

The Island Current

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One Dollar

STORM OF THE SUMMER!



Photos by MARK NANI

Around 10:15 p.m. on August 18, 2009, huge bolts of lightning sent Islanders running for cover when a fast-moving wind and rain storm blew over New York City. The powerful storm lasted only about 15 minutes, but the falling trees and branches left many Island windshields smashed, roads blocked, and power and phone lines hanging. City Island's Ladder 53 (recently saved from fire department budget cuts) went to work that night clearing trees off Minneford Avenue. The next day Sanitation Department, Con Edison, Parks Department and Verizon crews worked all over the Island clearing debris and fixing broken poles.

ISLAND HEROES

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

Although the wind was pretty strong around 4 p.m. on Friday, July 31, a number of residents of Buckley and Marine Streets were down on their beaches enjoying the summer afternoon when they heard the cries of a man who had fallen out of his fishing boat. At least two of the women on the beach called 911 when they realized the man was in trouble, and a couple of neighbors sprang into action, since they realized that it would take time for help to get to the spot.

John Tomsen, with the help of his wife, Tracy, and his neighbor Richard Dillon, lowered John's dinghy into the water, and he immediately started rowing out to the man, who was clinging desperately to his sinking boat. Bill Hraska started to swim out, but the wind was strong and the man was a few hundred yards away.

The drowning man was quite hefty, so John did not attempt to pull him into the boat but instead told him to hold onto the side so that he could be hauled back to shore. According to Tracy Tomsen, John kept the man calm by talking to him constantly and he remained conscious the whole way back.

While this rescue was taking place, the



Photo by RICKDeWITT

John Tomsen

Fire Department's Ladder 53 responded quickly in the person of firefighter Ralph Manfredonia, who grew up on City Island

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Police Step Up Efforts to Control Motorcyclists and Summer Traffic

By KAREN NANI



A joint effort by the City Island Civic Association, local elected officials and the New York City Police Department resulted in a significant increase in police presence on City Island this past summer. Officers from the 45th Precinct set up cones and kept the fire lane clear from the bridge to the end of City Island Avenue (shown above) almost every weekend and issued many summonses to drivers and motorcyclists for speeding.

For the first time in many years, a consistent weekday and weekend effort has been mounted by police from the 45th Precinct to control the increasing traffic and noise on City Island Avenue during the 2009 summer months. By most accounts, the effort appears to be making headway to keep the fire lanes clear and traffic moving in a safe manner.

A joint effort by the City Island Civic Association, local elected officials, and the New York City Police Department resulted in a significant increase in police presence on City Island this past summer. The effort began at the September 2008 monthly meeting, when the new board of the Civic Association established several new committees. One was specifically dedicated to addressing traffic issues.

The committee members, led by chairperson Paul Nani, began attending the monthly Community Council meetings at the 45th Precinct to voice concerns over the ever-increasing volume of traffic and violations, including driving in the fire lane, speeding and loud motorcycles.

Concerns about blatant disregard of traffic laws by motorcyclists grew when some Islanders discovered a rap music video on YouTube in which motorcyclists actually filmed themselves riding in the fire lane on City Island Avenue. Islander Tom Smith noticed the alarming increase in motorcycle speeding on July 12: "About a dozen motorcycles shot out into oncoming traffic to speed toward the bridge. Then cars started doing it. I'm talking about automobiles essentially playing chicken with oncoming cars. At times you had three lanes of traffic going to the City Island Bridge. Someone is going to die in a head-on collision on that road soon, if that situation is not brought under control," he reported to the traffic committee.

Finally, by the third week in July, Captain Roumeliotis of the 45th Precinct and his community affairs officers were ready to discuss different options, and the solution came with the assistance of Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., State Senator Jeff Klein, Councilman Jimmy Vacca, Community Board 10 District Manager Ken Kearns and the Bronx Borough Commander's office of the NYPD.

The solution was manpower reallocation. Responsibilities for patrolling Orchard Beach and Pelham Bay Park were reassigned. As a result, the 45th Precinct was able to dedicate more resources to City Island on summer weekends, as they usually do for heavy traffic days such as Valentine's Day and Mother's Day.

Police set up cones in the entire length of the fire lane on weekends and also increased their presence during weekdays. They increased the number of DUI (driving under the influence) checkpoints on weekends, stopping all vehicles leaving the island late at night. In addition, traffic agents patrolled all the streets and avenues, ticketing illegally parked vehicles (including commercial vehicles, which are not allowed to park overnight on any street on the Island) and issuing summonses for expired registrations and inspections.

Islanders cheered on Friday, August 14, when six officers working from two police vans on the bridge, pulled over about a dozen motorcyclists who were riding onto City Island in the fire lane. "The cops were checking their papers and their riders, and they appeared to be issuing summonses. We smiled and clapped for those cops. Bravo to the 45th," Jane Protzman told *The Current*.

Other residents have expressed appreciation to the officers who are on patrol. One officer assigned to the Island said that "passersby were stopping as they walked along the avenue to thank him for being there."

Many summonses have been issued since the increased police presence. One officer said he had written at least six tickets in two days for various driving offenses. He pointed out that some of the people who received the tickets for speeding and fire lane violations were City Islanders, an inevitable outcome of the increased patrols. Police officers often find that some Island residents believe they should be excused for double parking, speeding and other offenses because they live here.

Islanders who are the recipients of these tickets may not be pleased with the increased police presence. Some told *The Current* that the effort has to be more

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BRIEFLY...

SELF-PORTRAIT: The Focal Point Gallery's 35th Anniversary Show, "Self Portrait," will open at the gallery, 321 City Island Avenue, on Sept. 11, with a big party at 7 p.m. Be sure to come and look at all the self-portraits or images by artists that reflect their stories. For more information, call 718-885-1403 Monday through Saturday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

GRACE CHURCH'S BOLTON WINDOW will be the subject of a lecture to be given by David Fraser, Senior Conservator at the Brooklyn Stained Glass Conservation Center, on Sunday, Sept. 27, at 12 noon. The lecture will be followed by a Champagne brunch. Everyone is welcome! RSVP to the Parish Office at 718-885-1080.

12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL BEACH CLEAN-UP, sponsored by the American Littoral Society and the Ocean Conservancy, has helped to improve the quality of the coastline and oceans by using recorded data, collected by volunteers, to impact legislation (such as the recent water bottle bill). Volunteers are needed to remove and record the amount and types of marine debris found on the coastline by the City Island Bridge on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will meet at 9 on the City Island side of the bridge. For more information, call 718-885-1891 or 914-882-9578.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2009 TRIATHLON will take place at Orchard Beach on Sunday, Sept. 20. There will be a swimming, running and bicycle phases, and there will undoubtedly be traffic blocks on the Hutchinson River Parkway and on the roads leading to and from Orchard Beach. For more information about times and registration, call 914-837-2996. All proceeds will benefit the FDNY Tri team and the Achilles Freedom Team.

45 BLOTTER

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

- July and August**
- 1 - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**
- 1 - ASSAULT**
- 1 - BURGLARY**
- 2 - DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED (DWI)**
- 1 - GRAND LARCENY (AUTO)**
- 2 - GRAND LARCENY**
- 1 - LEAVING THE SCENE/PROPERTY DAMAGE**
- 1 - CRIMINAL TRESPASSING**
- 1 - PETIT LARCENY**

Police report the following incidents for the period from July 1 to August 13, 2009:

7/1 - At Tier Street and King Avenue, police report the assault of a non-Islander by an unknown group of three males who fled the scene on foot.

7/1 - Police from the 45th Precinct are investigating the theft and use of a credit card from a resident of Minneford Avenue.

7/1 - Between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., a commercial establishment on Hunter Avenue was broken into and property removed without permission of the owners.

7/11 - An unknown perpetrator threw

a rock through the front window of a residence on Centre Street at 8 p.m., breaking the glass and causing criminal mischief.

7/11 - On Schofield Street at 7:30 a.m., a complainant described a case of criminal trespassing. A perpetrator on a ladder at the rear of a building climbed onto a terrace of a building without permission.

7/17 - Police arrested an off-Island male, 24, and charged him with DWI in front of 450 City Island Avenue at 2:30 a.m.

7/17 - At 9:50 p.m. at Bridge Street and City Island Avenue, an off-Island male, 46, was arrested and charged with DWI.

7/22 - Police are investigating a grand larceny auto on William Avenue and Schofield Street. The owner of the vehicle parked a car and returned at 7 a.m. to find it missing.

8/7 - A perpetrator allegedly removed items from the backyard of a residence on Rochelle Street without permission of the owner at 8:30 p.m.


8/10 - On City Island Avenue at 11 p.m., a restaurant patron's purse was stolen including credit cards.

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Island Resident Honored

Diane Fesko, resident of City Island, along with three other associates from Montefiore Medical Center, recently received the 27th annual President's Award, Montefiore's most prestigious distinction, which honors associates who continuously exemplify Montefiore excellence. The honorees are nominated by colleagues, patients or visitors who wish to recognize their exemplary performance.

Ms. Fesko, who is director of Operations for Professional Services, has been an associate for 20 years, advancing from a clerical position to director. Her colleagues cited her for thinking "outside the box" and developing creative solutions to the intricacies of revenue cycle processes. Her co-workers say she treats everyone she works with in the billing process as a customer, including interactions that make people know how valued they are. Although she works in a finance department, she always



Diane Fesko

reminds her team that everything they do is all about the patients.

