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## Municipal Building's new team

BY KATE BRIQUELET

A Manhattan developer has plunked down \$10 million to buy the first two floors of the Municipal Building, saying he'll transform it from a lifeless office into a retail hub — and bring in an upscale restaurant.

City officials announced on Monday that they had selected Al Laboz — who is also bringing H&M to the Fulton Mall next year — to develop the property on Joralemon Street where people ordinarily get marriage licenses or pay parking tickets.

The \$10-million purchase price is about half of what experts said the property was worth — and it dashes hopes that Brooklyn would attract its first Apple store to one of its busiest corners.

But city officials — includ-

*Continued on Page 22*



Brothers and local developers (from left) Jody, Al and Jason Laboz have bought the bottom two floors of the Municipal Building and hope to open stores and a restaurant.

Community Newspaper Group / Kate Briquetelet

## HOGAN'S ZEROES

### Thieving PTA mom facing jail for failing to return the cash

BY THOMAS TRACY

The former PS 29 PTA treasurer who stole more than \$80,000 from school parents failed to make her first court-mandated reimbursement payment last Thursday — and prosecutors moved to toss out the controversial restitution deal that kept her out of jail in the first place.

Hogan was supposed to pony up \$40,000 of the \$82,000 she took from the PTA — the first payment in

a deal that keeps her out of jail. But when she failed to produce the cash, Assistant District Attorney Kevin

James asked Judge Suzanne Mondo to restart the criminal trial that could lead to significant jail time.

"The people have had enough," James said. "[Hogan] was supposed to come up with the money today, but she's failed to do so."

Hogan was arrested in March for

*Continued on Page 22*



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**INSIDE**



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# Bye-bye bialys!

## Once-popular Brooklyn-baked buns now face extinction in the borough of bagels

BY AARON SHORT

Beloved for years from Canarsie to Greenpoint, the bialy — a once-ubiquitous Brooklyn-made breakfast treat that's not quite bagel and not quite roll — is going the way of the dodo.

That's because Sheephead Bay's Coney Island Bialys and Bagels — one of just two bakeries left in the borough that make the un-holey concoction — will bake its last batch next month after serving hungry Southern Brooklynites for 57 years.

Master baker Steven Ross, 51, said he's closing his business on Coney Island Avenue near Avenue U because the demand for his wares — which also include the now-ubiquitous bagel — has steadily dwindled over the past decade, a time when the bialy took a back seat to its smaller, chubbier little brother.

"I'm hoping to stay open through the Jewish holidays next month, but I don't think it's going to happen," said Ross, who had to lay off one of three employees this week. "We don't bake any more during the day because there's no business."

Not surprisingly, long-time customers, who loved the Ross's trademark bialy sticks, onion jacks and pretzels, are distraught.

"My husband and I love them — they make the best bialys," said Coney Island resident Ida Sanoff "Nobody else's bialys are half as good as theirs. I just don't know what we're going to do."

The store is one of only

two bialy-makers left in Brooklyn — Dell Bialys in Canarsie makes a limited number on Foster Avenue.

The snack was much more popular 91 years ago — when Ross' grandfather and his great uncles immigrated to Brooklyn and opened their first bialy store in East New York.

Back then, the Brooklyn had scores of bialy bakeries churning out the chewy flatbread with the onions in the middle.

In 1954, the bakery moved to its current location near and added a deli counter because locals demanded a nearby place to buy the treats they smelled

cooking all day long.

During the shop's heyday in the 1970s and 1980s when the store was open 24 hours a day, Ross's cooks baked on average 2,700 to 6,000 bialys and 1,440 bagels each day. Today, the numbers are staggeringly off their peak: between 540 to 720 bialys and 240 bagels a day.

He blames the neighborhood's changing tastes and migration of his primarily Jewish customer base to New Jersey for his decline in profits.

"They're looking for red bull, extra beer and cigarettes. They're not looking for bialys," said Ross.



Bagel vs. bialy: Starting next month, Coney Island Bialys and Bagels will stop baking its trademark treats (that's baker Johnathan Artis with a bagel on the left, a bialy on the right).

Photo by Elizabeth Graham



*The bagel is Brooklyn's ubiquitous breakfast bread, but connoisseurs appreciate the subtle yeastiness of a bialy, the un-bagel. Here's our first ever bagel-bialy smackdown.*



| BAGEL   | PRODUCT                         | BIALY  |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Crusty on the outside, doughy inside.   | <b>Characteristics</b>          | Bready, yeasty and oniony.   |
| Many steps: roll out the dough, refrigerate, boil and bake.   | <b>Manufacturing process</b>    | Roll out the dough, make a little dent in the middle, add onions, bake.                            |
| Mistakenly attributed to a tribute to a Polish cavalry officer.                                       | <b>Historic origin</b>          | Comes from Bialystok, a city in Poland.  |
| The contrast between the shiny crust and the doughy inside.   | <b>What makes it great</b>      | No hole means that your cream cheese stays put.  |
| Every Jewish comedian since the Marx Brothers.  | <b>Historic champion</b>        | Times food writer Mimi Sheraton.   |
| Frozen bagel king Harry Lender.   | <b>Historic villain</b>         | Whoever is responsible for those lousy coffee truck bialys.  |
| Enshrined forever in that Temptee cream cheese ad when the customer says, "A bagel? What's a bagel!?" | <b>Place in popular culture</b> | Forever linked to Max Bialystok, the shy-ster Broadway impresario of Mel Brooks's "The Producers." |
| The Atkins Diet.  | <b>Cause for decline</b>        | The bagel.   |



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# WHO'S STEALING FIDO?

Dog owners appalled by growing pooch-snatching trend across the borough

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Who snatched Matsu?

A playful little Yorkshire Terrier was dognapped while waiting for his master outside a Fort Greene deli last Friday — one of three known pooch thefts in the area in the past five weeks.

Joan Hong — who is now offering a \$1,000 reward for her dog's return — said her boyfriend tied up the pup outside Hanson's Gourmet Deli on Hanson Place at 11 pm.

He came back a few minutes later and discovered only a leash tied to a pole — no Matsu in sight.

"It's heartbreaking," she said. "It doesn't even seem real; it keeps hitting me in waves."

Matsu — who's black and tan with a stocky build — could not have freed himself, Hong said. It was obvious that someone had undone his harness.

The frantic couple hopped on bicycles and posted dozens of "missing dog" fliers around the neighborhood. They later took to the Internet, posting ads on Craigslist to no avail.

The apparent dognapping comes exactly one week after a white terrier named Winston was stolen — from a cop, no less — by a trio of out-of-towners in Prospect Heights.

In an equally bizarre case, thieves smashed the window of a woman's apartment in Bedford-Stuyvesant, took a diamond ring, a laptop and her 7-year-old Yorkie named Boots on July 7.

"It's like stealing a part of the family," said Eleanor Almeida, Boots's human companion. "We're still praying he comes back safely."

Snatching dogs is nothing new — especially small expensive breeds that are easily flipped on the black market — according to the American Kennel Club. In fact, the group notes that stolen pet reports have sky-



Someone swiped Matsu, the lovable Yorkie belonging to James Reinhold and Joan Hong. Community Newspaper Group / Natalie O'Neill



Earlier in the month, Michael Reinhardt and Kumiko Masaoka were first devastated by the loss of their dog Winston — but were doubly depressed to discover that he may have been stolen.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

rocketed — from 150 to 224 — in the city in the past year.

Tony neighborhoods are not immune, according to groomers at the upscale shop Pup Slope in Park Slope, noting that the shop's bulletin board has seen a slew of stolen and missing pet signs this summer.

"Yorkies are very popu-

lar and worth quite a bit of money," said the worker, who asked not to be named. "It's just like any possession."

Even so, a spokesman for the NYPD said dog theft is rare. "Has it happened before? Yes," he said. "Is it widespread? No way."

In this case, a suspect could be charged with petit larceny — Matsu cost \$900 — although the crime is emotionally on par with a kidnapping.

Indeed, Hong said she and her boyfriend James Reinholt consider the pooch their kid. "He's the reason I wake up in the morning," she said.

Reinholt — who wore a deep crease between his eyebrows while posting fliers on Tuesday — was more blunt.

"Just give us our freakin' dog back," he said. "It's not fair."

Anyone with information about Matsu is asked to call (917) 587-1276.

## Meet the missing dogs

Three dogs have been reported swiped in recent weeks — and that's obviously a trend. Here are the missing pups:

**MATSU**

Fort Greene  
Two-year-old  
Yorkshire Terrier  
with a stocky  
build.

Someone swiped  
the pooch while he  
was tied to a pole  
outside of a deli.

Stolen: Aug. 12

Call: Joan, (917)  
587-1276

**BOOTS**

Bedford-  
Stuyvesant  
Seven-year-old  
Yorkshire Terrier  
with floppy ears.

A jerk broke  
into his master's  
apartment and  
stole the dog and  
a diamond ring.

Stolen: July 7

Call: Eleanor,  
(718) 839-4557

**WINSTON**

Prospect Heights  
One-year-old  
West Highland  
Terrier with an  
outgoing per-  
sonality.

Three women  
conned a cop into  
thinking the pup  
belonged to them.

Stolen: Aug. 5

Call: Michael,  
(646) 256-7343

# St. Ann's founder Bosworth is dead

Beloved, eccentric educational iconoclast who created school was 83

BY KATE BRIQUELET

Stanley Bosworth, who founded the St. Ann's School in Brooklyn Heights with a radical vision of educating children without grades, curriculum, schedules or even treating them like children, died at his home on Aug. 7. He was 83.

Bosworth led the Pierrepont Street school from 1965 — when he taught 53 students in the basement of St. Ann's Episcopal Church — until the school pushed him out in 2004 during a pattern of eccentric behavior.

It was around that time that he granted an interview to New York magazine, which illustrated that his well-established objection to bourgeois norms had taken a turn. "I believe in the freedom of the individual, I believe in sexual freedom ... these things are not just beliefs. They're lives lived," he said, adding in reference to the school's leadership, "And they never



St. Ann's created a giant puppet of Bosworth in honor of his final year as headmaster in 2004.

Courtesy of Nora Bosworth

lived those lives!"

Such brilliant insanity likely spurred his reluctant retirement — but the school named its main building after him in 2007.

Former student Ben Adler, a political journalist, said in a recent essay that Bosworth "became a bit odd in old age" and that "his politically incorrect and

lascivious proclamations ... were a turn-off for many parents."

Bosworth would indeed speak freely about his ex-wives, sex and philosophy. He married and divorced three times and had five children and one stepdaughter, whom he raised. Two of his wives worked at St. Ann's and one was a former student.

Regardless of his quirks, Bosworth awed all who knew him — especially his students, who entered the Ivy Leagues in such prodigious numbers that the Wall Street Journal ranked St. Ann's the best high school in the country in 2004.

For decades, Bosworth's approach attracted parents who felt stifled by traditional schools.

His former students — whose numbers include actors, musicians and designers such as Jennifer Connelly, Mike D of the Beastie Boys and Zac Posen

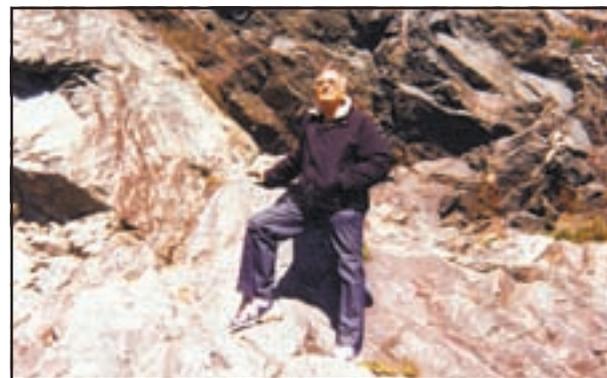
— recall that above all, he espoused the importance of the individual.

"You could learn just from his worldview," said Mary Watson, a longtime friend who graduated from St. Ann's in 1978. "It was about grabbing every moment. You are the architect of your own life, and it would drive him crazy when people said otherwise."

Students took college-level classes, read Baudelaire and determined their own course of study at a very young age.

"He never underestimated his students and he never condescended to them in any way — other than the way he condescended to everybody," said pop culture writer Jeff Yang, who attended St. Ann's from third grade until graduating in 1985. "He always challenged us intellectually."

Yang and Watson believe their former principal shaped the mindset of a gen-



Even in his 70s, the formidable Bosworth hiked over rocks in Maine. Courtesy of Nora Bosworth

eration of parents in New York. Watson, who taught Latin at St. Ann's for a time, said she refused to send her 13-year-old son John to any other school.

"My legacy is the notion that learning is not punishment," Bosworth told the New York Times in 2004. "It is a reward. If it is made a punishment, you violate the fundamental sense of learning. You don't learn by having your hands twisted. It should be a celebration. It is a celebration."

For Bosworth's children, that celebration was personal.

"He had such a strong

sense of purpose that it was contagious," said Michael Bosworth, 26. "And who has that quality? I knew his love as an unquestionable constant of life."

Bosworth is survived by his ex-wife, Beth Bosworth; two sons, Adam and Michael Bosworth; two daughters, Virginia Frisch and Nora Bosworth; a stepdaughter, Sarah Trouslard; and six grandchildren.

St. Ann's will hold a memorial service at St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church [157 Montague St. between Clinton and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 875-6960], Oct. 15 at 2 pm.





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# COMPLAIN ABOUT YOUR BOSS!

## Judge tosses defamation suit against Gorilla Coffee's walkout workers

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Hooray! It's not against the law to complain about your boss publicly!

That freedom was bolstered on Aug. 10, when a judge dismissed a defamation case brought by the owners of Gorilla Coffee after several baristas publicly called them "perpetually malicious" and "demeaning."

Supreme Court Judge Wayne Saitta ruled that the workers, who walked out en masse and posted their poison pen letter on the store's front door were well within the limits of non-libelous free speech.

"It's a great and important First Amendment victory," said Martin Garbus, a top free speech lawyer who represented the baristas.

Saitta also dismissed the same claim against New York Times food writer Oliver Strand, explaining the scribe's blog post about the dispute was legitimate jour-



Gorilla Coffee co-owner Darleen Scherer, seen in happier times, lost her defamation lawsuit against former employees who complained about her publicly.

