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One Dollar

COLD CLAM DIGGERS DIG OUT!



Photos by RICK DeWITT, BARBARA DOLENSEK
and KAREN NANI

Although this was not the first time that City Island and its surrounding waters have been frozen (see top left photos circa 1930), the winter of 2015 has tested the patience of even the heartiest clam diggers and mussel suckers. Several snowstorms in January dumped almost 20 inches of snow on City Island. More snow and frigid temperatures occurred in February and resulted in frozen waters, including Eastchester Bay and parts of Long Island Sound on the north and east sides of the Island. Weary residents pushed the snow into large piles with shovels and snow blowers, while P.S. 175 students enjoyed two snow days so far this year. Department of Sanitation plows did a good job keeping City Island Avenue moving but had a difficult time clearing some of the narrower side streets. Residents are more than ready for spring to arrive and are hoping to launch their boats and see their gardens once again.



COLD CON ED WORKERS KEEP DIGGING

By KAREN NANI

Electric power surges and gas leaks have kept Con Edison crews busy on City Island for much of this bitter cold winter. The crews worked tirelessly around the Island, often in frigid temperatures and won kudos from residents fearful of gas leaks. However, Con Ed management is less popular, at least with residents of Horton Street.

Con Ed crews responded to a number of gas leaks on the Island, some from lines over 100 years old, according to the utility's supervisors. In January 2015, a gas leak was detected on King Avenue. Both the fire department and Con Edison responded immediately to reports from residents who smelled gas in the streets.

Con Ed had to gain entry to all the houses on the block in order to determine

whether there were also leaks inside the homes. In one case the resident was not at home and could not be reached, so the fire department had to remove a basement window to allow the inspectors access.

Crews then arrived and worked up to 16 hours a day in the cold weather for five days straight replacing the gas lines along a 100-foot stretch of King Avenue. Residents were pleased with the response and consideration of all the workers.

"Every day the workers told us what they planned to do that day. It's a dead-end street so it was difficult to keep the street open with the amount of equipment, bulldozers, trucks and workers involved," King Avenue resident Paul Nani told *The Current*.

Continued on page 3

BRIEFLY...

ABOUT BOATING SAFELY is the subject of the class offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary City Island Flotilla on Wednesday nights, March 11, 18 and 25, at the Harlem Yacht Club, 417 Hunter Avenue. Classes run from 7 to 10 p.m., and students must attend all three in order to take the test. The cost is \$75, which includes materials. Contact Alan Lesser at alanlesser@gmail.com or call 845-323-0265 to register. To apply online, go to <http://a0140504.wow.uscgaux.info>.

EASTER EGG HUNT at Grace Episcopal Church, 116 City Island Avenue, will be held on Saturday, April 4, from 1 to 3 p.m. All ages are invited.

DON'T MISS JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY'S "OUTSIDE MULLINGAR," which will run two weekends at Grace Church Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street. Performances will be Friday and Saturday, March 6 and 7, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 8, at 3 p.m. and again on Friday and Saturday, March 13 and 14, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 15, at 3 p.m. For reservations, please call 718-885-3066 or email tickets@cityislandtheatergroup.com. Tickets may be purchased on line on cityislandtheatergroup.com.

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45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during January and February 2015. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 2 – CRIMINAL MISCHIEF
- 1 – GRAND LARCENY
- 2 – HARASSMENT
- 1 – CRIMINAL OBSTRUCTION OF BREATHING*
- 3 – PETIT LARCENY

Police provided details on the following arrests (*) and incidents for the period from Jan. 21 to Feb. 19, 2015.

1/21 – Police are investigating an incident of grand larceny on William Avenue at 10 a.m. An Island male reported that two credit cards had been opened in his name without his permission and that charges of \$1,700 were made on the cards. Police remind Islanders to guard against identity theft by shredding any mail that contains their personal information.

1/23 – On Fordham Street at 5:30 a.m., police from the 45th Precinct arrested an Island male, 34, after he allegedly choked his son during a verbal dispute with the child's mother. The child did not sustain any physical injuries.

1/31 – On City Island Avenue at 11 a.m., a resident reported that her parked

vehicle had been vandalized. The rear driver-side window was broken, and there was damage to the hood and bumper. There were no witnesses to the incident.

2/4 – At 5:30 p.m. on City Island Avenue, an Island business owner reported an incident of harassment when a former employee repeatedly made annoying phone calls.

2/5 – On Schofield Street at 12 noon, a resident reported that property had been removed from his balcony without his permission in an act of petit larceny.

2/6 – An off-Island male reported that the tires of his rental car were punctured by unknown persons on City Island Avenue at 12:30 p.m.

2/10 – Police are investigating a report of harassment on Bay Street. On behalf of a friend, the complainant visited another resident to ask that threatening emails be stopped. Later the perpetrator allegedly chased the complainant on foot threatening the complainant with bodily harm.

2/10 – On City Island Avenue at 3 p.m., an off-Island female returned to her parked car to find that the rear license plate was missing.

2/14 – At a commercial establishment on City Island Avenue, a perpetrator removed an item without paying for it in an act of petit larceny.

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CON ED

Continued from page 1

rent.

According to Mr. Nani, the crews were very considerate when residents had to get in and out of the block in their cars. Sometimes they even stopped drilling and moved heavy equipment to allow a car or pedestrian to pass by.

As part of the repairs, Con Ed had to temporarily shut off the gas supply, leaving some residents without heat or hot water for 12 hours. "They gave us plenty of notice about when they were going to turn off the gas. They started early in the morning so that the gas was back on at night," a relieved Mr. Nani reported given the below freezing temperatures that week.

Another gas leak on Feb. 4, 2015, on

City Island Avenue near Winters Street had Con Ed crews working around the piles of snow that had accumulated from the Jan. 26 snowstorm (see photo).

Other Con Ed crews during February were seen working on City Island Avenue at Fordham Street and at Bowne Street. According to Philip O'Brien of Con Ed, the company has repaired the leaks and is scheduling replacements of the gas mains in various locations. He told *The Current* that the leaks can be the result of damage caused by contractors inadvertently breaking lines, by corrosion of unprotected steel or other mechanical failures.

Not all the winter problems have been about gas service. On Dec. 13, 2014, a faulty electrical transformer on the east side of Horton Street caused power surges which resulted in a small fire in one home and burned out heating systems in several other



Photos by SALLY CONNOLLY and RAY REYES

Con Edison crews worked throughout the cold winter days responding to gas leaks and power surges on City Island. In December 2014, a faulty transformer on Horton Street caused power surges that resulted in a small fire in one home and burned-out heating systems in several others (photo above). In January 2015, gas leaks on City Island Avenue and King Avenue brought Con Edison crews and heavy equipment to replace the gas mains (top photo).

homes.

Residents began noticing that the lights inside their homes were getting alternately brighter and dimmer around Dec. 12. They alerted Con Ed to the power fluctuations, and, on Saturday, Dec. 13, both the fire department and Con Ed responded.

The fire in one house was contained and crews went to work repairing the faulty transformer. Meanwhile, several residents' heating units and other electrical systems were damaged by the surges.

"We had to replace the furnace transformers and motors in both the bungalows on our property two days in a row," Horton Street resident Eric Rauhauser told *The Current*. "We had no heat from the surge on Friday and had to have the furnaces fixed quickly. Then they blew out again the next day!"

Con Ed supervisors on the scene told the residents of Horton Street to file claims for the damages caused by the faulty transformers and gave them job reference numbers.

At least five Horton Street homeowners filed claims totaling thousands of dollars in damages caused by the power surges. They all followed the procedures outlined by Con Ed's claims department representatives, which included attaching complete descriptions of the events and copies of receipts.

Some residents became immediately frustrated with the utility's response to their claims and queries. "Every time I called, I got a different person who couldn't tell me the status of my claim. I emailed and called the claims department several times over four weeks," one resident told *The Current*.

Homeowners were stunned when they finally received letters on or about Jan. 16, denying their claims (see Letters to the Editor). According to Claim Supervisor Vincent Cannon, "Con Edison is not responsible for losses that may have been caused by an interrupted, irregular or defective supply of service."

Frustrated residents got together at the Horton Street home of Sally and Daniel Connolly on Feb. 7 to map out a plan to oppose Con Ed's denials of what they felt were legitimate claims.

Mr. Connolly took the lead and contacted Con Ed: "One of the critical issues that I raised with them involved the fact that several of us reached out to Con Edison prior to the morning of Dec. 13 and that no one was dispatched to address the problem. This

non-action forms an important aspect of our negligence argument."

As *The Current* went to press, Horton Street residents were given renewed hope. The utility agreed to reopen all the claims and initiate a new investigation into the events leading up to the main surge on Dec. 13, as well as the days before. They have also indicated that they will be inspecting the transformer to ensure that it is functioning effectively.

Mr. Connolly is cautiously optimistic. "This process could take a while, as our current weather conditions are limiting the number of people Con Edison has available to address these issues. The important development here is that all Horton Street claims are now reopened and the previous denials are withdrawn at this point."

Regardless of the outcome on Horton Street and at the other sites of Con Ed activity, Islanders should always be on alert for gas leaks.

Signs of a Gas Leak

Smell - A distinctive, strong odor similar to rotten eggs.

See - A white cloud, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water, blowing dust or vegetation that appears to be dead or dying for no reason.

Hear - Roaring, hissing or whistling.

What to Do If You Detect a Gas Leak

If the odor is strong, leave immediately and take others with you.

If you are outside, leave the area immediately.

Do not light a match or smoke, turn appliances or lights on or off (including flashlights), use a telephone or start a car. Doing so can produce sparks that might cause the gas to explode.

Find a phone away from the area and call 911 or 1-800-75-CONED (1-800-752-6633). You can report leaks anonymously.

Do not assume someone else will report the condition.

National Grid customers should call 1-718-643-4050.

Follow directions from emergency responders who are on site.

Con Edison has a comprehensive plan for maintaining and enhancing the integrity of natural gas pipelines. For more information go to: http://www.coned.com/customer-central/gassafety_pipeline_integrity_plan.asp.

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Holy Week Schedule 2015



CONFESSIONS
SATURDAY-March 28
4:30-5:00 P.M.

