



Ten Miles to the Brewery

by Danielle Golden Giglio

After running 10 miles on a cold January morning and raising funds for some amazing local charities, of course you need a beer. All this and more happened on an early Saturday for the Sayville Running Company's 10th Annual "10 Mile Run" to Blue Point Brewery.

The snow held off and it was good running weather at 22 degrees with no wind. The 10 mile race started and ended on River Avenue in Patchogue, winding through the towns of Bayport and Blue Point. continued page 2

continued page 18

The Johnny Mac
Foundation
14th Wish Gala
2020 Honoree:
**The Bayport-Blue
Point Public Library**
more info on page 6



Always Involved - Bayport Civic Association

by Danielle Golden Giglio

Bayport Civic Association recently celebrated another successful year of working hard to make Bayport such an amazing place to live. President of the association and lifelong Bayport resident, Bob Draffin, was excited to kick off their twelfth year with the installation of the officers and presenting their Civic Pride Award.

At the installation dinner, over 60 community members gathered – the biggest crowd to date. As always the recipient of the award was under tight wraps until Bob proudly announced it to a surprised Bill Lindsay.

continued page 19



2020 St Pat's Parade Grand Marshal Matt McGuire



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Sunny Days FYI FYI

Diana Reid



WOW.... it's already February !!!!!!!
Time is really flying by for me.
So... February....the Valentine month...
My Valentine and I have been sharing our hearts
with each other for 42 years....
Never in my wildest dreams, when I was a young
lass, did I think I would be so lucky.
In Baseball, 3 strikes and you're out.
In my life, the 3rd turned out to be a home run, win-
ning the game...
"Love makes the world go round"
I guess it's true.
My life has certainly gone round and round and
round...
Well... sometimes up and down....
Love encouraged me to meet daily challenges...
Love helped me to be strong...when life became stormy...
Love showed me how to turn negatives into positives...
When I met my Valentine many, many years ago,
I didn't realize how much our attraction to each other would grow into love...
How it would become "everlasting"
My Valentine became not just my love, but also my closest friend.
With my mate by my side.. I managed to get through the rough times
So... yes, "Love does make the world go round"
Remember.....Love means to commit oneself without guarantee,
To give yourself completely.
Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength,
while loving someone deeply, gives you courage....
I hope you also have a "special" Valentine in your life.....
to help your world go round and round...
Happy Valentine Day.... Happy Living !!!!!!!

Love helped me to be strong...when life became stormy...
Love showed me how to turn negatives into positives...
When I met my Valentine many, many years ago,
I didn't realize how much our attraction to each other would grow into love...
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Photos courtesy of Bayport-Blue Point School District

A second grade student listened in amazement as his third grade partner imparted the interesting facts he had collected about the goliath frog.

Third graders leap into teaching

On Jan. 24, third grade students at Sylvan Avenue Elementary School in the Bayport-Blue Point School District functioned as teachers, educating second graders about the various types of frogs they had studied.

Second graders in Alison Purdy's and Amy Minerva's classes grouped up with third graders in Lori Mandracchia's and Patty Gorman's classes, rotating periodically so each second grader could learn about several different frog species. This collaboration allowed the third graders to proudly showcase their hard work and provided a great opportunity for mentorship among the two grade levels.

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Bayport-Blue Point Public Library Hosts Suffolk County Sheriff Errol Toulon, Jr. On Thursday, February 27



The Bayport-Blue Point Public Library & Johnny Mac Foundation, will co-sponsor "An Evening with Suffolk County Sheriff Errol Toulon, Jr." at 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 27.

Members of the public, including but not limited to teens are welcome to join the event. The program will be conducted in a question-and-answer format allowing many opportunities to have local questions answered.

Attendees must register beforehand by going online to www.bayportbluepointlibrary.org and using program code BPA672.

"The February 27 event gives the Bayport and Blue Point communities a valuable opportunity to discuss law enforcement issues with the county's top public safety official," said Mike Firestone, Library Director. "It's also a great way to let Sheriff Toulon know about public safety-related matters concerning our local community."

