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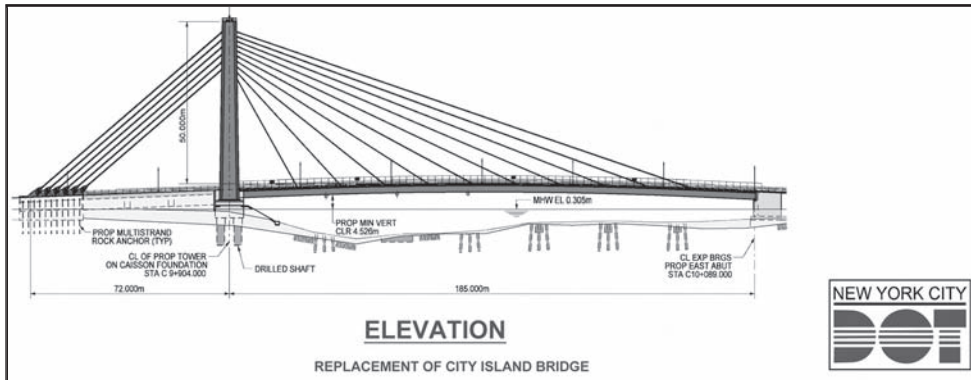
Volume 36 Number 9

November 2007

One Dollar

BRIDGE PLANS UNDER WAY

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



ELEVATION

REPLACEMENT OF CITY ISLAND BRIDGE



Rendering of proposed bridge looking north.

At the October meeting of the City Island Civic Association, the Department of Transportation (DOT) presented its plans to the community for the construction of a new bridge and the demolition of the existing bridge. This presentation was the same as that given to Community Board 10 on Sept. 27, 2007.

The DOT representatives first reviewed the history of the current bridge, which was completed in 1901 with seven spans and six piers in the water, two 11-foot traffic lanes, one fire lane and two 6-foot sidewalks.

In April 1998, an in-depth inspection of the bridge was conducted as part of the standard procedure in preparation for a rehabilitation project; the most recent inspection was made in October 2006. Not only does the bridge have substandard lane widths and vertical clearance above the roadway, but the substructure fails to meet the standards of seismic design criteria. A considerable number of cracks, holes and rusted areas are also plainly visible on the bridge's substructure. Ongoing maintenance keeps the bridge safe, but it is clear to DOT that the bridge has outlived its useful life.

When the subject of a replacement bridge was first raised in 2002, there were a great many objections raised by the community, since the existing bridge is a well-loved landmark. Although the bridge is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, it is not an official New York City landmark and thus not protected from demolition.

DOT responded to the protests by claiming that rehabilitating the bridge would be at best a temporary measure, whereas a new bridge would last at least 100 years and thus be more cost-effective. The new bridge would also have two 12-foot travel lanes with a 12-foot fire lane, two 6-foot bike lanes and two 6-foot 3-inch sidewalks. New permanent water mains are to be installed on the new bridge.

The new bridge, which would have no piers in the water, is a cable-stayed structure that is similar to a suspension bridge and looks something like City Island's first bridge. That structure was built of wood in 1873, partly of timbers from the decommissioned U.S. battleship *North Carolina*, which was dismantled at

the David Carl shipyard, then on Pilot Street. The tower of the new bridge, which will be on the Pelham Bay Park side, would, however, be at least 150 feet high. (The original bridge proposed by DOT was over 450 feet high but this was lowered at the request of the community.)

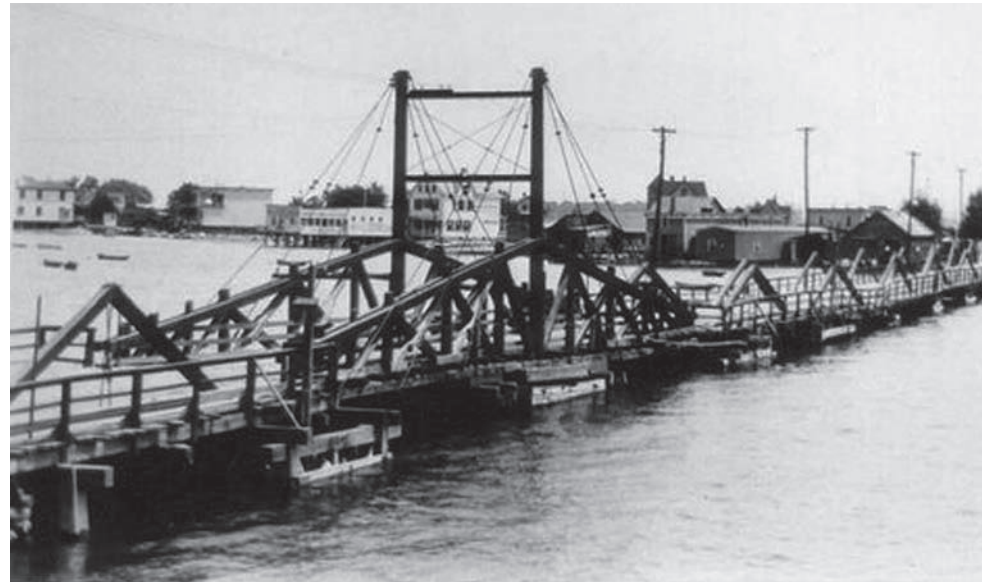
The new bridge will be constructed on the same site as the present bridge, which means that a temporary bridge will be built to the west. This will have two 11-foot travel lanes, one 10-foot fire lane in the middle and a 5-foot, 7-inch sidewalk on each side. The bridge will allow for marine traffic, with two channels open during the summer. Automobile traffic, however, will have to contend with a detour on the City Island end of the bridge, with no left turn onto Bridge Street.

The bidding process will begin in November 2008, after the completion of the sewer project, and construction is scheduled to begin in September 2009 with a completion date of 2012. The first scope of work, which should take about nine months, will include the construction of the temporary bridge and approach roads and the installation of temporary water mains.

The next scope of work, to last 18 months, is to demolish the current bridge and build the new one, along with new approaches to the bridge on both sides. The third scope of work will include demolishing the temporary bridge, regrading the site, rehabilitating the existing sea wall on the esplanade and restoring the parkland with new trees and landscaping. The wetland areas in Pelham Bay Park would also be restored, and the Legion triangle would be enlarged and improved.

During the latter part of the final stage, there will be no northbound access to the bridge, so that a detour via Cross Street and Minneford Avenue will be required. The same route would also be necessary for all southbound traffic wishing to access Bridge Street.

The project has raised many questions among residents, including traffic problems during construction, the permanent lack of access to Bridge Street from the bridge and the design of the bridge, which many find objectionable and inappropriate for the City Island community. DOT was asked to be sure that no chain-link fences and barbed wire would be



Original City Island Bridge.



Rendering of proposed bridge looking west.

necessary on the new bridge, nor bridge lights on the tower other than those necessary for safety reasons.

DOT will return to the community early in 2008 to hold a town meeting on the subject of the bridge and will respond to any and all

questions at that time. The department plans to have a full-time community liaison on City Island during the construction process and will issue notices regarding traffic and navigation patterns.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Dr. Winifred Walsh Doane, photographed in her laboratory in 1995.

The existence of a gene that might control the accumulation of fat in the human body is certainly worthy of attention, and in fact such a "skinny gene" recently made headlines in the scientific press worldwide, including the Web site of the National In-

stitutes of Health. What makes the subject even more interesting—at least to readers of *The Current*—is that the gene was originally discovered, 50 years ago, by a young graduate student from City Island.

That student was Winifred Walsh, who grew up on Pilot Street, the daughter of Harold Vandervoort Walsh, and went on to have a distinguished career as Dr. Winifred Doane, now professor emerita at Arizona State University. Dr. Doane's discovery was the result of her study of fruit flies, some of which she found were packed with fat cells while others were not. She traced the condition to a single gene, which she called "adipose" (*adp*) meaning "fat," and she made that gene the focus of her doctoral dissertation at Yale University.

"Because insects are encased in a rigid external skeleton, obese flies appear normal in size," Dr. Doane says. But in dissecting the flies, she noted that their fat bodies (for storage) were abnormally large and that their cells were packed with huge lipid (oil)

Continued on page 15

BRIEFLY...

BLOOD DRIVE will be held by the Bronx Masons on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2007, between the hours of 4 and 8 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street (two blocks up from second traffic light.) Almost anyone between the ages of 17 and 75, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds and in good general health, can be a blood donor. Photo or signature identification and Social Security number are required at the time of donation.

CITY ISLAND THEATER GROUP presents "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," a wildly comic romp that pokes fun at the ridiculous aspects of show biz. Performances at Grace Church parish hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street, are Nov. 1, 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 4 at 3 p.m. Call 718-885-3066 to reserve your tickets now!

ELECTION DAY SALE: The Parent-Teacher Association of P.S. 175 invites you to stop by their Election Day sale on Tuesday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. This long-standing tradition helps fund a variety of programs and events for students at the K-8 school, City Island's polling place. There will be more than 75 great raffle prizes and gift baskets, as well as yummy home baked goods to choose from. Hot dogs and beverages will also be available around lunchtime, so stop by on your way to the voting booth.

FLU SHOTS: Council Member James Vacca, along with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, will sponsor flu shots on City Island at Trinity United Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street, on Monday, Nov. 26, 2007, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Jennifer Rivera in Council Member Vacca's office at 718-931-1721.

NAUTICAL MUSEUM UPDATE

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

The good news this month is that the architect Kaitzen Woo, a well-known preservationist who worked on City Island's landmark house on Belden Street some years ago, has begun to work on the reconstruction of the front portico, severely damaged by the fire on July 13, 2007. He is now preparing preliminary drawings on which to base cost estimates for the insurance company, and we hope that work can begin before the end of the year.

