

The Island Current

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One Dollar

NAUTICAL MUSEUM CHOSEN FOR GRANT COMPETITION

By JANE M. PROTZMAN



Four Nautical Museum volunteers (l. to r. Jane Protzman, Barbara Dolensek, Barbara Hoffman and Barbara Dennis) raised the banner for the new fund-raising campaign, "Step Up for the Museum," at a press conference on April 26, 2012, where it was announced that the museum had been selected as one of 40 historic sites in New York City chosen to compete for \$3 million in grant money. The competition is sponsored by Partners in Preservation, a joint venture of American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and supporters are asked to cast an online vote every day until May 21, to determine the four winners to receive grants.

On April 26, 2012, a community-based initiative called Partners in Preservation announced that the City Island Nautical Museum was one of 40 historic sites in New York City selected to compete for \$3 million in grants to preserve the city's historic buildings, icons and landmarks. The funding is provided by American Express, working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This is a first-ever grassroots preservation effort in New York City, a call-to-action program for all New Yorkers, and all who love New York, to vote online for the preservation projects most important to them.

Last year, about 500 historic sites in the city completed a survey that expressed the need for capital funding, and from this group, only 40 sites were chosen to apply with specific projects. The Nautical Museum, located in the recently landmarked P. S. 17 building at 190 Fordham Street, applied for funds to replace the steps leading up to the front of the building. They are in very poor condition and detract from the appearance of the landmarked site.

Four of the selected sites will be given the full amount of the grants they requested based on the number of votes they receive through the process described in the box above right. Additional grants will be awarded to a number of the other sites after review by American Express, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and an advisory committee composed of New York civic and preservation leaders, who will evaluate the relative need for the projects and the uniqueness of each of the

40 campaigns.

In order to draw attention to its campaign, the Nautical Museum will host an Open House with the theme "Come Back to the Good Old Days," on the weekend of May 5 and 6 from noon to 5 p.m. each day, celebrating May as National Preservation Month. In addition to tours and refreshments, the event will feature discussions with old-time Islanders, a sea chanteuse singer, knot-tying workshops, puzzles, games, and contests for young and old. The Bronx Seaside Trolley will bring visitors from Pelham Bay Park and drive up and down City Island Avenue to attract visitors to the Museum. The trolley will also visit the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, which is another one of the 40 sites in the competition.

The awarding of grants, however, will depend primarily on the number of votes the Museum can attract from April 26 to May 21. Anyone 13 years of age and older, anywhere in the world, is invited to vote online—from a computer, smartphone or iPad—by visiting www.PartnersinPreservation.com or by going through Facebook (see instructions above right). Everyone is urged to vote once every day, and on May 22, the top four public vote-getters and the grants for their preservation projects will be revealed.

"We are delighted to be part of this important preservation program," Barbara Dolensek, administrator of the Museum, told *The Current*, "and we hope to enlist the support of everyone who lives on City Island or who used to live here, as well as sailing enthusiasts the world over and

architecture buffs who recognize the significance of our building."

The Nautical Museum has no paid staff, unlike some of the other sites competing in the program (such as the New York Botanical Garden and the Guggenheim Museum), but volunteers have been quick to come for-

ward to help the Museum reach out through a redesigned website and a Facebook page that has over 200 photographs supplied by curator Tom Nye. Every day during the campaign, Museum volunteers will put up on Facebook and on the website (www.

Continued on page 7

VOTE FOR THE CITY ISLAND NAUTICAL MUSEUM

so that our proposal to replace the front steps to the Museum may be funded. Our museum is one of 40 historic places in NYC chosen by the Partners in Preservation program with funds provided by American Express in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Three Ways to Vote for the City Island Nautical Museum

Step 1. Go to www.PartnersinPreservation.com to set up a voting account with your e-mail address and a password. Please okay the confirming e-mail and then you can vote (you will not need to do this to vote on the days that follow).

OR if you are on Facebook, log in and then search for Partners in Preservation.

OR if you have a mobile phone, there is an app link available at the Partners in Preservation website.

Step 2. Find the voting box and click on the City Island Nautical Museum (Hint: Go to the Bronx tab).

Step 3. Vote for City Island Nautical Museum.

Step 4. Do the same thing every day until May 21!

Please note that your e-mail address will not be used for anything other than to validate your vote and will not be saved past May 21, 2012.

CI's SHOOTING STAR!



Minneford Avenue resident Michael Kelly is a member of the Nassau County Kings NWBA (National Wheelchair Basketball Association) team, which competed in the national championship in Colorado Springs, from March 21 to 25, 2012. The Kings consist of players with various physical disabilities from all over New York State. The tournament was at the USA Olympic training center where many great athletes have trained in the past, including the 1992 USA basketball "Dream Team." After a very good regular season, the Nassau County Kings qualified for the national championship tournament for the first time in their 25-year existence. They went in ranked 10th in the country and finished 8th overall with three wins and two losses, including a tough loss to the #2 ranked North Carolina Tarheels. It was a great experience for the entire team. Congratulations to Mike and his teammates on an outstanding year!

BRIEFLY...

BRONX MASONS BLOOD DRIVE will take place on Tuesday, May 8, between 3:30 and 7:45 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street at City Island Avenue. Almost anyone between the ages of 17 and 75, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds and in good general health, can be a blood donor. Photo or Signature ID and Social Security number are required at the time of donation.

SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE held by the Bronx Masons will take place on Saturday, June 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 241 City Island Avenue. Because POTS (Part of the Solution) has limited storage space, the Masons are asking for only men's, women's and children's summer clothing, separated in different bags for quicker distribution. On the same day, Hebron Lodge 813 (also located at 241 City Island Avenue) will be holding a tag sale.

BOATING SAFETY COURSE, given by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, will be held on two Wednesdays, May 9 and May 16, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. at the Harlem Yacht Club, 417 Hunter Avenue. The cost is \$75 per person, including all materials and supplies. Those who complete the course successfully will receive a New York/New Jersey Safe Boating Certificate and I.D. card. Anyone interested in attending should contact Alan Lesser at alanlesser@ymail.com or call 845-323-0265. Students must be at least 13 years old.

NAUTICAL MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE: "Come Back to the Good Old Days" on Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6, from noon to 5 p.m. This is the theme of the party the Museum is hosting as part of its campaign to raise awareness about National Preservation Month and to gain votes in the Partners in Preservation competition for grant money (see page 1). The open house will feature conversations with clam diggers, a sea chantey singer, a knot-tying workshop, puzzles, games, scavenger hunts, giveaways and lots of refreshments. And don't miss the Museum's newly revamped website, which has many old photographs and wonderful quotes from old-timers about City Island life. The website is www.cityislandmuseum.org and the real address is 190 Fordham Street. For more information, call 718-885-0507.

CANCER BINGO: The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion would like to invite you to the annual Cancer Bingo, which will be held at the Post (550 City Island Avenue) on Thursday, May 17, at 7 p.m. The proceeds of this community event go to cancer research and cancer care for children and adults. Please come by for a nice evening. There will be many great prizes and sweepstakes!

IRISH MUSIC COMING TO GRACE CHURCH IN MAY: On Sunday, May 20, Grace Church will hold its second concert in the 2012 series. All-Ireland fiddle champion and Smithsonian Folkways Recording artist Brian Conway and premier pianist Brendan Dolan will perform, along with a special appearance by dancers from the Deirdre O' Mara School of Irish Dance. The concert begins at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance and may be purchased from Grace Church by using the PayPal link on the church's website <http://www.gracecityisland.org/>, or by mailing a check made out to Grace Church to 116 City Island Avenue, Bronx NY 10464. Your tickets will be held at the door. Tickets will also be available at our Spring Tag Sale on May 12. Seating is limited, so please purchase in advance. Some of City Island's food and beverage establishments are offering specials to concertgoers who present tickets that evening. A complete list will be in the program. For further information, please email gracecityisland@yahoo.com or leave a message at 718-885-1080.

GIRL SCOUT MOTHER'S DAY PLANT AND BAKE SALE: Saturday, May 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 210 City Island Avenue, in front of the Little League field. There will be lots of great plants, flowers and treats!

FREE TREES: The New York Restoration Project, founded in 1995 by Bette Middler, is working in partnership with community organizations in the Bronx, to give away trees to New York City residents. Dates are as follows: May 5, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (partner: Phipps Community Development Corporation), 1071 East Tremont Ave (Drew Gardens); and May 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (partner: Friends of Van Cortlandt Park), Broadway and Mosholu Avenue (FVCP Compost Site). Registration is requested. For more information, go to the website http://www.nyrp.org/Greening_Sustainability/MillionTreesNYC/Bronx_Tree_Giveaways.

THE 2012 CITY ISLAND REUNION is planned for Saturday, Aug. 18. Email cityislandreunion@yahoo.com for more information.

DON'T MISS "PROOF": The City Island Theater Group's production of David Auburn's powerful play "Proof" runs one more weekend at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street. Performances will be Thursday, May 3; Friday, May 4; and Saturday, May 5, at 8 p.m. The play is directed by Nina Gabriele-Cuva and features Kevin Gordon, Elizabeth Paldino, Taliesen Rose and Denis Zepeda in the cast. For tickets, call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com.

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EDITOR: Karen Rauhauser Nani

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

ADVERTISING MANAGERS: Joan Ramftl, Margaret Lenz
BUSINESS MANAGER: Judith Rauh

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

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

- 2 – POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
- 1 – HARASSMENT
- 2 – LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT
- 3 – BURGLARY
- 1 – THEFT OF SERVICES
- 1 – PETIT LARCENY
- 1 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 10 – DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI)

Police provided details on the following incidents and arrests for the period from March 19 to April 25, 2012.

3/29 and 4/16 – Police from the 45th Precinct received two reports of boats burglarized at 150 City Island Avenue. In both cases, electronics and navigation equipment were removed from the vessels by unknown persons without the owners' consent.

4/4 – At 9 p.m., the owner of a commercial establishment at 361 City Island Avenue reported an incident of theft of services after five males left the restaurant without paying the bill for a meal. They fled the scene in an identified vehicle. The incident is under investigation.

4/14 – On Schofield Street, a resident reported finding the back door of her home open and a laptop and DVD player stolen.

4/14 – At 8 p.m., the front door of a commercial establishment at 268 City Island Avenue was reported damaged in an act of criminal mischief.

4/15 – An off-Island male, 79, told police that an acquaintance ran over his foot with his vehicle in front of 591 City Island Avenue causing personal injury. The driver fled the scene of the accident.

4/16 – An off-Island male reported that the license plate was removed from his motorcycle while parked at a restaurant on City

Island Avenue.

4/21 – At 12:45 a.m., police from the midnight Conditions Unit observed two off-Island males, 21 and 28, drinking in public. When approached, one of the males attempted to flee and was chased by police. Both were arrested and subsequently charged with possession of marijuana.

3/19 to 4/25 – During this period, police made 10 arrests for DWI on the road just over the City Island Bridge. The arrests were part of a joint enforcement effort by the 45th Precinct, the Borough Task Force and the Highway Patrol Unit.

Police from the 45th Precinct are preparing for the upcoming high volume traffic days of Mother's Day (May 13) and summer weekends beginning Memorial Day weekend (May 26-28). As on Easter Sunday, they are planning to have six steady agents on City Island Avenue to keep traffic moving during these periods. They are working with the Bronx Borough Commander to schedule traffic agents and units for City Island during these peak periods.

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Photos by RICK DeWITT

The City Island Little League 2012 season began on April 14 with the call to “Play Ball” led by Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz (top photo). Given the mild winter and early warm weather, the boys and girls were eager to hit the bases with guidance from coaches like James Goonan (middle photo). Running the successful City Island program takes many volunteers and supporters, including (bottom photo, l. to r.): Dave Carman, Joe Goonan, Frank Strazzera, Vickie Javier from Council Member Jimmy Vacca’s office, George Spencer, Kristen McConaghy, Borough President Ruben Diaz, John Tomson, Edward Esposito, Louis Lomonaco, Representative Thomas Messina, Senator Jeff Klein, Jim Livingston, Maria Piri, Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and Peter Booth. Stop by the Ambrosini Field next to P.S. 175 and enjoy a few innings. Don’t forget to root for the home team!

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS IN PLACE AT LAST

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Dom Siano (top photo) of SiSoft Communications installing one of the new security cameras that are going up along City Island Avenue, a project that finally came to fruition in April 2012.



Senator Jeff Klein announced the good news about the project, most of which he made possible through a grant of \$100,000, at a press conference on Thursday, April 19, 2012, in front of Dunkin Donuts.

During the past seven years, City Island has received generous grants from elected officials to install security cameras at various points along City Island Avenue, and this spring, after long bureaucratic delays, the cameras are finally in the process of being installed. Senator Klein held a press conference in front of Dunkin Donuts on Thursday, April 12, to mark the momentous occasion.

In 2005 Congressman Joseph Crowley gave the Civic Association about \$14,000, and in 2008, State Senator Jeff Klein gave the Chamber of Commerce a grant of \$100,000 to expand the camera service to cover the most vulnerable points on the Island. After many delays, the Chamber of Commerce settled on SiSoft Communications, a firm that has installed security systems for Pepsi Cola Bottling Company, Time Warner, Utz Potato Chips and other clients in the New York area.

At the February 2011 meeting of the Civic Association, Dominick Siano of SiSoft presented the installation plan and answered questions about the cameras and the ways in which they will be used. There will be 15 Mobotix cameras at various points on City Island where vandalism, including burglary, graffiti and other criminal activity has taken place in the past. These cameras will be active at night and will record all activity within range. The high-resolution digital video will be captured and stored for up to 60 days on a centralized computer in an undisclosed location, to which the police will have access as needed. No one will monitor activity as

it takes place.

The cameras will have a range of 60 feet in width and are capable of picking up such details as faces and license plates. Although there is no legal obligation to post signs indicating that public places are being surveyed by camera, signs will be put up in various areas as a deterrent to vandalism. The cameras are unobtrusive and resistant to damage caused by vandalism, heat and cold.

Delays in the installation process were many, the most recent ones caused by regime change in Albany and new regulations governing the use of state money. Thanks to the tireless efforts of John Doyle in Senator Klein’s office and Skip Giacco, president of the Chamber of Commerce, the red tape was finally brought under control.

