

BROAD CHANNEL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Broad Channel Civic Association

May 2019

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CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

***** VFW Hall – Shad Creek Road – 7:00 PM *****

*****May 23, 2019*****

This issue of the Newsletter is sponsored by
Porcella – Frank, Michelle & Nicole
In memory of their parents Frank & Fay.

President's Message

The May Civic meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 7PM at the VFW Hall.

The Civic Association has met this past week with members of the **NY Rising Board** and representatives from the Governor's office to identify delays with the NY Rising projects and to seek ways to move forward the five projects that have been approved and designed. **Assemblywoman Amato, Senator Addabbo and Dan Brown** from **Melinda Katz** office have been extremely helpful in making this meeting happen and in demanding timelines and accountability from the program. We will give an update on the projects at the Civic Meeting.

The Jamaica Bay Task Force meeting held on May 9th was very successful. The meeting was well attended, and the presentations were extremely informative and covered a range of different topics all affecting Jamaica Bay. We are experiencing a number of very positive developments and project's that are all having a very positive impact on Jamaica Bay. If you were unable to attend the meeting you can visit the website — www.jamaicabayecowatchers.org, where a summary of the presentations is noted along with a link to each of the night's presentations.

Sunset Cove Phase 1 is now complete (only punch lists remain) and it is really impressive. If you have not been down to see it, it is worth a walk, or drive down to walk out across the berm and see the changes that have been seen as a result of this project. We are now moving into the community planting phase beginning June 8th and June 9th and if you are interested in volunteering come on down and help us plant the Spartina plugs which will become the wetlands that will ring the creeks. Phase 2 which is the boardwalk is now getting ready to go out for bid.

This is a correction, as the following was noted on the last newsletter, but the actual email address given was incorrect. The information that follows and the email noted is now correct.

The Civic Association is in the process of creating a town email notification list for matters of interest, such as the monthly newsletter, or of concern (i.e.: crime events). We have put out a notice to date on the Broad Channel Civic Facebook site and have had great response. If anyone is interested in being added to the list, submit an email to broadchannelcivicnewsletter@gmail.com or send your email to the Facebook site (Broad Channel Civic) and we will add you to the list.

Quote of the Month-- "*No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.*"-- Aesop

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Mundy Jr.





**The Flag will fly in June for
Michael Stickley,
US Army, Vietnam**

"BIBLE BOOK CLUB" starting up on the 1st Wednesday of each month beginning June 5th from 2 to 4 PM at the home of Joanne Eckert. This is for "Ladies Only." We will begin with a reading and discussion taking us through the "Gospel of John," once a month for 12 months from the world's GREATEST BOOK and continued best seller of ALL time. Books will be provided. There is absolutely no pressure if you sign up and then need to miss any sessions; no one will call looking for you, I promise. Because space is limited to approximately 12 people in our home, please call me at 718-474-0702. If I'm not home, please be sure to leave a message and I will return your call as soon as I return home. I look forward to a very informative and FUN time together! Coffee, tea and dessert will be served. Most Sincerely, Joanne Eckert.

ST. VIRGILIUS / ST. CAMILLUS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (CCD): Registration (and Re-registration) for September, 2019 is underway. To register, please visit our website at www.stcstv.com or call 718-634-8229. Re-registration forms were sent to students who are attending classes this year. Beginning in the FIRST GRADE, students are encouraged to attend CCD, if they attend a Public School. Until the new building is completed classes will be held at St. Camillus. There is NO registration fee. Please register now so that we can order materials. Classes will begin the second week of September.

ST. VIRGILIUS GOLDEN AGE CLUB meets on Thursday afternoons at 12:30 PM in the American Legion Hall.