In the meantime, people have responded very generously to our situation by donating money and offering their time and effort. We are not yet ready to begin work inside the

building, but we are busily composing thank-you notes! We are especially grateful to the New York Landmarks Conservancy for a grant to cover design expenses, to longtime supporter Adelaide Rosenfeld Bialek, and to the fourth grade at P. S. 175, who had a bake sale to raise money for the museum, but we deeply appreciate all of our donors, who will be acknowledged in a future update.

We are hoping to put on some special programs this winter at one of the yacht clubs in order to keep Islanders aware of our collection and our efforts to preserve City Island's history. For more information, call 718-885-0507.

Bartow-Pell Events

On Oct. 20, Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum's first Harvest Festival attracted more than 100 people, who learned a little about the history of jack-o-lanterns, were transformed into festive creatures and participated in Native American traditions. We are thankful to our many volunteers and for the pumpkin donation from Stew Leonard's. We would also like to thank State Senator Jeffrey Klein for providing support.

On Friday, Nov. 2, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., hop on the free City Island Bronx Seaside Trolley, whose first stop is Bartow-Pell on Shore Road. With admission to the museum, you can savor refreshments, enjoy a guided tour and the live music of Jeffrey Hoffman, a New York City-based compos-

er and conductor and a rising talent among young classical conductors.

On Thursday, Nov. 15, at 10:30 a.m., Christie's marketing director and auctioneer George McNeely will answer questions and explain the intricacies of buying and selling art at auction. Fee: \$15 per person; members free. Registration requested; call 718-885-1461 or info@bpmm.org.

On Saturday, Nov. 17, at 3 p.m., Dr. Eric Sanderson of the Wildlife Conservation Society will offer an unexpected view of the Bronx landscape over 400 years ago with a walk followed by a presentation. Fee: \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors and students; children under 6 free. Members: \$8 for adults, \$3 for seniors and students. Registration requested: 718-885-1461 or info@bpmm.org.

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"TERROR-FREE INVESTING?" ASK SENATOR KLEIN!

By KAREN NANI

State Senator Jeff Klein addressed three areas of concern and took questions from Islanders at the Oct. 3 meeting of AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) Chapter 318 at Trinity Methodist Fellowship Hall. Over 50 members and other Islanders listened with interest as the senator talked about homeowners insurance cancellations, the sub-prime mortgage lending crisis and terror-free investing.

Mr. Klein began by acknowledging that the AARP is one of "the smartest lobbying groups because they pick one issue at a time and stick with it." The first issue he has been focusing on lately is of particular importance to his constituents in City Island, Silver Beach and Edgewater Park: the threatened cancellation of policies by Allstate Insurance.

As reported in the October 2007 issue of *The Current*, Mr. Klein led the fight to prevent Allstate from tying their homeowner insurance policies with other lines of coverage, such as auto insurance. Since 2006, the insurance company began to reduce its exposure in the coastal New York insurance market and cancelled or failed to renew more than 26,000 homeowner policies, according to the senator.

However, Allstate continued to cover homeowners in the same neighborhoods who had purchased other Allstate insurance products. "This violated state law. They are not allowed to pick and choose who they cancel. They are trying to equate City Island with other hurricane areas like New Orleans, which is ridiculous," Mr. Klein told the audience.

He credited the new superintendent of the New York State Insurance Department with investigating and subsequently banning Allstate from this practice. "It is unbelievable to me that homeowners [including some on City Island] who had faithfully paid their premiums for decades were suddenly being penalized for not having purchased automobile insurance from Allstate."

Under the terms of the state Insurance Department's order, Allstate will rescind letters of non-renewal and offer to reinstate homeowners' insurance policies that had



not expired as of Aug. 28, 2007, in any case where the reason for dropping the policy was homeowner's lack of automobile or life insurance with the company.

Next, the senator talked about the sub-prime mortgage lending crisis, "which doesn't only affect the mortgage holders, but affects all of us. It impacts our property values, the ability of first time buyers to obtain mortgages, and could affect the financial markets overall."

He told the AARP members that he has been holding hearings all over the state regarding this crisis. He found that mortgage brokers from different banks were pushing these low interest loans to buyers with relatively low incomes or little cash on hand. They would offer these buyers 5 percent interest mortgages, for example, and no money down. Many who borrowed under these terms quickly found themselves unable to meet the monthly payments when the interest rate increased to 10 or 12 percent after only three years.

"There are 19,000 foreclosures predicted in New York this year, representing an increase of more than 70 percent over last year," he said. In order to insure this doesn't happen again, Mr. Klein recommends three steps. First, he believes there should be mandatory education for buyers taking sub-prime mortgages so they understand the full financial implications of the loans.

Next, he wants better licensing procedures for mortgage brokers. This would require them to be more responsible financial



Photos by KAREN NANI

State Senator Jeff Klein addressed Islanders at the Oct. 3, 2007, meeting of AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) Chapter 318 at Trinity Methodist Fellowship Hall. Later he posed with the chapter officers, (photo left): Robert McLaughlin, first vice president, left, and Jean Ringel, president.

advisors and not just push the mortgages which give them the highest commission. Finally, he told Islanders that mortgage companies and banks should be responsible to help those currently at risk of foreclosure.

Before he took questions from the audience, he talked about a provocative subject: "terror-free investing." Some audience members thought he was talking about learning how to invest without fear, but he explained that the term refers to keeping multinational companies from investing in countries which support terrorist activities.

"There are four nations on the U.S. State Department terror watch: Iran, Sudan, Syria and North Korea. All support terrorism and yet many U.S. companies are investing in these countries," he explained. "For example, of the \$150 billion in the New York State Pension fund, \$75 billion is in stock investments. Out of this, \$12 billion is invested with companies that have business dealings with these four countries."

The senator feels this is tantamount to "helping Iran develop nuclear capabilities."

He has passed legislation in the state senate to examine the NYS pension fund and divest from any companies, such as Shell Oil and Coca Cola, which continue to do business (sometimes through subsidiaries) in Iran and these other countries. He encourages unions and individuals to look at their investment portfolios and do the same.

One audience member asked how would they know if any of their investments are with companies doing business in Iran? He invited them to call his office (718-822-2049) or visit his Web site (www.jdklein@senate.state.ny.us) for a list of companies currently doing business in terror-supporting nations.

Another Islander asked about solicitations from competitors to Con Edison offering lower energy rates. Mr. Klein told the audience to be careful and contact the Public Service Commission to make sure any new company is legitimate.

The senator was accompanied at the meeting by Islander John Doyle, who works for him as a district representative.

Chamber Awards Dinner Salutes Five Islanders

By MARIA SWEICKI



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Presenters and awards recipients enjoyed the evening at the Chamber of Commerce's 97th annual Awards Dinner (l. to r.): State Senator Jeff Klein, Robert Whelan, Shukri Islamovic, Representative Joseph Crowley, Chamber President Peter La Scala, Borough President Adolfo Carrión Jr., Arlene Byrne, Barbara Dolensek, Chris Cullen and Assemblyman Michael Benedetto.

The City Island Chamber of Commerce welcomed more than 200 honorees and guests to its 97th annual Awards Dinner, held at the Lido Restaurant on Friday, Oct. 27, 2007.

Hosted by Chamber president, Peter La Scala, the festivities started with a hearty welcome to Chamber members, community leaders and supporters, both Islanders and off-Islanders. State Senator Jeff Klein presented the awards, joined by City Island's Adolfo Carrión Jr., Congressman Joseph Crowley and Assemblyman Michael Benedetto.

The deserving honorees included

Chris Cullen, who received the Sam Bierman Business and Community Service Award; Shukri Islamovic, who received the Tom Cerreta Accomplished Business Service Award; this newspaper's own Barbara Dolensek, who received the Exemplary Community Service Award; Robert Whelan, who received the Catherine Scott Achievement Award; and Arlene Byrne, who was awarded the Service to Community Award.

Music for dancing was provided by the Lickety Split Band and sponsored by Verizon.

ISLANDER TO BE HONORED

Yvette Mooney, a lifelong resident of City Island, will be honored at the 12th Annual Dinner and Gala of the AAPI (American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin) of Queens and Long Island.

Ms. Mooney has been the Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services at South Nassau Communities Hospital for more than 30 years and is responsible for planning, coordinating and delivering quality nursing care to patients in the hospital. Her advocacy for her nursing staff and her in-

novation and fortitude in times of nursing crises are well known within the organization. She has been instrumental in the globalization efforts of the nursing profession and in bridging cultural gaps. She has also been involved in the Ministerial Leadership Initiative for Global Women's Health.

In November she will participate in the World Health Assembly executive board meeting and special session hosted by the co-chairs of the Network of Women Ministers of Health to be held in Geneva, Switzerland. Her personal humanitarian efforts extend to families and orphanages in third-world countries and to animal rights groups.