Island Heroes

Continued from page 1

and learned to swim here. He made his way down to the beach, stripped off his outer gear and swam out about 50 yards and pulled the victim ashore. The victim was transported to Jacobi Hospital and pronounced in stable condition.

The man had rented his boat from Jack's Bait & Tackle to enjoy his newfound enthusiasm for fishing; Jack's Bait apparently called him to warn him of the high winds, but he did not turn back in time. He told the Bronx Times that he was

very grateful indeed to the men who had saved his life.

An unfortunate side to the story occurred on Aug. 1, when the New York Post published a story that had a lot of the details wrong and failed to acknowledge the role played by John Tomsen and the other neighbors. *The Bronx Times* set the record straight in its Aug. 13 issue, and several Islanders who witnessed the rescue spoke or sent letters to *The Current*. None of the papers, however, made a claim as dramatic as the *Daily News*, which reported that Ralph Manfredonia had stripped to his underwear and leapt into the East River.

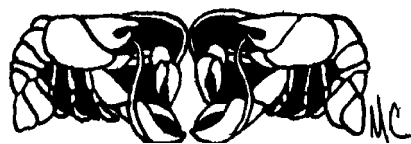


Photo by JUDY DiMAIO

A cell phone snapshot captured the rescue. At the right of the photo John Tomsen can be seen securing his boat as a group of neighbors and firefighters attend to the victim.

Now that would certainly have been newsworthy, since the East River is well over two miles away from Buckley Street!

The good news is that the man was saved, thanks to the efforts of several quick-thinking Islanders, especially John Tomsen, with the help of Ralph Manfredonia, and they all deserve to be praised for their respective roles in the rescue.



ISLAND TREASURE: Grace's Historic Bolton Window

By BARBARA DOLENSEK

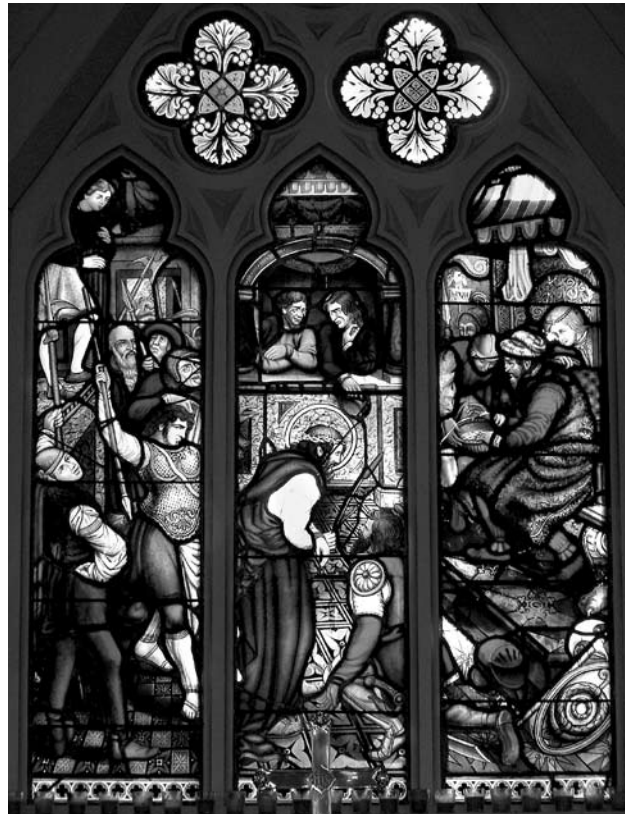


Photo by EYVONNE BAKER

This stained-glass window depicting "The Trial of Christ" was made by John Bolton for Grace Episcopal Church on City Island in 1862.

One of City Island's great treasures can be found over the altar at Grace Episcopal Church, where it has been gleaming since it was installed, about 1862, by John Bolton (1818-98), whose family had founded the church in 1849. This treasure, formally known as "The Trial of Christ," is considered by experts to be an exceptional piece of American stained-glass history.

As David Fraser of the Brooklyn Stained Glass Conservation Center states: "The Boltons are recognized as being the first designers and fabricators of stained glass in America, and each of the windows produced by the family are important pieces of the early Gothic Revival movement."

Some City Island residents are aware of the fact that the Bolton family founded Christ Church on Shore Road in Pelham and that Grace Church was established by Adele Bolton, who was rowed to City Island on Sundays to hold services for Island residents. But many are unaware of the fact that the Boltons began making

stained-glass windows well before Louis Comfort Tiffany, America's most famous designer of stained glass, was even born.

Grace's window is based on a design that was fabricated in 1844-48 by William J. Bolton (1816-84) for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Brooklyn Heights. The composition, colors and lead lines in both windows are very similar, but the figures are different, one of them possibly a self-portrait of John.

William Bolton, assisted by John, had a studio in Pelham where they produced windows for a number of churches that are now landmarks: the Church of the Holy Apostles at Ninth Avenue and 28th Street, St. Ann and Holy Trinity in Brooklyn and Christ Church in Pelham, which boasts their first major work, a large stained-glass window depicting the Adoration of the Magi. The Boltons produced more than 7,000 square feet of stained

glass for Holy Trinity Church in Brooklyn, an astounding collection that was painstakingly restored with the support of the New York Landmarks Conservancy. William Bolton's organ loft window from Holy Trinity is on permanent exhibition in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Bolton brothers were born and raised in England, the sons of Robert Bolton, who founded Christ Church in Pelham in 1844. All five Bolton brothers became Episcopal priests, but William and John were best known for their work in stained glass.

As part of Grace Church's celebration of its 160th anniversary on City Island, David Fraser will be giving a talk at the church about the Bolton window, to be followed by a Champagne brunch. He will discuss in detail the Bolton stained-glass history and legacy, as well as the restoration of the window, a major project on which Grace plans to embark in the future.

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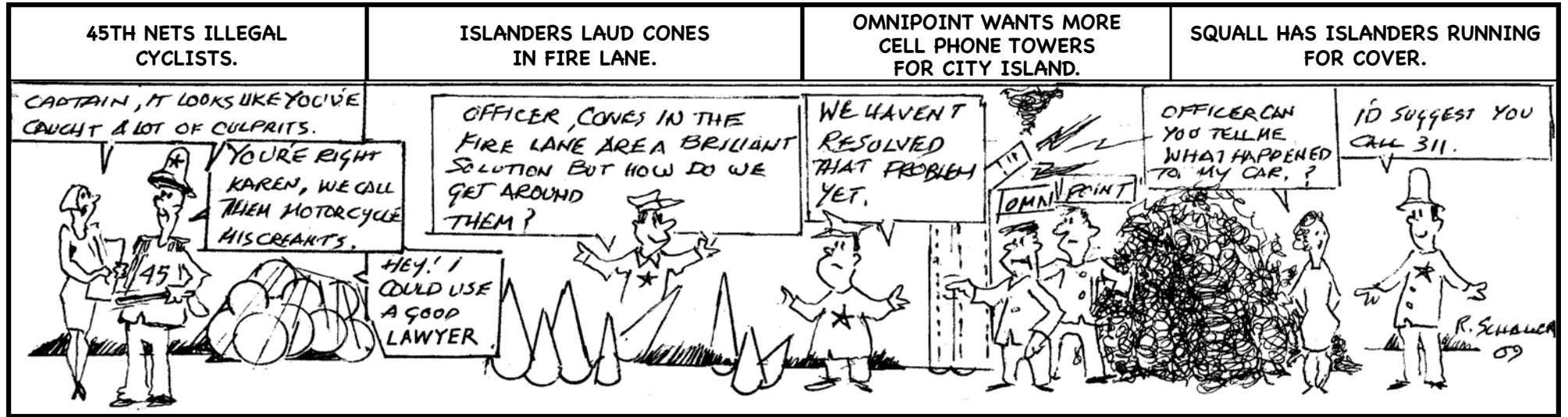
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A Grateful Island Family

To the Editor:

Just a note of thanks to all who participated in the fund-raiser and the 50/50 raffle that was held in our honor. It is truly amazing to witness the outpouring of support, friendship and camaraderie that comes from this Island when times are tough. I would like to thank everyone individually, but that would be hard to do with 1,000 tickets sold. Bob and Mary Jane are on the top of the list because they organized everything. Great job and even greater friends. Mary Jane's helpers (Maureen, Terry, Angela, Roe, Lucy, Regina and Marguerite) did everything they could to get them all sold. The Legion (Jimmy, Tommy, Bob and Joe) has been wonderful to us as well. The use of the hall and the drinks and food were good and plenty. Pepe and John brought everyone to their feet and were very entertaining.

Lastly, a big thank you to Lauren and Sam Chernin. They got the winning ticket and graciously threw their winnings back in the pot. How selfless and kind of them! So many of you here on the Island and over the bridge have been so thoughtful in one way or another, and we are grateful and humbled by the goodness shown to us.

Monica, Steve and Steven Schmitz

P.S. to our anonymous friend: thank you, again, for your generosity. You are still a mystery!

Setting the Record Straight

To the Editor:

I just finished reading the article that ran in the New York Post sometime last week involving an incident on Buckley Street, City Island. While I was glad to hear about a brave rescue and a pleasant ending involving one of New York's bravest firemen, I was very disappointed to hear the whole story was not true. After speaking with Tracy Tomsen and learning that her husband, John Tomsen, had made the rescue with his dinghy while Billy Hraska was attempting to swim out to save the man, I wondered why only the fireman was mentioned.

