Bayside Historical Society

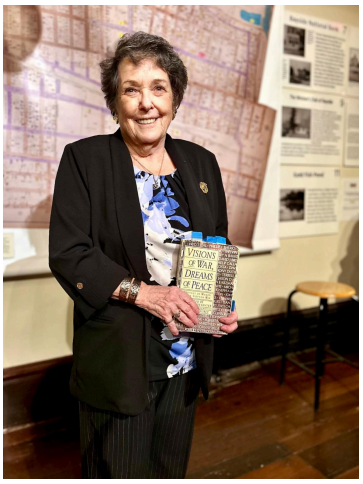
December 2026 Newsletter

Honoring Our Veterans

On Thursday, November 19th, we were honored to host Joan Furey, RN, MA, who served with the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in Vietnam from January 1969 to January 1970. She shared her personal, often heartbreaking experiences both during the war and upon returning home.

Ms. Furey also discussed the origins of the book she co-edited with Lynda Van Devanter, **Visions of War: Dreams of Peace, The Writings of Women in the Vietnam War**, read poems from the collection, and two of her own. One poem recalled her emotional first visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., as she searched for the name of a young soldier who had once been in her care.

Following a montage of personal photographs from her time in Vietnam, accompanied by memorable music from the era, Ms. Furey received a well-deserved standing ovation from the audience.





Happening This December



Saving Radio City Music Hall: An Author Talk with Rosemary Novellino-Mearns

Thurs, Dec 3rd | 7:30 PM–9 PM

Did you know Radio City Music Hall was nearly demolished in 1978? Meet the woman who helped save it!

Rosemary Novellino-Mearns, a former Radio City Music Hall dancer and Dance Captain, led the remarkable grassroots campaign that rescued this iconic New York landmark and Art Deco masterpiece. Hear the fascinating behind-the-scenes story, told firsthand by Rosemary and captured in her book, *Saving Radio City Music Hall: A Dancer's True Story*. Books will be available for purchase and signing!

Learn More



Family Holiday Celebration at The Castle

Sun, Dec 6th, 2026 | 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Celebrate the holiday season with the Bayside Historical Society at a fun-filled afternoon of festive crafts for kids, music, games, snacks, storytelling, and a special visit from Santa Claus himself! Our beautiful, holiday-decorated Castle provides the perfect backdrop for memorable family photos with Santa. Come join the festivities!

Learn More



Second Sunday Castle Tours

Sun, Dec 13th | 1 PM & 2 PM
BHS Castle

Reserve your spot for the December guided tour of The Castle and its exhibitions, conducted by the Bayside Historical Society's staff and volunteers. Come explore this architectural treasure in Bayside and learn more about its fascinating history.

Learn More



Open Sew at the Castle

Sun, Dec 13th | 1 PM–3 PM
BHS Castle

Do you sew, quilt, or enjoy handwork like embroidery or knitting? Join fellow sewing enthusiasts for an afternoon of creativity and conversation. Bring a project you're currently working on and enjoy a relaxed, creative environment with others who share your interest.

Learn More

Support BHS on Giving Tuesday

Bayside Historical Society

GIVING TUESDAY

Your generosity can make a lasting impact!

As citizens come together on **Giving Tuesday** in a show of support for communities and nonprofits around the world, we hope you'll consider making a gift to support the Bayside Historical Society.

SUPPORT BHS

Take a Look Back...

Morton Gould was an American composer, conductor, arranger, and pianist. He was born in born in Richmond Hill, Queens, on December 10, 1913. In December 1932, at just 19 years old, Gould became a staff pianist at Radio City Music Hall, shortly after the landmark entertainment palace opened on December 27. The Music Hall's inaugural production was conceived and produced by legendary theatrical impresario S.L. "Roxy" Rothafel.

Pictured: Morton Gould Conducting an Orchestra; photo courtesy of Getty Images, the Bettmann Collection.



Happy Holidays from all of us at the Bayside Historical Society!

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