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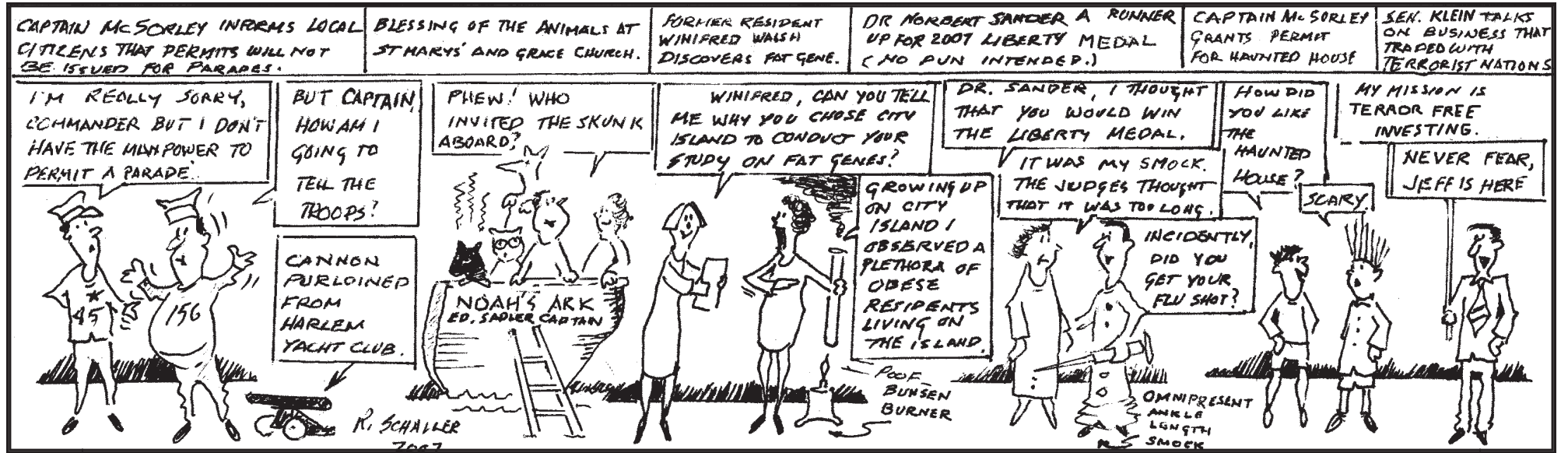
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Skate Board Petition

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

To the Honorable Adolfo Carrión:
Bronx Borough President

Dear Mr. Carrión:

Last Memorial Day, when you attended the City Island Memorial Day parade here, a teenager named Kevin Saulnier approached you with a question of a need for help in getting a skate board rink here for our teenagers. You advised him to get a petition and send it in to you, so the petitions are enclosed and the kids are waiting in great anticipation for the next steps.

I have observed in the past and in the present the ongoing need for such a place where the youngsters can enjoy an athletic activity in the safe environment of City Island, provided by a Bronx governmental agency.

Our small residential island is lacking finances to support programs for our teenagers, and we need your help to fulfill this need.

City Island is an important part of Bronx County, and we look forward to your positive support for our needs as you progress in the redevelopment of the Bronx. We are very grateful for any help you can give to our community.

Yolanda Cirulli

Respecting Each Other

To the Editor:

This letter is written in response to the letter called "Respect One Another," which

Richard B. Chernaik, M.D.

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Board Certified Internist

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

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

RICHARD B. CHERNAIK, M.D.

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appeared in the October issue of *The Island Current*. My first reaction is that the letter should have been titled "Insulting You All," because the author accuses City Islanders of being racist, which couldn't be farther from the truth.

Her statement about breeding hatred on City Island is a direct attack on resident parents, which I strongly resent. First of all, I don't breed children, I raise them. And I raise them to respect everyone, just as 99 percent of the parents on City Island raise their children.

I believe that her eagerness to paint all City Islanders with the same brush is an indication of her own attitude, not ours.

Dennis Fitzpatrick

To the Editor:

I read and agreed with the letter "Respect One Another" in *Box 6* of the October *Current* until I read the phrase therein: "all-white enclave."

One of my audit clients is an immigration center, which displays in its Queens office a replica of a once-common sign, which reads "No Irish Need Apply." Such signs were prevalent in the late 1890s and for years thereafter. The Irish are not known for their tans, and yet back then they were widely discriminated against. Many older people know or knew a Schmidt who was

called a "Smith" or a Bonomo who was called a "Bonner," owing to the prejudices of the day.

Finally, the recent comments of the Knicks coach, Isiah Thomas, that came out during the sexual-harassment trial against his employer, Madison Square Garden, are further proof that racism is not limited to the "all-white." If the aim of "Respect" is to decry racism based on skin color, why single out a color?

Anthony L. Roccamo

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Current Review

"SIMPLY DIVOON!" C. I. Theater Group Strikes Again

By BARBARA DOLENSEK



Photo by RICK DeWITT

The City Island Theater Group's fall production is the hilarious play "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," starting (back row, l. to r.): Anthony Patrick, Eileen Fox, Connieann DelVecchio, Liz McIntyre, Robert Mulroy, John Garcia, Carol Dooner and Justine Costanza. Seated: John Geil and Eileen Marcus. Reserve now for performances at 8 p.m. on Nov. 1, 2 and 3 or at 3 p.m. on Nov. 4, at Grace Church Parish Hall, 116 City Island Avenue at Pilot Street. Call 718-885-3066.

Doing a plot summary of the City Island Theater Group's latest production, "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," is a nearly impossible task, given its complex story line and character shifts, but that's nothing compared to the challenge faced by cast and crew in staging this hilarious farce by John Bishop.

A mansion in Chappaqua in 1940 during a blizzard is the setting for a tale of music, murder and mayhem, which begins as an audition for the potential backer of a new musical comedy and turns into a mad-cap search for the Stage Door Slasher, who murdered some dancers two years earlier and is up to his old tricks once again.

The wealthy hostess (played with great presence by Carol Dooner) and her very German maid (a show-stopping turn by Eileen Marcus) welcome to their suburban home a bevy of Broadway types brilliantly played by a troupe of talented actors—a lovely chorus member (Justine Costanza), an Irish tenor (John Garcia), a charming comedian (Anthony Patrick), a pompous musician (John Geil), an accomplished director (Bob Mulroy), an eccentric writer (Eileen Fox) and an enthusiastic producer (Connieann DelVecchio).

But as the plot thickens and as dead bodies fall to the floor in what seems like every scene, the characters begin to change everything from their accents to

their professions as they scoot in and out of secret passages (in the fantastic stage set designed and built by Con Grondahl) wielding knives, sabers, daggers and firearms.

Nick Sala put the whole complicated farce together with a wonderful sense of timing, and Susan Rauh, as production stage manager, was able to keep all the props and sliding doors working as fast as the actors, who ran from one part of the set to the other. The costumes, by the team of Carol McCabe (also co-producer), Carole Sullivan and Norma Kerner, were fabulous, and the lighting by Susan Velcheck was as complicated and effective as everything else.

The Theater Group generously put on a matinee performance on Saturday, Oct. 27, as a benefit for Public School 175, with all proceeds going to enrich programs for students. And on Saturday evening the cast and crew held a post-performance celebration of the installation of the new theater curtain provided by CITG and by Grace Church, which has hosted the group's productions for nine years.

We can't wait to see what CITG has up its collective sleeve for the next production. Until then, make sure you get to one of the remaining performances, to be held Nov. 1, 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 4 at 3 p.m.

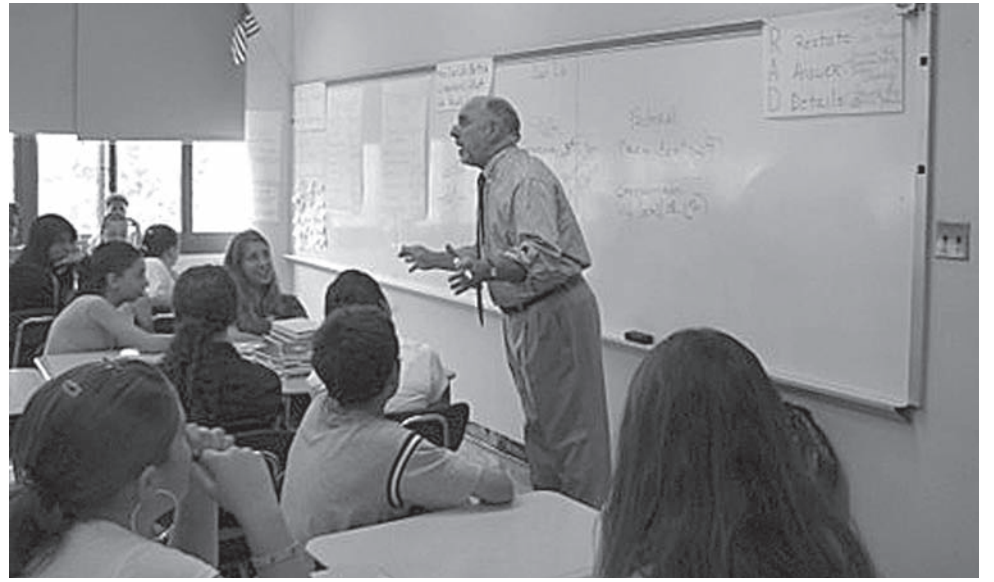


Photo by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, who was a teacher for 35 years, went back to the classroom to take part in "America's Legislators Back to School Week." He is seen here on Sept. 27, 2007, with eighth-graders from P.S. 175, answering their questions, listening to their concerns and giving them a better understanding of the legislative process.



Photo by RICK DeWITT

Organizers of the American Legion annual pumpkin sale were smiling like jack-o-lanterns as Islanders picked up most of the pumpkins, mums and Indian corn offered at this year's event during the weekend of Oct. 5 to 7, 2007.