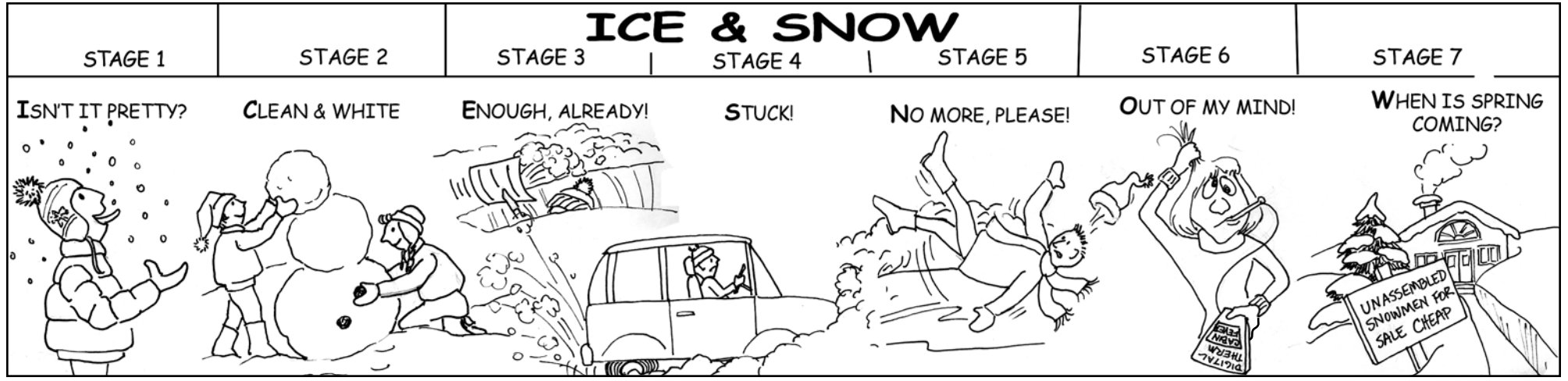
PALM SUNDAY-March 29
VIGIL MASS-SATURDAY-5:15 P.M.
SUNDAY-8:00 A.M., 10:00., & 12:00 NOON
(Blessing of Palm at all Masses)

HOLY THURSDAY-April 2
8:00 A.M.- TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)
Consists of Psalms and Readings
SOLEMN COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - 7:30 P.M.
Procession to Repository
Adoration to 10:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY-April 3
8:00 A.M.-TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)
Consists of Psalms and Readings
STATIONS OF THE CROSS-12:00 NOON
COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS-4:00 P.M.
Confessions 5:00-6:00 P.M.

HOLY SATURDAY-April 4
8:00 A.M. TENEBRAE (No Morning Mass)
Consists of Psalms and Readings
Confessions 9:00-10:00 A.M. & 4:00-5:00 P.M.
SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL-8:00 P.M.
(Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

EASTER SUNDAY-April 5
Masses- 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A. M., & 12:00 Noon



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.

Con Ed Responds

A copy of the following letter was sent to The Current:

Dear Resident:

We have completed our review of your claim seeking reimbursement for losses as a result of a service interruption on Dec. 13, 2014. Regrettably, we must deny your claim.

Although Con Edison strives to provide high-service reliability, it cannot and does not guarantee an uninterrupted supply of electricity. Under the terms of our electric rate schedule, approved by the NYS Public Service Commission, Con Edison is not responsible for losses that may have been caused by an interrupted, irregular or defective supply of service.

We are sorry that our response cannot be more favorable and regret any hardship caused by this service interruption. Please be assured that we are committed to providing safe and reliable service to all of our customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to explain our position and for your understanding,

Vincent Cannon
Claim Supervisor

Parking Rage

To the Editor:

We are all familiar with the honking horn, the screeching tires and the ever-popular middle finger of road rage. But what isn't so commonly expressed is the ferocity over selfish parking. It's the dead of winter, and frozen ice mounds continue to take up valuable spaces on the side of the roads. Not only is it tough on many streets for two cars to pass, but also parking is seriously limited. At this point, the snow and ice piles are really annoying, and I have a feeling they will be here until May.

Some of you clear off only your car and pull out into the street, leaving behind a unparkable mess. Why don't you shovel out a space? You may have a gigantic truck or high-off-the-ground SUV, but those of us

with small vehicles cannot make it over your ice mounds without tearing up our cars.

To those who care and take time to do the right thing; I encourage you to keep it up. Whether it's shoveling your sidewalk so everyone can walk down the street, clearing out a space from snow, giving up your seat on the 6 train or letting someone in a hurry go in front of you at the grocery checkout, these efforts are greatly appreciated! My gratitude and appreciation to the givers! You make the world a better place.

J. Juliet

Kudos to King Avenue

To the Editor:

I moved to King Avenue two and a half years ago. I have lived in other states, as well as in other parts of the Bronx and also Westchester County. I have never felt more at home than I feel here.

I was immediately welcomed by my neighbors, and their hospitality continues. Beginning with Billy Clancy, who introduced himself on the first day I moved in, to Jim and Kathleen, who are two of the nicest people I have ever known, to Karen and George, who always wave, smile and are eager to help. To Marty who helped me with my flat tire, his wife, Jackie, who is always available for girl talk, to new neighbor Daphne, who came out with her snow blower to save my day (and my back) and clear my driveway. To Snow who shares her home-grown vegetables, to Mrs. Moran, Kristle, Serena, Joanna, Graeme, Maggie, Tom, Linda, Mary, Brian, Sparks and all my other neighbors, thank you from my heart. Even the cats and dogs on the block are nice and friendly, as if a reflection of their owners!

I may not be rich in the conventional way, but my cup runneth over with the generosity and kindness of my neighbors on King Avenue.

Kim DeRosa

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JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY: BRONX PLAYWRIGHT

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

The next production of the City Island Theater Group is "Outside Mullingar," a highly praised play by one of New York City's most prolific and talented playwrights, who has honored the group by allowing it to be the play's first venue since it premiered on Broadway in January 2014. In 2007 the CITG enjoyed the same privilege when it presented Mr. Shanley's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play "Doubt."

Why does Mr. Shanley have a soft spot for City Island? He told *The Current* that it goes back to the days when at the age of 13 he worked in the "catering service" at Orchard Beach, carrying a metal tank of orange drink to customers up and down the boardwalk. His family lived in an Irish-American neighborhood in the east Bronx, and they often came to City Island to rent a rowboat at Rosenberger's and go fishing. As he grew older, Mr. Shanley and his family would often dine at Sammy's Fish Box or Johnny's Reef.

After attending St. Anthony's Grammar School run by the Sisters of Charity, he attended Cardinal Spellman High School, where he had his first experience with theater working as a set builder for "The Miracle Worker" and "Cyrano de Bergerac," which had a huge effect on him. Mr. Shanley's academic career, however, was a bumpy one. He was expelled from Spellman because he spent most of his time daydreaming or reading science fiction during class, although he is amused to note that he is now considered one of their most accomplished alumni.

He became lifelong friends at New York University with the Irish writers Frank and Malachy McCourt and professor Terry Moran, but he was put on academic probation his freshman year, so he joined the Marines, spending five years stateside, and worked at

a number of odd jobs. However, Mr. Shanley published his first poems at 22, graduated with honors from NYU at the age of 27 as valedictorian and saw his first play produced at 32. Since then he has written 25 full-length plays, a few one acts, and several screenplays, including "Moonstruck," for which he won an Academy Award in 1988 for most original screenplay.

Although for years he resisted being labeled an Irish-American writer, perhaps because of the tough environment in which he grew up, he believes that his Irish heritage is a significant factor in his love of writing and language. His father was born on a farm outside the village of Mullingar in County Westmeath that still belongs to the family, and he believes that those who live on the land tend to develop a rich inner life and a quality of language that those in more developed areas do not. He says that his cousin Anthony speaks perfectly publishable English and that Anthony's parents spoke "pure poetry."

Shortly before "Outside Mullingar" opened on Broadway last year, Mr. Shanley wrote a piece for the New York Times in which he explained that on a trip to the farm with his father in 1993, he listened to his family talk and recognized that "this was my Atlantis, the lost and beautiful world of my poet's heart. There was no way to write about the farm, yet I had to write about it. I listened to the amazing language these folks were speaking as if it were normal conversation and I knew that this was my territory."

It took another 20 years for "Outside Mullingar" to take form: "The farm had become a place in my imagination where I had stored up so many things. My love for my father was there. Feelings of grief. My romantic hunger, my frustration with this unpoetic world. I had held back much for a long time, and I kind of erupted with language. I felt free suddenly, free to be Irish."

In speaking about the Bronx and the tough neighborhood where he spent a difficult childhood, Mr. Shanley enjoys remembering lively County Westmeath dances, where his father played the accordion and his aunts and uncles danced the night away. Although he now lives in Brooklyn, he won't rule out returning to the Bronx some day, and in the meantime, he is very gratified, even honored, that his homage to Ireland will be appearing on a stage in City Island.

FRIGID WEATHER FREEZES BRIDGE PROGRESS

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by RICK DeWITT

It is not surprising that the weather this winter has left the temporary bridge construction project in a state of near paralysis. Despite the frigid temperatures, however, Tutor Perini was able to make some progress. Steel cap beams started being erected in mid-February; these girders help distribute weight from the roadway superstructure of the temporary bridge down onto each of the piers that will support the bridge.

Construction of the temporary 12-inch water main is still in progress. The contractor has installed a tie-in, which looks like a T pipe and will redirect the water from the existing 12-inch cast-iron water main to the new one. The walkway / bike path that was closed off because it was holding the water main will be brought back into service. After the temporary bridge is in place, Con

Ed will run a temporary gas main on it, but the existing gas main will remain in place during construction.

At Turtle Cove, the contractor has made major strides in preparing the reconstruction of the conduit beneath City Island Road. Metal sheeting was recently put in place to quarantine the lake from the mouth of the conduit, and as a result, the contractor will be able to work in a dry, area free of ice water.

Islanders were happy to see the wreaths that Tutor Perini put up on the old bridge; it was a nice gesture of farewell. One good thing about the winter weather is that it gave the old bridge a few months more to stay in service.

For photographs and explanations of what is going on at the bridge, visit the City Island Bridge Facebook page.

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LOCAL VIEWS By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

How are you coping with the winter weather and what effect has it had on you?



Theresa Groneveldt

Sometimes I have not been able to go to church on Sunday or help people who can't get out to go shopping or walk their dogs. Overall, I'm getting through it.



Eddie Esposito Sr.

I feel that after so many years of this, I'm prepared and can adjust and make the best of it. I'm seriously thinking about going South for the winter next year, however!



Joe Burck Sr.

Taking it day by day and shoveling a lot of snow. Shovels, snow scrapers and ice choppers are just about gone at the store.



Lindsey Kinford

It's winter, so you know it's going to be cold. The frigid weather is another story. Having to walk a dog three times a day isn't much fun, especially with the salt that gets in its paws. But, hey, it could be worse. We could be in Boston!



Eric Rauhauser

This winter's cold weather has caused more problems with our exposed pipes than we can remember. The old water pipes that run underneath our bungalow froze during the first wave of bitter cold in January and we had to have them replaced. Since then, we have had to run the water continuously every time the temperatures drop into the teens to prevent further freezing. We have been keeping the plumbers very busy.

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Photo by MONICA GLICK

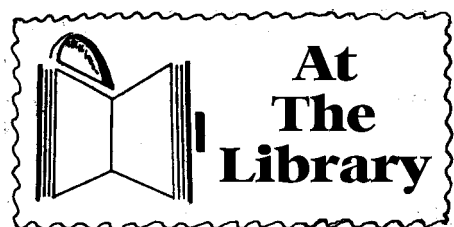
On Saturday evening, Feb. 7, 2015, Starving Artist Cafe and Gallery marked 11 years to the day it added music to the menu at its new location on City Island Avenue. Elliott Glick opened the gallery in 1997 with his handmade jewelry creations, featuring fine art and craft from local artists. A songwriter and musician, he celebrated by performing his original songs, backed by his lead guitar player, John Guth. More than 1,500 performances have taken place on the Starving Artist stage in the decade plus one year, and many of those music-artists joined Glick to celebrate in music and song. Among those who took the stage before a jam-packed house of listeners were several City Islanders, including the Blue Collar Band and John Sheridan, as well as poet Ellen Ruth Topol, who read her annual tribute poem to the artist.



