into shape it starts with committing to a revised schedule with a set exercise time.

Identify three 40-minute time slots and mark them on your calendar. That is when you'll exercise.

Remember this: if the thought that you should exercise this week is floating around in your head, but you haven't anchored it down to a specific time and date, then it will quickly disappear.

Step Two: Get the Most from Each Minute: The days of endless, mind-numbing cardio exercise are over. A great workout can take place in under an hour, when done correctly. The idea is to burn more calories each minute. This is done through short, intense bursts of exercise.

Use the following three tips to bring your routine up to the next level:

1. Use your entire body, and target your core, by performing exercises that engage stabilizing muscles. To do this use an exer-

cise ball, a balance board, a balance disk, or you could simply stand on one leg.

2. Add resistance. The more resistance that you incorporate into your routine, the higher the intensity and the more calories you will burn. Some ideas for adding resistance include carrying dumbbells while doing lunges, wearing a weighted vest while walking or jogging or putting a weight between your feet while doing leg raises.

3. Interval training is an amazing tool for creating short yet effective workouts. Don't worry, it's not complicated. Interval training is simply alternating between different short bursts of activity. Here's an example: Let's say you want to focus on your legs and abs and to also get an effective cardiovascular workout. This would be a great interval routine for your goals:

Lunge while curling dumbbells, 15-20 repetitions

30 seconds of intense cardio: sprint, jump rope, or jumping jacks

Squat while pressing dumbbells overhead, 15-20 repetitions

30 seconds of intense cardio: sprint, jump rope, or jumping jacks

Crunches on an exercise ball, 15 to 20 repetitions

30 seconds of intense cardio: sprint, jump rope, or jumping jacks

Leg raises off the end of an exercise bench, 15 to 20 repetitions

Step Three: Twice the Results in Half the Time: When you attempt to lose weight or meet a fitness goal on your own, the odds are stacked against you. Think about working with a personal fitness trainer who can gear the exercise program to your particular strengths and weaknesses.

Watch What You Eat

The calorie-dense holidays are here—are you ready? Use this game plan to avoid gaining extra weight:

Start your day with a fiber-filled breakfast.

Take 30-60 minutes for a brisk walk or jog before the big meal.

At the table, fill most of your plate with lean cuts of meat and vegetables. When

you've filled up on the healthy stuff then simply taste the heavier dishes, rather than eating a large serving.

Wait at least 20 minutes before you get a second helping. This is very important, since it takes at least this long for your body to reg-

ister how full it actually is. You may realize after 20 minutes that you don't want seconds after all.

Happy holidays to everyone and here's to a fit New Year!

Happy Holidays

from

Island Insurance Agency



Serving the insurance needs of City Island since 1965

www.islandinsuranceagency.com

718-885-1050



Happy Holidays to all my friends on City Island!



Council Member James Vacca
13th District

Paid for by Vacca 2009

LICENSED & FULLY INSURED
MASTER ELECTRICIAN

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
NO JOB TOO LARGE OR SMALL



KEE . INC.



ELECTRICIAL CONTRACTING

Quality Work is our "KEE" to Success!

Office
(718) 885-0824

Emergency Service
(917) 467-7872

HOLIDAY GIVING THRU P.O.T.S. Share the spirit of this Holiday season.

Join in this season of giving, and help a needy neighbor. P.O.T.S. offers food and social services to needy men, women and families in the Webster Avenue area of the Bronx. Part of their program includes providing anyone who comes to them with new, clean clothing. Please help refurbish their supply. Needed are:

- warm hats, gloves, socks,
- sweats (pants and shirts, medium or large for men and women)
- underwear (t-shirts, briefs, boxers for men and women)
- disposable razors,
- baby diapers size 4, 5 or 6
- baby formula WITH IRON

TO JOIN IN THE GIVING:

Purchase the "gifts" you wish to donate.
NOTE: for this collection we cannot accept used clothing.

PLEASE DO NOT PAPER GIFT WRAP THE ITEMS;
GIFT BAGS or ITEMS TIED TOGETHER WITH PRETTY RIBBON WORK BEST.

Drop off DECEMBER 5 through 13 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Church lobby in the gift box by the tree .

ALL ITEMS MUST BE IN by SUNDAY, Dec. 13th.

