

The Island Current

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One Dollar

LADDER 53 CAUGHT IN THE "BUDGET DANCE"

By KAREN NANI



Photos by KAREN NANI

Once again, residents rallied to protest the proposed removal of Ladder Company 53 from City Island at a standing-room-only meeting on June 14, 2011, at the Lido Restaurant. Despite invitations from City Councilman James Vacca, who sponsored the rally with the City Island Civic Association and the Chamber of Commerce, no one from the mayor's office or the FDNY attended the rally. An empty chair was placed in front of the speakers' dais to symbolize their absence (top photo). Islanders, including Carol Fitzpatrick, brought photos of traffic on City Island Avenue in the summer months and other holidays to illustrate the obvious danger in assigning an off-Island ladder company to respond to emergencies (photo right).

For the third year in a row, frustrated City Islanders rallied to save Ladder Company 53 from the "mayor's chopping block," as politicians described it, at a standing-room-only meeting on June 14, 2011, at the Lido Restaurant. Happily, thanks to the efforts of the City Council, working into the night on Friday, June 24, funding was allocated at the last minute to save the City Island truck, along with 19 other fire companies in New York City.

The latest call to action was led, once again, by indefatigable City Councilmember James Vacca, who continues to be outspoken in his efforts to keep City Island's firehouse intact. At the meeting, he was asked by *The Current* why Islanders had to keep voicing their outrage at the indefensible removal of the ladder truck in light of City Island's obvious vulnerability and traffic issues.

"Fire houses have become part of the budget dance with Mayor Bloomberg and the FDNY," Mr. Vacca told the crowd of close to 400 residents and other concerned New Yorkers. "They make cuts and the City Council fights to have the funds reinstated by July 1."

Despite invitations from Mr. Vacca, who sponsored the rally with the City Island Civic Association and the Chamber of Commerce, no one from the mayor's office or the FDNY attended the rally. An empty chair was placed in front of the speakers' dais to symbolize their absence and unwillingness to listen to the voices of concerned citizens.

There was no shortage of support from off-Islanders this time around. Joining the chorus of outraged speakers at the rally was Bronx Borough president Ruben Diaz, who told the crowd that a total of three firehouses in the Bronx were scheduled for cuts, including the Mott Haven and Crotona neighborhood houses. He chastised the mayor for playing politics and told the crowd that "public safety should be a

sacred cow and never part of budget games. The mayor has a \$65 billion dollar budget and only \$55 million is needed to save all 20 houses scheduled for cuts or closings across the city. We must stand together in this fight."

Also on the dais of speakers was City Council majority leader Joel Rivera, a former resident of City Island, who knows first-hand about the traffic and bridge opening delays that would more than double response time if City Island had to rely on an off-Island ladder company. "FDNY is using mythical math to say that response time would be under 10 minutes with a ladder from Co-op City or Pelham Bay. We are all one Bronx, and what's bad for City Island, is bad for the entire borough."

Another member of the City Council who spoke out was Letitia James from Brooklyn, who reminded everyone of the role of firefighters as first responders in many different emergencies. Ms. James related a personal story of 20 firefighters who worked to save her 91-year old mother last year. Her heartfelt story was echoed by residents who related similar tales in which City Island firefighters responded to the aid of drowning boaters, heart attack victims, ailing elderly residents and even Islanders who were stranded during the 1992 storm.

When this reporter's own 82-year-old mother fell in her home on Horton Street last year, firefighters from the Schofield Street house responded within minutes to the 911 call and attended to her, while the ambulance from Jacobi was delayed for 20 minutes because the Pelham Bay Bridge was open.

Steve Cassidy and Ed Brown of the Uniformed Firefighters Association and Eddie Boles of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association combined impassioned speeches with some sobering statistics. Mr. Cassidy said: "This is the mayor's most foolish idea. FDNY knows that if this building, the Lido, started to burn, you



would need two companies, a ladder and an engine, to fight it quickly or it would burn in 15 to 20 minutes. They know it and that's why they keep Ladder 53 on City Island at all times because there are so many wooden structures."

Mr. Vacca reiterated the "Catch-22" of the city's plan. The mayor's office cites the low number of calls handled by Ladder 53, a number kept artificially low because both the engine and ladder are not allowed to leave City Island to respond to off-Island alarms. Closing it is hypocritical and seemingly contradicts the department's own policy. In fact, on Mother's Day and Memorial Day this year, FDNY sent extra fire trucks to the Island in case an alarm went out and the trucks from Schofield Street were delayed in the heavy restaurant traffic.

Speaker after speaker, including the New York City Public Advocate, Bill di Blasio, and several Island residents, also called upon the mayor to exercise common sense. Skip Giacco, president of the Cham-

ber of Commerce, reminded the mayor of the revenue that comes from City Island, including sales from restaurants and shops, real estate taxes and income taxes. "We deserve better than this for all we contribute to the city," he told the crowd, which applauded in agreement.

In fact, the economics of the issue seem minuscule compared to the potential for loss of life and property. According to Mr. Boles, the city has closed seven companies since September 11, 2001, and there are 700 fewer firefighters. The plan to close an additional 20 companies would save "one-tenth of one percent of the \$65 billion budget for the city. This is ten cents out of every \$100."

Another startling fact is that the FDNY has said they would not lay off the firefighters from Ladder 53 but simply reassign them. Islanders Jay Sinclair and Virginia Gallagher questioned where any savings

Continued on page 3

Senior Residence Proposed for Schofield Street

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Those who attended the May 31 meeting of the City Island Civic Association had many questions for the developer of a senior-citizen residence proposed for the large lot at the southeast corner of Schofield Street and City Island Avenue.

Dr. Domenico Mignone, president of the not-for-profit Italian Hospital Society, joined by his architect, engineer and financial developer, presented the meeting with drawings of a proposed apartment building that would offer market-rate rentals for about 200 seniors. Although not an assisted-living facility, the building would offer a restaurant, exercise room, a laundry and shuttle bus service, as there would be parking for only about 55 cars beneath the building. The plans also include a large room that would be made available to the community for meetings or other gatherings.

The developer would require a zoning change in order to construct such a building, which is planned as a four-story structure running the entire length of the block, since the lot is now zoned manufacturing (M-1). Dr. Mignone has not yet met with City Planning to discuss the project, but he assured residents that except for an ornamental roof structure, the building would

be within the 35-foot height restriction called for by City Island's Special District Zoning.

Residents were most concerned about the size of the apartments, which would be efficiencies of about 450 square feet with kitchenettes and might be marketed at \$1100 or more; those wishing more space would be able to rent two apartments that could be joined together. There were also many questions about the inadequate parking facilities, to which the developers responded that they had chosen City Island because people can walk to shops; they would also provide shuttle services and Zip cars as necessary. However, it was noted by the residents that many seniors drive their own cars, and there would be a need for visitor parking, as well as parking for the building's staff.

Funding for the project was also the subject of questions, and the developer indicated that he would apply to federal agencies. Some concern was expressed that if the apartments were not fully rented at market rates, the building would be available for city housing authorities to house the homeless, but the developer assured the questioners that this would never happen.

BRIEFLY...

THE THEATER GROUP CHILDREN'S PLAY this summer will be "Peggy the Pint Sized Pirate" by D. M. Bocaz-Larson, which tells the story of Peggy, a little pirate who wants to sail the seas but is always picked last for a crew. When the other pirates are captured by a sea monster, however, it's up to Peggy to save the day. The performance will be presented in the Grace Episcopal Church yard on Saturday, July 23, at 1 p.m.

THE CINAUTICAL MUSEUM CELEBRATES ORCHARD BEACH: On the 75th anniversary of the opening of Orchard Beach, the museum is mounting an exhibition of photographs of the pavilions as they originally looked. Presented in collaboration with the Friends of Pelham Bay Park and the Pelham Bay Park Administrator's Office, the exhibition will open with a reception on Sunday, July 17, between 2 and 4 p.m. The museum will be open all summer on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

NEW L.I. SOUND PUMP-OUT SERVICE: The *Eco Pal I* will provide free pump-out service to the recreational boaters of western Long Island Sound, including Eastchester Bay and the waters around City Island. The mobile pump-out boat will supplement existing sewage removal efforts at marinas and provide a new option for areas without facilities. *Eco Pal I*, sponsored by Going Coastal, can be reached on marine radio VHF-channel 71 and will operate through early October. Docked boats can schedule an appointment by calling 718-475-6514 or emailing NYCPumpout@gmail.com.

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45 BLOTTER

Complaints reported from City Island to the 45th Precinct during May and June 2011. Unfounded complaints are not included in the list.

- 2 – UNLICENCED OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE
- 22 – DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI)
- 3 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE
- 1 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA
- 4 – ASSAULT
- 1 – RESISTING ARREST
- 4 – CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
- 1 – ROBBERY
- 2 – BURGLARY
- 1 – ATTEMPTED GRAND LARCENY

Police provided details on the following incidents for the period from May 5 to June 20, 2011.

5/5 – Police from the 45th Precinct Conditions Team arrested two off-Island males at 7:50 p.m. on City Island Avenue and Centre Street. The defendants were in possession of felony-weight OxyContin, a controlled substance, for which they had no prescription.

5/20 – At 7:20 p.m., the patron of a nail salon reported a \$2,000 watch missing after it

was left behind at the establishment.

5/29 – At a marina on Schofield Street, a boat was broken into and fishing equipment was removed without the owner's consent.

6/5 – An unidentified intruder attempted to open the cabin door of a boat at a marina off City Island Avenue while the owner was asleep inside. The incident is under investigation.

6/15 – Police from the 45th Precinct arrested four off-Island males at 2 a.m. on City Island Avenue and Hawkins Street. The defendants allegedly stole the bicycle of a 15-year-old Islander at knifepoint. The stolen property was recovered.

6/15 – A late-model Honda Accord was stolen from Minneford Avenue. Police recovered the vehicle, which had a damaged steering column. According to police, the theft of late-model Hondas and Toyotas is a city-wide issue.

Officers from the 45th Precinct, with the help of the traffic detail agents, made 22 DWI arrests so far this summer, including both on- and off-Islanders. In addition, an extra police detail consisting of a sergeant and four officers has been assigned for the summer to address Islanders' concerns, such as illegal drugs, excessive noise, motorcycle speeding and other traffic violations. They remind Islanders and visitors alike to obey traffic laws and the instructions of the agents who are working hard to keep traffic moving on City Island Avenue.

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CLAMDIGGER PASTOR SUE BEING TRANSFERRED

By MARGUERITE CHADWICK-JUNER

It is with much sadness that parishioners and other Islanders bid farewell to the Reverend Susan Chadwick, pastor of the Trinity United Methodist Church on City Island. She has been the pastor of the 150-year-old church for the past 14 years. Her reassignment will place her in the TUMC in LaGrangeville, New York, which is about 90 minutes away.

Rev. Sue is a quintessential clam digger. She attended P.S. 17 and then Christopher Columbus High School. She sailed on her grandfather's and father's boats until she was old enough to terrorize the waterborne on her own in the family 16-foot daysailer and, later, a HobieCat. She has always awaited summer's arrival with anticipation and is among the first to start swimming. This, she admits, is something she will sorely miss in LaGrangeville.

Sue attended Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania, originally intending to become a nurse. Later she attended the College of New Rochelle and then worked for Traveler's Insurance for over 20 years. She was offered a vice presidency at

Traveler's but felt a calling to the ministry and opted to follow that path instead. She attended New York Theological Seminary, where she received her Master of Divinity. She was ordained as a deacon in 1992 and then as an elder in 1998.

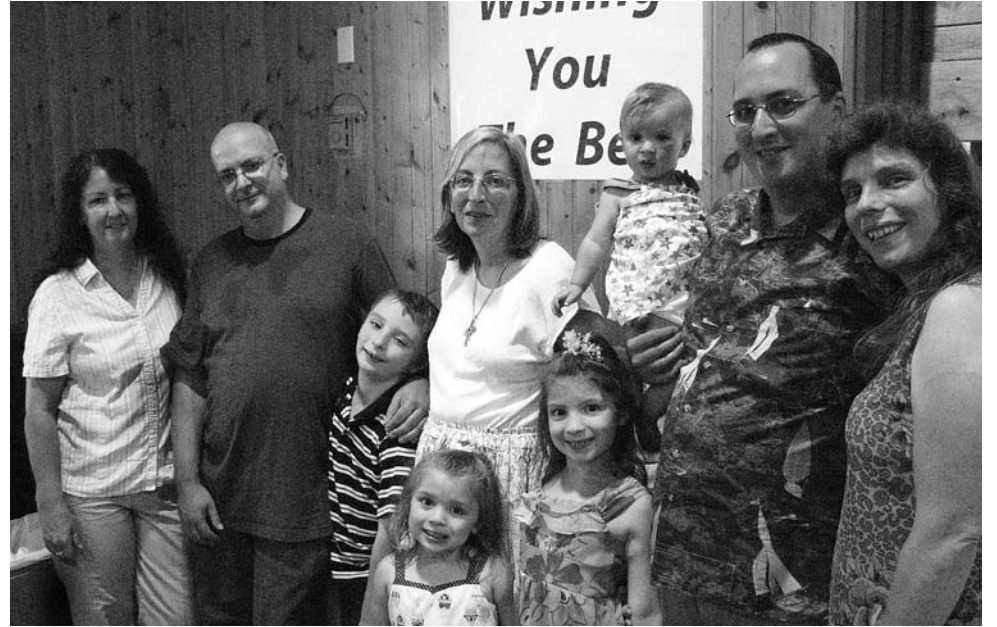
Rev. Sue was pastor of the Verbank United Methodist Church from 1992 to 1997, when she was transferred to City Island. This was an unusual move for the church, because pastors are not normally assigned to their own hometowns. However, the bishop saw fit to put aside that rule in favor of trying to stabilize the church, which had seen a quick succession of four to five pastors, none of whom had stayed longer than two years. The church prefers pastors to remain at their assignments at least five years, with a limit of nine, so it is also unusual that Rev. Sue has remained at her post for as long as 14 years.