The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary City Island Flotilla will have an "About Boating Safely" class on Wednesday nights, March 11, 18 and 25, at the Harlem Yacht Club, 417 Hunter Avenue. Classes run from 7 to 10 p.m., and students must attend all three in order to take the test. The cost is \$75, which includes materials. Contact Alan Lesser at alanlesser@ymail.com or call 845-323-0265 to register. To apply online, go to <http://a0140504.wow.uscgaux.info>.

The Starving Artist (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779) is ready for spring and is giving you plenty to come out and listen to during the month of March. The lineup includes some blues (Saturday, March 7, 8 p.m.), Bennett Harris's "Saturday Night Blues Party" (Saturday, March 14, 8 p.m.), a farewell performance of Japanese Gypsy Rock (Saturday, March 21, 8 p.m., Kagero), and City Island's own Freddie Lando to end the month with his "golden voice" (Sunday, March 29, 3 p.m.). There will also be duos and groups to delight as well, including Near Misses: Denise Adorante and Mikelle Sacco (Friday, March 6, 8 p.m.); Curtis and the Dilettantes (Sunday, March 8, 3 p.m.), and the Pleasant Bud Small Band (Sunday, March 22, 3 p.m.). For a complete schedule, please visit: www.StarvingArtistOnline.com.

City Island Physical Therapy, coming soon: 60-minute full-body massage by a licensed massage therapist. Appointments will be available Mondays and Tuesdays (any time) and Wednesday through Sunday (afternoon and /evening). All appointment times will be based on availability. Call the office at 718-885-1079 for price information and to schedule an appointment.



PROGRAMS AT THE CITY ISLAND LIBRARY- MARCH 2015
718-885-1703

Our hours are: Mon. and Thurs., 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tues. and Wed., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fri. and Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MARCH 2015 CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS
SPECIAL WEEKLY PROGRAM:
Bi-Lingual Birdies: This March, the

Bilingual Birdies will warm up families with live music, dance parties and theater-based games. We will take you on an adventure to learn new vocabulary about the snow and rain, warm winter clothes and playing winter sports. Children will also learn about various professions and modes of transportation. Teachers play the guitar and instruments are provided for a collective family jam! Every Monday (March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30) at 11 a.m.

ONGOING PROGRAMS:

Circle Time: Interactive stories, action, songs, crafts and interaction with other toddlers in the neighborhood. First come first served. A limit of 15 children and caregivers per session. 18 months to 3 years. Every Tuesday at 11 a.m.

Read & Play: Children from birth to 3 years old and their caregivers can take part in wonderful stories, discover amazing toys, and meet new friends in this fun, informal program. There is a limit of 15 children and their caregivers per session. Space is limited on a first come, first serve basis the day of the program. Every Friday at 11 a.m.

Craft-A-Way: Friday, March 20, all day.

MARCH 2015 TEEN & TWEEN PROGRAMS

SPECIAL PROGRAM:

Finding Rosie. As millions of American men left our shores to fight overseas, our nation's women took up the call to fill the gaps that were left behind. The Intrepid Museum educators will help you interpret the poster art used to motivate women to keep our home front thriving during World War II. Presented by Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum. For ages 12 to 18 years old. Monday, March 30, at 3 p.m.

ONGOING PROGRAM:

After School Lounge. Come to the library after school for studying, relaxing and doing homework with Wii and movies on Friday. Every weekday after school Monday through Friday from 3 to 5 p.m.

MARCH 2015 ADULT PROGRAMS

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

Medicare Information Session. Drop by this informative workshop to explore your Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplement and Part D Coverage choices. Allan Katz is the owner of Comprehensive Wealth Management Group, LLC, and is very involved in the local community, both on a professional and personal level. He is a member of the New York Chapter of the Financial Planning Association, where he does extensive work with the

Pro Bono program, the FPA's Mentoring Program and MoneyWorks Program. Saturday, March 7, at 3 p.m.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Island Writers returns to its regular program time and date. Open to all. Every Tuesday at 1 p.m. Facilitated by Gail Hitt. Begins on Tuesday, March 3, at 1 p.m.

Computer Q & A: Ask questions about how to use computers. "How do I turn a computer on?" "How do I set up my own e-mail account and e-mail family and friends?" "How do I copy and paste text and pictures?" How can I sign in to use a computer at the library with my library card?" Every Monday afternoon from 1 to 2 p.m. at Grace Church, Pilot Street. Every Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon. Also, one-on-one training by appointment.

Resume Writing Workshop and Online Job Search: Staff will be here to help you look for employment and get your resume into top form for the competitive job market. Pre-registration is encouraged but drop-ins are fine. It is recommended you bring along a flash drive to save your work. Every Wednesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon.

Tablet Group: Learn how to borrow and download library e-books, discuss your favorite apps and ask questions about how to use tablets in your day-to-day life. Every Thursday afternoon from 2 to 3.

Saturday Afternoon Movies:

"Get On Up! The James Brown

Story," Saturday, March 14, at 1 p.m.

"Moscow on the Hudson," Saturday, March 21, at 1 p.m.

"Fried Green Tomatoes," Saturday, March 28, at 1 p.m.

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

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81st Anniversary Gala Dinner and Dance
Honoring:
Newly Ordained Rabbi David Evan Markus
& Longtime Board member Michael Eiron
Saturday, March 28, 2015
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM
The Pelham/Split Rock Golf Courses
870 Shore Road
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Cocktail Hour, Dinner with Complimentary Wine, Beer, Soda & Dessert. Cash Bar Available.
Live Entertainment by the Lickety Split Band.
\$75.00 per person
RSVP by March 18, 2014
Silent Auction to support our Temple's future.
Items can be previewed and pre-bids accepted prior to our event at Kaleidoscope Gallery 280 City Island Ave
For additional information contact Paul Klein 718-885-3090.
* If Glatt Kosher food is required please notify with RSVP

THE BOAT SHOW 2015

By GREG CLANCY

Walking down King Avenue a few days ago, I sneaked a glimpse of Long Island Sound off City Island's northeast quarter. The scene was like a Discovery Channel documentary of the Arctic. Wind-driven rollers punctuated a gray sky and a dark high tide, while waves crashed into the ice and snow along the island's edge. Seeing City Island look like an Aleutian island makes it hard to imagine that we are only weeks away from the boating season. But that happy reality is easier to grasp as one walks through the doors of the Javits Center and into the New York National Boat Show! Our mid-winter pilgrimage to see everything nautical always offers a warm respite from the bitter cold of January.

Joining me this year was my own family, including the beautiful Meaghan, Patrick (8), Matthew (6), James (4) and Jonathan (7 months). This was, of course, Jonathan's first boat show, and he was a little overwhelmed, but his big brothers are old hats by now, so he was in good hands under their tutelage.

Before boarding our first boat (or even checking the beer prices, for that matter), we walked right into City Island's own Harlem Yacht Club. Edmund Williams and Bob Owens gave us their bright greeting, which had already produced a number of membership prospects. After a quick report on the show, they informed us that the HYC will be having an open house on the afternoons of March 22 and April 11. My big brother Bill is a member of the HYC, and I'm sorry to say that he missed the show again this year.

While chatting with the HYC guys, I observed a most peculiar phenomenon. My older boys, Patrick and Matthew, disembarked from me and began to systematically hit every booth, talking to every vendor about what they sold and prying out little show souvenirs along the way. They looked at ropes, shackles, props, electronics, digital throttle controls and even a water tent. They were most excited about that floating waterborne tent, so I had to investigate what turned out to be an inflat-

able life raft with enclosure, starting at \$1,700. Sorry, boys, no water tent this year. You'd better talk to your Uncle Bill and hope that Aunt Kurstal goes back to work soon.

Looking around the many vendor booths at the show, I used to wonder why my dad, who wrote this article for decades before his passing, spent so little time exploring them. He always picked a few booths that interested him, like the German glue exhibit, and he skipped the rest. I think these booths can appear much the same year after year, perhaps even a little boring. In fact, if I'm being honest with myself, I've been skipping half the booths. But through the eyes of my newly promoted product testers I got a new look at a whole host of things.

Digital station keeping is one of the innovations I might have otherwise missed. Mercury Marine's Sky Hook was one such device. This is a GPS-like device that is wired into a boat's controls. Tapping into your props and thrusters, this system will keep your boat within 10 feet of its original position once set. Full "fly by wire" controls make this possible. Digital throttles et al. seem to be emerging on new boats. I liked the Sky Hook, but I also like knowing that I have a steel cable between my throttles and my engines, so I'm not sure if I'm sold on fully digital controls yet. This technology has been used by the military and commercial airliners for years, but the Navy and Boeing have better maintenance programs than the average mussel-sucking Sunday boater, so I'm not sure if this one is for the rest of us yet. Maybe Adam Calbo and Kevin Flynn can test it out down at the Morris. I think they could use "fly by wire" on their travel lift.

Our next stop: a few boats! But we only got through the Yamaha jet boat exhibit, with bow riders topping out at 50+ knots, before we decided to build a boat. Armed with wooden blocks, a glue gun and a box of markers, the kids got to build their sailboat/tug boat combo. The show actually has a number of draws for the kids, from boat building to remote-control boats. Last year we even saw an alligator wrestling show. There are classes for the grown-ups too. While the kids built their boats, I caught a glimpse of a presentation on the history of the outboard engine. They had a number of antique engines to boot. I thought of my Uncle Kevin Clancy, whose collection of classic outboards once topped 70.

But I digress, and this is the part of the story where Betty and Ann say, "Geez! He's getting just like his father. Halfway through this lousy article, and he's hardly even talked



Islander Greg Clancy and his family (wife Meaghan, sons Patrick, Matthew, James and Jonathan) reviewed the latest boat designs at the annual New York Boat Show on Jan. 21-25, 2015. They ran into Islander Mary Dannegger (bottom photo) who was working for Formula Yachts at the show.



about any boats yet!" Okay, okay, here goes. You want to know what's in this year? Center consoles. Big ones too. Sun Seekers, Boston Whalers, Carolinas and others as big as 42 feet. And the days of one or two engines are gone. Many of the big outboards had three engines. A triple 350-horse outboard used to be a concept boat, now it is a production boat. Yamaha is very dominant in this engine market, but Evinrude's new G2 engine probably drew the most attention. With a low and narrow head and a wide short shaft, the engine had a very flat look, as if it could ship in the same box as a large flat-screen television. Evinrude claims the highest torque (equating to power) of any outboard afloat.

I'll tell you another thing that's in, diesel engines. Almost every inboard powerboat in the show floor had a diesel option. Cummins seemed to be the dominant pick of boat builders, with a spattering of Volvo and others. Cummins claims to have the best solutions to the problems of noise and fumes associated with diesels. Diesel engines in general have caught up to gas when it comes to speed and acceleration. A turbocharged diesel can rocket any picnic boat or cabin cruiser right alongside the big gas guzzlers, and for just a little more than half (yes, half) the fuel consumption of a gas engine. (Take notes, Bill. We'll have to hit up Mike, brother number 2, to fund those new diesels for our boat when he gets home from abroad.)