“I am pleased that the City Island camera project is finally a reality,” Senator Klein told *The Current*. “I am confident that these cameras will bring peace of mind for many residents and insure we keep City Island safe and secure.”

Skip Giacco was especially grateful to the City Island community for its help in getting the project off the ground. “The City Island Chamber of Commerce is made up of a group of shopkeepers and commercial property owners, many of whom live here on City Island. It is their participation that made this camera project possible. Membership dues have paid for the research and legal fees we incurred and will continue to pay for maintenance and electricity. All of us recognize that City Island is a special community, one that we are proud and happy to be a part of and one that we feel deserves to be kept safe.”

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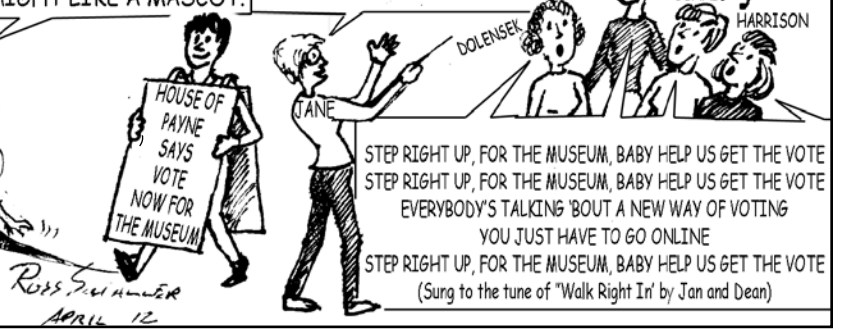
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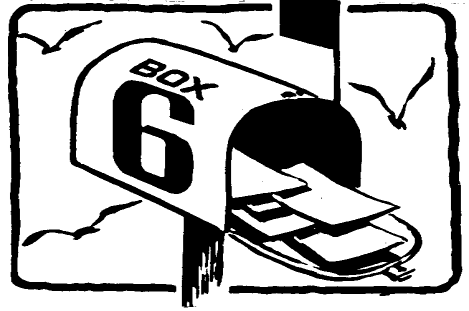
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<p>NEW SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS CUT CRIME</p>	<p>CITY ISLAND LITTLE LEAGUE OPENS WITH CEREMONY IN LIEU OF PARADE</p>	<p>NAUTICAL MUSEUM KICKS OFF FUNDRAISING FOR NEW STEPS WITH THE "BARBARASHOP" QUARTET</p>
<p>THOSE CAMERAS SURE CATCH A LOT OF MISCREANTS! AND HERE ARE 2 MORE UNSAVORY CHARACTERS.</p> 	<p>WOW! OUT OF THE PARK! HOW DOES THE TEAM LOOK, COACH? I THINK WE CAN GO ALL THE WAY TO WILLIAMSPORT. IT'S MY PET IGUANA. I THOUGHT THE TEAM MIGHT LIKE A MASCOT. SEN. KLEIN, WHAT'S THAT?</p> 	<p>OK, BARBARAS, SING IT LOUD AND STRONG. YOU'RE SINGING FOR YOUR "STEP UP!" STEP RIGHT UP, FOR THE MUSEUM, BABY HELP US GET THE VOTE STEP RIGHT UP, FOR THE MUSEUM, BABY HELP US GET THE VOTE EVERYBODY'S TALKING 'BOUT A NEW WAY OF VOTING YOU JUST HAVE TO GO ONLINE STEP RIGHT UP, FOR THE MUSEUM, BABY HELP US GET THE VOTE (Sung to the tune of "Walk Right In" by Jan and Dean)</p> 



We welcome letters and opinions. Letters longer than 250 words will be edited, with every effort made to preserve their substance. We reserve the right not to print letters that are copies, libelous, inaccurate or in bad taste, or those that cannot be verified. Include your phone number. Anonymous letters will not be printed, but names will be withheld upon request.

Grateful for the Support

To the Editor:
A wonder-full benefit concert was enjoyed on Sunday, April 15, at Temple Beth-El on City Island Avenue, an event that helped to raise funds to replenish the losses sustained by the temple after the recent robbery.

A festival orchestra of 16 talented musicians performed popular American music, Hebrew melodies, and classical music by Mozart, Bach, Gounod, Handel and others. Amazingly, benefit tickets were only \$12 and \$15!

City Island neighbors and friends who love live music right on the island, and who would like to help the temple at the same time will want to know that two more benefit concerts will take place this fall on Sunday, Oct. 28, and Nov. 4. Mark your calendars so you won't miss out again on these beautiful and inspiring events.
Also, anyone can contribute anytime to help our "Shul By The Sea" as we recover from the robbery. Checks may be sent to Temple Beth El, Box 188, Bronx, New York 10464.
With thanks,
Toby Z. Liederman

Commending Generous Hearts

To the City Island community:
Thank you, City Islanders, for reaching out to all people who are in need of help, not only here on City Island but also to those over the bridge in our surrounding area. These people at one time had a home and now have chosen to stay in the woods. Thank you for providing them with blankets, coats, sweaters, gloves and hats and all that is needed. When they received all that you gave, they wept tears of joy.
Let us all continue to run that extra mile to help those in need.
Yolanda Cirulli



Photo by RICK DEWITT
The City Island Women's Herstory Month was celebrated with great enthusiasm and warmth this year at the City Island Community Center on March 25, 2012, and the Anne Hutchinson awards were presented to four women who have contributed much to their communities (l. to r.): **Brenda Prohaska**, community civic leader; **Violet Smith**, community humanitarian extraordinaire; **Melinda Hunt**, founder of the Hart Island Project, and **Bernice Cosey-Pulley**, humanitarian and civil rights activist. The turnout included interesting women from all five boroughs, Westchester County and Connecticut, and the organizers are grateful to all who volunteered and participated in the event, including those in the news media who provided publicity and the Community Center, which hosted the event.

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A Current Review

“PROOF”

By BRUCE A. WEIS

The City Island Theater Group has moved seamlessly from the light comedy of “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress” to gripping psychological drama with its production of David Auburn’s “Proof,” now playing at the City Island Theater for the Performing Arts, known locally as Grace Episcopal Church. A masterpiece of contemporary theater, “Proof” grabs one’s attention with a brief opening scene that is reminiscent of “Sixth Sense” and never lets go.

“Proof” premiered off-Broadway in May 2000 at the Manhattan Theatre Club. Directed by Daniel Sullivan, the show was an instant hit and starred Mary-Louise Parker, Larry Bryggman, Ben Shenkman and Johanna Day. Later that year, the play moved to Broadway, to the Walter Kerr Theatre, where it ran for more than 900 performances. “Proof” was awarded the 2001 Tony for Best Play, the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the New York Drama Critics’ Circle award for Best Play. The

show also won that year’s Drama Desk Award for Best Play and the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Play. Mary-Louise Parker was given the Tony Award for her performance.

A 2005 film adaptation of “Proof,” directed by John Madden, starred Gwyneth Paltrow as Catherine and featured Anthony Hopkins, Hope Davis and Jake Gyllenhaal. Interestingly, the film version added a number of characters in minor supporting roles, although the play has only four. The current CITG production is true to the original four person cast, accenting each player’s contribution to the story and making for a tight, well-coordinated production.

The play focuses on Catherine (Taliesen Rose), who struggles with mathematical genius and mental illness as the daughter of Robert (Kevin Gordon), a mathematics professor at the University of Chicago, who has died the day before. Catherine is an emotionally fragile young woman who has spent the past few years

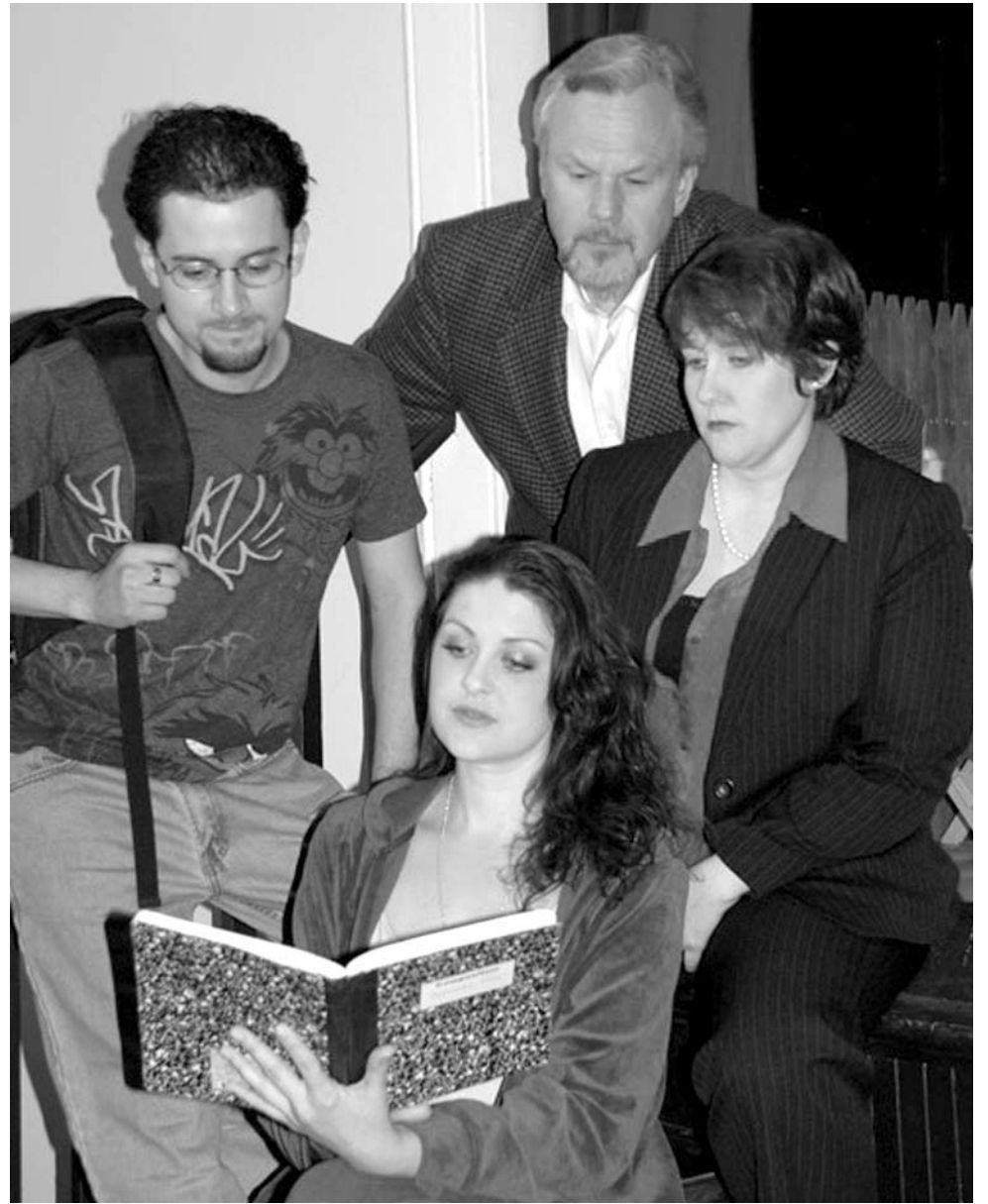


Photo by MARY MCINTYRE

Reviewing the “Proof” are Denis Zepeda, Kevin Gordon, Taliesen Rose and Elizabeth Palidino. The City Island Theater Group’s three final performances of David Auburn’s “Proof” will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 3–6, all at 8 p.m., in Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue, at Pilot Street. For reservations please call 718-885-3066 or e-mail tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com.



Photos by ANN SULLIVAN

Members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Leonard Hawkins Post 156 American Legion held a special Memorial Service on April 15, 2012. They dedicated a plaque in the Legion Hall honoring 21 deceased members. Families of the former members were invited to attend and take part in the ceremony, and many of them did. The observance made note of the many years of service these members gave to the Auxiliary. Among those honored was Lucille Masterson, a member for 74 years. Her grandson, Christopher Nash, donated the money for the plaque. He is currently on active duty overseas.

carrying for her father, who though brilliant in his youth was ultimately unable to function without her help because of his mental illness. Apparently a genius in her own right, Catherine’s fears of madness and her swirling reactions to the people around her drive much of the dramatic action, as her sister, Claire, and Robert’s former student, Hal, provide her with much to be uncertain about.

Taliesen Rose portrays Catherine brilliantly as she bounces between emotional highs and lows, and Kevin Gordon’s performance as the deceased Robert perfectly counterpoints hers, as his character gradually slides toward insanity. An established emotional shape-shifter himself, Kevin Gordon was last seen on City Island as an egomaniacal theater executive with several personalities in the CITG comedy “Lend Me a Tenor.” Here, in the deadly serious, though often comic, role of Robert, his seamless descent from distinguished university professor to madness is chilling.

Denis Zepeda adds just the right amount of uncertainty in the role of Hal, an ambitious but frustrated mathematician with a musical bent who clearly hears his professional clock ticking. He desperately needs to make a quick breakthrough in order to avoid the high school teaching career that

he fears and is determined to read through Robert’s old notebooks looking for mathematical proofs. Catherine’s on-and-off attraction to him leaves her (and us) unsure about his motives.

Elizabeth Palidino is perfectly self-assured and relentless as Catherine’s stronger and more emotionally stable sister. Successful, driven and not to be deterred, Claire was living in New York as Catherine struggled to care for her father in Chicago. The first act finds Claire returning home to Chicago with plans to resolve Catherine’s problems in a way that she deems suitable but that Claire naturally resists.

Costumes were entirely appropriate to the show and, as always, were the work of Carol McCabe. Keith Rodriguez constructed the exterior of a Chicago home in his second foray into set construction, and Joe Burck worked his usual magic with clever lighting and a beautiful set design. (Grace Church’s antique footlights were returned to full operation during pre-production.) Denis Zepeda was responsible for sound design, dashing between the stage and the control panels. Barbara Dolensek, CITG’s prop mistress, contributed furniture from yet another room in her house (this time the porch) to the production. Programs were fabulous and were, as usual, the work of Susan Rauh.