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There is plenty to give thanks for in November at **The Starving Artist Studio & Gallery** with the music lineup "on the menu." Friday, Nov. 2, at 8 p.m. marks the return of singer-songwriter and saxophone player Timmy Cappello. The next night, Saturday, Nov. 3, the Shells are "home" at our cafe/gallery with their magical harmony; you don't want to miss these princesses of harmony. Sunday, Nov. 4, at 3 p.m. Freddie "Flip" Lando makes his debut; come hear the "golden voice of the Bronx" with songbook classics and Italian gems. Three favorites return the following weekend: Leo (pop punk/folk rock/alternative) on Friday, Nov. 9, at 8 p.m.; Lawrence "Lipbone" Redding and his "orchestra" on Saturday, Nov. 10, at 8 p.m., and Cellar (cello and guitar, from classics to classic rock) on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 3 p.m. There will be a special welcome-home party for an original Starving Artist music-artist -

singer-songwriter Sam Leopold on Saturday, Nov. 17, at 8 p.m. But before then, party with a "band of teachers" who promise a pack of fun; it's Midnight Jester on Friday, Nov. 16, at 8 p.m. On Sunday, Nov. 18, the "jazz man" Lou Volpe brings his Starving Artist Jazztet to the stage, starting at 4:30 p.m. Before our end-of-month take the stage open mike night for songwriters, poets and comics on Friday, Nov. 30, at 8 p.m. there's the Thanksgiving weekend with the Freakin' Ricans, featuring Jorge Caraballo of the Rubber Soul Beatles tribute band, and their mix of rock, blues, country, pop and folk—a potpourri of beautiful noise—on Friday, Nov. 23, at 8 p.m. And the Starving Artist himself, Elliott Glick, will be on stage as part of the Just Us trio, which also features City Islander Lucille Rivin (formerly of Works in Progress) and Glick's wife, Monica, on Saturday, Nov. 24, at 8:30 p.m. For more on our music/art schedule, including a lineup of all music-artists who have played our coffeehouse, visit our Web site at www.starvingartistonline.com.

Go and meet **Flora**, City Island's own psychic. She offers parties, group and individual readings. With 40 years of experience, Flora offers advice on matters of love, marriage and business. Stop in and see what the future has in store for you at 464 City Island Avenue or call her at 718-618-0864.

Montefiore Seeks Women for New Study

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

A new birth control method is being studied by Montefiore's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Women's Health, under the auspices of Dr. Irwin Merkatz and Dr. Erika Banks. Interested women are being enrolled in the study, which is sponsored by the Population Council, a New York-based non-profit organization that is focused on developing safe effective contraception for women throughout the world. The new method is a contraceptive ring that can last as long as a year; the only other ring method currently available is discarded every month.

Island resident Susan Bellinson, a nurse-midwife at Montefiore, is a subinvestigator enrolling and providing medical care for women in the study. She told *The Current*: "We are looking for women between the ages of 18 and 40, who are healthy, not overweight, in a monogamous relationship, and do not desire pregnancy for at least one year to participate in the study." Routine gynecological health care will be provided through the study, and women need not have health insurance to enroll. There is no fee for care or for the ring, and a small stipend is provided to participants at the end of the study.

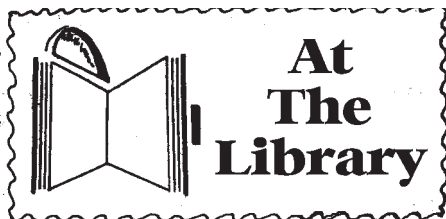
The contraceptive ring contains hormones similar to those used in currently

available birth control methods, such as the pill. The ring stays in for three weeks and is removed for one week, at which time women get their periods. Women who have used pills before and liked them are likely to be happy with a method that doesn't need daily attention.

The study aims to test 1,200 women worldwide at 12 sites, with each site aiming to enroll 100 participants. Montefiore will be enrolling women until June 2008. The purpose of the study is to determine how women and their partners like the ring, whether there are any side effects and whether the ring is generally acceptable.

Study participants will be watched closely for any health changes while using the ring, so regular visits are scheduled, as well as follow-up phone calls between visits. Ms. Bellinson says: "Receiving friendly and personal health care in a relaxed setting, during convenient evening or afternoon hours and helping to bring a new method of birth control to market for women around the world can be very satisfying."

Anyone interested in joining the study or learning more about it may call Maureen Magnini, R.N., at 718 405-8396 or Contraceptive Options at 718 405-8200.



The library's new daily schedule is as follows: Monday 12 noon to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday 12 noon to 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 4 p.m. a pup-

pet show entitled "Katcha and the Devil and Other Czechoslovakian Stories" will be presented for children ages 5 to 12.

Every Thursday morning (except Thanksgiving), there will be a toddler program at 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required.

Every Thursday afternoon (except Thanksgiving), there will be a picture-book program at 3:30 p.m. for children ages 4 to 8.

An Internet/Windows workshop will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 10:30 a.m. for adults interested in computer basics.

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LOCAL VIEWS

By MIRIAM KLEINBERG

Question: How do you feel about the sewer and water main construction that's being done on City Island?



Ruth Eisen
Teacher, P.S. 175, off-Islander

The sewer project has not really impacted adversely on my commute to school. If I am stopped it's generally for about two or three minutes while they let the traffic travel in the opposite direction. I know it's an important project for the improvement of the infrastructure on City Island, so I'm not bothered by the minor inconvenience.

Rose Dietz
St. Mary's Office Staff, Island resident

We're all a little inconvenienced by the work that's going on, but it's a small price to pay to insure that our water supply is good. I hope they will be finished within the time frame they promised.



Bill Kenny
Manager, The Black Whale



I can't say that business has been affected at all. Parking is an issue, but it's an issue on Saturdays in the summer too. I haven't anything negative to say about the project.

Stephen Marcus
Choir Director at Grace Church, Island resident

I really wonder if this is the only part of New York City where this kind of work is being done. If it is, how did we get to be so lucky? This is an area with a stable, elderly population, people who are unlikely to be confrontational at being inconvenienced.



Anthony Pontecorvo
Owner of City Island Hardware and Marine Supplies, Island resident



It's certainly not good for business but they've got to do it. They're improving the storm sewers and that should help a lot. I accept that we have to live with it until it's finished. It's for the betterment of City Island, or at least it's supposed to be.



Photos by VIRGINIA DANNEGGER and MICHAEL VIVIAN

All creatures great and small were brought forth for a blessing from clergy at St. Mary, Star of the Sea on Sunday, Sept. 30, and at Grace Episcopal Church on Oct. 7, 2007, for the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals. St. Mary's even provided a "Noah's Ark" for the animals.



ST. MARY'S POTS FILLED WITH ISLANDERS' GENEROSITY

By JANE LA SCALA

Share the spirit of giving this 2007 holiday season and help a needy neighbor. P.O.T.S. (Part of the Solution) offers food social services and essentials to needy men, women and families in the Webster Avenue area of the Bronx. Part of their program includes providing anyone who comes to them with new, clean clothing. Please help refurbish their supply. Needed are: warm socks, hats, gloves, mufflers; sweats, including pants and tops for men and women; underwear, including t-shirts, briefs for men and women; disposable razors, baby diapers size 4, 5 or 6 and baby formula with iron. "Gifts" do not need to be wrapped.

Drop off in St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church lobby or at Exotiqua, 280 City Island Avenue. Collection dates run Dec. 1 through Dec. 10. For this collection please note that all items should be new and unused. We have also used some of the items collected to help local families.

On a regular basis, St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church has just started its 10th year of cooking once a month for POTS. All Islanders are invited to help the needy through the

POTS program by preparing food and dropping it off at St. Mary's schoolyard once a month, on a designated Saturday, between 4:30 and 5 p.m. If you want to join, you can follow the POTS menu (shown in the *Current Calendar* in *Organization News* each month). Or call one of the volunteers listed below to be added to their calling chain. Staples such as juice, coffee, sugar, canned vegetables, desserts (cookies, cakes), paper plates, napkins, hot/cold cups and cleaning supplies are also welcome.

If you plan to prepare food, all food must be cooked, but not hot, and be enough for 10 servings. Please use an 8x11-inch tin with a cover or wrap the tin in foil, and then place the entire tin in a plastic bag.

Also in constant need are baby diapers sizes 4, 5 and 6 and baby formula with iron.

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

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

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Organization News

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

Current Calendar

NOVEMBER

Tues., Nov. 6, **Election Day Sale**, P.S. 175, 200 City Island Ave., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bake sale and raffle sponsored by the P.T.A.

Tues., Nov. 13, **Blood Drive**, 4 to 8 p.m., Trinity Methodist Church, 113 Bay Street.

Wed., Nov. 14, **AARP Annual Penny Auction**, Trinity Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 113 Bay Street, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 15, **Community Board 10 meets**, 7:30 p.m., Middletown Senior Center, 3035 Middletown Road in the Bronx.

Happy Thanksgiving

Sat., Nov. 24, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's School Yard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: Cut up turkey with rice.

Sat., Nov. 24, **Holiday Tree Lighting and Carols**, Hawkins Park, 7 p.m., sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Tues., Nov. 27, **City Island Civic Association meets**, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 190 Fordham Street.

Friday, Nov. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 1, **Trinity Church Christmas Fair**, 113 Bay Street; Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

DECEMBER

Tues., Dec. 4, **Hannukah Menorah Lighting**, Hawkins Street Park, 6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 8, **Grace Church Christmas Crafts Festival**, Grace Episcopal Church, City Island Avenue and Pilot Street, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Chapter 318 AARP

The chapter will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 1 p.m. at Trinity Methodist Fellowship Hall at 113 Bay Street.

At this meeting, Russell Schmid from Access-A-Ride will speak about the requirements for eligibility for this program. He will help members fill out an application for this service.

Our annual Penny Auction will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Admission is \$5, which includes lunch and free chances. Additional chances may be purchased. We will have sweepstakes, jewelry, home-baked goods and white elephant tables. All proceeds from this event are donated to various City Island organizations and not-for-profit charities.

Our Oct. 3 meeting was a great success. Representatives from the New York State Comptrollers Office, Department of Unclaimed Funds, advised the members that there is money available to them that they may not have known about. They researched their files and found many of our members' names listed in their computer. The representatives helped our "happy" members fill out the applications necessary to obtain this money.

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Hope to see you at our Dec. 5 meeting.

Carmelia A. Ramftl



Photos by RICK DeWITT

Linda Nealon is the new Associate Pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Trinity United Methodist Church

We here at Trinity would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. We hold our Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The first Sunday of the month is communion Sunday, and our Sunday school is held at the same time as our worship service. All are always welcome to come and worship with us.