Any questions please contact Jane LaScala, 718-885-2137
THANK YOU & HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

134 Years and 4 Generations of Community Service



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

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

www.ruggieroandsons.com
after hours: (718) 885-2504

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

CITY ISLAND, NEW YORK
 Times and heights of high and low water (Eastern Standard 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

DECEMBER 2009

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Tue	0330	0.28	0935	8.26	1633	-0.48	2217	7.15	Tue 01
02 Wed	0421	0.11	1023	8.45	1722	-0.68	2306	7.31	Wed 02
03 Thu	0512	0.01	1112	8.51	1811	-0.75	2356	7.41	Thu 03
04 Fri	0606	0.00	1203	8.41	1903	-0.70			Fri 04
05 Sat	0048	7.44	0703	0.08	1257	8.16	1959	-0.53	Sat 05
06 Sun	0145	7.40	0807	0.22	1356	7.78	2100	-0.30	Sun 06
07 Mon	0250	7.34	0923	0.33	1505	7.34	2207	-0.08	Mon 07
08 Tue	0405	7.30	1043	0.34	1632	6.98	2314	0.09	Tue 08
09 Wed	0520	7.36	1156	0.19	1754	6.81			Wed 09
10 Thu	0019	0.16	0627	7.50	1302	-0.06	1902	6.78	Thu 10
11 Fri	0119	0.16	0727	7.68	1402	-0.34	2001	6.83	Fri 11
12 Sat	0216	0.12	0822	7.84	1458	-0.59	2055	6.91	Sat 12
13 Sun	0308	0.07	0913	7.96	1549	-0.74	2145	6.98	Sun 13
14 Mon	0357	0.07	1000	8.01	1637	-0.77	2232	7.03	Mon 14
15 Tue	0443	0.13	1044	7.98	1721	-0.68	2315	7.05	Tue 15
16 Wed	0524	0.24	1125	7.88	1802	-0.49	2356	7.05	Wed 16
17 Thu	0600	0.39	1201	7.72	1839	-0.24			Thu 17
18 Fri	0034	7.01	0629	0.56	1231	7.53	1910	0.04	Fri 18
19 Sat	0106	6.96	0648	0.69	1253	7.35	1928	0.27	Sat 19
20 Sun	0129	6.92	0712	0.76	1318	7.19	1941	0.40	Sun 20
21 Mon	0152	6.92	0747	0.81	1352	7.03	2011	0.47	Mon 21
22 Tue	0223	6.94	0828	0.86	1431	6.84	2049	0.55	Tue 22
23 Wed	0302	6.96	0914	0.91	1516	6.63	2132	0.64	Wed 23
24 Thu	0346	6.99	1005	0.93	1606	6.42	2219	0.72	Thu 24
25 Fri	0434	7.04	1059	0.91	1700	6.26	2311	0.77	Fri 25
26 Sat	0527	7.14	1200	0.80	1759	6.18			Sat 26
27 Sun	0006	0.77	0622	7.30	1308	0.58	1902	6.23	Sun 27
28 Mon	0105	0.68	0720	7.53	1421	0.25	2005	6.42	Mon 28
29 Tue	0206	0.51	0818	7.80	1527	-0.16	2107	6.70	Tue 29
30 Wed	0309	0.27	0914	8.07	1624	-0.56	2204	7.02	Wed 30
31 Thu	0411	-0.01	1010	8.28	1717	-0.88	2301	7.51	Thu 31
JANUARY 2010									
01 Fri	0515	-0.43	1107	8.51	1808	-1.27	2352	7.76	Fri 01
02 Sat	0612	-0.64	1201	8.47	1857	-1.32			Sat 02
03 Sun	0044	7.90	0709	-0.71	1255	8.25	1948	-1.22	Sun 03
04 Mon	0137	7.92	0808	-0.66	1352	7.89	2041	-0.97	Mon 04
05 Tue	0234	7.82	0912	-0.51	1456	7.43	2138	-0.62	Tue 05
06 Wed	0337	7.65	1020	-0.32	1608	6.98	2239	-0.25	Wed 06
07 Thu	0446	7.49	1128	-0.18	1723	6.63	2344	0.07	Thu 07
08 Fri	0555	7.39	1235	-0.12	1832	6.46			Fri 08
09 Sat	0049	0.29	0659	7.39	1337	-0.15	1935	6.44	Sat 09
10 Sun	0149	0.38	0758	7.45	1435	-0.23	2032	6.53	Sun 10
11 Mon	0245	0.39	0853	7.54	1528	-0.31	2124	6.68	Mon 11
12 Tue	0337	0.36	0943	7.62	1616	-0.34	2212	6.83	Tue 12
13 Wed	0423	0.34	1028	7.65	1700	-0.32	2255	6.91	Wed 13
14 Thu	0506	0.34	1109	7.61	1739	-0.22	2335	7.03	Thu 14
15 Fri	0542	0.38	1146	7.51	1814	-0.08			Fri 15
16 Sat	0011	7.04	0612	0.43	1214	7.36	1840	0.08	Sat 16
17 Sun	0037	7.03	0628	0.45	1228	7.22	1849	0.18	Sun 17
18 Mon	0050	7.04	0646	0.42	1247	7.13	1903	0.18	Mon 18
19 Tue	0109	7.11	0718	0.38	1318	7.03	1934	0.18	Tue 19
20 Wed	0141	7.19	0756	0.40	1356	6.90	2011	0.23	Wed 20
21 Thu	0219	7.25	0840	0.46	1439	6.71	2054	0.35	Thu 21
22 Fri	0302	7.27	0928	0.56	1528	6.49	2141	0.51	Fri 22
23 Sat	0352	7.26	1021	0.67	1622	6.28	2233	0.68	Sat 23
24 Sun	0446	7.25	1123	0.71	1723	6.16	2332	0.79	Sun 24
25 Mon	0546	7.29	1236	0.62	1831	6.20			Mon 25
26 Tue	0037	0.76	0652	7.44	1407	0.29	1946	6.45	Tue 26
27 Wed	0151	0.55	0800	7.69	1518	-0.22	2057	6.87	Wed 27
28 Thu	0309	0.14	0907	8.00	1614	-0.73	2158	7.36	Thu 28
29 Fri	0416	-0.36	1008	8.28	1705	-1.16	2250	7.80	Fri 29
30 Sat	0514	-0.82	1103	8.45	1753	-1.44	2341	8.12	Sat 30
31 Sun	0608	-1.13	1156	8.44	1841	-1.52			Sun 31
FEBRUARY 2010									
01 Mon	0029	8.28	0702	-1.25	1248	8.24	1928	-1.40	Mon 01