Back to business, I had a hard time finding the Queen of the Show. The Tiara 44-foot coupe was a contender for sure. With modern Tiara lines, nontraditional colors and a blend of boat-like and condo-like finishes, she was beautiful, though far from classic. She was much what I would expect from Tiara. The Tiara that caught my eye, however, was the 30-foot C30, with almost classic lines, a navy hull and slightly rounded stern. From the outside, she hinted at the look of a Hinckley. Inside there were nautical finishes, twin 350-horse turbocharged Cummins diesels and a huge cockpit. While Tiara's Queen started at over \$900,000, this C30 was listed at \$329,000. She felt more like the down-east style of a Maine boat but was priced to sell.

Speaking of down-easters, Sabreline had two beautiful versions. They were also the only exhibit (of every exhibit I visited) that had not yet sold a boat at the 2015 show. It's true: every other exhibitor had sold at least one boat. Doubly amazing was that our visit was on Thursday, only halfway through the show, with the weekend left ahead. I don't remember ever hearing about so many sales. Never. It was heartening to hear this at a show that seems to shrink a little every year.

Speaking of sales, and affordability, I would check out Carver or Cutwater. Cutwa-

ter goes up to 34 feet, is somewhere between a tug style and a trawler and starts in the high 100s. Most have narrow beams and a single screw, but they are incredibly efficient in their layout. Carver too builds a nice cabin cruiser that is in range for the less than rich. Carver is experimenting with their hull, which for years was shaped like a Clorox bottle. They are rounding out the bow, kind of like a work boat, without making the boat feel like a tug. I'm not convinced it works, but I applaud Carver (still home-based in my wife's native country of Wisconsin) for trying something different.

Speaking of Wisconsin, isn't that where Sally McCheap got to? Our former *Island Current* editor would not have approved of our drink expenses. A beer, a wine and three juices were nearly \$40. The line of three people ahead of me took only about 20 minutes to get through. With an average serve time of 6 minutes per patron off a menu that features only bottled beverages, it's no wonder Javits loses money. Someone should write to Governor Cuomo. (Do you think he likes boats?)

To close my thought on Carver and Cutwater, they were among the only true cabin cruisers at the boat show, and they are among the most affordable of any cabin cruiser out there. My brother Bill and I have a 1985 33-foot Egg Harbor. Back then Eggs were mass-produced and marketed for the upper middle class. And Egg wasn't the only one back then. There were lots of production boats in the past: Chris Craft, Silverton, Sea Ray, Uni-flight, Luhrs and many, many others. A lot of these names are still in business, but most now build only for the filthy rich. They have gone toward very high-end "custom" boats. Chris Craft, for example, used to be the king of places like City Island. Now they make souped-up quarter-million-dollar "runabouts." My first "runabout" cost me a thousand dollars, was just as fast and sat just as many people as today's Chris Craft. I've stopped even visiting their booth at the show. They're beautiful boats, but c'mon.

Toward the end of our visit, we dropped in on Formula, which is somewhere between affordable and obnoxious. On par with the big Tiaras, Formula makes a great boat, but the highlight of our visit was meeting City Island's own Mary Dannegger. Looking as beautiful as ever, Mary has been working at the Boat Show for years. She's been with Formula and others, and she makes a point to stay plugged in at the show. She and the younger Clancy boys even posed for a few pictures.

After leaving Mary, we found our time winding down to the point where the Javits staff started turning the lights off. I tried to pry one more beer out of the concession stand, but with two guys ahead of me the wait was just too long. Then it hit us. We had been at it for hours. We hadn't even stopped for dinner. Meaghan marveled at how well the kids had done, even the baby, but it was no surprise to me. They're clam diggers after all! Bottom line, we all liked the show. There were things old, things new, lots borrowed (ideas anyway) and plenty of blue. Sounds almost like a wedding! Well, my wife often says that I love *Kitty Clyde* (our boat) more than her. Maybe I'll marry *Kitty* next time around and bring her to the show. Or maybe *Kitty* and I will just see you out on the water come spring! We're almost there, so here's to another great season ahead!

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Organization News

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

Current Calendar

MARCH

Thurs., March 19, **Community Board 10 meets**, 7:30 p.m., Schuyler House 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway.

Tues., March 24, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street. NOTE: Because the Bronx Borough President will address the meeting, it is being held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, not the last Tuesday.

Fri., March 27, **P.S. 175's Under the Sea Card Party**, Scavello's On the Island, 101 City Island Avenue, 6:30 p.m. Call 718-885-1093 for tickets.

Sat., March 28, **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.

Sat., March 28, **Temple Beth-El Gala Dinner Dance**, Pelham/Split Rock Golf Course club house, 7 p.m.

APRIL

Thurs., Fri., and Sat., April 2, 3 and 4, **Boy Scout Easter Flower Sale**, in front of Trinity Methodist Church, Bay Street and City Island Avenue.

Island Avenue, every day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. until the day of the event, and bids may be placed.

Some of silent auction items are: Sailing trip with Bob Berent (valued at \$250; bids start at \$75); two floor seats to Brooklyn Nets vs. Orlando Magic, including unlimited food and soft drinks in the Calvin Klein Club and throughout Barclay Center (valued at \$410; bids start at \$95); a lady's ring consisting of a 9kt shaped opal set with diamonds in 14kt yellow gold (valued at \$1,800 bids; start at \$500); 34-inch necklace of freshwater pearls with a large pink druzy (valued at \$195; bids start at \$60); a framed/matted original watercolor collage by Cheryl Brinker (valued at \$300; bids start at \$75); framed needlepoint of rabbi with Torah (valued at \$100; bids start at \$25); photograph of the City Island Bridge by Nancy Kheck Gannon (valued at \$120; bids start at \$50); 10+ place settings of Bavarian porcelain dinnerware with serving pieces (valued at \$750; bids start at \$50); Turkish wool rug 7 x 9 feet with natural dyes (valued at \$7900; bids start at \$900); Bokhara hand-knotted wool rug at 5 x 3 feet, 2 inches (valued at \$800; bids start at \$75); Bokhara hand-knotted wool runner at 11 feet, 6 inches x 2 feet, 7 inches (valued at \$800; bids start at \$75); Chinese hand-tufted wool rug w/ dragon motif, 6 x 2.5 feet (valued at \$500; bids start at \$50).

Ellen Ruth Topol

Holiday Services

Trinity United Methodist Church

113 Bay Street

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday service, 10 a.m.

Friday, April 3: Good Friday service, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at Pelham Cemetery on King Avenue, 6:30 a.m. Easter Celebrative Worship at Trinity Church, 10 a.m.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church

City Island Avenue near the bridge

Saturday, March 28: Confessions, 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday: Masses at 8, 10 a.m. and noon. Blessing of Palms at all Masses.

Thursday, April 2: Tenebrae, 8 a.m., Holy Thursday psalms and readings. Solemn commemoration of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 p.m. Adoration to 10 p.m.

Friday, April 3, Good Friday: Tenebrae, 8 a.m. Stations of the Cross, 12 noon. Commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus, 4 p.m. Confessions, 5 to 6 p.m.

April 4, Holy Saturday: Tenebrae, 8 a.m. Solemn Easter Vigil, 8 p.m.

April 5, Easter Sunday: Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon.

Grace Episcopal Church

116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street

Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday: The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday, Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 3: Good Friday service, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 4: Community Easter Egg Hunt, 1 to 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday, Festival and Holy Eucharist, 10 a.m.

Temple Beth-El

480 City Island Avenue

Sunday, March 8: Purim Party, 5 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28: Celebration Weekend Shabbaton and Haskamat Smicha (confirmation of ordination of Rabbi David and his installation as co-rabbi). Friday, 7:30 p.m. Shabbat service; Saturday, 10 a.m. community ordination for Rabbi David.

Saturday, April 4: Passover Seder, 6 p.m. Call for reservations (718-885-3098).



Photo by KAREN NANI

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, the parishioners of Grace Church served up pancakes, bacon and hot cross buns at the annual Shrove Tuesday supper. A gathering of almost 100 hungry Islanders enjoyed breakfast at dinnertime.

St. Mary's Thrift Shop

St. Mary's Thrift shop will not be open for the first two weeks in March to prepare for our "Spring Collection," which will begin on Thursday, March 19, and continue on Saturday, March 21; Thursday, March 26; and Saturday, March 28. Don't miss our new collection of gently used clothing, shoes, bags, linens, bric-a-brac, etc. Bring a friend to shop and enjoy complimentary coffee.

Arlene Byrne

City Island Republicans

The Republican County meeting, which is open to the public, takes place every second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Our next City Island meeting will be held in April.

The Bronx County Lincoln Dinner was well attended and everyone had a great time.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

AARP Chapter 318

AARP 318 meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in Trinity Methodist Church Hall on Bay Street. Our first meeting after our February break will be on March 4. At that meeting, we will be collecting \$20 for our St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's luncheon to be held at our next meeting, March 18, at 12:30 in the church hall. Future meetings include April 1 (Mad Hatter's Day), April 15 (speakers on health), and May 6 (luncheon for Mother's Day). Come join us and bring a friend

Rosetta Woods

Grace Episcopal Church

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

Our regular worship schedule for March includes Holy Communion Rite 1 every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Our Holy Week schedule includes: Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday Service at 10 a.m.

Thursday, April 2, Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday is the name given to the day on which Jesus celebrated the Passover with His disciples, known as the Last Supper.

Friday, April 3, Good Friday Service at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 4, Easter Egg Hunt from 1 to 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 5, Easter Sunday Service at 10 a.m.

Please join us for Contemplative Prayer Service on Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the church. This quiet evening service will include scripture reading, reflection and meditation (incense will be used).

The next meeting of Hearts and Hands takes place on Monday, March 9, from 7 to

8:30 p.m. Hearts and Hands is a group of women (men are welcome, too) from Grace Church and the community who crochet, knit or use a knitting loom to make small afghans or hats that are donated to Calvary Hospital in the Bronx. We have yarn you can use, and we also welcome yarn donations. Come join us!

We are now collecting small and wrapped candy, plastic eggs and small prizes to fill up plastic eggs and gift bags for the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt on April 4 at Grace Church. Last year we were able to stuff some 2,000 eggs. We would need these items by Friday, March 27. If you would like to donate, please contact Sandy at accentfix@gmail.com.

Eileen Marcus

Legion Ladies Auxiliary

Our next meeting will be held on March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Post. Please make every attempt to attend this meeting. Important topics need to be discussed.

We hope everyone has a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day. Stay warm.

Laura Booth

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

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

Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218

Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

Overeaters Anonymous:

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

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

Wow, what a winter! Enjoy the warmth of friends and neighbors in a fun-filled Community Center activity listed below. Annual membership to the City Island Community Center is only \$30 for families and \$20 for individuals. Please consider joining and think about volunteering. We need your help and support. To join the Center, to request our new brochure, and for up-to-date information visit www.city-islandcommunitycenter.org, call 718-885-1145 or "Like" us on Facebook!