I know that John Tomsen is a stand-up man in our community, and he deserves some recognition for his heroic part in the rescue. The truth is that without John's quick thinking, the 52-year-old man would not have survived. It is just unfair that, although Ralph is a great asset to our firehouse, he only walked the man out of the water and did not swim into the water as reported. John Tomsen actually had the man hold on to his boat as he rowed into shore.

I understand how important it is to sensationalize Ladder 53's part in the rescue, but the other men involved deserve recognition, too. I hope that after reading this, City Island

residents will extend a hand and tell John how proud they are to have him as a neighbor. I know that I am proud to have him as a neighbor, a baseball coach and a friend, and I would be glad to call him a hero.

Danielle Calbo



Photo by JOHN DEVLIN

Help Troop 211 Boy Scouts raise money to repair the pillars at Pelham Cemetery.

The Cemetery Pillars are Falling Down

To the Editor:

As noted in the July-August issue of *The Current*, the scouts of Boy Scout Troop 211 have scraped and repainted the Pelham Cemetery fences. However, the project of redoing the pillars and removing and reattaching the gates is an expensive one. The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of South Jersey have donated \$500 to kick-start this effort, and I have received over \$1,500 in donations from the parishioners of St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church. However, I need more help from the rest of the City Island community. Any donation will be greatly appreciated.

Checks can be made payable to Pelham Cemetery and can be mailed c/o John Devlin, 185 Reville Street, Bronx, NY 10464. For more information, please call 718-885-1011.

Thank you for your support

John Devlin, Eagle Scout Candidate

An Even More Grateful Resident

To the Editor:

Although Mr. Rendino is to be commended for noting, in his letter published in the summer issue of *The Current*, that City Island deserves to keep its Ladder Company 53, I respectfully disagree with his giving credit to Mayor Bloomberg for the decision to restore this and other fire companies throughout the city. The Mayor and his Fire Commissioner, Nicholas Scoppetta, fought against us from the moment Council Member James Vacca began to protest the decision to cut Ladder Company service when it was announced last year. We held protests, wrote letters, attended hearings and press conferences, and the Mayor remained determined to cut fire service to City Island.

Only when Speaker Christine Quinn and the City Council members came forward with the money to fund these services, did he finally agree to go along with them. All of our

elected officials helped in this effort to keep Ladder Company 53, but the Mayor and the Fire Commissioner stubbornly refused to listen to them until the last moment.

As a personal note, I am still waiting for a response from Mayor Bloomberg to the e-mails I sent him on June 1st and June 11th. To date, I have had no reply from him or anyone on his staff.

Helen Anderson

Searching for Graduates

To the Editor:

Planning is in progress for a reunion in June 2010 for the 1956 classes of St. Mary, Star of the Sea School and P.S. 17. The following is a list of those we need contact information for:

St. Mary's: Anthony Durante, Richard Erickson, Helene Flanagan Chitty, Dolores Hawkins Werner, Robert Kehlhofer, Peter Lafrumento, John Madden, Jane Meyer, Michael Persico, Jeanne Raymond, Grace Raymond, Pat Roberts Lecoe, Michael Rosselli, Robert Saulnier, Elizabeth Shiela Faltermeir, Barbara Schomber, Dianne Sherry, Leonard Sorresse and John Tamboriani.

P.S. 17: Allen Benoit, David Blomquist, Robert Boder, Iris Fay, Martin Frank, Mark Hauptner, George A. Manz, Cary Nadel, Jon Simplicio and Julie Verano.

If you have any information about those listed above or want more details about the reunion, contact Diana Nye Murphy at 62A Marcoe Street, North Fond du Lac, WI 54937 at 920-926-9769 or dnn1943@gmail.com.

Diana Nye Murphy

Please Consider Ferry Service

A copy of the following letter, abridged here, was received by The Current:

To the Honorable Oliver Koppel and James Vacca, Members of the City Council, and staff from the New York City Department of Transportation and the New York City Economic Development Corporation

Bronx Community Board 10 (CB 10) would like to take this opportunity to thank you for providing the Bronx Community with an opportunity to comment on planned ferry service for our borough.

We represent the northeast Bronx communities of Pelham Bay, Throggs Neck, City Island, Country Club, Co-op City, Zerega and Westchester Square. Many of our communities enjoy immediate access to Eastchester Bay, Long Island Sound and the East River, and both the proposed sites in the Bronx—Ferry Point Park and Orchard Beach—are located within CB 10.

The Comprehensive Citywide Ferry Study has identified two sites within the Board's service area, Orchard Beach and Ferry Point Park. The choice of these two sites was made because both sites offer parking and are close to the Hutchinson River Parkway and the New England Thruway. While these choices are logical, in that they provide commuters with ready access to parking, CB 10 requests that your respective offices consider alternative sites, which serve large populations and offer existing infrastructure to accommodate the ferries:

Co-op City. There are 50,000 residents living in the State's largest housing cooperative. The cooperative is situated along the banks of the Hutchinson River, which provides ready access to Eastchester Bay and the East River. Many of Co-op City's residents use a network of buses to connect to the IRT #2, #5 and #6 trains or use ex-

SQUALL HAS ISLANDERS RUNNING FOR COVER.

OFFICER CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO MY CAR? I'D SUGGEST YOU CALL 311.

press bus service to reach Manhattan's central business and civic districts. During rush hour in the mornings and the evenings, the buses are quite crowded, which only adds to the already crowded nature of the IRT trains going into Manhattan. Commuters not wishing to use the mass transit options will often use their private automobiles, which add to the congestion and air pollution problems.

City Island. The Board believes this community would benefit from ferry service, in that its existing mass transit links to Manhattan are limited. If parking could be found at Orchard Beach, the Board believes that ferry service would be attractive to City Island residents.

Throggs Neck. The SUNY Maritime College offers anchorages for two sea going vessels and could easily accommodate ferries. Additionally, the college offers a parking lot for the commuters to reach the ferries.

Westchester Creek. This canal-like body of water could easily accommodate ferry service. It is situated just off of East Tremont Avenue and is a short distance from the Westchester Square business district. This community's access to transportation alternatives to Manhattan is limited to buses providing connecting service to the IRT #6 train, one of the most overcrowded trains in the system.

Ferries make so much sense from an environmental, health and economic perspective that CB 10 welcomes the prospect of the ferries serving its constituent communities. Given that these ferries will be primarily serving commuters traveling between the Bronx and Manhattan, their presence could also have an economic benefit to the communities of the Bronx. Reverse commuters, tourists and native New Yorkers could easily avail themselves of the many restaurants and attractions that our borough offers, without having to negotiate a crowded transit system or road network.

CB 10 requests that the offices give serious consideration to our suggested sites and also asks that serious consideration be given to improving mass transit links or establishing a dedicated jitney service to each of the ferry sites so that the ferry would be available to the nondriving public. In considering service at Ferry Point Park and Orchard Beach, please be aware of the sensitive nature of these parks sites and respect their bucolic surroundings.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

**Diane F. Lock, Chair
Kenneth Kearns, District Manager
Bronx Community Board #10**

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Bartow Pell Events

Start Labor Day weekend with an evening of culture and fun, taking the First Friday (Sept. 4) Bronx Seaside Trolley from Pelham Bay to Bartow-Pell Mansion. From 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. tour the mansion, preview an exhibition of exquisite early 19th-century botanical illustrations from our Library Collection, enjoy classical music for flute and harp and enjoy some light refreshments. The free trolley makes a continuous loop from Pelham Bay Park #6 subway station to Bartow-Pell to City Island.

The museum's fall exhibition, "The Age of Botanical Wonders: Illustrations from Transactions of the Horticultural Society of London, 1805-1829," features exquisite hand-colored engravings on steel by such botanical masters as William Hooker, John Lindley and William Say. The volumes in the collection were acquired in the early 20th century by the International Garden Club, which modeled itself after Britain's Royal Horticultural Society. Admission \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and children 6-17.

Enjoy our Historic House Festival Lecture "The Invisible Irish" on Saturday, Sept. 12, at 4 p.m. If someone asked Maria Bartow in 1860 who lived in her house, she would have answered her husband and three children. But six other people also lived there. They cooked and

cleaned and yet were almost invisible to Maria and others of her class. Who were they? Doug Hearle discusses the Bartow household staff—all from a country suffering from famine and more. Lecture is free with museum admission. Reservation requested. Admission \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and children 6-17.

Travel back in time on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 1 p.m. and enjoy a "base ball match" between the New York Mutuals and the NY Knickerbockers. Both teams play by authentic 1864 rules using replica balls, bats and uniforms—but no helmets or gloves! After the game, kids get to join in the fun with a game of rounders with team members, plus free house tours and a raffle for the game ball. Reservation requested. Admission \$15 adults, \$5 children 6-17; members: \$10 adults, \$3 children 6-17.

On Sunday, Sept. 20, at noon, join us in celebration of our Native American Festival day by attending "Pocahontas: An Algonquin Icon," a fascinating multimedia talk on Pocahontas. Artist, author and scholar Nadema Agard discusses this important historical figure from an Algonquin traditional worldview. Appropriate for both children and adults. Reservation requested. Admission \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and children 6-17.

Garden Clean-Up Volunteer Day will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26. Help us keep the gardens and grounds of Bartow-Pell beautiful by rolling up your sleeves and digging in. A light breakfast will be available. Bring gloves and wear sturdy footwear, long sleeves and pants. Reservation requested. Rain date Sunday, Sept. 27.

Reservations are requested for most events; call 718-885-1461 or e-mail info@bpm.org.