**AN EARLY HISTORY OF
RODMAN'S NECK**

What we know today as Rodman's Neck wasn't always so. It did not actually become land owned by the Rodman family until the middle of the 18th century. We know this from the will of Samuel Rodman, who in 1780 left to his sons "all my Neck of land and meadow where I now live, with all buildings, which I bought of Thomas Pell." This would have been the Thomas Pell who was eldest son to John Pell. John inherited all of the original Thomas Pell's land in 1669.

In the time of the Pells, Rodman's Neck was known as Pell's Neck or Pell's Point, and it was there (or thereabouts) that British soldiers landed in their attempt to cut off Washington's retreat from New York City. The Pells were English and came to Westchester/Bronx from New England. The Dutch, who were before the English in New York, knew Rodman's Neck as Annes Hoeck, after Anne Hutchinson.

Anne had the permission of the Dutch to settle the tiny neck of land we call Rodman's but not the Indians. She and her

family and followers were massacred by a party of Siwanoy, led by Annhooke. From the giant mounds of shells that were left behind there, it is reasonable to infer that the Siwanoy used Rodman's Neck for their wampum industry. M.R. Harrington, who excavated the site in the early 20th century, described the site as a "considerable station" of the Siwanoy. Among the artifacts Harrington discovered on Rodman's Neck were human remains.

So the Indians knew Rodman's Neck first and called it by their own Indian name, Asumsowis. In 1643, the Dutch were calling the same peninsula Annes Hoeck. With the acquisition of the land by Thomas Pell in 1654, it became known as Pell's Point. Exactly when it became Rodman's Neck is not clear, although we do know that by 1820 it was going by that name. We know this because of an 1820 advertisement for the sale of the farm of one Nicholas Haight. The ad appeared in the National Advocate and it read as follows:

For Sale. A FARM belonging to the subscriber, situate in Pelham, in the county of Westchester, about fifteen miles from the city of New York, commonly called *Rodman's Neck*, containing one hundred and thirty acres of as good land as any in this state, and is in good cultivation and repair. There are upon this farm, several sites for dwelling houses, commanding an extended and beautiful prospects as any within the county of Westchester.