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Bingo Night: Friday, March 13, at 7 p.m. Bring the whole family for a night filled with fun and games with outstanding prizes. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Bingo cards are \$5 and Center members get one free card.

Pysanki Egg Craft: Sunday, March 22, 4:30 p.m. Young people join Jay Howard in creating beautiful decorated eggs just in time for spring. Materials fee is \$5..

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Art Classes for Children: Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Explore drawing, painting and sculpture: Study Van Gogh, Picasso and Leonardo daVinci. For ages 7 to 12 with Lorraine Cantori. Call 914-552-5268 to register for the new series.

Jill's Playgroup: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Preschool children are invited to have fun with other children. There is no charge, but donations are appreciated. For information, call Jill at 917-330-0922.

Irish Dance for Children: Mondays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Irish step dancing for all ages at all levels taught by Caitlin Nora Kelly. For information or to enroll, call Kim at 718-885-3501.

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

ADULT PROGRAMS

AA Orchard Beach Group: Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. Open meeting. All are welcome.

Aerobics with Mary: Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m. Stay strong with cross fit/aerobic strength training. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793. AFA Certified.

Belly Dance / Shimmy By the Sea with Kristin, aka Gypsy Curves: Sundays, 4 p.m. Fee is \$20 per class; the sixth class is free. Call Kristin Amezquita at 646-625-1575 for information.

Chair Yoga with Michael: Fridays, 9:30 a.m. Note new day. Stretch and flex with an easy combination of yoga, tai chi and pilates. For more information, call Betty at 718-885-1095.

Chess Club: Every Thursday at 7 p.m. Chess taught, played and discussed. All levels welcome. Come on in! Avoid TV. Have fun. Call Bill at 718-541-3995.

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

City Island CSA: Mondays, 5 to 7 p.m. Join the Community Supported Agriculture Group now for delivery of the freshest most delicious organic fruits and vegetables in the late spring. For information, contact laurenbriggsrn@gmail.com or call 917-238-0529.

City Island Culinary Club: Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Have fun with other people who love to cook and Chef Michael Proietti. Foods of Ireland on March 11 and 25.

"Mother" Sauces: April 1 and 15. Mexican Foods: May 6 and 20. Special Salads: June 3 and 17. Coming up in June, a Community Dinner hosted by CI Culinary Club. For information, call Michael at 646-296-3102.

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

Francesca's Shamanic Drumming Ceremony and Ritual will take you to a place of self discovery and healing. Francesca Rev. RPP. CRE, Board Certified Polarity/CS, is a Shamanic healer of the soul. Her goal is to heal and help a person feel whole again through spiritual journeying. Please bring a yoga mat to the sessions on the second and last Thursday of the month, from 7 to 9 p.m. To register, contact Francesca at 914-837-6830 or www.TheeVitalForcefoundation.org.

Parenting Group: Last Tuesday at 7 p.m. We laugh, we cry and we learn from one another. Join us as we share our experience, strength and hope on this journey of parenthood. For information call John Scardina at 718-885-9305.

Weight Watchers Meetings: Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with Debbie. It is time to get healthy and to trim down. A new series begins mid-January. For more information, call Elena at 718-885-2268 or Patty at 718-885-1891.

Yoga with Jo Ann: Tuesdays, to 8:30 p.m. \$10 per session. Gentle level-one class. Please bring a mat, a strap and, if possible, a yoga blanket. For more information, contact Jo Ann at 917-853-4719 or joannngny@aol.com.

Zumba with Julia: Want to lose that belly fat? Well here is your chance to Zumba with Julia. It's a high energy Zumba workout for an hour. Saturdays at 10 a.m. \$10 per class. For questions, call 917-601-5514.

Zumba with Letti: Thursdays at 6 p.m. Letti's very creative class is a real calorie burner and a blast. Classes are \$10. Call Lettie at 917-292-4228 for more information.

Patty Grondahl

Sons of the American Legion

We would like to remind all members that 2015 dues are now due. They are \$30 and can be mailed or dropped off to the Post and placed in the SAL Box.

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

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

American Legion Post #156

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. The executive board meeting will be held on Monday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Dues are now due. They are \$50. We are now on the web. Our new website is Post156.com.

The Super Bowl party was well attended, and a good time was had by all. A legion of thanks goes out to Bob Mennona for the enjoyable of food, with help from Bob Salerno, who outdid himself at the Italian night with both food and song. Also thanks go out for both events to Gene Valesio, Pete Zvara, Jim Livingston and Mike Jawski. We must not forget to thank Ray Olmeda for his help in the kitchen for Italian Night along with servers Caroline, Ashley and Hannah. We are also grateful to Peter Booth and his brother-in-law Danny D'Allara for providing the music for the night.

The annual St. Patrick's dinner will be on Sunday, March 15, from 1 to 5 p.m.

A big thank-you goes out to Dianne and John O'Sullivan, Betty Jordan, Ann Sullivan and Betty Carman, along with everyone else who helped to make February 7 a wonderful night of song and dance. Keep an eye out at the Post for upcoming galas. Non-members are also welcome to attend Post functions and the Post is grateful to them for the wonderful donation from the event. The Post would like to thank the City Island

community for its continued support!

The VA accepts only clothing donations for our veterans. No books, please. Clothing can be dropped off at the Post or taken over to the fourth floor of the VA hospital in Kingsbridge. Women's clothing is especially needed. Thanks to Mike McKenna for taking the clothing donations over to the VA Hospital.

The bar now opens at 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

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

All retired flags should be dropped off at the Post in the mailbox by the flagpole.

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

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

My heartfelt personal thanks go out to all of those who celebrated Trudy's life over President's weekend, at the Legion. The turnout of friends was overwhelming. Two of her grammar school friends, one from Wisconsin and Bob Horan who sang at our wedding, dropped by for two songs after driving round trip from Vermont. Thank you all again.

John Muhlfeld

PSS City Island Senior Center

The mission of PSS City Island Center is to provide neighborhood adults 60 and over with the tools to live life to their fullest, keeping them healthy, engaged and connected through innovative programs and classes.

We are not your everyday senior center!

The center is located at 116 City Island Avenue in Grace Church Hall and is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. A delicious lunch is served every day from 12 to 1 p.m., catered by Scavello's (IGA). Call Patty at 718-885-0727 to receive a detailed monthly calendar featuring trips, events and activities. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services and the NYC Department for the Aging.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Lunch time has changed and is now being served from noon to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3: Lighthouse Guild Presentation "Living Better with Vision Loss" at 12:15 p.m.

Thursday, March 12: Bring a Friend Day.

Tuesday, March 17: St. Patrick's Day Party.

Thursday, March 19: Birthday Party, music, dancing.

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

March Programs: Mondays 10:15 German Club; 1 p.m. Individualized Computer Instruction; Tuesdays 10:15 Conversational Spanish; Wednesdays 1 p.m. on March 11 and 25 \$10 Haircuts by Brenda; Thursdays 12:30, March 5 Piracy Bingo, March 19 Birthday Party; Fridays 10:15 to 12:30 Learn to play Mah Jong.

Information, Referrals and Assistance

Regarding benefits applicable to seniors, we are more than happy to provide information, referrals and assistance in filling out forms and applying for certain programs. Call Patty at 718-885-0727 or drop by the center.

Caregivers Support

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

Transportation Services

Off island shopping trips leave at 9:30 and include Shop Rite, Bay Plaza, Stop &

Shop, Target, Farmers Market, Trader Joe's, Empire City and more. See our monthly calendar for specific dates. The suggested contribution for a round trip is \$1 on City Island and \$2.50 off-Island shopping trips. Limited availability is open for off island Doctors appts. You must call the office 1 week prior to appointment and be approved. Anyone over 60 is encouraged to take advantage of our door-to-door transportation services. Call Tony at 347-834-6466 for pickup or trips.

Patty Attis

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.

Lenten Bible study began on Feb. 22 and will run for five consecutive Sundays to March 22 in Fellowship Hall from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The study is of the Apostle Paul's New Testament letters to Titus and 2 Timothy. The theme is "doing the work of an evangelist."

Trinity's Easter Services are as follows: Palm Sunday Worship Service: March 29, 10 a.m.

Good Friday Worship Service: April 3, 7:30 p.m. Ecumenical service; all are welcome!

Easter Sunrise Service: April 5, 6:30 a.m. at Pelham Cemetery, Ecumenical service; all are welcome! This is an annual informal ecumenical Christian gathering to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The service will be led by George Cavalieri, lay servant of Trinity United Methodist Church and members of the community will participate with scripture readings, songs, prayers and poetry. We will meet in Trinity's Fellowship Hall, 113 Bay Street, at 6:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday Service: April 5, 10 a.m.

The Budget Corner is open, and is full of great bargains. The dates are: March 7, 10, 21, 24 and 28; April 4, 7, 18, 21 and 28. As always, Trinity United Methodist Church is thankful for the City Island community's continued support of the Budget Corner.

Rick DeWitt

Garden Club of City Island

It may be cold outside, but the Garden Club is still very active. Our March meeting will have a speaker from a local florist on creating beautiful spring and Easter flower arrangements for your home. Future meetings will include presentations on beekeeping and honey making and a demonstration of origami flowers. Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding, and our speaker will focus her workshop on folding flowers and leaves. Be on the lookout for our new Garden Club t-shirts, both for our members and for shoppers at the spring Craft Fair on City Island.

Save the date for the Garden Club's annual luncheon, themed "Irises," to be held on Thursday, May 21, at noon at the City Island Yacht Club.

Most importantly, we are getting ready for the April distribution of letters to Island residents and businesses for our annual Beautification Fund Drive for 2015. As you already know, this is our big drive to fund the work we do in keeping the Island's parks and public spaces planted and maintained, as well as tend the lovely planter boxes, keeping them seasonally beautiful for all to enjoy. When your letter arrives, we hope we can count on you to be as generous as you've been in the past, or even more so. The Garden Club of City Island receives no state or city funds in doing our various projects and programs, and we rely solely on the support of Islanders. In addition to the planters, we are working with the board of Pelham Cemetery to enhance the entrance gate.

If gardening, gardens and a beautiful City Island are among your interests, you are welcome to attend one of our meetings, which are held at 10 a.m. on the first Monday of each



A Selected Filmography of Jake Gyllenhaal

Jake Gyllenhaal had his film debut at the age of 11 in the classic comedy **City Slickers** (1991), the story of three best friends, Mitch Robbins (Billy Crystal), Phil Berquist (Daniel Stern) and Ed Furillo (Brune Kirby), who are entering mid-life and seeking thrills by going on wild vacations. They decide to go to a cattle ranch, where they are under the scrutiny of scary cowhand Curly (Jack Palance). Patricia Wettig plays Mitch's understanding wife, Barbara, and Gyllenhaal is their son, Danny.

I first noticed Jake in **October Sky** (1999), based on a true story by Homer H. Hickam Jr. Jake has the lead as Homer, who is growing up in a poor West Virginia mining town. Inspired by the Sputnik launch to start building rockets of his own, he is encouraged by his teacher, Miss Riley (Laura Dern). This angers his father, John (Chris Cooper), who expects Homer to be a miner like himself. This is a story of how education can overcome poverty and is suitable for family viewing.

