



Play Ball!

*Kiwanis Launches Free
Baseball Program*

Oh, Crap!

CALLAHEAD Faces Fire

TOP SHOTS!
RT Photo Contest
Finalists Revealed!

See Pages 11, 12 & 13



Rockaway Fights Back Against the Bike Ban

By Katie McFadden

When Rockaway sees an injustice, we fight back. On Saturday, April 26, Rockaway bike riders held a rally to stop the summer bike ban in wake of a policy being proposed by NYC Parks to ban bikes from the boardwalk between Beach 73rd and Beach 108th Street after 9:30 a.m., starting Memorial Day weekend.

Despite the rainy weather, more than 30 people gathered at the Beach 94th Amphitheater to have their voices heard. The rally was spearheaded by local activist John Cori after NYC Parks’ proposed policy was revealed earlier this month. Parks says they want to implement the policy for safety reasons, so bikers would be banned from the busy stretch on the boardwalk and would be redirected to the street-level bike lanes on Shore Front Parkway through October 1.

“We’re here to fight this issue because we’re not gonna roll over and play dead,” Cori said. “The people here all fought to get this board-

walk to be rebuilt. We raised money. We forced elected officials to get the funding. Parks looked like a star because of the people in Rockaway, so we need them to listen to us. We need better signage. We need people to make sure the concession area is closed to bike riding and have a safe jersey barrier type system to let people know to stop and we need Parks to put people there telling riders to dismount. If they enforce this ban, they’re gonna need a lot of people. We need them to keep biking, our culture, our traditions going for a long time.”

Victoria Barber, who uses her bike to get to work at the Peninsula Library, said, “Shore Front is more dangerous for me than me riding through the boardwalk. It’s not a solution. We need better signage. The boardwalk should be for everyone,” Barber said.

Local resident Bobby Nelson said, “We all love Rockaway for a lot of reasons but one of them is the ocean. I don’t want to look at

parked cars and apartment buildings. We’re attempting to punish the 99 percent of people who do everything right instead of the 1% of people who do everything wrong. Increase the enforcement of the existing rules and we have no problem.”

Cori chimed in about the bike lanes on Shore Front saying, “We can’t be forcing hundreds of people into a single file bike lane where parents can’t watch their children.” He also suggested that there be a big push to get more funding for the Parks Department in the City budget, so they can hire more people to enforce the rules and incorporate barriers or better signage.

A woman with a sweatshirt for Paul’s Bicycle Shop suggested that there be more police riding bicycles to enforce the current rules and make sure pedestrians and bike rid-

ers are in the correct lanes along the boardwalk. Rochelle Grubb, who rides an adult tricycle to work on the boardwalk said, “I don’t drive. The boardwalk is my life. It’s how I get around. We need our bikes.”

Lastly, Marian Tinnelly, the mother of Connor, a son with Down Syndrome, said, “Riding a bike is something he can do, and we ride our bikes together almost every day as a family. I’m sure there are many that have special needs people and those who are not physically able to do a lot of things besides ride a bike, so I’m advocating for common sense here. It’s not fair to penalize the 99% doing the right thing instead of those who are not being responsible and considerate.”



2ND ANNUAL OCULAR MELANOMA WALK

NOBODY FIGHTS ALONE | “EYE” BELIEVE IN A CURE

50/50 PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT : A CURE IN SIGHT - SUPPORTING THOSE NAVIGATING OVULAR AND UVEAL MELANOMA

Join us for a day of unity, awareness, and hope as we walk together in honor of Casey Gallagher and all those affected by ocular and uveal melanoma. This year, we are proud to donate proceeds to A Cure In Sight, a small but impactful charity dedicated to helping patients and families facing this disease.

<https://acureinsight.org>

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH AT 9:00AM

94th Street Boardwalk

Lenny and John's Pizzeria!

Celebrating our 56th anniversary!

2036 FLATBUSH AVENUE BETWEEN AVE P AND FLATLANDS
TELEPHONE: 718-252-9710, 718-252-9711, 718-252-9806

TUESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL!!
LARGE PIZZA \$14!!
3 P.M. TO 11 P.M.
PICKUP ONLY, CASH ONLY!
TOPPINGS ARE EXTRA. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS.

WE ARE STILL OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE SAME FAMILY FOR 55 YEARS!
THANK YOU FOR LETTING US SERVE YOU!
MEALS COOKED TO ORDER!
PLEASE BE PATIENT!
TAXES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN PRICES. WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS.

ORDER ONLINE!

GRUBHUB™

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK! MON-SAT 11 AM - 1 AM • SUN 12 PM - 12 AM
COME ENJOY OUR OUTDOOR PATIO IN SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL!
WWW.LENNYANDJOHNSPIZZA.COM



Rhythms On The Rock

Good Food, Good Music.

Lobster Dip



Frutti Di Mare





Fish and Chips

112-16 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

SPRING HOURS

Tuesday - Sunday

12:00 Noon - 10:00pm

Weekend Brunch - 11:00am - 3:00pm

Bottomless Mimosas 1.5 hours \$28pp

Happy Hour

Every Thursday - 4:00pm - 6:00pm

\$10 Appetizers

\$1 off Tap & Bottle Beers

\$10 House Cocktails

SOCIAL MEDIA (Instgrahm &Facebook)

@RHYTHMSONTHEROCK

Major Fire Tears Through CALLAHEAD in Broad Channel

By Katie McFadden

Their trademark may be, “We’re number one at picking up number two,” but on Monday morning, the crew at CALLAHEAD in Broad Channel were busy picking up the scorched pieces of what was left from a devastating fire the night before.

At 6:53 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, a 911 call was received about a fire at CALLAHEAD, the portable toilet business based at 304 Cross Bay Blvd. That call came from local resident Kenny Good, who was taking his son to play football at the Broad Channel Athletic Club field across the street. “My son put his cleats on and gave me his sneakers to hold, so I went to put them in the car, and I saw smoke over there. I wasn’t sure if it was a fire or not. I thought maybe someone was barbecuing,” Good said.

As he got closer, Good saw the only things barbecuing were porta-potties at the site. As a former volunteer for the Broad Channel Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD) during his days as co-owner of the Beach Club, Good knew he had to take action. He called 911 and as he was on the phone, he saw a garden hose out front. “It was right there. I guess they use it to hose off the bathrooms or something. It didn’t have that much pressure though,” Good said.

Good tried in vain to put out the blaze behind a security booth, but it quickly grew out of control as large flames and thick black smoke started to rise. “It went from almost nothing to a massive inferno in no time. The overhead wires looked like they were gonna catch on fire,” he said. Plus,



the smell didn’t help. “It was bad. A lot of those porta-potties completely melted to zero,” he said. “I had to get the hell out of there.”

Fortunately, help arrived quickly. Twenty-five FDNY units with 106 fire and EMS personnel arrived on scene, as well as the BCVFD with other volunteer units on standby. Thick black smoke took over the scene and could be seen from as far as Manhattan during the two-alarm blaze. In the surrounding area, Cross Bay Boulevard, which was just milled and awaits repav-

Continued on page 4

MAJOR FIRE

Continued from Page 3

ing, was shut down to traffic in both directions as the firefighters worked. High winds also made the job more difficult, but firefighters were able to keep the fire from spreading towards CALLAHEAD's vehicles, towards the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge or towards neighboring homes. "If the fire department didn't get there when they did, it would've been bad," Good said. "It could've been a lot worse." As he and his son couldn't leave the BCAC due to the road being shut down, Good watched on and took videos from across the boulevard.

According to the FDNY press office, by 8:13 p.m., the fire was under control. One civilian suffered minor injuries and was taken to Jamaica Hospital. One firefighter also suffered from minor injuries and was taken to Nassau County Medical Center. As we go to press, the cause is still under investigation.

CALLAHEAD was closed when the fire broke out on Sunday. We reached out to CALLAHEAD for more information about the fire and how the business and its employees would be impacted, but we did not receive a response by press time. Owned by Charles Howard, CALLAHEAD opened in 1976 and will celebrate its 50th year next year. On Wednesday, crews were seen clearing out the scorched debris around the property. Everything from buildings to trailers to porta-potties were damaged or destroyed.

It's not the first time CALLAHEAD has suffered a fire. In the early morning hours of February 25, 2009, a fire broke out at the site. Surveillance video later showed a masked man in a CALLAHEAD uniform setting fire to one of the trucks. It spread to six other trucks and took 60 firefighters to get it under control in an hour. That fire destroyed \$250,000 worth of equipment, but it went unsolved, and no arrests were made.

Contact The Elected

Congressman Gregory Meeks
67-12 Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Arverne, NY 11692
Phone: (347) 230-4032

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato
9516 Rockaway Beach Blvd
Rockaway Beach, NY 11693
Email: amatos@nyassembly.gov
718-945-9550

City Councilwoman Selvena Brooks-Powers
1931 Mott Avenue, Suite 410
Far Rockaway, NY 11691 • 718-471-7014

City Councilwoman Joann Ariola
114-12 Beach Channel Drive, suite #1
Rockaway Park, NY 11694
Email: district32@council.nyc.gov
718-318-6411

State Senator James Sanders Jr.
1931 Mott Avenue – Suite 305
Far Rockaway, NY 11691
Email: sanders@nysenate.gov
718-327-7017

Assemblyman Khaleel Anderson
19-31 Mott Avenue, Suite 301
Far Rockaway, NY 11691
Email: Andersonk@nyassembly.gov
718-327-1845



Jeanne Ferriola and Sean McVeigh
PUBLISHER

Katie McFadden
MANAGING EDITOR

Mary Ellen Olsen
MANAGER

Monica Clifford
BILLING/ LEGALS

Tom McVeigh and Fred Marino
SALES

Kevin Boyle
FOUNDER/PUBLISHER EMERITUS

The Rockaway Times
114-04 Beach Channel Drive
Rockaway Park, NY 11694
Phone: 718-634-3030

www.rockawaytimes.com
Email: news@rockawaytimes.com,
mail@rockawaytimes.com

THE ROCKAWAY TIMES is published every Thursday by Double Nickel LLC (USPS # 16930), 114-04 Beach Channel Drive, Rockaway Park, NY 11694. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Rockaway Times, 114-04 Beach Channel Drive, Rockaway Park, NY 11694. Periodical postage paid at Rockaway Park Post Office, 11694.

Ad space reservations by Monday, 12 noon, preceding date of subject. Editorial submission must be made by Monday, 3 P.M., preceding date of publication. All letters to THE ROCKAWAY TIMES should be brief and are subject to editing. Writers should include a full address and home / office telephone number. Anonymous letters are not printed. Name withheld on request.

No such ad or any part thereof may be reproduced without permission of THE ROCKAWAY TIMES. The publisher will not be responsible for any error in advertising beyond the cost of the space occupied by the error. Errors must be reported to THE ROCKAWAY TIMES within five days of publication. Ad position cannot be guaranteed unless paid prior to publication.

THE ROCKAWAY TIMES assumes no liability for the content or reply to any ads. The advertiser assumes all liability for the content of and all replies. The advertiser agrees to hold THE ROCKAWAY TIMES and its employees harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities, and damages resulting from or caused by the publication placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. © 2015 Double Nickel LLC.

Mother's Day Seatings

11:00am brunch menu
2:00pm & 4:30pm
dinner menu

Reservations
recommended



Accepting Bookings
for Communion,
Baptisms, Showers,
Graduations, Large Parties

Spring Specials

MAHI MONDAY | \$25

mahi dinner w/ choice of lemon butter sauce, cajun, fried, one beer or one glass of house wine

TWO FOR TUESDAY | \$38

two burgers with any two toppings, any two beers or two glasses of house wine.

SURF & TURF WEDNESDAY | \$30

flat iron steak with choice of salmon in lemon butter sauce or shrimp scampi

PITCHER OF SANGRIA | \$10 LONG EDDY LEMONADE | \$5

FISH TACO THURSDAY | \$5

fish tacos | \$5 margarita's | \$5 Murphysides

In house only

SERVING LUNCH

Monday to Saturday

12:00PM - 3:00PM

Sunday Brunch 11:30AM - 3:00PM

SERVING DINNER

Sunday - Thursday 4:00PM - 9:00PM

Friday and Saturday 4:00PM - 10:00PM

Thank you for thinking of us!

There is Strength in Unity - Buy American!



Check Facebook and Instagram
for our Daily Specials

129-18 Newport Ave.

718-474-2202

harborlightrbny@gmail.com



SERVING ROCKAWAY FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Slate Roof
Shingle Roof
Gutters
Leaders

Spanish Tile
Metal Roof
Flat Roof
Siding



SHINGLE ROOF

SPANISH TILE

SLATE ROOF

Call for a free estimate

(718) 639-2200

Licensed, Insured & Bonded

Dan Klohe - Senior estimator
Longtime resident of Rockaway

WWW.MASPETHROOFING.COM



McVeighing In

By Sean McVeigh

Precarious Pilates

Back in my college days — the glory days, as some like to call them (I am that “some”) — I was faced with a very tough decision. My senior year, after all my major requirements had been satisfied, I had to choose an elective for the spring semester. Naturally, I chose Pilates. Why? I don’t know. Ask “College Sean” — he worked in mysterious ways.

With that extensive background, I walked into my first *actual* Pilates class this past Tuesday night brimming with confidence.

A friend of mine recently became a Pilates instructor, so naturally, a group of us had to drop in and see what all the hype was about.

My wife — also in attendance — did not hold back in expressing her doubts about my abilities. She’s somewhat of a workout class connoisseur. Pilates, yoga, barre (whatever that is?) — you name it, she’s done it. I’m still unsure if she was genuinely concerned for my well-being or just worried about how much I would embarrass her. (That’s a lie. I am entirely sure which of those was the actual reason.)

Pilates, in actual practice, is not exactly how I remembered it from college. Back then, I recall a lot more

lying on a mat while hungover and sleeping meditating. This class had none of that — although I did find myself spread eagle on the mat trying to catch my breath a few times, so I guess some things haven’t changed.

The class started off pretty casually. A little stretching, some light ab work — I even had a nice sweat going. I thought, “Hey, an hour of this might not be so bad!” Then came the gut-punch: my friendly instructor announced we were still in the warm-up.

I’d like to take this moment to extend a heartfelt apology to the rest of the class attendees who did not anticipate an out-of-shape, sweaty man, making Lord-knows what sort of noises, in their Tuesday night Pilates session. I owe you guys one.

We moved onto an exercise that took me a few seconds (and a few silent prayers) to figure out. “Ok, we’re going to do a side plank now.” Alright, not too bad. Just give me a minute to get my balance. “Now, lift your bottom leg. And when you come back down, go straight into a pelvic thrust.” Ummm... “And three, and two, and one ...” Finally, sweet relief! “... But don’t go down — let’s hold that for ... ever.” That might not be verbatim — but in the moment, that’s what I heard.

We should all just be thankful that towels were provided. Otherwise, I would’ve been the human equivalent of a broken lawn sprinkler, soaking anyone within a six-foot radius.

I can’t say my performance in my first Pilates class was a resounding success, but I only have my own physical limitations to blame for that. Trust me, this was all user error. The instructor? Top-notch. First class.

And despite the pain — oh boy, was there pain — I genuinely enjoyed the class. I got a great sweat in (not sure that’s really a goal of Pilates, but I’ll take it) and had fun doing it. It didn’t hurt that the whole thing was followed by some well-deserved post-workout whistle-wetting.

The next day, when I was too sore to move, I took out a mat, a little hungover, and took a little nap ... just for old time’s sake.

NICOLE FRONTERA

SKIN • SYRINGES • SELF-CARE

Celebrate Mom with Self-Care

Let mom choose with a gift card

Get \$200 for \$175

Get \$300 for \$250

Get \$600 for \$500

Get \$1200 for \$1000



104-02 Rockaway Beach Boulevard, Rockaway Park, NY 11694

718-945-1100 | www.nicolefronterabeauty.com | [@nicolefronterabeauty](https://www.instagram.com/nicolefronterabeauty)



Jack's Corner Opens May 1

By Katie McFadden

There's a new Jack in town. Since 2018, Happy Jack's has been bringing joy to Rockaway Beach Drive with their burgers and fries but now his little brother is drawing attention right on the corner. Jack's Corner, a casual Italian deli with ginormous focaccia sandwiches and baked goods galore, opens on Thursday, May 1.

Order a Tony Soprano and you'll get a focaccia sandwich piled high with the makings of an entire Italian butcher shop, from genoa salami to capicola, sweet soppressata, prosciutto, provolone, roasted red peppers, lettuce, beef steak tomato and smeared with a Grana Padano crème for added flavor. Maybe a chicken parm is your go to, but Jack's Parm brings it to the next level with a thin crispy cutlet, prosciutto di parma, Jack's angry vodka sauce, fresh mozzarella and that Grana Padano crème. Vegetarians may opt for the Surfer with grilled market vegetables, green and yellow zucchini, eggplant, sun dried tomatoes, pickled carrots, and roasted red pepper crème with an option to add fresh mutz. These sandwiches will make your eyes go wide when you see the size of them. But pair it with some homemade potato chips or a classic side salad and you've got your meal for the day, or even the next. And don't forget the A' Siciliana or Stewarts soda to wash it down or a fresh cappuccino or macchiato to add some pep to your step. Or leave the drinks, but take the cannoli, the sfogliatelle or a slice of mom's cheesecake for later.

Starting Thursday, Jack's Corner is ready to serve it all up for dine in, take out, and delivery, with even delivery to the beach in personalized Jack's Corner lunch boxes that you can unfold as a flat table to keep the sand out of your focaccia. But you'll want to see what they've done with the place at the corner of Beach 109th, which used to be home to Coastal Frozen Yogurt.

Jack's Corner is a completely different place but inside you'll find some tributes to their neighbor, Happy Jack's, with the HJ smile on the awning, and a blue and white theme inside. Your eyes will take you in every direction as you peruse the selection of baked goods, cakes, croissants and deli salads in the front display. A few blue tables and stools welcome you to have a seat while you eat. And take a look up, as you'll feel like you're in a museum looking at classic Rockaway postcards, one with a personalized message written back in Rockaway's heyday—"Rockaway is the coolest place, just take it from me."