As we have so often done in this column, we would like to thank Blake Bell and his historic Pelham website for bringing to our attention (so we could bring to yours) some of this interesting history of Rodman's Neck. If you would like to bring something else of interest to our attention, you can do so at jdsstrat@msn.com. Or write to us in care of *The Island Current*, P.O. Box 6, Bronx 10464. Happy holidays!

DR. IVIS GETZ
Board Certified
Pediatric Dentist

Providing dental care for children, adolescents and those with special needs.



Office in New Rochelle
914-355-2265
www.caringpediatricdentistry.com

10 for the Holidays

Continued from page 4

Island Yacht Club (63 Pilot Street).

If it's diving you desire, maybe you'll want to take three lessons, or more, from **Captain Mike** (530 City Island Avenue).

TWO spots on our Island offer homemade food and hours of good times: the **City Island Diner** (304 City Island Avenue) and its neighbor the **Snug** (302 City Island Avenue). The Snug also features groovy theme nights, such as Mexican fiesta night on Thursdays or half-price burger night on Tuesdays. There's definitely fun on tap here!

Wash and dry: two reasons to spend time with Susie at **On Board Laundromat** (323 City Island Avenue). And while your clothes are spinning around, pay a visit to **Dunkin' Donuts** (636 City Island Avenue) for one of treats from two sources: their signature donuts or Baskin Robbins' delicious ice cream, both under one roof.

Think dual character like Mary Colby of **Fe Fi Faux Studio & Gallery** (276 City Island Avenue). She sees a wall and also the great art it can become. Check out also her original artwork in the window.

And don't forget about our two hardware stores: **Buddy's** (260 City Island Avenue) and **J.J. Burck** (526 City Island Avenue), as well as two bait shops: **Island Bait & Tackle** (632 City Island Avenue) and **Jack's Bait & Tackle** (551 City Island Avenue).

ONE new chef stands before the stove at the **City Island Deli** (520 City Island Avenue) – as they welcome Chef Rafael from **To-Go Express** after he lost his cooking home in an October fire. Show your support and order one delicious dish this holiday season, or one a day!

At one spot, **Focal Point Gallery** (321 City Island Avenue), you can find artwork on the walls and Ron Turner at his desk, ready to photograph your next event, as well as your holiday party or portrait.

Cheryl Brinker's Studio / Gallery (276 City Island Avenue) is one place to find artwork of all kinds, as well as the creations of Toby Z. Liederman, also on display at **Ceramics . . . and More** (30 Pilot Street).

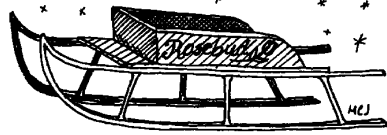
Debra Fatone (718-885-3430), a licensed massage therapist, is the one to see to get in shape over the holidays or in the New Year. And Tommy Houlihan is the one to talk to at **City Island Tattoo** (314 City Island Avenue) for art on your body that lasts a lifetime.

Looking for one gift that would work for everyone on your gift list? Try a gift card from **Chase Bank** (207 City Island Avenue).

And there is one and only one place to discover fascinating facts about our Island home: the **City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum** (190 Fordham Street), which is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and has some wonderful new items in its shop. Be

sure to stop by on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 13, to show the curators your artifacts and photographs and to share them with your neighbors!

In the final analysis, any way you count it, it adds up to a great holiday season indeed on City Island! Happy 2010!



Hey Seniors!

It's getting cold out there! Could you use a little help with your heating bills? Help is available through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), administered by NYC Department for the Aging. The HEAP benefit is a one-time supplement to your annual energy costs. To be eligible, you must be 60 years of age, a U.S. citizen or qualified alien, and have a maximum monthly Income of less than \$2,030 for a single household or \$2,657 for a household of two. Applicants who pay for oil, kerosene or coal receive a HEAP benefit amount of \$600. For those using natural gas, the amount is \$400. For applicants who do not pay for heat directly (included in rent), the benefit amount will be \$40 or \$50, depending on income. Call Patty Grondahl at 718-885-1891 or e-mail me at pgrondahl@pssusa.org for more details, an application or assistance.

JGL Wines & Liquors Inc.

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

Websites for you
and your best friend too

Nonlinear nyc.com
communications & design
call katie 718-885-2929

Property Appraisal Services

Commercial Real Estate Appraisers

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

We are proud to relocate our offices to City Island

HOME INSPECTION SERVICES

885-1068

Robert J. Leavy
Engineer
NYS Licensed

We Remember

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AND TREE LIGHTING

The Ruggiero family invites you to join in a ceremony of remembrance and commemoration.