Jake stars in the title role in the cult classic **Donnie Darko** (2001), the story of a disturbed teenager who receives doomsday warnings about the future from a large and intimidating imaginary rabbit. Donnie is under the care of a psychiatrist (Katherine Ross), who tells his parents (Mary McDonnell and Holmes Osborn) that Donnie is having hallucinations. The supporting cast features Jake's sister in real life, Maggie Gyllenhaal, as his film sister, Jena Malone as Jake's girlfriend, Patrick Swayze as a motivational speaker and Noah Wyle, Drew Barrymore and Beth Grant as Jake's high school teachers. The film is very odd and mysterious and leaves many unanswered questions.

In **The Good Girl** (2002), Jake is Holden Worth, a young man who comes to work at the Retail Rodeo and is immediately subject to the attention of Justine Last (Jennifer Aniston), a slightly older woman who is unhappily married and bored with her life. Justine is married to Phil (John C. Reilly), who hangs out getting stoned with his friend Bubba (Tim Blake Nelson). When Holden and Justine start having an affair, it is the beginning of a spiral of events leading to tragedy. The acting is excellent.

Proof (2005) is the story of Catherine (Gwyneth Paltrow) who is devoted to her father, Robert (Anthony Hopkins), a brilliant mathematician whose genius is compromised by mental illness. Catherine adjusts to his death and her own fears with the help of Hal (Gyllenhaal), one of her father's former students. Her estranged sister, Claire (Hope Davis), arrives as Hal is helping Catherine make a breakthrough.

Set in the Middle East during the first Gulf War, **Jarhead** (2005) is the story of Anthony Swofford (Gyllenhaal), a third-generation Marine who becomes a sniper, along with fellow soldiers Allen Troy (Peter Saarsgard) and Lucas Black (Chris Krug). The supporting cast includes Chris Cooper as Lieutenant Colonel Kazinski, Jamie Foxx as Staff Sergeant Sykes, and Dennis Haysbert as Major Lincoln. The soldiers go from a grueling stint in boot camp to active duty in the sweltering desert, under the continuous threat of Iraqi soldiers. They deal with the inhumane conditions with caustic black humor.

Brokeback Mountain (2005), which spans two decades starting in 1963, tells the story of the love that develops between Jack Twist (Gyllenhaal) and Ennis Del Mar (Heath Ledger), who meet when hired to herd cattle through Wyoming. After their first sexual encounter, the men go on to marry: Jack to Laureen (Anne Hathaway) and Ennis to Alma (Michelle Williams). The men meet occasionally and briefly through the years, which has difficult consequences. Both men received Academy Award nominations for their heartbreaking performances.

Zodiac (2007) stars Jake as Robert Graysmith, a San Francisco cartoonist who becomes an amateur detective obsessed with tracking down the Zodiac killer. Robert Downey Jr. co-stars as Paul Avery, a showboating newspaper reporter, and Mark Ruffalo plays San Francisco police detective Dave Toschi. Chloë Sevigny is Melanie, Graysmith's wife and the mother of his three children, who loses him to his obsession with solving the case. The film is based on actual events of the 1960s and 1970s.

In **Brothers** (2009) Jake plays Tommy, an ex-con who tries to be supportive when his brother, Captain Sam Cahill (Tobey Maguire), leaves for another tour in Afghanistan and is captured. Sam leaves behind a wife, Grace (Natalie Portman), and two young daughters, Isabelle and Maggie (Bailee Madison and Taylor Geare). When Sam returns, his severe post-traumatic stress makes it impossible for him to adjust to normal life, and his marriage is threatened by his extreme jealousy of Tommy and Grace's close but platonic relationship. The supporting cast includes Sam Shepard and Mare Winningham as the brothers' father and stepmother, Patrick Flueger as Sam's fellow captive, Private Joe Willis, and Carey Mulligan as Joe's wife, Cassie.

Source Code (2011) is the story of Captain Colter Stevens (Gyllenhaal), whose mission is to find the bomber of a Chicago commuter train. He finds himself a reluctant part of a government experiment run by scientist Dr. Rutledge (Jeffrey Wright). His controller is Air Force Captain Colleen Goodwin (Vera Farmiga), who insists that Colter stay on mission. Every day he wakes up in the body of Sean Fentress, a school teacher who is traveling with Christina Warren (Michelle Monaghan). Colter must relive the last eight minutes of Fentress's life (and death) over and over until he identifies the bomber.

In **Prisoners** (2013) Jake plays Detective Loki, who is assigned to a case when six-year-old Anna Dover (Erin Gerasimovich) and her friend Joy Birch (Kyla-Drew Simmons) go missing. Anna's father, Keller (Hugh Jackman), insists that Joy's dad, Franklin (Terrance Howard), help him take matters into their own hands by stalking a suspect, Alex Jones (Paul Dano). Mario Bello and Viola Davis co-star as the mothers who are in despair yet horrified by the actions of their panicked husbands. Melissa Leo is also on hand as Alex Jones's mother. This thriller questions what a parent might do to protect his or her child.

Enemy (2013) is a surreal and suspenseful psychological study in which Jack plays dual roles as Adam Bell, an unkempt, bored and lifeless history professor with a beautiful girlfriend, Mary (Melanie Laurent), and Anthony Clair, a struggling actor with a pregnant wife, Helen (Sarah Gadon). When Adam discovers his double in a porn film, he is fascinated and begins to stalk the actor. The two eventually meet, with strange and disturbing consequences.

In **Nightcrawler** (2014), Jake creates a uniquely original eerie character named Lou Bloom. Late one night in Los Angeles, he witnesses Joe Loder (Bill Paxton) filming a seriously gory accident. When Bloom sees the footage on the morning news the next day, he decides to try that line of work. He films the aftermath of a carjacking and sells it to Nina Romina (Rene Russo), the morning news director of a location television station. Realizing that it's not a one-person job, Bloom hires and mentors an assistant, Rick Carey (Riz Ahmed), who is financially desperate. Bloom is creepily respectful and vicious to those around him and is someone you will remember long after the credits roll.

And until next time, stay warm and safe. And happy viewing. . .

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Organization News

Continued from page 9

month at the City Island Yacht Club. We usually have a presentation and then discuss club business, followed by refreshments.

We close this update wishing for a warm spring arriving soon, for beautiful and bountiful gardens and an avenue that's clean and green with bursts of color in our planters.

Barbara Harrison

City Island Theater Group

The CITG is proud to kick off its 16th season with John Patrick Shanley's "Outside Mullingar." Premiering on Broadway last year, this play is a touching, romantic comedy that both pulls on the heartstrings and inspires laughter. Bronx native John Patrick Shanley, winner of a Tony, Pulitzer Prize and Academy Award, has given the City Island Theater Group permission to be the first community theater group to present this fantastic show. We are extremely grateful for his support and kindness!

"Outside Mullingar" is the story of the Muldoon and Reilly families who have been living side by side for generations and are hotly disputing a sliver of land between their farms. At the center of the story are the rival heirs, Rosemary and Anthony, each filled with enough anger, yearning and willfulness to keep them apart for years to come. This is a compassionate, delightful play about how it's never too late to go after what you want.

Mary McIntyre

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

On March 6, the first Friday of the month, we will hold our monthly Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. All are welcome to attend this special period of prayer.

The Lenten devotion of Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday evening during Lent at 7 p.m. except for Good Friday when they will be held at 12 noon.

All are welcome to join us at our monthly Hospitality Hour on Sunday, March 8. It will be held in the rectory after the 10 a.m. Mass.

On Tuesday, March 10, there will be an important meeting of parents and sponsors of all our students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It will be held at 7 p.m. The parents will be notified by mail as to the place of the meeting.

On Saturday, March 28, the children from our religious education program will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. The ceremony will take place in our church at 11 a.m.

The last Sunday of the month, March 29, will bring us to the holiest week of the Church Year when we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. March 29 is Palm Sunday, when palms will be blessed and distributed at all the Masses. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m. we will have the service of Tenebrae consisting of psalms, readings and the chanting of the Lamentations of Jeremiah. The Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Supper will take place on Holy Thursday evening, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. followed by adoration until 10 p.m.

On Good Friday we will have Stations of the Cross at 12 noon. The Solemn Commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus will

take place at 4 p.m. After a day of waiting and silence on Holy Saturday, April 4, the solemn Easter Vigil will take place at 8 p.m. that evening, and our joyful Alleluias will continue on Easter Sunday at all our Masses: 8 and 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Because of the celebration of Holy Week and Easter, there will be no religious education classes on April 1 and April 8.

Happy Easter to all!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Bartow-Pell Events

"Accomplished Women: Schoolgirl Art from Female Academies in the Early Nineteenth Century," an exhibition of beautiful embroidered works from the collection of William and Sally Gemmill, will be on view from March 1 to June 21.

The March lecture series, "Locally Grown: Mansions, Movies, and Mausoleums," will feature three talks on local history by local historians, co-sponsored by the Huntington Free Library & Reading Room. Tickets may be purchased in advance at bpmm.org or at the door. Cost \$10 adults; \$8 seniors and students; members free. Registration requested. The first lecture, by Blake Bell, will be "Bartow Neighbors: The Mansions and Estates of Pelham Bay" on Thursday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. The second lecture will be a history of local movie-making by City Island historian Barbara Burn Dolensek on Thursday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. The third lecture will be given on Thursday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m., by Susan Olsen, director of historical services at Woodlawn Cemetery, on "Magnificent Marble Mausoleums of the Bronx."

An Urban Park Ranger hike to discover the estates of Pelham Bay Park will take place on Tuesday, March 10, at 1 p.m. Explore the area north of the Bartow-Pell mansion for foundations of grand country houses and outbuildings that no longer exist. Comfortable shoes or boots and water recommended. Meet at BPMM parking lot. Registration requested. Free.

The Winter Chamber Music Concert will be held on Sunday, March 15, at 4:30 p.m. BPMM presents Siren Baroque, an all-female ensemble performing works by female 17th-century composers. Tickets may be purchased online at bpmm.org or at the door. Cost: \$20. Registration requested.

Volunteer Garden Clean-Up Day #1 will take place on Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Light breakfast available. Please bring gloves and wear boots. Rain (or snow!) date: Saturday, March 21. Registration requested. Free.

A Pysanky Workshop will be held on Saturday, March 21, from 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Learn the time-honored art of creating intricately patterned Ukrainian Easter eggs and make your own using a wax-resist technique at this hands-on workshop. Hot wax and permanent dyes are used so please dress accordingly. Age 14 and up. Bring a bag lunch; only light refreshments are offered. Space is limited. Tickets may be purchased in advance at bpmm.org. Registration required. Cost \$20; members \$15.

On Saturday, March 21, from 4 to 6 p.m., join naturalist Debbie Becker to look for nature's most exclusive and elusive avian creatures, owls. What better way to spend the first full day of spring? Registration requested; call 718-885-1461 or email info@bpmm.org. Free.

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on
Continued on page 11

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SCHOOL NEWS

2+2=4

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Public School 175

Although it was a short month, February was quite busy. Thanks to a another grant from Councilman James Vacca, we are able to provide an after-school musical arts program for students in grades three through eight. Students are working with teaching artists from the Bronx Arts Ensemble on a choral performance. Rehearsals have been going very well, and students will be putting on the performance for their families in the middle of March.