Rev. Sue told *The Current*: "I have loved the opportunity to be back in my hometown and to serve the church that I grew up in and that inspired my desire to join the ministry. I'm sorry to be leaving,



Photos by KAREN NANI

Rev. Susan Chadwick (second from left) with three parishioners who have been members of the Trinity United Methodist Church the longest. They are (l. to r.): Carol Stewart, Myra Martin and Edward Sadler Sr.



Pictured at the farewell luncheon on June 26, 2011 are Chadwick family members (l. to r.): Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, Robert Chadwick, Benjamin Chadwick, Rev. Susan Chadwick, Lillian Chadwick, Peter Chadwick, Debbie Chadwick, and in front: Violet and Olivia Chadwick.



Photo by KAREN NANI

Pictured at the fire rally are organizer Barbara Dolensek, Councilmember Letitia James, Uniformed Firefighters Association president Steve Cassidy, and Councilmember James Vacca.

Fire Rally

Continued from page 1

would actually come from, since the firehouse itself would remain open. Then lifelong clam digger Ed Sadler, a retired FDNY fireboat captain, recalled his battalion chief's golden rule: "an engine is only as efficient as the ladder company that precedes it to gain entry." Mustering his own brand of sarcasm, Captain Sadler asked the empty chair representing the FDNY brass: "When did they rescind this rule?"

Barbara Hoffman, president of the Garden Club, cited the Morris Yacht Club fire as an example of the need for a ladder company on City Island. The 2006 fire, which destroyed the historic club house,

could have spread to boats and surrounding homes were it not for the quick response of the City Island company.

Mr. Vacca ended the meeting by saying that the battle would probably have to be waged again in 2012. And on June 29, he told *The Current*: "Our fight this year went down to the wire. For days and nights on end we worked to make sure firehouses were saved and that City Island kept ringing in everyone's ears as the most outrageous of cuts. We carried the day! I thank Speaker Christine Quinn for her support. And I cannot thank City Islanders enough, as their determination and the overflow crowd at our town hall meeting certainly strengthened my position demanding the retention of our ladder company."

but I know this is part of God's plan. It is time for both my City Island community and myself to start anew."

She is also a member of the Rotary Club of the Bronx and has served as its secretary for the Rotary year 2010-2011. Bea Castiglia-Catullo, founder of R.A.I.N. and in 1987 the first female member admitted to the Rotary Club, said: "When Susan came to our club, I fell in love with her. She's a very warm, sincere and wonderful person. Now that she's leaving, I feel sad, as do all the Rotarians, but I know that life must go on. I'm sure the people in the new parish will love her just as well as those in the old one."

The Chadwick and Martin families have been extremely close, growing up together. Myla Martin, Lay Speaker at TUMC said "Over the years Sue has enriched this church with her care and concern. We've developed new programs like healing services and bible studies that were open to the community. She has continually been a caring presence in our church".

George Cavaliere, Lay Leader at TUMC stated "Sue has been a great inspiration to us in bringing us God's message. It has been a renewing experience for me and I'm going to miss her greatly, but will also welcome the new pastor when he comes".

Dee Simmons weighed in saying " Sue and the Methodist Church brought me back to religion. I think she's been a very stable force on City Island for many years and has been open to helping all the groups and members of the community. We'll miss her terribly".

Mother Patty from Grace Episcopal Church also expressed her regrets over Sue's leaving. "I'm going to miss Sue tremendously as a colleague in ministry and a sister in Christ and on behalf of the people of Grace Church, we wish her nothing but the best and every blessing".

The church in LaGrangeville has also experienced a fluctuation of pastors in recent years. Rev. Sue's history of adding

stability to her churches was taken into account by the bishop, who has asked that she commit to spending at least five years at LaGrangeville toward that end.

Her new church has 70 to 90 weekly attendees, runs a food pantry and does mission trips, the next one to Haiti in July. Although she is looking forward to a lively ministry there, she is sad to be leaving so many good friends and family behind, particularly her young nephew, Benjamin, and her nieces, Olivia, Violet and Lillian.

She wishes her best to the incoming pastor, Rev. Ezra Yew, and to the congregation she leaves behind.



Pictured at one of the annual Methodist and Grace Episcopal Church picnics at Sherwood Island in the 1960s are (l. to r.): George, Susan (seated), Robert and June Chadwick.



Photo by DEBBIE CHADWICK

Rev. Sue was presented with a farewell cake by Pat Laporte.

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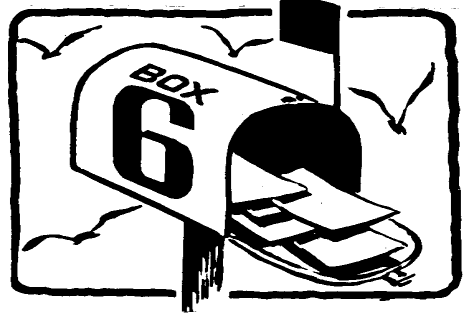
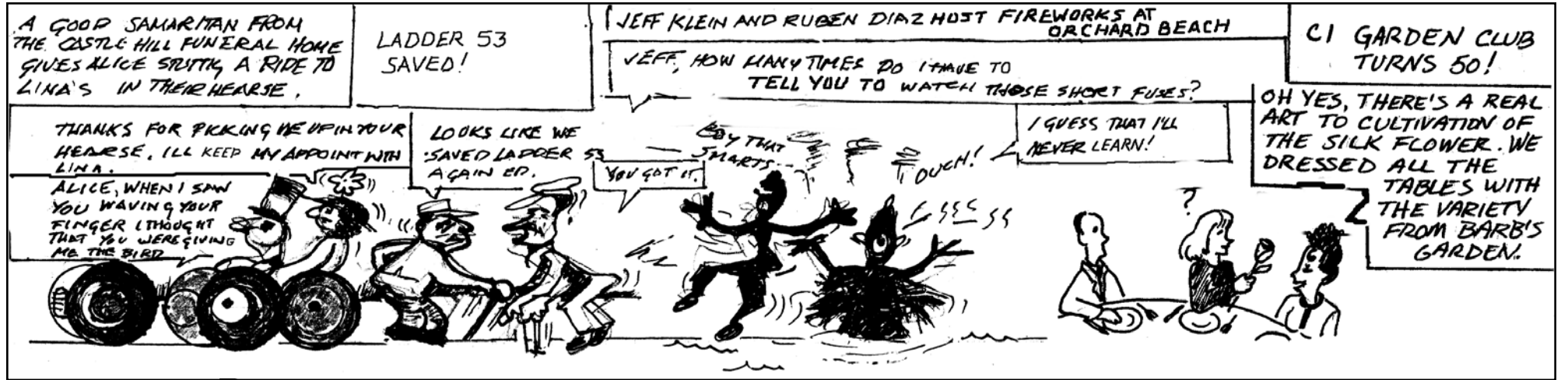
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Grateful Pet Owner

To the Editor:

Thanks to all for your condolences on the loss of my little dog Lady. I never realized how many of you knew her. City Island is a very caring community.

Bill Oberle

A Local Hero

To the Editor:

I want to publicly thank Laury Hopkins for the generous, loving and creative work that she does with the children of City Island. My daughter Sarah has been taking art classes with Laury at the Community Center for approximately seven and a half years, since she was about two years old. Through Laury's guidance, Sarah and her classmates have created amazing artwork ranging from finger painting to sculptures, and so much more!

This past season, Sarah participated in Laury's Drama Class, where they performed the original production of "Stone Soup." I was inspired by the creativity, detail, set design and passion that the children displayed as they performed for their families and friends.

Laury provides an affordable but "priceless" opportunity for her students to express themselves creatively and confidently in a safe environment.

Laury is certainly one of our local heroes. Thank you!

Jeri Stark

Bee People

To the Editor:

My wife, Nancy, and I are the proud owners of the City Island Gold honeybees, which are well known to some residents for their wonderful honey and to others because we lost a swarm of bees in May and put out a call for help in finding them. Unfortunately, the bees met an unhappy end, which could have been avoided if more were known about the value of honeybees, especially here on City Island.

So we're writing this letter to introduce ourselves and our bees to residents who may not be aware that our bees are one of the Island's most attractive natural resources. First of all, their honey is the only product manufactured here that has "City Island" in the name. Second, and more important, our honey is a natural product, not processed in any way (except by bees), and it goes from hive to jar. The taste is radically different from commercial honey, much like the difference between fine wine and everyday house wine. It is available for sale at Kaleidoscope Gallery.

It is believed that natural honey may

also have an anti-allergy effect in people who are troubled by pollen allergies. It has yet to be scientifically proven, but it is thought to be related to the fact that there are pollens in honey. Honeybees travel from one flower to the next, pollinating plants as they gather nectar for their honey. By eating these trace amounts of pollen the body gets used to them and the severity of symptoms when you breathe in those same pollens is dramatically reduced. Plus it's a lot more pleasant to eat honey than take allergy shots or meds.

Although wasps and hornets should be avoided because of their stings and aggressive behaviors, honeybees are virtually harmless. Our bees, which live at 533 Minnieford Avenue, are well integrated within our neighborhood, and our children help to care for them. This is not a money-making business for us, just a passionate hobby. We love bees, and they have developed a rather special connection with our environment here on City Island and in Pelham Bay Park.

In the Spring, if it gets too hot or overcrowded in the hive, the queen bee lays eggs for a new queen, and then takes off, along with a large (100,000) swarm of worker bees from the hive, and this is what happened to one of our hives in May. Our son, Julian, followed the swarm, but lost track of them, so we put out the word that they were missing. Unfortunately, a City Island resident found them and in a panic called an exterminator, who killed them all.

We were surprised by this because the exterminator should have known that it is illegal to kill honey bees. They are protected by law because of their importance to agriculture, and they are becoming endangered - bees are dying throughout the world because of the new systemic pesticides (please don't use these!). An old saying has it that "a swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay; a swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon." By the early Fall, bees stop producing honey, so that "a swarm of bees in July is not worth a fly." Either way please protect our girls.

Our hives will recover and we will continue producing City Island Gold. We are writing this letter to let everyone know who we are, and should our bees swarm again, people will know to call us rather than the exterminator. We would even offer a pot of honey as a reward! Our number is 718-885-0006 or 718-757-1694. For anyone interested in learning about beekeeping, you are welcome to call us and see what we do. Last year we started new hives at Hofstra University and the Family Garden at the NY Botanical Gardens. We would be happy to help anyone on City Island set up their own hives next Spring. There are plenty of flowers to go around.

We are very grateful to Paul Klein, not only for selling City Island Gold at his gallery but also for letting us know what happened to our honeybees. And we hope that by this time next year, we will have converted at least some of you to one of nature's true delicacies.

Patrick Gannon

Seeking Help

To the Editor:

Hello, Islanders. You may remember me. I was the waitress at the City Island Diner for a long time. My name is Maryann and my son was Nicholas Vittorio, the boy



Photo by RICK DeWITT

On June 7, 2011, the City Island Community Center Drama Class presented "Stone Soup." The kids did a fantastic job and a good time was had by all. The cast, in order of appearance included Aran Glynn, Demi Mantzaris, Serena Balassi, Jaydin Nieves, Eleni Mantzaris, Tristen Torres, Samantha Kucerak, Penny Smith, Rianne Philips, Brandon McGaughan, Filomena Baker, Sarah Stark, Isabella Miles and Johanna Doyle.

who had a horrible accident on the City Island bridge in 2002. Nicholas passed away in 2007. I am presently fighting the city of New York because of what happened to Nicholas. I am hoping that some of you can find it in your heart to help.

I need some people to come forward and testify about how bad that construction site was. Anyone who lived on City Island at the time may remember how bad it was. If you can help, it would be greatly appreciated. I could finally get the justice for Nicholas that he deserves and for me as his mother. Please call me at 917-807-6444.

Maryann Nespolini

Thanks for the Memory

To My Dear Friends on City Island:

What can I say after receiving that lovely birthday card on my 89th birthday at 10 o'clock Mass and seeing you all at coffee time. Father Michael, thank you, and thanks for the beautiful cake from Eddie Esposito. I will remember that for a long time. It seems as if everyone signed my card, and I thank all of you. It's nice to be remembered. Until I see you again, God bless and so long,

Frank B. Ring Sr.

Heartfelt Thanks

To the Editor:

We extend our sincerest thanks to everyone during the illness of our father, Robert Travers, especially those who came to services. We are especially grateful to all our neighbors, friends, family and parishioners at Grace Episcopal Church, and members of the American Legion Post 156.

We also want to recognize the excellent medical care our father received at Sound Shore Medical Center in Westchester and Calvary Hospital in the Bronx.

All will have a special place in our hearts for their support during our darkest time.

Reid and Lori Travers

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Photo courtesy of 3M PHOTOGRAPHY

Members of the 2011 graduating class of Public School 175. First row, bottom (l. to r.): faculty Tina Gisante, Kathleen Wiehler; graduates Roxana Herrera, Alison McIntyre, Nina Faicco, Maira Carino Santos, Bianca Valenti, Nileyris Sosa; faculty Karen Heil; Josephine Rondi, assistant principal; Amy Lipson, principal; Jessica Marron; graduates Alba Borici, Jorja Willis, Sarah Williams, Brianna Reilly, Briana Whelan, Samantha Pryor. Second row, Grace Ramos, Chelsea Negron, Valentina Rugova, Amanda Valentino, Taylor Robert, Donatea Zefi, Adora Hawkins, Latoya James, Kayla Lawson, Samantha Fontana, Jessica Di Martini, Erin Schlottman, Adriana Aceta, Catherine Rooney-Graves, Michele Lombardo; faculty Jeanne McDonald, Wayne Lafreniere, Helen Massoti. Row three: faculty Andrew Scopp; graduates Anastasia Lacina, Stephanie Morrissey, Carmine Valenti, Atanas Ivanov, Ruben Caamano, Brandon Rosenblatt, Julian Ullah, Cameron Cole, Justin Torres, Jake Ivanov, Delyn Bernard, Nigel Green, Brian Buryakov, Kaylin Fitzpatrick, Taylor Chafouleas. Top row: Carlos Viguera, John Branley, Marcello Cierro, Ludwing Xhokaxhiu, Brandon Santo.