And Michael Caruso and Aidan Dalton are making it even cooler with their dream spot. They're familiar faces at Happy Jack's as Aidan's following in his dad, Chef Mike Dalton's footsteps, and many have gotten to know Michael as he's worked his way up from Happy Jack's delivery guy to bartender to manager, just over the last four years. But now Caruso and Dalton have branched out on their own, but not too far. They'll still be taking care of business at Happy Jack's while running the show at Jack's Corner.

But when the corner spot opened next door, they couldn't resist the opportunity to spread their wings, under the mentorship of Chef Mike. "He's amazing. He's a master chef at what he does with Happy Jack's. We've learned everything from him. I came out here looking for a delivery job during the pandemic and I fell in love with the restaurant business and Rockaway. I always knew I wanted to own my own business,



so I partnered up with Aidan who said the corner was for sale and we knew it was the right spot for our first venture on our own," Caruso said. "I live in Brooklyn, but I've been coming to Rockaway since I was a kid and bartending here made me fall in love with it. The people really took me in as their own and have shown me so much love and over the last five years. This is my chance to give back and show them a piece of me, a piece of Brooklyn and a piece of where my family came from in Sicily and bring it back to the beach with a Rockaway twist."

"I've been doing this with my dad for over a decade now and some of my favorite times as a child were in the kitchen," Dalton said. "We're really excited about turning this new leaf over and we're excited to see what we can add to the block."

The young men got the spot in October and set out to build it out, and perfect the recipes. "I've been to places like this my whole life, small corner places, sandwich shops, bakeries, small cafes, and I always wanted to open a place where I'd want to hang out. This is perfect for it," Caruso said. "We immediately started working on the focaccia and pastries to see if we could pull this off and Mike was a huge help. We got it right, so we got this place ready to go."



Earlier in April, Caruso and Dalton opened their door for a few hours and let friends and family know to stop by to give everything a try. "We got a lot of good feedback, and everyone made us feel like this will be something great for the beach. We're bringing not only value but high-quality food here," Caruso said. Most of all, people were blown away with the size of the sandwiches. "We want to watch people's eyes light up, that's the goal," Caruso said. The bigger-than-your-head focaccia sandwiches are the star of Jack's Corner with a pre-set menu of Jack's Top 10, 10 sandwiches with a little something for everyone, but people may also be able to personalize their own picks. Everything is made to order, with all fresh ingredients, imported directly from Italy. Then each sandwich is topped with a homemade crème, personalized for each number on the top 10.

Caruso and Dalton can't wait to officially open. "It's really exciting to see all of our hard work come to fruition and for people to taste what we've been previewing," Caruso said.

Jack's Corner, located at 108-19 Rockaway Beach Dr., opens May 1. Starting hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesdays through Sundays. Call 347-332-0323 to order. For updates and more, follow @happy-jackscorner on Instagram.

32 Rockaway Republican Club Candidates Make the Ballot



Despite multiple challenges to their petitions, 32 candidates from the Rockaway Republican Club will be on the ballot this June, vying to represent Rockaway in the Queens County GOP. They will compete for the job in the June 24 primary.

"Even though our club leaders are new to the political games that are all too common in New York, they are not new to petitioning," said former candidate for Congress Paul King. "I am not at all surprised that the vast majority of our candidates survived bureaucratic objections."

RRC's candidates will compete to represent almost every election district in Assembly District 23, from the tip of Breezy Point (ED 1) to Arverne-by-the-Sea (ED 18), plus one additional ED in Far Rockaway. RRC candidates Suzanne Blum and Jerry Steib were booted from the ballot in Belle Harbor. It was the only successful challenge to RRC's candidates.

"It is a shame to lose two good people who contribute much to the club, to the party, and to Rockaway," RRC President Mary Glynn said. "Even without the title, they will continue to be invaluable assets to the Republican Party."

County committee members (also known as ED Leaders) can vote in the election for the Queens County GOP Chairman. More importantly, from the RRC's perspective, they represent the grassroots of the party. ED Leaders are vital to growing the Republican base and making general elections competitive in New York City again. Candidates like Cur-

tis Sliwa cannot win without this grassroots support.

This winter, Rockaway Republican Club leadership spent months recruiting and vetting more than 70 candidates. These included Republicans who are the most active RRC members, community leaders who will have the greatest grassroots impact, and members of the young Republican committee (the Sandy Elephants) who may be future leaders. RRC also created a job description that explains how the ED Leader role will bolster Republican efforts to improve quality of life in Rockaway and Broad Channel.

Since the majority of the election district leaders who currently represent Rockaway live in Howard Beach or Ozone Park, the RRC had hoped that County GOP leadership would endorse their vetted candidates from Rockaway in 2025. After an agreement could not be reached, the RRC decided to independently nominate 36 local candidates. In response, the County GOP quickly recruited

new candidates from Rockaway to run against the RRC slate.

"I am thrilled," King said. "Regardless of who wins each primary, Rockaway will be represented by people from Rockaway. Plus, everyone who the County just recruited is welcome to be an active member of the RRC. This shouldn't be 'us against them.' We are all on the same side."

The committee that evaluated RRC nominees included Club President Mary Glynn, last year's three political candidates from Rockaway/Broad Channel, and RRC officers Cathy O'Connor, Margaret Powers, and Maureen Zembricki.

**WANT TO GET
IN TOUCH?
SEND EMAIL TO**

MAIL@ROCKAWAYTIMES.COM

Fine Italian
RESTAURANT



PICK UP & DELIVERY SERVICE
 OPEN EVERY DAY FROM
 11AM – 10PM

We Are Celebrating Our New Custom-Built Full Bar.



Arrive early for your dinner reservation while you sit-down and enjoy a freshly made cocktail, wine, or beer of your choice!

Ladies Night Every Thursday...
one free cocktail or glass of wine after 6pm!

Live Music

420 Beach 129th Street,
Rockaway Park, NY
718-474-1775





NEW HEIGHTS CONSTRUCTION LLC

SPRING SIDING SPECIAL



SIDING, ROOFING & WINDOWS

Gutters, Soffit & Fascia Repair & more!

INCREASE THE VALUE OF YOUR HOME

INSULATE YOUR HOME

REDUCE YOUR ENERGY BILLS

BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME

FENCES, DECKS & AWNINGS

Wood Cedar, PVC, Stainless Steel, Chain Link,

Pressure Treated & Composite Decking

MASONRY WORK

Concrete Sidewalk Violations, Porches, Brick & Granite

Steps Paver Stones, Brick Pointing, Stucco, etc.

KITCHEN & BATH

Complete Renovation & Remodeling,

Expert Tile, Granite & Quartz

INTERIOR FLOORING & PAINTING

CALL NOW FOR FREE ESTIMATES!

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SOPHIE SAYS GIVE US A CALL AND ASK FOR BIG JOHN FOR PERSONALIZED SERVICE & BEST PRICES

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

[VISA, AMEX, DISCOVER, MASTERCARD]

917-642-0195 • 718-767-0044

NewHeightsConstructionLLC.com

NY Lic# 1191201





Once again, getting this year’s Rockaway Times Photo contest down to a top 30 was quite the task. We had nearly a thousand to choose from! Our selections are on pages 11, 12, and 13. Our judges had a difficult task, but in the end, we think they did a great job. The Top 30 are in the process of being enlarged to poster size and will be put up on display on the boardwalk. Congratulations to the Top 30! Oh, and five Honorable Mention photos will be on display at the ferry dock. We will print those in one of our upcoming papers as well. Look for all the photos to be on display just before Memorial Day. Thank you to everyone who participated! After the Top 30 have had some time to bask in their glory on the boardwalk, we will continue to narrow down the field until we have our winner.

Today is May 1. April’s weather may have brought some flowers but how about some consistently warm temperatures? Only 25 days until Memorial Day!

Look Ma, you made it into the local paper! Want to honor your mom and put a nice picture of her in The Rockaway Times? Send your photo to Mail@Rockawaytimes.com by Tuesday morning, May 6, at 10 a.m., and we’ll do our best to put it in next Thursday’s paper for Mother’s Day.

Congratulations to those from Happy Jacks on the opening of Jack’s Corner. We love to see new businesses open in Rockaway, and what perfect timing, with summer just around the corner. We can’t wait to check it out.

There will be a blood drive in honor of Walter Blum this Sunday, May 4, at St. Francis de Sales (219 Beach

er: Maspeth Roofing. Check out their ad on page 4, and if you have roofing needs, give them a call and tell them you saw their ad in The Rockaway Times.

Closed! Thai Rock has finally sold. RE/MAX realtor Fon Tongsomboon announced that the sale for the prime bayside spot is finally complete. We’re told a friend of former owner Metta Kaskel bought it, and Thai food may still be on the menu! We wish the new owner well.

The Belle Harbor Property Owners Association’s 35th Annual Beach Clean Up will be held this Saturday, May 3, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Meet at the Beach 134th Street or Beach 140th Street beach walls. Come out and volunteer to get the beaches ready for the season! Bring your own rakes! It’s a great way for kids to get community service hours, too!

Also, this Saturday, May 3, from 2 p.m. to dark, Sail Rockaway is hosting its opening party with free sailing tours and lessons, live jazz, and \$1 oysters. This family-friendly event is located at Marina 59, at Beach 59th Street.

As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, if you have new or used jeans, any size, or jackets, pocket-books, or hats, please drop them off at the Child Center at 57-10 Beach Channel Drive or 1027 Beach 20th Street until May 5 for the Spring 2025 Denim Day Drive. For more information on Denim Day, see the story on page 35.

Didn’t get Patti McCartin’s book, “The 100 Foot Love Letter” yet? She’ll be at Yana House (116-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd.) at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, doing a book signing.

129 Street) from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Blood drives save lives. Please give if you can.

We’d like to give a big welcome to The Rockaway Times’ newest advertiser:

NACMIAS AND SONS

SUPER SERVICE STATION

180-04 State Road,
Rockaway Point, N.Y. 11697
718-318-3655



Breezy Point Resident
For Over 25 Years!

Complete Auto Repairs Official NYS Inspections

**ATTENTION PUBLIC AND CAR DEALERS:
WE NOW OFFER FULL SERVICE DETAILING!**

**24 HOUR
TOWING & FLATBED
AVAILABLE
CALL (718) 339-8500
MENTION OUR NAME**

**Rockaway Residents
Get 10% off your next
service of \$100 or more
with this coupon!**

**Dealer Level Service Work Performed.
All Approved Lubricants and Filters
to Keep Your Warranty in Effect.
European Automotive Specialists!
We Service All Makes and Models**

We Buy Cars.
Used Auto Sales On Site - Used Cars Available - All Makes and Models

This Week in History

MAY 1
John O'Connor was born.
Helen Endall was born.

1931 - The Empire State Building opened in New York City. At 102 stories, it would be the World's tallest building for the next 41 years.

1960 - The Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane over Soviet territory.

MAY 2
Mary Kilgallen was born.

1939 - Lou Gehrig set a major-league baseball record when he played his 2,130th consecutive game. Cal Ripken, Jr., broke it 57 years later.

2011 - U.S. troops and CIA operatives shot and killed Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

MAY 3
Marian Scannell Slakman was born.
Claudine Larson was born.
Jennifer Roberts was born.
Jen Corning Egan was born.

1937 - Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize in fiction for "Gone With the Wind."

MAY 4
Steven Greenberg was born.
Tracey Benison Mullen was born.
Nancy Koulouris-Erigo was born.

1932 - Public Enemy Number One, Al Capone, was jailed for tax evasion.

1970 - Four Kent State University students were shot down by National Guard members during an anti-Vietnam War demonstration.

MAY 5
Seibert Ward was born.

1891 - Carnegie Hall (then known as Music Hall) opened in New York City. Peter Tchaikovsky was the guest conductor.

1961 - Alan Shepard became the first American in space.

MAY 6
Kitty Kelly was born.
Coleen Mimmagh was born.
Marissa Shannon was born.

1941 - Dictator Joseph Stalin became the premier of Russia.

1994 - "The Chunnel" between England and France officially opened.

MAY 7
Megan Prendergast-Millard was born.
Rosemary Munro was born.

1915 - The British ocean liner Lusitania was sunk by a German submarine in World War I off the coast of Ireland.

2000 - Vladimir Putin was inaugurated as Russia's president.



Sands Point Physical Therapy

NEW EQUIPMENT



NEW TREATMENT TABLES



Time for A New Pain Free YOU!

SERVING ROCKAWAY FOR 24 YEARS

Our skilled team have over 28 years experience and can get you on your way to living a pain free life again.

Call today to get started.



There is no substitute for experience!

- Timothy Rohrs, PT, DPT
28 years experience!



"I have been going to Sands Point Physical Therapy for many years, with various ailments. I keep going back because there is no one more experienced or knowledgeable than Tim and his staff. In addition, they are so friendly and take care of me like I am a part of their family. Highly recommended."

- Richard Dachtera



Sands Point Professional

230 Beach 102nd Street
Rockaway Park, NY 11694

718-945-9575
www.sandspointpt.com



New Bike Policy Tops Parks Committee Meeting

By Katie McFadden

Community Board 14 committee meetings aren't usually known to draw big public crowds, but last Thursday's Parks and Public Safety Committee was an exception after NYC Parks' proposed policy to ban bikes off of the boardwalk from Beach 73rd to Beach 108th starting Memorial Day weekend, was announced earlier in April. The Coastal Conservation Center on Beach 44th Street was packed on April 24, with locals eager to have their voices heard.

While the new bike policy was the hot topic, a few other issues were discussed including a new permit policy for the Beach 94th Amphitheater and the Beach 17th performance space, plus a look at summer planning.

"We had a conflict last summer over amplified sound permits at the 94th Amphitheater and 17th Street. The agency, with input from Community Board 14, has made amendments to the permit policy," new NYC Parks Rockaway Administrator Elizabeth Walsack said. For events where more than 20 people will attend, the new policy would require applicants to apply at least 21 days before their event and a \$25 application fee applies. NYPD and DEP will enforce noise complaints. Parks Enforcement Patrol will also be getting their own decibel readers. Sound must be no higher than 42dB where complaints come from. All amplified music must end by 9 p.m. at Beach 94th and 17th, and access to electricity will be cut off at 9 p.m. DJ events are limited to two weekend days a month, for no more than four hours. Movie nights are permitted to continue beyond 9 p.m., since they can't begin until after sundown.

NYPD and DEP would enforce the policy, but PEP can write summonses if needed. So far, they've received 95 applications for all events across both performance spaces this summer, but none have been approved yet until the policy is finalized. As far as live bands go, Parks said they could perform any day. The committee made a recommendation to limit all music events to five a month, restricting them to two small speakers

and one subwoofer only. CB14 can discuss and make a motion in May.

Next, assistant Rockaway administrator Khalil Bratton discussed summer planning. Parks is installing mobimats, combing the beach, and addressing the sand on the boardwalk. Parks is starting to install mesh screening on rails to try to contain the sand. They received their first wave of seasonal staff. New staff will help with maintaining the bathrooms, maintaining the sand, cleaning trash corrals and more. Trash corrals are starting to be placed on the beach. They'll also have 30 to 40 summer youth workers to help. Parks will hold a peninsula-wide volunteer day on May 10, in which the public can help clean up different areas.

Bratton said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be planting dunes in the fall. A question was brought up about three lifeguard chairs that were destroyed by people using the wood for bonfires. Bratton said they're replacing them, but they come at a cost of \$2 to \$3K each. Asked about lifeguard hiring this year, Bratton said they've seen more people qualifying, but final testing for the job is ongoing, so the numbers are not yet known. Asked about beach access in piping plover areas that are typically closed to the public, Walsack said there is access at Beach 47th and Beach 52nd Street, and more areas can open as the birds leave.

Last was the discussion on the new boardwalk bike policy. Sarah Neilson, Chief of Policy in the Environment and Planning Division at NYC Parks, and Maya Dutta, a project planner in the same department, said they didn't intend for the policy to hit the press before the meeting, calling it a "proposed idea." Also, contrary to the messaging from the NYC Press Office, the policy would be in place after 10 a.m., not 9:30 a.m., so cyclists would be permitted to ride on the boardwalk from Beach 73rd to Beach 108th Street between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and would be banned after those hours between Memorial Day weekend and October 1.

They said this came in response to reports of clashes between pedestrians and cyclists, particu-

larly amid the increase in e-bikes and scooters. In 2023, the Adams administration created an interagency task force, to develop NYC's Electric Micromobility Action Plan to focus on safety, enjoyment and separating locations for pedestrians and bikes. Parks launched a pilot program for e-bikes and scooters citywide, which included the Rockaway boardwalk, and have been looking into how these devices impact greenways. Dutta and Neilson claim a survey was conducted and found that people on the boardwalk felt a "decreased sense of safety" due to these devices. So, they've been comparing the Rockaway boardwalk to those in Coney Island and Orchard Beach, which limit bike riding to 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the summer. They focused on the high-traffic areas of Beach 73rd to Beach 108th due to the concessions and came up with the policy of banning bikes from the boardwalk there and redirecting cyclists to the Shore Front Parkway bike lanes. Parks' plans to increase signage instructing cyclists to utilize Shore Front and PEP officers will be detailed to these areas to enforce the policy and instruct cyclists to dismount their bikes and walk them or utilize Shore Front.

CB14 chairwoman Dolores Orr said since PEP typically staffs closed beaches to keep people out of the water, how many additional officers would it require to enforce the bike policy? Parks didn't have an answer. Orr suggested banning bikes only on weekends and holidays. She also stressed that there needs to be better signage to indicate the rules and where the boardwalk bike lanes are. "People don't know it's a bike lane," Orr said.

Committee member Karen Sloan-Payne asked if wheelchairs were exempt to which Parks said yes. John Cori said "absolutely not" to Parks' proposed policy. "We need PEP to do a better job of enforcing the rules and have signage that's in your face. Comparing us to other greenways, you're talking about Shore Front, but DOT did a horrible job designing that. It's a drop off lane and having people ride there is more dan-

gerous. You say there's a survey, has anyone heard of this survey?" Cori asked the room. Most replied "No." "There's little to no enforcement by PEP on e-bikes, mopeds and the spandex riders. It needs to be enforced. I created an example of how we can restrict people at the concessions. We just ask for better signage and better enforcement," Cori said to loud applause.