The trustees' annual communion breakfast will be held on Sunday Nov. 25, at 10 a.m. Our annual Christmas fair will be held on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. The hours will be on Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All are welcome to come look and get some early Christmas shopping done!

The Budget Corner will be open on Tuesday, Nov. 6, and 27, and on Saturday Nov. 17. If you can find the time to help us out, please call Ellen Hebard at 718-518-7241 or Myra Martin at 718-885-1049.

May your Thanksgiving season be blessed.

Anne Sill

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

On Sunday, Nov. 4, at 10 a.m., there will be a special Enrollment Mass for all those preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in April. Parents and students will participate in this initial event in preparation for the sacrament.

All are welcome to attend our monthly hospitality hour, which will be held in the rectory after the 10 o'clock Mass on Sunday, Nov. 11.

St. Mary's School will hold its annual Turkey Bingo on Friday evening, Nov. 16, in the school gym beginning at 7 p.m. This is a great family evening. Come and enjoy the fun!

Our annual Thanksgiving Mass will take place on Thanksgiving eve, Wednesday, Nov. 21, at 7:30 p.m. At this Mass canned or dried food will be collected and distributed to the poor. All are welcome to attend



Photo by ANGELO BELLOCCHIO

Cub Scout Pack 211 participated in the Cub Day events at Alpine Scout Camp on the weekend of Oct. 19-21, 2007. The adventurous scouts completed the infamous rock wall climb, and the bell was rung by all. Congratulations to Shaban Pajlevic and Michael Bellocchio on their bull's eyes at the archery range. Seen here in the front row (l. to r.) are Jack Green, James McGaughan, Brendan McGaughan, John Tomsen Jr. and Connor Saulnier; second row: Joe Kramer Sr., James McGaughan Sr., Robert Weyrauch, Joe Kramer Jr., Nicholas Bellocchio, Michael Bellocchio, Aiden Saulnier, Larry Saulnier, Shaban Pajlevic and John Tomsen Sr.

this celebration to give thanks for the blessings given to each of us and to our parish. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Our Parish Council will meet on Monday, Nov. 26, at 7 p.m. in the rectory.

On Dec. 2, the first Sunday in December, we will have our annual Christmas Fair sponsored by our Thrift Shop. Many fine articles for sale, both new and used. It will be held in St. Mary's School gym (new items) and the Thrift Shop (used items) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come and enjoy a wonderful shopping experience!

Sr. Bernadette, osu

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace Church celebrates Holy Communion every Sunday at 10 a.m. We also offer evening prayer every Monday at 7 p.m., morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., and Taizé worship on most Thursdays at 7 p.m. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 718-885-1080, or visit our Web site, www.gracecityisland.org.

Here's what's happening at Grace during November and early December:

Calling all City Island Children! Grace is planning a children's Christmas pageant on Christmas Eve, and your children are invited to participate! For more information, please call Pageant Director Steve Marcus at 718-885-1544.

Sunday, Nov. 4: The Feast of All Saints and Holy Baptism. If you would like to remember a loved one at the altar on All Saints' Sunday, please call the Parish Office by Friday, Nov. 2.

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 10:30 a.m.: "Hugs and Stitches"

Thursday, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.: Taizé Worship
Sunday, Nov. 11, 10 a.m.: Children's Church School

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 10:30 a.m.: "Hugs and Stitches"

Thursday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.: Taizé Worship
Sunday, Nov. 18, 10 a.m.: Children's Church School

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 10:30 a.m.: "Hugs and Stitches"

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 6 p.m.: Special Thanksgiving Service. Please join us on Thanksgiving "Eve" for a simple service of Holy Communion and thanksgiving for all of God's blessings.

Sunday, Nov. 25, 10 a.m.: Children's Church School

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 10:30 a.m.: "Hugs and Stitches"

Thursday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m. Taizé Worship
Saturday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: The fourth annual Grace Church Christmas Crafts

Festival. For more information, please leave a message for Evyonne Baker in the Parish Office.

Rev. Patricia Alexander

Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El of City Island is an all-inclusive egalitarian, multiethnic Jewish congregation for all ages. We are located at 480 City Island Avenue, between Beach and Bowne Streets. Our Sabbath services are on Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. Our doors are open to all.

We follow the Rabbi Marcia Prager prayer book, primarily in English, with easy-to-read typeface and singable Hebrew.

Join us on Friday, Nov. 2, at 7:30 p.m. for a Kabbalat Shabbat service (with song and dance), which will be led by Rabbi Shohama Wiener. Reb David Daniel Klipper will lead us on Friday, Nov. 16, and the other Shabbat services will be led by Mort Ellis and Bob Berent (with his accordion).

Saturday Torah Study continues on Nov. 10, at 10:30 a.m. with our rabbinic intern, Aliza Erber, leading the group. She is also conducting our adult B'nai Binah (Bar/Bat Mitzvah) class on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Tai Chi and yoga classes will continue on Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. in November. Marc Kaplan's exercises will leave you feeling refreshed, more flexible and energetic. For more information, call Marc at 718-885-2445.

Plan with us for Hannukah, which begins on Tuesday, Dec. 4. Our Judaica shop has many beautiful, hand-crafted objects and our community menorah lighting at Hawkins Street Park will begin at 6 p.m. on Dec. 4. Finally, our Hannukah Family Celebration will be held on Sunday, Dec. 9, at the temple.

Enjoy the benefits of membership, take the free Trolley to Temple (on the first Friday of each month) and visit our Web site at www.yourshulbythesea.org.

Bob Berent

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

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

NEW CLASSES

Salsa Dance: Dance your stress away to the basic beats of salsa, merengue, cha-cha and bachata. A partner is not necessary. \$50 per month or \$15 per class. Friday nights, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Call 917-838-6501.

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

Class Forming: "Shimmy By The Sea" is a group of women learning and dancing together. We are planning future workshops and classes in the art of belly dance. For information about classes, call 718-885-1145 and leave a message.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

Wonderkind Preschool: Where learning is child's play. Ages 2½ to 5 years. Monday through Thursday, 12 noon to 3 p.m.; Friday, 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 3 p.m. Eight-week sessions. Class size is limited to six children per session. To register and for continuous and up-to-the-minute information, go to www.wonderkind-preschool.com.

Drama Club: Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. for ages 8 to 12. Activities will be planned for each evening. Participants must be prepared to do just that, PARTICIPATE! We will do relaxation and voice exercises, recite limericks

and tongue-twisters, improvise with props and costumes, and act out scenes from plays and stories. One parent will be expected to volunteer to stay each evening. Call Laury at 718-885-3202.

Art Class: Creature Feature Grades 4 through 7, Tuesdays 3:30 to 5 p.m. Students will use taxidermy models to create their own mythological creatures, adding scales, wings, claws, eyes, fake fur, and other materials. 10 classes \$10 per class plus \$40 materials fee; \$140 total. Limited to eight students. Call Laury at 718-885-3202.

Art Class: Experiments with Paper and Paint. Grades K through 3, Thursdays 3:30 to 5 p.m. Students will do a variety of projects, learning about color, pattern, paper folding, weaving, and creating texture. 10 classes \$8 per class; \$80 total. Limited to eight students. Call Laury at 718-885-3202.

Art Class: Storytime Art. For children ages 2½ to 5. Tuesdays, 1 to 2:15 p.m. or Thursdays 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. The same projects will be done on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so sign up for one day only! \$60 for ten classes, \$8 for individual classes (please call the day before). Call 718-885-3202 and leave a message. This is not daycare; caregivers are expected to stay. No more than three children per caregiver, please.

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.

Sally's Playground: Birth to 5 years. Beginning Sept. 17; Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. \$7 per child, \$4 for siblings. Buy a five-visit card and get one visit free. Playground available for party rentals. Call Sally at 718-885-0349 for more information.

Youth Center: Saturday evenings from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Please call Jay Howard at 718-885-2192 or Deana Weyhrauch at 917-418-1377 for more information. We are looking for volunteers to staff the nights. If you are interested in helping out, please call.

ADULT PROGRAM

TNT (Tuesday Night Tap): Adult Jazz/Tap Classes. Tuesday, 7 to 8 p.m. Call Corinne Grondahl at 718-309-8041.

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

FAMILY PROGRAM & MIXED AGE GROUPS

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

Knitting Club: A club for women/children to learn and share their knitting skills. Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Call Carol at 718-885-3190 for more information.

Chess Club: Monday evenings from 7 to 11 p.m. For ages 13 and up. No need to register, just show up! Call Bill at 718-541-3995 for more information.

Amy Gottlieb-McElroy



Legion News

The Veterans' Day parade is rescheduled to Nov. 18 when Captain McSorley of the 45th Precinct agreed to the new date and even agreed to help get access to the full width of East Tremont Avenue.

November is always a busy month for the Legion and also the Post. Not only do we celebrate Veterans' Day but we also have Thanksgiving Day as well. And don't forget that we have to get out to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

As you probably know, members of the Post, SAL, Ladies' Auxiliary and the social members have formed a committee, the purpose of which will be to raise money to support various Post activities and improve the Post infrastructure. You will have seen by now the new roof and siding and enjoyed the new air conditioning.

On Oct. 15, we paid homage to the following members: Past Commander Mort Livingston, William Zima, John Bunyan and Neil Cuccinello. All four were transferred to Post Everlasting. The ceremony was very impressive and well attended.

Mike Treat reminds us that dues are due for 2008. Mike has applications for new members, too. If you have any questions, call him at 718-885-1130.

You may have noticed the new flag drop-off box. Should you see Mark Whitcombe, you might thank him for a job well done.

Comrade Ed Shipp reported that the annual pumpkin sale was, as usual, a financial success. Ed thanks all who gave their time to help in this worthy endeavor.

Since many of you are patients of our local practitioner of renown, Dr. Norbert Sander, M.D., I'd like to mention that he was runner-up for the 2007 Liberty Medal for Community Service. You old-timers might recall that he won the New York City Marathon in 1974 and still takes daily jaunts.