Sensational Graduations!

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Public School 175

At the graduation ceremony on Friday, June 24, 2011, principal Amy Lipson made the following presentations:

The City Island School Principal's Award for Excellence was presented to Roxana Herrera. The City Island Chamber of Commerce Award for General Excellence was given to Stephanie Morrissey; Anastasia Lacina was the recipient of both the Mary P. Fitzpatrick Award for Academic and General Excellence, and the Ed Rothschild Award for Academic Excellence and Service to the Community. The Lucrezia A. Fusco Award for Effort and Perseverance went to Michele Lombardo.

At the Awards Dinner on June 22, the following presentations were made: The Senator Jeffrey D. Klein Award for Outstanding Student Leadership was presented to Katherine Rooney-Graves; both the Assemblyman Michael Benedetto Award for Academic Achievement and the NYC Comptroller Award for Special Scholastic Achievement went to Carlos Viguera; the City Council Citation for Achievement was awarded to Jorja Willis.

The American Legion Essay Contest winner from the Leonard Hawkins Post 156 was John Branley; the award winner from the American Legion's Woman's Auxiliary was Roxana Herrera; *The Island Current* Catherine Scott Literary Award went to Anastasia Lacina.

The Alice Persteins Award for Outstanding Service to School or Community was presented to Adrianna Aceto; the Gloria Misurski Award for Fairness, Involvement and Concern for Others was given to Alba Borici, who also received the Public Advocate for the City of New York Academic Achievement Award. Stephanie Morrissey was given the Alice Connolly Service Award.

Brianna Reilly received the Philip J. Abinanti Award for Service and Leadership; the CSA Award for Outstanding Leadership went to Adrianna Aceto; the Blanche Schwartz Effort Award was presented to John Branley; the Association of Assistant Principals Certificate of Merit was awarded to Nileyris Sosa and Bianca Valenti.

The City Council Speaker's Award for Excellent Achievement went to Donatea Zefi and Sarah Williams; the Christine Jorgensen Hansen Award for Community Service was given to Grace Ramos; the

AARP Chapter 3303 Most Improved Student Award was presented to John Branley, and the AARP Chapter 318 Award for Outstanding Service to the school community went to Valentina Rugova.

On the P.S. 175 honor roll are Alba Borici, Anastasia Lacina, Stephanie Morrissey, Sarah Williams, Jorja Willis and Donatea Zefi.

The UFT presented awards in individual subject areas: English Language Arts, Anastasia Lacina; Mathematics, Stephanie Morrissey; Science, Stephanie Morrissey; Social Studies, Anastasia Lacina; Computers and Technology, Alba Borici.

Effort Awards were given to Samantha Pryor, Nileyris Sosa and Bianca Valenti.

The P.S. 175 Service Awards were presented to Adrianna Aceto, Alba Borici, John Branley, Taylor Chafouleas, Kaylin Fitzpatrick, Nina Faicco, Anastasia Lacina, Michele Lombardo, Stephanie Morrissey, Grace Ramos, Brianna Reilly, Katherine Rooney-Graves, Brandon Rosenblatt, Valentina Rugova, Nileyris Sosa, Sarah Williams and Jorja Willis.

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

At St. Mary's graduation ceremony on June 17, principal Jane Dennehy made the following presentations.

The General Excellence Awards, with \$50 checks donated by the City Island Chamber of Commerce, were awarded to Maya Lugo and Conner Saulnier.

The essay award from the American Legion Leonard Hawkins Post #156 was presented to Conner Saulnier, and the essay award from the Ladies Auxiliary went to Brianna Ocasio.

Awards were also given in individual subject areas, including the Religion Award to Gabriella Federowicz, the Mathematics Award to Isaac Rowser, the Social Studies Award to Michael O'Connor, and both the Science Award and the Physical Education Medal to Ryan Herrera-Murphy. Eliana DeJimenez received the Reading Award; the Language Arts Award went to Brianna Ocasio, and the Creative Writing Award was presented to Emily DeJimenez. The recipient of the Computer Award was Amanda Brown; G'Sean Coley received the Music Award and Danielle Billingsy won the award for Art.

The AARP Chapter 3303 Most Improved Student Award and check were given to Brian Thompson; the City Island AARP Chapter 318 Award for Outstanding Service to the school community was presented to G'Sean Coley, and *The Island Current*

Catherine Scott Literary Award and \$50 check were presented to Maya Lugo.

Gabriella Federowicz and Maya Lugo were the recipients of the St. John's University Women in Science Society Certificate of Recognition. The Comptroller of the State of New York Thomas DiNapoli Certificate of Recognition of Outstanding Overall Achievement went to Ryan Herrera-Murphy, and the Comptroller of the City of New York John C. Liu Certificate of Scholastic Achievement was presented to Gabriella Federowicz and Michael O'Connor. The Public Advocate for the City of New York Bill di Blasio Certificate of Excellence was given to Lynette Cartagena and Ryan Medina.

Emily DeJimenez and Conner Saulnier received the Senator Jeffrey Klein Award for Outstanding Student Leadership; a plaque for Perseverance from Assemblyman Michael Benedetto was presented to Amanda Brown, and certificates from the

State of New York Office of the Attorney General Eric Schneiderman for Commitment, Character and Courage were given to G'Sean Coley and Ryan Medina.

The Principal's Award for the student who exemplifies the true spirit of St. Mary's in every way was presented to Michael O'Connor. The St. Mary's Home-School Association Award for outstanding service to the school was given to Emily DeJimenez and Gabriella Federowicz. Service at the Lords Altar certificates were awarded to Michael O'Connor, Akio Rosario and Conner Saulnier.

The Computer Incorporated 2011 Student of the Year check and certificate were presented to Maya Lugo. The Computer Typing Contest for Speed and Accuracy winners were Eliana DeJimenez, Brian Thompson and Timia Akins.

Congratulations to all graduates and best of luck in the years ahead.



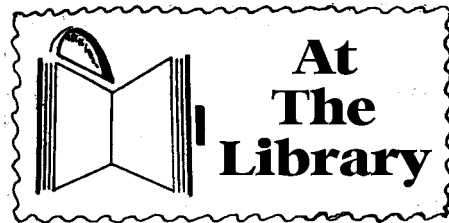
Photos courtesy of LIFE TOUCH SCHOOL PORTRAITS

The St. Mary, Star of the Sea eighth grade graduating class for 2011 (l. to r.): Top row: Timia Akins, Sasha Bannister, Danielle Billingsy, Amanda Brown, Lynette Cartagena and Amber Davis. Second row: Eliana DeJimenez, Emily DeJimenez, Gabriella Federowicz, Maya Lugo, Biana Ocasio and Sasquasia Terry. Third row: Kaitlyn Velez-Brown, Walter Brennan, Bryce Campbell, G'Sean Coley, Ryan Herrera-Murphy and Justin Martinez. Fourth row: Ryan Medina, Donte Nesbeth, Michael O'Connor, Akio Rosario, Isaac Rowser and Conner Saulnier. Fifth row: Bryton Snowball and Brian Thompson. Also pictured in the fifth row: Father Michael Challinor, pastor, Mrs. Jane Dennehy, principal and Ms. Rachel Mirabito, teacher.



Photo: NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

On June 17, the New York Public Library on its annual volunteer recognition day honored all of the volunteers who make the library and their community a better place. Here is the table representing City Island (l. to r.): Gary Makufka (library staff); Elisa Huberman (reading to children), her father, Harris Huberman; Yolanda Cirulli (part of the group Reading in the Shade at Orchard Beach); Janie Blanks (gardener for the Library Reading Garden) and Jeremy McCue (lecturer and historian).



Come Celebrate the Library's 100th Anniversary on City Island (1911-2011)!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

Our hours are Mondays and Thursdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July Children's Programs

Lapsit Program: Wednesdays, July 6 and 20, 11 a.m. Birth to 18 months. All welcome for story time and music.

Story Time: Read-aloud picture books: Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 3:30 p.m. Ages 4 to 10.

Arts and Crafts: Summertime Fun Tuesday, July 12, 3:30 p.m.

Special Program: Thinking Big, Tales of Dreamers and Doers, Stories to Play With: Ages 4 and over. Monday, July 11, at 3:30 p.m.

Summer Programs

Reading In The Shade: Orchard Beach All

ages. Tuesdays July 12, 19 and 26 at 11 a.m.

The Summer Reading Club: Come and talk about the books you are reading. All ages, Wednesday, July 6, at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

July Young Adult Programs

Yu-Gi-Oh! Every Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Game On: Every Thursday at 2 p.m.

Tweens and Teen Lounge Every Friday at 2 p.m.

July Adult Programs

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

Resumé Writing Workshop: Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register in advance. A flash drive to save your work is highly recommended.

Film: The Ninth Day: During World War II, the Nazis confront a Catholic Priest and orders him to get the Bishop of Luxembourg, in nine days, to sign the approval of Germany's occupation of Luxembourg. Saturday, July 23, at 2 p.m.

Please check our flyers for any additional programs, cancellations, or last-minute changes for July and August 2011. We are located at 320 City Island Avenue at Bay Street. For information about any of the programs above, call the City Island branch at 718-885-1703.



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

If you are planning an event and looking for a place to hold it, consider the American Legion Leonard Hawkins Post 156 at 550 City Island Avenue. The hall and entrance area were renovated last year and bathroom facilities were added to the main floor. The hall can be divided into spaces for up to 50 or 80 people. The room is air conditioned and available during the week and on weekends. Renters must purchase alcoholic beverages and soda from the Legion (at reasonable rates) but may bring in an outside caterer. For information about fees and reservations, stop by the Post or call 718-885-0639.

On Saturday, July 2, 2011, David Cook and Jo Heck will host a concert by Rod Macdonald, accompanied by Mark Dann, in their apartment at 190 Fordham Street, #16. The potluck supper will begin at 6 p.m. and the concert will start at 8. Call 718-885-1494 for reservations. For more information about Rod Macdonald, visit www.BlueFluteMusic.com and www.RodMacdonald.net.



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

Table with 4 columns: Address, Closing Date, Sale Price, Type. Lists several property sales with their respective details.

HOME INSPECTION SERVICES 885-1068. Includes an illustration of a house and contact information for Robert J. Leavy, Engineer, NYS Licensed.

JGL Wines & Liquors Inc. Includes an illustration of a wine bottle and contact information for 358 City Island Avenue, City Island, NY 10464.

IS YOUR HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE BEING CANCELED? We continue to work with the most reputable insurance companies to get you the coverage you need. Includes an illustration of a house and contact information for Island Insurance Agency.

CAS Property Care, llc. Includes a logo and a list of services: LAWN CARE, HEDGES & SHRUBS, CLEAN UP, GUTTER MAINTENANCE, PRESSURE WASHING, PLANTING, TOP SOIL, MULCH, GRAVEL, SAND. Contact: CONAL SCHALLER, 646.772.7681.

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New Exhibition on Orchard Beach at Nautical Museum

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo: NYC PARKS DEPARTMENT

The Orchard Beach Pavilion, built about 1938, is the subject of a new exhibition that will open at the City Island Nautical Museum, 190 Fordham Street, on Sunday, July 17, from 1 to 5 p.m.

On Sunday, July 17, the City Island Historical Society and Nautical Museum will open an important exhibition celebrating the 75th anniversary of Orchard Beach entitled "A Landmark Pavilion at Orchard Beach," consisting of about 50 photographs from both the early years and more recent times.

Orchard Beach was officially dedicated on July 25, 1936, by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia and Parks Commissioner Robert Moses. This exhibition celebrates that occasion by focusing attention on the magnificent Art Deco Pavilion that serves as its backdrop. Although granted landmark status in 2006, the Pavilion is steadily deteriorating. The crumbling concrete has made it necessary to install protective fencing and scaffolding while the Parks Department studies the building's condition.

The exhibition, in addition to displaying contrasting photographs of the Pavilion, provides an architectural context through images of other structures by its architect,

Aymar Embury II, and also gives an overview of the Art Deco style of the 1930s. A final section acknowledges the men who made Orchard Beach possible—not only Mayor LaGuardia and Commissioner Moses, but also President Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose WPA program of the Great Depression funded the project.

The exhibition is organized by Deborah Wye, who owns a home on City Island and is a member of the Friends of Pelham Bay Park. She is also Chief Curator Emerita at The Museum of Modern Art, having recently retired as head of the Department of Prints and Illustrated Books. This exhibition is being co-sponsored by the Pelham Bay Park Administrator's Office and by the Friends of Pelham Bay Park.

An opening reception will be held on Sunday, July 17, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the museum, which is located at 190 Fordham Street. For more information, call 718-885-0507.

Orchard Beach at Seventy-Five

By JANE PROTZMAN



Photo by JANE PROTZMAN

This NYC Parks Leaf Sand Sculpture was created by "Sandman" Bill Cichone on the occasion of the official opening of the 2011 summer season at Orchard Beach on May 27, 2011.

The official opening of the 2011 summer season at Orchard Beach on Friday, May 27, also marked the completion of the Orchard Beach Shoreline Protection Project and the Beach's 75th birthday. Adrian Benepe, the New York City Parks Commissioner, Congressman José E. Serrano, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. and State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, among others, spoke proudly of Orchard Beach as the Bronx's Riviera and

one of New York City's top destinations with over one million visitors annually.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers oversaw the project, which involved nearly doubling the beach in size, with funding provided by the Federal government and New York City. The project brought in sand by barge to combat erosion and enlarge the beach, and made repairs to the south jetty.

The beach will be open for swimming daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., when lifeguards are on duty.

BRAVING THE HEAT TO SALUTE THOSE WHO FOUGHT



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Temperatures soared into the 90s on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, 2011, but the annual parade, sponsored by the Leonard Hawkins Post 156 of the American Legion, stepped off on time. Members of City Island organizations, such as the Boy Scouts and the Garden Club, were joined by sailors from the USS Iwo Jima, bagpipers from the Monaghan Pipe Band and several elected officials, including Councilmember James Vacca, State Senator Jeff Klein and Assemblyman Michael Benedetto.