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SUMMER SCENES



Photos by RICK DeWITT and KAREN NANI

The summer of 2009 may have been one of the rainiest on record, but many fun-filled events occurred in spite of the weather. The Blessing of the Fleet set sail on June 28 and the annual fireworks display "The Bronx Salutes America" lit up the sky on July 1 (top photos). The blessing was sponsored by the City Island Power Squadron and the Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post #156, while the fireworks were compliments of State Senator Jeff Klein. Boating activity continued throughout the summer at full speed (even passing mounted police on Orchard Beach!), but some boats took on a little too much water (see bottom photos).





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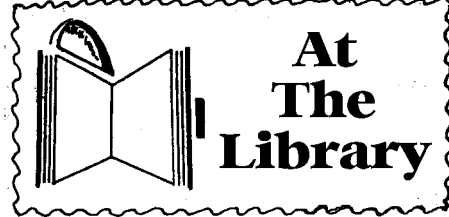


Please Support the American Legion



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.

As fall arrives, there's a lot to hear and see at **Starving Artist Cafe & Gallery** (249 City Island Avenue, 718-885-3779): Friday, Sept. 4, 8 p.m., Duelin' Duos (Pleasant Bud & Jody, PB&J versus Deuces Child); Saturday, Sept. 5, 8 p.m., Kamikaze Karaoke with host "cousin" George Coniglio, where songs are selected at random and judges select prize winners and the first Kamikaze Crooner; Sunday, Sept. 6, 3 p.m., End of Summer BBQ & Musical Jam; Friday, Sept. 11, 8 p.m., 7th Wheel; Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m., Port o' Monkeys, with City Island's own Dr. Chris Wertenbaker; Sunday, Sept. 13, 3 p.m., the YaYas; Friday, Sept. 18, 8 p.m., the Culprit Fay, featuring John Sheridan of City Island; Saturday, Sept. 19, 4 to 6 p.m., the Photographic Art of Madeline Wilson (of City Island); Saturday, Sept. 19, 8 p.m., Donni Fury; Sunday, Sept. 20, 3 p.m., Theresa Sareo, "sweetheart of the Starving Artist"; Friday, Sept. 25, 8 p.m., "Take the Stage" Open Mike (songwriters, comics, poets); Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 p.m., Nicola; Sunday, Sept. 27, 3 p.m., Kat Spina. For more information on these performers or to see the schedule beyond September, visit www.starvingartistonline.com/.



Adult Programs

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

NEW! Resumé writing workshop: Wednesday, Sept. 16, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Children's Activities

Picture Book Program: Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.

Special Event: Ecological Workshop for parents and children, Saturday, Sept. 12, at 12 noon.

Young Adult Programs

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

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

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

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

Special Event: Hip Hop Music and Dance Street Style, Friday, Sept. 18.

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.



Photo courtesy NY PUBLIC LIBRARY

A puppeteer entertained children and their parents at the City Island branch library on Tuesday, Aug. 18, during the final session of the New York State Summer Reading Celebration, the theme of which was "Be Creative at Your Library."

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The Far Side of the Bridge

A Column about
Bronx County
By MICHAEL SHANLEY

GLASS CEILINGS

Dateline: Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009. This morning at 11 a.m., I witnessed history in the making. Sonia Sotomayor was sworn in as the 111th Supreme Court Justice of the United States. Her appointment to the bench makes her the first Hispanic, the third woman and the only Supreme Court justice to rise from poverty to the bench of the highest court in the land. I was overwhelmed with pride as I watched the very brief ceremony.

As the child of poor Puerto Rican immigrants, Sotomayor grew up in the Bronx housing projects in the Soundview section of the southeast Bronx. Poverty was only one of the difficult circumstances Sotomayor had to deal with. At the age of eight, she was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, and at the age of nine her father, Juan Sotomayor, a factory worker, passed away. Her widowed mother, Celina Baez Sotomayor, worked as a practical nurse to support Sonia and her brother Juan.

Celina Sotomayor realized that the key to success was through education, so she sat beside her children every night at the kitchen table and they all studied together; she soon became a registered nurse, which enabled her to send her children to Catholic school. Both Sotomayor children attended Blessed Sacrament School on Beach Avenue from kindergarten through the eighth grade. As a young girl, Sonia loved to read, especially Nancy Drew mysteries, and she yearned to be a police detective. But a doctor who diagnosed her childhood diabetes suggested that this would be difficult. She traded her adoration of Nancy for an allegiance to Perry Mason, the television attorney, and decided to become a lawyer.

As the crime rate rose and the quality of life deteriorated in the southeast Bronx, the Sotomayor family moved to newly opened Co-op City. Sonia attended Cardinal Spellman High School in the Edenwald neighborhood of the Bronx, and she graduated with distinction—and a scholarship to Princeton University. The Ivy League college had only begun accepting women undergraduates three years earlier in 1969. Sonia Sotomayor graduated from Princeton summa cum laude, and from there it was on to Yale Law School, on a full scholarship, where she served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal. Her brother, Juan, went to medical school and became a physician and a professor at Syracuse University.

After graduating from law school, Sonia worked as an assistant district attorney in New York for five years before entering private practice in 1984. She played an active role on the board of directors for the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund. The first President Bush appointed



Sonia Sotomayor

Sotomayor to the federal bench in 1992, and President Clinton elevated her to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in 1998.

As I watched the live broadcast ceremony with my wife and sons, I knew I was witnessing something truly historical and yet so very personal. Here she was, one of us, taking the oath to serve on the highest court of the land. What an extraordinary accomplishment and intriguing life story.

Justice Sotomayor is certainly not the first Bronxite to crack the glass ceiling. Although born in Newburgh, New York, and most identified with Queens County, Geraldine Ferraro spent many of her formative years living in the Bronx. When she was just eight years old, her father passed away unexpectedly. Unable to support her young family in upstate New York, Geraldine's mother decided to sell the family home in Newburgh and relocate the family to the South Bronx. It is here that Geraldine spent much of her youth and teenage years.

After graduating from Marymount Manhattan College, Ferraro became a teacher and then she practiced law. In 1978 she ran successfully for Congress from New York City's 9th District in Queens. On July 12, 1984, Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale tapped her to be his vice-presidential running mate. She was the first woman to run on a major party national ticket in the United States, as well as the first Italian American. Her nomination at the 1984 Democratic National Convention was one of the most emotional moments of the gathering, and the historic occasion was one of the most viewed televised events at the time.

In her acceptance speech, Geraldine Ferraro said, "The daughter of an immigrant from Italy has been chosen to run for vice president in the new land my father came to love." Convention attendees were in tears during the speech, not just for its significance for women but for all those who had immigrated to America. The ticket lost, but her candidacy forever reshaped the American political and social landscape. From 1993 until 1996, Geraldine Ferraro served the Clinton administration as a United States Ambassador to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

Another crack in the glass ceiling was made by Colin Powell, who grew up in the Longwood neighborhood of the South Bronx, and he graduated from Morris High



Colin Powell

School, the first high school in the Bronx and the original New York City Public High School created by the school reform act of 1896. He got his B.A. degree from City College, which was tuition-free at the time. In the administration of President Jimmy Carter, Powell was an assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense and to the Secretary of Energy. In 1991, as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under President George H. W. Bush, he became a national figure during the successful Desert Shield and Desert Storm operations, which expelled the Iraqi army from Kuwait. In 2001, newly elected President George W. Bush appointed Colin Powell to be Secretary of State, which at the time was the highest rank ever held by a black American in the United States government.

Another trailblazer was Bella Abzug, who was also born, raised and educated in the Bronx. She attended Walton High School and Hunter College (now Lehman College), where she served as the first female student body president. After graduating from Hunter College, she went on to Columbia University Law School, where she was one of a minuscule number of women law students across the nation. After passing the New York State Bar, Bella Abzug then worked as an attorney for the next 25 years, specializing in labor, tenant and civil rights cases. During the McCarthy era, she was one of only a few attorneys willing to fight against the House Un-American Activities Committee.

In the 1960s, she was a founding member of Women Strike for Peace and became an important voice against the Vietnam War and nuclear testing. In 1970, at the age of 50, she ran for Congress on a strong feminist and peace platform and became the first Jewish woman ever elected to the House of Representatives. After three terms in Congress, her record of accomplishments demonstrated her unshakable convictions as an anti-war activist, a fighter for social and economic justice and a powerful voice for the underserved. At the time she was considered one of the three most influential members in the House of Representatives. Bella Abzug wrote the first law banning discrimination against women in obtaining credit, credit cards, loans and mortgages, and she introduced pioneering bills on comprehensive child care, Social Security for homemakers, family planning and abortion rights. In 1975 she introduced an amendment to the Civil Rights Act to include gay and lesbian rights, the first of its kind, and she also wrote progressive legislation for people with disabilities.

In 1977 Bella Abzug presided over the historic first National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas, and then headed President Carter's National Advisory Committee on Women. In 1990 she became an increasingly influential leader at the United Nations and at UN world conferences, working to empower woman around the globe. She gave her final speech before the UN in 1998 and died soon after at the age of 77.



Rosalyn Yalow

Another Bronxite who cracked the glass ceiling is Rosalyn Sussman Yalow. She was born and raised in the Kingsbridge neighborhood, and she too attended Walton High School and Hunter College (now Lehman College). It was there that she developed an interest in physics. Because she knew how to type, she obtained a part-time job with a leading biochemist at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. Rosalyn Sussman graduated from Hunter in 1941 but as it was virtually impossible for a woman to get into a good graduate school and receive financial aid, she studied stenography and took a job as a secretary with another top biochemist at Columbia University.