As Suffolk County's highest-ranking law enforcement official, Sheriff Toulon has spearheaded a number of innovative programs designed to reduce crime and recidivism. Three highlights have been the Sandy Hook Promise School Safety Initiative, a Choose Your Path program directed toward young adults, and Deconstructing the Prison Pipeline, which focuses on the causes of juvenile delinquency and inter-generational crime.

Inaugurated into office on January 1, 2018, Sheriff Toulon is the first elected African-American Sheriff in the history of Suffolk County – and the first African-American to be elected to a countywide, non-judicial office.

He has made a practice of going to schools throughout Suffolk County on a weekly basis to talk with students about bullying, drugs, and gangs. As part of his campaign to "get to kids before they get to me," he encourages students to make positive life choices and also discusses how the paths he took in his own life led him to career success.

Sheriff Toulon, who previously served 22 years as a uniformed member of the New York City Department of Correction, earned a master's degree in business administration and a doctorate in Educational Administration from Dowling College.

The Bayport-Blue Point Public Library is located at 203 Blue Point Avenue in Blue Point.



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(All checks can be made out to Jack Flood)

You can follow Jack on Instagram @jackflood if you want to see his quest for the Olympics.

If you are unable to attend but would like to show your support you can donate on Jack's GoFundMe page.



Jack Flood is a local young man who has dreams of winning Olympic Gold for Team USA in the decathlon, a 10-event track and field competition this summer at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo and/or at the 2024 Olympics in Paris. Jack graduated from Bayport-Blue Point High School in 2013 where he ran track and won a state championship. After high school, he attended SUNY Delhi and SUNY Cortland where he was a national champion 3 out of 4 years. Since college, Jack Flood has been competing around the country in the decathlon. This past year 2018-2019 was Jack's best year by far. He placed 3rd at the USA indoor championship in the Heptathlon and placed 8th at his first USA Outdoor track and field championship in the Decathlon. Because he placed in the top 10 at these USA meets, Jack was selected to compete in the Thorpe Cup held in Germany, representing the USA. Jack placed 4th at that meet, his first international track and field experience. Just two years prior he was an unknown Division 3 athlete far away from the level that he is at now. All Jack did was work hard and believe in himself. He achieved all this with limited coaching and while he was working. Imagine how much farther he can go now that he has a full-time coach and is solely focused on training. We believe he will be one of the top decathletes in the world one day and so does Jack. We have great faith in what he can accomplish with a little help from his community.

Please join us in supporting Jack in his Olympic Quest.

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Johnny Mac Foundation Gala on February 8th Honors Bayport-Blue Point Public Library

The Johnny Mac Foundation will honor the Bayport-Blue Point Public Library at its "14th Wish Gala" at the Stonebridge Country Club in Hauppauge on Saturday, February 8 at 7:00 pm.



Ronnie Devine, Jr. and Jennifer McNamara at the 2020 Grand Marshal dinner. Next stop? The Johnny Mac 14th Wish Gala!

The event will include cocktails, dinner, dancing, and raffles. Tickets are \$150, with a number of sponsorship opportunities available ranging in cost from \$500 to \$2,500.

The Johnny Mac Foundation has a dual mission: to aid first responders, and to support the local community. The Foundation assists 9/11 first responders and first responder organizations and provides aid when needs arise in the local community. Community involvement includes helping neighbors in difficult financial circumstances as a result of unanticipated events. The foundation is named in honor of FDNY firefighter John F. McNamara of Blue Point. Mr. McNamara was a first responder who engaged in more than 500 hours of rescue and recovery work at the World Trade Center in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks. In

August 2009, he died at age 44 from cancer contracted as a result of his efforts.

As his health declined, Mr. McNamara had made a list of final wishes, including the desire to have a community center built in Blue Point. The Foundation's leaders said the center was also intended to serve as "a cornerstone of the community, family, and camaraderie."

In fulfillment of his wishes, the Bayport-Blue Point Library Board last August voted to lease the cottage on the former St. Ursuline Center property to the Johnny Mac Foundation. The Library purchased the property last year and will begin construction this spring on a new, expanded library facility.