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GARDEN CLUB AT 50: STILL GROWING STRONG

Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
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May 28, 1961

Mrs. Robert F. Kall, President,
Garden City of City Island,
678 King Avenue
City Island, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Kall:

At the May Executive Board Meeting your Club was unanimously elected a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of N.Y.S. Inc. The Federation Board extends a cordial welcome and hope that you may receive many benefits from our association.

Photos by RON TERNER and Courtesy of the Garden Club

The City Island Garden Club turned 50 and celebrated with an anniversary dinner at the newly renovated Morris Yacht Club on June 18, 2011. There were at least two members in attendance who had been involved at the beginning in 1961, including Jacqueline Kyle Kall, the first president, and Rae Sayers, who sponsored City Island for membership in the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State (see certificate above). The other original officers were Rose Healy, Chick Wilhelm, Jennie Varian, Elsie Hansen, Connie Vallentine, Helen Hild, Rita Kyle, May Schwarz and Nora DeMott. Some members from the 25th anniversary celebration, also held at the Morris Yacht Club, were on hand for the 50th anniversary, including Sue Strazzera and Virginia Gallagher. Members and officers of the Garden Club have worked tirelessly for 50 years to beautify City Island and make it a greener space. Their environmental and charitable legacy was celebrated at the gala event, organized by Barbara Hoffman, June Henry, Mary Carman, Barbara Whelan and Ruth Collins. The Garden Club deserves the support of all Islanders for their lasting efforts, which include the annual clean-up, the placement of planters on City Island Avenue, the maintenance of Hawkins Park, and holiday wreath-making.



The Garden Club "float" in the 1976 City Island Bicentennial parade led by Marilyn Sinclair, Mary Reville, Peggy Conway and Chick Wilhelm.



A perennial favorite in the City Island Memorial Day parade is the Garden Club car, shown above in 1979.



In April 1981, the Garden Club received a grant from the Rotary Club. Bob Borchers, then owner of Thwaites Restaurant, presented the award to Mary Reville (left) and Jennie Varian.



Shown at the 25th anniversary celebration at the Morris Yacht Club were Rosalie Phillips (top photo, center) with Bill and Irene Callahan; (middle photo) Bill and Alice Stuttgart; and (bottom photo) Bob and Doris Bleidner.

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Garden Club members gather every year at Grace Episcopal Church to make holiday wreaths and corsages for various charitable groups, including City Island churches, the library, the firehouse, the Nautical Museum and nearby hospitals, such as the Bronx Psychiatric Center.



In 1979 the Garden Club held its 14th Flower Show at the City Island Yacht Club, called "All the World's a Stage." Pictured at the show were (l. to r.) Anne Costello, Inge Unger, Gertrude Richy, Rose Italiano, Laura Fieldale, Jacqueline Kall, Marge Clempner, Ruth Kroepke and Susan Strazzera. Below several Garden Club members, led by Marilyn Sinclair (right) plant a tree, one of many hundreds sponsored by the club since its founding.



Enjoying the 50th anniversary celebration at the Morris Yacht Club were (top photo, l. to r.) Linda Baldwin, former Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion, Barbara Hoffman, State Senator Jeff Klein, Jackie Kall and Rae Sayers. Jackie Kall, the first president of the club, received recognition from Barbara Healy Hoffman, the current president.

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An original oil painting by Islander Marguerite Chadwick Juner (left) was raffled off during the evening and won by a delighted Nancy Gannon.

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

JULY

Sun., July 17, 2 p.m. **City Island Nautical Museum** exhibition reception for show celebrating Orchard Beach 75th anniversary, 190 Fordham Street.

Thurs., July 21, **Pelham Cemetery Lot Owners** meet, 7:30 p.m., Leonard Hawkins Post, 550 City Island Avenue. This meeting is for lot owners only.

Sat., July 23, at 1 p.m. **City Island Theater Group** presentation of "Peggy the Pint Sized Pirate" at Grace Episcopal Church yard, 116 City Island Avenue.

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

Sat., July 30, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: meatloaf with potatoes and vegetables.

AUGUST

Sat., August 27, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: chicken with rice and beans.

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

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

We welcome once again Fr. Alexander Iheonunekwu, who arrived from Nigeria in early July. He will be with us for the summer months and hopes to meet many of his old friends.

Our Thrift Shop will be closed during the summer months. Look for its grand reopening in the fall.

On Monday, Aug. 15, we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven. Although this is not a holy day of obligation this year, all are encouraged to honor Our Lady by assisting at one of our regular weekday masses at 7 and 8 a.m.

Plans have already begun and will continue during the summer months for our outdoor Mass on Sept. 17 at 5:15 p.m. This is always a lovely evening, and we hope many will join us this year. Mark your calendars now!

Have a safe and pleasant summer!
Sr. Bernadette, osu

Temple Beth El

Temple Beth-El is an unaffiliated, all-inclusive egalitarian synagogue. Under the leadership of Rabbi Shohama Wiener, we are a diverse, spirited Jewish community that welcomes everyone to our services and events. Located at 480 City Island Avenue, we conduct Sabbath services each Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. We use the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, mostly in English and easy to follow.

In July we have two outstanding events. The service on Friday, July 15, service will not be held at the shul but will be a combined Shabbat service and the wedding of Steve Roth and Ken Binder, starting at 6:30 p.m. on the waterfront at 2 Bay Street.

On Sunday, July 31, Michael Eiron is sponsoring a BBQ in the Temple's garden from 4 to 6 p.m. This event is open to all members and to anyone who is interested in learning more about Temple Beth-El.

Please join us at the above events, and at the shul every Friday.

Ken Binder

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. Prayer service is held every weekday at 9:15 a.m. Trinity often has a coffee hour after the service. Come and join us for worship and fellowship. The children's Sunday school is closed for the summer; look for this column in the September issue for the reopening date.

After 14 years at Trinity, Pastor Susan Chadwick has been reassigned by the Conference to Trinity United Methodist Church in Lagrangeville, New York. A farewell luncheon was held in her honor on Sunday, June 26.

On July 3 Trinity and City Island will welcome the Reverend Ezra Yew and his wife, Lucia Haenglan Yew. A special welcome luncheon will be held on Sunday, July 10, after the 10 a.m. service. All are welcome to attend.

The Budget Corner is now closed for the summer months. Please hold your items for donation until late August.

Rick DeWitt

PSS Healthy Senior Exercise Program

PSS Healthy Aging: Zumba with Stephanie on Mondays at 10:30 at the Commu-

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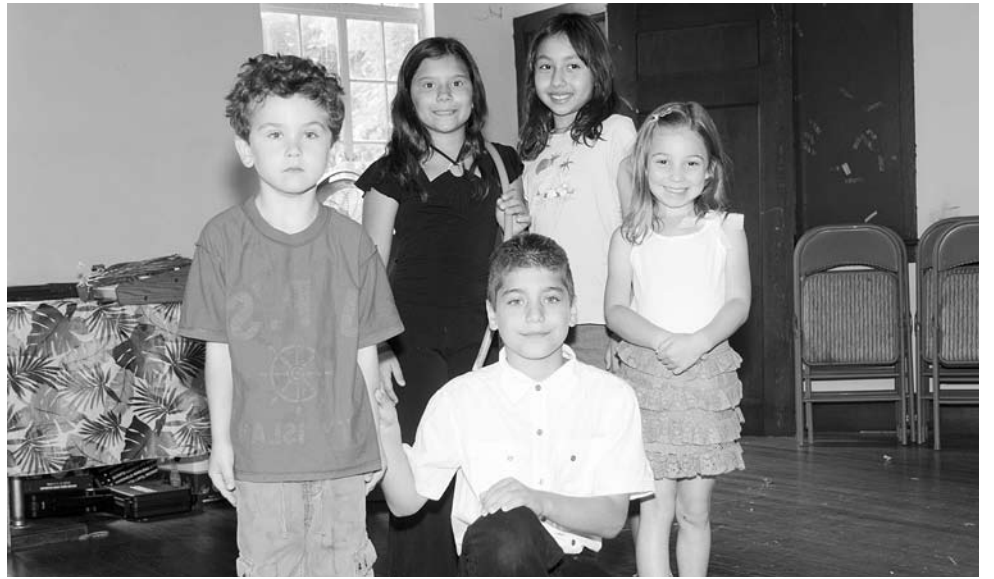


Photo by RICK DeWITT

The last day of Trinity's Sunday School for the summer was celebrated with a talent show. From left to right: Marc Browning sang "The World is a Rainbow"; Jessica Melicharek hoola hooped to the song "Whip My Hair"; George Melicharek (kneeling) sang "Firework"; Simone Karibian played "In the Hall of the Mountain King" on the keyboard; and Laci Howard sang "The World is a Rainbow". Trinity wishes all the kids a wonderful summer and look forward Sunday School reopening in September.

City Island Republicans

We are still circulating petitions. If someone comes by, please sign, since this helps us keep the party active in Bronx County for another two years. We will also guarantee that City Island is represented at the county convention in early October. The petitions will be bound at county headquarters and from July 11 to 14, they will be filed downtown at the New York City Board of Elections.

Once again, the presidential primary will be held in March or April. Only registered Republicans will be able to vote in the Republican primary. You can change your enrollment until the beginning of October. Our next meeting will not be held until September or October, since this is a slow election year. Details will follow in the next issue of *The Current*.

Fred Ramftl Jr.

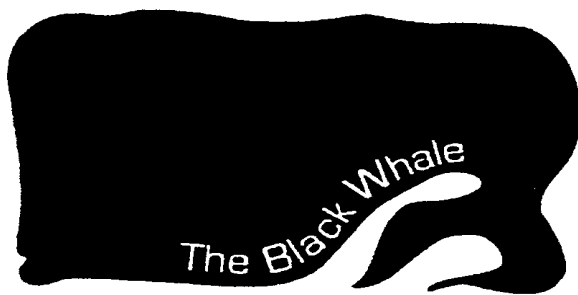
REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

- Narcotics Anonymous:** Sundays at 1 p.m. and Fridays at 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, City Island Avenue near the Bridge.
Thursdays at 8 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church hall, 113 Bay Street.
- Alcoholics Anonymous:** Mondays at 8 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church hall.
Tuesdays at 8 p.m., St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church.
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church.
- St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church: 718-885-1440
Trinity United Methodist Church: 718-885-1218
Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080
- Overeaters Anonymous:** Saturdays at 11 a.m., Grace Episcopal Church: 718-885-1080

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

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

NEW CLASS

Summer Art with Laury: Ages 3-6. Pay as you go, \$5 per class. Weekly classes ages 7-12. Activities will include painting, drawing, collage printmaking, crafts, blocks and trains, songs, stories and puppets. Semi-private classes available. Space is limited, so call Laury for dates/times and more information at 718-885-3202.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

Note: The following program is suspended for the summer and will resume in September: **Mommy and Me Fitness:** A high-energy aerobic class that allows you to bring your children with you. All levels welcome. Tuesday and Thursday, 9 to 10 a.m. \$8 per class. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

Jill's Playgroup: For pre-school children on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 12:30

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p.m. No charge, but donations are appreciated. Call 917-330-0922 for more information.

Tai Kwon Do Classes: For men, women and children. Lil Dragons/Hapkido for teens and adults/Body Blast cardio kickboxing for men and women. For schedule, fees and information, please call Sensei Eddie at 917-742-2007 or visit www.dragonspathacademy.com.

ADULT PROGRAM

Get Ready, Get Set . . . (An Intro to Exercise): The relaxed pace allows you to learn the basics of many different types of low-impact aerobic, strength training and stretching exercises, which will help to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and range of motion. This class also utilizes chair (seated) exercises. Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. Fee: \$10/session (45 min.). First session is free of charge. Contact Judy Farnum, group fitness instructor, at 914-548-4184 or judyfarnum@aol.com.

Gentle Yoga-Qi Gong class with Norma: Thursdays at 7 p.m. Get into shape, relax the body and mind and have some fun doing it! This class is a combination of low-impact Hatha Yoga and Qi-Gong (free form Tai Chi) and mild stretches. Although this class is geared to those who have not exercised in a while, all levels are welcome. Price per class is \$7. Please bring a yoga mat, yoga strap and yoga blocks. Most of these items are available at Barnes & Noble, Modell's, Target or K-Mart. Straps and blocks will be available for purchase on the day of the class. For more information, please call 718-730-3442. Namaste.

Fit for Life with Sarah: Hi-Lo impact aerobic and strength-training class. All levels welcome. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, call Sarah Persteins at 718-885-9122.

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

Rhythmic Movement Exercise Class: A fun way to combine exercise with various styles of dance. Mondays from 6 to 7:15 p.m. \$15 per person. If you have questions, please call Judy Farnum at 914-548-4184 or e-mail judyfarnum@aol.com.

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



Photo by EYVONNE BAKER

On Sunday, May 22, 2011, parishioners at Grace Episcopal Church gave a special blessing to the blankets and other items crocheted and knitted by members of the Hearts and Hands group at the church before they were sent to Calvary Hospital (l. to r.): Lori Swink, Lori Travers, Joanne Brogan, Mother Patty Alexander and Marilyn Martin.

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

Tai-chi: Please join us at 9 a.m. on Saturdays for gentle Tai-chi and yoga sessions. Using bamboo props, balls, straps and partnering to increase flexibility and strength. For more information, please call Marc Kaplan at 718-885-2445.

Parenting in the 21st Century: Join an ongoing and free-wheeling discussion of the joys and pains of parenting led by Teacher John (parent, grandparent, school psychologist, parent educator). Learn to stop yelling, get what you want from your family life and create opportunities for your children to become responsible, loving and independent. Eight sessions (one per month) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. \$20 per session. Contact John Scardina at 718-885-9305 or through his website www.thinklaughlearn.com.

SheWorkHer: Learn basic home repair. SheWorkHer is dedicated to helping women learn just how much they can do with a few tools and the right knowledge, and saving hundreds of dollars doing it yourself. Classes are every other Monday. Call Nancy today at 646-235-1175 and reserve your spot.