File photo by Tom Callan

nalism, not an endorsement of the allegedly libelous statement.

"I'm obviously relieved," said Strand. "There wasn't anything improper about what we did. Everything was backed up and properly documented."

Former Gorilla Coffee employees also hailed the decision.

"We are extremely happy," said Lee Harrison, a former staffer. "[It] sends a message to workers that you can stand up for your rights."

The "Gorilla war" began — at least publicly — last year, when workers staged a full-staff walkout that shuttered the hip coffee shop for two weeks.

The employees' letter claimed that owner Carol McLaughlin acted more like a slave driver than a latte slinger, calling the workplace "unhealthy."

The New York Times posted the letter on its City Room blog as neighbors wondered if the indie-rock-thumping nook — known for pretty foam hearts in bright red cups — actually had a dark side.

The shop reopened two weeks later with an army of new workers — but

McLaughlin and co-owner Darleen Scherer claimed that the damage had already been done: They filed a lawsuit alleging that workers' letter, coupled by bad press, had tarnished the shop's reputation for having a "certain goodwill as merchants," according to court documents.

The whole ordeal, they said, had caused a slump in business in the socially conscious neighborhood — a slump for which the former employees and the newspaper should be held responsible.

But on Aug. 10, Saitta disagreed, ruling the letter was too opinion-driven to qualify as defamation — which is defined as "making a false statement of fact" to disgrace a person or entity. Under First Amendment libel law, for example, one can publicly call her boss "cheap" — but one can't claim that he steals money from her paycheck if he re-



Customers gathered at the locked gates of Gorilla Coffee on Fifth Avenue to read a posted missive by the staff after the walkout. Now, a judge has thrown out a lawsuit that challenged their right to complain about their former boss.

File photo by Paul Martinka

ally does not.

Neither McLaughlin nor Scherer responded to calls and e-mails seeking comment, and their lawyer, Stephen Finkelstein, would say only, "We're disappointed — but we have no comment."

When pressed, he added, "I don't have time to give you a lesson in defamation."

At the Fifth Avenue shop, one barista explained that she "hadn't even heard about a lawsuit," and that the bosses treat her fine.



**Brooklyn Kickball** rocked by scandal, see page 40.



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# SHE BOOKED 'EM!

## Library chief squeezes workers to add Saturday hours

BY KATE BRIQUELET

The Brooklyn Public Library will restore weekend hours at more than half of its branches this September thanks to a rule change that will make union employees do basic work when the library's actually open, not during overtime.

The number of branches that are closed on Saturdays will drop from 30 to 17 under the library's plan to conduct administrative tasks such as collecting reserved items for pickup and shelving books during public hours. After the changes take affect, 32 of the library's 60 branches will be open six days a week.

"We are very excited to offer increased hours to our patrons at a time when they need and are using our community libraries at record levels," said Linda Johnson, the system's new executive director.

Earlier this year, John-



Photo by Philip Greenberg

son scrambled to streamline services when the mayor's budget threatened to chop more than \$20 million from its \$82-million allocation to Brooklyn's library system. The city restored all but \$1 million of the funding, but the threat of a cut encouraged library executives to reorganize the work schedules.

Richard Reyes-Gavilan, director of the Central Library branch at Grand

Army Plaza, said that library officials implemented new technologies over the past five years — including online fine payments and an automated reservation system — but didn't bring their operations up to speed until Johnson ordered a review amid this year's budget threats.

"Could this have been done sooner?" Reyes-Gavilan said. "Possibly, but it wasn't. Since the economy went south, our focus was on staying alive."

Last year, the nation's fifth-largest library system dramatically cut weekend branch hours, choosing to retain union employees instead of retaining Saturday hours. And in 2009, the library cut Sunday service altogether because employees got time-and-a-half under union contracts.

Johnson's reworked schedules won't bring back any Sunday hours, but will add an average of eight



Linda Johnson, the new director of the Brooklyn Public Library, has won union concessions that will allow the system to add back some weekend hours. File photo by Tom Callan

hours to branch schedules beginning on Sept 10.

Eileen Muller, president of the Brooklyn library workers' union, Local 1482, said that the new hours will give staff less time to prepare programs and make it more difficult for custodians to keep branches clean.

"It would be easier for the staff if they had that extra time in morning," said

Muller. "Unfortunately, the library is trying to make light of the work we have to do behind the scenes."

She added that library employees who come in prior to opening don't make overtime pay, but supervisors can rework schedules based on workload.

Cardholders will now be able to visit many more branches on Saturdays,

including Williamsburg, Flatbush, Kensington and Dyker, from 10 am to 5 pm.

And other libraries that were closed on Mondays will be open from 10 am to 6 pm, including the Canarsie, Carroll Gardens, Clinton Hill, and Windsor Terrace branches.

To view this fall's expanded hours, visit [www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org).

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## Con Edison Connects Homeowners with Energy Savings

### Queens Boro President Joins Green Team At Home Energy Survey

**NEW YORK** — With the summer season quickly heating up, Queens Borough President Helen Marshall joined Con Edison's Green Team today at a Queens Village home to conduct an energy survey that will help the homeowner reduce costs and improve energy efficiency. Over 1,500 New Yorkers have signed up for the low-cost survey.

The Green Team, which includes experts from Honeywell, performs onsite visits and visual assessments of homes, evaluating the lighting, heating and cooling equipment, and appliances, for potential areas of improvement. The program is open to residential customers who live in one-to-four family homes in New York City and Westchester County.

Ramesh Ganeshan of Queens Village, N.Y., is among the latest homeowners to benefit from the program, which Con Edison offers to its customers for only \$50. Similar surveys can cost up to \$300.

The company sent a Green Team member to Ganeshan's home to perform an assessment, where the specialist identified opportunities for efficiency improvements. The specialist also installed compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and a smart power strip — all part of the \$50 investment. In addition, the team identified opportunities for other energy-efficiency upgrades, along with potential rebates from Con Edison that could total up to \$1,000.

"I take great pride in my home and keeping it up to date, but I didn't realize how many efficiency opportunities there were until I saw the Green Team's suggestions," Ganeshan said. "This experience revealed not just the simple energy-saving measures, like installing CFL bulbs, but it also opened my eyes to the other utility programs I could and should take advantage of."

Queens Borough President Helen Marshall said, "I urge ev-



eryone contact the Green Team to find out which program is right for them. This energy-saving program can reduce homeowner bills, provide greater energy-efficiency and help our city to become greener. Thanks to Con Edison and Honeywell, an energy audit can result in

expert advice on how to reduce energy costs."

"Energy efficiency is a straightforward concept, but knowing what initiatives are right for a specific family or home can sometimes be a challenge," said Cristina Coltro, Con Edison program manager. "As we head into

the summer season, when homeowners typically use the most electricity, the Home Energy Survey is a simple and effective way to uncover energy-saving opportunities."

"There are a variety of low-cost changes that pay significant dividends, but they are not always the obvious improvements," said John Augustino, energy-efficiency program manager for Honeywell Utility Solutions. "Honeywell helps keep more than 150 million homes efficient and comfortable. And we bring that expertise and experience to each of the Con Edison customers we work with."

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# RIDE ON!

## City wins Prospect Park bike lane suit

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

The city survived a legal challenge to the Prospect Park West bike lane this week, as a judge dismissed a lawsuit brought by a group of well-connected neighbors on technical grounds on Tuesday.

Still, Supreme Court Justice Bert Bunyan made it clear in his ruling that Neighbors for Better Bike Lane's suit against the world's most talked-about cycle path was "without merit."

Supporters of the bike lane — including its controversial champion and target of opponents' ire, Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan — hailed the ruling.

"Merely not liking a change is no basis for a frivolous lawsuit," Sadik-Khan said in a statement. "[They] were dead wrong."

The ruling marks a historical moment for bike-centric Brooklyn — and for the Prospect Park West bike path, which made international headlines after the city removed a lane of car traffic on the busy thoroughfare to create a two-way protected route.

Opponents argued that



Riders like these can keep on pedaling, thanks to a judge's dismissal of a lawsuit against the Prospect Park West bike lane.

File photo by Tom Callan

the city had turned the peaceful street into a danger to pedestrians. The lawsuit also alleged that the city fudged data about the success of the lane and tried to squash opposition.

The city maintained that it installed the path only after extensive analysis and a process that was "rational and reasonable in all respects." The lane, officials said, was installed at the request of Community Board 6. Also, the city argued, the lane has the support of most neighbors, according to two surveys.

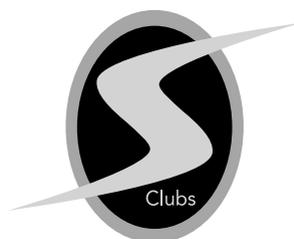
In the end, Judge Bunyan

ruled on the narrowest of grounds: That the foes' lawsuit was filed after the deadline for citizens to challenge permanent changes to the cityscape.

The lawyer for Neighbors for Better Bike Lanes said on Tuesday night that an appeal is an option.

"This is just the first battle in what is inevitably going to be a longer war," said the lawyer, Jim Walden, adding that he will seek city records that could show that the lawsuit was not filed too late because the city never intended the bike lane to be permanent.

## What are you waiting for?



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**84TH PRECINCT**

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DUMBO-BOERUM HILL-DOWNTOWN

**Bar brawl**

An angry tippler stabbed a fellow drinker at a Third Avenue bar on Aug. 12.

The 44-year-old victim told cops that he was at Hank's Saloon near Atlantic Avenue at midnight when an argument got out of control. That's when the surly stranger rushed toward him and cut his neck with a sharp object.

**iSad**

A crooked couple snatched an iPad from a woman on a Queens-bound N train on Aug. 7.

The 28-year-old victim told police that she was on the subway at 11:26 pm when it pulled into Borough Hall. When the doors opened, a woman plucked the device from her hands and fled with a companion.

The victim and a witness chased the thieves, but they got away.

**Pay-per-view**

A shady moviegoer stole a man's MacBook from a Court Street theater on Aug. 9.

The 43-year-old victim told police that he found a seat at the cinema near Schermerhorn Street at 10:30 pm and set his backpack on the floor. When the closing credits rolled, the man realized that his bag — with the expensive laptop and a hard drive — were gone.

**Bad directions**

A crook swiped a purse and navigation system from a car on Joralemon Street on Aug. 9.

The 48-year-old Staten Island victim told cops that she parked near Clinton Street at noon and left a window open. When she returned an hour later, her stuff was gone.

**Window slop**

A thief broke into a Wyckoff Street building on Aug. 11 and snatched a man's MacBook from his bed.

The victim told cops that he left his home near Smith Street at 9 pm. When he returned two hours later, his bedroom window was open and his laptop was gone.

His 3-year-old son and babysitter were home, but didn't hear the thief break in.

A neighbor also reported that someone broke into her apartment through her window and left footprints on her bed.

**Four play**

A band of teens clobbered a man on Adams Street on Aug. 10 and stole his cellphone.

The 38-year-old victim told cops that he was near Fulton Street at 11:57 pm when five young marauders approached. One of them punched him in the face and another grabbed his BlackBerry after he fell to the ground.

**POLICE  
BLOTTER****Precious metals**

Copper prices may be dropping, but thieves still see it as the new gold.

Bandits raided two DUMBO construction sites on the same block this month — snatching up tens of thousands in copper piping.

•First, thieves stole power tools and \$1,800 worth of copper from a Bridge Street construction site on Aug. 6. A 40-year-old contractor told cops he left the site near Plymouth Street at 7 pm. When he returned the next day, his office was busted open with a crowbar and the non-precious metals were gone.

•Two days later, burglars stole \$15,000 in copper piping from a Water Street site.

A 38-year-old handyman said that he locked his storage area near Bridge Street at 4 pm. When he returned the next morning, his chain was cut and the hot commodity was gone.

Metal-hungry crooks have been working Brooklyn for a few years now, most recently hitting Brooklyn Heights in June. Such crimes tend to ebb and flow based on the value of the easy-to-steal metal.

The price of copper is hovering at \$4 per pound, down from \$4.25 in June.

— *Kate Briquetelet*

**76TH PRECINCT**

CARROLL GARDENS-COBBLE HILL-RED HOOK

**Tapped out**

An armed bandit robbed a 28-year-old man on Dikeman Street on Aug. 13 after tapping his hapless victim on the back with the muzzle of his firearm.

The victim was between Van Brunt and Conover streets at 1:13 am when the suspect got his attention, flashed his handgun and robbed his victim of an iPhone and a \$1,150 Kenneth Cole watch.

**Window creeper**

A thief sneaked into a Sackett Street home on Aug. 8, taking a bicycle and two laptops — while a 31-year-old woman slept.

The thief crept through an open first-floor window facing the front of the building between Hoyt and Smith streets sometime after 11:30 pm. When the tenant woke up the next morning, her wheels, computers and several credit cards had vanished.

**Houdini did it**

A thief sneaked into a Baltic Street apartment overnight on Aug. 12 — and cops have no idea how he did it.

The 28-year-old tenant locked the door to his apartment between Henry and Clinton streets when he left at 8 pm, but when he returned at 2 am, his laptop computer, an iPhone and \$900 in jewelry were gone.

**iPhone swipe**

An opportunistic thief crept into a Van Brunt Street studio on Aug. 15, taking an iPhone and a wallet he found sitting on an unattended desk.

The smartphone's owner was in the back of the building near Reed Street when the 11:20 am theft took place.

— *Thomas Tracy*

**78TH PRECINCT**

PARK SLOPE

**Lottery scam**

Swindlers used a classic lottery sting to steal a whopping \$10,500 from a woman outside the Park Slope Co-op on Aug. 11.

The smooth talkers approached the woman on Union Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues at 1:40 pm, and informed her they'd won a multi-million-dollar lottery ticket — but needed cash to redeem it, and would reward her accordingly. The gullible victim withdrew \$7,500 from two banks, and then took the thieves to her house, where she retrieved another \$3,000.

Cash in hand, the bandits asked for some tea — and promptly left the apartment while it was being made.

**Cellphone stings**

Two iPhones were snatched and a third phone was nearly stolen in separate incidents last week. Here are the details:

•Cops arrested two teenagers for allegedly stealing a woman's phone on Fifth Avenue on Aug. 9. The victim told police that she stopped to make a call near Second Street at 8:30 am. That's when the teens snatched the phone and took off. They were picked up on Third Avenue soon afterwards.