Nina Gabriele-Cuva skillfully directed “Proof,” in which the dramatic tensions between the actors kept the audience completely engaged from the opening scene to the curtain call. Fiorella deLima served as production stage manager, assisted by Rose DeMonte as assistant stage manager and two young production assistants, Hannah Glick and Kyle Caso. As usual, the production managers were Nick Sala, president of the CITG, and Carol McCabe, vice president.

And, also as usual, the CITG raised the bar yet again on its considerable achievements over the past 13 years. We look forward to the fall season and yet another great production from this talented and dedicated group.

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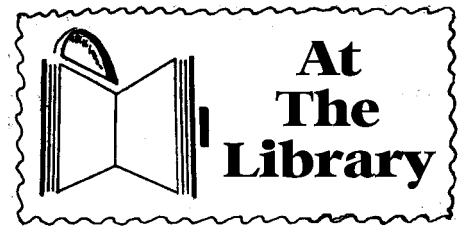


If you have a new business, or if your old business is offering a new service, write to The Current, P.O. Box 6, City Island, NY 10464 by the 10th of the month.

The **Focal Point Gallery**, 321 City Island Avenue (718-885-1403), will be exhibiting an Artist's Choice exhibition for the month of May. Art work must be in no later than Wednesday, May 3; there is a \$20 hanging fee for each piece and a 30 percent commission on each sale. There will be an opening reception on Friday, May 4, from 7 to 10 p.m.

Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery, 249 City Island Avenue (718-885-3779), prom-

ises great music, as always, on the menu for May. Included is the beginning of this year's "The Artist @" Music Series, featuring Rubber Soul, the Beatles Tribute Band, first up, at the Stuyvesant Yacht Club on Saturday, May 12, at 8 p.m. Scheduled to take the stage at the Starving Artist are The Marianettes featuring Marian Mastrorilli (of Project Mercury), on Friday, May 11, 8 p.m.; the Freakin' Ricans, Friday, May 18, 8 p.m.; Lou Volpe, the "jazz man," Sunday, May 20, 4 p.m., and the John Guth Trio, Saturday, May 26, 8 p.m. Elliott Glick continues his "Elliott & Friends" Songwriters' Afternoon; for May, two of the trio for Sunday, May 6, at 3 p.m., are Fred Gillen Jr. and Ansel Matthews. For a complete May schedule visit www.StarvingArtistOnline.com.



City Island Branch Library Events for May 2012
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Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

May Children's Programs

Lapsit Program: Two Thursdays, May 10 and 24, at 11 a.m. Birth to 18 months. All welcome for story time and music.

Story Time: Read-aloud picture books: Every Thursday, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 10.

Toddler Time: Every Tuesday, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, at 11 a.m. 18 months to 3 years.

Mother's Day Arts and Crafts: Tuesday, May 8, at 3:30 p.m. All ages.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Spooky Stories of New York State. Storyteller Robin Bady shares some haunted tales of NYS. For ages 5 and over.

May Young Adult Programs

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

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

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

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

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

SPECIAL PROGRAMS: SciLab at NYPL: Math Gaming—Chess and Tangrams. Go beyond formulas and proofs!

See how patterns build your check faster in chess. Create works of art through tessellations, and discover the hidden shapes of the tans with tangrams. No homework, no grades. Find the fun side of math. All materials will be provided. Thursday, May 3, and Thursday, May 17, at 3:30 p.m.

May Adult Programs

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

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

Introduction to Facebook: Find lost friends, make new ones. Fridays, May 4 and 18, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Lectures: Victor Mastro Presents: "Heart Throbs of the Bronx." Learn all about your favorite celebrities who were born and raised right here in the Bronx. Saturday, May 5, at 2 p.m. This program is in celebration of Annual Bronx Week.

Jeremy McCue Presents: "Gettysburg." Of all the conflicts of the Civil War, this battle and Lincoln's speech will stand out over all the rest. See and hear how Gettysburg made history and how it comes alive, on Saturday, May 19, at 2 p.m. This date is Armed Forces Day.

NEW FILM FOR MAY: "Horse of War." Young Albert enlists to serve in World War I after his beloved horse is sold to the cavalry. Albert's hopeful journey takes him out of England and across Europe as the war rages on (2011 Dreamworks 150 minutes Rated PG-13). Saturday, May 12, at 1 p.m. Seating is limited, so please sign up in person or by telephone.

We are located at 320 City Island Avenue and Bay Street. Please call the branch for any unscheduled changes, additions or cancellations: 718-885-1703



Photo by MIKE PROHASKA

Sensei Eddie (in back) was happy to congratulate the new champions of the Dragons Path Academy in-house tournament on March 31, 2012: (l. to r.): Nicholas Bruno, Serena Balassi, Sarah Stark, Jackson Wepler, Jalynn Richardson, Ezra Oquendo, Christopher Tomsen and Valentin Salas. And at the far right is the World Cup Fighting/Forms/Weapons Champion Dima Berezniuk.

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Although you can't tell from the black and white photo above, the Nautical Museum volunteers all wore one green (for starboard) and one red (for port) sock each to the press conference. The photo below shows the banner directing visitors to use the ramp until the steps are fixed.



NAUTICAL MUSEUM

Continued from page 1

cityislandmuseum.org) new photographs, videos and other interesting bits from the Open House weekend as well as from the Museum's collection.

"We need as many supporters as we can get," said Barbara Harrison Kaye, who has been spearheading the public relations aspects of the campaign. "We are reaching out to the City Island community, where support is already promised by the Chamber of Commerce, the Boy Scouts and other groups, but we also need to spread the word far and wide. Many visitors to the Museum come from other parts of the country, drawn by their interest in the wonderful exhibits relating to City Island's yacht-building history. We hope that everyone who knows

about the museum will vote for us and will ask all their friends to do so as well."

One of the special features at the Open House will be volunteers from American Express to help explain the electronic voting process and encourage visitors to vote. Voters should be aware that e-mail addresses will not be used for anything other than to validate votes and will not be saved past May 21, 2012.

As part of the campaign, the museum was selected as one of four of the 40 sites to be featured in a television series called "Secrets of New York." This segment premiered on May 1, but the show will be aired multiple times on cable TV (channel 22), in NYC Taxi TV, and NYC Media's video on demand; for more information or to stream the show, go to www.nyc.gov/html/media/html/tv/nyctv_life_secretsofnewyork.shtml.

Comedians in Cars



Photos by MARY COLBY

Jerry Seinfeld and Ricky Gervais were at the City Island Diner recently filming a scene from Jerry's new online series "Comedians in Cars." They left in Jerry's Austin Healy.

Accessing the Hutchinson River

By ELEANOR RAE

Unless we know and love a place, we are not interested in caring for it. But how can we know and love the Hutchinson River when there is no public access to it? The Hutchinson River Restoration Project (HRRP) is delighted to announce that this will soon change, thanks to the receipt of a grant to research the best site for a kayak and canoe launch on the river.

The research project is funded by a grant of \$14,206 awarded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission, in partnership with the New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program. HRRP is especially pleased to have received the grant, which is one of only two that were awarded in the New York, New Jersey and New England area.

Obtaining and implementing the grant has been a long, complicated process, beginning with an environmental data report to EPA. When this report was completed and accepted, HRRP then surveyed all of the existing kayak and canoe launching sites in the East Bronx for a total of seven. This was done in order to understand the criteria that must be considered before a site on the Hutchinson River could be selected. The next step was to survey 11 possible sites, and because winter had arrived by the time the report to EPA was accepted, much of this work had to be limited to a survey by land rather than by water.

None of the 11 potential sites exhibited all of the necessary criteria, such as proximity to population centers, shelter from wave action and man-made hazards, proximity to wildlife, and so on, but HRRP was

able to narrow the list to four that exhibited the most potential. Two of these are in Pelham Bay Park, and two are where the river flows by Co-op City, a housing complex with a population of 60,000 people. HRRP's present task is to undertake an in-depth survey of these four sites, which will be done with a professional consultant, B. Laing Associates.

A critical part of the work from the very beginning has been to determine community interest in the project, so members of HRRP have attended several events to speak about the project and to gather contact information to share with those interested in having access to the river. The next step will be to have two community meetings—one for the general public, including those who have expressed interest, and one in Co-op City, for interested residents as well as non-residents. The purpose of these meetings will be to share data, listen to ideas about these and other possible sites, and to ascertain the true interest in a kayak/canoe site. This will require a willingness to attend development meetings, to actively support boating on the Hutchinson River and to generate the political and financial support needed to make the launch a reality.

The final step of the research supported by the grant will be to devise a preliminary design for a kayak and canoe site on the river, which will be either in Pelham Bay Park or Co-op City; HRRP will not be involved in the construction of the site, for which additional funding will be required. For more information, send an e-mail to HutchinsonRRP@aol.com or telephone 718-885-9653.

EARTH DAY 2012

The following passage was written by the late Theodore John Mazaika, an Island resident who contributed the original mast-head illustration to *The Island Current*. He wrote this in honor of the first official Earth Day on April 22, 1970, and copies hang in many interesting places, including the White House and the Library of Congress. It was used in a sermon given at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, and was also adopted by the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc., an organization founded by folk singer Peter Seeger and his wife, Toshi, in 1966 in Beacon, New York. Mr. Mazaika passed away in 1998, but his message is even more meaningful now than it was over 40 years ago when he first wrote it.

Honor the Earth for she is ours, with all her wonders and joys and beauty; she is the dark tremulous source of all life, and in the end all life returns to her.

She is our Earth, our home, with her enduring hills, vast plains and deep forests, embraced by immense oceans, wreathed by white cloud-galleons, and prefixed in her journey through a timeless infinity of stars.

Honor the Earth; enjoy her magnificence; touch the Earth and feel her pulsating tremor of life; love her and cherish her. Take strength from her abundance, learn love from her beauty, find solace in her quiet sanctuaries.

Above all conserve her--for in the whole wide universe of suns and planets and galaxies and stars--she is the only home we will ever have. This is where we came into being, and this is where we must live.

© Theodore John Mazaika

pulsating tremor of life; love her and cherish her. Take strength from her abundance, learn love from her beauty, find solace in her quiet sanctuaries.

Above all conserve her—for in the whole wide universe of suns and planets and galaxies and stars—she is the only home we will ever have. This is where we came into being, and this is where we must live.



Photo by RICK DEWITT

The drama class directed by Laury Hopkins presented an original production, "Back in Time for Dinner," on April 3 at the City Island Community Center. Players are (from l. to r.): Samantha Kucerak, Johanna Doyle, Filomena Baker, Penny Smith, Rianne Phillips, Demi Mantzaris, Neva Simon, Eleni Mantzaris and Sarah Stark. Sabrina Fontana, in back, in black, did an excellent job as stage manager.

Honor the Earth for she is ours, with all her wonders and joys and beauty; she is the dark tremulous source of all life, and in the end all life returns to her.

She is our Earth, our home, with her enduring hills, vast plains and deep forests, embraced by immense oceans, wreathed by white cloud-galleons, and prefixed in her journey through a timeless infinity of stars.

Honor the Earth; enjoy her magnificence; touch the Earth and feel her

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NEW YORK BOAT SHOW 2012

By BILL CLANCY

Left the Island on the 1:55 bus from East Fordham Street on a mild January 5th. Didn't know a soul, but that has not been uncommon in recent years. Had a good view of the "fleet of five" moored off Bridge Park as I passed by. Has anyone ever seen any activity aboard those craft? Fenders are out, and sometimes a jib is partially unfurled, but there are never any boaters. I'll have to check with Danny Byrd; he's the C.I. answer man. Running up the stairs at Pelham Bay for the downtown 6, I had all the accoutrements a rider needs: a newspaper and a charged Metro card.

I always question myself about half way up the second set of stairs: "Why am I running?" It's a habit that comes from my high school days when the 7:50 bus was the "best one of the day." Best in terms of entertainment, that is. Most kids aboard were going to Mount St. Christopher on the parkway, while the Hayes men were going to 151st and the Concourse. This required two trains, thus the running. We had to be in the door at 8:40 or else be interviewed by a feared man named Jabo. This schedule could only be met if the bus was on time, the bridge was not up, some kid like George McGuire did not fall or jump out of a back window while the bus was stopped or the IRT had no delays that day. You'd have better odds with the Pick 4 of the Lotto. Talk about long-lasting conditioned behavior! Wow!

Took the N train from 59th Street to Times Square and walked over to 36th and 11th. Saw a lot of construction along the way, many cranes. Hopefully many of my brother carpenters are toiling away. The 7 train is being extended from Times Square to far west on 34th Street, so there is a lot of surface disruption along the way also. I had to backtrack a few times as a few streets west of 10th Avenue were closed. We have many Islanders working as sandhogs, but it was hard to see them at 70 feet below the roadway. It will be spectacular when it is finished. I am sad, however, that we are not going to have a world-class convention center with a Super Bowl-capable stadium on top. Don't blame Mayor Mike; he tried hard!

Back to business, as I rushed in the front doors of the Javits Center. Lights! Camera! Action! The long-anticipated annual winter visit to our favorite venue: the always glitzy, mouthwateringly delicious, outrageously expensive New York Boat Show! Join me for a night of fantasy and fun!

Our first impression was that there were hardly any of the usual exhibits in the lobby. This, unfortunately, goes along with the five-day show, aka cost cutting. Economics rule the day (as always). We would have to see if it continued throughout the night (it didn't, TG). I hung my jacket in the press office and went to the exhibit area to find my stellar crew for the event. They are usually not hard to locate but are always amazed when you do. Bill 3 was spotted right away, near a nerve center. He was the first here and was quickly joined by Mike and Greg Clancy. The counterbalancing member of our crew in recent years is Gene Valesio of Schofield Street (the Billings house). As opposed to us, Geno is cool, calm and collected. Great attributes for a Clancy-minder, and he was well received upon his arrival, even though we were with him on the previous Sunday. This is a very unique City Island quirk. I cannot explain it, but we always seem to greet each other as if we hadn't met in years. This goes for all ages, both genders. One thing I know, however, is

that people like it. Non-indigenous folk, aka throggsneckers, cop on to it as well. It's a great thing!

