



INSIDE OUT

# Arden Heights resident honored in Albany



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*Editor's note: Welcome to Inside Out, our weekly roundup of stories about Staten Islanders making waves, being seen, supporting our community and just making our borough a special place to live. Have a story for Inside Out? Email Carol Ann Benanti at benanti@siadvance.com.*

Since March 29 was designated Vietnam War Veterans Day by President Donald Trump in 2017 — the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam 51 years ago and the day the last acknowledged prisoners of war were released — it was fitting to honor Vietnam veterans for their service to country all month long.

So on March 26 Assemblyman Matt Slater (R,C-Yorktown) and his colleagues hosted “Vietnam Veterans Day at the Capitol” alongside Veterans’ Affairs Committee Chair Assemblywoman Kimberly Jean-Pierre.

On the local level, Dr. Vincent Maligno received a personal invitation from Assemblyman Sam Pirozzolo (R-Mid-Island) to partake in the commemorative.

After acknowledging Dr. Maligno, Pirozzolo presented the Arden Heights resident with a proclamation in recognition of his service and sacrifice during the Vietnam war.

The event included a formal luncheon, followed by a recognition ceremony held in the Assembly Chamber.

When queried about his military service, Dr. Maligno noted he served in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years.

“I was stationed in Texas, Vietnam, Nebraska, Alabama, Guam, Germany and New Jersey. I also served for a second Vietnam tour while stationed on Guam.”

Dr. Maligno went on to explain the Vietnam veterans were also afforded the opportunity to tour the Capitol building, and added with a chuckle, “I only posted 180+ photos on Facebook of the memora-



**Dr. Vincent Maligno, left, a Vietnam veteran, receives a proclamation from Assemblyman Sam Pirozzolo in recognition of his military service. Maligno's son, Joseph Maligno, stands at right.** *Photos courtesy Dr. Vincent Maligno*

ble event.”

Also present were state Sen. Jessica Scarcella-Spanton, and Assemblymen Charles Fall and Michael Tannousis.

An elated Dr. Maligno further commented that he was delighted — and grateful — his son Joseph Maligno, who is court attorney for Civil Court Judge Mary Kavanaugh, served as the driver the day they journeyed to Albany, and spent the entire day with him before venturing home after the ceremony that evening. “I couldn’t have done it without him,” Dr. Maligno added.

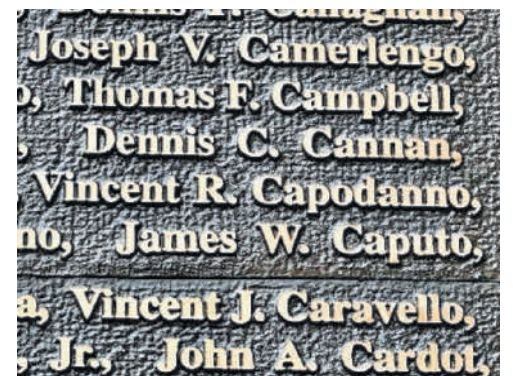
He went on to explain he was even able to visit Vietnam Memorial Park that houses the names of Vietnam veterans

who made the ultimate sacrifice, including Mariners Harbor native Rev. Vincent R. Capodanno.

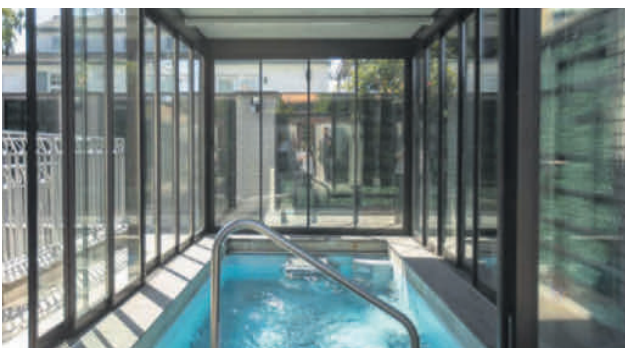
Dr. Maligno also visited the VFW Department of New York Headquarters located in our state’s capital.

The Vietnam veteran also helped recent veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan to be honored for their service. “It was a wonderful, unforgettable day and I am so thankful to Assemblyman Pirozzolo,” Dr. Maligno said.

Other Vietnam commemorations included Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon and Borough President Vito Fossella’s annual Vietnam **SEE INSIDE OUT, E8**



During his trip upstate, Maligno also took the time to visit the Vietnam Memorial Park, where he found the name of Staten Island native Rev. Vincent R. Capodanno.



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