•A clumsy would-be cellphone thief grabbed a woman's phone, but dropped it in a botched getaway on Seventh Avenue on Aug. 9. The woman was near 14th Street at 9:45 am when the man approached and attempted to grab her phone. In the ensuing struggle, he dropped the device and fled in a panic.

•A thief swiped an iPhone from a man's belt on a subway platform at Grand Army Plaza on Aug. 12. The victim told cops that he was waiting for a Flatbush Avenue-bound train at 11 pm when his new iPhone

4 was swiped by the bandit, who fled from the station.

**Bike clipped**

A Kryptonite chain and cable lock weren't enough to save an unattended bike on Seventh Avenue on Aug. 12.

A woman told police that she locked her bicycle outside of the Barnes and Noble store at around 10:20 am. When she returned one hour later, she discovered that the bike — and her racing helmet — had been taken.

**Purse snatchers**

Thieves made fine dining a little more expensive for unsuspecting restaurant patrons last week:

•In the first incident, a woman told cops that her purse was stolen inside of Sette Enoteca on Seventh Avenue at Third Street on Aug. 11. The purse contained the victim's house key, Medicaid card, CUNY graduate school ID and \$150.

•In the second incident, a woman reported having her wallet stolen out of her purse at Bogata Latin Bistro on Fifth Avenue on Aug. 14. She told police that she saw the robber filch her wallet at 1:16 am inside the eatery near Douglass Street. Police say they arrested their man half an hour later.

**Money matters**

A thief broke into a President Street home on Aug. 13 and made off with \$350.

The victim told cops that he left his apartment between Sixth and Seventh avenues at 5:15 pm and returned at 6:30 pm to find his wallet, car keys, prescription sunglasses and cash missing.

— *Daniel Bush*

**90TH PRECINCT**

SOUTHSIDE-BUSHWICK

**'J' for jerk**

A perp stole phones from two 12 year olds at the Lorimer Street J-train station on Aug. 8 and fled on his bicycle.

The victims were near Broadway at 12:20 pm when the perp pushed them against the wall and yelled, "Give me your cellphones!"

The boys surrendered their phones, and the perp rode away.

**Bike cash**

A thief stole \$200 — and the cash register that contained it — from a Havemeyer Street bike shop overnight on Aug. 13.

The owner locked his store up at 7 pm, but when he returned to S. First Street at 6 am, he saw that the front door was unlocked and the register was gone.

**Keap away**

A robber stole a woman's iPhone as she walked to the train station on Keap Street on Aug. 12.

The woman was near Hope Street at 12:30 am, when the thief grabbed her arm, took the phone and ran away.

## Cash stash

A sneaky thief stole \$15,800 from a car while its driver was changing a flat tire on Humboldt Street on Aug. 10.

The victim was near Metropolitan Avenue at 3 pm when the perp flagged him down and told him he had a flat tire. The driver got out of the car and pumped his tire, but left the car unlocked.

When he got back into his car, he saw his cash was missing.

## Civic minded

A thief stole a Honda parked on Bushwick Avenue overnight on Aug. 11.

The driver parked near Powers Street at 10 pm and returned 12 hours later to find her car missing.

— Aaron Short

## 94TH PRECINCT

GREENPOINT-NORTHSIDE

## Stoop id

Two thieves stole a laptop from a man on his Manhattan Avenue front stoop on Aug. 8.

The victim was in front of his apartment near Withers Street at 4:28 pm when one perp took the computer. The victim ran after him and tacked him, but the perp handed the laptop to an accomplice, who ran down Meeker Avenue.

## Grip of vice

A thief threatened a woman in her N. Fifth Street building and stole \$272 from her on Aug. 9.

The victim was near Bedford Avenue at 1 am when the perp covered his face with a bandana, and followed her inside. He flashed a silver-colored vice-grip wrench and demanded cash. The victim complied, and the thug ran away.

## Withers away

Two robbers viciously mugged a woman for her bag on Withers Street on Aug. 12.

The woman was near Graham Avenue at 9:15 pm when one perp put his hands over her eyes, while another punched and kicked her and pulled her to the ground by her hair.

“Give me your sh—!” one perp yelled, and then pulled the bag until its strap broke.

## Karate crime

Two thieves stole a man's iPhone on Wythe Avenue on Aug. 13.

The victim was near Metropolitan Avenue at 11:30 pm when one perp approached him and knocked the phone out of his hand. The other perp picked it up from the sidewalk, and both ran away.

## Chop shop

A thief stole four tires from a car on Norman Avenue on Aug. 8.

The driver parked at 12:30 am, but

when he returned to the spot near Kingsland Avenue eight hours later, the car was on cinderblocks and the wheels were gone.

— Aaron Short

## 88TH PRECINCT

FORT GREENE-CLINTON HILL

## Bad advice

Two hulking brutes jumped a 21 year old in Fort Greene Park on Aug. 10 — then brazenly told their victim that he'd “be safe” if he stayed away from the popular urban oasis.

The victim was walking through the park near the corner of Myrtle and N. Portland avenues at 11:55 pm, wearing headphones, when the thieves jumped him, ripped the earphones off his head and demanded his cash.

The victim handed them \$20 — and the thieves offered something in return: “If you stay away, you'll be safe,” one of the goons said.

## iPhone grabs

Thieves in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill grabbed up a half-dozen iPhones last week. Here's the rundown:

• A thief on a bicycle swiped an iPhone from an unsuspecting 31-year-old woman on Quincy Street on Aug. 7.

The victim was between Classon Avenue and Downing Street at 10:35 pm when the suspect rolled up behind her and plucked the \$600 smartphone right out of her hand.

• A group of teens mugged a woman waiting for the bus on Flatbush Avenue on Aug. 12 — running off with her iPhone.

The woman was at a bus stop between Pacific and Atlantic avenues at 9 pm when the suspects swarmed her.

• A crook swiped an iPhone from a 30-year-old woman's hand as she sat on a 3 train leaving the Fulton Street station on Aug. 12.

The victim was sitting by a subway car door at 7:20 pm when the thief reached inside, grabbed her phone and fled.

• A not-so genteel pair jumped a 34-year-old man at the corner of Greene Avenue and Cambridge Place on Aug. 14, taking his iPhone.

The suspects approached the victim at 2:38 pm, greeted him with a “What's up?” then proceeded to punch him in the face until he gave up his pricey communication device.

• A thief took an iPhone off a 22-year-old woman at the corner of S. Elliot Place and DeKalb Avenue on Aug. 10.

The thug jumped her from behind at 12:15 am, taking her property.

• A goon jumped a man at the corner of Willoughby and Carlton avenues on Aug. 11, taking his iPhone and wallet.

The victim was approaching the corner at 10:30 pm when the suspect forced him to give up his property.

— Thomas Tracy

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# Raining, pouring — and snoring!

City says it can't even start to fix Fourth Avenue flooding until 2013

BY ALFRED NG

Businesses along Fourth Avenue in Park Slope were again flooded during Sunday's epic storm — a problem that the city vowed to fix last year, but now says it can't even begin to address until 2013.

Volunteers spent eight hours first defending — then cleaning — the Root Hill Cafe from the largest single-day rainfall in city history, a downpour so massive that water spewed out the sewers and a parked car floated three feet into the street.

It's a common problem along the stretch near President Street — an issue that's frustrated the Root Hill owners for years.

"[We made] the city aware of this five years ago," said co-owner Michelle Giancola.

City workers have made some efforts in the past, replacing some sewer in-



The flooding was so bad that this car was actually lifted out of its spot and floated a few feet into Fourth Avenue.

Community Newspaper Group / Alfred Ng

frastructure as recently as 2010, but the flood waters, which sends filthy, oily water rising as high as car tires, never go away.

Customers, however, do.

The floods have cost Root Hill thousands in repairs, cleaning and lost business. Nearby, the owner of Family Car Service says he's lost tens of thousands.

Next, the business owners will lose their patience.

City officials told this Paper this week that they won't begin major repairs until 2013. At that time, the Department of Environmental Protection will start a \$9.4-million project to install "high level" storm sewers along Third and Fourth avenues between Carroll and Douglass streets, said spokesman Farrell Sklerov.

"We're mad — that's weird [that it will take so long]," said Robinson Rodriguez, a driver at Family Car Service.

Flooding on Fourth Avenue has been an issue since 1922, as the immortal Gowanus Lounge reports, but its effect will also deluge long-term efforts to turn the strip into a grand "Brooklyn's Boulevard," a cause being championed by Borough President Markowitz.



This was the shocking scene in the middle of Sunday's storm at the corner Fourth Avenue and Carroll Street. Yes, that's Park Sloper Brauna Prosser wading into the flood. Photo by Stephen Kelley

Root Hill co-owner Maria Bowen doesn't think she can wait that long.

"Please make it quicker,"

she said. "Every time it happens we wonder if we're going to make it through that storm."

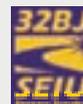
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For more information contact Jasmin Freeman at 212.268.8600; [jfreeman@manhattanmedia.com](mailto:jfreeman@manhattanmedia.com) or Kwame Patterson at 212.388.3676; [kpatterson@seiu32bj.org](mailto:kpatterson@seiu32bj.org)

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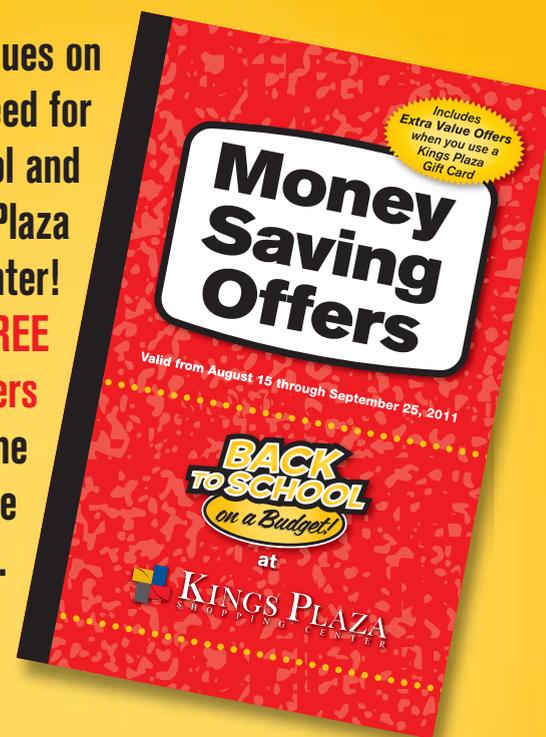
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# Cops ticket 'ticket-fighting' vehicle

A car advertising a ticket-fighting law office ironically gets its own parking ticket

BY THOMAS TRACY

Someone call the irony police: a sports utility vehicle covered in ads for a company that specializes in fighting parking tickets got a parking ticket of its own in Kensington on Aug. 9.

The sports utility vehicle, which was summonsed for ignoring alternate-side rules near McDonald Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway, is a rolling advertisement for [www.wefighttickets.com](http://www.wefighttickets.com).

"Got a ticket? Fight it and win it," is written on all sides of the Nissan vehicle, along with the company's web address and Manhattan phone number.

Passers-by could only laugh.

"I love it," said one resident, who wished not to divulge his name. "'Fight a ticket' got a ticket!"

That's not entirely ac-



Oh, the irony! A car advertising a law firm that proudly boasts that it will fight your parking ticket and win in court got a ticket at the corner of McDonald Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway in Kensington. Photo by Paul Martinka

curate. The car itself is not owned by the ticket-busting company — so the firm's owner wasn't gearing up to battle the \$45 summons.

"We paid for the advertisement, but it's somebody else's car," said Michael Gross.

Gross couldn't say how many motorists currently have their cars plastered with his ads, and the owner of the car in question could not be reached, but it's a growing trend.

Gross added that most of [wefighttickets.com](http://wefighttickets.com)'s business comes from large commercial accounts, although the company does handle individual cases when called upon. As such, his company will fight the ticket if the sports utility owner enlists the service, which charges a small fee if the case is won.

"I hope he has our number," Gross joked.

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# Brooklyn remembers 9-11

## Send us your stories

BY MOSES JEFFERSON

The Community Newspaper Group is asking its readers to share their stories of Sept. 11, 2001 — from the moments of heroism, to the moments of tragedy; from the personal to the universal.

Everyone who was alive to see it has a vivid memory of that day — and together, those insights will form a unique oral history of 9-11, and provide a glimpse of how far we have come since terrorists knocked down one of our city's gleaming symbols.

We'll collect your stories and pictures and publish them in our upcoming special issue, "Brooklyn Remembers 9-11," which will be included in our editions of Sept. 8.

It's an issue that you won't want to miss, featuring special commemorative coverage, pictures

and, of course, your insights.

"The goal here is to hear from our readers, who know better than any reporter how they felt on that day, and how they're feeling now," said Community Newspaper Group Editor Vince DiMiceli. "And by collecting all their stories, our readers can learn from each other, and perhaps get a new insight into the tragedy."

So tell us where you were, what you were doing, and what you saw that fateful day, and let us



know how it affected your life, and the lives of those you love.

Then, look for our special issue on Sept. 8, and together, we'll Remember 9-11.

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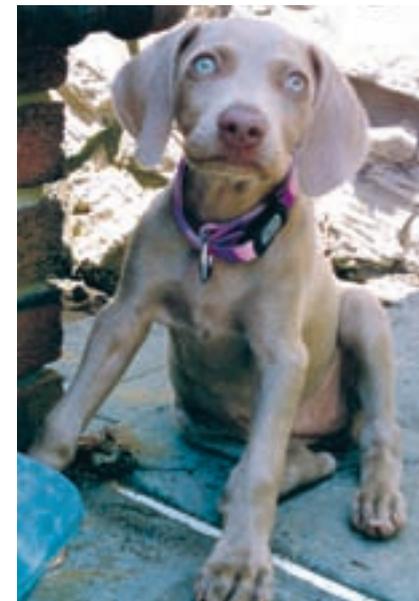
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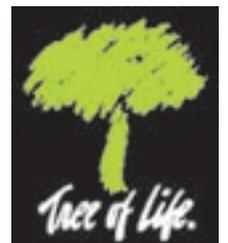


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# Quan wins Soapbox Derby!