A committee member named David applauded Parks for wanting to improve safety but questioned the safety of the Shore Front lanes. He also suggested using Parks' resources to crack down on those speeding and utilize cones to slow down those riders. "Cones do a better job than Parks officers trying to give tickets," David said. "You gotta get mopeds off the boardwalk." Walsack responded saying, "With this proposal, if there are no bikes on the boardwalk, then you don't have to worry about mopeds or electric bikes or scooters." To this, another committee member said, "Instead of new rules, why can't we enforce better what we already have?"

The discussion was opened to the public. Most agreed with what had been said. Some requested that Parks provide the statistics on boardwalk accidents. Others reiterated the dangers of riding on Shore Front during busy beach days as people park in the illegal spaces and unload their beach equipment in the lanes. Peggy Grennan said the boardwalk area in question only has 25 pedestrian crossing points, whereas the lanes on Shore Front have 58, which "more than doubles the collision opportunities." Others said it's a select few causing issues. "It's the spandex crew that is racing. They need speed limits," one person said.

A recommendation was made to continue to allow biking from Beach 73rd to Beach 108th, to increase enforcement by NYPD and PEP to crack down on e-bikes and motorbikes, and to create better markings and signage on the bike lanes, with extra enforcement directly around the concessions. The issue will be presented at the CB14 meeting in May.

Photo Contest Top 30 Revealed!

Almost a thousand photos were submitted to the annual Rockaway Times Photo Contest. Twelve judges from The Rockaway Times, Jamaica Bay Rockaway Parks Conservancy, NYC Ferry, and NYC Parks had a tough time getting to the top choices. Using anonymous voting and process of elimination through votes, the Top 30 were finally selected.

These photos will be enlarged to

poster-size and be put on display on the boardwalk around Memorial Day. For now, we're keeping the selections anonymous. Maybe that's your pic? Keep your eye out for when the photographers are revealed during the summer. Five honorable mentions were also selected by the judges and will be in an upcoming edition of the paper and will be displayed at the ferry landing this summer.

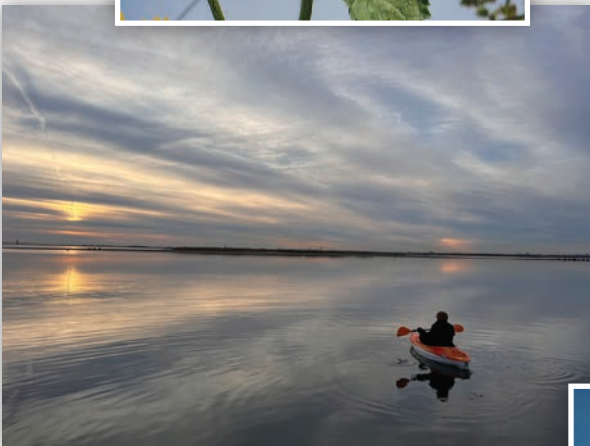
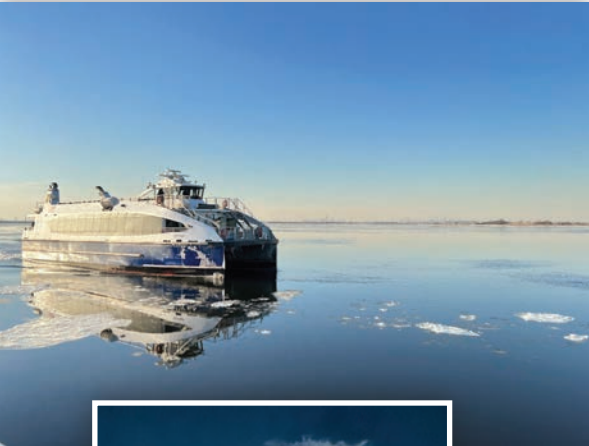


Photo Contest Top 30 Revealed!

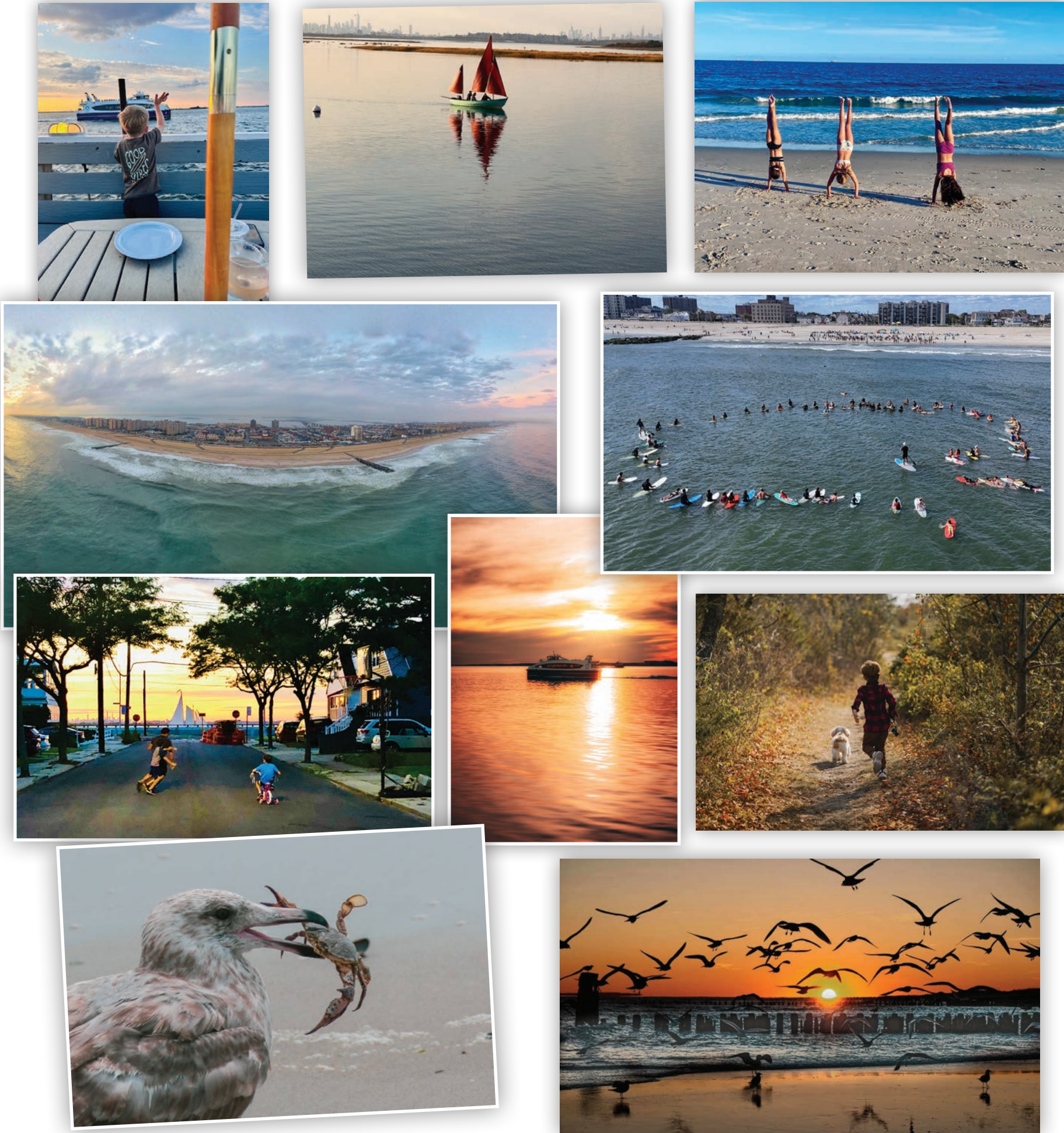
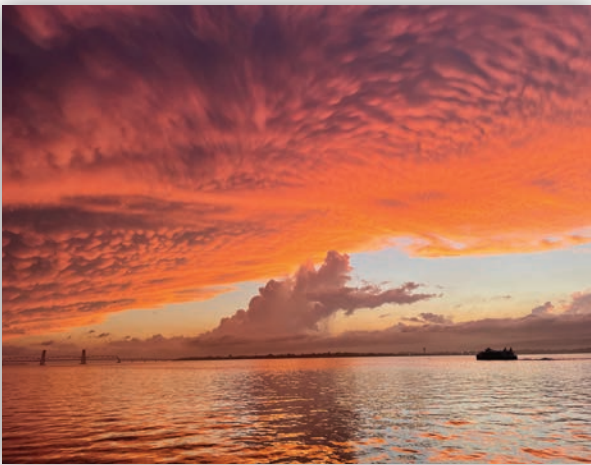


Photo Contest Top 30 Revealed!



A Farm Grows in M.S. 53

By Katie McFadden

A seed has been planted in M.S. 53 Brian Piccolo middle school, and now the fruits, or rather, the veggies, of students' labor is starting the pay off. On Thursday, April 24, students and staff of M.S. 53, along with Teens for Food Justice and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, officially cut the ribbon on their flourishing indoor hydroponic farm system.

From a variety of lettuces to herbs and even cucumbers, M.S. 53's 1,040-square-foot indoor farm boasts a bountiful harvest that is being used both in the school's cafeteria and distributed to those in need in the community. Earlier in the school year, students began learning about the system and by January, they started to get their hands dirty, starting seeds that have now grown into full produce through the green thumbs of the students and supporters.

"When they told me we were getting a hydroponic farm, I laughed and said to myself, but I'm the plant killer," Principal Zoanne Wilkins said with a laugh at the ribbon cutting event. "The idea of having a farm inside our school felt a little wild but also full of promise. Standing here today, I couldn't be more proud. This farm will give our students the opportunity to learn, to lead and to grow, not just food, but also their understanding of health, science and equity." Wilkins then thanked Borough President Richards for helping to fund the project, and the students for putting their heart and soul into it. "To our students, this farm belongs to you. Use it, love it and I know everything you grow here is helping build a healthier and stronger community," she said.

Joining school-based hydroponic farm systems at the Far Rockaway High School Educational Campus and at Scholars' Academy, M.S. 53's farm can potentially produce 5,600 pounds of fresh produce annually, feeding over 500 students, and the community, through the Central Assisted



Living Facility and New Horizon Counseling Center in Far Rockaway, whose patients have also had field trips to see the farm. Students tend to the farm both during the school day through classes, and in after-school programs.

Katherine Soll, CEO of Teens For Food Justice (TFFJ), was on hand for the momentous occasion of celebrating their latest farm on the peninsula. "We're so excited to continue growing. It's been a long time in the development to get to this launch event and I'm happy to share it. TFFJ is working to build a food secure future and a sustainable health food system through school-based, youth-led hydroponic farming, and to build health education. I'm beyond excited to be here in the Rockaways. This farm is the third in a school-based farm hub we are building with partners such as the borough present, to really change health education and equity in the Rockaways. This farm hub will encompass five campuses that will serve 10 schools with as many as 5,000 students, and their family members and the local community. Hopefully this is the foundation of a moment to make healthy, affordable fresh food more available in this community," Soll said, thanking those who helped make it possible. "The students are the engine that make this entire program run. Their enthusiasm and passion for their farms and the mission for TFFJ is beyond inspiring and the students here are a shining example."

Soll then spoke about a little added touch the students at M.S. 53

have developed to encourage positivity around the project. Around the plants are heart-shaped post-it notes with encouraging words from students for the plants and each other. Guests were welcome to add their own.

She then introduced one of those students who has been pouring his heart into the farm. "I want to say thank you to our amazing principal, our school district and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards for supporting and funding our youth school farm," seventh grader, Tymeik Robinson said. "And thank you to TFFJ for helping make this dream a reality. We're so lucky to have this opportunity and know it's just the beginning. I can assure you that this farm will be revolutionary in the urban agricultural practices in New York City. Through the farm, we're learning so much from how food grows to how we can make healthy choices and protect the environment. Our school is built on camaraderie, which is why I'm sure that the farm will grow due to the teamwork and compassion that we all put into it. Thank you to our science teacher Ms. Boling and our lab assistant who are helping guide us, making sure we understand how powerful this project is. Thank you for believing in us. We're excited to grow, learn and make our school community proud."

Finally, Borough President Richards, who helped fund the project, spoke before the audience. "We used to hear that this school is the worst school on the peninsula, but to see the transformation that



you've made that has changed the lives of these students is really transformational," Richards said to Principal Wilkins. "We're a neighborhood filled with disparities. When you have a lack of access to fresh foods, to healthcare, those are the things that make it a challenge. So, my job is to address those disparities. We're building two supermarkets. And we're building these hubs which really are going to give our students access to STEM. We're building up many of our future chefs and planting the seeds for a better economy for the peninsula. I couldn't be happier to be here because I know the potential that this school has, that this entire peninsula has."

After speeches, Soll, Richards, Principal Wilkins, Robinson and others gathered to officially cut the ribbon on their farm.

The next hydroponic farm systems are planned for P.S./M.S. 183 and Goldie Maple Academy. According to Soll, they're hoping P.S./ M.S. 183's farm can be built this summer so it's ready for the next school year. The farm for Goldie Maple is awaiting funding, but that's expected to come with the new city budget.

Rockaway is the only neighborhood in Queens with TFFJ farms. Soll says it was a good fit for their mission. "It's such a high-need area. Our mission is to bring this to communities that really lack access to fresh foods and lack educational experiences and opportunities that come out of these hands-on experiential learning programs, so it has a lot of benefits to the Rockaways," Soll said.

Kiwanis of The Rockaways Makes a Home Run with Co-Ed Little League Program

By Kami-Leigh Agard

Play ball! Kiwanis of The Rockaways is knocking it out of the park with a new Co-ed Little League baseball program, welcoming boys and girls, ages 9 to 12, residing on the Rockaway peninsula and Broad Channel. And here's the pitch—with registration and team assessment ongoing every Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. until May 17, when practices officially start at Redfern Playground Baseball Field, sign up your children now for a free summer full of fun in the sun—learning how to pitch, bat and run.

Raised in Far Rockaway, Helen Montero-Hernandez, Kiwanis of The Rockaways membership chair, is like an octopus with her passion for community advocacy, sprawling to serving as secretary of Community Board 14, secretary of Bayswater Civic Association, serving on the steering committee of Far Rockaway Arverne Nonprofit Coalition (FRANC), and co-founder of local arts organization, Sol De Vida. However, she boasts that the brainchild behind Kiwanis' Co-ed Little League baseball program is her husband and fellow Kiwanis member, Jason Hernandez.

Montero-Hernandez shared, "When Jason was little, he played for a Kiwanis little league in Brooklyn. So, when we both joined Rockaway Kiwanis a year ago, he said that he wanted to bring his love for baseball to Far Rockaway. He researched what was required to start up a Kiwanis little league, and the Rockaway Kiwanis board voted yes! So, we worked on getting the funding, and here we are!"

Jason Hernandez has been a lifelong baseball aficionado, not just playing, but also, coaching, and shared that it all kicked off with Kiwanis.

"When I was 10 years old, I was pretty good and got into a league in Brooklyn that was about to enter the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Penn. However, I signed up too late. So, my coach put me on to Kiwanis Little League, and they paid for everything for me to



play, and I excelled and loved it. We even traveled to Louisiana. I've always had love for Kiwanis because of those baseball childhood memories. Also, playing baseball with Kiwanis helped me build a resume when I was applying for college.

"However, living in Rockaway, I noticed that there is no baseball for kids at all on the east side in Far Rockaway. So, this is why I wanted to bring Kiwanis Co-ed Little League to the neighborhood for all kids across the peninsula and Broad Channel. Once we grow our program, I even want to start a tee-ball league next year, so I can start coaching these kids into actual players. I've played baseball my whole life and want to share my love for the sport with youth. To this day, I still play softball. Again, I love baseball, and want to share that love with kids," Hernandez said.

Pre-pandemic national headlines suggested baseball amongst youth is at a stalemate. In 2015, The Wall Street Journal explained, "Why Children Are Abandoning Baseball." Also, The Washington Post lamented a sport "Behind the Curve." The Los Angeles Times asked if the national pastime was "Past Its Time?"

However, just ask social media sensations—Twin Stripe Reporters, Carter and Cooper Thomas. These dapper 10-year-old fraternal twins

are already broadcast journalists, who not only share their game day experiences at Yankee Stadium, including being gifted a ball by Bronx Bomber stud, Aaron Judge, but also their gregariously reported analyses. (Check out the duo on Instagram: [twinstripe_reporters](#)).

These days, the narrative that "baseball is dying" is what's actually dying. As per MLB.com, Little League International has seen exponential growth in baseball and softball participation, with baseball participation reaching its highest level since 2008. Softball participation also increased significantly, with a 6% increase from the previous year. This growth is being fueled by a rebound after the pandemic, improvements in external communications and technology, and a focus on media engagement.

Major League Baseball reported the benefits of its grassroots efforts to embed the love of baseball in the hearts and minds of youngsters by getting bats and balls in their hands at an early age.

And this is what Kiwanis of the Rockaways hopes to embed with children in their Co-ed Little League baseball program—the love to be outdoors, being part of a team and play ball.

Kiwanis of the Rockaways is a member of Kiwanis International,

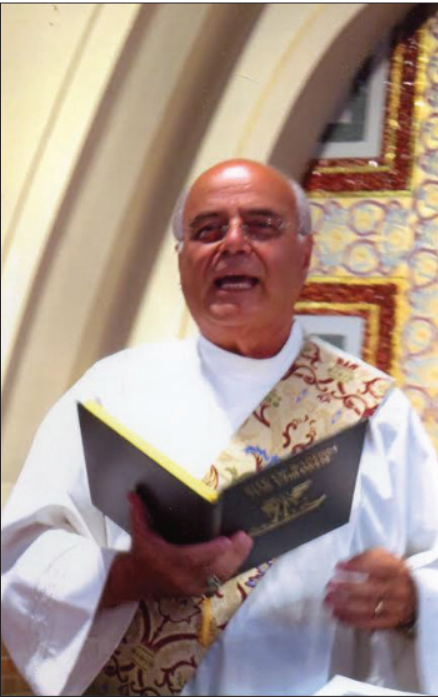
a global service organization founded in 1915, composed of local clubs of volunteers who work to improve communities and the lives of children. While Kiwanis is an international network of like-minded members, Rockaway Kiwanis' footprint is from Breezy Point to Far Rockaway and Broad Channel. As quoted on their website: "We are a non-political, non-religious organization welcoming people from all walks of life, and would love for you to consider joining us. We are all volunteers looking to help make a positive difference in the lives of both children and adults in our communities." The club meets every third Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. at Rogers Pub (203 Beach 116th Street).