The first stop we made was the White Water Craft exhibit. There was a lot of buzz that brought us over. It featured a big ocean-going, fish-hunting beast. 'Twas a 39-foot open boat, center console with three Yamaha 350 V8 outboards (110 gph). It had a tuna tower-like structure that put you up a stainless steel ladder to a standing platform with a 360-degree, chest-high, wrap-around stainless steel frame. This was at least 10 feet above the deck. I couldn't imagine the pendulum effect on the observer with a normal ocean swell. If Jim Livingston were assigned to the tower, his brother John would object and mercifully take it himself. As ridiculous as it seemed, so was the price—380 thousand. This could be a Navy Seal Insertion craft with a cruising speed of at least 60 knots. USN Lt. Cmdr. Matt Delany and his brothers, Brendan and Kevin, should look into the availability of such a craft in case the need for one ever arises. The perfect spot for it would be at the top of the East River, the Morris Yacht Club. Kevin Flynn and the Launching Crew would have that baby in the water one, two, three! And they'd be down at that UN Building in no time flat.

We said hello to the weathermen at the NOAA booth, which was right there. I asked if anyone remembered the No-Name storm of '92, which did a lot of damage on City Island for a non-hurricane. Next Dec. 11 will be the 20th anniversary. One of them remembered it well and went on to tell us his experience in the Boston office in September 1991 with the Perfect Storm. It was a great personal recounting of a once-in-a-lifetime event, especially for a meteorologist. I could feel the emotion in his voice. All boaters, from yachtsmen to dinghy men, felt those same emotions upon reading one of the greatest narratives of all time, "The Perfect Storm" by Sebastian Junger.

Staying on subject, the last week of this past August, I attended a convention in Minneapolis. A colleague asked me for my zip code and then gave me his iPhone. I was astounded to see a series of videos of Hurricane Irene hitting the west side of City Island. There was even a video of the man who drowned at our marina, not more than four slips away from the *Kitty Clyde*. Although there was damage along the waterfront, to boats and piers especially, we experienced nothing in comparison to the poor folks from central Jersey going north into central NY State. There are many who are still suffering the wrath of Irene and, at the present rate of progress, will be doing so into the near future. Our prayers are with them.

Bill stopped to talk to Art Cancro, Commodore of the Harlem YC. Art was working the show as a salesman for a yacht brokerage. He asked if we had visited the HYC booth, which was nearby. Bill had met Peter Trunfio, the Membership Chairman, earlier and said that they were collecting a nice list of names. I left them to wander around the southwest end of the building, where the Education Center and a few hands-on events were taking place. Fred's Shed, the interactive learning center, had all kinds of good boat info. Classes included gas engine maintenance; boat covers, canvas and upholstery; battery installation and maintenance; selection and installation of marine electronics—you get the picture. There were many subjects available, from fuel efficiency to bilge pumps, fiberglass repair to diesel main-



Photo by GREGORY CLANCY

Island Current reporter Bill Clancy longingly inspects one of the high-speed, high-priced offerings at the annual New York Boat Show on Jan. 5, 2012.

tenance and repair. I was impressed by the scope and practicality of the classes, and I hope the 2013 Show will repeat the format. Knowing how to do things is fun and can save you dinero. It could also be a course of study for high schools. Most non-academic kids would benefit from it and possibly even get employment out of it. For boaters it is another story. Most of the ones I know, even guys who couldn't tell a paint brush from a wire brush, purport to know everything. The only thing that most of them do know is John Barron's cell phone #. He really knows who knows; Jason, too.

Next to the shed was the schedule of appearances of the Swamp Brothers from the Discovery Channel, Robbie and Stephen Keszey. They are exotic animal experts who specialize in reptiles. They were going to give six demos a day on Friday and Saturday. They looked like a must-see. In the corner there were demonstrations of paddle sports by Downunder Paddling of Rowayton and Westport, Connecticut. It sounds like a trendy event that will be popular on the Upper East Side. It is an all-purpose exercise program that includes yoga. There is land paddling and, I guess, ultimately, paddleboarding. The board is like a wider and longer surfboard, maybe 2x8, while you stand on and use a long (6 foot) paddle to move. It looked as if it could be popular. We'll see this summer. Legion folks will be advised to start with the land sessions.

The last activity of note in this area was the Power Boat Docking Challenge, which consists of an irregularly shaped water tank simulating a marina with a few slips. The radio-controlled craft are about 15 inches long and are given good maneuverability with a joystick. The challenge is to pull your boat out of the slip, drive it around and reverse it back in. The crowd was mostly made up of young teenagers who were getting a kick out of embarrassing their fathers. I have been there, and, not being a masochist, I passed when offered a turn. The show program offered a few more worthwhile educational activities, but we just didn't run into them. There was a Fishing University giving tips and advice from top pros at free daily seminars. There were other activities for young skippers, such as meeting Spider Man and the best friend of Sponge Bob Square Pants, Patrick Star.

The last educational exhibit we didn't see until we left, the "Welcome to the Water Center" in the front lobby. This is aimed at new boaters who want to learn how to make the most of their time on the water and also at those with smaller budgets. What a concept! I applaud the

industry for this outreach. They offered a wide variety of subjects, ranging from operating a boat, knot tying, life preserver regs, rules of the road and marine pollution all the way to financing. The center also included expert unbiased advice from "The Boating Gal." For my own safety I will make no comment about that. If our editor emeritus, Sally Mac, were still here in N.Y., she would be the dean of that operation. I must say, however, that there are a few other gals I know who would be in contention.

The crew was finally ready to make our venture into the yacht section, and when we finished that pit stop we would be off. Geno and his friend Mike were ready; Lt. Col. Mike had called in earlier to say he had some last minute end-of-day duties and would not make it. He said for us to have a beer on him. When you get an order like that, what choice do you have but to do it?

The first thing we looked for was the Tiara exhibit. Islander Mary Dannegger was on duty there, and we always say hello. Sometimes the exhibit is very crowded, so we didn't wait, but this night Mary was able to take us right up and in. This was a beyond beautiful 43-footer going for 900 Gs. There was also a 31-footer available for 600 Gs too. The all-wood interiors of these craft are so beautiful, so perfectly varnished that one might possibly think you were looking at plastic. While we visit Mary, we always have a picture taken for *The Current*. I don't know who didn't have the camera but all we had was Greg's cell phone. Wait till Editor Barbara sees these. As we left the Tiara space, we said hello to a very attractive lady, who turned out to be Gina Giacchetto (now Barnett) formerly of Centre Street. She sent her best to all her old friends.

The "Queen of the Show" was nearby and we just had to see her. This beautiful 54-foot Sea Ray Sundancer was also the largest in the building. Valued at 1.4 mil, she redefines what a modern express cruiser should be: a sleek and distinctive exterior; an inviting and thoughtful interior; flexible entertaining spaces; and many innovative features. All hail to the Queen! Sea Ray is a modern company, 52 years old, with one of the largest lines in the business. From 18 feet up to 61 feet, they offer 36 models. Chris Craft, always one of best-looking watercraft, was offering 17 models ranging from 20 to 36 feet. Founded in 1874 by Chris Smith, one of the original pioneers of pleasure boating, a Chris Craft was the boat to have (if you had the money).

I've told the story many times that City Island had the largest Chris dealer

Continued on page 16

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

MAY

Sat. and Sun., May 5 and 6, **Museum Open House**, noon to 5 p.m. both days, City Island Nautical Museum, 190 Fordham Street.

Sat. May 5, **78th Anniversary of Temple Beth-El Dinner**, Pelham Split Rock Golf Course, 101 City Island Avenue, 7 p.m.

Tues., May 8, **Blood Drive**, Trinity Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street at City Island Avenue, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Bronx Masons.

Sat., May 12, **Spring Café and Tag Sale**, Grace Church, City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sat., May 12, **Girl Scout Plant Sale**, 210 City Island Avenue, in front of the Little League field, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thurs., May 17, **Cancer Bingo**, American Legion, 550 City Island Avenue, 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Thurs., May 17, **Community Board 10 meets**, 7:30 p.m. Providence Rest, 3304 Waterbury Avenue.

Sat., May 19, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: Pasta with meatballs or meat sauce.

Thurs., May 24, **Garden Club Luncheon**, City Island Yacht Club, Pilot Street, 12 noon.

Mon., May 28, **Memorial Day Parade**, 2:30 p.m., sponsored by the American Legion.

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

JUNE

Sat., June 2, **Spring Clothing Drive**, 241 City Island Avenue, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Bronx Masons.

Sat. and Sun., June 2 and 3, **Arts and Crafts Fair**, City Island Avenue. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Trinity United Methodist Church

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

The Budget Corner is grateful to the many friends who donate their gently used items and come by to shop. It has been so busy that it will now be open on occasional Fridays! The schedule is May 1, 5, 11, 15, 19, 25 and 29. Remember the Budget Shop during your spring cleaning! Donations to and proceeds from the Budget Shop help Trinity to continue in programs and outreach on City Island.

Rick DeWitt

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

His Excellency Bishop Dominick Lagonegro visited St. Mary's on Tuesday afternoon, May 1, to administer the sacrament of Confirmation to 37 eighth-graders in our religious education program and in St. Mary's School. We congratulate our young people on this special event in their lives.

Our Holy Hour this month with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Friday, May 4, from 4 to 5 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

On Mothers' Day, Sunday, May 13, we will honor all our mothers with a special blessing at all our Masses.

Saturday, May 19, will be an important day in the life of our second-graders and their families. On that day, our children will receive their First Holy Communion. Mass will be at 9:30 a.m. for St. Mary's School

children and at 11:30 a.m. for our children in our religious education program.

The following day, May 20, these children will participate in a special procession at our Sunday 10 o'clock Mass, when our parish will honor Our Blessed Mother during the month of May. We will crown the statue of Our Lady and honor her as the patroness of our parish. Following the Mass, our First Communicants and their families will partake of a Communion breakfast in our school gym.

Our Religious Education Program for this year will come to an end on Wednesday, May 23. Report cards and awards will be distributed that day. We wish all our young people a happy and healthy summer.

Happy Memorial Day and happy summer to all!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Temple Beth-El

The 78th anniversary of the founding of Temple Beth-El of City Island will be celebrated on Saturday, May 5, 2012. The gala dinner-dance will be held at Pelham Split Rock Golf Course and will honor Rabbi Shohama Wiener and her stimulating 10 years with us. We will also be honoring Island residents Aimee Breen of Seafood City and Violet Smith and dancing to music by the Lickety Split Band. Thus starts the merry month of May!

Actually, the dinner-dance is just one part of a special "Gems of Holiness" Shabbaton weekend. We will celebrate the holiness of our community with song and dance, prayer and learning, special services and workshops, luncheons and perhaps a sail or two—all showing tremendous love for our rabbi and community.

From May 4 through May 6, "Gems Of Holiness" weekend, we will also celebrate Rabbi Shohama's 70th birthday. For information about this special weekend's activities, please call Paul Klein at 718-885-3090 or visit our website, www.yourshulbythesea.org. It's not too late to come on board.

Other events for this busy month include Sabbath services each Friday night at 7:30 p.m., including a special pre-Memorial Day service with Reb David and the officers and members of the Leonard H. Hawkins Post 156 of the American Legion on May 18. Our doors are open to all and we follow the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, primarily in English, with easy-to-read typeface and singable Hebrew.

On Sunday, May 20, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., we will have an "Age-ing to Sage-ing" workshop, in which we will learn how to reveal the sage within each of us. The last of four sessions led by Reb David. Free to members, \$10 for non-members.

Reb David will also lead the Kabbalat Shabbat service on Friday, June 1, and preside over the Saturday service and Bat Mitzvah of Gabrielle Gallardo on June 2 at 10 a.m. All are invited.

Rabbi Shohama and Reb David will lead the Kabbalat Shabbat service on June 15. Happy sailing.

Bob Berent

Cub Scout Troop 211

As the scouting year began to wind down, the pack still enjoyed some exciting and challenging experiences. On the weekend of March 24 and 25, Troop 211 and Pack 211 combined their camping trips for the first time. The Boy Scouts showed some great leadership and taught the younger Cub Scouts some important skills, which they will remember for years to come.

The pack's theme this year has been "patriotism." To cap off this symbolic year, 16 families of Pack 211 went to our nation's capital for four days, from April 11 through



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Trinity Methodist Church held its traditional sunrise service at Pelham Cemetery on Easter Sunday, April 8.

14. Although the cherry trees had already bloomed, thanks to the early warm weather, the scouts nonetheless had a very rewarding time. They were able to experience the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. The scouts were in awe when they learned the meaning of the symbolic moves that the guards perform, and they were extremely respectful during the entire solemn visit to the nation's most revered burial grounds. They also visited the JFK gravesite and saw the eternal flame. With their families, the scouts visited the Capitol Building, along with the many museums that Washington has to offer. Stay tuned for more exciting news.

Angelo Bellocchio

Rotary Club of the Bronx

The Rotary Club of the Bronx has had a dynamic year so far under the leadership of President Debby Appel. Restructuring of the weekly programming process has led to a greater diversity of speakers and even a field trip meeting at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum.

We have instituted a program with St. Mary, Star of the Sea School, providing them with new books for their library on a weekly basis signed by our guest speaker of the week. We have supported R.A.I.N., the Bronx YMCA and the Foundation for Sight and Sound (which fits and provides free hearing aids for Bronx residents through Montefiore Hospital). Another program we support is Educate!, which develops young leaders and entrepreneurs in Uganda by providing long-term mentorship and two-years of training to help high school students start enterprises that solve poverty, disease, violence and environmental degradation. We have provided scholarships for Bronx residents studying in Bronx colleges and universities and collected books for the VA Hospital library and clothing and food for Hurricane Irene disaster relief with the Rotary Club of Oriental, NC.

The Rotary also refurbished a school and built sanitary facilities in Owerri, Nigeria, in partnership with the Owerri Rotary Club, and we are finishing drilling a well in Abagana, Nigeria, to serve the local villagers, who previously had to walk eight miles to collect water. And last, but by no means least, we are proud to have provided life-saving heart surgeries for 13 children since 2001. Want to change the world? Join us!

All this activity means there is a lot of fund-raising to do. The club would like to invite any and all persons to our President's/ Paul Harris Dinner - "Some Enchanted Evening", which will be held at the Pelham Split Rock Golf Course on June 26. The evening will start with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m. followed by dinner. Throughout the evening, Islander and master magician David Fletcher will be performing close-up, interactive magic, as well as entertaining "center stage." Where else can you get world-class cuisine, entertainment and a beautiful party venue for the low price of \$104.09 per person? (Yes, that's an odd amount, but the

Bronx Club is the 409th club chartered.)