## Eight-year-old races to victory on 17th Street

BY ALFRED NG

Maybe they should call it Park Peak!

Last Saturday, the gentle slope of 17th Street was transformed into a race-track featuring soapboxes made from all manners of junk — and 8-year-old Jason Quan crushed the competition and rolled away with the big trophy.

And what a trophy it was: square, pink, and made from the same valuable material that comprises the best soapbox racers themselves — trash.

Spectators marvelled at how fast Quan completed the one-block race route between Fifth and Sixth avenues — he was the only one to finish in under a minute.

“His cart was like a small bicycle,” said our eagle-eyed shutterbug, Stefano Giovannini, who could barely capture the speed demon on film. “It was much faster than everyone else’s.”

Quan’s soapbox was simple: a three-wheeled wooden plank with bicycle handles in the front. It might not have been as intricate as the others, but the kid-engineered soapbox finished



Harry Grad used some wind power to get down the hill, albeit slowly. Tough luck, Harry! Photos by Stefano Giovannini

twice as fast as the competition’s.

“The car was light and the wheels were fast,” Quan said, sharing his design secrets.

“I was so excited to win! I hope I can race again next year.”

More than 20 kids participated, with creative soapboxes featuring names like NASA, Golden Hobo and CrocCar. Some had wheelchairs attached, bicycle parts and one even bore the “Ghostbusters” insignia. Gio Rescigno’s soapbox, simply named “Pie,” resembled a muscle car (though

was far slower). Harry Grad’s soapbox was a hobo’s dream: an electric fan-powered shopping cart filled with recyclable cans. Five judges rated each soapbox based on design, originality, engineering and speed, on a 1-to-5 scale. Grad’s did well — though it took him a practically glacial two minutes to complete the course.

The annual derby — a standard summertime rite of Middle America — started in 2008, when the Open Source Gallery hosted a six-week soapbox building camp.

“We decided to have

a race at the annual 17th Street block party,” said Monica Wehrer, founder of the Open Source Gallery. “The streets were perfect and it all came together.”

Well, not everything: The long-awaited adults-only race was a bit of a wash-out, as only three “kids” of advanced age showed up to put their mettle to the metal.



Eight-year-old Jason Quan of Cobble Hill won the big trophy at last Saturday’s Soapbox Derby on 17th Street with a combination of speed and moxie. Below: the speed demon in action.



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## Unified Windows in Top 500 Ranking



The results are in and Unified Windows, Doors, Siding and Roofing has placed impressively among an elite group of remodeling firms throughout the country. The 2011 Qualified Remodeler - Top 500 Program is a CPA-audited analysis, sponsored by Qualified Remodeler magazine, of the financial performance of over 50,000 contractors of which only 500 are chosen to receive this prestigious status.

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Qualified Remodeler made mention that the Top 500 firms tend to share attributes such as excellent business acumen, a commitment to customer service, insightful sales techniques and strong customer loyalty. Unified is extremely proud of this achievement and their mission is to continue providing the best products, lowest prices, quality work and excellent customer service as they've successfully done so for almost 25 years.



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# BIG TOP FOLDS UP



Vidbel Circus – which replaced Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus this summer with such high-flying acts as acrobat Susan Vidbel (below) – packed up six weeks early after entertaining as few as 15 customers on some nights at this Stillwell Avenue lot. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

## Coney's Ringling replacement closes six weeks early

BY AARON SHORT

A mom-and-pop circus that filled the void when Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey pulled out of Coney Island this summer has folded up its tent six weeks early.

Vidbel Circus abruptly packed up its horses and acrobats and rode out of town a mere 20 days after its Independence Day weekend opening because the less-than-greatest-show-on Earth was not making enough money.

Some shows drew as few as 15 customers a night, despite tickets that cost just \$10. Some performances were flat-out canceled when no one showed up at all, an official with the Florida-based one-ring extravaganza told us.

The company had signed a lease with Central Amusement International

to operate on a Stillwell Avenue lot through Labor Day — replacing the elephant-size void left when Ringling Brothers abandoned its 2,400-seat tent after just two summers.

“Our thoughts were that our ‘walk-up’ would be enough to make a profit considering our location — unfortunately, this was not the case,” said Vidbel President Susan Vidbel-Ashton.

“We stayed as long as we could.”

But Coney Island stalwarts believe that the circus's failure was its poor promotion.

“They were nice people, but they did a horrible job setting up their entrance, they did not have painted banners advertising the circus, and they didn't have the slightest idea how to ballyhoo,” said Sideshow op-



erator Dick Zigun, who is a master of self- and show promotion. “Take the horses and clowns and put on mini-circus parade 15 minutes before a showtime — that's how you sell tickets!” Promotion failures appear to have extended beyond the show's closing.

The company's website remains online — disappointing some fans who sought out the show last week with their family.

“I was disappointed, especially since I brought my kid there, and she was very excited about going to the circus,” said Yuliya Chernova. “On the way there, she told me that it was a nice surprise for her because we don't go to the circus often.”

The lot will be empty for the rest of the summer, but Zigun hopes a new circus, perhaps Ringling Bros., will return.

“All circuses are not equal,” said Zigun.

“I wish Ringling Brothers, a greater show on earth, would come back — they know how to advertise. Frankly this was an amateur circus.”

## It's a G-saster!



BY DAN MACLEOD

Pretty clear sailing — unless you ride the most-important train in the system, the G. Read on for

all the transit news that affects your weekend plans. (Saturday, August 19 at 12:01 am to Monday, Aug. 22 at 5 am unless otherwise noted):

**A, C:** Brooklyn-bound trains run on the F from W. Fourth Street in Manhattan to Jay Street-Metrotech.

**D:** Stillwell Avenue-bound trains

run on the N from 36th Street to Stillwell Avenue.

**F:** All trains skip Smith-Ninth Street (all times).

**G:** No trains between Hoyt-Schermerhorn Street and Church Avenue. All trains skip Smith-Ninth Street (all times).

**Q:** Manhattan-bound trains skip Avenues H and M. Coney Island-bound trains skip Avenue U and Neck Road.

**Got a transit gripe? Tell us. E-mail [dmacleod@englocal.com](mailto:dmacleod@englocal.com).**

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# BUSCEMI WINS!

Under pressure from neighbors, Sloper  
ceases blogging about actor's trash

BY KATE BRIQUELET

What's on Steve Buscemi's stoop? Park Slope residents say it's nobody's business!

A local blogger has shut down his site documenting the quirky actor's castoffs after the star's son asked him to stop snooping — and outraged neighbors threatened to clobber him.

But Robert Schnakenberg said he's baffled that cranky locals didn't see the humor of his blog.

"If someone were taking pictures of the crap I put out on my stoop, I couldn't care less," said Schnakenberg. "Rooting through someone's garbage or peeping in someone's windows, that's totally different. But that's not what was going on here."

For two years, the pop-culture scribe walked his dog past the home of the "Reservoir Dogs" star and published photographs of discarded doll heads, old cassettes and ratty hats on his little-known site, "What's on Steve Buscemi's Stoop?"

It wasn't until last month that local bloggers found Schnakenberg's project and mused whether it was "cool or not cool."

Riled-up residents gave more than just one- or two-word answers.

"He's lucky I don't know him!" said 37-year-old Slope resident Kurt Schamann, who said he would have no qualms about beating up Schnakenberg. "Steve is a regular guy who grew up in Brooklyn and then you get people like this who don't respect that!"

Susan Desocio, who lives in the Slope, said people should rummage through the blogger's garbage in return.

"He was psychoanalyzing Steve Buscemi's stuff," Desocio said. This guy needs some medical attention."

Schnakenberg, who has penned such celebrity titles as "Christopher Walken A-to-Z," said his blog was



For two years, Park Slope writer Robert Schnakenberg chronicled the curiosities on Steve Buscemi's stoop. Once, he found a doll (above) and another time, a weird ponytail hat (left). But the actor (below left) did not approve, so the gig is up.

What's On Steve Buscemi's Stoop?

Museum in Philadelphia.

"A couple of my followers pointed that out," Schnakenberg said. "I never would have figured that one out. It's a testament to the power of crowdsourcing."

Erica Reitman, whose blog, F—ed in Park Slope, tipped people to the short-lived Buscemi trove and praised the blogger for respecting the actor's wishes to shut down the site.

"I just wish Steve had had some fun with him first," Reitman said. "He could have started leaving naked Barbies with shaved heads, pig knuckles ... at least that's what I would have done."

Schnakenberg said that Buscemi's son sent "the nicest cease-and-desist letter I could ever hope to receive" — but that also ruined some of the mystery.

Buscemi's wife, who is an artist, was the one who had been setting out most of the junk, he said.

"I should've called it 'What's Steve Buscemi's Old Lady Throwing Out?'" Schnakenberg said. "I'm glad the blog ended without acrimony between me and the Buscemis. I am all about peace with my neighbors."

never meant for the wider world — just a small community of Buscemi fans.

He started the site in 2009, after he walked his dog past the actor's home, saw a disembodied doll's head on a fence post and took a photo with his phone.

Schnakenberg said that in the weeks that followed, more junk appeared and gave him "a lot of little mysteries to solve."

For instance, why did Buscemi have a hat from the Philadelphia Department of Corrections? It turns out that the actor once narrated the audio tour guide at the Eastern State Penitentiary



**GREEN ACRES:** (From left) Maureen Walsh, Trish Anderson and Heather Allyn hope to turn the vacant lot next to their India Street work studio into a vegetable garden. And they need your help.

Community Newspaper Group / Aaron Short

# MAKING A GREEN POINT

## Three women digging on vacant lot

BY AARON SHORT

Interior designers Maureen Walsh, Trish Anderson and Heather Allyn, who run an events design firm inside an India Street garage near McGuinness Boulevard, want to turn an adjacent gravelly lot into a vegetable garden next year.

“We want to team up with a community organization and give them vegetables,” said Anderson. “We want to help the community and also make this a beautiful place.”

The project is the latest horticultural effort to convert an underutilized industrial space into a garden, after the Eagle Street Rooftop Farm and Gotham Greens’ greenhouse.

The designers, whose firm, Domestic Construction, incorporates recycled materials and horticulture in weddings, corporate events and retail store in-

stallations, signed a one-year lease on the space for \$2,000 a month. And last month, they launched a fundraising campaign on Kickstarter to help them buy a myriad of gardening and landscaping supplies.

So far, they have raised \$9,400 from 137 donors — just under half their fundraising goal.

But several challenges remain besides the project’s financing.

Once a foundry, the lot has been intermittently vacant for three years, most recently serving as a parking lot for small trucks.

And the soil itself is likely toxic — the plot sits above a 17-million gallon oil plume that has been leaking for decades.

So the trio wants to use their installation skills to smooth out the rocky yard and build raised beds from recycled pallet boards for planting seeds

in the coming months.

And Walsh, Anderson and Allyn dream of buying the property and eventually adding 12-foot geodesic dome-shaped greenhouses, green bean vines crawling up the east wall of the lot, enough trees to simulate a forest, and even forming a few grassy knolls.

“We’re going to try to do some structural things such as building a lounging hill so you can sit in it,” said Walsh, who said her landlord fully supports the plan. “This area doesn’t have a lot of hills.”

In the meantime, the designers are hosting barbecues and concerts in their yard to raise money for next year’s growing season.

They’ve already built a stage out of — what else? — recycled pallets.

For info, visit [www.kickstarter.com/projects/1216881255/design-plot](http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1216881255/design-plot).

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## Municipal

*Continued from cover*  
ing Mayor Bloomberg — weren't complaining at the big announcement on Monday.

"Even though we weren't able to attract Steve Jobs here, thanks to Al we're getting something better — actual jobs," said Borough President Markowitz — who pitched the location to Steve Jobs last year. He said the project would create 114 permanent and 64 temporary construction jobs.

Apple did not even bid on the site, Markowitz said.

Laboz says he will bring in multiple chain stores, including a housewares depot and a locally owned full-service restaurant. The new eatery, however, won't be a Chipotle or Olive Garden. Laboz's contract bars him from bringing in a chain that has more than 15 locations nationwide.

"We have no doubt we will bring unique vibrant retail to this incredible location," Laboz said. "The building will sell itself."

The quest to fill the four government building near Court Street with retail began in 2007, when the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership released renderings of how the "dead space" could actually raise revenues for the city.

The Municipal Building's privatization is part of the city's effort to consolidate money-sucking city offices and make room for tax-paying shopping centers — which officials say will save up to \$36 million a year.

The Downtown Brooklyn Partnership said last year that the two-floors could gross up to \$20 million — double what Laboz will pay. City officials would not comment on the shortfall.

Laboz's selection to revive a key Downtown building is no surprise, given that he's chairman of the Fulton Street Mall Association and is an executive of the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership.

Laboz said he would pay cash for the first, second and basement floors facing

Court Street. Before he can develop the building, which was erected in 1925, he will go through a public review process with the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

The Finance Department, which currently occupies the space, will consolidate and move to other floors in the 13-story building before construction starts in 2012.

Laboz's firm, United American Land, has developed luxury lofts and high-end retail space for Puma and Dolce & Gabbana. The group also owns the landmark Conway building at 505 Fulton St., where a glassy H&M is under construction for a 2012 opening.

In winning the site, Laboz bested four other developers running the gamut of the retail world. One vanquished bidder was Jack's World, which operates a popular chain of 99-cent stores, while another was Ashkenazy Acquisition Corporation, which owns the Madison Avenue property that houses Barney's

New York. Somewhere in the middle was a bid from Triangle Equities Development Company, which owns a Flatlands retail complex anchored by a Target. And the hometown favorite may have been the Bright City Group, which owns the Union Market chain of Brooklyn-based supermarkets.

The secretive Laboz is little known outside his circle, but did make headlines in 2007 after he evicted small business owners on Willoughby Street to make room for his 30-story retail and residential space between Bridge and Duffield streets.

More than three years later, the buildings remain empty.

This isn't the first time the city sold off government floorspace. In 2008, the Queens-based Muss Development bought the first two floors of 345 Adams St. for an undisclosed price. The company, which also owns the nearby Marriott Hotel tower, plans to bring a Panera Bread cafe to the location in late fall.