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

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

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

Amy Gottlieb

Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 156

The Memorial Day Parade went well. Despite the heat, we had our largest parade in years. After the parade, everyone enjoyed our award-winning gourmet hot dogs and ice-cold cocktails. We hope to further enlarge the parade next year.

The Yankee game on June 11 was a great trip and everyone enjoyed themselves. Just a reminder, dues for 2011 are \$30. If you are still unpaid, please drop off your dues as soon as you can since we will be collecting dues for 2012 soon.

The C-Bill campaign is to help elect Bill Clancy Sr. as New York State Commander in 2013. There will be many events to raise money for Bill.

Save the date! Get that collectible car out of the garage and bring it on down to the Legion for the C-Bill car wash fundraiser that will be held on July 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. All proceeds will go toward the campaign.

The new floor has been put down in the entranceway. The eventual plan is to put the same floor down on the entire first floor of the Post.

The Post is the official cooling center for City Island. Come on down and have a cool drink at our recently renovated bar.

The clambake will be held on Saturday, July 30, from 7 to 11 p.m. The price has not been determined as of press time. Details will follow.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 14, at 8 p.m. at the Post. Items on the agenda will be the car wash and the clambake.

We are starting to make plans for the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. We will be having our Pearl Harbor Service on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 12 noon at the triangle. Details will follow.

There will be no August meeting! We regret to report that Legionnaire Dr. Chris Cococchia recently fell and broke his hip and is currently recuperating at a facility near his Westchester County home. We hope to see him back at the Post very soon.

Fred Ramftl Jr.



American Legion Post # 156

The annual clambake will be held on Saturday, July 30. There will be a live band along with good food and camaraderie.

Two comrades have recently passed away: Robert Travers and John Martin.

In my last newsletter, I committed a faux pas. William Clancy is seeking the position of New York State Commander, not Bronx County Commander.

Don't forget to display your flags on Independence Day, July 4.

Until September, at ease.

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus



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Never Too Old to Learn

Stories about the education of adults have spanned decades in the cinema. We begin with the classic **Born Yesterday** (1950), in which Judy Holiday (in her Oscar-winning role) plays Billie Dawn, a dumb blonde caricature who is the mistress of millionaire Harry Brock (Broderick Crawford). Although rather crude himself, Harry is embarrassed by Billie and hires Paul Verrell (William Holden) to give Billie some education and "class." Paul succeeds too well by awakening her social and political consciousness with interesting results.

Teacher's Pet (1958) stars Clark Gable as Jim Gannon, a big city newspaper editor who thinks classroom education is a complete waste of time. He communicates this to Erica Stone (Doris Day), a night school journalism teacher who has invited him to speak to her class. When his boss forces him to apologize, Gannon is so taken with her that he pretends to be a student in her class. Although corny at times, and infuriating in its dated chauvinism, this comedy considers the opposing views about education and on-the-job experience.

High Time (1960) is a comedy starring Bing Crosby as widower Harvey Howard, a 51-year old college freshman who started the "Harvey Howard Smokehouse" restaurant chain. He rooms with Gil Sparrow (Fabian), Bob (Richard Beymer) and T.J. (Patrick Aduarte). Tuesday Weld is the romantic interest of each of the three younger roommates. Howard eventually falls in love with the French teacher, Madame Gautier (Nicole Maurey), and gets to sing to her, in this lightweight campus comedy.

The musical **My Fair Lady** (1964) is set in 1912 London, where linguistic expert, Henry Higgins (Rex Harrison) makes a bet with his friend Colonel Pickering (Wilfred Hyde-White) that he can transform the unkempt cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle (Audrey Hepburn) into a lady. The movie won Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor for Harrison and five other Oscars.

In **Back to School** (1986), Rodney Dangerfield portrays Thornton Melon, the owner of the "Tall and Fat" clothing chain. When he finds out that his son Jason (Keith Gordon) is having a problem at college, he decides to register too, throwing money around and being the life of the party. Robert Downey Jr. is on hand as Jason's best and only friend Derek; Sally Kellerman is the English teacher with whom Melon is smitten; Burt Young is his body guard, and Adrienne Barbeau is Melon's gold-digging, unfaithful, rude wife.

Educating Rita (1983) is set in England and is the story of a hairdresser named Rita (Julie Walters), who enrolls in the local university and registers to be tutored by Dr. Frank Bryant (Michael Caine), a cynical, alcoholic English professor. Bryant becomes completely enchanted

with Rita, finding her untainted eye and insatiable thirst for literature completely refreshing. It is a funny, poignant story.

In a more serious vein, **Stanley & Iris** (1990), stars Robert De Niro as Stanley Cox, a man who has never learned to read. Stanley is sweet and intelligent and is devoted to his father (Feodor Chaliapin). He tries to help recently widowed Iris King (Jane Fonda) when her purse is stolen on a bus, and they discover they work at the same place and become friends. This excellent film explores the barriers an illiterate person must face in his everyday life.

Conviction (2002) is a biopic about Carl Upchurch (Omar Epps), a hard-core felon who managed to educate himself and developed a spiritual awakening during one of his numerous incarcerations. He begins to spread his message to other inmates and is soon asked to help mediate problems between some of the most feared street gangs in the country.

The First Grader (2010) is the remarkable true story of Kimani Ng'ang'a Maruge (Oliver Musila Litondo), an illiterate member of the Kikuyu tribe in Kenya who at the age of 84 decides to enroll in a rural primary school. The film moves back and forth in time between his 2003 interactions with the primary school teacher, Jane Obin-chu (Naomi Harris), and brutal memories of his participation in the Mau Mau uprising against the British in the 1950s. This film provides a rich glimpse of Kenya and shows the inspiration a person of any age can be to a nation.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .

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Anne Hutchinson Year Continues

The celebration of the 420th anniversary of Anne Hutchinson's birth continues during July and August.

During the week of July 11-17, her birthday celebration will take place; call Toby Liederman at 718-885-3423 for details.

On Monday, July 4, at 2 p.m. the Independence Day Concert in Van Cortlandt Park will dedicate the performance of "Absalom" to Anne Hutchinson Year; call the Bronx Arts Ensemble for information at 718-601-7399.

On Sunday, July 24, the Rhode Island Friends of Anne Hutchinson will host a birthday celebration at the Anne Hutchinson Memorial in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. All are invited to attend and see the Anne Hutchinson/Mary Dyer memorial herb garden. For information, call Toby at 718-885-3423.

Friday, July 29, at 6 p.m. in Pelham Bay Park, a concert, "Beatles and the 60s" with Joe Fish, will be sponsored by the Bronx Arts Ensemble and the Parks Department. "Norwegian Wood" will be dedicated to Anne Hutchinson year.

On Sunday, Aug. 7, the Hutchinson River Restoration Project and the Bronx River Alliance will sponsor "Boating on the Hutch." For registration, fee details

and other information, call Eleanor Rae at 718-885-9653 or visit hutchinsonriverrestorationproject.org or call Damian Griffin of the Bronx River Alliance at 718-430-4614.

From Saturday, Aug. 20, through Sunday, Oct. 2, the Bronx County Museum of Bronx History/Valentine-Varian House, will present an exhibition in commemoration of Anne Hutchinson. Join Bronx Borough historian Lloyd Ultan on opening day, Saturday, Aug. 20, at 1 p.m. for his talk on this pioneering 17th-century reformer who spent her last days in what is now the Bronx.

On Friday, Aug. 26, at 6 p.m., a song dedicated to Anne Hutchinson Year will be performed at a concert "Latin Music with Willie Rodriguez" in Pelham Bay Park. Call the Bronx Arts Ensemble for more information; 718-601-7399.

And don't miss the ongoing exhibition "Anne Hutchinson: A Clash of Cultures," at St. Paul's Historic Landmark Church in Mount Vernon. The Anne Hutchinson Year is sponsored in part by Assemblyman Michael Benedetto and the Bronx County Historical Society, with additional support from Representative Joseph Crowley; Marianne Anderson, administrator of Pelham Bay Park, the Hutchinson River Restoration Project, the Huntington Free Library and East Bronx History Forum; and the Women's Herstory Association.

Summer Cruising on the Ave.

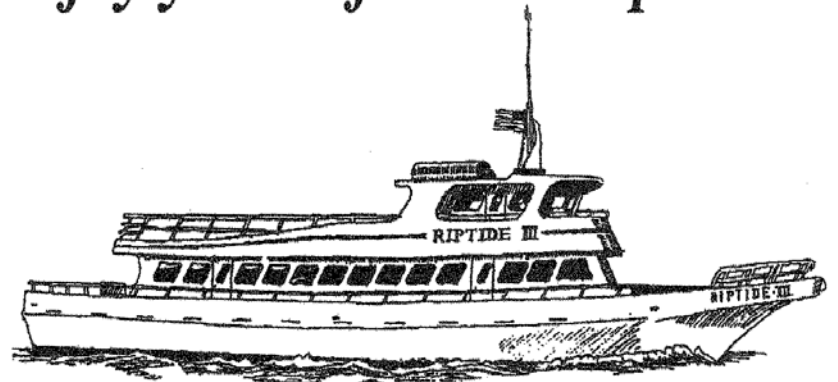
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George Ethelbert Walsh: City Island's Ghost Writer

By WINIFRED WALSH DOANE

Few clam diggers, if any, will remember George Ethelbert Walsh. He retired during the Great Depression and spent his declining years on City Island, where he died in 1941. The Walsh Room in the City Island Nautical Museum is named after his son, Harold Vandervoort Walsh, many of whose historic landscape paintings of City Island and its surroundings are part of the museum's permanent collection. But nothing remains on the Island that would remind us of Harold's father, George Ethelbert Walsh, who was the author of 500 serials and novels, 1,000 short stories and 30 books for children.

He was born in Brooklyn and lived in New Rochelle before moving to City Island with his wife, Anne (née Vandervoort Gleason). In 1931 New Rochelle's newspaper, *The Standard-Star*, included him in its series entitled "Our Famous Neighbors," which covered Westchester County's most outstanding citizens. He was described as a prolific writer whose publication record may have exceeded that of Edgar Wallace, then considered America's most productive author.

Now that his copyrights have expired, Walsh's books are beginning to reappear. "Bumper: The White Rabbit" surfaced in 2006 as a free e-book released on the internet through Project Gutenberg. Its original copyright was 1917, and it had been the first book in the popular Twilight Animal series for children. Eleven more books in the series were published by 1922.

Since the appearance of the "Bumper" e-book, a number of new paperbacks and hardback editions of it and other Walsh books have been published, many of them in India. A Kindle copy of Bumper is also available, and first editions of his works are being sold on the websites of Abebooks.com,

Alibris.com and Amazon.com, some of them at hefty prices. Walsh wrote many mystery stories and novels, but he preferred writing for children and young adults. Today, a first edition in good condition of "The Mysterious Beacon Light-The Adventures of Four Boys in Labrador" (1904) has a price tag of \$200.

A brief profile of George Ethelbert Walsh appeared in pre-1941 editions of "Who's Who in America." He was born on March 12, 1865, and his parents, George Elbert Walsh and Melissa (Walters), had wed in Brooklyn on May 28, 1862. Census data reveal that his mother's given name was Sarah, and her middle name was Melissa. He had two brothers, William and Samuel, and may have had a half-sister, Jane, from his widowed father's first marriage.

He told his children almost nothing about their Walsh heritage. He strongly believed that individuals are accountable for their own choices in life and should not lean on family names or the accomplishments of others for self-aggrandizement. The extreme to which he carried these convictions was realized by his son Harold who was 12 years old when a stranger visited his father and turned out to be his uncle, Samuel Walsh. Until that day, Harold was not aware that he had any uncles. Samuel spent an amiable afternoon chatting with his brother George and then he left, never to be seen or heard from again.

George Walsh had a strong work ethic, and he credited self-discipline for his successes in life. Every morning from nine until noon, he pecked at his Royal typewriter with amazing speed, using only his index fingers. He composed as he typed and spent the rest of the day editing and acquiring data and ideas for new books and stories. Supporting a wife and two children—his son, Harold, and a daughter, Helen Gladwin (Mrs. Homer S. Prouty of Hardwick, Mass.)—was not easy for a writer. To broaden the scope and depth of his writings, he frequently moved his family from one community to another in search of fresh subject matter.

Walsh's writing career began in 1890 when he became a staff reporter for the *New York Herald*. That was many years before it merged with the *New York Tribune* to become the *New York Herald Tribune*. He was also a special *New York* correspondent for the *Atlantic (Ga.) Constitution* and the *Philadelphia Times*. In 1893 he started one of the nation's first technical newspaper syndicates and, for several years published articles in *The North American Review*, *Cosmopolitan* and *Lippincott's* as a freelance writer.

Although Walsh was a Presbyterian, he put himself through Friends' College on



George and Anne Walsh

Long Island by working in a grocery store. After graduation he dropped the use of "thee" and "thou," but his first love story had a Quaker setting. The story appeared in the *Independent*, later renamed *Outlook*. Picking up on an idea conceived by the editor of the *Independent*, he became the first professional "ghost writer" and interviewed many of the great men of the time, including politicians, and he wrote the articles published under their names. His own political leanings were Progressive.

By the turn of the 20th century, Walsh had left the newspaper world to devote full time to writing books and serials for magazines. His first book, "Allin Winfield: A Romance," appeared in 1901. His second, "The Mysterious Burglar" (1902) was a bestseller that sold more than 100,000 copies, a very respectable number in those days. A few of his other books were "The Strange Cargo of the Southern Belle," "Polly Comes to Woodbine," "A Friend of the Seminole," "Scavengers of the Sea," "The Hound of the Lost Swamp" and "The Sign of the Cross."

He hit his stride with the *Twilight Animal* series, which was followed by a *Twilight Bird* series. The wisdom and ethical values imparted by the books in those series, as portrayed through animals and birds, are profound and can be appreciated by the youth of today as much as when they were written.

