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WEEKLY  
PAPER



# The North Shore Local



Made In Staten Island

SINCE 2017

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TAKE THE LOCAL — IT'S FREE

# PERFECT DAY



Perfect Season

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Photo by Dan Guarino



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# Peking Makes Port On North Shore

By Dan Guarino

Drive along Richmond Terrace past West Brighton's Caddell Dry Dock and Repair Co. and you'll cruise right into Staten Island and New York City's maritime past and present.

Just above the fences, cranes and rigging rise the masts of long-time South Seaport resident, The Peking. The tallest of her four masts stands 170-feet.

Brought over by tugs, The Peking is spending the winter at Cadell before departing on most likely her final voyage across the Atlantic, back to her original home port of Hamburg, Germany.

The ship was built there in 1911. The 337 foot steel plated

vessel has sailed under the flags of Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the U.S. It has served as a cargo ship, made 34 trips

around South America's Cape Horn, been a German navy training vessel, a floating English maritime school and an NYC tourist attraction.

In 1974 it was saved from the scrap heap by the South Street Seaport Museum. However, by 2014 it was very much the worse for wear, especially after being battered by Hurricane Sandy. The German government decided to step in and purchase the ship to be a part of a planned German Port Museum in the port city of Hamburg. There it will undergo a \$250 million restoration.

Meanwhile on this side of the Atlantic, The Peking sits comfortably among the tugboats,

barques and ferries at Cadell.

The third-generation family owned company started in 1903 by John Bartlett (J.B.) Caddell. It goes back in Staten Island history to when it first came here in 1916. It's been called the oldest, largest and one of the most technologically advanced shipyards in New York Harbor.

By 2009 it owned 30 acres of land, 20 of it underwater, at the end of Broadway along Richmond Terrace, and was looking to expand.

As the only full-service shipyard in the area, their facility allows them to take large vessels completely out of the water for repair. Cadell's largest floating crane, named Claude Forbes, has a 50-ton capacity. They also have six floating dry docks, 10 piers, and carpentry, pipe, plate, electrical, sandblasting and paint, welding and machine shops. The com-

pany handles some 300 ships a year.

"The Caddell dry dock company is living history, a fusion of the past, present and future," their website notes, "Over the past twenty years, the yard has gained distinction for working with not-for-profit organizations that take care of historic vessels."

In fact, they have done repair work on three South Street Seaport historic ships, the Ambrose, Peking and Wavertree, as well as the Staten Island Ferry Fleet.

They also worked on the fully seaworthy replica of Henry Hudson's ship the Half Moon, the first European vessel to sail into New York Harbor, on its way up the Hudson River.

So from the very 'first' New York visitor to the Hamburg-bound Peking, West Brighton and Staten Island have seen them all.

## STEM SESSION AT SI MUSEUM

By Dan Guarino

Staten Island rocks. SI students took that phrase to a new level with their trip to explore the Staten Island Museum in Snug Harbor. On Wednesday, March 1, 7th Grade students turned into geologists at the museum as they investigated the ground under their feet and the rocks all around them at Con Edison's STEM Days Out.

STEM, short for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, education includes both in and out of

classroom instruction across all grade levels from Pre-K to 12.

The NYC Department of Education explains that it "involves the study of science and mathematics, and the meaningful integration of technology and engineering to provide opportunities for innovative problem solving."

Or, as Executive Director James Brown of the STEM Education Coalition notes, "The future of the economy is in STEM. That's where the jobs of tomorrow will be."

For Wednesday's event SI Museum educators and Con Edison staffers teamed up with students from Holy Rosary School in Arrochar to take a closer look at the rocks that make up our home planet



Photo Courtesy SI Museum



and transform ordinary observations into extraordinary discoveries.

The outing was presented as part of a successful seven month run of Con Edison STEM Days Out which has served nearly 200 students and provided exciting, hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering, and math.

For the second consecutive year, the Staten Island Museum has been awarded a

\$25,000 grant from Con Edison to conduct the STEM lessons for middle school youth.

The SI investment seems to be a good one. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says that employment in occupations related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), is projected to grow to more than 9 million between 2012 and 2022.

Now that rocks!