Because enrollment in universities declined sharply during World War II, universities began offering scholarships to women rather than closing down. Rosalyn Sussman took two tuition-free physics courses at New York University's Bronx campus and accepted a teaching assistantship in physics at the University of Illinois, where she was the only woman in the 400-member department. It was there, in 1943, that she met and married fellow student Aron Yalow. Two years later, in 1945, Rosalyn Sussman Yalow was the first woman to receive a PhD from the University of Illinois.

After graduating, she returned to the Bronx and joined the Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital to help set up its radioisotope service. Together with Solomon Berson, she developed RIA, a radioisotope tracing technique that allows the measurement of tiny quantities of various biological substances in the blood. Thanks to their discovery, we now can screen blood-donor supplies for hepatitis and other harmful diseases, treat hormone-related health problems, detect foreign substances and some cancers in the blood, and gauge effective dosage levels of antibiotics and drugs. Despite its huge commercial potential, Yalow and Berson refused to patent the method.

In 1968 Rosalyn Yalow was appointed Research Professor in the Department of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital. In 1975 she received the American Medical Association's Scientific Achievement Award, and the following year she became the first female recipient of the Albert Lasker Award for Medical Research. In 1977 Rosalyn Sussman Yalow received the Nobel Prize, the second woman to ever win the coveted prize in medicine. In 1988 she was the recipient of the National Medal of Science. Dr. Yalow lives in the same house in Riverdale that she bought when she first began working at the Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital in the 1940s.

The achievements of these Bronxites should serve as an inspiration and a source of pride, not just for residents of the Bronx, but for all those who strive to achieve beyond conventional boundaries and limitations. Because of hard work, devoted parents and respect for education, these children of immigrants from humble beginnings and challenging life circumstances managed to break through the invisible barrier known as the glass ceiling that keeps qualified people from advancing and paves the way for others to reach their potential.

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



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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

SEPTEMBER

Sat., and Sun., Sept. 12 and 13, **Arts and Crafts Fair** sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. City Island Avenue.

Sat., Sept. 12, **Sunset Cruise**, sponsored by Temple Beth-El, 6:30 p.m. sailing from 551 City Island Avenue.

Sat., Sept. 26, **POTS Program**, St. Mary's Schoolyard, Minneford Avenue and Kilroe Street, drop-off between 4:30 and 5 p.m. Menu: sausage and peppers with potatoes.

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

OCTOBER

Fri., Oct. 2, Sat., Oct. 3, 12 noon to 6 p.m. and Sun., Oct. 4, 12 noon to 5 p.m., **Pumpkin Sale at the American Legion**.

Sat., Oct. 24, **Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner**, Lido Restaurant, City Island Avenue at Pilot Street.

High Holy Days Services Schedule

Rosh Hashana evenings: Friday, Sept. 18, and Saturday, Sept. 19, at 8 p.m.

Rosh Hashana mornings: Saturday, Sept. 19, and Sunday, Sept. 20, at 9:30 a.m. Tashlich Service will take place at noon on Sundays (children invited).

Yom Kippur evening: Sunday, Sept. 27, at 6:30 p.m. with Kol Nidre.

Yom Kippur day: Monday, Sept. 28, at 9:30 a.m. with the Rabbi's sermon starting at approximately at 10:30 a.m. and Yizcor near 10:45 a.m.

Yom Kippur closing service: Monday, Sept. 28, at 5:30 p.m.

Shabbat/Sukkot Celebration: Friday, Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat/Simchat Torah Celebration: Friday, Oct. 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Rabbi Shohama Wiener will lead the services with Cantor Elaine Faver's assistance. For information, contact Mort or Violet Ellis at 718-885-2820.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Our worship service and Sunday school (which will reopen on Sept. 13) begin at 10 a.m. Bring your children for Sunday school to further their knowledge of the teachings of Jesus Christ. We often have a coffee hour after the service. Please come and join us for worship and fellowship.

The Reverend Susan Chadwick will lead a 10-week Bible study on the Book of Genesis, beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 2. All are welcome. The study will be held in Fellowship Hall at 7:30 p.m.

The Budget Shop will be open on Sept. 15, 19 and 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A plea to all City Islanders: We are still in need of a volunteer to lead the Budget Shop behind the scenes. You do not need to be a member of Trinity. Please call Jay Howard (718-885-2192) to volunteer. The Budget Shop is our main fund-raiser, and we really need help. Please call Myra Martin at 718-885-1049 or Ellie Hebard at 718-518-7241 to review the responsibilities of the behind-the-scenes leader. We will both be working with you to help out. A working crew has already been established but we need a leader.

Don't forget to mark your calendar that our annual food sale will take place on Oct. 3. We will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the front of the church.

A group Bible study will meet this fall for five Sunday sessions in Fellowship Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (sharp), beginning on Sunday, Oct. 25, through Nov. 22.

This group will continue a previous study of the Apostle Paul's New Testament Second Letter to the Corinthians to

complete the study with chapters 8 through 13. The theme is: "Paul, Apostle for Open Hearts, Part 11." A subject-by-subject, verse-by-verse study of the text, with discussions and teachings will focus on the subjects presented by the text.

George Cavaleri, Trinity's Lay Leader/Speaker, will be moderator. No registration is required and all materials are provided. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you have attended previously. For further information, if needed, call Reverend Susan Chadwick at 718-885-1218.

Ellen G. Hebard

St. Mary, Star of the Sea

In early September, we bid good-bye to Father Alexander Iheonunekwu, who has been with us for the months of July and August. He will return to his parish work as pastor of St. Matthias Parish in Nigeria. We wish him Godspeed.

St. Mary's School will officially open on Tuesday, Sept. 8, when the faculty will gather for the opening Conference Day. Students will report on Wednesday, Sept. 9. We hope the year will be an enriching and challenging one for all.

St. Mary's Thrift Shop will reopen on Wednesday, Sept. 17. Come and check out all the fall selections.

Our religious education program will begin on Thursday, Sept. 23, with grades 1 through 3 meeting from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and grades 4 through 7 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Registration for first-grade students and for others who are new to the program will take place after all the Masses on Sunday, Sept. 13, in the vestibule of the church. New students must bring a copy of their baptismal certificates. All former students should have registered by that time by mailing in the form or bringing it to the rectory. Only new students will be registered on Sept. 13.

On Saturday, Sept. 26, we will hold our annual outdoor Mass in St. Mary's School yard. A light supper will follow the liturgy. This is always a festive occasion, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Our monthly holy hour will resume on Friday, Oct. 2, from 4 to 5 p.m.

Sr. Bernadette, osu

AARP Chapter #318

AARP Chapter #318 will hold the first meeting of the season on Sept. 3 at 1 p.m. at Trinity Methodist Church on Bay Street.

All are welcome and we look forward to recruiting new members. If you know people who are not members, invite them to join us at our first meeting.

We look forward to an exciting new year. We have some interesting speakers coming to the meeting and will be planning some new trips.

Carmelia A. Ramftl

Garden Club News

We have been very busy this spring and summer, and there is a lot to tell you about and to show you. None of it would have been possible without the generosity of City Islanders, however. Your donations to our annual Beautification Drive have enabled us to accomplish a record number of projects this year, so we thank you, and we hope you enjoy the results of your contributions.

In addition to hiring a landscape gardener to help us with some of the projects, we have hired some maintenance people to keep the sites both watered and weeded and looking beautiful.

First, the American Legion Memorial Triangle (northeast side of City Island Avenue near the bridge) has been cleaned, weeded and planted with perennials to provide ongoing beauty to this spot.

Next, there was a very neglected garden at the beginning of the Catherine Scott Promenade (northwest side of City Island Avenue near the bridge), which we cleaned



Photos by BARBARA HARRISON KAYE

Veterans Memorial Park



New plantings on Catherine Scott Promenade



City Island Nautical Museum

and replanted with perennials.

We also put some new plantings by the City Island Welcome Sign, which is further south on the Scott Promenade, and this should keep it looking lovely through all seasons.

The Brotherhood Tree at the southernmost part of the Promenade also received an extensive facelift.

The City Island Nautical Museum in the old P.S. 17 building at 190 Fordham Street received the most extensive upgrade. First we did a considerable amount of pruning and weeding, then we planted perennials along the fence and the walkways. We are delighted with the result and hope you will drop by to visit the Museum (now open Saturday and Sunday afternoons) and appreciate the beautiful grounds.

We continue to purchase planters for the corners along City Island Avenue in this joint project with the Quality of Life Committee of the City Island Civic Association, which undertakes the actual placing and plantings. They are a perfect unifying addition to the "village" area of City Island.



City Island Avenue

Although it is moving slowly, progress is being made with the refurbishing of Hawkins Park. We have not yet heard from the Parks Department when the project will be completed, but we hope it is before the snow flies.

Along with these projects and the "good works" projects we undertake with Providence Rest Home and our annual Christmas wreath placements on public buildings on City Island, we have had a busy year.

Barbara Harrison Kaye



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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Open House: Saturday Sept. 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free classes and demos throughout the day. Please come by and check out your Community Center. Early bird membership special for 2010. Bake sale, raffles, indoor playground.

NEW CLASS

Guitar Lessons: Beginner to intermediate, all ages. If you have a passion for learning to play the guitar or just want to brush up on some skills and take it to the next level, I am passionate about taking on new students! I am a working pro with many years of real world experience and currently doing some tour dates. I will work with you to achieve your goals, whether it's the basics or learning how to improvise! Learn while you are having fun! I am available for group or private lessons. Group lessons are \$20 per student for 45 minutes (minimum 4 and maximum 6 students per class). Individual lessons are \$40 for 45 minutes. All students will need to bring an acoustic guitar for their lesson. Please call Dave at 914-400-6153.