## PTA mom

*Continued from cover*  
siphoning funds from the Henry Street school's PTA treasury between May, 2008 and September, 2010.

As treasurer, she had unfettered access to the PTA's checkbook and has admitted that she cut checks to herself ranging from \$6,000 to \$52,000, spending the funds on fertility treatments and the rent on both her home and Providence Day Spa, her Atlantic Avenue business.

DA Charles Hynes opted not to go to trial, offering Hogan a sweetheart deal instead: pay back everything and avoid jail.

Yet Hogan showed up in court empty-handed. She faces up to six years in prison if convicted in the increasingly inevitable trial.

Hogan claimed that she had raised a significant portion of the \$40,000, but blamed the NYPD for her failure to come up with the rest. During their investigation, cops seized her computer — which contains the

contact information for clients who owe her money, she said — and have not given it back.

"We've always been willing to make restitution, but my client needs those records," said her lawyer, Stephen Flamhaft.

Mondo ordered the police to return Hogan's computer, but wasn't moved by the PTA mom's excuses.

"You're portraying her as someone who is incapable right now of raising the money to make the school whole," Mondo told Flamhaft. "I don't believe for a minute that she has no funds."

Flamhaft certainly does, telling the judge that if the case does go to trial, he would have to recuse himself because Hogan would not be able to pay his legal fees.

Outside court, Flamhaft told reporters that Hogan was prepared to go to jail.

"She's admitted her guilt and she knows that if she goes to trial, she could go to jail," he said. "I'm going to have to talk some sense into her."

Hogan didn't speak at

the hearing and refused to speak to reporters. Nor did she make eye contact with the dozen PS 29 PTA moms in the gallery.

PS 29 parents were outraged that Hogan hadn't made good on her promise to return the money she pilfered.

"We had hoped that she would give us the money

back and make the school whole," said PTA co-president Jane Heaphy. "Now that she's failed to do that, we're standing behind the prosecutor in this case."

Mondo ordered Hogan to return on Oct. 3. If Hogan doesn't make restitution by then, a trial date will be set, she said.

[tracy@cnglocal.com](mailto:tracy@cnglocal.com)

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### LEGAL NOTICE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA. Nicholas Cooney, Plaintiff, vs. Adam Weissman, Wetlands Activism Collective, and Stephanie Wilson, Defendants. Civil Action No. 11-2425. SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION. To: Adam Weissman and Wetlands Activism Collective. This Plaintiff has filed proceeding for Defamation, False Light, and Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress. Defendant seeks damages and costs in excess of \$75,000 and a permanent injunction. This court has entered an order providing for summons by publication in accordance with the provisions of N.Y. C.V.P. LAW § 316. THEREFORE, notice is given to you so that you may appear and answer the complaint within 21 days after publication of this summons, and in case of failure to do so, judgement by default will be rendered for the relief demanded in the complaint, and the court will proceed to an adjudication without further notice. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff whose name and address are: Nicholas Cooney, Pro Se, 1517 S. Hicks St., Philadelphia, PA 19146, (484) 904-6004. Dated: July 7, 2011. Publication completion date: August 19, 2011. Joseph B. Watson, Deputy Clerk of the Court.



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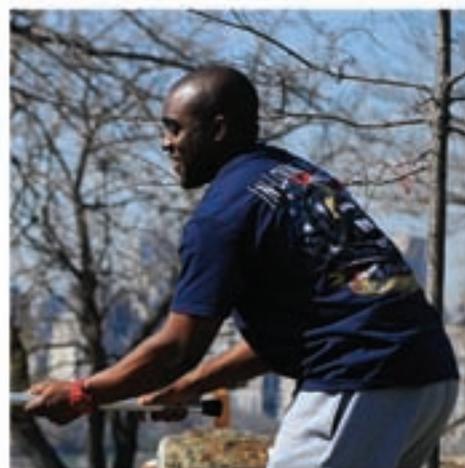
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FF Khalid Baylor

# Squadron slams Bklyn Bridge Park coverage

To the editor,

The recent agreement to move Brooklyn Bridge Park forward ("News analysis: Inside the Brooklyn Bridge Park deal," online, Aug. 11) serves both the community and the city for a number of reasons. It improves the park's funding model and eliminates up to 80 percent of proposed luxury housing on Pier 6 and at John Street. It also provides the community with amenities that will draw visitors to the park from all over Brooklyn and the city — including a pool for at least five summers, an ice skating rink, a seasonal recreational "bubble," tennis courts, and 2,200 square feet of community space.

The previous funding model — luxury housing, in place since long before I was elected — raised serious concerns regarding the privatization of public parks, with a small number of luxury condo residents exclusively funding the park's maintenance budget. It also created a difficult funding model to replicate in many other neighborhoods where luxury buildings are not possible. Simply put, the original plan would have made luxury parks possible in luxury neighborhoods — and nowhere else.

That is why I felt it was so important to respond to your suggestion that the new agreement is "unequal." As your editorial acknowledges ("Rich get richer," online editorial, Aug. 11), the new agreement dramatically improves the previous plan. In fact, one of its major improvements is increased equity.

Unlike the previous plan, the new agreement is based on new incremental tax revenue from properties near the park. This revenue can be accessed for the city because of the increased residential demand created by the park. The rezoning and sale of the properties near the park will increase the city's tax revenue. This incremental increase in tax revenue can occur in any neighborhood, not just Brooklyn Heights.

Even more important, for the first time this plan will use public money to fund this public park. This agreement moves

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

away from specific luxury developments and towards a more equitable model of public funding.

Of course this agreement isn't perfect — but it reduces housing, ensures the park's completion, increases amenities, and improves the funding model. That's why it is a victory for both the park's immediate neighbors and the city at large.

**Daniel Squadron  
Carroll Gardens**

*The writer is a state senator representing Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens.*

\*\*\*

To the editor,

Kate Briquet's article on the proposal to assign part of potential tax receipts from properties owned by the Watchtower Society in DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights to replace tax receipts which might have been generated by two high-rise condo buildings which had been planned for the upland of Pier 6 in Brooklyn Bridge Park has it all upside down.

The Pier 6 condos had not been "under fire" from Brooklyn Heights (represented by the Brooklyn Heights Association) and DUMBO — it was Roy Sloane and the Cobble Hill Association who led that campaign. And it was not DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights who "helped propel [Sen.] Squadron into office" — it was Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens!

The Park's consultants had suggested a special tax district from Vinegar Hill to Atlantic Avenue (so not including Cobble Hill) — that Mr. Sloane now feels Sen. Squadron "sold out the park" for finding a source of taxes other than the homeowners of Vinegar Hill, DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights seems only a measure of his spite for his northerly neighbors.

**Peter Flemming  
Brooklyn Heights**

\*\*\*

To the editor,

A very important fact is glossed over in your online analysis of the plan to generate funds for the maintenance and operations of Brooklyn Bridge Park: The "eligible" Watchtower Society buildings must be sold no later than Dec. 31, 2013, to become applicable under the plan.

It remains to be seen how many, if any, of the 10 properties currently not zoned for residential use will have a new owner(s) by the deadline.

I also strongly object to your condemnation of the Watchtower Society and its right to sell its property to the highest bidder(s). As a religious, tax-exempt organization, the Society has the same rights as any other major and minor organized

religion. Would you take the same position if Trinity Church sold its extensive real estate holdings in Manhattan?

**Ursula Hahn  
Downtown**

### 'Roulette' wheel

To the editor,

In your recent story, "Board plays booze 'Roulette'" (Aug. 5), your reporter did a fine job of representing many perspectives on the issue, including those of Martha Kamber, the executive director of the YWCA, the theater's landlord.

It is unfortunate that Ms. Kamber was not present when the community board reviewed the liquor license application. The assurances she made in the newspaper article might have altered the board's decision if expressed at our meeting.

It is also unfortunate that Roulette's legal counsel was unable to attend the meeting due to a family obligation. The theater staff who presented the application was not able to answer many of the executive committee's questions, which negatively impacted the deliberation.

As noted in some editions of your story, Community Board 2 is working with Roulette on license stipulations that address the concerns raised at the board's meeting. I look forward to a mutually satisfying resolution to the matter.

**John Dew**

*The writer is chairman of Community Board 2.*

### Bruce's job loss

To the editor,

Why am I not surprised that Bruce Ratner and Forest City continue to act like pigs at a trough feasting on taxpayer dollars ("Workers to Ratner: Where are the jobs?," Aug. 5)? In too many cases, projects have been heavily subsidized by taxpayers. Between direct government funding, low-interest loans, and long-term exemptions, the bills to taxpayers may be greater than the benefits.

Too many mega developers make promises to local community groups for the creation of jobs along with awarding of contracts to residents and businesses, which, just like in this case, have yet to see the light of day.

If these projects, such as Atlantic Yards, were so worthwhile, why didn't major developers, such as Bruce Ratner, use their own funds or obtain loans from banks, rather than pick the pockets of taxpayers to pay a significant portion of the bill?

Real business people who believe in capitalism build their companies on their

own. How sad that some don't want to do it the old-fashioned way by sweat and hard work. They continue looking for shortcuts in the form of huge subsidies at the taxpayers' expense and favors from elected officials.

**Larry Penner  
Great Neck, NY**

### Thanks for Watchtower

To the editor,

I saw your article about Brooklyn Bridge Park ("Park condos okay," Aug. 5) and couldn't help but point out some information about the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society.

First of all, the money the Society has accumulated comes from the direct donations of Jehovah's Witnesses. We pay for the costs of the materials we publish and distribute. We pay for the billions of hours spent annually in literacy training, Bible education and disaster relief (which is not limited to properties of Witnesses).

The Society has made immense contributions to Brooklyn. There is a constant flow of tourism to the Society from all over the world. Conventions are economic windfalls; not to mention the amount of time, energy and expenses that Witnesses have expended in upgrading and maintaining all of those properties. And, finally, the fact that the Society doesn't pay taxes is the same for any other nonprofit operating.

In my personal opinion, I would think it just fine if the Society continues there as is, and doesn't sell those properties. The community doesn't deserve it.

**Carolyn Neal  
Brooklyn Heights**

### Bikers are dangerous

To the editor,

The arrogant and irresponsible disregard by many bicyclists of the barriers and detour signs due to construction at both ends of the Manhattan Bridge creates a hazardous situation for joggers, pedestrians and workers, and makes one wonder why the change was made in the first place ("City: Boro leads big cycling boom," Aug. 5).

Perhaps when someone is struck by a cyclist who is pedalling full speed around the blind curve at the base of the north path of the bridge, then city officials will revisit this ill-conceived switch — one that was instituted by Janette Sadik-Khan without any community involvement that I am aware of.

**Joseph Colletti  
Downtown**

### LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to Gersh Kuntzman, Editor, Courier Life Publications, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, New York 11201, or sent via e-mail to [newsroom@cnglocal.com](mailto:newsroom@cnglocal.com). All letters MUST be signed and the individual's verifiable address and telephone number included (though address and telephone number will NOT be published). No unsigned letters can be accepted for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions which become the property of Courier Life Publications.



# Star-spangled singer knocks it out

## CONEY ISLAND

Look, Standing O knows that **Pia Toscano** hails from Howard Beach, in another borough, but she is singing in our very own MCU Park and that is right here in fantastic Coney Island. In 2003, the then-15-year-old Queens crooner made one of her first public appearances at the home of our beloved Cyclones. Now eight years later and after a stint on Season 10 of "American Idol," she's back to wow the crowds at a Cyclones game. Not only will she sing our nation's anthem, but she's throwing out the first pitch. Standing O suggests you get tickets now for the Aug. 22 game when Pia pitches and the Cyclones take on the Tri-City Valley Cats. It's gonna be one helluva night.

*MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at West 17th Street in Coney Island, (718) 449-8497].*

## DOWNTOWN

### Welcome, bienvenue

**Think Fabricate** has come to Downtown and opened up a brand spankin' new showroom. Come on over and take a gander at its latest collection of fab furniture including Stepping Stones, Wall\*nuts, Walnutopia, TV Quilt and Fleur de Noyer. All of the furniture is designed and made right here in our very own borough. Each of Think's designs are modern, with historical motifs, colorful accents and meticulous detailing, and every single piece offers smart storage solutions — and we all know how important smart storage is when you live in a third floor walk-up.

*Think Fabricate [25 Chapel St. at Jay Street in Downtown, (718) 797-1041].*

## DYKER HEIGHTS

### That's what friends are for

The Brooklyn chapter of the **Sweet Adelines** joined with sister Adelines at the Airport Plaza Shopping Center in Farmingdale to celebrate Sweet Adelines International Day which commemorates the 66th anniversary of the founding of the women's barber-shop harmony organization. The women, in unaccompanied, four-part harmony, serenaded shoppers with barbershop faves and even one number in sign language.

*The chorus rehearses every Monday night in Dyker Heights. Interested singers should call Standing O pal Elizabeth at (917) 656-6782.*

## GOWANUS

### Just a Mac a day

The good guys at the Mac Support Store, the first ever Apple authorized repair shop in Brooklyn, donated six Mac laptops to the not-for-profit Rise Up and Walk Youth Outreach Center. When co-owners **Jeff Gra-**



Borough President Markowitz presents a proclamation to Sam Naraiswar, general manager of Mrs. Maxwell's Bakery, while Rebecca Craft and Esteban Vasquez, both of Con Ed, look on.

## It's easy – and tasty – going green

### EAST NEW YORK

Three baguettes and a scone to **Mrs. Maxwell's Bakery** for looking out for our sweet tooth and our environment. The venerable bakery (since 1928) has partnered with Con-Edison's Small Business Energy Efficiency program to save "watts" of energy and cash, approximately \$7,000 in energy costs to date. Now that's a lot of cookies. Con Ed came in and provided 71 fluorescent

lamps, replaced dozens of other fixtures and lamps and installed 14 LED lamps, which allowed Mrs. Maxwell's to save big. The bakery paid 30 percent, and Con Ed picked up the rest. No wonder **Borough President Markowitz** decreed Aug. 9 as "Mrs. Maxwell's Bakery 'Go Green' Celebration Day." Our pal Marty knows a deal when he tastes one.