If you are looking for a great evening out with friends that supports an incredible array of important works at the same time, please call Mary Springman at 718-617-1600 and ask for information about "Some Enchanted Evening."

Additionally, the Rotary Club of the Bronx is excited to have just launched a ground-breaking fund-raiser called the Fellowship of the Traveling Painting. An original oil painting was created by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner and Rotarians world-wide can log onto www.travelingpainting.com to purchase Special Custodianship of the painting. Custodians can keep the painting in their possession for up to one week, after which they mail it onto the next Rotarian who has signed up for custodianship. Each custodian is asked to take a picture or make a video of themselves with the painting in a significant setting and e-mail it back for posting on the site, along with their commentary. In this way, Rotarians will be making contacts all over the world, having a bit of fun, and all the while raising some funds for the Bronx Club's good works. Non-Rotarians can follow the travels by periodically checking the website. It should be interesting!

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

The Spring/Summer items will be ongoing. Gently used spring and summer clothing, shoes, bags, linens, household appliances, CD's, tapes, records, books and bric a brac are all on display. During May our special sale will be the \$5 bag sale and a buy one get one book sale. Look for additional specials posted when you visit. Come by and check out the new additions and enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee. Remember that donations are always greatly appreciated.

Arlene Byrne

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Overeaters Anonymous:

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



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

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

May Movie Night: "City Island," Friday, May 11, 7:30 p.m. \$2 per ticket. Concessions are available. For more information, please e-mail BxShanley@optonline.net or call 917-721-8747.

Uptown Coffeehouse: Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 at the door or you can pay on PayPal through our website: www.uptowncoffeehouse.org. Dates: May 6, June 3.

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

Multi-vendor Indoor Tag Sale: May 20, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. E-mail cityislandcommunitycenter.org for a table.

NEW CLASSES

Art and Craft Classes: Pre-school class and a K-2 class designed to improve cognitive skills and confidence. Fun, fun, fun for everyone with classes that will ignite the imagination, featuring painting, collage, paper sculpturing, printmaking and many other projects. Thursdays in May and June. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914- 633-1695.

Introducing Fashion Designing: Fashion design classes will include the creation of a fashion journal, including a brief introduction to the history of fashion. There will be an introduction to textile design, including tie dying and texture creations that will be applied to the final fashion show. Thursdays in May and June. For registration and more information, call Eileen Stodut at 914- 633-1695.

Introduction to Art Portfolio Prep: For high school prep or just for fun! Five Mondays, May 7, 14, 21 and June 4 and 11, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Taught by Geri Smith, former LaGuardia H.S. teacher and exam auditioner. \$75.00 for five- week session; \$25.00 materials fee. (After the session ends, students may take materials home.) For registration or more information, call 718-885-1503.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

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

ADULT PROGRAM

Fit For Life: A balanced cardio and strength-training class for all experience levels. Classes are offered Tuesday and Thursday 4 to 5 p.m. For any questions, please call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122. Classes are \$8.

Zumba with Letti: Thursdays at 6 p.m. Letti is a fantastic Zumba instructor who brings a lot of creativity and energy to her

classes. Classes are \$10 or a five-class card for \$40.

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

Zumba Gold: A fun-filled dance/exercise session with a salsa beat. Meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Geared for ages 50 and up. Fee for the class is \$4.

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

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

Tap Dance: Intermediate level adult Jazz-Tap class with Corinne Grondahl. Let your feet become a musical instrument! Tuesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. Call 718-309-8041.

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

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

Amy Gottlieb

AARP CHAPER #318

AARP Chapter 318 meets the first and third Wednesday of each month in Trinity United Methodist church Hall at 1pm. Meetings in May will take place on May 2 and May 16. Come and enjoy an afternoon with friends. New members are always welcome

Rosetta Woods

Ladies Auxiliary of American Legion

Our next auxiliary meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Post. Our upcoming Cancer Bingo will be an important topic on the agenda. The event will be held on Thursday, May 17, with set-up the night before. Please bring any prizes or donations with you to the meeting as they all have to be wrapped and organized in advance of the Bingo.

Our recent Memorial Service was a tremendous success, with many deceased members being honored by their family members and the Auxiliary. A touching and meaningful event for everyone involved.

Memorial Day is coming up on Monday, May 28, and we look forward to marching in our annual parade. Stop by or call the Post for more details. Thank you and happy spring to all.

Regina Murphy

City Island Theater Group

There is one more weekend to see the City Island Theater Group's production of David Auburn's "Proof." The story of mental illness clashing with both grief and genius

SEASONAL SCOUTS

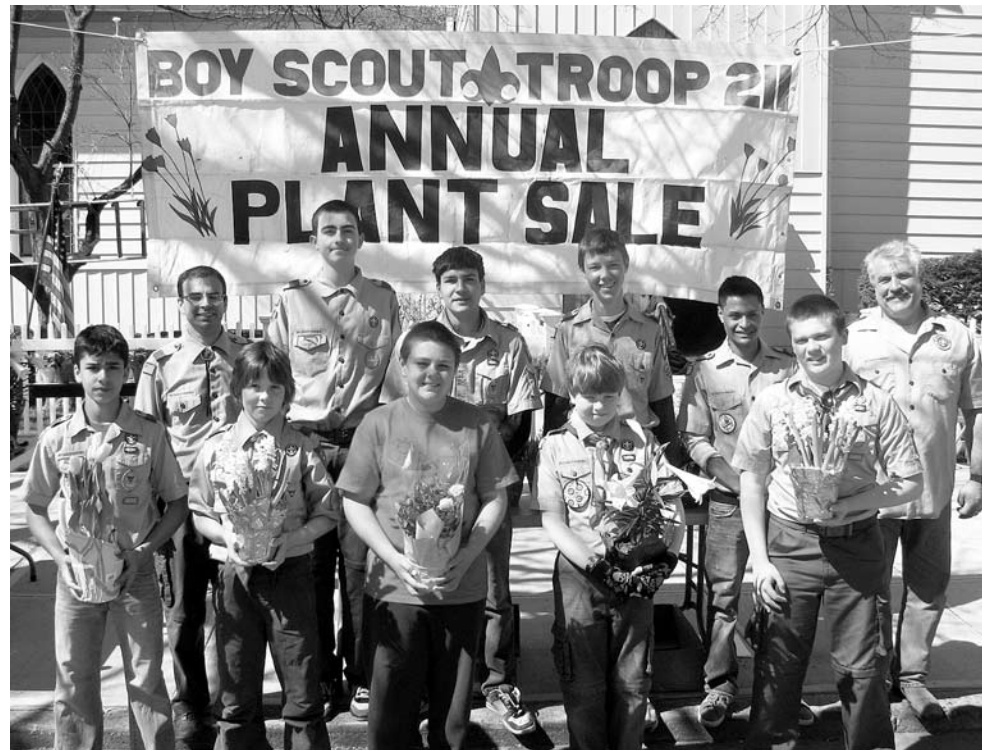


Photo by PAUL NANI

The annual Boy Scout Flower sale bloomed from April 5-7, 2012, in front of Trinity Methodist Church. Scoutmaster Waldo Persteins is grateful for the support of Islanders and visitors who snatched up the many perennials and made the sale, once again, a successful fund-raiser for Troop 211. Shown above are (front row, l. to r.): Mike Bellocchio, Andrew Mashchenko, Michael Lionardo, Jack Green and Dan Green. Back row: Scoutmaster Persteins, Brendan Patterson, Nicholas Bellocchio, Michael O'Connor, Omar Garcia and assistant scoutmaster Angelo Bellocchio.

provides an evening of moving theater.

Planning for the fall production of George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart's comedy "The Man Who Came to Dinner" has already begun. This is the story of Sheridan Whiteside, an overbearing and self-centered celebrity who slips on ice at a house party and is forced to recuperate in the host's home during the Christmas holidays. Many amusing side stories add to the turmoil and confusion, which will require a large and talented cast. As always, the Theater Group looks forward to the challenge.

Look for us on the Bronx Seaside Trolley as we join with the City Island Nautical Museum in their step campaign on May 5 and 6, as well as our first appearance in the American Legion's Memorial Day Parade on May 28.

Mary McIntyre

PSS Senior Programs

Healthy Exercise Program: You can attend all classes for \$20 per month or all classes for \$6 per week. Or for individual classes you may contribute \$2 for exercise and \$4 for dance. The schedule is as follows:

Zumba Gold with Stephanie on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. at the City Island Community Center; Cardio Fitness with Mary on Tuesdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Sittercise with Patty on Tuesdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Orchard Beach Walk on Wednesdays, leaving Pilot Street at 9:30 a.m.; Yoga Stretch with Michael on Thursdays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall; Arthritis Exercise with Patty on Thursdays at 10:30 at Grace Church Hall; Fit for Life with Sarah on Fridays at 9:30 at Grace Church Hall.

Senior Writing Group: The writing group resumes on May 29. It meets on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Grace Church Hall. The topic for May 29 is "my favorite vacation." For further information or to sign up, please call group leader Gail Hitt at 718-885-0444.

Volunteering: Please think about volunteering for one of our senior programs. We need help in many areas, including clerical and computer, reception, telephoning, visiting and help with parties and events, to name a few.

Telephone Reassurance: If you live alone or know someone who lives alone, a telephone call every day might be of benefit. Please call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Caregivers' Support. If you are caring for someone or you know someone who is caring for another, we have some supportive

services that might be helpful, including respite, escort assistance and shopping assistance. Please call Patty at 718-885-1891.

Transportation Services. Call Anthony Mazzella at 347-834-6466 a day ahead for Island and off-Island trips. Regular afternoon shopping trips are Monday: Bay Plaza or Stop & Shop; Wednesday: Key Food on Shore Road; Thursday: Shop Rite in New Rochelle. Trips are also made to Fairway, Target, Trader Joe's, Home Depot, Cross County Shopping Center, the Christmas Tree Shop, Empire City and more. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island, and \$2.50 off Island.

Program Services: Call Patty at 718-885-1891 to receive our detailed monthly calendar featuring trips and events, such as group theater discounts, including "George M" at Westchester Dinner Theater on June 21. Are you interested in going to see the Yankees or Mets and to sit in good seats at great prices? Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services, the NYC Department for the Aging.

Patty Grondahl

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Church celebrates Holy Communion every Sunday at 10 a.m. We also offer evening prayer in the church every Monday at 7 p.m. Wednesday morning prayer is suspended until further notice.

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

Sunday, May 6, Lambs Babysitting available, beginning at 9:50 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Thursday, May 10, 6 to 8 p.m. drop off all good-quality new and gently used items for the tag sale on Saturday, May 12, in Grace Church Hall.

Friday, May 11, 6 to 8 p.m. drop off items for tag sale.

Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Spring Tag sale and café. Breakfast will be served from 10 to 11 a.m. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be baked goods for sale from the parish kitchens. For more information, call 718-885 -1280 and someone will get back to you.

Monday, May 14, 7:15 p.m. Hearts and Hands in Grace Church Hall. All are welcome to join this knitting group, which provides caps, shawls and lap robes for patients at Calvary Hospital.

Scott Meyer



Photo by LESLIE J. GALLO

Many Islanders attended the Easter egg hunt held at the Bronx Equestrian Center in Pelham Bay Park on Saturday, April 7, 2012. Enjoying the hunt, along with pony rides, a petting zoo and a carriage ride were (l. to r.): Dana Faulkner, Travis Prohaska, Brenda Prohaska, the Easter Bunny, Marcy Brennen and Mitchell Santiago.



A Selected Filmography of Sandra Bullock

I first noticed Sandra Bullock in the predictable comedy **Love Potion No. 9** (1992), with a screenplay by Dale Launer, the writer of **My Cousin Vinny** and **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**. Paul (Tate Donovan), a shy biochemist, and Diane (Bullock), an animal psychologist who is also shy, find themselves in possession of a love potion that works on chimpanzees. They agree to test it out on themselves, with expected results – but Bullock's transformation is well done.

Demolition Man (1993) is a sci-fi action adventure film wherein a notorious LAPD cop, John Spartan (Sylvester Stallone), known as "the demolition man" and psychopath Simon Phoenix (Wesley Snipes), are cryogenically frozen to remove them from society. The film shifts to the future world of 2032, in a world where there is no poverty, Arnold Schwarzenegger was (at one time) president of the United States, and Taco Bell is the sole survivor of the Franchise Wars. When Phoenix is defrosted, the police of that time are totally unequipped to deal with him. Bullock appears as Lenina Huxley, a cop with a nostalgic fascination for 20th-century culture who makes us smile.

The film that really put Bullock on the map is **Speed** (1994), in which she co-stars as Annie, a passenger on a bus. When the driver is shot and a bomb is discovered on board that will detonate if the speed goes below 50 mph, she is enlisted to drive the bus. Keanu Reeves saves the day as LAPD bomb-squad expert Jack Traven. Jeff Daniels is on hand as his partner, Harry Temple, and Dennis Hopper is appropriately cast as the mad bomber, Howard Payne.

While You Were Sleeping (1995) is romantic comedy starring Bullock as Lucy, a love-starved subway token-booth operator, who pines for a regular customer, the self-absorbed attorney Peter Callaghan (Peter Gallagher). After Lucy makes a daring rescue, she watches over

him as he lies comatose in the hospital; a comment she makes at his bedside is misinterpreted, and she allows his family members to believe that she is his fiancée. And just to complicate matters, Lucy takes a liking to Peter's brother Jack (Bill Pullman).

Anyone who has ever been trapped in a never-ending telephone tree, when a computer-generated voice answers the phone, will enjoy the technophobic idea behind **The Net** (1995). Bullock stars as a meek computer expert named Angela Bennett, who stumbles across a program so powerful it can tamper with Wall Street, air-traffic control and the Federal government. When the program's evil owners come after her, the computers eat her identity.