"There were few things as important to John as his community. John was grateful to live in a community that cared so deeply about our kids, teens, and young adults," said Jennifer McNamara, the founder and president of the Foundation, who is also Mr. McNamara's widow. "The Bayport-Blue Point Public Library's devotion to community service aligns perfectly with John's vision of a better community. The Library is helping me to help make John's dream come true."

"John McNamara's personal courage was matched only by his love of the Bayport-Blue Point community," said Ronald Devine, library board president. "Everyone involved with the Library is proud to associate themselves with his inspiring example. It's very gratifying to be recognized by this wonderful, community-spirited organization."

In addition to facilitating the creation of the community center, the Library has joined forces with the foundation to co-host events and programming that serve as platforms for community uplift.

Last September, Rohan Murphy – a nationally recognized youth speaker – gave an inspirational talk at the Library. In October, retired New York Mets All-Star Ed Kranepool recounted his seventeen-year career as a member of the "Miracle Mets," especially the 1969 World Series championship season. And in November, Bayport resident Ray Cooney – a retired firefighter and host of the popular TV show "Firehouse Kitchen" – shared both recipes and stories of firefighting heroism.

For information about tickets or sponsorships for the February 8 "14th Wish Gala," contact jennifer.mcnamara@johnnymacfoundation.org.

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The Pirates Will be performing

by Danielle Golden Giglio

Bayport-Blue Point High School musical production this year is "Pirates of Penzance", and this show will not disappoint. With close to 150 students



working hard practicing, building sets, and getting wardrobes ready, it promises to bring the audience to their feet.

Playing the lead of Mabel is Daphne Sparacio, a senior, who has been involved in musical theater since

junior high. Daphne said, "There is a lot of singing in this musical and I love singing." Although she was not familiar with production at first, she is totally enjoying it now. "I like making other people happy that are watching the show – it is so much fun!"

Producer of the show is Paul Weber and he is also the Arts Chairperson for Bayport-Blue Point High School. He is happy that the students have immersed themselves in this classic Gilbert and Sullivan musical. "It is an operetta and such an interesting story."

The students have been working on "Pirates of Penzance" since October. Mr. Weber said, "We try to get them involved in every aspect."

Besides the performers singing, dancing, and acting, there is a 50 piece student pit orchestra, plus the stage crew, set design, hair and makeup.



Junior, Stephanie McDonough, is in the ensemble but also worked on the artistic side of the musical by designing many of the art pieces in the show, including posters, the playbill and buttons. "I like being involved and working in every part of the theater. It is great to be with people working together toward a goal that we all have fun doing."

The very model of a modern Major-General is being performed by Samuel Lent. He too has been singing since a young age and got involved with the theater in junior high. He loves the role he is playing in "Pirates of Penzance" and said, "It is great working with everyone. The friendships and bonds that I have made during the musical are amazing."

Don't the miss the show! The free dress rehearsal for senior citizens of our community is February 5th at 5:30pm. Regular show times are February 6th to the 8th at 7pm in Bayport-Blue Point High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors.

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30th Grand Marshal Celebration Dinner

by Danielle Golden Giglio



Matt with his daughters Melanie and Kate, son TJ and wife, Darlene

The Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce chose Matt McGuire of Blue Point to lead the incredible 30th St. Patrick's Day Parade through our community as Grand Marshal.

They celebrated at the Grand Marshal introduction dinner, planned by Skip Pope, who is head of the dinner part of the parade committee. Skip has been with the parade for 30 years, along with Tom Reid, and they were thrilled that over 150 community members were there to honor and support Matt. Other Parade Committee members, Karl Auwaerter,

Seth Needelman, Lenore Ringer-Prezioso and Carol Seitz-Cusack made the decision. At the dinner Matt officially accepted his title and sash as Grand Marshal.

According to Skip, Matt is sort of a hidden gem of our community but it took the parade committee all of 10 minutes to decide on him. Skip said, "He wrote the book on giving back. Matt has some great



Matt McGuire and his father Tom McGuire



Kathy Heinlein, Skip Pope and Matt McGuire

accomplishments with the work he does with Bayport-Blue Point Little League and our towns."