Our fifth-graders have also been busy working with the teaching artists from the Bronx Arts Ensemble and their classroom teachers on their March performance of "Aladdin." After seeing the rehearsals, we can tell that this is going to be a marvelous production! A portion of the grant from Councilman Vacca is also being used to subsidize this performance.

Exciting trips this month included: the Bronx Zoo and the movie "Paddington" for the kindergarten and Grade 1; Lehman Center for the Performing Arts to see "Dragon Tales" for the kindergarten; the New York Hall of Science for Grade 4; "New Night at the Museum" movie, a reward trip for grades 5 and 6; the Museum of Chinese America and a visit to Chinatown for grade 3.

The P.S. 175 tradition in which the sixth grade goes to Camp Greenkill will continue this May. Our seventh-graders are gearing up for two learning-filled trips that will take place in the coming months; in March they will go to Philadelphia and in May to Boston. Both trips tie in with what they have been learning in social studies.

Our eighth-grade students are working hard to be ready for their momentous June

event. This month they held a Valentine's Day bake and candygram sale, which provided an opportunity for their schoolmates to purchase Valentine's Day goodies for family members. This year's senior trip will be an overnight visit to Washington, D.C.

Our Sports & Arts after-school program has been in full swing with students participating in art, music, athletic activities, ping pong and knock-hockey tournaments and homework help.

Please keep in mind these important dates:

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday, March 19, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. and from 5 to 8 p.m. The Book Fair and Science Fair Display will take place on this day as well.

Families with children who turned five on or before Dec. 31, 2014, who have not already used the online tool to pre-register their children for kindergarten, will have the opportunity to do so at school in early May. Parents or guardians should call the school at the end of April for specific dates.

Eighth-grade graduation will take place on Wednesday, June 24, at 9:30 a.m. The Eighth-Grade Dance will take place the same evening from 7 to 10 p.m. The Eighth-Grade Awards Night Dinner will take place on Wednesday, June 17, at 6 p.m.

The Kindergarten moving-up ceremony will take place on Tuesday, June 23, at 9:30 a.m., followed by a family celebration in the gym.

February Citizens-of-the-Month are Jason Reyes-Moran and Daniella Padagas (kindergarten); Isabella Hauser (first grade); Erin Crowe and Audrey Veltman (second grade); Lorelei Cullen (third grade); Heaven De Cuffa and Aaron Thomas (fourth grade); Kaia Alston and Travis Prohaska (fifth grade); Angelyn Almedina and Emily Cordova (sixth grade); Angelo Nieves and Adrian Kuka (seventh grade); Carolina Clara and Michael Amos (eighth grade).

IN THE GARDEN

By MARY COLBY



A GARDENER'S MEMOIR

When I was about five years old, my father bought me a packet of carrot seeds, a rake and a shovel. I couldn't wait to get to Nana's house on Sundays, for she had a big garden and within that garden, hidden behind a group of pine trees, was a secret place, hemmed in on all sides, a green room. I planted the seeds and watched them grow, all spindly as there was little light, but grow they did. Even though they would never become carrots, the ferny sprouts mesmerized me. This memory and the memory of weekly Sunday morning trips to the New York Botanical Garden (my father was an amateur photographer) is how my love of gardening began.

From there it was a hop and a skip to collecting cactus and succulents. My sunny bedroom window was burgeoning with stapelias, lithops and echeveria. My friend Susan shared this obsession, and it quickly became our version of trading baseball cards.

I worked for a time in the small greenhouse on the campus of Lehman College propagating streptocarpus, a gesneriad related to the African violet, and after school, I worked for Tony's Nursery and Nabels and put in a short stint propagating at Sprain Brook Nursery, where I learned a lot about dividing and rooting cuttings too. I married at 21, and my greenhouse job came to an end with my pregnancy for it was too cold and damp that winter and it was time to raise a child.

Later my husband worked with a British music company, and this afforded us many trips to visit England. The Cotswolds, the magical area in England that looks untouched since Elizabethan times, was my first outing into the country. We stayed in a beautiful hotel called the Lygon Arms in the town of Broadway. There at the concierge desk were pamphlets directing travelers where to go in the area. One caught my eye and, unbeknownst to me,

Hidcote

it was one of the greatest gardens ever created, the famous Hidcote Garden, and so we went. We meandered through the verdant countryside of rolling hills until we reached our destination. We walked through the gate, and the white garden was the first one we encountered. That was it. I was utterly and irrevocably committed to loving and working the earth for the rest of my life.

Hidcote, paradoxically, was created by an American, Lawrence Johnston. After the great gardens of France and Italy, he used hedges to compartmentalize rooms of different garden themes, but he took it a step further by making the hedges very high, creating privacy and exclusivity within his design. In this very ordered and mathematical scheme, billowing plants and shrubs were planted, making the whole a confection of nature within order. Johnston was one of the leaders in conceptualizing what we know today as English-style gardening. Hidcote became and still is a model designers refer to and emulate.

I began collecting books by the foremost garden writers, and by having my own gardens over the years, I learned through reading and trial and error. I never go to a garden without pencil and paper to make notes on the plant combinations I have seen and the exposure and soil types of the places they are situated. There were many more trips to England—Great Dixter, Sissinghurst and Beth Chatto's garden in Colchester—but I will leave them for another day.

Being a painter and loving the French Impressionists in my early years brought me, of course, to Monet and his garden in Giverny. I would be hard pressed to say which he was better at, for his garden is as much a work of art as his paintings. He gardened in order to paint his beautiful pictures, but I think ultimately he gardened because of his overwhelming love for it. I guess that's my reason, too.

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

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Bartow-Pell Events

Continued from page 10

Saturday, March 28, from 10:30 to 1 p.m. Children 2–12 hunt for eggs, tap their talent at arts and crafts tables and have a photo taken with the Easter Bunny. Light refreshments are offered. Please bring your own basket. Tickets may be purchased in advance at bpmm.org. Registration is required. Cost: \$15 children 2–12; member children \$10. Rain date Sunday, March 29, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Parking across the street in rear of Pelham Bay/Split Rock Golf Course parking lot.

Obituaries

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



Arthur Richard Rauhauser

Longtime Horton Street resident and pilot boat operator Arthur "Ducky" Rauhauser passed away on Feb. 6, 2015. He was 87.

Ducky was born in the Bronx on Feb. 23, 1927, to Arthur and Marie Rauhauser. He and his father moved to City Island the day after the hurricane of 1938 and lived first on Centre Street. He often told the story of how he met his lifelong friend Donald Baumann as they rummaged through all the boats washed up on City Island Avenue after the storm.

Ducky attended P.S. 17 and Christopher Columbus High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Merchant Marine at the age of 17 and served on various ships during World War II. One ship sank after striking a rock off the coast of Cuba. Instead of evacuating with the other crew members, Ducky ran back to his bunk to retrieve his ice skates and almost went down with the ship.

He pursued a number of jobs and hobbies after the war, including skating in the Roller Derby, competing in the Silver Skates competition at the old Madison Square Garden and cycling with the Acme Wheelman club in Queens.

Ducky eventually became a carpenter by trade and worked on many jobs around New York City, including some of the 1964 World's Fair pavilions, the Cross Bronx Expressway and several Catholic school gyms in the Bronx. At the urging of his friend Islander George Cronk, he eventually joined the NYC Department of Hospitals and became a carpenter foreman at Jacobi Hospital on Pelham Parkway, where he worked for over 25 years.

In the 1940s, Ducky met a young City Islander named Lorraine Buschmann in an empty lot on Earley Street. They went sailing together on his cousin Warren Weith's boat and fell in love. They were 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, Don and Ethel (Wilson) Baumann. They often told the story of walking across the Whitestone Bridge in a snow-storm one night to get back to City Island. Lorraine and Ducky eventually purchased a home on Horton Street, where they raised their children.

Ducky's love of boating started at an early age. His father kept a boat, *Sea Suds*, in the old Vidal's shipyard. Ducky learned to sail and eventually crewed with a friend, former City Island Yacht Club member Paul Hoffmann, on Paul's eight-meter *Hother*, in the Bermuda Race, Block Island Race Week and the Vineyard Race.

He and Lorraine eventually purchased their own boats over the years, including

three cabin cruisers named *Cherokee* and two sailboats named *Whisper*. The Rauhausers spent many happy weekends cruising to Eaton's Neck in Long Island Sound along with other Islanders, including their in-laws Philip and Evelyn Gauss, Betty Jordan and the late Bill Clancy.

In the 1970s, Ducky was asked to become the operator of the City Island Pilot Boat by Consolidated Shipyard owner Wesley Rodstrom, Sr. and Winters Street resident, Jim Thombs, who was a pilot with the Hell Gate Pilots Association. Ducky was the last City Island pilot boat operator in the long tradition of transferring trained navigators to commercial and other large vessels before they entered the tricky waters of New York Harbor. He worked as a pilot boat operator for 40 years and retired when the operation was transferred to the Sandy Hook station in New York Harbor.

Ducky was active in several organizations on City Island, serving on the vestry at Grace Episcopal Church, helping out with the Boy Scouts when his son, Eric, was a scout, and volunteering for Maritime Day at P.S. 175. He was selected as Grand Marshal for City Island's Fleet Weekend in 2000.

Ducky was predeceased by his wife, Lorraine, in 2012. He is survived by his children, Karen Nani and Eric Rauhauser of City Island; his son-in-law, Paul Nani; his three grandchildren, Roger and Mark Nani and Lyla Lorraine MacDonald; his cousins, Gail Castiglia and John Rauhauser; his nieces, Carol Gauss McKenna and Melinda Gauss Halligan; and seven great-nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life and mass of Christian burial was held on Feb. 10, 2015, at Grace Episcopal Church. Ducky was interred at Pelham Cemetery on City Island (look for the pink stone with an engraving of his sailboat *Whisper*). Donations in his memory can be made to Grace Church at 116 City Island Avenue.

Joan Ficarra

Joan Marguerite Rosenberger Ficarra, 83, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015, at Syracuse Home at McHarrie Place in Baldwinsville, NY. She was born on City Island and lived here until she moved to Baldwinsville in 2008.

She was a communicant of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, and she was for many years an active member of the Garden Club of City Island.

Joan was predeceased by her husband, Vincent Ficarra, in 2007. She is survived by her daughter, Joann (Norman) Hirsch of Chappaqua, NY; her son, Stephen V. (Mary) Ficarra of Baldwinsville; two grandchildren, Catherine and Christian Ficarra; a sister-in-law, Nancy Rosenberger, several nieces and nephews.

A burial Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 3, at 10 a.m. at St. Mary, Star of the Sea. She will be interred in Pelham Cemetery.

Michael A. Mazzella

Michael A. Mazzella, a clam digger who grew up on City Island, passed away in Riverdale on Dec. 24, 2014.

He was born on April 2, 1969, to Anthony and Dolores Mazzella, who were living on Bridge Street at the time and moved to Earley Street when Michael was 4. He attended St. Mary, Star of the Sea School from 1974 to 1981 and transferred to P. S. 175 when he was 12. After graduation, Michael attended Salesian High School in New Rochelle, transferring after two years to Monsignor Scanlan High School in the Bronx. He graduated and went to SUNY Purchase, where he discovered computer science. He capitalized on this passion after graduating from college and landed a job as a computer analyst for a prestigious law firm in Manhattan.