In **A Time to Kill** (1996), Carl Lee Hailey (Samuel L. Jackson) takes the law into his own hands after the legal system fails to adequately punish the men who brutally raped and beat his daughter. Hailey's case is handled by Jake Brigrance (Matthew McConaughey), despite the efforts of the NAACP and local black leaders to persuade Carl to choose some of their high-powered legal help. When death threats force his family to leave town, Brigrance accepts the help of pushy young know-it-all lawyer Ellen Roark (Sandra Bullock).

In **28 Days** (2000), Bullock stars as New York newspaper columnist Gwen Cummings, an alcoholic who really likes to party. At the wedding of her sister (Elizabeth Perkins), Gwen's drinking gets totally out of hand and results in a court-ordered 28-day stay in a rehabilitation facility for drug and alcohol abusers. There she meets Eddie Boone (Viggo Mortensen), a baseball player who is trying to deal with his own substance abuse problems.

A favorite guilty pleasure of mine is **Miss Congeniality** (2000). Gracie Hart (Bullock) is an FBI agent with no friends except her partner, Eric Matthews (Benjamin Bratt). When she is assigned to infiltrate a Miss United States pageant after a terrorist threatens to bomb it, she is magically and comically transformed by Victor Melling (Michael Caine), a pompous consultant. The film features television icons William Shatner and Candice Bergen in supporting roles as the pageant directors.

Two Weeks Notice (2002) is a romantic comedy that stars Hugh Grant as the fabulously wealthy George Wade, whose construction company is constantly protested against by Harvard Law School graduate Lucy Kelson (Sandra Bullock). In exchange for a promise not to tear down

her local community center, Lucy goes to work for him, to the dismay of her liberal lawyer parents (Robert Klein and Dana Ivey).

In a more serious vein, **Crash**, which won the Oscar for best picture of 2005, is an R-rated, violent, heart-wrenching, dramatic film with an excellent ensemble cast. Set in present-day Los Angeles, it tells many inter-locking stories. Bullock plays Jean, wife of district attorney Rick Cabot (Brendan Fraser), who is car-jacked. Then there is a locksmith (Michael Pena), who is a loving father and a good provider whom many people regard with distrust because he is Mexican-American. Farhad (Shaun Toub) is a Persian who speaks little English and believes that everyone is out to cheat him. Officer Ryan (Matt Dillon) is struggling to help his ailing father, and his rookie partner, Officer Hansen (Ryan Phillippe), is horrified when he is forced to participate in the hassling of a black couple, a television director (Terrence Dashon Howard) and his light-skinned wife (Thandie Newton). The strongest performance in the film comes from Don Cheadle, as Officer Graham, who is trying to take care of his addict mother, to find his missing brother and to solve the crimes he encounters. What is astonishing about this film is that the stereotypes we observe are the ones in our own minds, as the behavior we expect to see from each of the characters is not necessarily what transpires. This is a film not of black and white, but of grays and the dispelling of our own stereotypes.

The Lake House (2006) is a fantastical time-travel romance that reunites Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock, who survived that harrowing bus ride 12 years previously in **Speed** (1994). When the film begins, Bullock's character, Kate, a stressed-out physician, moves out of the architectural curiosity that gives the picture its title and leaves a note in the mailbox for the next tenant. Reeves's Alex is a real estate developer who turns out to be the previous tenant. An unexplained wrinkle in the space-time continuum has made it possible for Kate in 2006, to correspond with Alex in 2004, by means of handwritten letters placed in that mailbox.

Of course, they fall deeply and achingly in love.

The most original of Bullock's performances comes in **Infamous** (2006), the story of Truman Capote (Toby Jones) and what happens in his quest for information for "In Cold Blood," his book about the cold-blooded murder of a family in a small Kansas town. Bullock portrays his close friend Nelle Harper Lee, author of "To Kill a Mockingbird," and her performance is a marvel of observant precision. The supporting cast features Hope Davis, Isabella Rossellini and Sigourney Weaver as Capote's lady friends. Daniel Craig and Lee Pace are the murderers, and Jeff Daniels is the investigating officer on the case.

Bullock won a very well-deserved Academy Award for her performance in **The Blind Side** (2009). She stars as Leigh Anne Tuohy, a white Memphis decorator who takes pity on homeless black high school student, Michael Oher (Quinton Aaron), and welcomes him into her home, with the support of her husband, Sean (Tim McGraw), their daughter, Collins (Lily Collins), and the scene-stealing son, S J (Jae Head). They hire a tutor, Miss Sue (Kathy Bates), and put Michael on a path to football stardom. Seeing a TV interview with the real Tuohy family confirms what a spectacular job Bullock does with this role.

I didn't want to see **Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close** (2011), because as most New Yorkers, I am reluctant to see any films about Sept. 11, 2001. And it is a difficult film to watch. It tells the story of Oskar Schell (Jonathan Safran Foer), an 11-year-old New Yorker whose father, Thomas (Tom Hanks), died in the second tower. The film does an excellent and painful job of portraying emotional sequellae in a post-9/11 child. Bullock is Oscar's mother, Linda, who struggles to connect with her son who is obsessed with his father. When Oscar finds a key among his father's things, he goes on a quest to see what it opens. The film has a splendid emotional payoff and an unexpected ending, which ultimately made it worth watching, at least it did for me.

And until next time, happy viewing...

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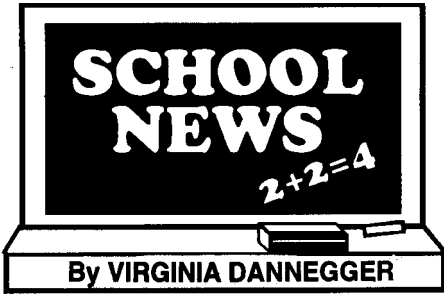
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St. Mary, Star of the Sea School

Congratulations to Leah Mastin, Grade 2, for her experiment "Germs," which earned her a third-place finish in the Mount St. Michael Bronx Science Fair. Congratulations also go to Jaylen Lopez, Grade 3, for his third-place finish for his experiment "Which Diaper Holds the Most Water."

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by Bishop Lagonegro on May 1 at 4 p.m. for nine students. Grades K and 1 will be going to the Brooklyn Children's Museum on Thursday, May 3. Also on May 3, Grade 8 will travel to Washington, D.C.

First Friday Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. on May 4, and on Friday evening, May 11, all grades will take part in a Spring Night of the Arts, which will feature the choir, band and an art exhibition. Tuesday, May 15, will find Grades 4 and 5 touring the State Capitol in Albany. Pre-K is planning a family picnic this month.

Progress reports for all grades will be distributed on May 16. School will be closed on May 17 for the Feast of the Ascension and again on May 18 for a Principal's Holiday. Twenty-two students will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 19, at 9:30 a.m. School will be closed on May 28 and 29 in honor of Memorial Day. The eighth grade will begin taking final exams that week, and graduation Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 8, at 7 p.m., followed by a semi-formal dinner dance at the Harlem Yacht Club. Graduation will take place on Friday, June 15, at 6 p.m.

Public School 175

Spring has arrived and our students

are in full bloom! Fifth-grade students just finished their musical production of "Dear Edwina." The two evening performances were a huge success, and we are sure that we have some students that are Broadway-bound. Our fabulous fifth-grade teachers Danielle Minor and Danielle Ramos worked with Jessica McCuiston and Katelyn Taylor from the Bronx Arts Ensemble to put on a fabulous show. We are grateful to Council Member James Vacca for the arts grant that helps to subsidize the fifth-grade play.

Our eighth-graders are putting the finishing touches on their social studies and science exit projects. In addition to a visual presentation, the students are required to do an oral presentation for their teachers. Ms. Heil and Mr. Scopp have been working alongside their students to make this a most meaningful project.

P.S. 175's school-wide Community Service Program is getting into full swing. Kindergarten students have been collecting soda tabs for Ronald McDonald House and will collaborate with an outside organization to prepare and donate sandwiches to the poor and homeless. First-graders are collecting gently used books to donate to the Jacobi Hospital Pediatric Unit, and second-graders are going to bake desserts to be donated to the POTS food drive at St. Mary's.

The third-grade students will beautify the P.S. 175 school grounds and plant flowering plants in the yard, and fourth-graders will do a walk-a-thon to raise money to donate to the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind. Students in the fifth grade will conduct a "healthy" bake sale to raise money to donate to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and sixth-graders will collect towels, sheets, blankets and dog and cat food to donate to the SPCA of Westchester. The seventh grade is participating in neighborhood clean-up activities, and the eighth grade did individual and group projects, including an Orchard Beach clean-up; assisting with the Girl and Cub Scouts; volunteer work at a nursery school, a soup kitchen, the Community Center and the American Legion;



Photo by JOHN DOYLE

The P.S. 175 Card party raised over \$12,000, and a ton of fun was had by all who attended. The organizers included (l. to r.): PTA co-presidents James Goonan and Leslie Hanley; State Senator Jeff Klein, P.S. 175 principal Amy Lipson and Card Party co-chairs Brenda Prohaska and Jenny Geros.



Photo by BRENDA PROHASKA

Several eighth-graders volunteered at the "Peace, Love & P.S. 175" Card Party at the Lido on Friday, March 23, 2012, helping to make the fund-raising event a great success (l. to r.): Ameer Baksh, Devin Dyal, Kathleen Kramer, Hannah Glick, Lily Kolb, Francesca Paradiso (kneeling), Amanda Devlin, Alexis Candelaria, Chloe Brelsford and Ashley Goldman.

and participation in walk-a-thons to raise money for breast cancer research. We are so pleased that our students give back to the community that gives so much to them!

The P.S. 175 tradition of going to Camp Greenkill will continue this year during the last week of April. Our sixth graders will spend three days learning about the environment and themselves. Ms. Fretwell, Ms. Lawless, Ms. Montenare and Mr. Lafreniere will once again accompany the students for what will be an enriching experience for both the students and themselves. We were very fortunate that Mr. Rauh will accompany our students for the 27th consecutive year!

The staff and students of P.S. 175 want to once again congratulate our remarkable PTA for their very successful 2012 card party. They worked tirelessly to put together an evening that was not only fun but also allowed the P.S. 175 community to come together in support of our school. Proceeds from the event will allow us to continue to provide our students with all of the activities that make our school a place of excellence.

Please keep in mind these important dates: On-going kindergarten registration for City Island residents continues. Please

call the school to be sure you bring the required documentation. The seventh-graders will be going to Boston on May 16. The eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C., will take place from May 30 to May 31. The kindergarten moving-up ceremony will take place on Thursday, June 21, at 9:30 a.m., followed by a family celebration with a DJ and clown. Eighth-grade graduation will take place on Friday, June 22, at 9:30 a.m. The eighth-grade dance will take place the same evening from 7 to 10 p.m.

Any community members who have gently used children's books to donate to the first-grade community-service project for Jacobi Hospital's pediatric unit may drop them off at the P. S. 175 main office.

April Citizens-of-the-Month were Isabella Reyes-Famous and Paula Cornejo (kindergarten); Natalia Tranquillo and Jessica Desgroseilliers (first grade); Olivia Chadwick and Samantha Kucerak (second grade); Haqieqat Jawando and Tristan Boga-Torres (third grade); Lauren Russell and Eleni Mantzaris (fourth grade); James McGaughan and Christine Whelan (fifth grade); Umi Shaw and Luis Ramos (sixth grade); Ethan Wolf and Elena Kola (seventh grade); Nicholas LaBriola and Catherine Langkamp (eighth grade).

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CITY ISLAND'S COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by ED STONE

The towing operation here is a simulated emergency tow in which a certified Coast Guard examiner is grading the performance of the Auxiliary crew. The operation took place between City Island and Hart Island.

Many Island residents may not be aware that there is an official Coast Guard Auxiliary flotilla right here on City Island. According to Norman J. Harris, flotilla commander for the auxiliary on City Island, the group, which meets at the Harlem Yacht Club on the second Thursday of each month, has over 40 members who volunteer with six boats that they keep at North Minneford Yacht Club.

In addition to providing educational programs for the public on maritime safety, the Auxiliary also performs vessel examinations, safety patrols and other duties in coordination with the Coast Guard, as part of the Department of Homeland Security. (The Power Squadron, which also offers boating safety programs, is a private non-profit rather than a Federal organization.)

For over 70 years, tens of thousands of men and women of the Coast Guard Auxiliary have spent millions of volunteer hours helping the Coast Guard carry out its mission. They have saved countless lives through their work, on and off the water, and they educate the public through their boating safety classes and vessel safety checks. Since 1996, the Auxiliary has also been assigned to assist the Coast Guard in performance of its numerous functions.

The Coast Guard "Reserve" was authorized by an act of Congress in 1939 and was given a legislative mandate to use civilian volunteers with motorboats or yachts to promote safety on and over the high seas and the nation's navigable waters. Two years later, the Reserve was designated a military branch of the active service, and the civilian volunteers became the Auxiliary.

When America entered World War II, 50,000 Auxiliary members joined the war effort, guarding waterfronts, carrying out coastal picket patrols, rescuing survivors from scuttled ships and anything else they were asked to do. Many of their private vessels were placed in service. After the war, Auxiliary volunteers resumed their recreational boating safety duties, which included vessel examination, education, operations and fellowship.

The vessel examination program evolved into the well-known Vessel Safety Check (VSC), a free examination available to any recreational boater. VSCs help boaters ensure their craft complies with Federal regulations regarding safety equipment requirements. As for education, the Auxiliary teaches boating safety to recreational boaters of all ages, offering courses in boating skills and seamanship for power boaters and sailing courses, as well as basic and advanced navigation courses.

The Auxiliary operates safety and regatta

patrols and is an integral part of the Coast Guard Search and Rescue team. They also stand communication watches, assist during mobilization exercises, perform harbor and pollution patrols, provide platforms for unarmed boarding parties and recruit new people for the service.

Flotilla commander Harris was pleased to tell *The Current* that "more than 40 people attended the safety seminar sponsored by the City Island Yacht Club on Sunday, April 1. Attendees turned in outdated emergency flares and practiced live firing of visual distress signals." The flotilla recently completed a public course at the Harlem

Yacht Club on boating safety for more than 16 participants, who all received New York State Boating Certification.

Membership in the Auxiliary is open to men and women 17 years or older, including U.S. citizens of all states and territories, civilians or active duty or former members of any of the uniformed services and their reserve components. The flotilla is the basic organizational unit of the Auxiliary and comprises

at least 15 qualified members who carry out Auxiliary program activities under a flotilla commander.