Weekly Schedule

YOUTH PROGRAM

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

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

ADULT PROGRAM

Yoga Class with Vincenza: Yoga Instructor certified by Synergy Yoga Center of Miami. Tuesday nights at 7:30. Ashtanga Yoga; all levels welcome. Please bring a yoga mat. For more info please call 917-440-3618.

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

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

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

Aerobics with Mary: Monday, Wednesday and Friday: half-hour low impact at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, Monday, Wednesday,

Friday and Saturday: 9 to 10 a.m. Call Mary Immediato at 718-885-0793.

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

FAMILY PROGRAM & MIXED AGE GROUPS

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

Chess Club: Thursday 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.

City Island Physical Therapy: Licensed physical therapist with private office space. For an appointment, call Janine Mantzaris at 917-577-1752.

Amy Gottlieb

PSS Healthy Senior Exercise Program

Everyone is welcome to join the following sessions at Grace Church Hall: Monday, 10 a.m. Sittercise with Patty; Tuesday, 10 a.m. Cardio Fitness with Mary; Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Yoga Stretch with Michael; Friday, 10 a.m. Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program with Patty; and Wednesday Orchard Beach Walk with the City Island van leaving Pilot Street at 9:30 a.m. The Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program is free; the suggested contribution for other classes is \$2. All programs begin Sept. 1, except for Monday's Sittercise, which begins on Sept. 14 and Friday's Arthritis exercise, which begins Sept. 18. Call Tony at 347-834-6466 for transportation to all programs and for a schedule of afternoon shopping trips. Call Patty at 718-885-1891 or at 914-882-9578 for further information. Programs are funded by Presbyterian Senior Services, the NYC Department for the Aging and the Arthritis Foundation.

Pat Grondahl

Legion News

With the summer almost behind us, we look forward to the myriad fall activities at the Post. We will celebrate the 90th birthday of the Post on Saturday, Nov. 21, at the famous Lido Restaurant. Save the date. Details will be announced shortly.

The annual clambake was held at the Post on Saturday Aug. 8. We were blessed with good weather for the festivities, which were catered by the World of Foods. Some of you might recall the debacle of the shrunken corned beef some years ago; the commander decided not to take a chance on shrinking lobsters. Some 140 people attended the dinner, and John Hanlon and his band of renown provided the music. Comrade Joseph Goonan, SAL member James Livingston and a committee of Post stalwarts

REGULAR MEETINGS

Weekly Twelve-Step Meetings on City Island

Narcotics Anonymous:

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous:

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

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

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

labored to make the party a success.

A 50/50 raffle held for the benefit of Steve Schmitz was won by Lauren Chernin, wife of City Island restaurateur Sam Chernin. Lauren donated her winnings, which I've heard through the grapevine were most generous, to Steve.

The Sons of the Legion will sponsor the first annual Vinny Hecker fishing trip on Saturday, Sept 12. Tickets for this event will be \$75 and will include transportation and a gala barbecue at the Post around 5 p.m. For those not wanting to fish at Vinny's favorite fishing hole, they can just attend the barbecue for \$20.

Comrade Treat said that dues are now payable for next year.

I have not spoke with Comrade Shipp as of late, but I'm told that everything is shipshape.

The annual pumpkin sale will take place Friday, Oct. 2, through Sunday, Oct. 4, beginning at 12 noon each day. Volunteers are always welcome.

Sick call: We are happy to report that comrade John Ulmer is home after an 11-week sojourn in the hospital. John said that he lost much of his muscle tissue and has embarked on a rebuilding program. Buddy Pontecorvo will have some knee surgery to improve his mobility. Comrade Michael Jawski will also have some corrective surgery done early in September. Keep them in your prayers.

Dave Carman said that a local woman in her late autumn years inquired at the garage about senior citizen's day. Dave informed the hapless lady that every day at Dave's is senior's day.

And from "Uncle Sam's Clam Diggers," published August 1944: "Good news, boys! Robert Branizza, who was reported missing in action in our last issue, has since been listed as a prisoner of war in Germany. So your prayers have been answered."

Meetings for October are: regular meeting Monday, Sept. 21, executive board meeting Monday, Sept. 14.

At ease until October,

Russell Schaller, Sgt. Emeritus

Grace Episcopal Church

In 2009 Grace Church celebrates 160 years of mission and ministry on City Island, and we are here for you! You will be warmly welcomed at all of our regular weekly worship services, which are as follows: Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at 10 a.m.; evening prayer is offered every Monday at 7 p.m., and morning prayer is offered every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Here is an overview of what is happening at Grace Church during September and early October:

Sunday, Sept. 6, 10 a.m.: "Mass on the Grass." Weather permitting, we will gather us in the Grace Courtyard for a special outdoor Eucharist. (If it rains we will be inside, as usual.)

Sunday, Sept. 13: "Homecoming Sunday." Join us for our regular 10 a.m. worship (with children's Church School), followed by an all-parish picnic in the courtyard at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Friday, Sept. 11, 9 to 11 a.m.: Church open for prayer

Thursday, Sept. 17, 9:30 a.m.: Memorial service on Hart Island/Potter's Field. Please contact Mother Patty Alexander by Monday, Sept. 7 if you would like to take part.

Sunday, Sept. 27, 12 noon: Bolton lecture and Champagne brunch. David Fraser, Senior Conservator at the Brooklyn Stained Glass Conservation Center, will lecture on Grace's Bolton Altar Window and the Bolton stained-glass legacy. Everyone is welcome! RSVP to the Parish Office at 718-885-1080.

Sunday, Oct. 4, 12 noon: Blessing of the Animals. All pets (four-legged, winged, scaled and finned) are invited to come to the Grace courtyard for a special blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. In the interest of peacekeeping, we do ask that attendees be leashed, caged, or otherwise appropriately restrained!

Rev. Patricia Alexander

City Island Theater Group

To close out the City Island Theater Group's triumphant 10th anniversary season, the group will present the always popular "Festival of One-Act Plays." CITG is thrilled to present original and published comedies and dramas that are sure to be crowd-pleasers. The festival will take place over two weekends in October, and each weekend will feature a different set of plays!

The one-act plays that will be performed are: "Anything for You" by Cathy Celesia; "Canker Sores and Other Distractions" by Christopher Durang; "Chocolate" by Frederick Stoppel; "The Chocolate Affair" by Stephanie Alison Walker; "DMV Tyrant" by Christopher Durang; "The M Word" by Alan Ball; "The Man Who Couldn't Dance" by Jason Katims; "Naked Mole Rats in the World of Darkness" by Mike Folie; "Post-Its (Notes on a Marriage)" by Paul Dooley and Winnie Holzman; "Pride of Place" by Donald Steele; "Rosa's Eulogy" by Richard Strand; "Set for Life" by Islander Bob Mulroy; "Unmade Bed" by CITG board member Frank Siciliano; "Variations on the Death of Trotsky" by David Ives; "The Woman Who Wanted Her Husband" by Rich Orloff adapted from the short play "A Matter of Husbands" by Ferenc Molnar.

Don't miss what are sure to be two memorable weekends of great theater! The performance dates are: Oct. 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25. Call 718-885-3066 or visit www.cityislandtheatergroup.com to reserve your tickets! See you at the theater!

Nick Sala

City Island Republicans

We are happy to report that City Island qualified all of our election districts with enough signatures. All of the candidates got on the ballot, and once again we have a full slate of candidates. The party chairman reported that for the first time in anyone's recent memory, every area of the Bronx qualified and thus all of the candidates are on the ballot.

The City Island Republicans encourage everyone to make their voice heard in the current health care debate by contacting Congressman Crowley and Senators Schumer and Gillibrand to inform them of your thoughts.

The next meeting of the City Island Republicans will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion Post, 550 City Island Avenue.

Fred Ramftl, Jr.

Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 156

The squadron will be sponsoring the first annual Vinnie Hecker Memorial Fishing Trip on Saturday, Sept. 12, at 8 a.m. The trip will be held on board Chris Cullen's award-winning Island Current Fleet. After the trip at around 4 p.m., a barbecue will follow back at the Post. The trip, including the barbecue, is \$75, and the barbecue alone is \$20.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 8 p.m. at the Post.

Just a reminder: 2009 dues are past due. If you have not paid, please do so as soon as possible since we will be collecting for 2010 in another month or so.

Any male descendant of a veteran who served during the American Legion's set time periods of any age is eligible to join. Our dues are \$30, \$8 for those under 18. Anyone interested can call the Post at 718-885-0639 and ask for Fred, or just stop by.

Our Post's 90th anniversary celebration will coincide with the annual servicemen's dinner on Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Lido. Further details will follow soon. Sponsorships for tables are being accepted for \$100.

Fred Ramftl, Jr.

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VBS SPELLS FUN!



Photos by JEAN DALTON and the REV. PATRICIA ALEXANDER

Children from City Island's three churches enjoyed stories, games, crafts and the ever-popular pony rides during the fifth annual ecumenical Vacation Bible School, held from June 29 to July 2 at Trinity Methodist Church. The theme of this year's VBS, led by Pastor Sue Chadwick, Mother Patty Alexander and Stephen Marcus, was "Madagascar."