*Mrs. Maxwell's Bakery [2700 Atlantic Ave. at Vermont Avenue in East New York, (718) 345-7400].*

**ber** and **Judith Barr** heard about the need for computers for underprivileged youth, the duo clicked right in and donated to the cause. Now, thanks to Jeff and Judith's generosity, the center is that much closer to reaching its goal of obtaining enough computers for 300 children by this fall.

The Mac Store is a one-stop shop for everything Mac — "We don't do windows," Jeff told Standing O.

*Mac Support Store [168 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 312-8341].*

## BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

### Laudes above

It's official — for the fourth year in a row our very own **St. Francis College** was named by Forbes.com on its annual America's Best Colleges list, and moving up 38 slots from last year's standing. "St. Francis College has been generating some great momentum these past several years," said Prez Brendan Dugan. You said it, mister.

*St. Francis College [180 Remsen St. at Court Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5214].*

## FORT GREENE

### Bad boys, watcha gonna do

Look out, criminals, **Beverly Bradley** is here. This black belt sensai in Tae Kwon Do is taking back the streets, one karate

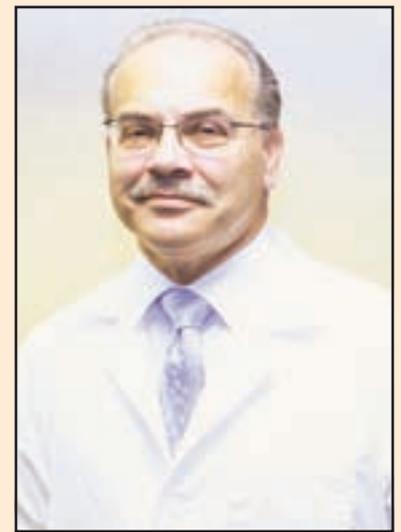
kick and ear-clap at a time. "I saw a video of a girl being grabbed and taken against her will," said Beverly to Standing O. "And that sparked my interest to help women protect themselves."

That pebble started the ripple of starting self-help and fitness classes. It also spawned a website and a face-page dedicated to helpful health tips and the best ways to protect yourself.



High-steppin' Beverly Bradley teaches self-defense courses in Fort Greene.

Photo by Tom Callan



Dr. Edmund Giegerich is the new big man at New York Methodist Hospital.

## PARK SLOPE

### Hail to new chief

New York Methodist Hospital welcomed **Dr. Edmund Giegerich** as the new chief of endocrinology and vice chairman of medicine on July 1. The field of endocrinology is the care and treatment of hormone disorders, including Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. Dr. Giegerich also suffers from the condition, having been diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age 17. "Learning about the diseases you have is one of the most important steps to recovery," he said. Standing O thinks the other most important step is to have Dr. Giegerich in your corner.

*New York Methodist Hospital [506 Sixth St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 780-3000].*

Beverly leads classes every Saturday and Wednesday in Fort Greene Park and every Monday at a dojo in the nabe.

"Self defense is all about transferring pain," Beverly told us. "In Tae Kwon Do, the first maneuver to learn is to kick the

attacker in the knee, the knee buckles, the attacker falls down, you get away. In Sanuces-Ryu (survival-street techniques) you learn to clap your attacker hard on the ear, it throws off the equilibrium, the attacker is disoriented, you get away."

Beverly also believes that you should train on all types of terrain, she leads her class in the woody area of the park, on gravel, cement and tight spaces. After all it's almost a given that you're not going to get attacked in a dojo with cushy floor mats.

*Contact Beverly by visiting [www.undergroundphysique.com](http://www.undergroundphysique.com) or calling (917) 796-6109.*

# Seeing Green

## Cee Lo headlines the Afro-Punk Festival

BY MEREDITH DELISO

See Green —without spending any.

Cee Lo Green, the charismatic crooner behind the hit track “Forget You” (which also goes by a better name we can’t print here) and one half of the hip-hop duo Gnarls Barkley headlines the Afro-Punk Festival, a jam-packed music event at Commodore Barry Park on Aug. 27 and 28 — and it’s all free.

The festival boasts some top alternative and hip-hop talent over the course of the two days, though Cee Lo, who performs on the second night, will certainly be the big draw.

“We’ve admired Cee Lo from afar,” said festival co-founder Matthew Morgan. “Since we’ve been able to get bigger sponsors interested this year and could afford acts we couldn’t book in the past, why wouldn’t we do Cee Lo?”

Indeed, Morgan’s annual summer gig, which initially started as a platform for up-and-coming bands from the afro-punk scene, has grown so much over the past seven years that he can book such a top commercial act like Cee Lo. Other big names



**ALL HAIL CEE LO:** The hip hop star is just one of the many great artists lined up for the absolutely free Afro-Punk Festival, on Aug. 27 and 28 at Commodore Barry Park in Fort Greene.

AP Photo / Richard Drew

performing this year include Reggie Watts, Gym Class Heroes, Toro Y Moi, Das Racist, and festival veterans Santigold and Janelle Monae.

Still, the festival hasn’t forgotten its mission, and you can check out brand new acts that aren’t on the radio yet, including The Jersey Klain and Radkey, who are so fresh, all the members are under the age of 18.

“I’m excited about the Janelles and Cee Los, and for these new acts to get an audience,” said Morgan. “You can come and see what’s familiar, and leave with something new. That’s why we do this.”

*Afro-Punk Festival at Commodore Barry Park (Flushing Avenue and Navy Street in Fort Greene), Aug. 27 and 28 starting at 11 am. Free. For info, visit [www.afropunk.com](http://www.afropunk.com).*



A cop marks the spot where a young man was wounded following an Aug. 16 shooting on Columbia and W. Ninth streets.

Photo by Paul Martinka

## Bullets over Red Hook!

BY THOMAS TRACY

A trigger-happy gunman opened fire on a young man at Columbia and W. Ninth streets in Red Hook on Aug. 16 — hitting his fleeing victim in the leg.

Residents scrambled for cover as the gunman fired off five shots from a row

of parked cars across the street from the Red Hook Houses during the noon attack.

The would-be assassin ran off as paramedics took the victim to Lutheran Medical Center, where he was listed in stable condition after treatment.

Investigators had no clear motive on the shooting by late Tuesday.

*Anyone with information regarding this shooting is urged to call the NYPD CrimeStoppers hotline at (800) 577-8477.*

*All calls will be kept confidential.*

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# RATNER MOVES TO CAN THE RATS

Area residents get heavy-duty trash cans



BY KATE BRIQUELET

Bruce Ratner is taking out the trash!

The Atlantic Yards developer on Monday began doling out heavy-duty covered garbage cans to Prospect Heights residents who have claimed that his Atlantic Yards mega-project has brought freakishly large rats to their streets.

The move came one month after the company promised to reimburse infuriated locals for rat-proof cans.

"The gesture is a good start as long as it's not just a gesture," said Karen-Ida Scott, a Dean Street resident. "Our demand is to have the rats be manageable. We live in New York — we're not unrealistic about the flood of rats that has overtaken us."

Neighbors of the \$4.9-billion Atlantic Yards project — which includes the under-construction Barclays Center basketball arena — have long blamed their rodent troubles on construction work.

When workers began excavating the Vanderbilt Yards in 2007, they displaced scores of rats, who gradually found new homes in the surrounding streets. Since then, the vermin have been feasting



on sidewalk trash, gnawing on cars and invading apartments.

Now Ratner will dole out 172 cans at the Atlantic Yards Community Liaison Office, which is in a trailer on Carlton Avenue. The tight-lidded cans will help residents stop providing a feast, in the form of easily accessible household trash, for the vermin.

The 34-gallon Rubbermaid wheeled cans — valued at \$32 apiece — were approved by the Health Department and purchased at Pintchik Hardware on Bergen Street.

To be eligible for the giveaway, residents must live in a building of 12 or fewer units within the area bounded by Vanderbilt and Fourth avenues and Atlantic Avenue and Bergen Street.

Prospect Heights residents (from left) Karen Ida Scott, Lucian Wells and Deborah Howard got their rat-proof garbage can (left) from Bruce Ratner this week. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Forest City Ratner spokesman Joe DePlasco said there were no plans to expand the area of eligibility.

Councilwoman Letitia James (D-Fort Greene) said she was disappointed that Ratner's offer doesn't extend beyond the immediate neighborhood to Fort Greene, but Peter Krashes, president of the Dean Street Block Association, said that this is the first time he can remember that Ratner has accommodated a community request.

"Let's hope they understand they have an ongoing obligation for the length of the project," he said. "This is only a first step."

To get a free receipt, residents must provide a photo ID and utility bill dated within the last three months.

Atlantic Yards Community Liaison Office [Carlton Avenue between Pacific and Dean streets in Prospect Heights, (866) 923-5315]. For info, visit [www.atlanticyards.com](http://www.atlanticyards.com).

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# Boro beat



**Above:** Mr. Kaves poses with his crew, who turned a drab construction site wall into a vibrant mural with a "Honeymooners" theme. **Below:** An artist hard at work.



## THIS ART IS ON THE WALL

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

A subway vandal-turned-acclaimed graffiti artist has transformed a construction site into a canvas of spray paint — and neighbors in the South Slope are giving it mixed reviews.

Last Friday, Mike "Mr. Kaves" McLeer — a Bay Ridge-based graffiti bomber — morphed a drab 90-foot wall into a vibrant mural with a "Honeymooners"-themed (sort of) on Seventh Avenue and 19th Street.

The temporary mural — which will stand for only couple months until a beer garden opens there this fall — combines some images from the Brooklyn-set 1950s sitcom with a gritty hip-hop-flare.

"It's the purest form of art," said the sunglasses-and-fedora sporting Kaves, before shaking a can of red spray paint. "And it still has an outlaw soul."

Neighbors didn't mind that lawless look — and even stopped to snap a few cellphone photos — calling it a skillful throwback to old school Brooklyn.

"People remember when graffiti messed up this neighborhood — but this isn't just scribbles; it's real talent," said Joe Guerrieri, who owns Joe's Auto Glass across the street.

Other folks on the block — where a sleek condo sits around the corner from MS 88, just south of the Prospect Expressway —

worried the area's new centerpiece might inspire less-skilled wannabe taggers.

"It's a well-done piece — but real estate developers might see it another way," said passerby Alexander Trimpe.

Even so, owners of the Greenwood Beer Garden — a 3,000-square-foot venue scheduled to open this fall — weren't bothered when they gave Kaves permission to paint it this summer.

Nor was Justin Wolf of TriBeCa's Hionas Gallery, which showcased Kaves's work this month. "His art is very mature, distinct and confident," said Wolf, who lives in the neighborhood. "He is a master at his trade."

Love it or hate it, Kaves — who got his start as a 12-year-old tagging trains and was featured in Juxtapoz Magazine in June



Grffiti artist Mr. Kaves painted a large-scale mural (below) on the corner of 19th Street and Seventh Avenue where his friend Larry Hyland will be opening a beer garden.

Photos by Stefano Giovannini

— isn't concerned with the critics, whether they're big-name art writers or just neighbors around the corner.

"There will always be naysayers," he said, without taking his eyes off the mural. "But, you know, they said the same thing about Cubism."



## AHOY THERE! COAST GUARD COMES ASHORE IN RED HOOK

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Ship ahoy!

Kids, cadets and hobby sailors toured one of the country's last active military sailing vessels in Red Hook last weekend

— a mammoth boat that looks plucked from a scene in "Treasure Island."

The United States Coast Guard opened the Barque Eagle at Pier 7 last week, offering tours of the 300-foot tax-

payer-funded, pre-World War II-era ship, just in time for her 75th birthday.

"There was a big 'gee-whiz' factor," said Charles Rowe, a spokesman for the agency.

Sailors offered Brooklynites an explanation of how the 300-foot ship functions — pointing to her 100-foot canvas sails and three-wheel steering system — as little boys' mouths hung agape.

The ship, which is now used to train future Guard officers, is one of only two active sail boats used by the American military.

Coast Guards partnered with the sustainable waterfront planning group PortSide to spread the word about the three-day tour.

The ship has docked in Iceland, England and Germany — where it was built — in the past four months, turning plenty of heads with her sleek, old-timey look along the way.

"She's America's ship," said Rowe. "People got to see what they're paying for."



Quinn Reimer, 7, got to play captain when the Coast Guard opened the towering Barque Eagle to folks in Red Hook.



The United States Coast Guard's Barque Eagle is one tall ship.  
Photos by Janis Eyi

# Boro beat



Marie Viljoen, founder of Litter Mob, says the city won't clean up trash in Prospect Park — so she's doing the job for free. Photos by Natalie O'Neill

## THIS 'MOB' IS A CLEANING CREW

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

The city won't clean up Prospect Park's condom-dotted sex nook — so a group of litter busters is doing the dirty work.

A strong-stomached, self-appointed tribe of citizen custodians has stepped up to do the city's job for free, after failing to get the Parks Department to tidy the trash-filled "cruising grounds" itself.

Litter Mob — a group that meets twice a month to pick up garbage at the Midwood forest, near the intersection of East and Center drives — is outraged that the city hasn't done more to fix a dumping spot that could be a pristine oasis.

"It's the city's park — hello!" said Marie Viljoen, a 41-year-old photographer and Cobble Hill resident who heads the group. "It's quite scandalous that, at a park so heavily used, in a city so in need of green space, taxpaying citizens have to do this."

Since May, the group has plucked hundreds of disposed condoms, brandy bottles, candy-flavored cigar wrappers and more from the forest floor with tongs — while sometimes encountering couples coupling in bushes.

During an early morning clean-up last month, six Litter Mobbers filled 26 bags with trash.

Viljoen half-joked that pick-



**STICKY SITUATION:** Used condoms litter the park.

ing up garbage there is like an "archaeological study": You can track the evolution of a night by examining the litter, which begins with food wrappers at the bottom of the hill, unfurls into liquor bottles at the middle and ends with used condoms, lube and tissue paper at the top (an area they called, "ground zero.")

Park-goers have long complained that the city has neglected its duties — even with the help the Prospect Park Alliance, a private fundraising group formed to deal specifically with such problems — and allowed the green space to become the town dump. They have cited too few garbage cans, tardy trash pick-ups, and poor enforcement

in past years.