A holiday tree will be decorated and lit by family members of those who have died, in tribute to the life, death and spirit of their loved ones.

You are welcome to bring a homemade and personalized ornament to decorate the tree as part of the memorialization.

These events will take place in an outdoor canopy regardless of weather conditions so dress appropriately. Warming refreshments will be served. R.S.V.P. by **December 1, 2009**. Please call (1-888) 375-1400 (Yonkers) or (1-888) 828-1800 (Bronx).

Sunday, December 13, 2009
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
F. Ruggiero & Sons, Inc. Funeral Home
732 Yonkers Avenue ~ Yonkers, NY 10704
(one block west of Yonkers Raceway)

Sunday, December 13, 2009
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
F. Ruggiero & Sons, Inc. Funeral Home
726 Morris Park Avenue ~ Bronx, NY 10462

Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery
wishes one and all "Happy Holidays"!

OUR HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
Sunday, December 20, 3 pm
with singer-songwriter *Theresa Sareo*

For more on our December music & art schedule -
Thursday music series, "celebration" Karaoke,
performances by Kagero - Lipbone Redding - Nicola,
and Elliott Glick's guitar student show -
visit www.starvingartistonline.com

Celebrate New Year's Eve at the Starving Artist - with "jazz man" Lou Volpe!
Starving Artist gift certificates are the "right fit" for holiday gift-giving
a coffeehouse serving handmade jewelry, fine art / craft and beaping belmies of music!
249 City Island Avenue - City Island, NY 10464 - (718) 885-3779 - www.starvingartistonline.com

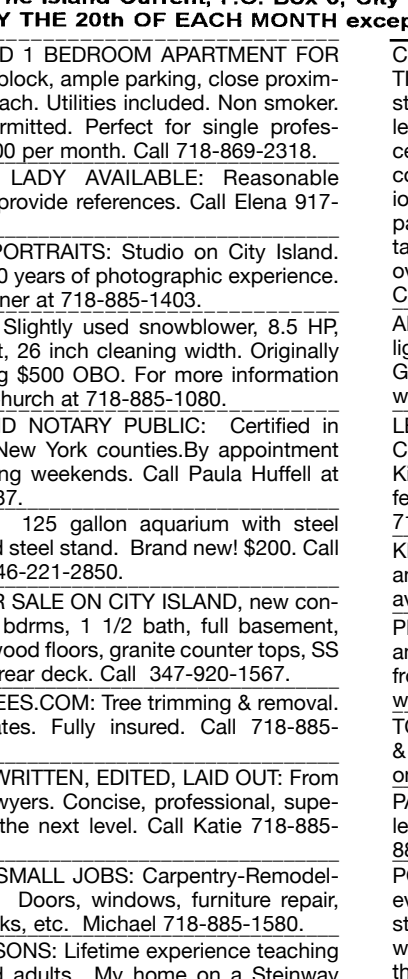
A1 PLUMBING HEATING

Boilers & Stoves
Cleaned, Serviced & Installed

Eddie Cullen
300 City Island Avenue **917-440-2711**



MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
with
BEST WISHES
for a
HEALTHY NEW YEAR
To all our Patients & Friends
on City Island



MEDICAL GROUP OF CITY ISLAND
340 City Island Ave. (718) 885-0333

Dr. Norbert W. Sander, M.D.
Medical Director

Mordechai Bar, M.D.
Karen & Nancy

Sound Shore
MEDICAL CENTER OF WESTCHESTER
*Physicians affiliated with
Sound Shore Medical
Center of Westchester

Janine Mantzaris
PHYSICAL THERAPY

David Laurence
PODIATRY

S. Taffet, M.D.
M. Kessner, M.D.
GASTROENTEROLOGY

CLASSIFIED

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

CITY ISLAND 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENT: Nice block, ample parking, close proximity to the beach. Utilities included. Non smoker. No pets permitted. Perfect for single professional. \$1,000 per month. Call 718-869-2318.

CLEANING LADY AVAILABLE: Reasonable prices. Will provide references. Call Elena 917-553-8462.

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

FOR SALE: Slightly used snowblower, 8.5 HP, Electric start, 26 inch cleaning width. Originally \$900. Asking \$500 OBO. For more information call Grace Church at 718-885-1080.