The dinner was held at The Mansion at West Sayville where the Suffolk County Police Department Pipes and Drums arrived and played a few amazing songs for Matt. Another special part of the evening was when the whole room erupted in singing Matt's favorite "Take me out to the ballgame." If you ever go to any Little League event, Matt always gets the crowd

to sing it. Irish Pipe Bands accompanied award presentations and a four course meal.

Matt has been to every St. Patrick's Day Parade since coming to Blue Point and many of those parades he marched with the Bayport-Blue Point Little League.

Th dinner is the start of the parade season, culminating with the parade of March 15.

"I am blown away – I don't even know what to say except I am so grateful and I love Bayport-Blue Point." Congratulations Matty McGuire!

We ask you to make sure you are on the parade route on March 15 starting at 11am to cheer him on as he leads the St. Patrick's Day Parade.



Lenore Prezioso, Seth Needelman and Tom McGuire

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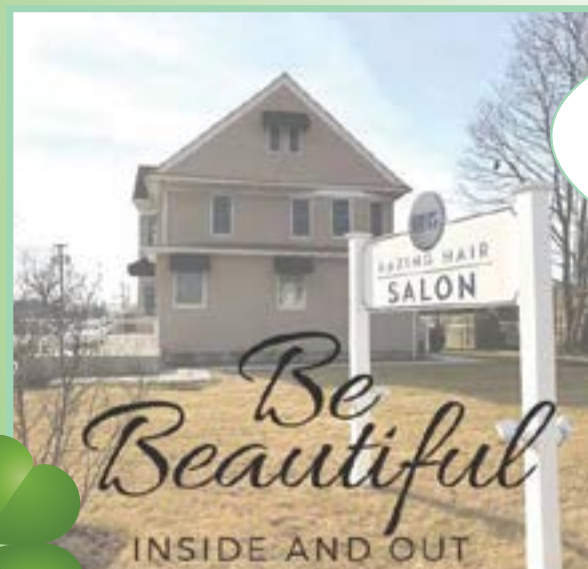
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Bayport Civic Year In Review

-By Bob Draffin

As we once again change calendars, I would like to look back at 2019 and recap last year's activities of the Bayport Civic Association. We started off the year by holding our Eleventh Annual Installation Dinner at the Grey Horse Tavern, where our Executive Board was sworn-in by Councilman Neil Foley in front of two rooms packed with members enjoying the hospitality offered by the Grey Horse. One of the highlights of the evening was the awarding of our 2019 Civic Pride Award to Ronnie Devine for all his outstanding contributions to our community.

At our February meeting we had Assemblyman Andrew Garbarino as our guest where he told us about the new State budget. With March and thoughts of Spring up next, our attention turned to our 17th annual St. Patty's Day Parade entry, along with a trailer full of enthusiastic Junior Civic members. As in past years, the Chamber outdid themselves in running the Parade which featured our very own Lenore Ringer-Prezioso as Grand Marshal. March continued with Legislator Bill Lindsay headlining our March meeting.

The April meeting of the Bayport Civic, as in past years, was focused upon the upcoming school budget vote. Schools Superintendent Dr. Hearney made a budget presentation and answered the many questions that were asked. Also Board of Ed candidates were in attendance and each was given a chance to address the large turnout at the Bayport Methodist Church that night. April also saw the beginning of the Civic's long-term goal of having a Hamlet Study done for Bayport. Nearly 200 people turned out at the Bayport Fire House for the first public forum.

May's meeting included the Islip Town Planning Commissioner Ron Meyer as our keynote speaker and to answer questions about the Hamlet Study. During May, we also hoisted new flags at Bayport Civic Plaza which had been dedicated six years earlier.

In June we awarded our 15th annual BCA Scholarship of \$1,000 to Junior Civic member and Eagle Scout Thomas Woods who best exemplified excellence in the performance of his civic duties. Our June meeting featured Islip Town Councilwoman Kate Mullen who gave us an update on town projects in and around Bayport.

