



Chatterbox

January 2020

The Eyes of Youth



I wake up 7:00 am, roll out of bed, brush my teeth and hair, and go downstairs to be greeted by my neighbors. I run to work while knocking back a black coffee. I hurry through these Brooklyn streets while saying hello to local business owners, in particular Bagel Boy where I grab the bagels for the coffee bar and thank them for their generosity as I hurry out the door. I get to work, typically late, and start managing the morning rush. I greet the members, answer the questions of those around me, and try to keep up with documentation. At work it delights me to see the same faces every day, some sad, some happy, some worrisome, and some grateful.

I cannot help but imagine all the life that has happened between all of these members. Some tell me of their lives: how they were war heroes, the stories of their families, how they worked in offices from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or the mischief they caused in their youth. They bring me into the past with them and we could laugh and cry together over their tales.

After my day at work, I go home, cook dinner, shower, have a glass of “grape juice” and I reflect. I like to imagine what it was like to live in a time before I was born. I imagine the struggles and barriers people faced: war, denial of human rights, depression, loses, and poverty. Then, I like to imagine the good: the Revolution, winning back human rights, cures and vaccinations created to save lives, the Mets winning the World Series, and most importantly the faith people kept by their sides time and time again.

Everybody has a story. Every day I am blessed to be a part of the lives of the members of the Bay Ridge Center, and to become a part of your story. This Chatterbox is special and dedicated to a century that has passed from 1920 to 2020, in order to remember the stories and lives of those in your past and mine. Happy New Year and thank you for being a part of the Bay Ridge Center Family.

Dominique Raymond

Director of Senior Center Services

Bay Ridge Center is a non-sectarian, non-profit agency funded in part through funding from the New York City Department for the Aging and the New York State Office for Aging.
6935 4thAvenue, Brooklyn, NY 11209-1504 Phone: 718-748-0650 Fax: 718-680-5143

From Your Council

I hope that everyone enjoyed their holidays as much as I did. December is my favorite time of the year in that we get to share the holidays with family and friends. This month, more than any other, I am reminded how fortunate I am for the friendships I have made here at the Center and all the occasions we get to share with each other. We celebrated the holidays with a Boogie Woogie Christmas show at the Brownstone in New Jersey; our volunteer luncheon at Vesuvio; our Holiday party at Sirico's; and our Holiday party here at the Center. Thank you for making all of these occasions a huge success.

As a reminder, please note that for January, February and March, there will be no bingo nights, no dine-outs and only trips that require no prepayment.

Sign-up for February trips will be on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 7, 8 and 9.

Our next General Meeting will be held on Friday, January 10 at 12:30 pm. Please come with your questions, concerns and suggestions.

On Tuesday, January 14, we will have our Crazy Sock/Birthday Party at the Center. We will have three prizes for the craziest socks worn. Please see Crystal for your party tickets on the usual Tuesday and Friday sign-up days. Party tickets must be purchased by Friday, January 10. We will post the birthday list for January for you on the bulletin board.

On the morning of Friday, January 17, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm we will have our election for new Council members; the four nominees with the most votes and 4 appointees will be announced in the afternoon at our Annual Meeting to join the Council on February 4. Also, we hope that you will consider joining our food, entertainment, decorating and bingo committees. If you are interested, please see me.

Please note, our Center will be closed on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 20.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone good health and happiness in the New Year!

Thank you and be kind to each other.

*Respectfully,
Sonia Adamski,
Senior Advisory Council President*

Bay Ridge Center Trips

Please check with Crystal for availabilities and updates.
For trip cancellations, call Crystal directly at 718-745-6331 before 8:30 pm.

January 2020 Trips

Wednesday, January 8 – Aqueduct Racetrack/Casino
Wednesday, January 15 – Gateway Mall – Brooklyn
Wednesday, January 22 – Flaming Grill Chinese Buffet and Aldi – Brooklyn
Wednesday, January 29 – Dollar Tree Store and Marina Café

February 2020 Trips

Wednesday, February 5

Essen Deli

Lunch on your own at the Jewish Deli; followed by a short walk around the corner to Ostrovitsky's Bakery to take home dessert.

Suggested transportation contribution is \$5.00

Be at the Center at 11:00 am.....Leave at 11:30 am.

Wednesday, February 12

Kings Plaza Mall & Nick's Lobster

Shopping at the Plaza for two hours; then lunch on your own at Nick's Lobster.

Suggested transportation contribution is \$10.00

Be at the Center at 9:00 am.....Leave at 9:30 am.