CITY ISLAND NOTARY PUBLIC: Certified in Bronx and New York counties. By appointment only, including weekends. Call Paula Huffell at 347-427-7337.

FOR SALE: 125 gallon aquarium with steel mesh lid and steel stand. Brand new! \$200. Call Tommy at 646-221-2850.

HOUSE FOR SALE ON CITY ISLAND, new construction, 3 bdrms, 1 1/2 bath, full basement, central Air, wood floors, granite counter tops, SS appliances, rear deck. Call 347-920-1567.

OWENS TREES.COM: Tree trimming & removal. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call 718-885-0914.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHILD-CENTERED INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL SERVICES: Is someone in your family struggling with school? Discover your child's learning potential and develop a plan for success: evaluations for learning issues, ADHD coaching, strategies for school-based behavioral issues, advocacy for student services, parenting support, independent school consultations. NYS certified school psychologist with over 20 years experience in wholistic education. Call John Scardina @718-885-9305.

ABLE TREE CARE: Christmas decorations, tree lights installed. Sail mast lift and winterization. Gutter Cleaning, tree removal, anything to do with heights. 347-245-5106.

LEGAL 2 FAMILY HOME on pleasant street on City Island. 3-4 bdrm/2 bath over large studio. Kitchen recently updated. Beach access and fenced yard. On 50 x 100 lot. \$625,000. Call 718-885-1312.

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

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

TOYS, GAMES, PUZZLES, PUPPETS, craft kits & more! Now at Exotiq 718-885-3090 or shop online at www.themagicofgifts.com.

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

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

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

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

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

BURCK'S HAS: Ice melt, snow shovels, gloves, washer fluid, lock de-icer. Master/Visa 526 City Island Avenue, Bronx, New York 718-885-1559.

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

BURCK'S BOAT STORE OFFERS Gift Certificates. Master/Visa. 526 City Island Avenue, Bronx, NY 718-885-1559.

Your Ad Could Be Here

Wishing You a Happy & Healthy Holiday Season!
All the Best in 2010

CITY ISLAND PHYSICAL THERAPY
340 CITY ISLAND AVE. (WITHIN DR. SANDERS' OFFICE)
BALANCE TRAINING, THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE, MANUAL THERAPY,
MECHANICAL TRACTIONS, ULTRASOUND, ELECTRICAL STIMULATION

JANINE MANTZARIS, P.T.
PHONE: 917-577-1752
FAX: 718-885-1191
•INSURANCE ACCEPTED•



CITY ISLAND HARDWARE & MARINE SUPPLY

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS
GIFTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

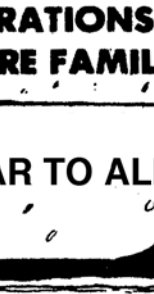
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!
260 CITY IS. AVE. 885-1447

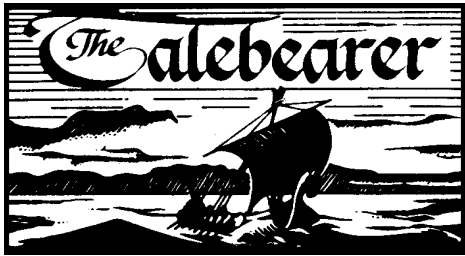
Russell Schaller **885-3089**

Sound Salvage, Inc.
marine services

MOORINGS, SALVAGE, TOWING

170 Fordham Street City Island, New York 10464





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



Maria and Bryan Livingston

Happy 20th birthday wishes on Dec. 29 to Alaura Mancuso, with love from Mom, Dad, Joey, Michael and Mario.

Birthday greetings go out to Michael Mancuso, who turns nine on Dec. 7. We love you! Mom, Dad, Alaura, Joey and Mario.

Happy birthday to "Pop Pop" Dave Carman on Dec. 2 and to Dava-Lee Candelaria, who turns eight on Dec. 20. With love from your family.

Welcome to Luca Toro Mazzeo, who was born on Oct. 20. Proud parents are Jeannine Giacobelli Mazzeo and Arturo Mazzeo of City Island. Grandpa says we have a future All-Star; Nonni says President of the United States.

Maggie Myer sends a great big thank you to all her friends and neighbors who showed tremendous care and concern for her and her faithful best friend, Arthur, her black Labrador retriever, who passed away recently. Arthur's home was City Island and he will always be loved and remembered.