On Saturday, Nov. 17, the Post will hold its annual Servicemen's Dinner. The chief chef for this gala affair will be Comrade Robert Mennona, aka the General. Dinner will be the usual roast pork, chicken with all the trimmings and for those who enjoy a little libation, there will be an open bar.

As I write my newsletter, I always browse through "Straight and Level" for some interesting little story about where my squadron was at this time of year during World War II. Between our arrival at Omaha Beach in Normandy and the end of the war in Europe, we were in what is known as a combat zone. We arrived Nov. 5 at the little hamlet of Nodebais

in Belgium in what was also known as "buzz bomb alley," where we would be ensconced in a chateau. There was, however, one problem. The Germans, the prior tenants, had destroyed the central heating system. The following is from the squadron history: "In the air Nov. 6 the first missions were flown from Y-10 for the Ninth Army. Flying all around were V-1 pilotless winged bombs. So much flak was thrown up that the falling metal damaged three of our aircraft so badly they had to be sent to a depot for repair. Buzz bombs roared overhead day and night. Nervous in the service? You bet!"

The meetings for November are: regular meetings Nov. 5 and 19; executive meeting Nov. 12.

Until next month, at ease.

Russ Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus

City Island Republicans

We had a good turnout at our meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 16. Many items were discussed to keep everyone posted. I am happy to report that all of City Island's eight county committee positions are now filled with City Islanders.

As of right now, our Republican poll worker slots are all filled for the first time in years at P.S. 175, which is City Island's local polling place.

I was informed by some of the state committee people for the 82nd Assembly District who attended the state convention in Albany that Jay Savino was elected the regional vice chairman of the New York State Republican Party for New York City. Furthermore, he was also elected the second vice chairman of the entire New York State Republican Party. The City Island Republicans wish to congratulate Jay!

On Thursday, Oct. 4, the county reorganization meeting was held at the Hutch Metro Center, 1200 Waters Place. The Bronx Republican Party holds a county reorganization meeting every odd year to elect the officers of the Bronx Republican Party. The minutes from the meeting are filed by law with the Board of Elections. The meeting was successful, as the party faithful attended from all corners of our great borough. Chairman Jay Savino was reelected to a second term as Bronx party chairman. After the meeting concluded, a wonderful party began with food, wine and soda. This event was yet more proof that the Republican Party is now functioning again full time in Bronx County.

The annual Bronx County Republican Gala was held on Wednesday, Oct. 17 and was a success. Several statewide party leaders were honored, along with some Republican officials from across the state.

This may not be the busiest of election years, but we still remind everyone to come out and vote. The offices of District Attorney, Bronx Civil Court Judge District #1, and Bronx Supreme Court will be voted on. We especially encourage everyone to support Paul Indig, who is the Republican candidate for Civil Court since we could use more Republicans at the Bronx County Courthouse. Polls are open from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. at City Island's only polling site, which is P.S. 175, 200 City Island Avenue, despite rumors that voting was being moved off the Island.

We wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving and hope to see everyone at our holiday party in December. Details to follow in the December Issue.



Fred Ramftl

Garden Club

The next meeting of the Garden Club is Monday, Nov. 5, at 10 a.m. at the City Island Yacht Club. We will have a workshop making pinecone angels to decorate the Christmas wreaths that we distribute to public buildings for the holidays.

We wish to thank the following volunteers who helped with the clean-up at Hawkins Street Park on Parks Clean-up Day on Oct. 20: Barbara Hoffman, Lily Bryant, Joan Lyons, Susan Strazzera, Phyllis Goodman and Alina Rosado.

Phyllis Goodman

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The fourth-grade class at P. S. 175 held a bake sale on Oct. 4, 2007, to raise money in order to help the City Island Nautical Museum repair damage done by the fire in July. The students presented a check for \$340 on Oct. 11 to museum trustee Barbara Dolensek, shown here with the class, teachers Judy DiMaio and Terry Maryl and school principal Amy Lipson.

SCHOOL NEWS

2+2=4

By VIRGINIA DANNEGGER

Public School 175

Our school year is off to another wonderful start! Our extended-day program, which began the second week of school, provides students in all grades with academic support, as well as test preparation for the specialized high school exam and the TACHS for eighth-grade students.

Once again, we have received a grant from the Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation for an after-school program. This year's program, which serves students in grades five through eight, includes Lego Robotics, yoga, dance (including pop, jazz and ballet), a sports component that changes throughout the year, homework help and art. Our new

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art teacher, Ms. Lopez, is also working with eighth-graders who are applying to LaGuardia High School to prepare their admissions portfolios.

On Oct. 4, the fourth-graders held a bake sale to benefit the City Island Nautical Museum. They raised \$340.00, which was presented to Barbara Dolensek when she came to visit their classes on Oct. 11. Ms. Dolensek shared with the students news of how the museum is doing since the fire and how their donation will help with the repairs.

On Oct. 10, we were fortunate to have students from the all-girls St. Catherine's school in Sydney, Australia, visit our school. After having lunch with some of our seventh- and eighth-graders and their teachers, the girls put on a musical performance of traditional Australian songs for our students in these grades. Needless to say, this was a fabulous experience for our students and staff!

We are having several exciting events in the weeks to come. They include our third annual Family/Pajama Night for kindergarten through fifth grade, the Halloween Dance for our students in Grades 6 to 8, and the PTA's Election Day Sale. Although this is not a big election year, the PTA still needs the support of our generous community at the sale. Please be sure to stop in to purchase baked goods and to participate in the many raffles.

Please keep in mind these important dates—Nov. 6: Election Day (school closed for students); Nov. 13: Parent-teacher conferences from 12:30 to 3:40 p.m. and from 5:30 to 8 p.m.



Big Brother is Watching

In today's world, people are becoming increasingly concerned about the protection of their civil rights, especially in the area of privacy. Hollywood has offered many treatments of ways in which this right can be violated with the theme of "Big Brother is watching you."

This concept began with George Orwell's book **1984**, which was published in 1948 but filmed in 1984. This rendition is quite faithful to the book with its very grim look and feel. Winston Smith (played by John Hurt) has been engaged to rewrite history for "Big Brother," who watches over all the citizens of Oceania, an autocratic society where freedom of thought and even sex are prohibited. Richard Burton is on hand as O'Brien, a high-ranking member of the government, who discovers Winston's love affair with Julia (Suzanna Hamilton), a worker at the Ministry of Truth. Although the movie was filmed in color, it feels like a black and white film because the theme is so bleak.

Three Days of the Condor (1975) is a thriller in which Robert Redford stars as Joe Turner, who reads books for the CIA in search of plausible plans for espionage. While literally out to lunch, his entire unit is blown away by the very seedy Joubert (Max von Sydow), and Joe goes on the run. Along the way, he picks up Kathy Hale (Faye Dunaway) and forces her to help him, as he no longer knows whom he can trust. This taut thriller, directed by Sydney Pollack, features a fine cast, which also includes Cliff Robertson and John Houseman.

Robert Redford also appears in the very entertaining techno-thriller **Sneakers** (1992), in which he plays Martin Bishop, whose cadre of misfits forms a formidable and hilarious

techno-team. Its members are Sidney Poitier as Donald Crease, a former CIA agent; Dan Aykroyd as "Mother," who knows the real story behind every conspiracy theory ever conceived; David Strathairn as Whistler, a blind computer expert; and River Phoenix as Carl, his helper. This fine cast also includes Mary McDonnell as Liz, Martin's estranged wife, and Ben Kingsley as the protagonist, Cosmo. The plot device that moves along all the action is the existence of an apparatus that can break every computer code ever devised, and naturally, everyone wants it.

We look into the future with the smart, provocative sci-fi flick **Gattaca** (1997), which also considers the theme of genetic engineering. This is a world where perfect children are created to be in a class above those conceived naturally. Vincent (Ethan Hawke) was born the old-fashioned way and sets out to prove that he can be the equal of those who were genetically created to perform various tasks, such as being a crew member on a trip to one of Saturn's moons. Because of the extremes of government surveillance, this is an extremely complex task and can only be accomplished with the help of Jerome (Jude Law), a perfect human who has been crippled in an accident. When Vincent falls in love with the perfect Irene (Uma Thurman), will his deception be detected?

A variation on "Big Brother" watching the citizens of the planet Earth is **Men in Black** (1997), in which a top-secret organization monitors alien activity. Agent K (Tommy Lee Jones) recruits NYPD undercover cop James Edwards (Will Smith), who becomes Agent J, and together they go on a zany chase through a film replete with aliens and special effects that rival the bar scene in the original **Star Wars** movie. Their assignment is to prevent an intergalactic conflict that could destroy the Earth.

We see Will Smith again in **Enemy of the State** (1998), a techno-thriller in which he stars as the rather credible Robert Dean, a Washington D.C. lawyer who is swept into a whirlwind that nearly destroys his life when an acquaintance surreptitiously passes on to him some evidence incriminating to a congressman. His only help in trying to stay alive and get his life back is Brill (Gene Hackman), a former American spy. The real star of this movie is the technology: spy satellites, surveillance cameras, listening devices of every kind and so on. This thought-provoking action-adventure film makes it almost easy to believe that the government already has the capacity to invade our privacy to this minute level.

Set in the year 2054, Steven Spielberg's **Minority Report** (2002) is the story of Pre-Crime, a law enforcement unit that monitors society to stop crimes before they are committed. Three Pre-Cogs, beings who float in a nutrient rich fluid, can predict who will commit a crime and when. When Pre-Crime chief John Anderton (Tom Cruise) is accused of a crime he hasn't yet committed, he goes on the run, chased by FBI agent Ed Witwer (Colin Farrell). Only Pre-Cog Agatha (Samantha Morton) can help prove his innocence.