Wednesday, February 19

Liberty View Mall

Stores available for shopping are Bed, Bath & Beyond, Face Value and World Market.

Lunch on your own.

Suggested transportation contribution is \$5.00

Be at the Center at 9:00 am.....Leave at 9:30 am.

Wednesday, February 26

Kohl's and Olive Garden

Shopping; then lunch on your own at Olive Garden.

Suggested transportation contribution is \$5.00

Be at the Center at 9:00 am..... Leave at 9:30 am.



Trips and Party Policies

Transportation contributions should be placed in the trip donation box on the day of the trip.

Party tickets cost \$3.00 per person and must be purchased
no later than the Friday before Party Day.

Monthly Activities

MONDAY

Aerobics	9:00 am
Strength & Flexibility	9:30 am
Arthritis Exercises	10:00 am
Joint Exercises	10:30 am
Wellness Group	10:00 am
Bingo	1:00 pm
Wii for Seniors	2:00 pm

TUESDAY

Morning Exercise	9:00 am
Standing Stretch & Tone	9:30 am
Standing Balance	10:00 am
Blood Pressure	10:00 am
Bingo	11:00 am
Tea & Tech	1:00 pm
Smart Phone	2:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Quilting	9:30 am
Bingo	11:00 am
Pa-Parla Italiano	1:00 am
Yoga	1:00 pm
Yoga Meditation	1:30 pm
Tai Chi for Arthritis	2:00 pm

THURSDAY

Aerobics	9:00 am
Strength & Flexibility	9:30 am
Arthritis Exercises	10:00 am
Joint Exercises	10:30 am
Leisure Board Games	11:15 am
Wii for Seniors	1:00 pm

FRIDAY

Morning Exercise	9:00 am
Sitting Stretch & Tone	9:30 am
Sitting Balance	10:00 am
Connect Through Creativity	10:00 am
Bingo	11:00 am
Jewelry Making	1:00 pm
Floor Yoga	1:00 pm
Advanced Jewelry Making	2:00 pm

Dates to Remember

Senior Advisory Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 7 at 1:00 pm

General Meeting
Friday, January 10 at 12:30 pm

Crazy Socks/Birthday Party
Tuesday, January 14 at 1:00 pm

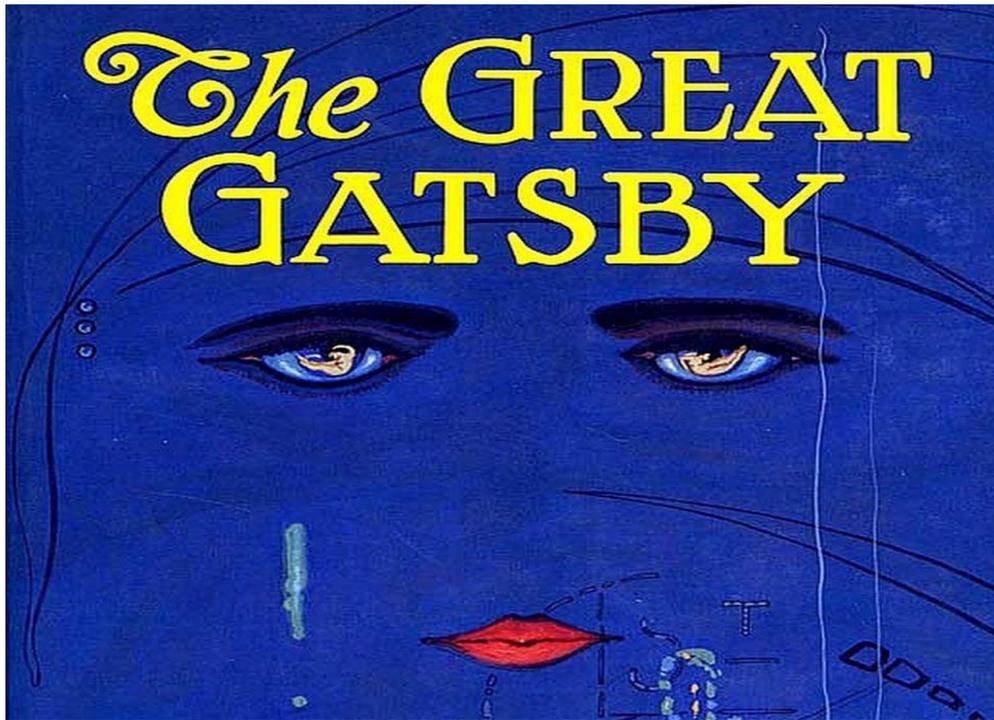
Presentations

Monday, January 6 – Falls Prevention
Wednesday, January 15 – Medicare

Your Vote Matters

Senior Advisory Council Election
Friday, January 17
9:00 am - 12:00 pm





“There are only the pursued, the pursuing, the busy and the tired.”