Litter Mob arose as the Parks Department has seen its budget snipped from \$238 to \$233 million last year. It also comes six months after Prospect Park Alliance Director Emily Lloyd explained that prompt trash removal is one of the top priorities for the agency, which partners with the city to better maintain the park.

Viljoen said Lloyd did respond to her e-mails demanding a cleaner park — but Lloyd did not write to assure her that the litter would be disposed of, but rather to suggest that she form a volunteer group and do it herself.

An Alliance spokesman said it has not ignored the problem, but in fact, helped coordinate the group effort.

"The park's natural resources crew and volunteer department works with [them] to coordinate the bimonthly clean-ups," said spokesman Eugene Patron.

Even so, Viljoen — who is documenting her garbage fight via a blog that features photos of HIV medication, colorful condoms and even sex toys she has cleaned up — says it's bizarre that the task must be addressed by normal park-goers.

"The city needs to give the Parks Department more money," she said. "This is an embarrassment."

## THE SHIP HAS HIT THE FAN!

BY AARON SHORT

Ahoy ye Brooklyn salts!

Greenpoint paddlers braved swift East River currents this month in the North Brooklyn Boat Club's second-ever flotilla.

The fledgling group, which borrowed kayaks from the Long Island City Boathouse, hopes to raise enough money to build a similar facility on Greenpoint's shores and generate enough public support to fill it up.

The city has so far stymied seafaring plans to add a boat basin inside a Manhattan Avenue industrial building at the edge of Newtown Creek, arguing that the waterway's pollution poses health risks.



(Photos from left) Councilman Steve Levin grabs a paddle before taking the plunge into the East River. Expert paddler Ali Aschman delights in the companionship of our photographer. The entire North Brooklyn Boat Club takes a spin on the East River near Greenpoint.

Community Newspaper Group / Aaron Short

But interest in recreational kayaking has risen like the tide.

Councilman Steve Levin (D-Greenpoint), who has actively campaigned

to bring a boathouse to Greenpoint, joined the club for an evening river paddle to Newtown Creek two weeks ago.

And the group plans to

hold more outings in the next two months, including a "pedal paddle" where participants can ride over the Pulaski Bridge to Long Island City and jump in a

kayak right into the East River.

Soon the group hopes to buy their own kayaks and paddles and launch their own expeditions into the

calm waters of Bushwick Inlet Park or Newtown Creek.

For info, visit [www.northbrooklynboatclub.org](http://www.northbrooklynboatclub.org).

**LEGAL NOTICE****PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, August 31, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition from Mojito Cuban Cuisine Corp. to continue to, maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 82 Washington Avenue in the Borough of Brooklyn for a term of two years. REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**2831 WEST 20TH STREET LLC**, a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC), filed with the Sec of State of NY on 5/11/11. NY Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to Laura Keenan, 1965 Batchelder St., Brooklyn, NY 11229. General Purposes.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**560 PROSPECT REALTY LLC**, a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC), filed with the Sec of State of NY on 6/21/11. NY Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to The LLC, 159-16 Union Tpke., Ste. 301, Fresh Meadows, NY 11366. General Purposes.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**BROOKLYN FUSION LLC**, a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC), filed with the Sec of State of NY on 5/2/11. NY Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of

**LEGAL NOTICE**

any process against the LLC served upon him/her to The LLC, 1324 Nosstrand Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11226. General Purposes.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**I & C O Associates, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/13/11. Office in Kings County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Imre Oberlander as Trustee of the I & CO Charitable Remainder, 253 Rutledge St, Brooklyn, NY 12556. Purpose: General.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Jewel Logistics LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/3/11. Office in Kings County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1770 E 14 St. Apt 4F, Brooklyn, NY 11229. Purpose: General.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Name: NO VOLVERE, LLC** Art. Of Org, Filed Sec. Of State of NY 04/27/2011. Off. Loc.: Kings Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to THE LLC C/O, Alejandra Parra, 436 Van Brunt, Apt. 4., Brooklyn, NY 11231. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice is hereby** given that a license, #TBA has been applied for by Janelle's Cuisine & Bar Inc to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail in a restaurant. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 671/673 Washington Ave Brooklyn NY 11238.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** BFC Second Avenue Owners, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 7/19/2011. Off. Loc.: Kings Cnty. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC,

**LEGAL NOTICE**

150 Myrtle Ave., Ste. 2, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: all lawful activities.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of 138 Newton Realty LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 7/13/11. Office location: Kings County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: 138 Newton St., Brooklyn, NY 11222. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of formation** of 2ND POWER REALTY LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/15/2011. Office location, County of Kings. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1646 Schenectady Ave., Brooklyn NY 11234. Purpose: any lawful act.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of ALL DESIGNS SERVICES LLC, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/06/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 180 McKinley Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11208. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of ASSISTED HOME CARE, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/11/11. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC 148 GEORGE STREET 1ST FLOOR BROOKLYN, NY 11237. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: JENNIFER BANDES INTEGRATIVE CONSULTING LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/16/2011. Office location: Kings County.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of CASTEX PRODUCTIONS LLC. Arts. of Org. was

**LEGAL NOTICE**

filed with SSNY on 6/21/11. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o THE LLC, 605 2nd St., Brooklyn, New York, NY 11215. Purpose: all lawful activities.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of Imprint Projects LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 2/14/11. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 261 W. 121st St., NY, NY 10027. Purpose: any lawful activities.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Formation** of JESSICA CHESLER PRODUCTIONS LLC, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/03/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 423 1st Street #1, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: 1 OF A KIND HOME HEALTH CARE L.L.C. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/01/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 148 GEORGE STREET 1ST FLOOR BROOKLYN, NY 11237. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: JENNIFER BANDES INTEGRATIVE CONSULTING LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/16/2011. Office location: Kings County.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: KHAN & SONS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/02/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 8778 BAY PARKWAY BROOKLYN, NY 11214. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: GOCEN HOLDINGS, LLC. Application for Authority was filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/21/11. The LLC was originally filed with the Secretary of State of Florida on 04/08/11. Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, c/o Thomas R. Sawyer II, 1400 East Oakland Park Boulevard, Suite 102, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33334. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: LAMPE-RIO LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/23/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: NIELS MOELLER 103 HAVE-MEYER STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11211-4433. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: HANK ERINS MUSIC, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/28/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 99 SUTTON STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11222. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: ZUPPI LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/13/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 195 PROSPECT PARK WEST APT #4D BROOKLYN, NY 11215. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: J.R. & SON PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/22/2010. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: JOHN ROUSE 227 CLERMONT AVENUE APARTMENT 2 BROOKLYN, NY 11205. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: AFFLUENT CLOTHING COMPANY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/02/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014

**LEGAL NOTICE**

13TH AVENUE SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: RECIPES BY JESSE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/17/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: EAST 26TH PROPERTY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/22/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228 Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: STREAR DESIGN STUDIO LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/08/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: BENJAMIN STREAR 6 ST. JAMES PL APT 2 BROOKLYN, NY 11205-5005. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY OPTION, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/19/2011. Office loca-

**LEGAL NOTICE**

tion: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: INCORP SERVICES, INC. ONE COMMERCE PLAZA 99 WASHINGTON AVE., STE 805-A ALBANY, NY 12210-2822. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SWEET ANOINTINGS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/17/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: KATHY WALKER 675 MONROE STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11221. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: THE IQ ROOM LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/07/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: DAVID PAVLICK 2459 E. 2ND STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11223. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: 172 MINNA ST., LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/12/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 99 MINNA STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11218. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

WHERE TO GO ■ WHAT TO DO

# 24 SEVEN

ARTS ■ DINING ■ MOVIES ■ ENTERTAINMENT

By Meredith Deliso

A new theater company devoted to performing Shakespeare's classics in unexpected places is starting off on the right foot — with a production of "The Tempest" on a Greenpoint rooftop.

Porpentine Theater Co. founder Peter James Cook has been dreaming of directing the Bard's fantastical comedy on a rooftop ever since moving here six years ago and becoming acquainted with the tradition of the Brooklyn rooftop party.

"I loved the idea of an urban island looking out on the city," said the Greenpoint director, who's worked at more traditional venues such as The Brick in Williamsburg and DUMBO's Galapagos Art Space. "I liked the idea of escaping from the city by going a floor up."

It was only a matter of finding the right roof, and after an initial location fell through, Cook turned to Craigslist. He quickly found an available space on Green Street.

In keeping with the inspiration, the play begins in modern day at a booze-fueled rooftop party populated by twentysomething jokesters and status seekers, which then transforms into the world of Prospero, the exiled Duke of Milan, who attempts to restore his daughter, Miranda, to power through magic.

In setting the scene, Cook uses few props, beyond beer bottles and lawn chairs, and keeps the lighting at a minimum, instead letting the untraditional space do the work.

"I wanted to capture what's naturally evocative about being up there," said Cook. "I don't think anyone has been to a performance of 'The Tempest' quite like this before."

*"The Tempest" at The Roof (242 Green St. between McGuinness Boulevard and Provost Street in Greenpoint, no phone), Aug. 19-Sept. 5 at 8 pm. Tickets \$10. For info, visit [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com).*

**Magic man: Ben Vershbow stars as Prospero in a new production of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" that stands in a Greenpoint rooftop for a deserted island.**

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

# 'TEMPEST' ON A ROOF

**New troupe does Shakespeare under the stars**

## Tapas Bar Menu

### Mejillones Zamoranos - 7 -

fried Prince Edward mussels stuffed w/ shrimp

### Pan con Tomate - 4 -

grilled bread rubbed w/ tomato olive oil & garlic

### Croquetas de Cangrejo - 7 -

flourless croquette w/ lump crab meat & bell peppers

### Patatas Bravas - 6 -

crisp spiced potatoes w/ traditional aioli

### Albondigas en Salsa Roja - 7 -

veal meatballs in a spicy tomato sauce

### Aguacate Cantabrico - 8 -

hass avocado stuffed gulf shrimp w/ salsa rosa

### Pincho de Chorizo - 7 -

chorizo, pearl onions & roasted peppers

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# Balled over

This event is black and white and red all over. No, that's not a set-up to a played-out joke, but the latest extravagant party from nightlife gurus Gemini and Scorpio — this Sunday's Black and White and Red All Over Ball.

The promoter's excuse for a big bash this go around is in honor of Coilhouse Magazine, a culture publication marking its fourth year online and a new print issue this fall that employs a BauHaus/German Expressionist palette (hence the color theme of the ball).

**Sunday  
8/21**

To celebrate, the party mavens are putting together an underground costume ball of epic proportions at the Red Lotus Room, a Crown Heights cabaret room known for hosting Shanghai Mermaid's elaborate art parties.

This arty affair will not disappoint, with live music courtesy of drummer Brian Viglione (Dresden Dolls), accordionist Franz Nicolay (The Hold Steady), and singer Kim Boekbinder (Vermillion Lies); general spectacle in the form of belly dancing, burlesque and aerial works; and — this is where you come in — eye-popping costumes. For inspiration, take the party's name and Bauhaus aesthetic to heart and think Klaus Nomi-esque tuxedos for the men and anything architectural for the ladies — as long as it's red, black and white, of course.

*The Black and White and Red All Over Ball at the Red Lotus Room (893 Bergen St. between Classon and Franklin avenues in Crown Heights), Aug. 21 at 7 pm. Tickets \$15. For info, visit [www.geminiandscorpio.com](http://www.geminiandscorpio.com).*

— Meredith Deliso

# Dressed up

Here's your chance to discover the next big fashion designer.

On Aug. 24, dozens of yet-to-blow clothing designers and musicians will shake the stage at Public Assembly in Williamsburg — coupling offbeat threads with homegrown indie rock.

Models will showcase collections by Angels and Divas — a line of oversized feather accessories once seen on BET's fashion show runway — along with Maria Severyna, whose sleek and asymmetrical dresses are both comfortable and boundary-pushing.

And don't forget the music: Bands like Snakes Say Hiss! — a trio spastic synth-poppers that has inspired an Internet cult following with its wacky video of a dancing hamburger — will perform, along with The Morning After Girls, a group of androgynous psychedelic rockers you might know from that one episode of "The Vampire Diaries."

**Wednesday  
8/24**

Organizers have launched this first-annual concert-fashion-show collaboration — dubbed Fashion & Flow — to kick-start the careers of below-the-radar artists who are just as buzz-worthy as some of their hyped-up fashion week peers in Manhattan.

"Most of us live in Williamsburg — so we wanted to host it here," said Elizabeth Taylor, an organizer. "The neighborhood is really thriving."

*Fashion & Flow at Public Assembly [70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 384-4586], August 24 at 7 pm. Tickets \$20.*

— Natalie O'Neill

WHAT TO DO  
WHERE TO GO  
24 SEVEN

# BEST BETS

## Battle Week is back!

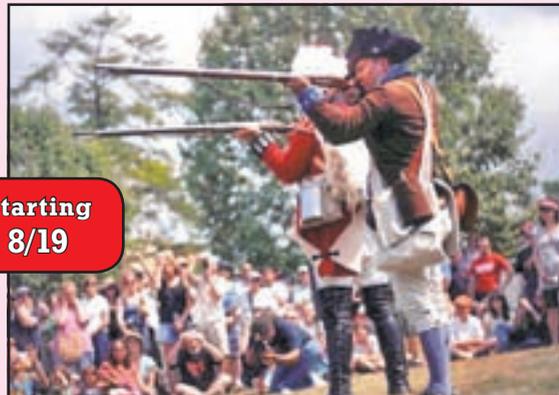
It's time to dust off the muskets and ready the cannons — Battle Week is back.

From the DUMBO waterfront to hills of Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn will commemorate the events of August, 1776 — when the Battle of Brooklyn raged.

It was the first real battle of the Revolutionary War, held in and around an old farmhouse, whose replica now sits in a park near Fifth Avenue and Third Street. After attacked by the British, the majority American troops, led by Gen. George Washington, fled to Brooklyn Heights, where they were able to cross safely to Manhattan and escape unharmed while 400 Maryland soldiers bought them time.

It's a mixed celebration, depending on how you look at it: historians either view it as an embarrassing defeat for Washington, or a daring military move that helped win the war.