Those who would be interested in volunteering for the Coast Guard Auxiliary are invited to attend one of the meetings at the Harlem Yacht Club or to call Norman Harris, the commander of Flotilla 05-04, at 718-312-9657 or e-mail uscgaux140504@gmail.com.

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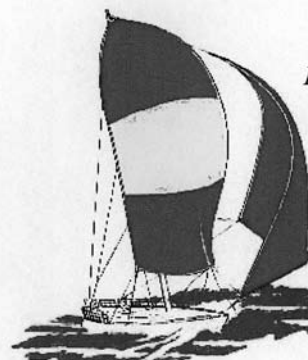



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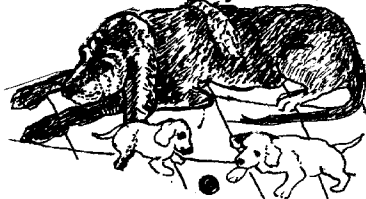
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Photo by GARY MAKUFKA

The ASPCA van stopped by City Island on Wednesday, April 11, and was able to neuter 15 cats and 10 dogs. The van, whose visit was arranged by Yolanda Cirulli (above), performs a much-needed service to the community.



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THE GREEN-HAIRED PEA BRAINS

The honeybees of City Island Gold are at it again. They have been regular visitors to our garden for years now. This year we noticed them particularly in and around the candytuft, basket of gold and grape hyacinth. With flowers like that, is it any wonder that the honey produced by these industrious insects tastes as good as it does? Look for it soon in select City Island shops.

Fortunately for fans of City Island Gold, the honeybees steered clear of the green hair algae that is everywhere we have looked on the beaches this spring. (Imagine the taste if they hadn't!) You may have noticed it, too, at low tide. It looks exactly as its name would indicate, which is to say that it looks as if the rocks on the beaches have grown green hair.

At high tide you may have noticed the bubbles, which we think are caused by gases that are being released by decomposing algae. Some have speculated that our mild winter can explain all the extra algae, but we suspect the crabs. Their absence, that is. The crabs that some fishermen use for bait would otherwise be eating the green-haired

algae.

The ospreys that have been nesting regularly in the transformer over the Amtrak train tracks are also at it again. Maria saw three of them in a tree within the Bartow traffic circle. Only two have been seen in the nest. Once we saw one of them being harassed by a seagull, probably for the fish it was bringing home. What goes around comes around, though: we also saw a crow harassing a seagull.

Be on the lookout for the crow's close cousin and the most recent blackbird to call New York City home: the raven. Pairs of ravens have been mating successfully in Queens for a few years now. The closest they have come to City Island is Co-op City, where a nesting pair has been reported. Although crows and ravens are often confused, here are two ways to tell the difference. First, the beak of a raven is bigger, bulkier, more Jimmy Durante-like. Also, ravens are much more likely than crows to feed on road kill, which always seems more plentiful in the mating season. Call it the agony of ecstasy.

The great-horned owls that have been calling the woods at Orchard Beach home for a number of years now produced two owlets this year. For some amazing pictures and a sad reminder of the pea brains we sometimes must share this planet with, check out www.cityislandbirds.com. Male and female wild turkeys have been spotted in close proximity of one another as well. Expect another family of poults in the woods this summer, that is, if the predators or pea brains don't get to them first.

As always, we welcome your feedback and invite your input at jdsstrat@msn.com.

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MR. AMERICA'S PERSONAL TRAINING

By BUTCH NIEVES

Make Sure Your Fitness Plan Is Smart

If you are reading this, you know how important exercise is. However, there are right ways to exercise and there are wrong ways. In order to get the greatest benefit from your workout and prevent possible injury, you've got to do it the right way. What is the right way? You're about to find out.

You have heard the phrase "No pain, no gain." But this isn't exactly true for exercise. Actually, exercising doesn't have to cause pain in order to get you in shape. If you are just beginning to exercise, a little muscle soreness is to be expected. But don't give up. Work through it and stick with your exercise routine. In a few days the soreness should be gone for good. If you ever do experience severe pain while exercising, stop until it goes away. If it lasts for more than a few days, see your doctor.

Balanced exercise plan. What does a balanced exercise plan look like to you? Is walking 30 minutes four days a week enough? Lifting weights four times a week? In a word, no. There are actually three components of a balanced workout routine: aerobic, strength-training, and flexibility exercises.

Aerobic or cardio exercises strengthen your lungs and heart. Examples include running, walking, swimming, cycling, and basketball.

Strength or resistance training exercises keep your bones and muscles strong and help with coordination and balance. Strength training refers to weight lifting, weight machines, resistance bands, and body-weight exercises.

The third part of a balanced exercise routine includes flexibility exercises to reduce your risk of injury and improve your body's range of motion. Examples include stretching, yoga, and tai chi.

It doesn't matter in what order you perform your aerobic and strength-training exercises, unless you have specific goals. Working on endurance? Go cardio first. Trying to get stronger or burn calories? Hit the weights first. Just be sure to incorporate all three types of exercise each week.

Warm up and cool down. If you don't

warm up before exercising or cool down afterwards, you could harm your muscles. The best way to get your muscles ready for exercising is to include a brief time of light aerobics such as brisk walking or steady cycling to get your breathing and heart rate slightly elevated.

To cool down, continue exercising at a slower pace or lower level of intensity for about 5 to 10 minutes. Then end with a few gentle stretches to loosen your muscles, ligaments, and tendons. A cool-down period will help your muscles recover and help prevent injury or soreness.

Target Heart Rate. To get the greatest benefit from your workout, it is important to exercise at your target heart rate zone. To determine your target heart rate, you must first find your maximum heart rate. To do this, subtract your age from 220. Your target heart rate is 50 to 85 percent of your maximum heart rate. For example, if you are 40 years old, your maximum heart rate is 180 and your target heart rate is between 90 and 153 beats per minute.

To measure your pulse, place your fingers on your wrist or on the arteries on your neck and count how many beats you feel per minute, or double the number of beats in 30 seconds.

Sports drink or water? Your body requires plenty of fluids before, during and after exercise. Try to drink at least 20 ounces of water several hours before your workout and eight more ounces about a half hour before your workout. Then drink about 10 ounces of water every 10 to 20 minutes during exercise.

During normal everyday exercise, water is usually the best for rehydrating. But when you exercise intensely for more than an hour, sports drinks are as good or even better. Sports drinks contain a high amount of carbohydrates, which provide energy. They also help to replace the electrolytes lost from sweating.

A growing body of research continues to confirm links between exercise and improved brain function. So in addition to making you stronger, leaner, sexier and more confident, your time at the gym will actually make you smarter.

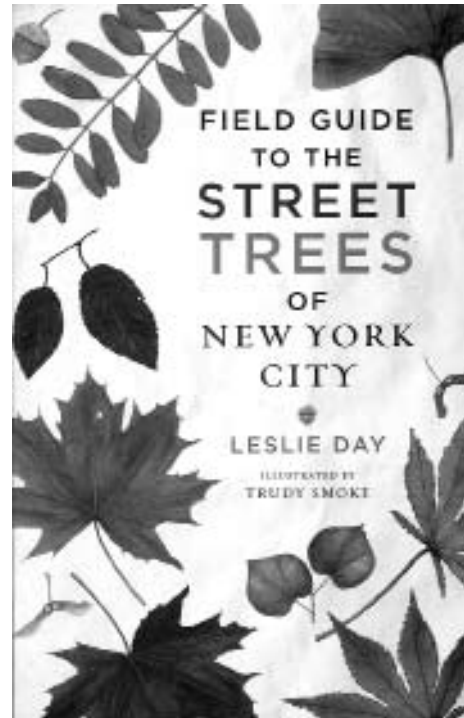
upbeat, brighter and, with the remodeling job completed, more open and clean looking. Greg commented that we saw hardly any fly bridges (interesting), and because of all the shiny white fiberglass we saw, he recommends that maybe we should think about trading in our almost 40-year-old *Kitty Clyde*. I'm a lot older than that, so maybe I'll be part of the trade. We'll tell you about that at another time too. Gene is very partial to the tug boat-looking trawler-type craft, and he reported that he saw a few of them. Now that he's retired he has some extra time and cash to put to good use.

Greg had his car downtown, so we had a nice ride home. Up the West Side, east on 95N to 5B to C.I. in about 25 minutes. Not bad! We'll check in at the Post, and Mike DeRosa from Ditmars Street will fill us in on what we missed while we were downtown. Even in the winter, the air feels better when you cross the bridge. We're blessed!

A Current Review

"Field Guide to the Street Trees of New York City"

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Field Guide to the Street Trees of New York City

by Leslie Day with illustrations by Trudy Smoke

Johns Hopkins University Press
\$24.95 (\$16.42 on Amazon.com)

When people think of New York City, trees are not the first residents that come to mind, but there are hundreds of thousands of them in the city and Mayor Bloomberg wants to plant a million more.

This beautiful and extremely useful book is devoted to fifty of the species of trees that can be found on the streets of New York, illustrated with photographs and drawings of each type, as well as images of several "leafy" neighborhoods.

After a brief introduction describing the benefits that trees provide—reducing the rate of respiratory disease, increasing property values, cooling homes and sidewalks, blocking harsh winds, cleaning the air, absorbing storm water runoff and providing habitat and food for wildlife—the

author takes the reader on a tour of various city neighborhoods noted for their rich diversity of trees.

Not surprisingly to those who know Susan Strazzera, the tour begins with City Island, which is noted for the great variety of species and for the fact that more than 1,000 trees have been planted here by Department of Parks, largely because of Susan's efforts over the years through the Garden Club of City Island, for which she serves as Treasurer and Keeper of the Beautification Fund.

Beginning in the 1970s, when Dutch elm disease wiped out all the elms on City Island, Susan became interested in replanting other species along the barren streets. She soon joined the local Garden Club and became the community's advocate for trees, or, as she is known, the "Tree Lady of City Island."

The author explains in great detail the role of the Garden Club in the tree planting effort, including the "Book of Evidence" that Susan prepared after conducting a complete census of every tree on the island. From the 1980s on, she has dedicated herself to dealing with the Parks Department, applying for trees and following through with pruning requests. She has also helped elderly neighbors clean up tree debris so that residents aren't tempted to cut trees down.

Interestingly, the author fails to point out that it is actually illegal to kill, cut down or prune a tree without obtaining a permit from the Parks Department. Bureaucracy can often result in long delays, but the fines are high, and Susan advises residents to call 311 to register the request for a tree or for pruning services and not to take matters into their own hands.

The nice thing about this book is that the author and illustrator make the street trees of New York City so interesting, beneficial and attractive that it is hard to imagine why anyone would want to harm one.

BOAT SHOW

Continued from page 9

on the East Coast, Ray's Chris Craft on west Beach Street on CI Avenue just north of Stelter's, which is still there from my youth. It was run by Frank Starace and his five brothers (Andy, Vinny, Dom, Tony and Raffy) and two sisters, Adelaide and Peggy. They were a very nice family and lived in a brick house on King Avenue, next to the Hauptners. Jim Booth and his wife live there now.

We did look at a few more mega-priced yachts like Meridian, Sabre, Azimuth and Cobalt, to name a few. We'll tell you about them at another time. There were some more affordable craft with names you all remember like Key West, Mako and Boston Whaler. There were also a few, like Carver and Silverton, who weren't there at all. All in all, my whole crew thought the show was better than last year. It seemed more



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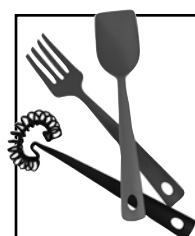


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SAILING LIFE ON CITY ISLAND

By JOYCE MULCAHY



In March 2012, the J125 sloop *Aunt Jessie* (photo at left) took second place in the Heineken Regatta in St. Maarten. Above, a happy group enjoys one of the many sailing cruises organized each summer by City Island Cruising.

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

MAY 2012

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Tue	0105	0.85	0706	7.29	1331	0.58	1941	7.80	Tue 01
02 Wed	0217	0.46	0811	7.40	1434	0.30	2041	8.16	Wed 02
03 Thu	0329	-0.05	0915	7.57	1536	-0.02	2138	8.52	Thu 03
04 Fri	0434	-0.56	1014	7.76	1634	-0.31	2232	8.80	Fri 04
05 Sat	0531	-0.97	1111	7.90	1730	-0.50	2324	8.96	Sat 05
06 Sun	0627	-1.20	1206	7.95	1824	-0.55			Sun 06
07 Mon	0017	8.96	0722	-1.24	1302	7.91	1921	-0.44	Mon 07
08 Tue	0111	8.79	0818	-1.08	1400	7.78	2020	-0.20	Tue 08
09 Wed	0209	8.46	0916	-0.78	1504	7.61	2126	0.11	Wed 09
10 Thu	0314	8.05	1017	-0.42	1613	7.46	2236	0.39	Thu 10
11 Fri	0432	7.67	1120	-0.06	1722	7.40	2345	0.58	Fri 11
12 Sat	0548	7.40	1221	0.22	1827	7.44			Sat 12
13 Sun	0050	0.62	0655	7.28	1321	0.39	1927	7.56	Sun 13
14 Mon	0152	0.53	0756	7.26	1417	0.48	2022	7.72	Mon 14
15 Tue	0248	0.37	0851	7.29	1509	0.51	2113	7.87	Tue 15
16 Wed	0341	0.20	0941	7.33	1557	0.53	2200	7.97	Wed 16
17 Thu	0429	0.07	1028	7.36	1641	0.57	2244	8.02	Thu 17
18 Fri	0513	0.00	1112	7.35	1721	0.64	2325	7.99	Fri 18
19 Sat	0553	0.00	1153	7.31	1756	0.74			Sat 19
20 Sun	0000	7.92	0630	0.07	1230	7.24	1821	0.84	Sun 20
21 Mon	0026	7.83	0701	0.18	1300	7.16	1831	0.89	Mon 21
22 Tue	0034	7.79	0720	0.29	1314	7.13	1853	0.87	Tue 22
23 Wed	0056	7.84	0734	0.33	1332	7.20	1928	0.85	Wed 23
24 Thu	0130	7.89	0803	0.34	1404	7.31	2009	0.85	Thu 24
25 Fri	0209	7.90	0841	0.35	1443	7.43	2054	0.86	Fri 25
26 Sat	0254	7.84	0923	0.39	1528	7.53	2143	0.87	Sat 26
27 Sun	0343	7.71	1011	0.43	1617	7.63	2236	0.85	Sun 27
28 Mon	0436	7.53	1102	0.47	1711	7.73	2335	0.78	Mon 28
29 Tue	0534	7.36	1157	0.47	1809	7.86			Tue 29
30 Wed	0039	0.63	0636	7.23	1256	0.43	1909	8.04	Wed 30
31 Thu	0153	0.36	0743	7.20	1400	0.31	2012	8.26	Thu 31
JUNE 2012									
01 Fri	0315	-0.03	0852	7.28	1507	0.14	2114	8.49	Fri 01

If you live on City Island and have a desire to sail but haven't a boat, or a friend with a boat, you're in luck. If you can cook, or pass up drinks from the galley, and enjoy sailing, then you may have just found your niche. You need to meet Joe Shadel of City Island Cruising.