7th **ANNUAL IRISH FESTIVAL** will take place on Saturday (June 1) and Sunday (June 2) from 11AM to 9PM in St. Camillus Church Parking Lot (Shore Front Parkway between 99th & 100th Street). Live Entertainment: Shilelagh Law; Wine with Sue; The Joe Hurley All Star Irish Rock Revue; The Highland Rovers, Marian Waldron; The Canny Brothers Band; HellCat Maggie; Breezy Point Drum & Pipe Band; O'Malley Dancers. Irish Vendors, Food & Refreshments, Children's Rides, Free Face Painting; Raffle for Two round-trip tickets to Ireland. \$10 for adults each day - Children (under 12) are FREE. Tickets will be sold at the gate. No coolers or beach chairs. Please visit www.IrishFest21.com.

AOH Division 21 Day at the Races to benefit Bridget O'Connor will be held in St. Camillus Springman Hall on Saturday, June 8, 2019 from 2 PM to 6 PM. \$30. Donation at the Door includes soft drinks, catered food. BYOB. 50/50 & Basket of Cheer Raffle. Special prize for best hat. For reservations, call Mike at 917-324-8677 or Thom at 718-634-0021.

St. Camillus \$10,000 Raffle – Drawing will be held on June 8, 2019 in the Academy cafeteria. Doors open at 7PM. The purchase of a ticket includes entry for two to the wine and cheese party where there will also be a DJ, more raffles and fun! Tickets are \$100.00 each and only 200 tickets will be sold. All proceeds go to support St. Camillus Catholic Academy. For more information call the academy office at 718-634-5260.



GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

The following reminiscence appeared in a local paper.

EARNING YOUR SEA LEGS IN BROAD CHANNEL

By Dan Mundy, Sr.

The children of Broad Channel didn't have a ball field, basketball court or even a proper blacktop street to play on — the roads were paved with ash, the byproduct of a nearby Rockaway factory.

"We'll probably find out that it was toxic or something like that," said lifelong Broad Channel resident Dan Mundy Sr., 79.

So, residents of the island took to the one thing they couldn't get away from — the water.

Earning your sea legs was a rite of passage in the community when Mundy was growing up and still is to this day.

"You just couldn't wait until your parents let you into a little rowboat," he said. "You'd be on a little tether and be able to go up and down the canal but you could never go past so-and-so's house. You know, 'Don't go past Mr. Berry's house, that's halfway up the canal.' But, you'd try to go a little further and further each time."

Even though they were tethered to a post, Mundy and his friends found a way to make their sea ventures as fun as possible.

"We'd get a Borden's milk bottle and put a piece of bread in it and with that you caught fish and because the neck was smaller than the top, they couldn't get out," he said. "Then you'd use that to catch crab. That's what growing up in Broad Channel was like."

As children on the island grew older and, for the most part, more responsible, their parents allowed them to not only go farther up the canals but navigate boats with small motors.

"And once you were old enough you were allowed to get just to the edge of the bay and when you got there you were like 'Wow, there it is,'" Mundy said. "But with that you had to be careful because then you were bumping into your neighbor's boats and that caused a whole lot of trouble."

Today, growing up in Broad Channel is similar to that, with the exception that children are allowed in much faster boats much earlier than Mundy was.

"You'd look out into the bay and see your grandchildren and call them and say, 'Hey you, be careful,'" he said.

Although there wasn't a blacktop road in Broad Channel until relatively recently, that didn't stop the kids from playing stickball or football. But it also proved to be painful at times.

"If you fell down, your knees were red and bloody because of the ash. It was some rough stuff," Mundy recalled. "But we just put something around it and continued playing."

Going to school in Broad Channel was a learning experience in more than one way.

"From one end of Broad Channel to the other it was almost like 'Who are they?'" Mundy said. "It wasn't until you got to school that you learned about the other people on the island. But even then you didn't really hang out with them. Your friends were the people on your block or those across the street."

When Mundy was growing up, many of the homes were still classic bungalows.

But it wasn't because the residents chose to keep the classic look for historical purposes — they were limited on what they could do to the exterior because the city owned the land underneath the houses.

.....to be continued

Material for the next newsletter is due by June 10th.