In keeping with tradition, the July meeting of the Bayport Civic was held at the Bayport Aerodrome Museum Hangar. This year we had Islip Town Supervisor Angie Carpenter as our special guest speaker. The BCA has long partnered up with the Aerodrome Society in doing all we can to maintain and preserve our Crown Jewel. Continuing with the Aerodrome theme, September marks the month of the Aerodrome Society's annual neighborhood picnic. As in past years, all the BCA members were invited for a day of fun amongst the smells of the barbeques and the sounds of the antique planes overhead.

September marked the beginning of our seventeenth year, and we had our new Senator Monica Martinez on hand for the event. The Senator told us of the new challenges and victories that came with her newfound office.

As Fall arrived, the Civic planned to host its annual "Meet the Candidates Night". In October we featured the candidates for the Town Supervisor, Town Council, Town Clerk, Town Tax Reciever and County Legislative races. The evening was highlighted by a lively question and answer session between those present and the candidates on a variety of issues important to our membership with 11 of the 12 invited candidates in attendance.

November's meeting included BBP Chamber of Commerce President Carol Seitz-Cusack, who filled us in on all of the Chamber's good works throughout the year. As the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays approached, the BCA geared up for their 16th annual Turkey Giveaway and Adopt-a-Family for the Holidays charity. We again partnered with the Bob Venero of Future Tech and were able to get turkeys out to those in need, totaling over eight tons distributed since we first began. We were also able to provide for a nice Christmas bounty for a few local families that otherwise would not have had one.

And so concludes another year of the Bayport Civic Association living up to our motto: Get Involved! On behalf of all the members of the Bayport Civic Association, I would like to wish everyone in our great Community a happy, safe and prosperous 2020.

Writers - Needed at the Gazette

Give us a call
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Pure Barre Ribbon Cutting

by Danielle Golden Giglio

Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce welcomed another new business into the community and the chamber – Pure Barre Bayport. This low impact high intensity workout studio opened about two month in the 7-11 Bayport shopping center.

Membership chair for the chamber Bryn Elliott was thrilled for the ribbon cutting ceremony and of course had the giant scissors ready. “We love doing this and it is exciting to see the Bayport-Blue Point business community grow.”

Lifelong Bayport resident and now raising her family here Sara Kuhar is the owner of Pure Barre Bayport. She was excited for the ceremony and the other business owner that came to support her along with community members and dignitaries.

She said, “This is very official and very welcoming. I am happy to be in the Chamber. It's important to know the other business owners and participate in the community.”

Sara has totally jumped into the chamber from the second she opened for business. She has been going to the meetings and attending different chamber events.

Pure Barre is a 60 minute workout that uses your entire body and all your major muscle groups. Anyone over the age of 16 at any level of exercise experience can enjoy a class. Memberships are tailored to when you want to take classes. From once a week or four times a week – they are open everyday. For more information and class schedule stop by to see the friendly Pure Barre crew or go online at PureBarre.com and search for Bayport.



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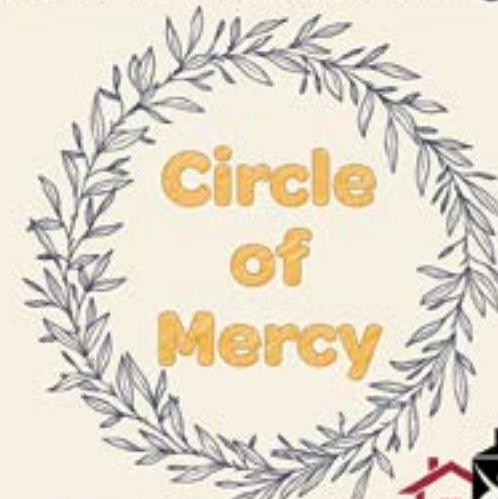
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Physical Therapy



Physical therapy is considered an allied health profession geared toward improving a patient's physical functions that may have been brought on by injury, illness, or congenital issues that interrupt Activities of Daily Living. These ADL's can be simple tasks like getting in and out of bed, walking up and down stairs, cleaning around the house, doing laundry, or just being able to play with your kids/grand-kids. Physical therapists use an individual's history during a detailed physical examination to develop a diagnosis and create a personalized management plan to use skilled treatment techniques in order to best treat the patient. The goal with physical therapy is to help the patient regain strength, mobility and overall independence as quickly and efficiently as possible. It is vital for the patient to put their trust in their physical therapist to maximize rehab potential.