Kiwanis of The Rockaways, with the help from the NYC Park Department, has secured the baseball fields on Beach 17th Street and the Redfern baseball fields behind the nearby NYCHA development for their inaugural je Little League. These locations will serve five baseball teams, each consisting of 15 players. All teams will be co-ed, and the program aims to provide a positive, inclusive environment for all kids in the community. The goal for the total number of players is 75. Registration and team assessment is ongoing every Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. until May 17 at Redfern Playground Baseball Field (Beach 12th Street and Redfern Ave.). Parents can bring ID and their child's birth certificate and proof of insurance to register. Practices begin May 17, and the season kicks off on June 21.

Kiwanis of The Rockaways is currently accepting program sponsors and accepting equipment donations. Little League registration is free and all children, ages 9 to 12, are welcome! For more info, email: littleleague@kiwanisoftherockaways.org, or visit: kiwanisoftherockaways.org / rockaway_kiwanisnyc.org on Instagram and Kiwanis Rockaways on Facebook. Or as Montero-Hernandez said, "See us on the field!"

The Beautiful Story of Rita Hayden

By Deacon Vincent M. La Gamba



Deacon Vincent La Gamba

There is a saying, "When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced." Then, "When you die, the world cries, and you rejoice."

On May 6, 2024, the Blessed Mother month, Rita Hayden peacefully returned to the House of the Father to receive the precious gift of Eternal Life after her terminal illness.

She left us as a predestined person whose mission on her earthly life was to use the Rosary as the prayer of those who conquer all adversities. She always spoke of the great graces she received from our Blessed Mother, especially in connection with her frequent offering of the Rosary at least three times each day! I will always remember Rita as the lady "with" the Rosary, praying it for her family, friends or outside the abortion clinics with Fr. Reilly and at the Pro-Life Rally in Washington every 22 of January for 30 consecutive years.

Rita was a very active parishioner at St. Francis de Sales in Belle Harbor, her place of worship day in and day out. Rita met Peter, the love of her life of fifty years at a wedding, who said to her, "I am

going to marry you!" And he did. Rita's "fiat" to Peter was this, "I want a big family." They had five children: Rita (married to John Martin); Kate (Keith Gallagher); Peter (Meghan); Patrick (Lisa); and Mary (Thomas McGoorty). Their latest grandchild, Liam, was welcomed on March 18, 2025, by the other grandchildren: John; Katie; James; Matthew; Thomas; Hayden; Taryn; Susanne; Avery; Lauren; Caroline; Peter; William; Carleigh; Patrick; Brendan; Olivia; Joseph; Thomas; Jack; Maci; and Makenna. Otherwise - Peter said, she "would have become a nun."

That, perhaps, was her true vocation for she had a deep faith since childhood.

Born Rita McCarthy on December 9, 1945, she bore the same name of her mother and the great Saint Rita of Cascia (Italy), Patroness of the Impossible Causes. Her firstborn daughter was also named Rita.

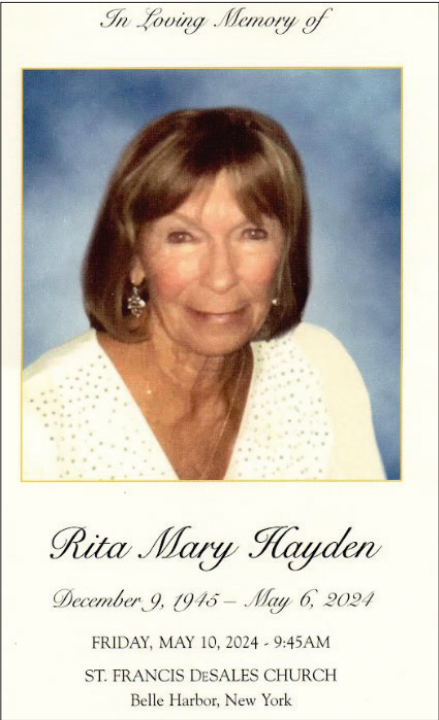
Rita and Peter loved to dance. Peter actually took after his father, who was an excellent dancer. It has been said that dancing is the art of perfection if both partners play the right part. Rita and Peter played, indeed, the right part, for they danced for 50 consecutive years until the day Rita got sick. Then, the music stopped.

For people who love dancing, they probably know that a dance, in the Bible, is a form of prayer in which man praises God with his whole being, uniting body and soul.

This unity between body and soul, often lost in everyday life, is rediscovered through movement. Bodily gestures in prayer were already widespread in early Christianity.

Dance is, indeed, a path that leads to the deepest roots of our "being," where we feel connected with "everything that exists."

Rita can be described as someone who dedicated her life to being, faithfully serving God and living according to His will through prayer and dancing. Her life is an example of forgiveness, peace-



Rita Hayden

making and unwavering faith. But praying and dancing is what made Rita's existence worth living!

Rita Hayden's husband, Peter, was a firefighter, who was in charge of the "rescue and recovery operation for the FDNY on 9/11," a tragic day for America.

There were 343 Firefighters who were killed after the collapsing of the Twin Towers. Peter, who worked without stopping until March 2002, knew most of those heroes. He attended numerous funeral Masses for many months, but he could not reach out to all families. He also felt that Mass cards and flowers were not sufficient expressions of condolences. He had to do more, to which Rita had a good idea. She suggested to Peter that she would prepare 343 Rosaries, each with a locket. In it, she put a picture of each deceased firefighter with a personal note of condolences to all the families. Later on, 97 more Rosaries were added because 97 members of some families requested them. They were grateful to Rita for such a precious gift. In a very special way she, through the Rosary, influenced the spiritual life of many who learned how to pray and still praying the Rosary for their loved ones.

There is more to it. On January 23, 2005, Peter, then Chief of Department of the FDNY, received a notification of a serious fire in the Bronx where several firefighters had been forced to jump from a building while battling the fire. One of them died at site, while others were in critical condition. He went to St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx where he found out that an additional firefighter had passed on and two others were critical.

As Peter finished talking with the hospital staff, he saw Mrs. Cawley waving at him from a sitting area at the end of the hall. She was holding a Rosary that Rita had given her. The photo in the locket was her son Michael, a firefighter who perished on 9/11. Her other son Brendan, a firefighter five months into the job, was now in the hospital. He had been forced to jump 50 feet out of the building.

As Peter approached Mrs. Cawley, she waved the Rosary at him saying: "Brendan is going to be OK." Peter silently prayed that she would not lose another son, while, after several minutes, a doctor told her that Brendan would be fine. He had a minor injury at the shoulder and at the head, although he jumped 50 feet out of the burning building. Brendan fully recovered and returned a few weeks later to his fire company.

A miracle? Only God knows.

Mrs. Cawley believed in Rita who gave her a Rosary that conquered the adversity of life: her second son did not die.

WANT TO GET
IN TOUCH?
SEND EMAIL TO
MAIL@ROCKAWAYTIMES.COM

Annette Farina ■ Anita Shor ■ Anthony Farina ■ Benita Lachner ■ Richard Farina ■ Matt Dory



BELLE HARBOR

BHR

REALTY

718-945-1801

432 Beach 129th Street

www.BelleHarborRealty.com

We Are Proud To Announce That
We Are Members Of



INSIST ON MLS



ROCKAWAY BEACH STUNNER

This charming two-bedroom, one bathroom home is situated on a spacious double lot, offering ample room for outdoor activities and future development potential. Recently renovated, with modern updates throughout, including a fully finished basement. The main floor features an inviting living area, a bright kitchen with contemporary finishes.

\$995K



BELLE HARBOR UPPER

Rare Oceanfront Featuring -
Three bedrooms, three bathrooms, spectacular ocean views, two car garage, plenty of parking, built in gorgeous swimming pool and cabana.

MUST SEE. \$5.8M



COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

Spectacular office space one flight up (second floor).
It is perfect for a professional - Insurance, Attorney, Therapist.
Two large rooms that can accommodate at least four desks.

\$2,000

EXCLUSIVE

BELLE HARBOR

Legal four family home. Three bedrooms, two bath apt, Two, two bedrooms, 1 bath, One, one bedroom with one bath.

ASKING \$995K

Call for Details



BELLE HARBOR

Vacant Land on Beach 130th Street.
Approved lot for a two family on a 40 x 100 great to build.

Asking \$549K

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Rockaway Beach - Beautiful renovated cozy one bedroom bungalow..... \$2,100
Rockaway Park - Three large rooms, very well maintained \$1,850
Belle Harbor - Two bedrooms with water views \$2,400
Belle Harbor - Three beautiful rooms with parking \$1,850
Belle Harbor – Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, quiet block\$2,700
Rockaway Beach - Three bedrooms, newly renovated, close to shopping. \$2,800
Rockaway Park - Beach 113th Street, two large bedrooms, ocean views. Mint condition \$2,600
Rockaway Park - Beach 120th Street , large one bedroom, plus parking.. \$1,800
Rockaway Park Beach 118th Street - Three bedrooms, two bathrooms renovated, parking included \$3,500
Belle Harbor - One Large, newly renovated bedroom heat included \$1,850

SUMMER RENTAL

Belle Harbor - One bedroom apt fully furnished near beach. 5/15 - thru Labor Day.
.....\$15,000

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

Beach 116th Street - One flight up 1,200 sq ft \$2,000
Beach 129th Street - Completely renovated, beautiful new store for rent
..... KEY MONEY REQUIRED
Beach 116th - 500 sq ft \$1,300
Beach 116th - 750 sq ft \$1,700

To advertise in THE ROCKAWAY TIMES call 718-634-3030 • ads@RockawayTimes.com

Sean Fitzgerald
917-860-6701
Coastalfitz@gmail.com
Licensed Broker/Principal

Ellen May Esposito - Banks
646-209-2744
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Alexa Naas
718-877-4383
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson



Office: 718-318-5030
coastalrealestateny.com
 coastalrealestate11694



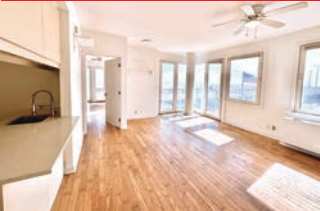
Mary Beth Meade
347-426-8002
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Daniel Donahue
917-399-7188
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Virginia Roberts
718-208-9502
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Honesty, Customer Loyalty and Integrity

We would like to welcome Alexa Naas to the team

NEW TO MARKET ROCKAWAY POINT IN CONTRACT  Renovated 2 BR, 1 Bath. Walking distance to all. Convenient parking off the back deck. \$560,000	BELLE HARBOR  Renovated Legal Two Family Finished basement. CAC throughout. Manicured yard with room for pool. Oversized garage with cabana potential. Private Driveway. Offered at \$1.275 Million	NEPONSIT VACANT LAND 50 X 143  Oversized Lot Adjoining vacant federal land. Private and serene Build up to a 3,575 square foot home as of right. Offered at \$825,000	SEAVON IN CONTRACT  Beach 119th Street. Rockaway Park 2 Bed, 2 Bath, Corner Condo Unit, Oceanfront. Washer/Dryer in unit. Private parking. Offered at \$515,000
NEW TO MARKET ROCKAWAY POINT Get ready for summer. Completely Renovated bayside three-bedroom, one full bath, one half bath. Radiant tile flooring throughout. Dual A/C and heat ductless units. Covered Pergola with jacuzzi. Custom pavers. Adjacent to parking. Walking distance to all. Offered at \$799,000	ARVERNE OCEANFRONT CONDO  New Construction. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths. Pvt. drive, One car garage, private yard. Two balconies. Unobstructed ocean views. Offered at \$749,000	BELLE HARBOR IN CONTRACT  Legal Three family on a Rare 80x100 lot. 3000 square feet. Can add an additional 1000 square feet as of right. 2 car garage. Architectural plans included. Offered at \$1.249 Million	SEAVON OFFER ACCEPTED  Beach 119th Street. Renovated Oceanfront Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, washer/dryer, indoor parking. Offered at \$615,000
BELLE HARBOR RENTAL Two bedrooms, 1 bath. Back terrace. One summer parking space. \$2,400 plus electric and cable.	NEW TO MARKET MADISON/MARINE PARK  Legal two family on 30x100 lot. 3 bedroom, 1 full, 1 half bath. H/W throughout. Large 1 bedroom apartment. Pvt. drive, garage. Offered at \$1,089,000	BELLE HARBOR  Long-term or Summer Rental 3 Bedroom, 1 full bath, 1 half-bath, Fireplace, H/W floors, finished basement Long term rental \$5500 plus Utilities Summer Rental \$9000 per month	RENTALS Belle Harbor - Coming Soon Renovated 3BR, 2Bath, Pkg., \$3200 + Util's Rockaway Park - Renovated 2BR, Office, H/W Floors, Terrace \$2750 + Util's Neponsit - House Rental. 3 BR, 2 Bath. H/W Floors, Back deck, jacuzzi, \$4500 + Util's Far Rockaway - Renovated 3BR, 2 bath H/W floors. \$3,000 plus electric Belle Harbor - SUMMER RENTAL 3BR, 1 1/2 Bath, 5 car parking, FP, H/W Floors. \$27k Mem Day - Labor Day

Robin Shapiro Realty, LLC

LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

www.facebook.com/robinshapirorealty www.robinshapirorealty.com

718-490-9463

Premier Agent
On Zillow.com

Steven Shapiro, Associate Broker
Leah Shapiro, Salesperson
Rosa Eller, Salesperson

Robin Shapiro, Broker/Owner
David Shapiro, Associate Broker
Sean McNamara, Salesperson
Rachel West, Associate Broker

IN CONTRACT

**ROCKAWAY BEACH
LEGAL THREE FAMILY**



EXCLUSIVE

**TWO MINT 3-FAMILY HOUSES
A MUST SEE**

My Beach 90th Street twin listings ARE COMPELLING WITH A CAP RATE OF APPROXIMATELY 7 percent. "CAP RATE" means the net income to the investor over a one year time horizon. They are two MINT 3 family houses which are next door to each other and one block from the beach at 165 and 167 Beach 90th Street. The real estate taxes are very low at below \$5000 for each house. The rent rolls are relatively very high at over \$7000/month for each house. The houses are listed at \$1.05 million for each house. Homeowners insurance is approximately \$5000 for each house. They are for sale individually or together. The owner has great long term tenants who are all on a month to month basis. They would require three months' notice if a new owner wanted them to vacate. The heating bill is very reasonable at \$450 monthly for 167 Beach 90th on balanced billing. This can be split up and made the tenants' responsibility. Right now the owner pays it. The tenants pay for the heat on 165 Beach 90th Street. CALL ME for more information and/or to make an appointment to view the properties. LOVE ROBIN 718-490-9463

IN CONTRACT

**ROCKAWAY PARK
CO-OP**



Renovated studio co-op, lots of closets, lovely bay views
\$279K

EXCLUSIVE

BELLE HARBOR



One block to the beach. Colonial on a 60x100 lot, Call for details.

EXCLUSIVE

**NEPONSIT
OPEN HOUSE**
145-04 Rockaway Beach Blvd
Sunday, May 4th | 1:00pm - 3:00pm



This is a rare opportunity to own one of the largest properties in Neponsit. 100.32 x 95.44 lot. Call for details
\$1,850,000

EXCLUSIVE

**NEPONSIT
BEACH BLOCK**



OCEAN VIEWS GALORE
Move right in! Great room w/wbfp, EIK plus den, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, finished basement, in-ground & heated pool & spa, long private driveway, 1 car garage.
\$2.6M

IN CONTRACT

NEPONSIT



Corner property 80x100
Four bedrooms, four bathrooms, formal living room and dining room, eat-in-kitchen, two car garage and long private driveway **\$1.2M**

EXCLUSIVE
SOLD

BELLE HARBOR



One family four bedrooms, three bathrooms, living room, dining room, eat in kitchen, deck, with one car garage and private parking. Needs updating.
\$949K

EXCLUSIVE
SOLD

**BELLE HARBOR
BEACH BLOCK**



Lovely Brick Colonial
Three bedrooms, two and half bathrooms. Formal living and dining room, eat in kitchen with door to backyard and shower house. Covered front porch, two car garage. Shared driveway. **\$999K**

EXCLUSIVE

**ROCKAWAY
PARK**



100-02 Rockaway Beach Blvd - 100-08 Rockaway Beach Blvd
50x100 lot
Residential with a commercial overlay
\$689K

APARTMENTS / SUMMER RENTAL

SUMMER RENTAL • Neponsit – Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, renovated Bungalow with backyard, private driveway. Memorial Day – Labor Day \$20K

- Beach 90th Street - One bedroom duplex house, steps to the beach, shopping and transportation. \$2,400
- Beach 119th Street - One bedroom, third floor, parking and heat Included. \$1,800

*I've sold a house on every block
from Beach 149 - Beach 121 Street ...let me sell yours!*



rockaway properties.