Walsh continued to write after he and his wife moved to City Island in the early 1930s. Their son, Harold, was already living on the Island with his growing family in a new house on Pilot Street, which Harold had designed himself and which still stands today. Anne had been in poor health, so she and George rented a bungalow on Marine Street, next door to the property directly behind Harold's home. Unfortunately, the noisy neighborhood children, including her three grandchildren, proved too much for Anne, so she and George moved to a bungalow on Minneford Avenue, a few doors north of Ditmars Street. After Anne died, George moved in with Harold's family. He loved children and was too deaf to be bothered by them since he refused to use a hearing aid. He spent his summers on the Prouty dairy farm in Hardwick with his daughter's family.

Walsh, the writer, had dreamt for years of traveling the oceans to distant lands in search of new fodder for his stories. He became obsessed with the idea of boarding a tramp steamer to cruise the Caribbean Islands and, along the way, stopping at ports of call along

the eastern seaboard of the United States. Before World War II, these tramp freighters engaged in nautical trade without fixed schedules or published ports of call. They often had extra staterooms for passengers, which could be reserved at very low rates compared to ocean liners. Against his family's advice and warnings, Walsh, then in his 70s, stubbornly withdrew the dwindling savings in his bank account and booked passage on a tramper headed for the Caribbean Sea. He could have written a gripping tale about the events that followed.

Several weeks after his father left on the tramp steamer, Harold received a telephone call from a man with a soft southern drawl. The man asked hesitantly if anyone knew an old man named George Walsh. "Yes," shouted Harold. "That's my father. Where is he?" It turned out that while the tramper was at port in Savannah, Georgia, Walsh had gone ashore to tour the city, where he had been mugged, knocked unconscious.

All of his money and his passport had been stolen, and the blow to his head had left him temporarily speechless. Local police had picked him up, arrested him for vagrancy and locked him in jail overnight with drunkards and other derelicts. After his release the next morning, he ended up in a daze on a park bench. The good Samaritan who found him and phoned Harold could tell he was a respectable senior in trouble and pieced together enough information to track down Harold's home on City Island. Harold immediately packed a suitcase and drove to the nearest train station to rescue his father.

Walsh never completely recovered from the concussion he had gotten in Savannah. His speech remained somewhat slurred, and his upright bearing began to slump. He fell several times during daily walks on City Island Avenue, and, on his last outing, he fell off the curb while crossing Ditmars Street. It was a damp, cold winter day, and he lay in the gutter for hours before a policeman recognized him and took him home. Passersby had ignored his pleas for help, mistaking him for a drunk because of his slurred speech. Not long after that, he had a final fall at home on Pilot Street, down the cellar stairs, and he died the next day, Feb. 4, 1941, in the hospital.

Obituaries for George Ethelbert Walsh appeared in the *New York Herald Tribune* and in *The New York Times*, but his writings live on. They have now entered the cyber world of the 21st century.

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CHAMBER OF DELIGHTS



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Sunshine, face painting, jewelry, clothing, artwork, music and more were featured at the City Island Chamber of Commerce's annual Spring Arts and Crafts fair during the weekend of June 4 and 5, 2011. The successful fair was made possible by good weather and 50 vendors. The Chamber provided free spaces for the Nautical Museum, Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, PTA of P.S. 175 and the Girl Scouts. Raffles were held for 20 prizes donated by local businesses, including scuba lessons from Captain Mike's Dive Shop, passes for the *Island Current* fishing boat, a reflexology session with David Cook, and various lunches and dinners at City Island's favorite restaurants. Music by The Lickety Split Band and a number of local musicians filled the air. The fair was organized by Paul Klein of The Kaleidoscope Gallery and enjoyed by many City Islanders as well as visitors to the Island.



A Current Review

The Other Islands of New York City: A History and Guide (third edition)

By SHARON SEITZ and STUART MILLER

City Islanders have long felt that the world sees New York City as the island of Manhattan, but there are dozens of other islands in the city, some of them infamous (Riker's), some of them tiny (Rat) but all of them worthy of space in this entertaining guide book, now in its third edition.

In this new edition, Rat Island and Cubans Ledge each get a paragraph and High Island a full page in the Forgotten Islands chapter, but City Island gets its own chapter, 22 pages worth, packed with history, photographs, descriptions of interesting buildings and interviews with Island residents Tom Nye, Ron Turner, Patrick Gannon and this reviewer, as well as interesting sidebars on John Condon (the

intermediary in the Lindbergh kidnapping case) and Harry Carey (the first Western movie star). The authors even included a reference to the community's response to the design of the cable-stayed bridge!

There is a section for visitors, with recommendations for restaurants and shops and a description of the Nautical Museum and other places of interest. Perhaps the most appealing image in the chapter is a photograph of the famous threesome Russ Schaller, Ed Sadler and Stu Hawkins in their chairs in front of the Diner.

Islanders will want this book for the section on City Island, but it is highly recommended for the richness of its information on the other islands as well.

Cormac McEnery, Esq.

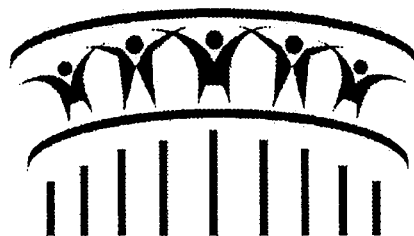
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SIGHTS & SOUNDS

By JOHN SHERIDAN and MARIA SUTHERLAND

CLEARER TO THE HEARER

We hear the sounds we do because of vibrations in the air that tickle the tiny hairs in our ears called stereocilia. Where there is no air—on the moon, for example—through which vibrations move on their way to our ears, there is no sound, at least not without the aid of electronic devices.

On City Island, we get a kind of natural boost to the sounds we hear from the water that surrounds us. Many Islanders will have observed how sound carries particularly well in the early morning and late at night, when the water is smooth and still, like glass. Scientists tell us the reason for this is that whereas air cooled by water tends to slow the speed of sounds down, it simultaneously bends and concentrates those same sounds, rendering them clearer to the hearer and seemingly louder. The calmer the waters, the less interference there is to this naturally occurring phenomenon.

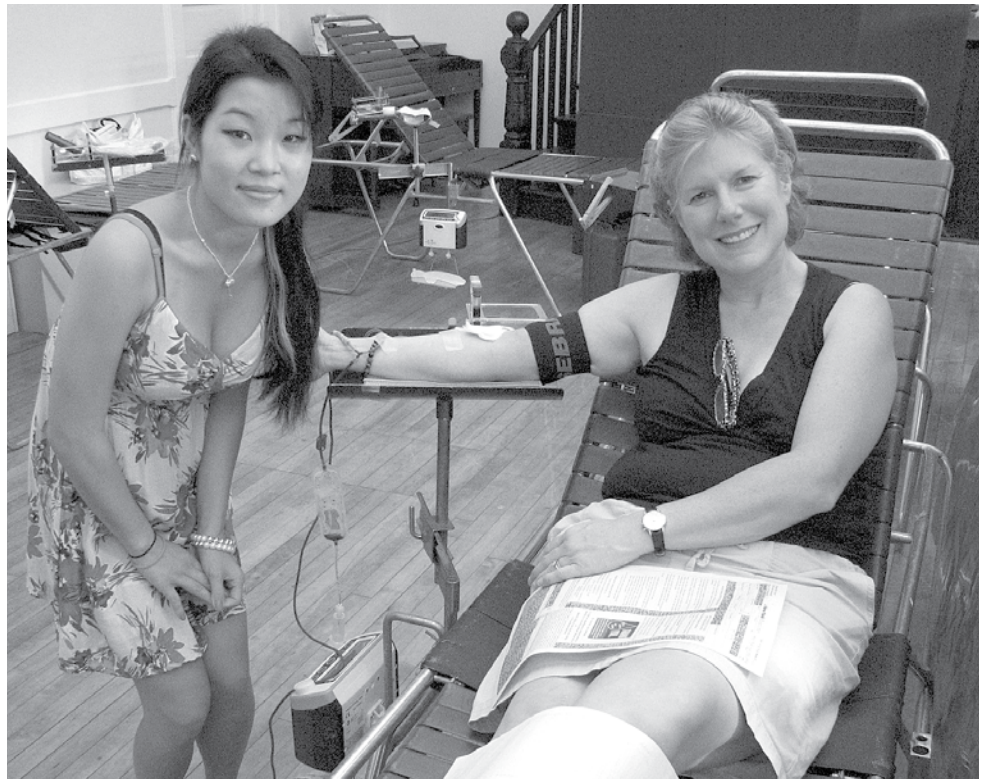
It is somewhat the same with sunlight as it moves through a magnifying glass. It too is concentrated and changes to a more intense kind of light. The analogy to light is even more instructive if you think of the lenses in eyeglasses. Take a pair of eyeglasses worn by someone who is nearsight-

ed (i.e., someone who has difficulty seeing objects in the distance). The lenses for these types of glasses bend light, concentrating it in such a way as to clarify distant objects that would otherwise remain blurry. The glass-like surface of the water in the early morning acts like a lens, clarifying sounds and intensifying them.

At night and on the weekends, when crowds gather at local restaurants and motorcyclists race from place to place, the same physical forces are at work boosting the already intense sound. Like many of our neighbors, we have been struck and at times taken aback by the way voices and music have been emanating from Seafood City this summer. As the science suggests, it is more than sheer numbers that have been tickling our stereocilia. It is the cooler Island air, an inescapable fact of life on City Island. Of course, the other inescapable fact, although much less scientific, is that many of the sounds coming from Seafood City this summer are far too loud to begin with.

On a separate note, we would like to invite readers to submit the names of those Islanders who have something to say on the kinds of subjects that we regularly address in this column. We'd like to hear from people who, through their professions or hobbies and interests, might have an uncommon familiarity or take on City Island sights and sounds. People, that is, with something interesting to say on this subject matter. We would welcome the opportunity to profile them, as we have done with other Islanders from time to time, and share their expertise with readers and neighbors alike. As always, we can be contacted at jdsstrat@msn.com or c/o *The Island Current*, P.O. Box 6, Bronx, NY 10464.

See you in September!



Photos by KAREN NANI

In celebration of Emily Sexton's recovery from a horrific traffic accident in November 2010 and to thank the Jacobi Medical Center Emergency, Trauma and Surgical Services, a blood drive was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2011, at Grace Episcopal Church. This time Emily was able to attend the drive in person (she was still in the hospital for the blood drive in December) and to thank New York Blood Center workers, including (top photo) Nadine White, Brad Cedolin and Caleen Taylor.

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Calling All Softball Players

By BOB CARMODY



Congratulations to the St. Mary, Star of the Sea Girl's Softball Team, which had a great season. Shown above are the talented Varsity team members (standing, l. to r.): Coach Marco Negron, Ashley Goldman, Dana Melendez, Francesca Strazzera, Grace Ramos, coach Joe Goldman, Catherine Graves, Adrianna Aceto, Tina Rugov, Erin Schlottman and Frank Strazzera, manager. Kneeling: Tasja Robertson, Nina Faicco, Chelsea Negron, Sarah Williams and Brianna Marrero. Not pictured: Samantha Fontana and coach Tom Vivolo.

One of my first goals on being appointed Babe Ruth District 3 Girls State Softball Commissioner, after years of coaching on City Island and Pelham Bay, is to try to start up a league on City Island or to combine City Island with Pelham Bay and other teams in the local Babe Ruth League. This would allow the Northeast Bronx and lower Westchester leagues in District 3 to play inter-league travel softball at the recreational level and would give the leagues a tournament-type feel similar to that of the Westchester League.

Whether it is Little League baseball or softball, the experience of playing on any sports team helps build self esteem, develop camaraderie skills, experience being part of something, the chance to spend time with your children and, most of all, offers the opportunity to have fun. The benefits of sports carries over into your child's education, coping skills and life itself, and the participation of parents benefits both parent and child.

We are hoping that all softball leagues and officials will join together to make softball fun again, not just competitive, although of course there will be plenty of time for tournaments and competition throughout the seasons. We could even have our own North East Bronx Tournament. I already know coaches and players from Pelham Bay and City Island

who are interested.

To start with, we are looking for players in the 13 to 17 age group to play this fall. Girls who are eligible to play must be at least 13 or older on Jan. 1 or 16 or under on Jan. 1. Older players may be interested in one of the 17+ teams in lower Westchester or New York City. The summer season for the 17+ teams in Westchester started in late June. We are also looking for coaches, who should be experienced players at least 17 or older.

If you belong to a league already and are happy where you are, please continue in that league. I have no interest in disrupting any existing league. In fact, it is an attempt to support all of the opportunities for girls to play softball nearly year round. The Babe Ruth league starts in April and ends in late June; players sign up now to start in October.


Those who know me have seen my commitment to quality, fairness, loyalty, safety and what is best for players, which included implementing the use of safety base and using longer pitching innings to make the game more competitive, as well as organizing dozens of tournaments and other events.

Anyone interested in knowing more or who has questions or needs help or advice should contact me at justbobc1957@verizon.net or at my office (718-885-0088) or on Face Book (search for Robert Carmody). Babe Ruth softball is available to all age groups; the website is www.baberuthleague.org.

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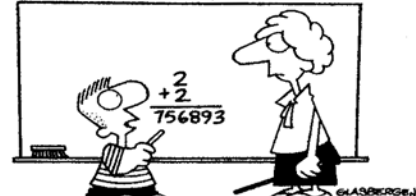
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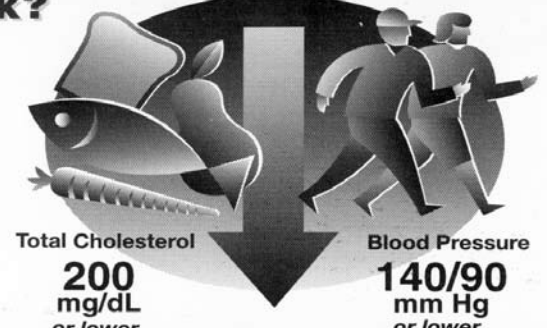
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Sailing Life on City Island

By JOYCE M. MULCAHY



Half Moon model

There's a boat on City Island that doesn't carry passengers, has never seen the sea and doesn't float, but it's arguably the most valuable sailing vessel on the island.