Michael loved what he did, and helping



Michael Mazzella

people was his forte. Aside from science and computers, he loved the outdoors as a child and anything to do with horticulture. He was very adventurous and loved spending time at the family's off-Island home in Lewis, N.Y. Michael purchased a beautiful residence in Riverdale, where he lived until he passed.

He was predeceased by his mother and is survived by his father, Anthony Mazzella, and stepmother, Joyce O'Keefe-Mazzella;

his brother, Matthew Mazzella; his sister, Jeannine Mazzella-Cito, and brother-in-law, John Cito, his nephew, Nicholas Cito, and his niece, Ella Cito, as well as many uncles, aunts and cousins. Michael was a loving brother, son and uncle known for his witty sense of humor that put smiles on everyone's face. He will be missed.

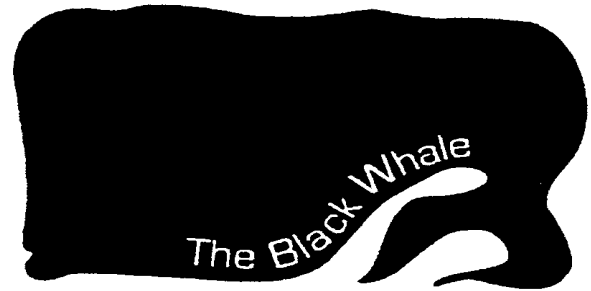
Frank Roublick

Frank Roublick, a clam digger, passed away on Jan. 31, 2015, in Florida.

He was born on April 4, 1958, to John and Eileen Roublick, who lived on Marine Street on City Island. He graduated from St. Mary, Star of the Sea School and attended Blessed Sacrament and Monsignor Scanlan before graduating from Columbus High School. He worked for many years in his father's electrical firm before moving to Florida after his marriage.

He was predeceased by his father and is survived by his mother, Eileen Roublick of New Rochelle; his sister, Susan Rotondi of Cross River; his brother, John Roublick of Yorktown Heights; his daughter, Jennifer Lee Falzone of York, SC; and his son, Frank Roublick, of Key Largo, FL.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Mary, Star of the Sea on March 21, 2015, at 11 a.m.



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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

MARCH 2015									
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Sun	0250	0.39	0856	7.56	1524	-0.05	2122	7.26	Sun 01
02 Mon	0340	0.24	0945	7.68	1609	-0.10	2207	7.46	Mon 02
03 Tue	0424	0.12	1029	7.74	1650	-0.10	2249	7.57	Tue 03
04 Wed	0505	0.06	1108	7.71	1727	-0.04	2326	7.59	Wed 04
05 Thu	0504	0.06	1143	7.60	1757	0.07	2356	7.55	Thu 05
06 Fri	0607	0.10	1207	7.46	1813	0.18			Fri 06
07 Sat	0009	7.51	0618	0.12	1214	7.36	1817	0.19	Sat 07
All times are Eastern Daylight Time beginning Sunday, March 8									
08 Sun	0018	7.57	0734	0.08	1334	7.34	1942	0.16	Sun 08
09 Mon	0146	7.69	0806	0.08	1407	7.32	2018	0.19	Mon 09
10 Tue	0221	7.76	0845	0.14	1446	7.25	2059	0.30	Tue 10
11 Wed	0303	7.78	0929	0.27	1531	7.13	2144	0.47	Wed 11
12 Thur	0349	7.72	1018	0.44	1622	6.98	2235	0.66	Thur 12
13 Fri	0442	7.61	1113	0.60	1718	6.85	2331	0.81	Fri 13
14 Sat	0540	7.50	1216	0.67	1821	6.83			Sat 14
15 Sun	0035	0.83	0644	7.46	1331	0.56	1931	6.99	Sun 15
16 Mon	0150	0.65	0754	7.57	1502	0.21	2045	7.33	Mon 16
17 Tue	0318	0.22	0908	7.81	1610	-0.30	2153	7.80	Tue 17
18 Wed	0431	-0.38	1016	8.11	1706	-0.78	2250	8.25	Wed 18
19 Thur	0530	-0.94	1115	8.36	1756	-1.13	2342	8.59	Thur 19
20 Fri	0623	-1.35	1208	8.46	1845	-1.31			Fri 20
21 Sat	0031	8.76	0715	-1.53	1300	8.40	1933	-1.26	Sat 21
22 Sun	0120	8.74	0807	-1.47	1352	8.18	2021	-1.02	Sun 22
23 Mon	0210	8.55	0901	-1.19	1446	7.84	2113	-0.61	Mon 23
24 Tue	0304	8.20	0958	-0.76	1547	7.44	2209	-0.10	Tue 24
25 Wed	0406	7.79	1100	-0.28	1654	7.09	2314	0.39	Wed 25
26 Thur	0519	7.42	1203	0.15	1804	6.88			Thur 26
27 Fri	0022	0.75	0631	7.21	1306	0.43	1908	6.85	Fri 27
28 Sat	0127	0.92	0736	7.17	1406	0.56	2008	6.98	Sat 28
29 Sun	0227	0.90	0835	7.26	1501	0.57	2103	7.20	Sun 29
30 Mon	0322	0.76	0928	7.40	1551	0.50	2152	7.44	Mon 30
31 Tue	0411	0.57	1017	7.53	1637	0.43	2237	7.63	Tue 31
APRIL 2015									
01 Wed	0456	0.39	1100	7.60	1717	0.38	2319	7.74	Wed 01
02 Thu	0536	0.24	1140	7.60	1752	0.38	2355	7.77	Thu 02
03 Fri	0611	0.16	1215	7.54	1820	0.41			Fri 03
04 Sat	0021	7.74	0638	0.11	1239	7.43	1831	0.42	Sat 04



Why Did the Coyote Cross the Road?

Like many City Islanders who drive, we have had to train ourselves to be on the lookout for deer darting into the road as we go about our business on and off the Island. Coyotes are another story. Until now, the coyotes we hear about have been mostly in the news. There was one stalking an egret in the marsh alongside the Hutch south, but that was years ago.

On a recent drive home along the Shore Road, however, we were forced to brake for a coyote sprinting across our path on its way to the Split Rock Golf Course through a hole in the fence. We watched in awe as well as in the broad daylight. Then we wondered why. Coyotes in Pelham Bay Park are by now old news, and we have been hearing about a possible den on or around the golf course for a while now. As is the case with most wild animal movements, especially those that appear out of the ordinary, as this one did, the experience was probably motivated by food on one level or another. Finding food is always more of a challenge in winter, this winter especially, for all the snow and ice have kept the already scarce vegetation buried and much less accessible.

If the plant eaters can't find the food—and we had a small flock of geese practically knocking on our back door in search of some—they will move on. And fewer plant eaters are bad news for meat eaters. Even the scavengers are having to work harder to eat. One lucky black-backed gull fished out an eel from a hole in the ice. His luck continued, too, as only one much smaller ring-billed gull was drawn to the commotion. This onlooker patiently—and very wisely, we would add—allowed the bigger bird to finish what it started before it moved in for the leftover scraps.

In the interest of a better brand of journalism than has been practiced around here of late, we would like to add the following item to our piece about the barred owl in last month's column: no sooner did we report of the scarcity of barred owls in NYC than we read in the newspaper of as many as 30 of them in the Bronx alone. Although we remain skeptical of that count, it was reported as such elsewhere, and so we hereby share it with our readers.

As always, readers may share their own sights, sounds and/or random acts of kindness to animals at jdsstrat@msn.com.



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April 3rd, Good Friday: 7:30 PM

April 5th, Easter Sunday: 10:00 AM

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SAILING LIFE ON CITY ISLAND

By JOYCE MULCAHY



Photo by JOYCE MULCAHY

No sailing on the frozen Sound this month, so no column, but photographs like this help us count the days until we can again set sail.



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

Your Taxes and the Affordable Care Act

Starting with this year's filing season, taxpayers must report certain information related to health care coverage on their 2014 tax return when they file this April.

In addition, taxpayers must provide proof of health insurance coverage or that they have received an exemption. With that in mind, let's take a look at how the Affordable Care Act might affect your tax situation, and based on your type of coverage, which new tax forms you might be receiving.

Tip: For additional information about IRS tax forms related to health care insurance, please see the article *Health Care Law: Changes to IRS Tax Forms*, below.

The biggest change for most taxpayers is found on Line 61 of Form 1040, where individuals must either check a box to show they had health insurance or pay a penalty. In general, the penalty applies to individuals who did not have health insurance for more than three months in 2014.

In 2014, the penalty is the greater of one

percent of modified adjusted gross income or \$95 per adult (\$47.50 per child under age 18, up to a maximum of \$285 per family). While the IRS cannot issue a lien against you in order to make you pay the penalty, they are allowed to withhold the money from your refund.

Certain persons may qualify for an exemption from the penalty such as those who do not need to file a tax return (\$10,150 for individuals, \$13,050 for heads of household, and \$20,300 for a married couples filing jointly). Other exceptions (there are eight in total) include being a member of a federally recognized tribe or qualifying for a hardship exemption if you filed for bankruptcy in the last six months or had medical expenses you couldn't pay in the last 24 months that resulted in substantial debt.

Caution: Taxpayers who believe they qualify for an exemption must apply and receive an exemption certificate from the Marketplace. There's an additional twist for the approximately eight million people who purchased health insurance through the Healthcare Marketplace ("the Exchanges"), many of whom received subsidies that were paid to insurance companies and applied directly to their insurance premiums.

What taxpayers may not realize is that in many cases these subsidies were based on household size and income for 2012. Remember, the enrollment period began October 1, 2013, before taxpayers had filed their 2013 tax returns.

If income or household size changed in 2014 and the IRS was not notified of these updates, taxpayers may be liable for paying additional subsidy monies or conversely, receive refunds for amounts overpaid. In other words, if you received a bonus in 2014 (change in household income), it could mean that you owe the government money.

Enrollment through an Employer, Private Insurance, Medicaid or Medicare

1095-B. If your healthcare coverage is provided by private insurers or self-funded

plans, you should receive Form 1095-B; however, because tax year 2014 is a transition year, these forms are not required when filing your 2014 tax return.

1095-C. If your healthcare coverage is provided by your employer, you should receive Form 1095-C; however, because tax year 2014 is a transition year, these forms are not required when filing your 2014 tax return.

Enrollment through the Healthcare Marketplace

Form 1095-A. If you purchased health insurance from the Marketplace you will receive Form 1095-A showing details of your coverage such as the effective date, amount of your premium payment, and any advanced premium credit you received.

Form 8962. The amount of any advanced premium credit you received in 2014 is reported on Form 8962. This form is also used to figure out the actual premium credit as well.

No Health Insurance

If you do qualify for an exemption, you must apply for the exemption from the Marketplace, and if approved, you will receive an exemption certificate number, which must be reported on Form 8965.

If you do not qualify for an exemption and are uninsured, you are required to pay a penalty (see above) when filing your tax return. Form 8965 is used to calculate the penalty.

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