– F. Scott Fitzgerald

Just hearing the name F. Scott Fitzgerald evokes the echo of clinking martini glasses, the fizz-pop of champagne, tinkling chandeliers, and the strains of hot jazz sliding forth from a glistening trombone. Sleek women in satin and chiffon dance wildly, beads flying furiously. Ah, but that would be Zelda, his wife. Or perhaps Daisy Buchanan, the pivotal character in his bestselling novel, *The Great Gatsby*, which came to define the Roaring Twenties in all its excess, euphoria, and underbelly.

Fitzgerald began writing *The Great Gatsby* early in the decade, when the '20s were just starting to rumble – World War I was over and in its wake, the coupled feelings of relief and pride of victory. When the gun smoke cleared, it turned out there was money, lots of it – the Stock Market soared and women could vote, so a broader sense of independence, autonomy, and freedom made the air crackle with promise. With those gifts came responsibilities, but everyone was busy letting the good times roar. *The Great Gatsby* was published on April 10, 1925, little more than six months before the author's 30th birthday, and it harnessed the heartbeat of the Jazz Age. Like the decade itself, Fitzgerald was full of high hopes for its success. Anything was possible.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDS



ROY KONRAD OLSEN, D.P.M., R.N.
Podiatric Physician

453 Bay Ridge Parkway
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Phone (718) 833-0869
Fax (718) 833-0869

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Fax: 347-560-6748
marcello@sarricapt.com
www.sarricapt.com

Physical Therapy & Wellness

201 E. 69th Street, Suite 2C
New York, NY 10021

474 Bay Ridge Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11209

JAMES H. ZELLNER, M.D., F.A.C.S.
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7817 FIFTH AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11209

TEL: 718-748-2020 FAX: 718-748-0663

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Prohibition



Drug stores continued selling alcohol as “medicine.” The Volstead Act included a few interesting exceptions to the ban on distributing alcohol. Sacramental wine was still permitted for religious purposes (the number of questionable rabbis and priests soon skyrocketed), and drug stores were allowed to sell “medicinal whiskey” to treat everything from toothaches to the flu.

Thousands died from drinking tainted liquor. Enterprising bootleggers produced millions of gallons of “bathtub gin” and rotgut moonshine during Prohibition. This illicit hooch had a famously foul taste, and those desperate enough to drink it also ran the risk of being struck blind or even poisoned. Coupled with the other low-quality quinine, methyl alcohol and other toxic chemicals were found in products on offer from bootleggers. This tainted booze may have killed more than 10,000 people before the repeal of the 18th Amendment.

The Great Depression helped fuel calls for a repeal. By the late 1920s, Americans were spending more money than ever on black market booze. New York City boasted more than 30,000 speakeasies, and Detroit’s alcohol trade was second only to the auto industry in its contribution to the economy. After Franklin D. Roosevelt called for a repeal during the 1932 presidential campaign, he won the election in a landslide. Roosevelt supposedly marked the occasion by downing a dirty martini.

Drinking decreased during Prohibition. The “Roaring Twenties” and the Prohibition era are often associated with unchecked use and abuse of alcohol, yet the statistics tell a different tale. The levels jumped significantly in the late-1920s as support for the law waned, but they remained 30 percent lower than their pre-Prohibition levels for several years after the passage of the 21st Amendment.

It continues in some parts of the country to this day. Even after the repeal of Prohibition, some states maintained a ban on alcohol within their own borders. To this day, 10 states still contain counties where alcohol sales are prohibited outright.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS!



Souad Abousamra
 Linda Adams
 Thomas Albi
 Ann Albrecht
 Lawrence Amerose
 Steven Annunziata
 Ivonne Antaki
 Anne Arico
 Hilda Arias
 Samuil Aronov
 Khodor Ayach
 Dorothy Baines
 Rose Basso
 Anna Belkova
 Bridget Bennett
 Anne Bergamini
 Tom Blat
 Rose Marie Borg
 Miguel Bravo, Jr.
 Celina Brzeziak
 Maxine Bua
 Grace Bushholz