Conversely, if you are an avid racer and would like to go further in the sport, then let me introduce you to City Island racer, Leigh Mulroy. She gives practical steps so you can get plugged in at the right places, and if you're lucky and skillful, you'll go as far as she has.

Such as St. Maarten for the Heineken Regatta in March, aboard the J125 (41.25') *Aunt Jessie*, where the crew came in second place. Leigh's crew position was the pit, typically working the jib and spinnaker sheets. Then there was the BVI Spring Regatta in Tortola in April and there will be the upcoming Antigua Race Week in early May. Not to mention the Wednesday night racing with her J-24 *Blondie*, racing other J-24 boats in Fleet 61 (www.j24fleet61.com) here on City Island, in addition to races along the eastern seaboard.

"Every regatta is different," Leigh explained to me. "The most challenging conditions were this year at the Heineken Regatta. At times the wind was 35 knots! *Aunt Jessie* is made of carbon and is a rocket ship when we are going downwind, and we were all smiles as we flew past the competition. When sailing upwind in a stiff breeze, you get beat up pretty badly, though. She's got a low freeboard and is very rough and wet upwind. You need 9 to 10 experienced crew. We made second place, and got lots of bruises too." The crew also received a sizeable trophy, and an Island of St. Maarten partygoers willing to share in the celebration.

Although it is not unusual to acquire a few bruises on a sailboat, you're less likely to get them while cruising. Although this sailor and clumsy columnist has tripped while bringing potato salad up from the galley, so it does happen. Joe recently began the City Island Cruising club with his 38-foot Pearson, *Life's An Adventure* (www.cityislandcruising.com). According to his website, Joe has been cruising for 40 years from as far north as Nantucket all the

way south to the British Virgin Islands and most points in between. His sailing experience started as the first mate on his father's 26-foot Westerly Centaur in 1972.

Joe shared the following with me: "I want to give everyone the opportunity to participate in this great experience. I started City Island Cruising to offer to all sailors cruising as a group event. There are those sailors that only race who may want to experience a change of pace." He further explained to me that "anyone can do cruising. From the total novice to the most experienced sailor. Cruising is meant to be relaxing and fun. One gets to see places they wouldn't normally." Last summer Joe led several cruises. I attended one to Cold Spring Harbor, and another to Northport. Usually racing, these were first time raft up's for me (when you tie several boats together), and they were wonderful trips away from the harried pace of the work week and life ashore.

City Island Cruising, of course, welcomes captains with sailboats who are willing to take others out, too. There isn't an age requirement or limit. Old or young, come if you enjoy sailing. "I hope I have a boat till I can't any longer," Joe says. "My mother had MS for all the years my family, and I sailed and she never missed a sailing trip. In her later years we carried her aboard, so she was able to enjoy it as much as we were."

Leigh is one racer who has enjoyed the cruises on *Life's An Adventure*. Sailing last summer on several cruises, between racing, she was able to kick back and trade the rigors of racing, for the casualness of cruising.

To become a part of this year's cruising, contact Joe at City Island Cruising. This Memorial Day a three-day trip is anticipated either along Connecticut or Long Island shores. Captains too, sign up for an unforgettable cruise and raft up to kick off the summer right!

Calling all racers this month, remember that the Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association (EBYRA) season begins Wednesday, May 9 (www.ebyra.org). If you haven't found a boat to crew on, visit the Greater NY Sailing Group's Meetup <http://www.meetup.com/Greater-New-York-Sailing-Group/> to find one. You can also visit the Crew Connect section of *Windcheck* magazine devoted to sailors in the Northeast at www.windcheckmagazine.com. If you'd like to check out Caribbean regattas this year, then visit Go Crew at www.gocrew.net.

For cruisers and racers alike, one thing we all know is that May is the month most of us in the Northeast get back on the water. For City Islander landlubbers who have long gazed at the bay from shore wishing they could sail upon it, this is your year!

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Lorraine Rauhauser

Lorraine D. Rauhauser

Lifelong City Islander Lorraine Dorothea Rauhauser passed away on April 6, 2012. She was 83.

Lorraine was born on July 17, 1928, to August and Pauline Buschmann. She loved growing up on City Island, where her father owned the Marine Restaurant, located on City Island Avenue at Marine Street (the white building is still there on the corner). Lorraine loved the water as a young girl and swam off many of the City Island beaches. As a teenager, she was a Mariner Girl Scout and became an excellent swimmer and diver.

A photograph of Lorraine at Grace Episcopal Church in 1934 shows her sitting on the lap of Evelyn, her beloved half-sister, who was the daughter of Pauline Buschmann and her first husband, Mr. Krauss, who had died young. Evie was 18 years older than Lorraine and was often mistaken for Lorraine's mother.

Lorraine attended P. S. 17 and later Christopher Columbus High School. She had great friends growing up on City Island, including Georgia Nakis and Herbie Hild, as well as Evie and Evie's husband, Philip Gauss. Members of Lorraine's P. S. 17 class of 1942 recently gathered for their 70th reunion at Herbie Hild's house.

After high school, Lorraine worked for the Dictaphone company in Manhattan and eventually for Nye Insurance on City Island.

In the 1940s, she met a handsome young City Islander named Arthur "Ducky" Rauhauser in an empty lot on Earley Street. They went sailing together on his cousin Warren Weith's boat and fell in love. They were engaged and married on a rainy day in November 1947, reportedly against the better judgment of Lorraine's parents, who famously said: "He will never grow up." They were married for 64 years and had two children, Karen and Eric.

When the Rauhausers were first married, they lived briefly in Queens near their best friends, former Islanders Don and Ethel (Wilson) Baumann. They often told the story of walking across the Whitestone Bridge in a snowstorm one night to get back to City Island. Lorraine and Ducky eventually purchased a home on Horton Street, where they raised the children.

Lorraine was active in the P.T.A. at P. S. 17. She was a lifelong member of Grace Church and worked for many years on the Altar Guild, in the Thrift Shop and for the Christmas fairs. She and Evie worked with Alice and Carol Stuttig, Chic Wilhelm and Marilyn Sinclair every Tuesday ("Fat Tuesdays") making crafts and baking chocolate chip cookies to sell at the Grace Church fairs.

Lorraine is survived by her husband, Ducky, with whom she spent countless

hours sailing on their boat, *Whisper*. She is also survived by her children, Karen Nani of City Island and Eric Rauhauser of Willets, California; her three grandchildren, Roger and Mark Nani and Lyla Lorraine MacDonald; her nieces, Carol Gauss McKenna and Melinda Gauss Halligan; and seven great-nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister, Evelyn, who passed away in 2009.

A mass of Christian burial was held on April 11 at Grace Episcopal Church (everyone wore pink in honor of Lorraine's favorite color), and she was interred at Pelham Cemetery on City Island.

Teddy Charles

Theodore Charles Cohen, better known as Teddy Charles, a resident of City Island during the 1980s, died on April 16, 2012, three days after his 84th birthday.

Well known as an accomplished musician, Mr. Charles was better known to City Islanders as a sailor and a character of the first order. He studied music at Juilliard and became an accomplished vibraphone player. He played with many of the great jazz musicians, including Miles Davis, Charley Mingus, Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw; wrote and composed sophisticated pieces; and backed Aretha Franklin and Bobby Vinton.

In spite of his musical success, he gave it all up in the 1960s and went to the Caribbean, where he chartered his schooner for both passengers and cargo. He occasionally came back to New York but it wasn't until the 1980s that he moved to City Island, where he ran a charter-boat business and lived for a time on King Avenue in a house that had once belonged to Jacqueline Kall's mother. One of his good friends here was the late Grattan Kyle, Jackie's brother.

Islander Susan Strazzera worked for him for two years and remembers him fondly but as a true character. "He had eight dogs and a cat, and his place was a mess, but he was fun," she told *The Current*. He was best known here for two of his boats, the Mary E and Tiki, which he kept at Minniford's during the summer, traveling south to Florida and the Caribbean in the winter. For a Fleet Weekend here on City Island during the 1990s, he brought the Mary E back and took many people out sailing in Long Island Sound.

The New York Times quoted him on the subjects closest to his heart: "In both activities there's only the truth. If you're out on the sea, you have your own vessel that only you put together, your own crew. You work with the sea, or you lose. It's the same in art, not just jazz. There's no way you can fake it."

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Dinner and awards immediate after golf at Pelham Country Club

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Photos by ANGELO BELLOCCHIO

City Island's Cub Scout Pack 211 and their families went to Washington, D.C., in April this year for four days, a great experience that capped off a year devoted to patriotism. The scouts experienced the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery and the Capitol Building, along with the many museums in Washington.

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

Happy 90th birthday greetings to Rose Maffia, who celebrated her big day with family and friends at a party at the Sea Shore Restaurant on April 14. Islanders will remember Rose as the owner of the Donut Shop in the 1980s.

Congratulations to Scott Cronk on his engagement to Johanne White. An April 2013 wedding is planned, and we couldn't be happier to welcome Johanne into our family. We love you! Mom, Joyce, Chet, David and Kevin. Also, a happy belated April 4th birthday to Mom.

Best wishes for continued happiness to Schofield Street's Robert and Rose Booth, who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on May 10. With love from your family.

Happy anniversary on May 12 to the Sailmaker's John and Judy Iovieno. with love from the Iovieno and Swieciki families.

Best wishes for continued success to Winters Street's Bobby Swieciki, who will celebrate his six-year anniversary with the US Coast Guard on May 1. Semper paratus!

Congratulations to City Island's John Doyle, Director of Community Affairs for Senator Jeff Klein. John will be honored

by the 45th Precinct on May 9 at the Villa Barone for his years of service to the community. Keep up the good work!

Happy birthday on May 28 to Patrice Ortega at "To Go Express," with love from your family and friends.

Birthday greetings on May 30 to Tommy Cleary, City Island's friendliest mailman.

Belated 20th birthday wishes to Kesley Conahan, who celebrated on April 18. Enjoy your photography class in China and much good luck backpacking in Guatemala. Love from Mama and Pop.

Happy 8th birthday(s) to Joseph, Frankie and Brianna Calisi on May 14. May God bless you all as you make your first Holy Communion. Love from Mama and Pop.

Best wishes to Justin Conahan, who turns 18 on May 16. Congratulations on your graduation. We hope the Army knows what a good man they're getting. Good luck and Godspeed! Love from Mama and Pop.

Happy 40th birthday to Frank Calisi, who celebrates on May 6. Congratulations on your graduation. It's about time! Love from Mom and Dad.

Birthday wishes on May 8 to Pilot Cove's Terry Carmody, with love from your family.

Happy birthday on May 16 to former Islander and P.S. 175 volunteer Frank Ring, with love and affection from your neighbors and friends. We miss you!

Happy 90th birthday to Marine Street's Alice Stuttig who celebrated with family and friends at the Lobster Box Restaurant on Saturday, April 28.

And a very happy Mother's Day to all our hardworking mothers and grandmothers. We love you!

Maria Swieciki

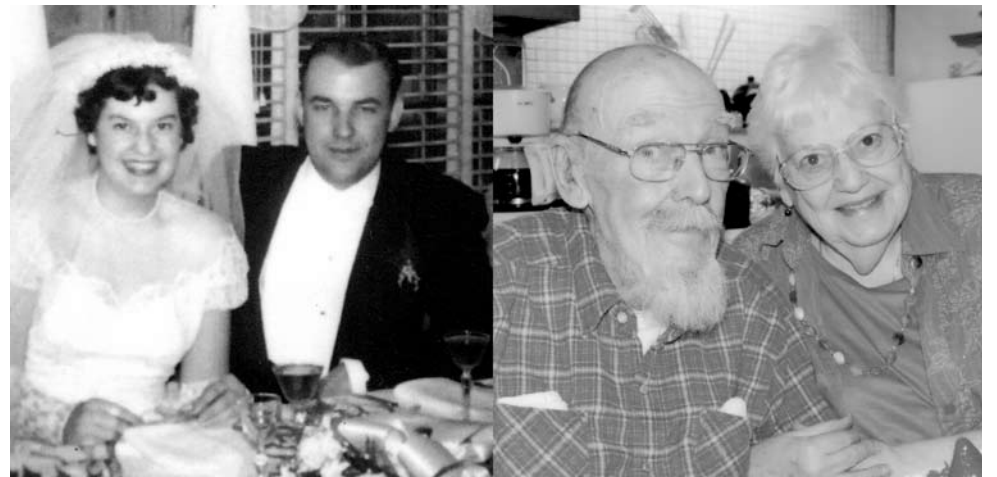


Photos by TONY PASCAZIO

Rose Maffia celebrated her 90th birthday on April 14, 2012, at the Sea Shore Restaurant. Rose (bottom photo, second from the right) is shown dancing with her daughters, Carol Manzollio, Donna Fortunato and Laraine LaQuidara.



Longtime Islander Alice Stuttig celebrated her 90th birthday on April 28, 2012, at the Lobster Box Restaurant. Shown here at the celebration are (l. to r.): Bill Stuttig, Barbara Saam, Alice Stuttig, Carol Robertson, Cathy Reichert and Virginia Klopping.



In May this year Rose and Robert Booth will celebrate the 60th anniversary of their wedding, which took place on May 10, 1952.

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