You've probably passed by this beauty dozens, if not hundreds of times. It may have been while you waited at the traffic light, taken a stroll down the avenue or dropped off your kids to school.

Had you known the full account of this square-rigged vessel, you may have stopped and reflected. You might have even put your busy schedule, ringing cell phone and wandering thoughts on pause to consider, for a moment, the story behind the *Half Moon* displayed in front of P.S. 175.

Recently I had the opportunity to interview Bob Adams, a long-time resident of City Island, artist, and carpenter by trade who in 2009 was asked and commissioned by the school's PTA and graduating class to build a boat for display just outside its doors. "I've been building things since as far back as I can remember," said Adams. The plan was to commemorate the 400-year-old voyage of discovery by Henry Hudson into New York waterways aboard the *Half Moon*. The ship was owned by the Dutch East India Company and was commissioned to seek trade routes, but it also existed during the Age of Exploration, when much of New York's surrounding waters were yet uncharted.

Bob Adams asked his friend and fellow City Islander Dr. Ed Rothschild for assistance. According to Bob, Dr. Rothschild replied yes without hesitation. Laughing, Bob Adams explains: "Within a day or two Ed had built a replica of the *Half Moon* with toilet paper rolls, paper and cardboard!"

Over the course of the next four months on evenings and weekends these two put pen to paper, then nails to wood and built a nine-foot-long replica of the ship. On the celebratory day, Ed Rothschild had students use his fishing poles to reel away the tarp that would unveil the boat. The crowd came, including Islanders, local politicians and press and all were pleased. Mission accomplished.

But that's not the whole story. There's more here that reveals true friends can come into your life, at any age, especially amid the neighborliness and affability found on City Island.

This able duo became friends not long ago in 2007, when both of their daughters attended the school and when both families were involved in the PTA. Over the next couple of years, they would often discuss politics, books, City Island and the world at large over a cup of coffee at a table at the local diner. Ed Rothschild would reveal that during the 1970s some of his patients downtown in the city's artsy Village neighborhood included Bob Dylan and Janis Joplin. Bob Adams would share of his days fresh out of school when he thought he was "going to be the greatest painter the world had ever known!" And not surprisingly, both of them, true residents of City Island, enjoyed sailing and boating.

While Bob Adams built the *Half Moon*, the "Baron Von Rothschild" as he was good-naturedly nicknamed by his friend, helped with the inspiration, research and conceptualization of the boat. "But he argued with me a lot!" Bob quipped. (I got the sense they both enjoyed the banter.) Clearly this project conspired by the pair produced a winning result, but there was more to it than that. "It wasn't really about building the ship, it was about building it together with my friend Ed." These men discovered what Ralph Waldo Emerson also knew: "To have a good friend is one of the highest delights of life."

Sadly, Dr. Rothschild passed away several months ago. "I was really looking forward to doing another project with Ed. I think about him every day." Bob is quick to remember the good times, too, "Ed loved stories about journeys on the sea. He gave me the book "Atlantic," and I'm still reading it." Written by Simon Winchester, the full title is "Atlantic: Great Sea Battles, Heroic Discoveries, Titanic Storms and a Vast Ocean of a Million Stories." Bob holds up his thumb and index finger about two inches apart; "Geez, the book is this thick!"

So the next time you walk past the school, take a moment and stop by the *Half Moon* as it sails in the garden. It's a bit weathered since its 2009 unveiling and maybe not as grand as it was thanks to weather and wear, but its value is timeless. More than a commemoration of a long-ago voyage in 1609, it's a present-day reminder that "truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave and impossible to forget" (author unknown).

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

Tide chart by Tom Smith

JULY 2011										
DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY	
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET		
01	Fri	0617	0.01	1202	7.41	1804	0.53	2359	8.30	Fri 01
02	Sat	0651	-0.20	1238	7.68	1849	0.30			Sat 02
03	Sun	0043	8.41	0728	-0.34	1319	7.92	1936	0.14	Sun 03
04	Mon	0129	8.38	0809	-0.39	1403	8.08	2025	0.07	Mon 04
05	Tue	0218	8.22	0853	-0.34	1451	8.14	2118	0.09	Tue 05
06	Wed	0310	7.93	0941	-0.18	1543	8.11	2217	0.20	Wed 06
07	Thu	0406	7.54	1034	0.06	1640	8.01	2330	0.33	Thu 07
08	Fri	0509	7.14	1134	0.34	1744	7.88			Fri 08
09	Sat	0057	0.36	0627	6.83	1252	0.57	1902	7.81	Sat 09
10	Sun	0213	0.23	0759	6.74	1417	0.63	2023	7.88	Sun 10
11	Mon	0319	-0.01	0911	6.87	1526	0.54	2131	8.04	Mon 11
12	Tue	0418	-0.26	1011	7.09	1626	0.37	2229	8.20	Tue 12
13	Wed	0512	-0.46	1105	7.32	1721	0.21	2322	8.29	Wed 13
14	Thu	0602	-0.55	1155	7.52	1811	0.11			Thu 14
15	Fri	0011	8.30	0648	-0.51	1241	7.64	1858	0.11	Fri 15
16	Sat	0056	8.19	0732	-0.36	1325	7.69	1942	0.20	Sat 16
17	Sun	0139	8.00	0812	-0.10	1406	7.66	2023	0.38	Sun 17
18	Mon	0218	7.73	0848	0.21	1444	7.56	2059	0.61	Mon 18
19	Tue	0254	7.43	0916	0.54	1519	7.43	2129	0.86	Tue 19
20	Wed	0326	7.12	0928	0.81	1549	7.29	2155	1.09	Wed 20
21	Thu	0359	6.83	0953	1.03	1620	7.17	2230	1.29	Thu 21
22	Fri	0439	6.58	1031	1.24	1659	7.07	2317	1.47	Fri 22
23	Sat	0528	6.37	1117	1.44	1745	7.02			Sat 23
24	Sun	0015	1.58	0630	6.26	1208	1.59	1839	7.04	Sun 24
25	Mon	0140	1.55	0755	6.29	1305	1.65	1937	7.16	Mon 25
26	Tue	0251	1.35	0857	6.46	1408	1.57	2035	7.37	Tue 26
27	Wed	0344	1.03	0944	6.74	1511	1.34	2126	7.66	Wed 27
28	Thu	0431	0.65	1023	7.08	1610	0.98	2212	7.98	Thu 28
29	Fri	0512	0.25	1058	7.46	1702	0.56	2257	8.27	Fri 29
30	Sat	0551	-0.12	1136	7.84	1750	0.16	2342	8.48	Sat 30
31	Sun	0630	-0.42	1216	8.18	1838	-0.18			Sun 31
AUGUST 2011										
01	Mon	0028	8.58	0709	-0.61	1259	8.43	1926	-0.39	Mon 01
02	Tue	0115	8.52	0751	-0.66	1344	8.56	2016	-0.44	Tue 02
03	Wed	0204	8.30	0835	-0.54	1432	8.53	2110	-0.33	Wed 03
04	Thu	0256	7.94	0923	-0.28	1524	8.37	2213	-0.08	Thu 04
05	Fri	0354	7.49	1018	0.11	1622	8.10	2330	0.20	Fri 05
06	Sat	0502	7.03	1125	0.52	1733	7.82			Sat 06
07	Sun	0050	0.36	0635	6.75	1255	0.81	1906	7.68	Sun 07
08	Mon	0202	0.34	0757	6.77	1414	0.85	2023	7.76	Mon 08
09	Tue	0306	0.19	0903	6.97	1519	0.71	2127	7.93	Tue 09
10	Wed	0403	0.00	1000	7.26	1617	0.49	2222	8.11	Wed 10
11	Thu	0455	-0.16	1051	7.54	1709	0.27	2313	8.22	Thu 11
12	Fri	0543	-0.24	1138	7.76	1757	0.13	2358	8.23	Fri 12
13	Sat	0627	-0.20	1221	7.87	1840	0.09			Sat 13
14	Sun	0040	8.13	0706	-0.06	1301	7.89	1920	0.16	Sun 14
15	Mon	0118	7.93	0741	0.17	1336	7.82	1955	0.32	Mon 15
16	Tue	0151	7.68	0808	0.43	1404	7.70	2021	0.53	Tue 16
17	Wed	0215	7.42	0816	0.65	1423	7.58	2035	0.73	Wed 17
18	Thu	0236	7.19	0833	0.80	1446	7.50	2101	0.91	Thu 18
19	Fri	0306	6.98	0906	0.97	1519	7.42	2138	1.11	Fri 19
20	Sat	0344	6.79	0947	1.18	1600	7.33	2223	1.32	Sat 20
21	Sun	0430	6.61	1034	1.42	1647	7.25	2316	1.50	Sun 21
22	Mon	0523	6.49	1126	1.61	1740	7.21			Mon 22
23	Tue	0015	1.58	0624	6.48	1224	1.70	1839	7.25	Tue 23
24	Wed	0128	1.49	0732	6.64	1329	1.60	1943	7.43	Wed 24
25	Thu	0249	1.17	0842	6.97	1439	1.28	2047	7.71	Thu 25
26	Fri	0348	0.72	0937	7.42	1547	0.79	2145	8.05	Fri 26
27	Sat	0436	0.23	1023	7.90	1644	0.23	2236	8.36	Sat 27
28	Sun	0520	-0.22	1107	8.35	1736	-0.28	2325	8.58	Sun 28
29	Mon	0603	-0.57	1151	8.71	1825	-0.67			Mon 29

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By BUTCH NIEVES

Healthy Eating Tips Your Kids Will Love

Every parent wants good things for their children: a positive outlook on life, a healthy respect for authority, a strong sense of self, a disease-free body and a healthy body weight. Despite our best intentions, a recent report suggests that for the first time in two centuries, the current generation of children may have a shorter life expectancy than their parents. With all the advances in medicine, how could this possibly be true? The blame falls squarely on today's toxic food environment.

In short, your kids are eating too much junk. And who can blame them? Junk food tastes great. The good news is that healthy food also tastes great. Take these simple tips and transform your child's diet into one that is packed with good health.

1. Add Color. Adding bright and colorful fruits and veggies to your child's plate will get their diet on the fast track to health. Fresh fruits and veggies are filled with fiber, vitamins and minerals that are essential to good health.

If your kids are resistant then make it fun. Serve veggies with salad dressing as a dip. Cut fresh fruit in the colors of the rainbow and place them on a skewer. Serve a color themed meal—all green, all red or all orange. Use your imagination, and you'll come up with an endless number of ways to make fruits and veggies fun to eat.

2. Think Whole Foods. Processed foods are the biggest problem with our modern diet. Packaged and refined food products are devalued and filled with empty calories that quickly lead to weight gain. Unfortunately, processed foods make up a large portion of the diet of many children.

Train your kids to opt for whole foods, rather than packaged ones. Whole foods are foods that are in their natural state. An apple. A piece of sprouted grain bread spread with natural peanut butter. A piece of hormone-free chicken. A bowl of beans. You get the idea.

3. Use Wholesome Sweeteners. Refined sugar and corn syrup are packed into many of the foods that your kids love. But wait, there are more wholesome sweeteners available—sweeteners that add vitamins and minerals rather than empty calories. Use the following rather than white sugar or corn syrup:

- **Sucanat:** This pure, dried sugar cane juice retains its molasses content. Use it to replace white sugar in baking.

- **Pure maple syrup:** Forget the "fake" syrups containing corn syrup. Pure maple syrup contains potassium, calcium and some amino acids.

- **Brown rice syrup:** Use this dark syrupy sweetener instead of corn syrup. It takes longer to digest and won't spike your blood sugar like refined sugar.

- **Dates:** Throw a few seeded dates into your blender to sweeten your smoothie rather than adding white sugar.

4. Make Smart Substitutions. Kids love pizza and pasta and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and that's not going to

change any time soon. Rather than fight your kids on their favorites, try making smart substitutions to make their favorites more nutritious.

- **Pizza:** Up the nutritional content of your pizza by opting for wheat crust over white, adding veggies to the toppings and sticking with lean meat toppings.

- **Pasta:** Use sprouted grain or whole grain pasta rather than traditional white pasta. Add veggies to your pasta sauce. Stick with red sauce, since white sauce is so high in fat.

- **PB&J:** A peanut butter and jelly sandwich made with the usual way is fairly void of any real nutritional value. Try the PB&J Makeover recipe below instead for a sandwich that will provide real wholesome fuel for your child's day.

5. Ban Sugary Drinks. One of the best things that you can do for your child's good health is to instill in them a love for water rather than sugary drinks. Soda pop and juices are filled with empty calories that encourage weight gain. The easiest way to do this is to stock your house with lots of pure, filtered water. Don't have fruit drinks or soda pop readily available, so that the kids grow accustomed to drinking only water.

Although I presented these tips as improvements to be made to your child's diets, these tips will also do wonders for your diet. Try these five tips out for 30 days, and I guarantee you'll look and feel better. Parents all want good things for their children. Now how about doing something good for yourself as well? You are your child's biggest role model on how to live, for better or worse. Treat yourself right by getting started on an exercise program that will change your life for the best.

PB&J Makeover

If you use white bread, corn syrup-filled peanut butter and refined sugar-filled jelly, the result would be a sandwich that will skyrocket your blood sugar, promote fat storage and leave you feeling hungry a short time later. However, if you make the sandwich with sprouted grain bread, true peanut butter made from one ingredient (peanuts) and fruit preserves that are naturally sweetened with fruit juice rather than sugar, then the result would be a nutritionally dense food that would promote stable blood sugar levels and provide you with hours of sustained energy. Your kids will love the fun twist of having their sandwich grilled and stuffed with banana slices!

To make one sandwich, here is what you need: 2 pieces of sprouted grain bread; 1 tablespoon of pure peanut butter (no added sugar or corn syrup); 1 tablespoon natural fruit spread (no added sugar or corn syrup); half a banana, sliced.

1. Spread one piece of bread with peanut butter and the other with fruit spread. Line one side with the sliced bananas and sandwich it.