Lic. Broker-Owner: **Lisa Jackson** Lic. Associate Brokers: **Barbara Ferguson • Nia Casilla • Colleen Brady • Tracy Czik**
Lic. RE Agents: **Joseph Magiera • Zachary Plattner • Carol Feintisch**
Samantha Benanti • Nicole Switzer • Tyler Paladine

417 Beach 129th Street • (718) 634-3134 • 217 Beach 116th Street
www.rockaprop.com



BROAD CHANNEL



Legal two family currently enjoyed as a spacious 1 family retreat featuring 3 BR, 2.5 bath and huge back deck. **\$699,000**

ARVERNE



Spacious and versatile 5 BR, 2 bath home, ideal for large extended families. A private drive and generous sized back yard. **\$699,000**

ARVERNE



Two family, 5 BR, 3 baths, upper unit is bright and airy and currently vacant. Private parking. **\$699,000**

ARVERNE



Incredible potential, waiting for your vision to bring it to life. With solid bones and a flexible 2 BR layout create your dream space. **\$549,000**

ROCKAWAY BEACH



Beautifully renovated 3 BR, 2 bath with a bright desirable open floor plan. Comes with deeded parking. **\$525,000**

ROCKAWAY BEACH



Well maintained 1 BR, 1 bath condo with a private terrace and 660 sq.ft. of living space. Come take a look. **\$299,000**

BELLE HARBOR



1 BR, 1 BATH - **\$298,000**

ROCKAWAY PARK



STUDIO SPACE - **\$295,000**

ROCKAWAY PARK



1 BR, 1 BATH - **\$277,000**

BELLE HARBOR



6 BR, 4 BATH - **\$1,999,999**

NEPONSIT



5 BR, 4 BATH - **\$1,550,000**

NEPONSIT



3 BR, 2.5 BATH - **\$1,300,000**

ROCKAWAY PARK



LEGAL 2 FAM - **\$1,175,000**

BELLE HARBOR



5 BR, 2 BATH - **\$1,100,000**

NEPONSIT



3 BR, 2.5 BATH - **\$999,000**

ROCKAWAY PARK



2 BR PENTHOUSE - **\$950,000**

• • • AVAILABLE HOME & APARTMENT RENTALS • • •

- BELLE HARBOR/NEPONSIT:** Multiple summer rentals available (LJ). **Starting at \$3,500**
B. 147: 3BR, 2BA home with HW floors, SS appliances, W/D, parking, garage and jacuzzi (LJ) **\$4,500**
B. 118: Beach block 2BR, 1BA apt with shared W/D, all utilities included, parking included (CF) . . . **\$3,500**
B. 91: Updated 3BR, 2BA apt with bonus room W/D, HW floors, SS appliances (ZP) **\$3,500**
B. 118: 1st floor 3BR, 2BA apt with shared backyard and year round parking spot (CF) **\$3,200**
B. 118: Beach block 2BR, 1BA parking included (ZP) **\$2,700**
- B. 100:** Spacious and bright 2nd floor apartment, 2BR, 1 bath (TC) **\$2,700**
B. 118: Fully renovated, 1BR, 1 bath walk in apartment, oceanfront building (CB) **\$2,650**
B. 117: Ocean Grande condo 2BR, 2 bath with parking (NS) **\$2,600**
B. 128: Bright and spacious 1BR, 1 bath, 3rd floor walk up includes indoor parking (CF) **\$2,550**
B. 121: Oceanfront building with stunning panoramic views of the beach and boardwalk (BF) **\$2,500**
B. 127: 2BR in a private home with stunning views of the bay and Manhattan skyline (TC) **\$2,400**



OFFICE OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, May 4th from 2-4pm, 217 Beach 116th Street

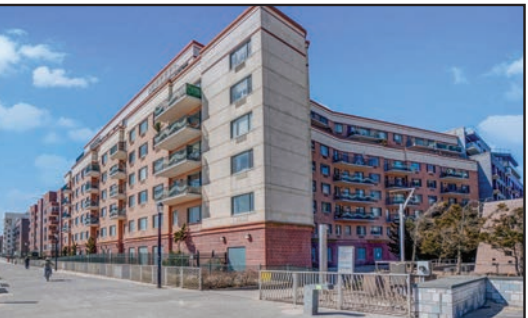
It's a seller's market here in the Rockaways and we have the tools you need to get your home sold for above market value!

Come see us to find out how...hosted by Nia!

Coming Soon

Two Beach Block Belle Harbor homes on 60'x100' lots.

Call Lisa Jackson for more details.
(917) 623-8985

ROCKAWAY PARK  A rare and lucrative opportunity to own a fully renovated, income generating 4-family property just steps from the beach!! \$1,399,000	NEPONSIT - 62' x 100'  Exceptional renovation opportunity in PRIME LOCATION. Approved plans and brand new Anderson windows incl. \$1,300,000	BELLE HARBOR  Beautiful 3 BR, 2.5 bath equipped with split units, outdoor shower, paved yard and parking for 3 cars comfortably. \$1,300,000
ARVERNE BY THE SEA  Discover the charm of this well-maintained two family corner property just steps from the ocean! 4BR, 3bath. \$1,200,000	ROCKAWAY PARK  This one of a kind 4 BR, 2 bath home on a DOUBLE lot. One block to the beach. The best deal in town! \$899,000	ROCKAWAY PARK  Oceanfront, 2 BR, 2 bath. . . . \$825,000 1,320 sq.ft., 2 BR, 2 bath \$725,000 7th floor, 2 BR, 2 bath. \$569,000
ROCKAWAY PARK  Affordable opportunity to own a 3 BR, 3 bath home in the PS 114th school district. Private parking. \$769,000	ROCKAWAY BEACH  Gorgeous 5th floor condo, 2 BR, 2 bath, private balcony. This gem includes a parking spot and bike storage. \$729,000	ROCKAWAY BEACH  Legal 2-family is very well maintained with 3 BR's, 2 baths and a spacious front yard. Desirable location. \$715,000

• • • COMMERCIAL & LAND OPPORTUNITIES • • •		
B. 102:	Professional office space for rent. 1,250 sq.ft. with parking (TC)	\$3,600
B. 116:	Great location, 600 sq.ft., close to all transporation, second floor (CF).	\$2,000
B. 116:	Second floor walk up, office space for rent, newly tiled bathroom (BF)	\$1,500
B. 116:	Building for sale on a 60'x100 lot. Zoned R7A,C13 (LJ)	\$4,000,000
B. 116:	Building for sale on a 40'x100 lot. Zoned R7A,C13 (LJ)	\$3,000,000
B. 116:	Established and fully occupied, 2 store fronts, 2 rental apartments (LJ)	\$2,800,000
B. 116:	2 Store fronts, 1 occupied, 1 vacant (LJ)	\$2,500,000
• • • LAND FOR SALE • • •		
B. 88:	Tremendous opportunity to build residential homes (LJ)	\$1,500,000
NEPONSIT:	Stunning location with water views, over 7,000 sq.ft. lot (LJ)	\$890,000
B. 101:	Own, build and develop on a 58'x100' lot. Zoned R4A,FAR.075 (TC)	\$689,000
BROAD CHANNEL:	Waterfront 50'x100', owner financing available (CB).	\$125,000

NPS Finds a Temporary Solution for Aviator



Aviator Sports is here to stay! Well, at least, the outdoor portions and its ice programs.

Last Thursday, the Aviator Hockey Club and the Ice Dance Academy announced that they've found a way to move forward after Aviator Sports in Brooklyn ceased operations on April 14. In the wake of this news, The Rockaway Times reached out to the National Park Service (NPS) for an update on the latest.

NPS said that it had offered Aviator Sports and Events Center another contract extension until April 14, 2026, and that Aviator accepted the contract to operate

the outdoor facilities only. This includes the sports fields, Green Meadows Farm, and golf, so those programs will continue.

As for the inside components, NPS worked on a temporary solution for those who utilize the ice rink. NPS said they have "signed an agreement with Chris Wershtine, a member of the local hockey community, to operate the interior facilities specific to the hockey and figure skating programs, which will resume on Monday, April 28. Other programs within the facility have been suspended and the facility will be closed to general public access."

And the search for a more permanent solution for all continues. "The NPS will re-issue a Request for Proposals in the coming weeks in the effort to find a permanent new operator for the facility."

Real Estate Corner



By Robin Shapiro

Improve or Upgrade?

I often meet buyers and/or sellers contemplating the same dilemma – They need more space in their home for growing families. Should they put a lot of money into an existing home (or a potential purchase), or should they buy a bigger more expensive house which doesn't need a lot of work?

I once wrote about a fellow whose inexpensive construction man delayed the sale and probably cost him a lot of money because of the delay in marketing the house. Ultimately the decision to improve or upgrade depends somewhat on individual finances and the specifics of the house in question. In general, it probably makes more sense to sell the existing house and avoid making any large investment in construction work. Why? Delays and cost overruns are common problems. I'd try to avoid building permits, architects and construction workers in our current environment. On the other hand, I have a comprehensive list of tradesmen if you want to seriously consider construction: this includes plumbers, roofers, masons, carpenters, architects, electricians, general contractors, etc., and even handymen.

Of course, my suggestion to sell rather than upgrade is dependent on obtaining an acceptable price for the existing home and buying the right new house at a fair price. I can help. Call me. Love, Robin♥



NEPONSIT
REALTY inc

Geni Lipsman,
Owner/Lic. Broker



P 718.945.2411
www.neponsitrealty.com

Tradition of Integrity since 1936
Our Clients are always satisfied with our performance and the ability to get the job done!

NEW EXCLUSIVE
OPEN HOUSE
Saturday May 3rd | 12:00pm - 1:30pm
315 Beach 149th Street



NEPONSIT RANCH

This beautiful 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch offers the perfect combination of comfort, privacy, and convenience.

Nestled on a peaceful block, this property features a private driveway and a spacious yard - Ideal for outdoor gatherings, gardening, or simply relaxing in your own private oasis.

\$940,000 Call Bronagh 718-877-6324

LEGAL TWO BEACH SIDE BEAUTY



This home boasts 8 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3000 sq. Ft. a spacious floor plan, chef's dream kitchen, 3 porches, finished basement. Many upgrades, Call for details.
Call Susan 347-260-3891

EXCLUSIVE



Beach Block Stunning Sunlit Newly Renovated Condo 1,600 sqft. Two bedrooms, two and half baths duplex w/ additional living space and bath on lower level. Perfect to use for office, family room. Maintenance \$460.

Reduced \$777,000 Call Susan 347-260-3891

EXCLUSIVE

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, May 4th | 12:30pm - 2:30pm
190 Beach 137th Street



This pristine 60x100 has 7 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 4,700 sq.ft. and is renovated. So much elegance and charm, come and see for yourself.

Call Susan for details
347-360-3891

APARTMENTS

Rockaway Park

Steps to beach, pristine and modern, one bedroom condo with washer/dryer, move right in. Many great amenities including ocean view terrace. Parking, pay all utilities \$2,200
Call Susan 347-260-3891

Summer Rental Beach 120's

Steps to Beach, one bedroom, one bathroom.
Call Susan 347-260-3891

Summer Rental Rockaway Park

One block to beach, adorable studio with a living room, kitchen and loft, enjoy June, July and August, or enjoy the whole summer. Utilities included, small pet is welcomed.
Call Kate 917-680-8051

Beach 100's

One bedroom, one bathroom. Summer parking, no pets \$1,800
Call Susan 347-260-3891

Beach 120's

Newly Renovated. Super large, one bedroom, one bathroom, ocean views. Access to washer/dryer. Parking is extra, pay electric \$2,500
Call Susan 347-260-3891

Geni Lipsman
Owner/Lic. RE Broker
917-751-8476



Susan Lavin
Lic. RE Salesperson
347-260-3891



Kate Patterson
Lic. RE Salesperson
917-680-8051



Bronagh Rayder
Lic. RE Salesperson
718-877-6324



Jackie Connolly
Lic. Associate Broker
347-533-2635





be balanced

A BLISSFUL LIFE



by Jennifer Kelleher

When Plans Change

Life rarely unfolds exactly as we envision. Whether it's a missed opportunity, an unexpected detour, or a personal disappointment, setbacks are an inevitable part of the human experience. While these moments can be disheartening, they also offer valuable opportunities for growth and self-discovery. In today's column, we look at how to navigate life's curveballs with grace, resilience, and a positive outlook!

When faced with a setback, it's natural to dwell on what went wrong or to worry about the future. However, grounding yourself in the present can alleviate anxiety and provide clarity. Mindfulness practices, such as deep breathing or focusing on your immediate surroundings, can help anchor you in the now. By

observing your thoughts without judgment, you create space to respond thoughtfully rather than react impulsively. Setbacks can trigger a cascade of negative thoughts, leading to self-doubt and discouragement. To counter this, practice reframing your internal dialogue. Instead of thinking, "I failed," consider, "This is a learning opportunity." Positive self-talk can shift your mindset, fostering resilience and optimism. This approach, sometimes referred to as "lemonading," involves acknowledging challenges, while maintaining hope for the future. Suppressing emotions can lead to increased stress and hinder the healing process. It's essential to acknowledge and process your feelings, whether it's disappointment, frustration, or sadness. Journaling, talking to a trusted friend, or engaging in creative outlets can provide a healthy release. Remember, experiencing emotions is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Setbacks often signal the need to reevaluate our plans. Take time to reflect on your objectives and consider whether they align with your current values and circumstances. Adjusting your goals doesn't mean giving up; it signifies adaptability and a willingness to grow. By setting realistic and flexible targets, you create a roadmap that accommodates life's unpredictability. Surrounding yourself with positive influences can significantly impact your ability to cope with setbacks. Engage with individuals who uplift and encourage you, and don't hesitate to seek support when needed. Sharing your experiences can provide new perspectives and remind you that you're not alone in facing challenges. In times of adversity, self-care becomes paramount. Ensure you're attending to your physical, emotional, and mental well-being. This includes maintaining a balanced diet, getting adequate sleep, exercising regularly, and engaging in activities that bring joy and relaxation. By nurturing yourself, you build the resilience needed to navigate future obstacles.

Life's path is seldom linear. Each twist and turn offers lessons that contribute to our personal growth. By embracing setbacks as integral components of your journey, you open yourself to new possibilities and experiences. Remember, resilience isn't about avoiding difficulties but about facing them with courage and grace! Setbacks, while challenging, are not insurmountable. By staying present, reframing your mindset, processing emotions, adjusting goals, seeking support, and prioritizing self-care, you equip yourself to handle life's uncertainties. Embrace each experience as an opportunity to learn and grow and trust in your capacity to overcome and thrive! Join us at Ocean Bliss Yoga—located on the third floor of the Belle Harbor Yacht Club— for classes and workshops this spring and summer! Sign up at oceanblissyoga.net; call or text me with any questions at 917-318-1168. All are welcome. Parking available in the lot downstairs.

AMERICAN CLEANING ENTERPRISES

CLEANING WITH CARE

4 Reasons to Get Your Office Professionally Cleaned by Us:

- ✓ Free Estimates
- ✓ 3-year Price Freeze
- ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ Satisfaction Guaranteed

What I Deliver:

- Daily, weekly, or monthly cleaning
- Customized cleaning schedule that fits your needs and budget
- Only EPA-approved products used
- Personally trained, prompt, and professional staff

Call (718) 843-5223 today for a free estimate,

or email Craig at csimos@live.com

BREEZY POINT LUMBER

Service — Quality — Value — Selection

WE STAND BEHIND WHAT WE SELL!
Free Delivery (Available in Most Cases)

If You're Planning A Renovation, New Home Or Repair... See us First!

We can recommend reliable
Architects • Builders • Contractors

28 Market Street • Breezy Point
718-634-2600
Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30-4:00

Supplying All Your Building Material Needs

- Treated Exterior Decking • Lumber
- Cedar Decking • Masonry Products
- Plumbing • Moulding • Plywood
- All Kinds of Composite Decking
- Fasteners & Hardware
- Dow Syrofoam Buoyancy Billets (10"x20"x96" and 7"x20"x96")

AND MUCH MORE!

Accepting Major Credit Cards
email: breezylumber@hotmail.com
www.BreezyPointLumberCo.com



@SPAROCKAWAY

BALANCE HARMONY BEAUTY



- Facial Treatments
- Massage Therapy
- Laser Hair Removal
- Body Contouring
- Emsculpt
- Skin Analysis
- Skincare Products

GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR

This Mother's Day, show your love and appreciation with the ultimate gift of relaxation—a spa day just for her.

Purchase a gift certificate of \$250 or more and receive 10% off

May 3rd - May 10th

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

SCAN TO SCHEDULE



(718) 318-8840 • Sparockaway.com

112-20 Beach Channel Drive, Rockaway Park, NY 11694



QUIGLEY INSURANCE



The family owned and operated insurance agency has been providing flood, auto, home, condo, rental, commercial business, motorcycle, boat and more not only to Rockaway Peninsula but NYC, Nassau and Suffolk since 1994 – and you can be our next satisfied customer.

Hurricane Forecast is not very favorable this year! Everyone needs to get a flood policy!

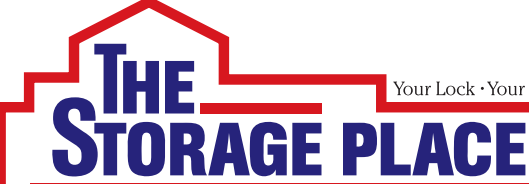
Top companies protect your valuable assets:
Chubb, Coastal, United Property & Casualty Insurance, Kingstone, Liberty Mutual, National General, The Hartford and Travelers



Competitive pricing for comprehensive coverage and quality service.

Call for details
718-474-1915
email: mquig44441@aol.com





THE STORAGE PLACE

ROCKAWAY'S PREMIER STORAGE FACILITY

Your Lock • Your Key **OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

- 60,000 Square Foot Facility
- Rockaway Owned & Operated For More Than 20 Years
- Most Competitive Rates In The Borough
- Documents & Record Storage Services
- Lighting And Security Cameras Throughout 24/7
- Climate Controlled Rooms Available • Mail Boxes Available
- Drive Up Accessible Rooms • Perfect For Contractors
- Shipping & Packing Supplies Available

226 Beach 88th Street, Rockaway Beach, NY
88StreetSelfStorage.com **718-474-2300**



MATH ROCKS

A family currently puts 20% of their income in a savings account . This year they put \$15881.04 in savings. If they had put 25% instead of 20% of their income in savings, how much more would they have saved?

Find the answer on page 38



Rockaway Park Older Adult Center

106-20 Shore Front Parkway
Rockaway Park, NY 11694
718.634.3044

Friends | Trips | Fun | Group Activities | Special Events | Food | Fitness

NYC Department for the Aging UJA Federation New York

NEW HEIGHTS CONSTRUCTION LLC

FENCING & DECK DIVISION

SPRING SPECIALS

FENCES, DECKS

PVC Fencing and Railings

Wood Cedar | PVC | Stainless Steel Chain Link

Pressure Treated & Composite Decking

Competitive prices...give us a Call



CALL OWNER DIRECT BIG JOHN FOR PERSONALIZED SERVICE AND THE BEST PRICES. CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

917-642-0195
718-767-0044
Email: Closersssss@yahoo.com
NEWHEIGHTSCONSTRUCTIONLLC.com
NYC Lic# 1191201



We accept all Credit Cards

Quoth The Rockaway Times...