Physical therapists will teach patients how to prevent and manage their conditions in order to achieve long-term benefits. PT's will promote ways to enhance the ability to move,

reduce pain, restore function and prevent disability. Physical therapists use skilled techniques like manual therapy, joint mobilization, modalities (i.e.-electric stim, ultrasound, cold laser, etc.), therapeutic exercises, patient education, and more throughout the treatment plan.

Physical therapy should be focused on individualized care and manual therapy, in combination with advanced treatment methods that are used with every patient to help them achieve their goals – often returning to a prior (or better!) level of function and a life without pain. Common issues patients go to physical therapy for include (but not limited to): lower back pain, sciatica, neck stiffness/pain, joint pain/stiffness (knee, hip, shoulder, elbow, etc), sports rehabilitation and balance issues; as well as pre & post surgical rehabilitation from joint replacements, sports-related injuries, or accidents.

The important thing to note is that physical therapy is a natural way to get better. There's no reason to rely on pain meds to get through the pain one may be having when physical therapy is an option. If there's something that is physically hampering the way of living that you're accustomed to, PT can get you back on your feet and have you doing the things you love to do.

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James Wilson Young Middle School students posed with their blooming tower garden.

Tower garden fosters growth in more ways than one

Students at James Wilson Young Middle School in the Bayport-Blue Point School District are learning about horticulture and developing their green thumbs through tending to an aeroponic tower garden in their classroom. The tower garden was donated by the PTA and comes equipped with its own watering and lighting systems, which the students worked hard to assemble. They then planted all the seeds necessary to grow various vegetables and herbs and have since been busy checking the garden's PH regularly and making weekly observations.

The students plan to use the food they've grown to set up a farmer's market in their classroom café and look forward to incorporating it into recipes of their choice. According to teacher Rachel Kelly, they are very excited about the project and "being able to watch something they created grow – and grow pretty quickly – has been really beneficial for them."

The Talented Jeff Allegue

by Danielle Golden Giglio

Did you know that there is a multi-platinum and gold record musician that grew up in Bayport and still calls our community home? Jeff Allegue is incredibly talented, starting his musical career at a young age and is still jamming on today.



Jeff moved to Bayport with his family when he was around 10 years old in 1972. His love of music began way before with one of his first musical memories of watching a TV show with his dad about a classical guitarist. He said, "I was amazed by it and that is what got me."

In a musical coincidence at this time living in Amityville, his neighbor across the street was a classical guitar teacher and Jeff started taking lessons. "I had an affinity for Spanish guitar music since my grandfather was from Spain. And I also loved the Beatles. It

was a strange combo for a young kid but to this day I still love a lot of different kinds of music."

Once he settled in Bayport, Jeff was playing in bands from 7th grade through high school. When he was 14 years old his music teacher from Bayport-Blue Point High School saw the potential in his musical abilities and got him a job teaching guitar at Family Melody in Patchogue. This is where he met Paul O'Neill, who was also being hired as a guitar teacher the same day. They started a lifelong friendship and skillful collaboration.

It was also during this time that Jeff was in a variety of different bands writing his own music. One band, with his younger brother John, called Tallboys, ended up on "Star Search" which was the "American Idol" of the '80s. They won and got a record deal.

According to Jeff, there are many different layers to his journey in the music world. His list of talents is endless – writing songs and music, playing bass and guitar, and producing music. He toured for many years with Taylor Dayne and worked with Joan Jett writing songs.

One of his biggest accomplishments was in the mid-90s when his friend Paul founded the Trans-Siberian Orchestra from a band they had together called Slow Burn. He played with them for 13 years and has two platinum and five gold records from being a part of the biggest grossing tours in the world.