Happy birthday wishes to our grandson, John Kenneth Alit, who turns three on Dec. 15. John is the son of Kristen (Ulmer) and Scott Alit.

Happy first birthday wishes to our granddaughter, Cameron Avery Kratzer, who will celebrate her big day on Dec. 8. Cameron is the daughter of Karen (Ulmer) and Ryan Kratzer. We love you, Mimi and Papa.

Happy first anniversary wishes across the miles on Dec. 8 to Nicole (McIntyre) and Sergio Casasmeiro in Madrid, Spain. Love from your City Island family and friends.

Belated birthday greetings to "lil" Bob Carmody, who turned 13 on Oct. 10 and also



Luca Toro Mazzeo and proud parents Jeannine and Arturo

to his sister Kelly, who turned 19 on Oct. 20. With love from Mom, Dad, Cricket and Tiki.

Good news! Mark Hohenstein of Fordham Street has adopted "Buddy," the yellow Labrador retriever. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Happy Dec. 4 birthday wishes to Geri Seiter, with love from your family and friends at the Black Whale.

It was great seeing Jimmy and Terry Raimondi in from California for his mom's "49th" birthday; well, that's how old she looks! Also visiting from Florida was John Brown, who along with Jimmy and Terry gathered for a small reunion with friends, starting at Artie's Restaurant and ending in the wee hours at a few other fine establishments. The laughs were non-stop and we can't wait until next year. Your friends Mot, Scino, Bobby, Savo, Herman, Neil, Steve, Anthony, Russell, Scoop, the Moran Clan and half of City Island.

Happy birthday on Nov. 9 to the best aunt and favorite sister. We love you, Pattie, Al and Alex.

Happy birthday on Nov. 24 to a great dad



King Arthur and Maggie Myers

and a wonderful man with love from Pattie and Alex.

Congratulations to Long Island residents Michael J. Trahan Jr. and Caitlin Hauptman on their big day, Nov. 21. Michael Jr. is the son of City Island's Michael Trahan and Kathleen O'Rourke Trahan, now residing in Hobe Sound, Florida. A long distance shout out and good luck wishes go out to Michael J. Trahan Jr., who is taking the lieutenant test for the FDNY next month. We love you, Aunt Pattie, Uncle Al and Alex from Miami, Florida.

It's a girl! Welcome to Sophia Rosalia Corvino, who made her debut on Sept. 5. Proud parents are the City Island Library's Vincent Corvino and his wife, Christine. Thrilled are big sister Gabriella and big brother Nicholas.

Congratulations to Stacie and Stefano Ciccone on the birth of their beautiful son Matteo Francesco, who weighed in at nine pounds 15 ounces on Sept. 17. The proud grandparents are Dawn Moen of Centre Street and Annarita and Francesco Ciccone of Italy. The Ciccone family makes their home on Centre Street.

Wishing all our friends, neighbors and

readers a very happy holiday. See you next year!

Maria Swieciki



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

A new memorial to the victims of 9/11 was dedicated in a solemn ceremony led by Barbara Whelan and Mary Carman of the AARP chapter 318 on Nov. 20, 2009 (see top photo). Clergy from Island churches blessed the memorial, which is in the middle of the Pelham Cemetery on City Island.

Accepting Holiday Layaways Now!

AY AWAY NOW! LAYAWAY NOW

Go by Bike

Metro Bicycles - Westchester
914-633-6336 Open Sunday
356 Main Street, New Rochelle, NY Access from New Roch. City

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

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

NAME _____

OLD ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NEW ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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

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

NAME _____ PHONE# _____

ADDRESS _____ APT.# _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

Send a Gift Subscription to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ APT.# _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

Rate: \$12 per year Gift Card to Read _____

(Rate on Request for Airmail, U.K. & Europe). All subscriptions prepaid. Enclose check or M.O.—Allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery of first issue.

INTERIOR DESIGN
GENERAL CONTRACTING
by Jeri Stark

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

Call (914) 760-3934 for consultation

www.jeristark.com 250 William Ave
City Island, NY

SEND FOR NEW SHAPES! IN 3D

Christmas: Balloons FOR THE Seasons Greetings AND PARTIES

...and many thanks for your valued patronage

please Order Early Christmas: Dec. 20 / New Year Dec. 27

SU-SU BALLOONS 885-1834