"A good plan violently executed now is better than a perfect plan executed next week."

-George Patton

Wrapping up Earth Month, Renewing Communal Ties to Jamaica Bay, and Ready for Summer

By Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy

Last week marked the 55th Earth Day, our annual springtime recommitment to protect our environment. The first Earth Day, celebrated at Union Square in 1970, forced the issue of environmental quality and resources conservation into political dialogue, which helped safeguard the cleaner water and air we take for granted today (among many other environmental standards). Jamaica Bay's history is a microcosm of our relationship to nature—with human-made settlements against vibrant natural landscapes.

It may be hard to imagine that before 1970, anyone could dump tons of toxic waste or debris into Jamaica Bay, and that was perfectly legal. Heavy industry, including facilities for turning dead horses into glue, developed in the 1850s on Barren Island (now home to Floyd Bennett Field). Next came four colossal landfills along the bay that served the city until the 1990s. Jamaica Bay earned the unwelcome moniker, "Garbage Bay."

Thanks to a concerted effort from community stakeholders, local elected officials, city, state and federal agencies, scientists and engineers, Jamaica Bay is overcoming years of pollution and ecosystem collapse. In 1995, the Jamaica Bay Ecowatchers, headed by Dan Mundy Sr. and Dan Mundy Jr., noticed that the marsh islands in the bay were slowly disappearing, which they hypothesized was due to excess nitrogen and untreated sewage coming from the wastewater treatment plants situated around the bay. Through the Clean Water Act, the Ecowatchers and American Littoral Society, and others, successfully pushed for a study on the bay and marsh loss, which subsequently led to investments to update these sewage plants and cut nitrogen pollution of the bay in half by 2020, protecting the symbiotic relationship between marine life and marsh

grasses that keep the wetlands in place.

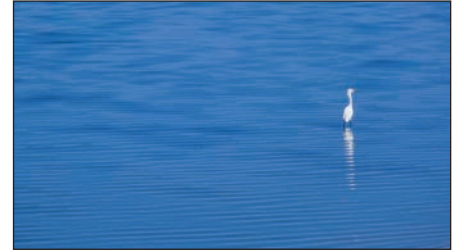
Since the 1990s, Jamaica Bay has begun to thrive once again, now hosting more than 325 species of resident and migratory birds, 100 fish, 50 butterflies, numerous marine mammals, turtles, ancient horseshoe crabs, and many rare and endangered plants. Positive changes have resulted, like the creation of new parks, restoration of wetlands, increased biodiversity, and improved public access for recreation, economic activity for local businesses, and jobs for residents.

Keeping this positive momentum going will take all of us. As neighbors of New York City's largest tidal estuary, we have a responsibility and privilege to ensure its longevity for future generations. Last week, the Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy (JBRPC) worked with 150 volunteers to remove over 1,200 pounds of debris across two sites on Broad Channel and Rockaway Beach. As the busy season for the bay and peninsula begins, minding our trash is one of the best things we can do for our local environment.

Another, even simpler thing we can do is just to get outside, experience nature for a few hours each week, and support our parklands with our presence—to add personal "Earth Days" to our calendar through the remainder of spring and summer. There are a bevy of free events approaching now that the weather is warm, and the sun is (mostly) shining. On Saturday, May 3, JBRPC is hosting "Run the Runways: Floyd Bennett Field's Birthday Bash!" This free 2-mile fun run (or walk) on the historic runways of Floyd Bennett Field will be followed by picnicking (bring your own; we'll provide tables), music, lawn games, kids crafts, and scavenger hunts around the park's historical aircraft collection. On Saturday, May 10, JBRPC is hosting "Park Pals" at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge,

an early childhood nature education program for kids aged 0-6. On Sunday, May 18, the "Annual Horseshoe Crab Festival" will give participants the chance to interact with breeding horseshoe crabs that have been coming ashore in spring for 400 million years. All these events, and more, are listed on JBRPC.org/events.

The race to save Jamaica Bay is not won, but thanks to the tireless efforts of many environmentally inclined organizations and individuals, we have a running start. Keeping the marshes healthy is not just a broad environmental concern, but a local issue of acute importance. A resilient Jamaica Bay protects neighborhoods and residents from storm surges and flooding worsened by climate change, encourages economic activity in local communities, and creates opportunities to enjoy



time in nature. These waters connect us—to each other, and to the natural history going back to our home's formation 10,000 years ago.

Photos by JBRPC and Arthur Tress.

Answer the Call's Soiree to Support First Responder Families

Can you Answer the Call? As a community full of first responders, on Thursday, May 8, there's a chance to support the families of fallen first responders at Answer the Call's Red, White and Blue Soiree.

Jake Schwartz, a dedicated supporter of the organization and whose father, Kevin, a retired police officer who worked down at Ground Zero after 9/11, knows the importance of supporting first responders and their families. He started interning with Answer the Call four years ago, an organization that provides financial assistance and support to families of NYPD, FDNY, PAPD, and EMS Personnel killed in the line of duty. Now he's a member of the Associate Committee and helps plan events for the organization.

One of those events will take place next Thursday, May 8, with their 12th annual Red, White and Blue Soiree from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

at SECOND NYC (849 6th Ave.) in Manhattan. The event includes cocktails, light bites, and a silent auction among friends. General admission is \$175 but discount \$110 tickets are available for active-duty NYPD, FDNY, and PAPD first responders. All attendees must be 21 years old or older.

"Given that the Rockaway peninsula is home to quite a few first responders, I thought this is a cause people should be aware of, especially because Rockaway is home to so many first responders and their families, and so many who support them, I consider it an honor to be a part of the organization, and I know many people on the peninsula feel the same way about helping out first responders," Schwartz said. "This event is a great way to give back to those who gave everything for us, and it is something I look forward to every year."

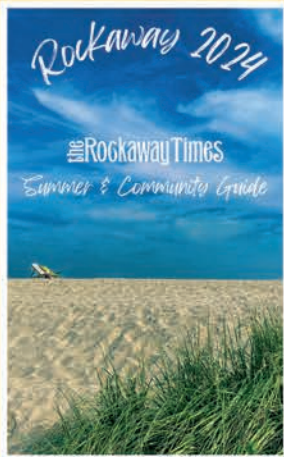
For tickets, see: <http://givergy.us/soiree>

ROCKAWAY'S SUMMER GUIDE

2025

BE PART OF THE CAN'T MISS PUBLICATION OF THE YEAR!





We Sell Out Early – Don't Be Left Out In the Cold!

Call **718-634-3030** or email Ads@Rockawaytimes.com



Rockaway Beach Civic Association

On Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m., head to the Knights of Columbus (333 Beach 90th Street) for the monthly RB Civic meeting. Special guest Elizabeth Walsack, the new Rockaway Administrator for Parks will be on hand to discuss the bike policy, summer planning and more.

Stargazing at Floyd Bennett Field

On Friday, May 2 at 8:30 p.m., head to Hangar Row next to the Community Garden at Floyd Bennett Field to join the Amateur Astronomers Association for free observing sessions! Event is 30 minutes after sunset. Cancelled if raining.

Belle Harbor Beach Cleanup

On Saturday, May 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., head to the beach wall at Beach 134th Street to join the Belle Harbor Property Owners Association in a beach cleanup. Bring a rake if you have one. Service credit hours available.

Run the Runways

On Saturday, May 3 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., head to Floyd Bennett Field for a fun run and a day of history and a look into the future. Enjoy a 2-mile run, a DJ dance party, scavenger hunt, artwork, kids' crafts, lawn games, picnic space and more. Pre-register for the run at Rockawattc.org. No registration required for the other events.

Earth Day Rockaway

On Saturday, May 3 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., head to RISE (58-03 Rockaway Beach Boulevard) for a day of free environmental activities and programs for families and children of all ages. Enjoy live music, cooking demos, plantings, face painting, water testing, fire safety, free giveaways, and art-related booths to learn how to appreciate and conserve the earth's resources.

World Labyrinth Day

On Saturday, May 3 at 12:30 p.m., head to the Beach 94th Labyrinth on Shore Front Parkway for a guided meditation with Dr. Nancy Gahles.

Sail Rockaway Opening Party

On Saturday, May 3 from 2 p.m. until dark, head to Marina 59 on Beach 59th Street and the bay for their season opening party. Free sailing tours and lessons, live jazz and \$1 oysters. Family friendly.

Floor & Aerial Yoga Fusion

On Saturday, May 3 at 3:30 p.m., head to ZenTora (114-06 Rockaway Beach Blvd.) for a complimentary Yoga Fusion + Aerial Flow trial class blending grounding floor poses with gentle hammock play, breathwork, and deep relaxation. All levels welcome. To register: www.zentora.nyc/events

Ocular Melanoma Walk

On Sunday, May 4 at 9 a.m., head to the Beach 94th boardwalk for a 5K walk to raise awareness of ocular melanoma in support of Casey Gallagher.

Parent Coach Seminar

On Sunday, May 4 at 5 p.m., head to the Rockaplay Social Club (6820 Rockaway Beach Blvd.) to join parent coach and psychotherapist, Olivia Bergeron LCSW, PMH-C, for useful strategies to help you parent in a way you're proud of. Learn about Peaceful Parenting 101: three core ideas; ways for parents

to be their best; and common issues kids face and how to help.

Art Exhibition: Noticin'

On weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., head to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge for Noticin', an art exhibit joyfully exposing Jamaica Bay's shoreline clutter.

Cardio Punch

On Saturdays through May 3, at 11 a.m., head to the Far Rockaway Library (1637 Central Ave.) to join Gloria for this total-body, non-contact workout for all fitness levels.

Chair Movement Class

On Monday and Wednesdays at 10 a.m., head to Temple Beth-El (201 Beach 121st Street) for Chair Movement class, stretching and strengthening for your whole body. Donation based.

Uplifted Dance Fitness

On Mondays and Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m., head to the Beach 32nd Street Football Field (Beach 32nd and the boardwalk) for a free dance workout class with Miss Dawn.

Got events? Send an email to katie@rockawaytimes.com with details for consideration to be listed.



HOODIES

LIGHT TO WINTER WEIGHT
FULL ZIPPER - PULLOVERS



CAR/TRUCK



LETTERING

CAPS



GRAPHICS OR LOGOS



Mugs • Trophies

T-SHIRTS

CUSTOM GRAPHICS
PRE-PRINTED SHIRTS

Award Plaques



PHOTOS MOUNTED FOR FRAMING

LOGO STICKERS FOR "BRANDING"

SILK SCREEN PRINTING LARGE COLOR PRINT-OUTS



- FAX SERVICE
- EMAIL SERVICE
- LETTERHEADS
- ENVELOPES
- FLYERS
- NCR
- INVOICES
- BUSINESS CARDS

91-19 Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Rockawaygraphics@verizon.net
 718-634-1089





BUSINESS DIRECTORY

•rockaway properties•

417 Beach 129th Street • (718) 634-3134 • 217 Beach 116th Street
www.rockaprop.com

Interested in Selling?

Guaranteed Cash Offer on Your Home!

Come in for your free consultation
and find out what we do that is different.

Lisa Jackson - Broker / Owner - (917) 623-8985

PAINTING

(718) 634-2158

Free Estimates
WILLIAM J. LACHNER
Professional Painter

QUALITY SERVICE ON:

- Interior/Exterior Painting
- Wallpapering/Removal • Sheetrock
- Taping • Staining/Poly
- Decks-Power Wash & Stain

REFERENCES AVAILABLE
Over 30 Years of Reliable Service
Lifetime Rockaway Resident

Plumbing & Heating

O'GRADY

Plumbing and Heating

181 Beach 116th Street
718-474-3371
Ogradyplumbing49@yahoo.com

Serving The
Rockaway Community
For Over 80 Years

Fully Licensed and Insured lic#1612
Specializing In New Construction, Alterations, Oil To Gas
Conversions Boiler Inspections, Department Of Buildings
Violations Resolved And Removed

EYE CARE

MIRKIN VISION

253 Beach 116th Street
718-634-0005



Davis Vision,
Unions, VSP,
Eyemed & more
accepted.

Most Insurance and Vision Plans Accepted
Eye Examination, Glasses and Contact Lenses

www.mirkinvision.com

Electrician

PeakElectric.

Licensed & Insured
Electrical Contractor
for all your electrical
needs.

office: (646) 668-7113

License# 12890 Local Business & Resident

CONTRACTOR

Tailor Built Construction

Residential & Commercial

We Specialize in Converting
Garages into Outdoor Living Spaces

Kitchen and Bath Remodeling
Basements
Powerwashing
Interior & Exterior Painting
Interior & Exterior Renovations



Anthony: Cell 718-501-3465
(Licensed & Insured)
NYC License 1385340

SEWER & DRAIN
CLEANING



- Water Jetting
- Color Camera
- Pipe Inspection
- Machine Snaking
- Maintenance
- All stoppages cleared -
Sewer Main, Kitchen,
Bathroom, Laundry Room

Proudly Serving the Rockaway
Community for 30 years!
Fully Insured

(347) 606-8268

Your
AD
Here

Starting at
\$20 per week

Send inquiries to
Mary@Rockawaytimes.com

EXTERMINATOR

SBK
Pest
Control



Licensed
Exterminator
and
Licensed
Wildlife
Control
Operator

Daniel Baldwin
917-626-5364
SBKDan@aol.com

CASC APPLIANCE REPAIR

BOILERS and APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Appliance Sick Call us Quick

Washing Machines • Dryers • Dishwashers
Refrigerators • Ice Machines • Stoves
Convecovens • Central Heating, Ventilation
Air Conditioners • Expert Boiler & Hot Water Repairs

Don't throw it Away. We will fix it Today

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
718-773-1111
917-287-5027

WOOD FLOORING & WOOD WORK



- EXPERIENCED WOOD
FLOOR INSTALLER
- POLISHING
- REFINISHING
- SANDING
- REPAIRING

CONTACT DAVID VERBA
verbadavid1123@gmail.com

Dr. LisaMarie Guidice

Rockaway Park Foot Care
Board Certified
Podiatric Medicine and Surgery



230 Beach 102nd Street, Suite 3B
Rockaway Park, NY 11694
(718) 318-2811 | FAX: (718) 318-7689
Office Hours By Appointment

NEW HEIGHTS CONSTRUCTION LLC

SPRING SPECIALS

SIDING, ROOFING & WINDOWS
Waterproofing, Gutters, Soffit & Fascia Repair, and more!

FENCES, DECKS & AWNINGS
Wood Cedar, PVC, Stainless Steel, Chain Link, etc.
Pressure Treated and Composite Decking

KITCHEN & BATH
Complete Renovation And Remodeling,
Expert Tile, Granite & Quartz

MASONRY WORK
Concrete Sidewalk Violations • Porches • Brick and
Granite Steps • Paver Stones • Brick Pointing • Stucco, etc.

INTERIOR FLOORING & PAINTING

CALL OWNER DIRECT BIG JOHN FOR PERSONALIZED SERVICE
AND THE BEST PRICES. CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

MASSELLA'S RUBBISH
REMOVAL

REPUTABLE AND AFFORDABLE?

CLEANOUTS | DISMANTLE | HOARDING
CALL US OR COME VISIT OUR
HUGE SHOWROOM!

We make rubbish removal & demolition
simple, cost-effective and convenient!

FREE ESTIMATES NO JOB TOO SMALL
MASSELLAS-CLEANOUTS.COM

 CALL BOBBY 917-373-2166 

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of Total Care Babies and Doula Services LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/12/2025. Office location: Queens, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Total Care Babies and Doula Services LLC, 231-29 141 Ave Springfield Gardens, Queens NY 11413. Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of ZPN GROUP LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/14/2025. Office location: Queens, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to ZenBusiness Inc. 41 State Street, Suite 112 Albany, NY 12207. Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of KHAREL BROTHERS LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/07/2025. Office location: Queens, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to KHAREL BROTHERS LLC, 3430 57th Street, Woodside, NY 11377. Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Balanced Life Health and Wellness Solutions LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/16/24. Office location: Queens, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Balanced Life Health and Wellness Solutions LLC, 10508 Crossbay Blvd, PMB 2022, Ozone Park, NY 11417. Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of ROZE HOLDINGS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/27/16. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Peter Triantafellou, 45-57 193rd St., Flushing, NY 11358, regd. agent upon whom and at which process may be served. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Joystruck LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/19/2025. Office location: Queens, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Joystruck LLC, 3139 33rd St, 3R, Astoria, NY, 11106. Any lawful purpose.

430 Beach 38th Street LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/28/2025. Office: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 21-14 Elk Dr, Far Rockaway, NY 11691. Purpose: any lawful act.

Be Rockaway Enterprises LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 1/04/2016. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 114-04 Beach Channel Dr., Rockaway Park, NY 11694 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of N.RAMPSYCHOTHERAPY LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 1/23/2025. Office location: Queens, NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to N.RAMPSYCHOTHERAPY LLC, P.O. BOX 260043, 23715 BRADDOCK AVE BELLEROSE, NY, 11426, USA. Any lawful purpose.

FRESH START HOME INSPECTIONS LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/25/2025. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Peter Caradonna, 7228 67th St, FL 1, Glendale, NY 11385. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

Arcade Adventures LLC Articles of Org. filed with NY Sec. of State (SSNY) on 03/23/2025. Office in Queens Co. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 30-94 32nd Street, Astoria NY 11102. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Only \$20!

Classifieds

• Yard Sales • Help Wanted • Apartments for rent/sale, etc.

Go to RockawayTimes.com

and fill in the easy form or Contact us at

718-634-3030

Rockaway Park Co-op

Alcove studio apartment in an Oceanfront building. Move in ready with balcony. Asking \$225,000.

Call 917-796-9054 No Brokers Please

Office for Rent

Newly Renovated Beach 116th Street

917-613-6838

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



EXPERT HANDYMAN

**CARPENTRY | TILE | SHEETROCK
PLUMBING | ELECTRICAL | PAINTING
BATHROOM REMODELING
BRICK WORK | ROOF**

ALL ASPECTS OF RENOVATIONS

**CALL OR TEXT CARLOS ANYTIME
646-294-6648 | 914-760-0280**





Louis The Plumber

Over 30 years of experience

**Water Heaters
Boilers • Bathrooms
Kitchens • etc.**

Call anytime 646-512-3614

BOOMER'S BELLE HARBOR

Roofing and Siding

- Roofing, Siding, Seamless Gutter Systems
- Emergency Storm Damage
- Master Roofing & Siding Mechanics

Proudly Family Owned & Operated

917-757-3587





Captain Bill

917-710-7395

fishbonechartersny@gmail.com

fishbonechartersny.com



Facts You Probably Don't Need

☛ The Caesar salad was invented in 1924.