Jeff has traveled the world with his love of music, but is proud to call his home Bayport. Currently he still plays live music in the area along with his son, Grant, who is also a super talented musician. And for the past year, his main focus has been *The Cover Girl Band*. Follow them on Facebook to stay up to date with their local gigs and to see Jeff playing live. And Jeff also enjoys teaching guitar and bass at his Patchogue recording studio.

Harlem Wizards players slam dunks on PRIDE

On Jan. 22, James Wilson Young Middle School welcomed Harlem Wizards basketball player Gerald "Skywalker" Warrick. During his three assemblies at the school, Warrick showed off basketball tricks with the help of student volunteers and taught the middle schoolers about his philosophy of "PRIDE," which stands for "Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination and Empathy."



Photo courtesy of Bayport-Blue Point School District
Student volunteer Olivia Gorwitz performed a basketball trick for her peers at James Wilson Young Middle School with the help of Harlem Wizards basketball player Gerald "Skywalker" Warrick.

Warrick, who once traveled the world playing professional basketball, now spends his time visiting schools with the goal of "bringing everyone together to enjoy and learn from each other." His visit to the middle school was specifically intended to drum up support for the upcoming basketball game where courageous members of the Bayport-Blue Point faculty and administration will go head-to-head against the Wizards.

The PTA-sponsored event will take place on Thursday, Feb. 13, at Bayport-Blue Point High School from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and aims to build community within the district. To purchase tickets, go to: <https://harlemwizards.thunder-tix.com/events/163389>

The Gazette Gets Around!



The Brooks family of Blue Point traveled to France and visited Chateau de Versailles with the Bayport-Blue Point Gazette



Bill, Lori and Jaimeson Graham and Sal LoCascio, all of Bayport, took time from sightseeing in Paris to read the Bayport-Blue Point Gazette at the Louvre Museum.



Nick Burford and fiancé Kathy Heinlein at the Sagrada Familia church in Barcelona, Spain catching up on news from home. The church is the master work of architect Antoni Gaudi, and is scheduled to be completed in 2026 on the 100th anniversary of his death

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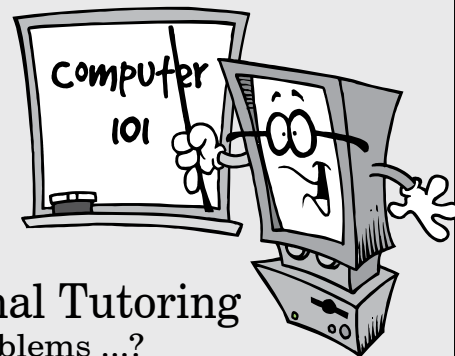
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A woman with short grey hair, wearing a pink winter coat with a fur-lined hood and a black scarf, is smiling and holding a large, rectangular sign. The sign has a pink fuzzy border and the text "GO LIZ GO KATIE!" written on it in black capital letters. She is standing outdoors in front of a white house with blue shutters. A dark car is partially visible behind her.



Le Soir

New members of this luncheon group are always welcome to join, as long as you wear a red hat. They try to limit the group to around 20 ladies so that restaurants can accommodate them. Contact Linda at goggylin@gmail.com for more information.

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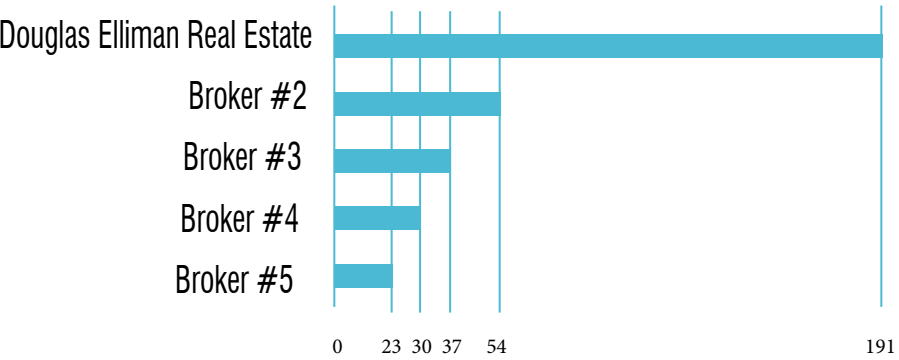
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