2. In a grill pan over medium heat, grill each side until grill marks appear and the sandwich is warmed.

Enjoy and have a wonderful summer!



The Bronx Rotary Club team raised just under \$2,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides walkathon at Rye Playland on May 22, 2011. Bronx Rotarians Rev. Susan Chadwick (l.), Edward Hicks (second from left) and Marguerite Chadwick-Juner (far right) were joined by Islander Robert Chadwick.

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.

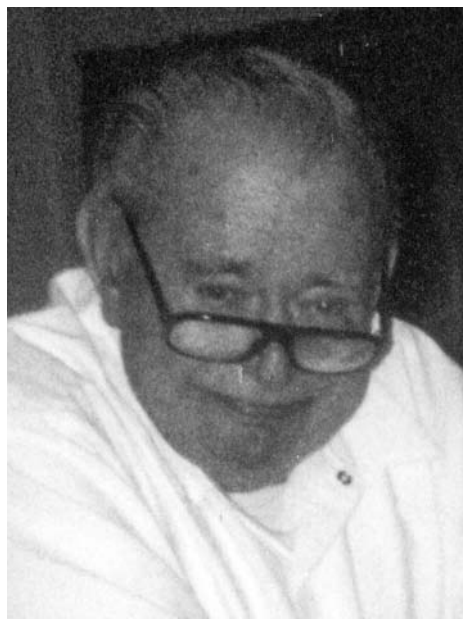
Frank Koller

After a tough battle with cancer, Frank Koller, 81 years, passed away on April 7, 2011. Frank moved to City Island in 1963 and lived here with his wife, Margaret, whom he married 60 years ago. He was affectionately known as Opa (grandfather) because of his Austrian heritage.

Frank enjoyed the company of his family, friends and neighbors, particularly if they enjoyed dancing the polka, waltzing or downhill skiing. He was very active and was a member of the 70+ ski club. He was talented and creative when it came to working with his hands, and he happily came to the aid of family and neighbors to repair whatever needed fixing, or to invent something new and useful. His warm heart, strength and enthusiasm will be missed by everyone whose life he has touched.

Frank was predeceased by his wife and survived by his three children, Frank, Steve and Ingrid; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and his sisters Pepe, Wilma, Rosie and Margaret.

Donations in Frank Koller's name may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street, City Island, NY 10464, or to the American Cancer Society at <https://www.cancer.org/Involved/Donate>.



Robert Travers

Robert Travers

Lifelong City Islander and Terrace Street resident Robert Travers passed away on May 20, 2011, at the age of 80,

after a battle with lung cancer.

Born Sept. 24, 1930, to Robert Travers and Louise Scherwin, Robert grew up on Minneford Avenue. He attended P.S. 17 on Fordham Street and had paper routes on City Island as a boy.

He went on to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War from 1950 to 1955, achieving the rank of corporal. He worked as a ship carpenter at Ray's Boat Yard on City Island and later went on to work in Mamaroneck for Brewer's Post Road Boat Yard, where he worked for more than 27 years.

Robert was a lifelong member of the American Legion Post 156. He loved working on boats, doing carpentry work and building things. He also loved gardening and traveling, as well as boating and fishing.

Robert was predeceased by his beloved wife, Arlene; his sisters, Elva Depagnier and Violet Brasack; and his brother-in-law Frank Depagnier.

He is survived by his cherished children, Reid and Lori Travers of Terrace Street, and his brother-in-law, Wilford Brasack, of Ditmars Street.

Funeral services were held at Cox and Graziano Funeral Home in Mamaroneck led by Mother Patricia Alexander of Grace Episcopal Church. Interment was at Ferncliff Cemetery in Hartsdale, New York. A memorial service will be held at a later date on City Island at Grace Episcopal Church on Pilot Street.

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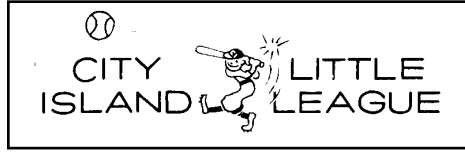
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The major league home runs keep on coming! Jaiden Marrero of the American Legion team (coached by John Tomsen and John Manna) hit his third run out of the park home run this season. Great job! The coaches of Sammy's Fish Box (Maria Piri and Louis Lomonaco) would like to thank the parents and the players on the team, which had an outstanding year. The kids were remarkable. The team's first-place regular season finish, with a record of 12 wins, 1 loss and 3 ties, reflects a job well done. There was great team chemistry, hard work and much fun for both players and coaches. The first half of the season was dominated by outstanding pitching. As the second half started, not only did the pitchers continue to perform, but so did the bats, with great hitting. The coaches who put in lots of time for this Little League season were Maria Piri, Louis Lomonaco, Anthony Massella, and Rich Cordaro. Their players: Nicholas Texidor, Connor Hanley-Piri, Erik Lomonaco, Michael Bauso, Joseph Kramer, James Mettler, Joseph Cordero, Anthony Massella, Carlo Fine, Anthony Cartagena, Raphael Hay, Joseph Gjonaj, Dino Esposito and Shemar Myrie. Good luck to Sammy's Fish Box and the Gilder Scholarship team, which will play for the City Island Major League Championship!

The spirit of the Gilder Scholarship team, coached by Robert Bowie Stivala, Alaura Imperioli and Scott Munafo, is back with some great hits and some great plays. Joseph Mancuso is the number-one hitter for a reason. He has great form and a good attitude and he is always hitting. He has made some great plays at second base. Johnny Cebelero (aka the "Cebster") is staying consistent as the number-two batter and getting base hits and RBIs. Michael Labriola is doing an awesome job pitching, hitting the ball and fielding. He made a double play that nearly became a triple play. Fernando Gonzalez, the catcher, is very motivational and always plays like a professional with very few strike-outs this season, mostly base hits in the outfield. Michael Valentine had brought his game back and turned around his hitting, pitching and outlook. Tyler Marte is a great shortstop who always has fun playing the game. Julian Gannon is one of the number-one pitchers and always tries his best when playing baseball. Justin Munafo has made a drastic improvement since starting the season with base hits, stepping up in the catcher's position and debuting as a pitcher with great form. Joe Leni has also drastically changed his form since the beginning of the season. He looks great playing ball. He has also pitched a couple of games doing

exceptionally well for a first-time pitcher. Michael Mancuso is a treat for the team. He is very happy to play ball on the team and is learning a lot. He has gotten on base many times and made contact at bat. Matt Cioffi is also another player on the team who puts his heart into the game. He proves that baseball matters to him by doing a good job for his team and coaches, which is greatly appreciated. Nick Calbo is a player who is learning a lot and wants to pitch. With some practice, he will be a starting pitcher next year. He did a good job for his debut. Nick is an exceptional centerfielder and is very eager to play baseball. Coach Bowie says: "Keep up the good work guys and never give up!"

In the minor league, Seafood City had a great season. All the players learned the fundamentals of the game, teamwork and sportsmanship and made some new friends. And they all did a great job learning how to hit the ball and run bases, highlighted by several towering shots to the outfield by Jaden Torrado. Their coach is especially proud of the way the team performed on the field. Joseph Cruz performed two amazing triple plays in two separate games and throwing out two players at home plate to catcher Andy Almonte. Jabril Stanford was the most improved player, going two for two in the final game, scoring twice and knocking in two RBIs. Great job, Jabril! Congratulations to the All Stars: Jaden Torrado, Timmy Stein, Joseph Cruz, Andy Almonte, Joseph Santana and Jeffrey Santana. Honorable mentions go out to all of the future stars of City Island Little League: Ryan Whelan, Thomas Whelan, Angel Ramos, Jaydalin Torres, William Gomaz and Hannah Gannon. Bill Whelan looks forward to coaching again next season and is grateful to all the coaches for volunteering their time, especially Mike Whelan, Wilby Santana and Bill Chase.

Jack's Bait and Tackle finished the season strong with coach Maria Piri and Anthony Piri. Every player built on the fundamentals learned in the beginning of the season. The offense was powered by Angelo Nieves, Rudy Etzel, Frankie Lubelli, Joseph Goonan, Carmine Testa and Mark Piri, and the defense was anchored by Aidan Hanley-Piri, John Russell and Ryan Amos. Noticeable improvements were made by all the players, especially Lamire Bryant, Anthony Paradiso, Serena Balassi, Julian McElroy and Devin Munafo. Jack's All Stars selections are: Joseph Goonan, Rudy Etzel, Frankie Lubelli, Angelo Nieves, Aidan Hanley-Piri and Mark Piri.

Last but not least, John Tomsen would like to thank both of his teams, Team Legion and J.P.'s for showing the most dedication any coach could hope for. They never gave it anything less than their all, and it really showed on the field. Great job! J.P.'s came a long way from that very first day on the field; everyone made tremendous improvements and John looks forward to next year to have them all play for him again. He thanks Jay Karabel, John Manna, Mike Hehir, Jim McLaughan and Mark Amos for coaching the teams.

The League thanks all the coaches, parents, volunteers and board members who make City Island Little League such a success. Your hard work, patience and time are much appreciated. Thanks to all for a great 2011 baseball season.

Tracey Tomsen

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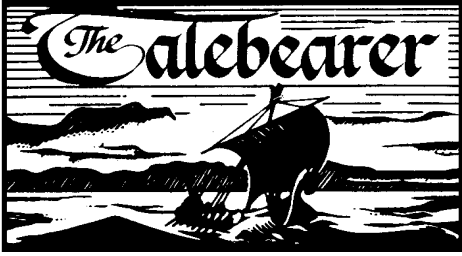
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Happy July birthdays to Susan Rauh and her sister, Beth Rota. We expect to see Beth and Matt Rota visiting City Island in early July.

Long-distance birthday wishes go out to former Islander Dr. Ellen Dierenfeld, who will celebrate her big day on July 9.

Birthday wishes on July 21 to Jennifer Carman.

Happy Aug. 16 birthday greetings to Nolan Quinn, with love from your family and friends.

Happy birthday also to Philip Dolensek, who celebrates his 30th on Aug. 20. How time flies!

Happy 20th birthday wishes on Aug. 22 to Maria Christina Swieciki, with love from Mom and Dad and Stephen and Bobby.

Happy Aug. 30 birthday greetings to Samantha Emerick.

Best wishes to Bay Street's Stephen Swieciki, who celebrates his 25th birthday on Sept. 2.

Happy first birthday on July 9 to our precious Alana Lydia. Hugs, kisses and lots of love from Nonni and Grandpa Ribaud.

Happy birthday wishes go out to Barbara Henreckson, who will celebrate on July 14. With lots of love from daughters Debra and Elzie and son-in-law, Ken.

July birthday greetings across the miles to Sally McPherson.

Congratulations to Marissa Ferris on her graduation from Maria Regina High School! Job well done! We are so very proud of all your accomplishments and know it will not end here! Marissa will be attending Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, and we wish her all the best now and always! Remember to reach for the stars and follow your dreams. We know you will succeed! You are the best and I am so proud to be your mother! All our love, Mom, Joey, Richard, Dad, Linda and the boys.

Good luck and Godspeed to Fordham Street's Thomas Bollati, who has left for a two-year post as Vice Consul in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Welcome home, Ryan Benjamin Gutman, born prematurely on March 25; he finally arrived home in early June. Ryan is the son of Cathy Bollati Gutman and Craig Gutman and the grandson of Mary and Richie Bollati and Mike Gutman. The



Tier Street residents Michelle Kahn and Antonio Petrone were married on April 16, 2011 at the WaterView Club in Bayville, NY.

Bollati and Gutman families want to thank everyone for their prayers and support.

Welcome to the world, Charles Angelo Bollati, born January 6 and christened on April 17. Proud parents are Michael and Jayme Bollati and thrilled grandparents are Mary and Richie Bollati and Donna and Dennis Petrino of Yonkers.

Happy belated birthday wishes to Trish and Greg Penny, who both celebrated their big "40th" birthdays on May 22 and June 4. Also happy fourth anniversary wishes to both of you on June 16, and many more. Lots of love from Mom and Dad.

Happy birthday wishes to our two favorite dolls, Kayla and Alyssa Fusco. Kayla will be celebrating her 7th birthday on July 4, and her little sister, Alyssa, will celebrate her fourth birthday on July 23. Have lots of fun girls! Hugs and kisses from Grandma and Grandpa Penny.

Tom and Joan McShane would like to welcome to City Island their beautiful new grandson, Kevin John Hession, born on May 26, 2011. Congratulations and lots of love to his proud parents, Joanne and John Hession of Reynolds Street.

Congratulations to the St. Mary Star of the Sea Girl's Softball Team, which had a great season. The team, spearheaded by Phil DeRasmo and managed by Mike Cambria along with coaches Mike Prohaska, Marcos Negron and George Spencer, worked hard and finished second in a tough division. In the playoffs, the girls dispatched the Xavier team to reach the championship game for the second year in a row! On the Varsity level, managed by Frank Strazzera along with coaches Joe Goldman, Marcos Negron and Tom Vivolo, the gals once again finished second. Special thanks to John Tomsen and everyone at City Island Little League; your generosity is greatly appreciated. Wow, what a season!



Photo by EYVONNE BAKER

Emily Sexton's graduation from Preston High School in June was celebrated with her parents, Harlan and David, and her brother, Gregory, at Grace Episcopal Church on Sunday, June 12, 2011.

Note: The team will be needing a parent who would be interested in continuing the fine work that Nick Lotrionte and Frank Strazzera have established. If you'd like to step up to the plate, please contact Frank Strazzera.

Elaine and Rene Matos of Reynolds Street welcomed their son, Christopher Rene, to the world on May 25, 2011. His delighted relatives are first-time grandfather Chris Teto, first-time uncle Armando

Teto, and first-time great-grandmother Teresa Teto, all of Winters Street.

Congratulations to Michelle Piranio on her graduation from Loyola University in Maryland. Michelle is the granddaughter of Buddy & Lucy Pontecorvo.

And to all our neighbors, friends and readers, everyone here at *The Island Current* wishes you a safe and happy summer. See you in September

Maria Swieciki

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