☛ The average golf ball has 336 dimples.

☛ Ryan Reynolds paid \$10,000 of his own money for the right to wear a shirt with The Golden Girl's Bea Arthur on it in Deadpool. Arthur's estate agreed for a donation in that amount to a charity of their choosing.

☛ Over sixty percent of the world's lakes are located in Canada.

☛ The International Space Station orbits Earth approximately every 90 minutes.

☛ When Dutch biking compa-

ny VanMoof began shipping their bikes to the USA, a lot of them were arriving to their new customers damaged, so they decide to put an image of an expensive, flat-screen television on the cardboard boxes. Doing so saw an 80% decrease in damage.

The real name for a hashtag is an octothorpe.

No number before 1,000 contains the letter A.

Facts by Sean McVeigh, factologist.

To advertise in THE ROCKAWAY TIMES call 718-634-3030 • ads@RockawayTimes.com

2 Convenient Locations to Serve You Better!



Katelyn Cusmiani,
PT, DPT, Owner



Visit our Howard Beach location for
Hydroworx EVO Aquatic Therapy

Howard Beach • 718-843-3211

161-11 Crossbay Blvd, Howard Beach, NY 11414

Monday	7:30AM - 6:00PM	Thursday	8:00AM - 4:00PM
Tuesday	8:00AM - 4:00PM	Friday	7:30AM - 6:00PM
Wednesday	7:30AM - 6:00PM	Saturday	8:00AM - 11:00AM
Closed Sunday			

Both
Locations
Locally Owned
and Operated

Direct Access Is Now
Available At Both Our
Locations:
Our Doctors of Physical
Therapy can now begin
treatment WITHOUT a
referral. Start your
recovery quickly and hassle
free by calling today!



Se Hablamos
Espanol

Beach 120th Street
718-634-3211 Text 718-500-0409
119-15 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Rockaway Park, NY. 11694

Monday	7:00AM - 6:30PM	Thursday	7:30AM - 6:30PM
Tuesday	7:30AM - 5:00PM	Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Wednesday	7:00AM - 6:30PM	Saturday	8:00AM - 12:00PM
Closed Sunday			

Ask the
DOC

By Peter Galvin, MD



Back in the Day

The American Revolution began 250 years ago last month and was memorialized by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in words that would be recited by generations of American schoolchildren: “Listen, my children, and you shall hear of the midnight ride of Paul Revere.” But what Longfellow didn’t memorialize was the role doctors played during the war. Back then, physicians were very prominent members of society and were looked upon as leaders. Take, for example, the life of Dr. Joseph Warren. Born in 1741 in the Massachusetts Bay area, he attended Roxbury Latin School and enrolled in Harvard College in 1755 (yes, at age 14). After a stint as a schoolteacher, he studied medicine under

a prominent physician and opened his medical practice at age 22. He established his reputation by inoculating patients during the 1764 smallpox epidemic. He took on his own apprentices, including his younger brother John. It was Warren’s intelligence network that uncovered the British plan to invade Massachusetts. He dispatched Revere to warn the populace, and he fought in the front lines at Bunker Hill, where he was killed. His death was portrayed by John Trumbull in 1786 in his painting “The Battle of Bunker’s Hill, June 17, 1775.” Before his death, Warren’s political activity grew with his medical practice. Starting in 1765, the British imposed taxes and tariffs (sound familiar?) on its American colonies. With his longtime friend Samuel Adams, Warren wrote dozens of editorials excoriating the Brit-

ish. In March 1770, British regulars fired into an unruly crowd, which would come to be called the Boston Massacre. Dr. Warren treated the casualties. Two years later, he delivered an oration commemorating the massacre, a highly visible protest. Many historians believe that Warren had a central role in organizing the Boston Tea Party (1773). Warren served in or led many of the groups that organized the growing resistance to British tyranny, including the Sons of Liberty. Warren collected information from his patients, many of whom were Tories loyal to England and British soldiers. Despite his politics, he treated everyone regardless. In February 1775, he organized militia to move artillery pieces to Concord, further away from the British. When he learned the British planned on marching to Concord, he called up more militia – the Minutemen. After the battles of Lexington and Concord, he engaged the retreating British, where he lost a lock of hair to a British bullet. Warren and the other doctors with him treated all the wounded, including the British. Apparently, they saw no con-

tradiction between their role as fighters and their obligation as healers. After “the shot heard round the world,” Warren helped organize an army of 15,000 New Englanders. Each regiment was supposed to have two doctors, but it was before physicians were licensed, so Warren established a commission to evaluate doctors’ competence. Warren dressed in his finest for Bunker Hill and was said to have fought valiantly. After the battle, his brother John came looking for Warren and was stabbed in the chest by a British sentry. For decades afterward he showed his scar with pride. After the war ended, John Warren helped found the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1781 and Harvard Medical School in 1782. By the 20th century, Joseph Warren’s fame had been eclipsed by Washington, Jefferson, and Hamilton. But it was Warren whose stratagems helped transition from protest to rebellion. This story was excerpted from the New England Journal of Medicine. Please direct questions and comments to editor@rockawaytimes.com

BAYVIEW

URGENT CARE CENTER

Walk-Ins Are Welcome - No Appointments Necessary!



EKG • Lab Work • Pulmonary Function Testing • Asthma Attacks • Ear Infections

• Fractures • Minor Lacerations • Stitches • Vaccinations

• Physicals • DOT Exams • X-Ray • And More

Doctors

Sadhana Gupta, MD • Zoya Koroleva, DO • Stanislav Kaminyar, DO • Alla Buzinover, DO

Proudly Serving the Rockaway Community for Over 10 Years

OPEN 7 Days:

Monday – Friday 9 am – 8 pm
Saturday – Sunday 9 am – 6 pm

Most Insurance Plans Accepted – Parking Available

WE SPEAK ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, SPANISH

115-06 Beach Channel Drive Suite 101 Rockaway Park NY - 718-474-7744

To advertise in THE ROCKAWAY TIMES call 718-634-3030 • ads@RockawayTimes.com



Episcopal Health Services

Personalized Approach for Your Child's Mental Health.

At EHS Pediatric Behavioral Health Services, **we recognize that every family is unique, and so are their challenges.** We work with children, adolescents, and families to customize a plan of care using...

Services include:

- Group therapy
- Family therapy
- Medication
- Individual therapy
- Advocacy for your needs at school
- Family support programs, including crisis intervention services

All From A Team Of Experts At Every Level!



PLEASE SCAN
For More Information!

For more information about behavioral health services at EHS, or to find a behavioral health specialist, please call **(718) 869-8822** or scan the QR code

Se Habla Español



A Gust of Support for Autism Awareness

By Katie McFadden
The wind picked up, but the walk went on! Rockaway Beach Autism Families' third annual Walk for Autism was a success. On Sunday, April

27, about 100 people gathered at Beach 94th Street to brave the gusts and walk along the boardwalk with their loved ones with autism, many wearing t-shirts to show support. Rep-

resentatives from St. Camillus Special Olympics and Scholars' Academy also joined. Due to the winds, a vendor fair after the event was cancelled, but Owen Loof, the Best Dressed Man

in Rockaway, stopped by for photos. Congratulations to RBAF founder Kami-Leigh Agard and all of the organizers on a strong show of support for those with autism!



A Day at the Cabana for Special Olympics



On Saturday, April 26, Bob Johnson of The Cabana in Long Beach, held an Autism Awareness Fundraiser at his restaurant to benefit Rockaway's St. Camillus Special Olympics so they can play little league. The day included live music by The Rock-

awades, dancing, face painting, drinks, food and good times for all. Plus, there was a 50/50 to help raise funds, and Noreen Munnelly was the lucky winner! Congrats to all who helped make the fundraiser a success! Now play ball, Special Athletes!

ROCKAWAY GOOD TIMES

By Kami-Leigh Agard

With just 24 days left until Memorial Day—(who's counting?)—Rockaway's metamorphosis into NYC's ultimate hot spot for all things fun in the sun is on full blast! So, plan your Rockaway crawl with the #1 guide of things to do in Rockaway—The Rockaway Times' Good Times page! See the roundup below! Happy Kentucky Derby Day and Cinco de Mayo!

FRIDAY, May 2 6:30 p.m.

Bring your mate or date as Indie rock man, Sanford, makes it a Friday night to remember at Bungalow Bar.
377 Beach 92nd Street

FRIDAY, May 2 6:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Playing for you dinin' pleasure this evening at Uma's is jazz maestro, Simon Chardiet!
92-07 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

FRIDAY, May 2 7 p.m.

It's finally Friday! So, get ready to move those hips, tap your feet, and sing out loud as high-energy classic rock band—**Friendzy**—raises the roof at The Bay-House.
500 Bayside Drive, Breezy Point

FRIDAY, May 2 7:30 p.m.

Against a backdrop of picturesque sunset views—Lauren Jaimes blows into Kennedy's with coastal country tunes.
406 Bayside, Breezy Point

FRIDAY, May 2 9 p.m.

Clink your pints and sing-a-long into the weekend with Kyle Wade at Rogers—Rockaway's oldest Irish pub!
203 Beach 116th Street

SATURDAY, May 3 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Get your hips swinging as Lou Pastina and his two amigos celebrate Cinco de Mayo at Pico.
419 Beach 129th Street

SATURDAY, May 3 6:30 p.m.

"Because every day is a good day to Bungalow," cozy up with live acoustic tunes with Arturo Rivera.
377 Beach 92nd Street

SATURDAY, May 3 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Enjoy a Breezy treat with picturesque sunset bay views, fine dining and tunes by Barry Waller at Kennedy's. Call (718) 945-0202 for reservations.
406 Bayside, Breezy Point

SATURDAY, May 3 8 p.m.

Joker's Wild whips into The Bayhouse with '70s and '80s rock.
500 Bayside Drive, Breezy Point

SATURDAY, May 3 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Propel your weekend into full swing with The Uncle Jack Band and the Jack Pack at Rogers!
203 Beach 116th Street

SATURDAY, May 3

Don your hat or fascinator and giddy up to Jameson's! It's Kentucky Derby Day! Sip on \$8 Mint Juleps and the pub's brand-new blackberry moonshine cocktails, and go home a winner!
421 Beach 129th Street

SUNDAY, May 4

1 p.m.

Welcome spring temps with soothing bay views, unforgettable food and sweet acoustic tunes with Evan Kuriga at Adrienne's.
25 Van Brunt Road, Broad Channel

SUNDAY, May 4

1 p.m.

Make it a Fun! Day! Sunday at Bungie with Frank Persico.
377 Beach 92nd Street

SUNDAY, May 4

2 p.m.

The Butthead—Bobby Butler—is back with his annual Cinco de Mayo show! Celebrate a day early at Pico's!
419 Beach 129th Street

SUNDAY, May 4 4 p.m.

With temps heating up, get perfect bay-side views and sublime acoustic tunes with Chris Decker at Rockaway's hidden treasure, The Wharf.
416 Beach 116th Street

WEDNESDAY, May 7

7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Singing acoustic guitarist, bassist and

songwriter, Barry Waller—kicks off his Wednesday evening residency at La Sorrentina. Now, that's amore!
420 Beach 129th Street

ONGOING

Wine O'Clock WEDNESDAYS 7 p.m.

Bask in an evening of rhythmic storytelling with Ireland's Cork-born renowned folk songsmith, Niall Connolly at Sayra's.
91-11 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

New Caribbean 'sea-foodie' hot spot, Rhythms On The Rock, debuts Karaoke Wednesdays and beckons you to belt out your favorite songs with your crew!
112-16 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

Thirsty THURSDAYS

7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Margie's serves up a heavenly dining and music experience with Phil Kadet's "Thursday Standards" from The American Songbook. For reservations and more info, visit: <https://www.therockawayhotel.com/things-to-do-rockaway-beach/event-calendar>
108-10 Rockaway Beach Drive

FILM

RFF PRESENTS: FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIES FOR TEENS

The Rockaway Film Festival presents, "Flicker Points," a series of free Friday night movies for teens, selected by filmmakers at the Annex Cinema. This monthly program for young movie lovers is free and open to individuals ages 15 to 19. Guest filmmakers will share a special teen movie at 5 p.m., followed by a discussion. Filmmakers will also introduce one of their own films at 8 p.m., open to the general public, but will remain free for teens. For tickets (free) and more info, visit: <https://www.rockawayfilmfestival.org/calendar>

FRIDAY, May 9

5 p.m.

"Friday," a cult classic starring Ice Cube and Chris Tucker, two buddies in South Central L.A., who just have one day to pay the local bully the money he's owed, or they're dead. This iconic comedy is presented by director, Shaka King.

8 p.m.

"Newlyweds," a love triangle between a repo man, his wander-lusting girlfriend and marijuana. Director Shaka King will be there in person.
415 Beach 72nd Street

SPECIAL MENTIONS

SAIL ROCKAWAY OPENING PARTY SATURDAY, May 3 2 p.m. until dark

Sail away into almost summer at Sail Rockaway's season opening party at Beach 59th Marina. Enjoy free sailing tours and lessons, live jazz and \$1 oysters. Plus, canoes and kayaks available for use, as well as some smaller sailboats for experienced sailors—all on the house! First come, first served for the boats. Last sail at 7 p.m. Family-friendly event! For more info, visit: sailrockaway.com on Instagram.

360 Beach 59 Street

PATTI BLUE BOOK SIGNING & CELEBRATION AT YANA HOUSE SATURDAY, May 3

3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Meet and greet local sultry rock star, Patti Blue, of Patti Blue & The Boys, as she presents her book, "The 100 Foot Love Letter," a sentimental love story about her dad.

116-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

THE ROCKAWAY HOTEL KENTUCKY DERBY WATCH PARTY SATURDAY, May 3

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Watch the Kentucky Derby in fine style on The Rooftop at The Rockaway Hotel! So, pull out your best derby attire and enjoy a three-hour open bar, passed appetizers, live DJ and "Best Dressed" competition. Tickets are \$75. For tickets and more info, visit: <https://www.therockawayhotel.com/things-to-do-rockaway-beach/event-calendar>

108-10 Rockaway Beach Blvd.

PILOT HOUSE KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY SATURDAY, May 3

This year marks the 151st running of the Kentucky Derby, so dress in your Derby best, and join a crowd of horse-loving, hat-wearing, julep-swilling spectators watching the iconic event here in Rockaway at Pilot House. All day—the boulevard spot will be serving derby-inspired drink and food specials, plus giveaways. Race coverage starts at 11 a.m.; official race at 5:57 p.m. Then, at 6:30 p.m., after-party hosted by Pacifico, plus kickoff an early fiesta to Cinco de Mayo.
190 Beach 69th Street

Got info on local live music, arts and more? Email: editor@rockawaytimes.com

International Missing Children's Day and Denim Day Observed Locally on May 10

International Missing Children's Denim Day!

May 10, 2025 11am- 4 pm

Awareness Event

130 BEACH 84th STREET
ROCKAWAY BEACH, NY 11963

P.O.C.N.Y.
Protect Our Children New York Inc.
A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization

XTREME MEASURE
CHILDREN

Queens Community Justice Center

Free Food, Free classes, Resources, Speakers on site fight back clinics

Bring a Pinwheel In honor of a missing child

More info
Theresa- 646-408-1200
Moises- 917-600-9891

Valiant Karate

BROTHERS FOR PEACE SOCIAL CHANGE

1st Time Boxing Class!!
NEW DAY TREATMENT CENTER
ROCKAWAY BEACH, NY 11963
718-799-4999
10-50 Beach 21st St.
Far Rockaway, NY 11691

OCEAN BAY

ziti Veronica Caicedo

Jennifer Streetman

Every year on May 25, the United States observes National Missing Children's Day, a tradition initiated in 1983 with a presidential proclamation by Ronald Reagan. This day is also recognized internationally with International Missing Children's Day established in 2001. In a separate observance, National Denim Day is held on the last Wednesday of April, which in 2025 falls on April 30. National Denim Day is meant to raise awareness about sexual violence and combat victim blaming. National Missing Children's Day serves as a reminder of the importance of raising awareness about missing children, acknowledging the efforts of those working toward their safe return, and providing support to the affected families. The reasons children go missing are varied and can include wandering off, family abduction, becoming lost or stranger abduction. It is esti-

ated that approximately 460,000 children are reported missing in the U.S. annually.

On Saturday, May 10, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Rose of Lima and Xtreme-measure, along with other agencies, will be hosting an International Missing Children's Day and Denim Day event. This is an important awareness event with Denim Day and Missing Children's Day joining forces. This is also the third annual Denim Day event in Rockaway.

Theresa M Racine, founder of Xtrememeasure, has been spreading awareness of sexual assault, domestic violence, human trafficking and getting involved in helping parents find their children for more than 10 years. Racine has an exemplary track record, including finding her 14-year-old granddaughter when she went missing for over a week in Florida, by helping the police with her knowledge of social media. She also aided in finding her own daughter when she was trafficked in Queens, which still remains a hotspot today. She emphasizes that finding a child that has gone missing is all about educating the community beforehand. In her own words, "A lack of knowledge is hope deferred, but when a community comes together with education and knows who they can turn to, they can act quickly and prevent horrific outcomes." Racine had envisioned a day where she would mesh Denim Day and Missing Children Day together, and that is finally coming to fruition on May 10. Despite changes to the events, the fundamental purpose of this consolidated event remains the same—to educate and promote awareness for prevention, safety, and training.

This year, Racine has included

a fight back initiative, which began after attending a fight back fair around two years ago where she met lawyers from Brooklyn, one of whom she has asked to participate virtually. Attendees will be able to ask questions and acquire crucial information at the event. As part of the fight back clinic, there will also be self-defense around the clock, several workshops that will be held by the Queens DA, Protect Our Children, NYPD, New Day Treatment Center, several survivor stories and many more. It is highly recommended that the community steps out and takes advantage of this educational program.