And until next time, happy viewing. . . .

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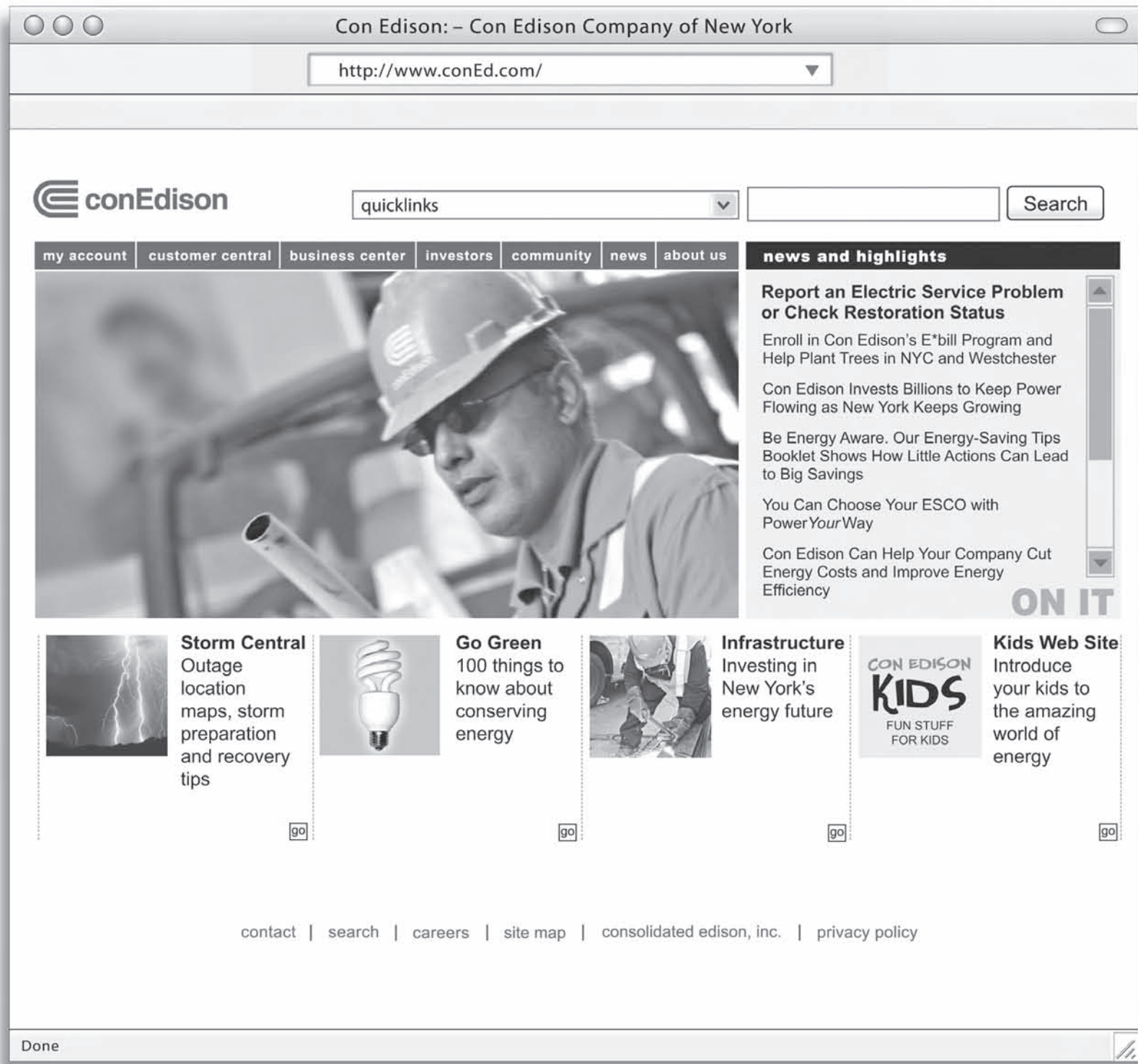
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Times and heights of high and low water (Eastern Daylight Time)
 Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Island. Times shown are nautical times. For times on the table beginning with 1300, subtract 1200 to get ordinary 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

NOVEMBER 2007

DAY	TIME HH.MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH.MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH.MM	HEIGHT FEET	TIME HH.MM	HEIGHT FEET	DAY
01 Thu	0534	6.89	1152	1.15	1759	7.22			Thu 01
02 Fri	0039	0.61	0644	7.00	1304	1.12	1911	7.16	Fri 02
03 Sat	0140	0.69	0745	7.22	1407	0.90	2013	7.22	Sat 03
All times are Eastern Standard Time beginning Sunday, November 4									
04 Sun	0136	0.66	0740	7.48	1404	0.61	2008	7.30	Sun 04
05 Mon	0227	0.60	0829	7.70	1455	0.32	2057	7.36	Mon 05
06 Tue	0313	0.56	0914	7.85	1541	0.11	2142	7.35	Tue 06
07 Wed	0355	0.56	0956	7.89	1624	-0.01	2223	7.28	Wed 07
08 Thu	0431	0.63	1033	7.85	1702	-0.01	2302	7.15	Thu 08
09 Fri	0502	0.74	1105	7.75	1736	0.07	2336	7.01	Fri 09
10 Sat	0521	0.87	1125	7.64	1804	0.21			Sat 10
11 Sun	0002	6.87	0532	0.94	1138	7.60	1822	0.35	Sun 11
12 Mon	0018	6.79	0559	1.00	1203	7.61	1842	0.45	Mon 12
13 Tue	0041	6.78	0635	1.07	1238	7.62	1914	0.55	Tue 13
14 Wed	0116	6.82	0717	1.17	1319	7.57	1954	0.66	Wed 14
15 Thu	0158	6.86	0804	1.27	1405	7.47	2040	0.76	Thu 15
16 Fri	0245	6.92	0856	1.32	1457	7.32	2131	0.81	Fri 16
17 Sat	0339	7.02	0954	1.28	1554	7.16	2226	0.80	Sat 17
18 Sun	0436	7.19	1058	1.10	1657	7.04	2326	0.68	Sun 18
19 Mon	0537	7.45	1209	0.76	1803	7.03			Mon 19
20 Tue	0028	0.47	0639	7.78	1324	0.28	1911	7.11	Tue 20
21 Wed	0130	0.19	0738	8.15	1433	-0.27	2015	7.26	Wed 21
22 Thu	0229	-0.10	0834	8.49	1533	-0.76	2114	7.4	Thu 22
23 Fri	0326	-0.32	0927	8.74	1628	-1.11	2210	7.50	Fri 23
24 Sat	0420	-0.40	1020	8.81	1723	-1.22	2305	7.53	Sat 24
25 Sun	0514	-0.44	1112	8.75	1816	-1.26	2359	7.47	Sun 25
26 Mon	0609	-0.28	1205	8.59	1911	-0.90			Mon 26
27 Tue	0056	7.32	0708	0.03	1302	8.24	2007	-0.65	Tue 27
28 Wed	0156	7.26	0811	0.37	1405	7.78	2105	-0.29	Wed 28
29 Thu	0301	7.00	0919	0.61	1517	7.32	2205	0.13	Thu 29
30 Fri	0407	7.00	1027	0.82	1631	7.00	2304	0.49	Fri 30
DECEMBER 2007									
01 Sat	0510	7.01	1133	0.87	1738	6.80			Sat 01
02 Sun	0002	0.70	0609	7.09	1235	0.80	1838	6.71	Sun 02
03 Mon	0057	0.80	0704	7.21	1332	0.64	1934	6.68	Mon 03
04 Tue	0148	0.84	0755	7.32	1424	0.45	2025	6.69	Tue 04
05 Wed	0236	0.85	0842	7.42	1512	0.28	2112	6.71	Wed 05
06 Thu	0319	0.85	0926	7.47	1556	0.15	2156	6.72	Thu 06
07 Fri	0358	0.87	1005	7.49	1636	0.04	2237	6.74	Fri 07
08 Sat	0430	0.89	1039	7.53	1713	0.01	2314	6.77	Sat 08



Monarch Butterflies

Several readers have brought the monarch butterflies to our attention. Jennie, for one, has noted that the population in our area seems to be on the rise. No thanks to our cats, Tess and Napoleon, however. They spend hours beneath the butterfly bush in our backyard waiting to pounce on the unsuspecting insects. If you've ever noticed butterfly wings strewn about your own backyard like rose petals, chances are either your cats do what our cats do or someone else's cats have been doing it on your property.

Most predators of the monarch butterfly learn to avoid it, however. Upon hatching, monarch caterpillars feed on the milkweed plant, which loads the monarch's body with a toxin that has been known to cause vomiting in birds. Some less distasteful butterflies have adapted by taking on the pattern and coloring of the monarch butterfly. One such copycat is the viceroy butterfly.

When considering monarchs, one is often reminded of their annual migration south for the winter. To complete one round trip, four generations of butterflies are required. The adult monarch that heads south in September will head for the oyamel fir trees in the mountains of Michoacan, Mexico, joining millions upon millions of its cousins, broth-

ers and sisters. When so many have congregated on the same tree, they don't look like butterflies anymore. And the tree doesn't look like a tree. In the pictures, it's as if the tree has been blanketed by oozing lava.

In the spring, these same butterflies come north again, but only so far as the southern United States. There they lay their own eggs and die. This generation lives its normal span of about two months and then dies, too, but not before making the trip north into the New York City area. Here a third generation is hatched in time for some to enjoy summer on City Island. The fourth and final generation is hatched about two months later. These are the monarchs that will be making the return trip to Michoacan in the fall. They are also the ones that nature has selected particularly for a longer life span. They live approximately seven months, in contrast to the preceding generations, which lived only two months.