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Before E-Mail

Letter writing is an art that has been around for millennia. Two classics from the 1940s are about "pen pals." **The Shop Around the Corner** (1940) stars James Stewart and Margaret Sullavan as two people anonymously writing letters to each other through a post office box, when one responds to an ad placed by the other and they, unknowingly, start working in the same small department store. This film was remade in 1949 as **In the Good Old Summertime** with Judy Garland and Van Johnson in the same roles, except that this time, it was a music shop, which provided a wonderful excuse to have Judy sing. These are charming, feel-good films.

The oldest of the classic films in this category is a perfect example of film noir. **The Letter** (1940) stars Bette Davis as Leslie, a woman who lives with her husband (Herbert Marshall) on a rubber plantation in Singapore. The film begins when Leslie murders a man, ostensibly in self-defense. Leslie thinks she has gotten away with it, but the man's widow (Gale Sondergaard), an exotic Eurasian woman, has an incriminating letter. The film is shot in exquisite black and white, with exceptional use of light, shadows and the full moon, enhanced by an eerily dramatic musical score by Max Steiner.

Another example of a letter that makes several people unhappy occurs in **A Letter to Three Wives** (1949). Three friends, Deborah (Jeanne Crain), Lora Mae (Linda Darnell) and Rita (Ann Sothern), all receive a letter from a mutual acquaintance who writes that she has run off with one of their husbands. Over the course of the film, we learn each woman's marital history, as we try to guess who will be left alone at the end.

In **Love Letters** (1984), Anna Winter (Jamie Lee Curtis), an up-and-coming radio celebrity, discovers her dead mother's letters, which reveal she had been having an affair with Oliver (James Keach), a married man who will never leave his wife. This is a character study in which Anna struggles to reconcile her feelings about her own behav-

ior as well as her mother's.

A movie with a similar title is the 1999 version of **The Love Letter**, which has a charming ensemble cast. Set in a New England village, Helen (Kate Capshaw) runs the town book store; Janet (Ellen DeGeneres) is her bookkeeper; Lillian (Blythe Danner) is Helen's mother, and George (Tom Selleck) is the town firefighter. Someone writes a love letter to "Dearest," which mistakenly goes from person to person, enabling each cast member to let his or her fantasies run wild. The identity of the one who actually wrote the letter turns out to be an unexpected delight.

Letters cross back and forth across the "pond" in **84 Charing Cross Road** (1987). Set right after World War II, this is the story of Helene (Anne Bancroft), an American woman who loves to read and starts ordering inexpensive books from a British bookstore managed by Frank (Anthony Hopkins), who is married to Nora (Judi Dench). The correspondence between Helene and Frank makes up the entire bittersweet film.

In a more comedic endeavor, **Dear God** (1996) stars Greg Kinnear as Tom Turner, a con man who deals with the boredom of working in a postal dead letter office by reading mail sent to God, Santa and Elvis. When Tom decides to answer a letter, his co-workers Rebecca (Laurie Metcalf), Herman (Tim Conway) and Vladek (Hector Elizondo) are swept up into answering some prayers.

A not-so-well-known classic is **Dear Ruth** (1947), a World War II romantic comedy in which a soldier, Lt. William Seacroft (William Holden), comes home to meet the young woman, Ruth (Joan Caulfield), who, he believes, has been writing him letters. It turns out that her adolescent younger sister, Miriam (Mona Freeman), was actually writing the letters as part of the war effort, but she sent Ruth's picture instead of her own.

Letter-writing is also explored in two extraordinarily powerful and moving dramas, **Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam** (1988) and **Letters from Iwo Jima** (2006). The first unforgettable film is made up solely of television news footage, movies the soldiers took themselves, and their words in letters saved by their loved ones. The second is the story of the battle between the United States and Imperial Japan in Iwo Jima during World War II, as told from the perspective of the Japanese soldiers there. This Clint Eastwood film was critically acclaimed and nominated for Academy Awards for best picture, director and screenplay.

And until next time, happy viewing. . .



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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.



Margaret Treanor

Margaret Treanor

Margaret Treanor passed away on June 21, 2009, at the age of 97 after a short illness. Born in Ireland, she was a resident of City Island for more than 30 years.

She was the wife of the late Patrick Treanor and mother of William Treanor, also of City Island, and of Kathleen Tashner and Mary Martingale, who survive her.

Margaret's greatest pleasure in recent years was being a loving grandmother to five children and great-grandmother to six.

Marjorie DeCandido

Marjorie DeCandido, a lifelong resident of City Island, passed away on June 26, 2009, at the age of 86.

Margie was born on April 1, 1923, and attended St. Mary, Star of the Sea School and Walton High School.

Wearing her familiar visor, she was well known on City Island. She would regularly walk from her house near Bowne Street to the Morris Yacht Club to play cards with her friends, Flo, Joan, Ethel and Ellen, and then walk back home. She would also go to the Lina Petite beauty parlor to see Lina and get her hair done.

Margie was predeceased by her husband, Murray, and her son, "Bro." She is survived by her daughter, Vicky Koller and her son-in-law, Steve Koller; her daughter-in-law, Louise DeCandido; four grandsons; four great-granddaughters, and two great-grandsons.

Ann Domidion

Former Islander Ann Domidion passed away on July 12, 2009, in Clearwater, Florida.

Ann had grown up and lived with her parents, sisters and brother for many years at 96 Reynolds Street. She graduated from P.S. 17 around 1937, according to her friend Doris Klein Lechook.

She became a teacher and taught for several years overseas in Indonesia and other countries.

For further information about Ann, write to William Borgersen at Borgersen, Low & Associates, 2530 West Bay Drive, Largo, Florida 33770.

Georgene Collins Hannon

Georgene Collins Hannon, who was born and brought up on City Island, died at her home in New Bern, N.C. on Aug. 7, 2009. She was 79.

After graduating from Hunter College, Georgene Collins moved to Washington, D.C., where she met and married her husband, Stuart L. Hannon. They moved to New Bern in 1982 and enjoyed extensive travel. Mrs. Hannon became a member of the New Bern Planning Board, the Craven Arts Council, Public Radio East, the English Speaking Union and the Scottish Heritage Society.

Predeceased by her husband, Mrs. Hannon is survived by her sister, Ruth Collins of City Island, and many friends and cousins.

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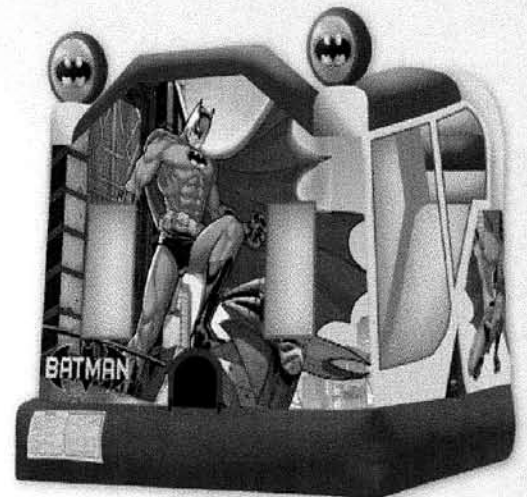
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Heights in feet above soundings printed on charts of water adjacent to City Island. Times shown are nautical times. For times on the table beginning with 1300, subtract 1200 to get ordinary PM time (e.g., 1625 - 1200 = 4:25 P.M.). Times less than 1200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

SEPTEMBER 2009

DAY	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	DAY
	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	HH MM	FEET	
01 Tue	0432	0.91	1033	7.44	1642	1.15	2251	7.77	Tue 01
02 Wed	0511	0.78	1112	7.61	1719	0.92	2328	7.80	Wed 02
03 Thu	0543	0.68	1145	7.72	1750	0.70	2355	7.78	Thu 03
04 Fri	0607	0.58	1204	7.80	1813	0.49			Fri 04
05 Sat	0010	7.75	0621	0.46	1216	7.94	1836	0.28	Sat 05
06 Sun	0030	7.77	0643	0.33	1241	8.13	1906	0.13	Sun 06
07 Mon	0101	7.76	0714	0.26	1315	8.30	1942	0.09	Mon 07
08 Tue	0139	7.69	0752	0.30	1354	8.37	2024	0.17	Tue 08
09 Wed	0222	7.53	0834	0.46	1438	8.33	2110	0.38	Wed 09
10 Thu	0309	7.29	0921	0.72	1528	8.16	2203	0.68	Thu 10
11 Fri	0403	7.01	1014	1.05	1623	7.90	2305	0.99	Fri 11
12 Sat	0505	6.77	1115	1.35	1727	7.63			Sat 12
13 Sun	0029	1.16	0620	6.69	1233	1.48	1843	7.48	Sun 13
14 Mon	0217	0.96	0800	6.92	1427	1.22	2023	7.60	Mon 14
15 Tue	0325	0.52	0918	7.42	1543	0.62	2141	7.93	Tue 15
16 Wed	0421	0.05	1015	7.95	1642	-0.03	2239	8.23	Wed 16
17 Thu	0511	-0.35	1105	8.39	1735	-0.56	2330	8.40	Thu 17
18 Fri	0558	-0.59	1151	8.67	1824	-0.89			Fri 18
19 Sat	0018	8.40	0643	-0.64	1235	8.77	1912	-0.98	Sat 19
20 Sun	0103	8.25	0725	-0.50	1318	8.70	1958	-0.83	Sun 20
21 Mon	0148	7.97	0806	-0.20	1400	8.47	2045	-0.48	Mon 21
22 Tue	0234	7.61	0846	0.23	1444	8.13	2133	0.01	Tue 22
23 Wed	0323	7.23	0925	0.72	1532	7.75	2225	0.54	Wed 23
24 Thu	0418	6.89	1008	1.22	1628	7.37	2322	1.03	Thu 24
25 Fri	0522	6.67	1107	1.66	1740	7.09			Fri 25
26 Sat	0022	1.39	0627	6.62	1226	1.93	1850	6.99	Sat 26
27 Sun	0122	1.55	0728	6.73	1334	1.97	1952	7.04	Sun 27
28 Mon	0217	1.55	0823	6.96	1432	1.81	2046	7.18	Mon 28
29 Tue	0306	1.42	0912	7.23	1522	1.53	2134	7.34	Tue 29
30 Wed	0349	1.23	0956	7.47	1606	1.19	2216	7.46	Wed 30
OCTOBER 2009									
01 Thu	0426	1.03	1032	7.66	1643	0.84	2251	7.53	Thu 01
02 Fri	0455	0.82	1059	7.82	1715	0.50	2316	7.57	Fri 02
03 Sat	0516	0.62	1114	8.00	1742	0.20	2335	7.61	Sat 03



ODDS AND ENDS

For this month's column, we play a bit of catch-up. That is, some of the loose ends that have been brought to our attention since we began reprinting the old New York Times article about City Island are herein addressed.