Additionally, Jennifer Streetman, who works with the YMCA, will be leading her kickboxing class, and Veronica Caicedo will be coming back to lead a Zumba class to kickstart the event after the memorial. St. Rose of Lima

Children's Choir will kick off the event with a beautiful memorial for missing children, a large pinwheel garden will be created, provided by Protect Our Children, and the memorial will also be for sexual assault survivors. The memorial will begin at 11 a.m. We encourage the community and media to show up and be a part of this touching memorial.

There will be food and drinks provided, gifts for Mother's Day while they last, provided by Queens Community Justice Center - The Rockaways, and raffles. There will also be an arts and crafts table for the children and resource tables from local organizations. If you are an organization and want to be a part of this event, please bring your own table and let Moises or Theresa know you will be attending. Theresa can be reached at 646-408-1200 and Moises can be reached 917-600-9891.



3-Ingredient Crockpot Turkey Recipe

Courtesy of The Spruce.

Serves: 6

Ingredients:

- 1 frozen turkey breast, (NOT THAWED) bone -in (about 5 pounds) or boneless (about 3 pounds)
- 1-16 ounce can cranberry sauce
- 1 envelope dry onion soup mix

Directions:

For bone-in turkey, put all the ingredients into a 5-6 quart crockpot, cover, and cook on high 2 hours on high. This helps the meat get through the danger zone of 140F more quickly.

Then reduce the heat to low and continue cooking the turkey for 4-5 hours or until the turkey registers 165F on a meat thermometer.

For boneless turkey, follow the instructions above. But when you reduce the crockpot heat to low, start checking the turkey after 1-2

hours. It may only need that much time to reach 165F.

Slice the turkey breast and serve with the sauce that forms in the slow cooker.

As simple as this recipe is, you can change it to suit your own tastes. Think about using different types of fruit sauces. You could use mango chutney instead or try a combination of crushed pineapple jam. Use your own homemade onion soup mix for better flavor and much less sodium.



Pope Francis – Go Green Advocate

By Tom Last

On Saturday, April 26 people of all over the world joined billions of Catholics to mourn the death of our beloved Pope Francis. He was called “The People’s Pope” due to his humility and for his advocacy of the disadvantaged. One does not have to be Catholic to appreciate the extraordinary life of this simple man.

Pope Francis was head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State from March 13, 2013, until his death the day after Easter on April 21, 2025. He was the first Jesuit pope, the first from the Americas and from the Southern Hemisphere, and the first born or raised outside of Europe since the 8th-century Syrian pope Gregory III.

Pope Francis was known for his humility, commitment to the poor, and engagement with people of all faiths. Francis took a less formal approach to the papacy than his predecessors by choosing simpler vestments void of ornamentation

and resided in the Domus Sanctae Marthae guesthouse rather than in the papal apartments used by previous popes. Pope Francis chose to be buried outside of the Vatican (most Popes are buried within the Vatican), in a simple tomb, without decoration and with the only inscription: Franciscus. The cost of the burial would be covered by a benefactor.

Pope Francis was considered more enlightened in that he believed the Catholic Church should demonstrate more inclusivity to LGBTQ people, and stated that although blessings of same-sex unions are not permitted, the individuals in a same-sex relationship can be blessed as long as the blessing is not given in a liturgical context. He was an advocate for having women play a greater role in the administration of the church. He appointed the first woman leader of a department in the church’s central administration and the first female president of the office governing Vatican City State. He

appointed the first woman to sit at the board level in the church’s central administration.

Pope Francis was committed to acting on climate change and considered it one of his papal priorities. Francis issued the “Apostolic Exhortation Laudate Deum” (Praise God), in which he called for decisive action against the climate crisis and CONDEMNED CLIMATE CHANGE DENIAL. This is a strong and undeniable statement from our Pope and one that we all (Catholics and non-Catholics) should sincerely adhere to. Pope Francis was critical of trickle-down economics, consumerism, and overdevelopment too, all which only exacerbate the harmful effects of climate change.

At the 2017 World Food Day ceremony, Francis highlighted the daily impacts of climate change and the solutions provided by scientific knowledge. He acknowledged the importance of establishing international accords such as the Paris Agreement but expressed

disappointment over the withdrawal from it by some nations. He expressed concern over a renewed indifference to ecosystem balance, the belief in controlling limited resources, and a greed for profit. In 2024, Francis organized a climate summit that issued a Planetary Protocol for Climate Change Resilience that included three pillars: greenhouse gas emissions reduction, climate change adaptation, and societal transformation. The Pope spoke out on the disproportionate effects of climate change on the poor.

Pope Francis was inspirational in many aspects, including his activism in the global movement against climate change. Let us follow his lead and be activists in exposing corporate greed, the harmful effects of climate change and continue to work together to save our planet.

Thank you, Pope Francis!

Want to get in touch with Go Green Tom? Email: thom-aslast100@gmail.com

Massive Search For Kumar Narine

MISSING



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PERSON

Kumar Narine

Age: 17 - Height: 5/8 - Weight: 125 - Hair Color: Black
Eye Color: Brown - Wearing Glasses - Clothing: Gray Sweat Pants,
Blk Jacket, Gray Back Pack, Shoes: Gray Crocs, Riding a Blue Bicycle.
Last Seen Sunday April 6th 2025 8pm Heading Towards Cross Bay Bridge.

1-800-577-TIPS

Kungie: 917-463-7609 or Call 911

Any Information Given will be Kept Confidential

We are putting together a massive gathering
to distribute flyers and raise
awareness for this missing teen,
helping this family with support & love.

DO NOT



house. A friend had called police to say he was missing. He was last seen heading to the Cross Bay Bridge and the last ping on his phone was from the Jamaica Bay area. NYPD and the Coast Guard searched the waters, but there was no sign of him or his bike. The family has hope for his return, and they need answers.

trafficking, homelessness and human trafficking are reaching an all-time high. DiMiceli’s reason for doing this type of work and creating an organization comes from a deeper pain, as he was also an unprotected child. His vice president Edward Weitrack will take any measures necessary to Protect Our Children.

On May 10, Peter will be with his team at the Missing Children/ Denim Day event at 11 a.m. at St. Rose of Lima if you would like to meet him and learn more about his organization. He will also be conducting a workshop on cyber safety against predators. Also he is working to get an important bill passed. See his website for more or sign the petition at the event.

By Theresa Racine

Have you seen Kumar Narine? On Saturday, April 26, Peter DiMiceli, founder of Protect Our Children, and his team, Ku-

mar’s family and about 50 others searched for the missing 17-year-old.

Kumar went missing on April 6, after leaving his grandmother's

DiMiceli, the founder of Protectourchildren.org, has watched the decline in NYC and his hometown for several years now. The number of cases of missing children, drug

Anyone with any information about Kumar Narine’s whereabouts is asked to call the NYPD's crime stoppers hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS. All calls are kept confidential.



Draft Grades from the Sidelines

[Dramatic NFL Draft Chime] And with the first pick of the 2025 NFL Draft...

It's that time of year again! Last weekend, the best college football players got drafted to the NFL.

I absolutely love watching the draft. There is something so nerve-racking, exciting, and glamorous about the whole event. It's like watching the Olympics, you're witnessing someone's dream come true!

First, I like seeing *where* the players are located during the draft. Some players go to the venue, which this year was in Green Bay, Wisconsin, just outside of Lambeau Field.

Those who went in person got their own fake living room to sit in and wait, like a furniture store showroom. The guys who attend in person are the best of the best, or at least the most hyped. This year's number one pick was Cam Ward, QB out of Miami. And let me tell you... Cam gave us nothing. A couple of tears, maybe. But c'mon—you're the first pick in the 2025 NFL Draft! Give me *something*—a dance, a scream, a mom-crying moment!

The players in attendance are always dressed to the nines. They are wearing custom designer suits and insane jewelry. The number of diamonds in that room was just sickening. You can see where all that college NIL money really went. I mean, where else would you see Swarovski diamond Crocs? (Hopefully nowhere because it's disgusting.) Chains, tennis bracelets, grills, even gold-plated initial

brooches—every accessory imaginable was on display.

Then there are the other players watching from home, balancing a phone call from an NFL GM while auntie is screaming in the background. You can tell who came from old Southern money, West Coast modesty, and the Midwest middle class. I love getting a look into their lives ... and living rooms. Some families are calm, treating it like a regular Tuesday night. Others? Full-blown parties. Mykel Williams, a defensive lineman taken 11th overall, had his house packed from the kitchen to the staircase.

The most interesting part for me is the GIRLFRIENDS.

I'm obsessed with watching these soon-to-be millionaires holding hands with their fabulous (hopefully) girlfriends. And you can always tell what the story is.

There are the high school sweethearts. Think Patrick and Brittany Mahomes, Trevor and Marissa Lawrence. These girls saw potential in the weird-looking jock and now they live lives we can only dream about.

Then there are the girlfriends that won't make it past preseason. The moment their man is on national TV, their DMs will explode—and that relationship will disappear.

And of course, there are the ones who look like they put in work to get their fake booties on that couch. They fought with momma during the commercial break for a spot next to the star. She's holding onto her man's hand for dear life, like he is going to fly away. She might've dated three other players

before landing the one most likely to go pro. She's not in love with the player—she's in love with the *contract*. But hey, she'll be fine. She'll end up with *someone* in a jersey.

The best part of the draft? To see the small percentage of guys who just beat all odds. They refused to become a statistic. The one with no NFL dad, no elite high school, no private training. Just hard work. They looked around at their life and decided to change the pattern. The ones sitting next to their mom, tears streaming, knowing they just changed their family's future. Maybe it's the social worker in me but it gives me chills. That's powerful stuff.

So, since everyone's asking, here are my key takeaways from this year's NFL draft: Cam Skattebo, running back from ASU, is now a NY Giant!! Maxwell Hairston, a cornerback from the University of Kentucky, gave every draftee picked before him a handshake and hug on their way to see the commissioner. He was genuinely happy for everyone, good vibes. He went 30th to the Bills. Shedeur

Sanders? Proof that attitude can kill talent. He should've gone in the first round, but after acting like an arrogant A-hole in meetings, he fell to pick 144. And even then, he still came off like a diva.

No matter where they came from, how they performed in college, or what their combine stats were—they made it. We just watched 257 young men's dreams come true. They are the next generation of stars.

Hopefully your team got the player it needed, and for your sake, I hope it's not Sanders. Let's get these boys out of the hot pink suits, onto the field and ready for preseason.

WANT TO GET
IN TOUCH?
SEND EMAIL TO
MAIL@ROCKAWAYTIMES.COM

Lady Celtics Win Championship at Zero Gravity Tournament



The Lady Celtics celebrated a triumphant weekend at the King and Queens basketball tournament, hosted by Zero Gravity. On Saturday, April 26, the Celtics secured an impressive victory against the East Coast Storm, dominating the game with a score of 44-18. The following day, the Celtics faced a thrilling challenge in a double overtime match. Key players Logan Leahey and Kate Taminski made crucial steals that

converted into offensive points, while Lila Costin's relentless hustle disrupted several fast breaks from the opposing team. Dakota Duffy contributed with vital shots that kept the Celtics competitive. In a dramatic finish, Mara Brady sank a winning three-pointer at the buzzer, sealing a hard-fought 54-52 victory.

Later that day, the Lady Celtics took on the Staten Island Liberty at Manhattan University for the Championship title. Throughout the game, the Celtics frequently adjusted their defense and showcased their shooting accuracy. Gina Franzone and Annie McDonagh excelled on the boards, helping to secure possession. Offensively, Logan Leahey, Kinley Hearn, Kate Taminski, and Mara Brady all played significant roles, leading the Celtics to a well-deserved championship win!



Rockaway Word Search

Find and circle each of the words from the list below. Words may appear forwards or backwards, horizontally, vertically or diagonally in the grid.

N	P	Z	A	M	O	B	N	I	M	E	O	Q	Q	T	H	N	K	T	N	O	K	X
J	L	Z	V	H	C	S	O	R	U	O	T	I	L	R	A	C	D	Z	W	Y	X	X
D	L	N	K	R	I	S	T	I	N	A	H	A	Y	D	E	N	B	Y	L	U	R	S
R	E	E	C	A	T	G	E	E	E	J	P	E	T	E	T	O	U	R	O	S	L	F
O	N	D	S	V	Q	Q	K	G	L	Q	K	N	U	Y	Z	Z	Z	N	O	L	S	T
S	N	Y	S	Q	A	T	B	L	K	Y	D	C	A	U	W	Q	Z	U	T	F	C	W
K	O	A	E	E	Z	U	Z	W	A	C	N	X	Y	M	J	B	V	B	I	B	T	L
W	D	H	A	Y	L	L	X	C	I	T	T	N	X	J	H	D	I	N	Q	N	S	O
I	C	N	N	U	E	A	V	F	P	Z	P	Z	H	J	D	D	A	N	P	M	W	Y
Q	M	A	H	E	K	T	R	V	L	F	W	O	Y	E	L	I	E	K	B	O	R	K
Z	T	I	E	S	K	S	K	Q	Q	J	Y	E	L	I	E	K	N	A	G	E	M	F
Y	E	R	E	C	M	L	G	D	E	V	I	A	R	N	L	R	V	B	E	J	E	R
T	N	B	R	X	T	M	B	C	S	L	N	F	R	C	U	I	A	H	R	H	F	A
E	A	S	A	U	W	Y	D	N	K	P	P	I	I	Q	P	Q	Q	N	K	R	G	P
N	J	A	N	S	C	H	R	I	S	M	I	L	E	S	Y	T	Z	D	T	T	B	Z
E	P	S	L	G	F	T	W	Z	S	G	Z	D	A	N	S	U	G	R	U	E	C	W

Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden     and .

BRIAN HAYDEN
CARLI TOUROS
CHRIS MILES
DAN SUGRUE

JANET MCDONNELL
KRISTINA HAYDEN
LYNN HEERAN
MEGAN KEILEY

PETE TOUROS
ROB KEILEY
SEAN HEERAN

KIDS' KORNER

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES (6)



MATH ROCKS

ANSWER:

Since $20\% = 0.2$, $.2x(\text{income}) = 15881.04$
so income is $15881.04 / .2 = 79,405.2$.

Similarly $25\% .25$ so of $.25(79405.2) = 19851.30$.

The difference in their savings is $19851.30 - 15881.04 = \$3,970.26$



Rockaway's own boutique wine and craft spirits shop,
specializing in small production wineries and distilleries.

Drink something new!

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY
Let our knowledgeable and hands-on staff guide you through the VINO experience...

SIP
cold canned
beverages
on the beach

SHOP
new unique
finds for
every budget

SHARE
your favorites
with friends
and family

Visit VinobytheSea.com

And don't forget to stop by our selection of **cold canned wines and cocktails**
for a cool post-beach refreshment!

ROCKAWAY BEACH BOULEVARD
between Beach 67th and 69th Streets
Arverne by the Sea Tides Complex
directly across from the Beach 67th Street A train stop

WINTER HOURS:
Mon - Fri: Noon - 10 pm & **Sat - Sun:** 11 pm - 10 pm
Follow us on  @vinobythesea

VINOBYTHESEA.COM



Clattermouuuth’s Music of The Week: ‘Crumbling’ by Mid Air Thief

Welcome back to Clattermouuuth’s Music of the Week, curating Rockaway’s music taste one week at a time.

Today, I will be talking about an album that is a bit more popular than my usual recommendations: “Crumbling” by Mid Air Thief, released in 2019, and boy oh boy, you are in for a fun read because I sincerely believe that this has to be my all-time favorite album.

Since discovering it in the fall of last year, I have spent so much time with this album, and it has never gotten old. While I’ve only discovered this album recently, the best word to describe it is nostalgic, it really feels like I’m in a childhood dream when listening. Although fairly popular within the underground music scene, I still feel it’s important that I recommend this album because it feels like every second of

this album contains a sound that I didn’t think could ever exist. This album shouldn’t exist at all, and we should all feel privileged to live in the same world that this album lives in.

It’s really hard to speak about one specific song from this album because I feel that each song is so original and perfect. However, the song that I’ve listened to the most is “These Chains” because I feel that it showcases Mid Air Thief’s ability to create sounds from another planet. Another song that does this well is the lead track, “Why,” and I really don’t think I can explain the sounds from this album, so do me a favor and look up the song and skip to 1:23 ... Did you do it?

What is that noise? As soon as that sound hit my ears for the first time, I knew this was going to be an album that I’ll be listening to for many years. There truly isn’t enough music like this out there, so I highly recommend you give it a listen. If you did, let me know what you thought at clattermouuuthrec@gmail.com.



Business sluggish? No pep?

There’s a fix

Eat Right
And
Advertise Regularly

Rx - The Rockaway Times

Casino

AUTO BODY

Since 1974

Claims Handled by
Licensed Appraisers
All Major Insurance
Companies Accepted





Owned and Operated
By Denis Koufos



State of the Art Eco-Friendly
ACCUDRAFT Spray Booth



FREE
24 Hour Towing
to our Shop
FREE ESTIMATES

TOW
TRUCK DRIVER
WANTED
F/T or P/T
917-681-3714

(718) 318-2018 www.casinoautobody.com

71-02 Beach Channel Drive, New York, NY 11692
Corner of Beach Channel Drive & Beach 71st St

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday - By Appointment • Sunday - Closed

DCA833060 NY Repair Shop #7044293

AARP Friendly Se Habla Español

WE ARE OPEN!
APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

Email
AmstelAutobody@gmail.com
or call us! **718-634-0651**



Amstel

SERVING ROCKAWAY FOR 25 YEARS

**CRAFTSMANSHIP
AT ITS BEST
...OR NOTHING AT ALL**



**NO JOB TOO BIG
OR TOO SMALL
WE TAKE CARE
OF THEM ALL!**



**ENTERPRISE & HERTZ
Rental Cars Available**

**All Insurance
Accepted**

**AUTO BODY
& TOWING INC.**
WHERE THE PRICE IS RIGHT.
YOUR ONE STOP SHOP



STAY HEALTHY!



Accudraft Downdraft Bake Spray Booth

**LEASE RETURN
SPECIALISTS**



NEW LOCATION

**344 BEACH 74TH STREET
718.634.0651**