Scientific study of the monarch butterfly is still in its initial stages. What we know now began with some of the same kinds of simple observations that have been made right here on City Island. Who knows where the observation that the monarch butterfly population is on the rise will lead?

As always we invite your input at jdsstrat@msn.com.

Obituaries

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

and Matthew. Besides his love for City Island, he also loved his dogs, and he belonged to the Great Pyrenees Club of New York and New Jersey.

Kip Andrews

Kip Andrews, a resident of City Island since 1976, died on Sept. 17, 2007, at the age of 74.

Kip made his debut in theater as a child actor in June 1945 and spent the next 30 years as a mainstay of the New York theater scene. Kip originally wanted to be a classical ballet dancer but was injured in the Korean War, so he became a dancer and choreographer, an original Broadway "gypsy." He danced in such shows as "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Silk Stockings," as well as in the national tours of "Pajama Game" and "Fiorello." He also appeared on many television shows and at supper clubs all over the country and choreographed many productions, including the film "A Lovely Way to Die," which starred Kirk Douglas.

He worked for Jerome Robbins as dance captain for "Fiddler" on Broadway and staged the production in Argentina and South Africa, where he met Carynne Thomas, who became his wife. After his marriage, he retired from the "gypsy life" and joined the Police Department Auxiliary; subsequently he worked for ABC-TV and edited movies for television viewing.

Kip and his wife fell in love with City Island after taking a Power Squadron boating course here. They spent many summers patrolling the waters of Long Island Sound; his proudest moment was graduating from the Coast Guard Search and Rescue School at Governors Island.

He is survived by his wife, Ethne Carynne Andrews; two sisters, Toni Alexander and Pam Callahan; two nieces and three nephews.

Arline Cozzi

Long-time City Island resident Arline Cozzi passed away on Sept. 24, 2007, from complications following a heart attack.

Born in Harlem in 1936, Arline held a variety of jobs, but her proudest was always that of mother. A deeply spiritual woman, she was a regular parishioner at Grace Episcopal Church for the past several years.

She was predeceased by her son Alfred and is survived by her children, Joanne, Joe and Judi.

Arline lived on City Island for 51 years, the last 10 years at Pilot Cove Manor. Her humor and quick wit will be missed. May her soul rest in everlasting peace.

Marco J. Troiano

Marco J. Troiano, 83, who lived for many years on City Island, passed away on Sept. 19, 2007, at his home in Hope, New York, after a long illness. Born in New York City on Sept. 11, 1924, Marco worked as a truck driver for Co-Fire Paving in Flushing, New York, and moved to City Island in 1945.

He met his loving wife of 46 years, Freda, while he was stationed in England during World War II. He brought her to the United States in 1947, and they were married shortly afterward. They lived on Sutherland Street until they moved to New Jersey in 1980. She passed away in 1993.

Mr. Troiano is survived by his daughter, Marcella, and his two grandsons, David



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

Expense Tips, or How to Enhance Your Deductions

One frustrating aspect of the IRS code involves the concept that 50 to 100 percent of certain meals, entertainment and other related expenses are not tax deductible, which effectively increase taxable income, decreases cash flow and increases effective tax rates. However, there are several exceptions to the general expense disallowance rules, which may allow taxpayers to deduct a greater percentage of their meal and entertainment expenses on their federal and state tax returns.

Certain business models, particularly those with a significant sales force, can incur large meals and entertainment expenses. These types of expenses should

be broken down into their various components, such as meals and entertainment, travel and lodging, dues, memberships, and so on, but many smaller companies typically do not provide their CPAs with a level of detail of these types of expenses to allow a full analysis. This can result in over-deducting these expenses or, without a proper understanding, under-deducting if various exceptions to the tax rules that allow up to 100 percent deductibility are overlooked.

The key to determining the exact extent of allowable meals and entertainment expenses—that is: 1) 100 percent deductible, 2) 50 percent deductible and 3) not-deductible—is the proper documentation of the business purpose, the parties involved and an accounting system with a comprehensive chart-of-accounts providing sufficient detail to allow for accurate classification and analysis.

Because there are three elements of classification for meals and entertainment expenses, it is critically important to keep records at the time of the expenditure. Taxpayers should set up separate general ledger accounts to classify and categorize these expenses, since a delayed monitoring often makes it difficult, if not impossible, for a CPA to determine accurate and proper tax treatment. Because of the lack of proper documentation and classification, many taxpayers simply add back 50 percent of all meals and entertainment expenses for the sake of simplicity and may actually be losing out of allowable tax deductions.

In other words, with proper accounting systems in place, and a clear understanding of the rules, businesses can often reduce their after-tax meals and entertainment costs, improve cash flow, actually lower effective tax rates and reduce taxes.

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13. Publication Title: *The Island Current*
 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: *September 2007*
 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation
 Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
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 b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)
 (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) *360* *398*
 (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies) *355* *399*
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 e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4)) *369* *408*
 f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e) *1929* *2000*
 g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3)) *71* *0*
 h. Total (Sum of 15f and g) *2000* *2000*
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 16. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the *November* issue of this publication. Publication not required.
 17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: *Karen Nani - Editor* Date: *10/1/07*

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Better Late

Continued from page 1

droplets. She reasoned that the storage of fat might enable a fly to survive a period of famine, although under normal conditions, it would reduce a fly's ability to survive. She put the flies into extreme conditions without food or water, and those lacking the *adp* gene died while those with the gene survived.

Because scientists did not then have the capability of cloning genes, this discovery was set aside for several years, although Dr. Doane and her team continued to work on it. "By the mid-1990s the time was ripe to clone the *adp* gene and determine its function.... This was tedious, time-consuming work that was not completed until 2000, two years after my retirement." Eventually, however, she and colleagues in the field who shared her interest in *adp* found that a related gene was

also shown to exist in mice and humans. The discovery that *adp* works the same way in mice and fruit flies indicates that the gene has evolved from lower forms of life to mammals. "It was always my dream that the drosophila [fruit fly] adipose gene would turn out to be a model for controlling obesity and type-2 diabetes. It looks like it is starting in that direction now," Dr. Doane said in an interview for Reuters.

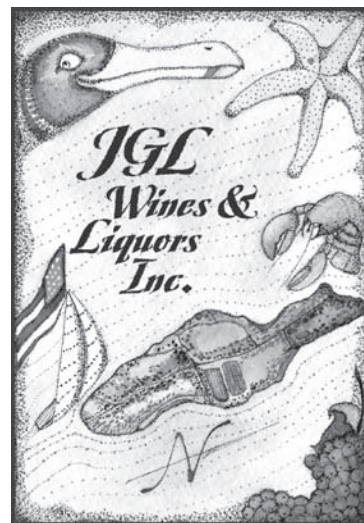
Dr. Jonathan Graff, director of the team at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center that uncovered the function of the gene in mice after Dr. Doane sent them mutant stocks of the gene five years ago, believes that these animal experiments should apply to humans, since we too carry the adipose gene. The team is eager to find a medicine that can help people to become lean and achieve ideal levels of blood sugar and insulin. Dr. Graff believes that such a drug will be developed within the next decade.

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

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Former Islander Susan Michaels married Donald Grove on June 21, 2007 in Key West, Florida.

Congratulations to Philip Kinford and Jennifer Lake, who were married on Sept. 22. Phil's grandparents, former Islanders, Paul and Rosemarie Buhl, as well as his uncle Neil, were in attendance. Thanks to the generous hospitality of Steve Roth and Ken Binder, the ceremony took place at Phil's family's former residence on Bay Street. The reception was held at the Harlem Yacht Club. The couple has settled into a cottage on Cross Street.

Happy 20th birthday on Nov. 12 across the miles to our favorite "Coastie," Bobby Swieciki, who is stationed up in Cape Cod. All our love, Mom, Dad, Stephen and Maria Christina.

Congratulations to proud new grandpa, the Boatyard's Bill Wulfing, who welcomed Jack Sipperly on Aug. 7. Thrilled parents are Kate and Geoff Sipperly of Arlington, Virginia. Uncle Tim Wulfing is ready to spoil!

Birthday greetings to Minneford Avenue's Nick Ruggiero, who turns 13 on Nov. 13.

Happy 40th anniversary to our parents, Cookie and Joe Sortino. Love, Donna, Susan, Jennifer and families.

Carey's Point on King Avenue has a brand new clam digger! Welcome to Ronan Marshall Daly, who was born on Sept. 2 to Derek and Jen Maroney Daly. The name Ronan means "little seal" in Gaelic; how



Islander Philip Kinford married Jennifer Lake on Sept. 22, 2007. Shown at the ceremony on Bay Street is the Kinford family (l. to r.): Ashley, Hal, Philip, Jennifer, Donna and Lindsey.

fitting for a clam digger! Marshall is after his paternal great-grandfather. Ecstatic grandparents are Fran and Bob Maroney of New Jersey and Daphne and Willie Daly, who are enjoying both their new grandson and their visit to City Island before they return to Ireland. Great-grandparents are Marshall and Mavis, also of Ireland.

Belated birthday wishes to Bob Kraemer on Oct. 7 and also to Earley Street's Austin Dooley on Oct. 31 . . . still looking good!

Welcome back to Terrace Street's wandering barrister, Sandra Edwards-Smith, who has been working in international law in Belgium. We missed you. Your friends on Terrace Street thank you for those great Belgian chocolates.

Happy birthday to Juliet Antelmi on Oct. 2.

Birthday wishes to the delightful Katie Rose Patterson, who turns six. She's our own Lollypop Kid!

Best wishes for a lifetime of happiness to newlyweds Susan Michaels and Donald Grove, who were married on June 21 in a seaside ceremony in Key West, Florida. Susan is the daughter of Helen and Kenny Michaels of Fordham Street.

And a happy, healthy and bountiful Thanksgiving to all our friends, neighbors and readers.

Maria Swieciki

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