Maria Canjura
 Mary Carney
 Barbara Cooke
 Rita Doody
 Saber Elgendy
 Ayad Eskandar
 Juanita Estrada
 Anthony Farinacci
 Margaret Farrell
 Angela Fiore
 Gail Fremgen
 Alfonso Friscia
 Louis Garcia
 Ruth Goldstein
 Ava Gordons
 Margaret Grogn
 Gamila Guirguis
 Evelyn Hagman
 Elizabeth Hassan
 Selma Hoffner
 Ruth Knudsen
 Loretta Kravitz
 Jozefa Kupiec

Ellen Lee
 Harriet Leich
 Marilyn Lombardi
 Marla Lovett
 Yudif Lvova
 Sandra Lund
 Marilyn McEvoy
 Mary (Mae) McGinn
 May McNally
 Laura McNamara
 Betty Maron
 Belen Maulion
 Magdalene Merola
 Dorothy Morlano
 Henry Orava
 Diana Pakma
 Helen Parasimo
 Charlotte Petersen
 Angelo Petrone
 Segundo Quinga
 Abdur Rashid
 Abdul Rattu
 Gilberto Reyes

Jim Rivera
 Nilda Rivera
Manuel Rivera-Leiva
 Felix Robles
 Delia Rojas
 Joyce Rua
 Barbar Russell
 Erasma Salcedo
 Alan Saperstein
 Joseph Sarkis
 Marci Schackner
 Noemi Silverman
 Ming Hsien Sun
 Joyce Weinstein
 William Taer
 Ngoy Chan Tay
 Mykhaylo Torbyn
 Daniel Vargas
 Julie Walaas
 Dora Williams
 Phyllis Williams
 Kit Yau Yu

In order for the Senior Advisory Council (SAC) to have the proper amount of refreshments for the monthly parties, the following new policy is in effect: **Tickets** must be purchased **no later** than the **Friday** before the party.



WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Lola Cortez Juanita Estrada Loretta Kravitz Jesus Orellana

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOUR NAME IS MISSING FROM THE BIRTHDAY LIST, IT MAY MEAN YOU ARE NOT AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF BAY RIDGE CENTER. PLEASE CALL OR STOP BY THE OFFICE TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT TO REGISTER OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP.

Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only.



Fashion is in the sky, in the street; fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening. — Coco Chanel



Fashion

Coco Chanel, also known as Gabrielle Bonheur Chanel, can undoubtedly be described as the Fashion Queen of the 1920s. The French designer somehow managed to change fashion becoming one of the first designers to create 'looser' clothing for women. One of the main looks of the 1920s was notably 'flapper fashion' which espoused an androgynous appearance.

Coco contributed to this craze by taking inspiration from men's clothing such as sailor suits, turning them into something chic and sophisticated. She used masculine materials such as jersey and ignored the structure of the 1920s corset to create pieces with boyish charm. Her signature row of pearls helped to maintain the elegant look the women of the 1920s desired. This style inspired the people of America, as audiences watched her costume designs in action in theatre and Hollywood films. Some of Chanel's more famous pieces include her little black dress and the quilted handbags which can still be found on sale today.

Chanel was a busy woman during the 1920s, not only focusing on her fashion range but also introducing her floral smelling 'Chanel No.5' perfume in 1922, which is just as popular ninety years later. Coco passed away in 1971 at the age of 87, leaving Karl Lagerfeld to take over as chief designer of Chanel in 1983. However, he still uses her traditional pieces adding a modern twist proving that her fashion and legacy remains.



Hair



In the early 1920s, frizzy curls and waves on the side of the face were the preference. In the mid-twenties came smoother, sculpted waves. Hair covered ears sometimes into flat buns on either side, called cootie garages. Magazines such as "Ladies Home Journal" printed stories asking, "To Bob or Not to Bob?" Dancer Irene Castle was one of the first to decide to bob in 1915. Many famous persons followed. Opera Singer Mary Garden said in 1927, "I consider getting rid of our long hair one of the many little shackles that women have cast aside in their passage to freedom."



In the United States women won the right to vote in 1920. And, in the same year, Congress said it was illegal to sell alcohol.

This social change of the '20s was reflected in fashion and gave rise to some of the most famous, fashionable and dangerous people of the decade: the gangsters, bootleggers, and notorious characters who owned the nightclubs and speakeasies.

Nightclubs became the venues for men and women to get dressed up, take their automobile, and go out drinking and listen to the new sounds of Jazz music. This '20s nightlife scene has remained a staple of hip young people ever since.

When World War I ended in 1918, society had never seen so much carnage on such a wide scale. The "Flaming Youth" as they became known, felt they needed to live their lives now, because the future they said, "wasn't guaranteed."

Famous reporter, Lois Long's words became the rallying cry of the youth in the '20s:

"Tomorrow we may die, so let's get drunk and make love."