A few months ago, we wrote about the connection between City Island and the Lindbergh kidnapping case. We wrote then about Jenny Barton—who was "the capable young office assistant to" Jafsie, the go-between for Lindbergh and the kidnapper—and her shop on City Island Avenue, but we could not be certain of its location. Well, a number of readers have confirmed what we believed: that Ms. Barton's place was indeed the old pizza place near the northwest corner of City Island Avenue and Fordham Street.

A few more months ago, we wrote about the mysterious swirling in the water between Fordham Street and Tier Street. We wrote then that while our best guess was seals, we couldn't be sure. Since then, there have been numerous dolphin sightings in Long Island Sound, as well as news reports of whales in and around New York City. For example, the New York Post reported in September of '08 that hundreds of right whales, fin whales and humpback whales either commute or make their home near the city. Moreover, in Febru-

ary of '09 a sperm whale calf washed up on the beach at Breezy Point and then died.

So, who knows, maybe those swirls really were whales, after all, as Ken continues to maintain.

Jordan from Hawkins Street has officially served notice on the snapper population of Eastchester Bay. He caught his first fish ever on his second cast! Next, he proceeded to show the adults around him how to catch fish without casting. In all, Jordan caught ten snappers in about half an hour. And, finally, because he is a little boy with a big heart, Jordan let his fish go.

That was some storm we had last month. There was at least one near miss we are aware of. Although furious wind and rain can make for quite the spectacle, they are still furious and should be respected as such. Take care out there. And watch out for the squirrels! A nest of squirrels was blown out of a tree on Bay Street. Maria found them on a lawn there and placed them beneath a tree containing a very interested adult squirrel on a branch. A short while later all the squirrels were gone.

Those readers interested in greening the planet should consider learning to sail this fall. Some of the best sailing of the year will take place this September and October. Imagine getting from here to there without fossil fuels.

Every so often a bomb of some sort is detonated on Rodman's neck that has to make you wonder. Where did that one come from? Who's responsible? And then when you're finished wondering, you thank your lucky stars that we have the NYPD looking after us.

If you have a tidbit you'd like to bring to our attention, you can do so at jdsstrat@msn.com. Or if the USPS is your speed, we can be reached c/o *The Island Current*, P.O. 6, Bronx NY 10464.

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Police Control Traffic

Continued from page 1

consistent and that motorcyclists were still speeding after 2 a.m. when the police activity tailed off for the evening.

At a meeting held in July at Councilman Jimmy Vacca's office with the Civic Association and the police department, all agreed that this effort has provided a substantial improvement in the summer traffic situation. They agreed to monitor the plan in place and then meet again after the summer to assess the actions taken and determine if any improvements can be made to the plan for next summer.

If you have an opinion about the increased police activity, voice it at the next Civic Association meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center or send a message to the traffic committee on the association's website www.civic.org. You can also send an e-mail to the 45th Precinct at cao45pct@aol.com.

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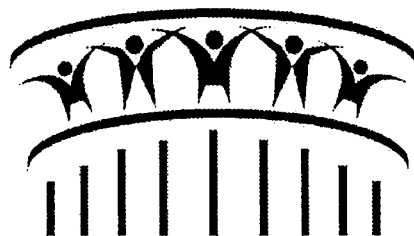
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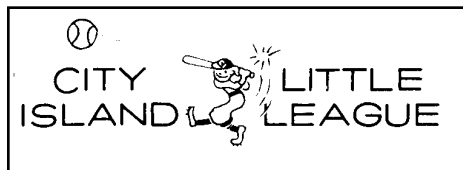
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Photo by GINA DIMARCO

2009 City Island Little League All Stars.



The 2009 season ended with great fanfare. Our trophy day ceremony was on June 27, 2009, and all the players in t-ball, minor and majors divisions received trophies. The members of the Juniors Travel Team, managed by Charlie Kreig and coached by Keith Kreig, received City Island Little League windbreakers. The City Island Little League dedicated the clubhouse to the late Frank Sena. The talented All Star team played a nail-biting game, and the team is captured by Gina DiMarco in the above photograph. In addition to all the ceremonies, there was a circus-like atmosphere in that there was a moonwalk and pony rides for the community to enjoy, cotton candy galore, tasty hot dogs and refreshing drinks courtesy of City Island Little League. Thank you, Kristin McGonaghy, for arranging all these fun activities!

Sammy's Fish box, managed by Larry Saulnier, got two wins in the month of June. On this team there was great pitching by Nick Bellocchio, Patrick Lagos, Ryan Herrera-Murphy and Austin Cottam. Both Connor Saulnier and Michael Bellocchio were solid hitters throughout the season.

The American Legion played Jack's Bait and Tackle in the championship round. American Legion won a hard fought series. Danny Pirraglia, Mikey Pirraglia and

Anthony Orzo pitched the team to victory. Estefano Torres, Danny Pirraglia and Nick Texidor were the hitting stars. Anthony Gonzalez made the game-winning catch at third base with the tying run on base. The entire team played well and worked hard to prepare all year long. Once again, practice is the key to success!

Also, the City Island tournament team played Paramus travel team in an exhibition game at Ambrosini field. City Island powered their way to a 12-10 come-from-behind win. Home runs by Nick Connolly and Nick Bellocchio, as well as clutch hitting by Chris DiMarco, were the key to their success. The tournament team went on to play two games in an attempt to make their way to the Little League World Series that takes place in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, they did not win despite strong hitting and pitching.

The slugger report from this past season was as follows: Nicholas Connolly led the way with 13 home runs followed by Nick Bellocchio with 6, Danny Pirraglia with 3, Chris DiMarco with 1 and Dylan Bernard with 1. Congratulations to our esteemed sluggers! Of course, they are all trying to beat the record of the famous Islander Robert Pirraglia, who powered 15 home runs in 2008.

On a final note, a tremendous thank you to all our hard-working coaches and volunteers in our concession stand who dedicated their time and attention to our youth throughout this past season!

Sally Page Connolly

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

Belated 50th birthday greetings across the miles to Georg Weyand, who celebrated his big day on Aug. 4.

Happy birthday(s) on Sept. 12 to Bay Street residents Jean Anderson, Ben DiGregorio and Bob Swieciki.

Best wishes for continued happiness to Bay Street's Ben and Virginia DiGregorio, who will celebrate 61 years of marriage on Sept. 5.

Happy 23rd birthday wishes across the miles to Stephen Swieciki, who celebrates his big day on Sept. 2.

Happy 26th anniversary greetings to Marine Street's Ann and Chuck Butterworth, who will toast each other on Sept. 11.

Happy birthday to Pilot Cove's Ulla Brennen, who will celebrate her 70th birth-

day on Sept. 14, with love from her children and grandchildren.

Happy birthday wishes to Minneford Avenue's Tina Ruggiero on Sept. 28, with love from your family and friends.

Very special birthday greetings to the Sailmaker's Ann McGuire, who turns 80 on Sept. 5.

Happy Sweet 16 birthday wishes to our beautiful Marissa Ferris, who will celebrate her big day on Sept. 8. We hope all your birthday wishes come true this year and for all the years to come. You are the best daughter anyone could hope for and we love you very much. Mom, Joey, Jake and your family.

Happy birthday across the miles to my sister Marissa, who is turning Sweet 16 on Sept. 8. Have a great birthday and we will celebrate together when I'm home on leave from Japan in December. I love you and miss you, Richie.

Speedy recovery wishes to several Islanders and special off-Islanders, who have recently taken ill, including our Community Affairs Police Officer Mike O'Connor, Bob McKenna and Keith Manfredonia.

Happy September birthday to Mike Rauh. He's in training for his 32nd consecutive NYC Marathon. Go, Mike!!

Maria Swieciki



Photos by RICK DeWITT

The weather cooperated for the City Island Theater Group's outdoor production of "The Trial of the Big Bad Wolf" on the lawn in front of Grace Church on July 11. Families brought blankets and gave rave reviews to the production directed by Eileen Marcus.



Photo by JANE PROTZMAN

The City Island Nautical Museum's summer show, curated by Marguerite Chadwick-Juner, features pictures of City Island by City Island artists. The show will be up until the weekend after Labor Day, so don't miss it. The museum, at 190 Fordham Street, is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. or by special appointment (call 718-885-0507).



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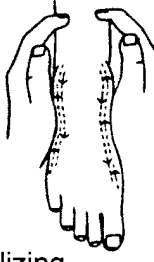
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