Here, at least, we're all about the latter, as from Aug. 19 to 28, you can mark the 235th anniversary of the battle through nearly a dozen events,



**Starting  
8/19**

**All fired up: On Aug. 28, musketeers will sport revolutionary garb to once again re-enact the Battle of Brooklyn at Green-Wood Cemetery's Battle Hill.**

including a "Maryland 400" remembrance ceremony at the Old Stone House on Aug. 20; a Gowanus Canal canoe tour of Washington's escape route on Aug. 24; a reenactment of the escape at Brooklyn Bridge Park on Aug. 27; and, to end the festivities on an explosive note, a commemoration at the Green-Wood on Aug. 28 featuring musketeers in revolutionary garb shooting cannons and muskets. Borough pride will be loud and clear.

*Maryland 400 Remembrance Ceremony [meet at Eighth Street and*

*Third Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 499-9482], Aug. 20 at 10 am; Gowanus canoe tour [Second Street and the canal in Gowanus, (718) 768-3195], Aug. 24 at 6 pm; reenactment at Brooklyn Bridge Park [Main Street and Fulton Ferry Landing in DUMBO, (718) 802-0603], Aug. 27 at noon; Battle of Brooklyn Commemoration at Green-Wood Cemetery [500 25th St. at Fifth Avenue in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-7300], Aug. 28 at 12:30 pm. For info, visit [www.theold-stonehouse.org](http://www.theold-stonehouse.org).*

— Meredith Deliso

## An all-star literary festival

Here they are, your Brooklyn literary all-stars!

This Saturday's Fort Greene Park Summer Literary Festival is all about celebrating borough talent (that seems to be a theme lately). And making the ranks of its chosen "all-stars" are poets Bryonn Bain, R. Erica Doyle and Jon Sands, and novelists Bernice McFadden and Rick Moody.

"It's an amazing mixture," said festival founder Aaron Zimmerman. "There's poetry, fiction, different styles, and a diversity that really reflects the neighborhood."

Young adults and kids participating in six-week free writing workshop will read their work alongside the famous writers, followed by an after-party at nearby Greenlight Bookstore, where you can have some cake and wine and check out the new compilation, "Making The Trees Shiver," comprised of works by the young writers and established authors who have participated in past festivals, such as Jennifer Egan and Sonia Sanchez, since starting in 2005.

"I'm very biased, but it's really a good read," said Zimmerman. "The kids' writing really stands out next to the adults' writing."

**Saturday  
8/20**



**Rick Moody will be one of the featured "Brooklyn all-stars" at Fort Greene Park's Summer Literary Festival this Saturday.**

Sounds like they're all-stars in the making.

*Summer Literary Festival at Fort Greene Park (enter at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park), Aug. 20 at 3 pm. Free. After-party at Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200] at 6 pm. Free. For info, visit [nywriter-scoalition.org](http://nywriter-scoalition.org).*

— Meredith Deliso

# Beer bash

It's last call at the Brooklyn Historical Society.

The landmark Brooklyn Heights museum been hosting a laid-back beer garden all summer long on its outdoor patio — and the final soiree is Aug. 25.

"We wanted to take advantage of this beautiful building and make it as accessible as possible," said Society spokeswoman Keara Duggan.

**Thursday  
8/25**

"Having music and beer invites people who might not otherwise know we're here.

For this last installment, enjoy Brooklyn Brewery beverages and bluegrass tunes from the Get Down Boys and BBox Radio, which went through the museum to find inspiration, said Duggan.

You can also head indoors for your own inspiration, too, and explore the museum's current exhibitions: "Inventing Brooklyn: People, Places, Progress," "Painting Brooklyn Stories of Immigration and Survival" and "Home Base: Memories of the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field." Be sure to raise a (figurative) glass to Jackie, Pee Wee and Duke.

*Brooklyn Brewery Beer Garden at the Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. between Clinton and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], Aug. 25 at 7 pm. Free admission (drinks \$5). For info, visit [www.brooklynhistory.org](http://www.brooklynhistory.org).*

— Meredith Deliso

## Guitar hero

Charlie Hunter may just be the eight-stringed wonder of the world.

The guitar virtuoso, who came up in the California jazz scene, has made a name for himself for his custom-made seven- and eight-stringed instruments. Since moving to New York, he's also known for giving artists Norah Jones and John Mayer their big breaks before they've made it big.

Hunter may not possess their household names, but he's no slouch — the musician has put out 17 albums, including his most-recent, "Gentlemen, I Neglected To Inform You You Will Not Be Getting Paid," and tours as often as possible (the song "Ode To My Honda Odyssey" on his latest album is for his dependable car — 143,000 miles and going strong).

Lucky for you, the musician's next stop is right in Brooklyn, as Hunter brings his laid-back, blues-inspired signature sound to Sycamore in Ditmas Park on Aug. 25.

"It's a nice place when off the road to stay in shape," said Hunter.

He may be known for bass-guitar hybrid, but live, Hunter takes his cues from a different instrument entirely.

"My solo show really revolves around the drums — not playing the drums, but taking that attitude and patterns and trying to put them into what the guitar is doing," said Hunter. "I love playing in all different formats, but solo, I've just developed my own thing."

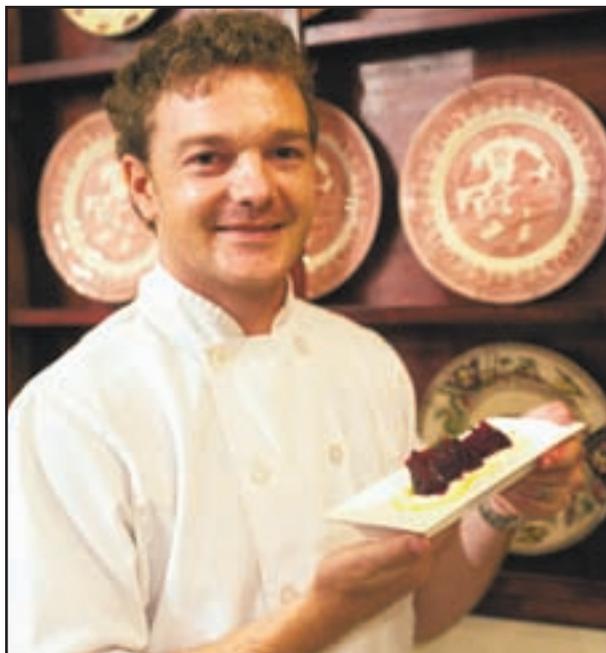
*Charlie Hunter at Sycamore [1118 Cortelyou Rd. near Westminster Road, (347) 240-5850, Aug. 25 at 9 pm. Tickets \$10. For info, visit [sycamore-brooklyn.com](http://sycamore-brooklyn.com).*

— Meredith Deliso

## BROOKLYN EATS

# THE BOY FROM AAHHS!

*Kiwi chef Mark Simmons opens his own place*



Former “Top Chef” runner-up Mark Simmons has been working the Park Slope scene for a few years — and now he’s finally opened his own place, *Kiwiana*, a tribute to his New Zealand roots. (Yes, those are beets with goat’s milk ricotta he’s holding.) Other dishes include a salmon and lumpfish caviar ceviche (above) and a lamb pie.

Photos by Tom Callan

By Sarah Zorn

Get ready for a Kiwi invasion!

New Zealand native Mark Simmons — formerly of Melt and Get Fresh Table and Market, both in Park Slope, and a contestant on Season Four of Bravo’s “Top Chef” — opens his first solo venture, *Kiwiana*, today, on Union Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

“I used to do a New Zealand night every month when I was at Melt, and found that we were really filling the restaurant on those nights,” Simmons said. “I figured it was a sign to finally open my own place, and do my

food on a regular basis.”

Unfamiliar with the culinary pleasures of wattleseed, horopito, manuka honey or marmite? Simmons has assembled a dining room cupboard laden with the rare spices and native ingredients of his homeland, where customers can take a peek or a whiff before they dive in and taste.

“I want to show my diners what I’m all about,” he said. “Traditional New Zealand flavors that aren’t too foreign or fussy. I want to take classic dishes like Pavlova, and present them in an accessible way to the Brooklyn patrons I love

so dearly.”

The aforementioned horopito — a kind of pepper berry — gets sprinkled over buttermilk fried chicken, while marmite (the controversial salty yeast spread) is used as a braising medium for baby back ribs.

Simmons grew up on a sheep farm, so you know he knows lamb. At *Kiwiana*, he’ll grind it into burgers topped — in classic Kiwi style — with pickled beets and a fried egg; and tuck it into savory pies sided with individual tomato-shaped vats of ketchup.

“I don’t like to take myself

too seriously,” said Simmons — who, in addition to spurning finicky plating, admits to giving his dishes secret, silly nicknames (a New Zealand salmon ceviche with lumpfish caviar is the Mother and Son.)

“I just want to have a great time with my customers,” he said. “I’m all about creating a homey, relaxed atmosphere.”

We’d gladly kick back with a plate of pickled Green Lip mussels, a bottle of Steinlager, and this affable Kiwi anytime.

*Kiwiana* [847 Union St. between Sixth and Seventh avenues in Park Slope, (718) 230-3682].

## Coney Island Brewing Company finally available in Coney Island

By Dan MacLeod

The freak show just got another freak show.

Coney Island Brewing Company has opened what is believed to be the world’s smallest brewery — a 175-square-foot shop on W. 12th Street that cranks out a gallon of brew per batch.

“You can buy a bottle at a time,” said Jeremy Cowan, founder and owner of the company, an offshoot of the San Francisco-based Shmaltz Brewing Company. “It’s our official new clubhouse in Coney Island.”

The mini-beer garden — a beer shrub, really — was launched last Thursday in conjunction with Coney Island USA, the group that runs the Sideshow and the annual Mermaid Parade. In exchange for a penny for each bottle of “Albino Python” and “Sword Swallower” sold on-site, the

arts group gives the brewery a rent-free space and use of Coney Island freakshow imagery.

“We give a business with an artistic sensibility a foothold in the neighborhood and hopefully they move on and become part of the neighborhood,” said head freak Dick Zigun. “They need a jump start.”

Indeed, this could be the beginning of a planned Brooklyn expansion, Cowan said.

“I’m looking for the right fit for our company to find a bigger home in Coney Island and to explore the rest of Brooklyn as well,” Cowan said.

*Coney Island Brewing Company* (3008 W. 12th St. between Surf Avenue and Bowery Street on Coney Island), Thursday–Sunday, noon–6 pm. For information, visit [coneyislandbrewingcompany.blogspot.com](http://coneyislandbrewingcompany.blogspot.com).



Eby Harvey has her hands full with beer from the Coney Island Brewing Company — the self-described “world’s smallest brewery” that can be found on W. 12th Street. Come and get your own.

Photo by Steve Solomonson

## RESTAURANT GOSSIP

BY SARAH ZORN

Williamsburg wins the “Hot Restaurant Opening” of the week, Park Slope is the queen of caffeine, and Clinton Hill makes a play for Brooklyn’s newest dining destination.

**Entering Brooklyn:** How sweet it is! Cafe de la Esquina — the hotly anticipated ‘Billyburg offshoot of Nolita’s ultra-hip La Esquina — has finally opened on Wythe Avenue at S. Third Street. Well, it’s opened a little. Only the front “diner” section of the expansive space is ready for business — a taqueria, a formal back room, and a garden area (all serving different menus, natch), are yet to come.



Waitresses Nosrin Leahy (left) and Pam Rickard toast the opening of the new Cafe de la Esquina on Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

**Maybe entering Brooklyn:** Grub Street reports that Slice, the Perfect Food, a “healthy” Manhattan pizza joint, has shuttered due to “adversity with the Second Avenue subway construction.” Why do we care? Because owner Miki Agrawal is strongly considering moving her pies into a Williamsburg space near Kent Avenue and N. Fourth Street. Some people will be excited (such as people who enjoy a vegan cheese pie on a spelt crust).

**Leaving Brooklyn:** Fugheddaboutit! Our fair borough isn’t just getting Manhattan hand-me-downs — the big city is jumping on the Brooklyn restaurant bandwagon. Roberta’s and Mile End have already eyed additional uptown locations, and now word comes from Zagat that Park Slope’s Chiles and Chocolate will move its mole to Chelsea. Not to worry, heat-lovers, the Seventh Avenue spot (which Chiles got in a trade with Amin, remember?) isn’t going anywhere.

**Over caffeinated:** We just got the jitters — Here’s Park Slope reports that yet another (another!) java joint is moving in to the seriously coffee-centric stretch of Seventh Avenue by 14th Street. De Luxe is a husband-and-wife operation that promises to do away with “coffee hierarchy, snobbery, and holier-than-thou characters behind the counter.” Oh, so it’s a Dunkin’ Donuts?

**Wing-a-ding-ding:** The Habitat, on Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, will hold its fourth annual wing-eating contest on Aug. 30 at 10 pm. The nimble of jaw and strong of stomach are invited to submit their names at the bar before Aug. 22, for a chance to chow down against two-time defending champion, Will Millender. Grand prize is \$100 cash, a nifty trophy, and, we hope, an extra large bottle of Pepto Bismol.

**Ragin’ Cajun:** Myrtle Avenue in Clinton Hill is sizzling with Southern flavor and spice. Not only did soul-food favoring SoCo recently open on the tasty strip (joining perennial faves Maggie Brown and Jive Turkey), Brownstoner reports that Dee and Ricky’s, a 20-seat restaurant featuring Cajun, soul, and Caribbean cuisine, is moving into a long-vacated spot at 503 Myrtle Ave. The eatery, which should be open by Labor Day, boasts a “whimsical mural and lots of Lego-inspired surprises.” Say what! We’re definitely intrigued.

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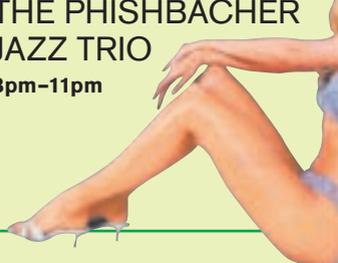
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FAMILY OWNED/ NEW OWNERSHIP

# ELVIS IS IN THE BUILDING

*New Brooklyn Museum exhibition features mask depicting the King*



AP Photo

The Brooklyn Museum has restored a classic piece of African tribal garb: an Elvis Presley mask used by the Nyau Society of the Chewa peoples in Malawi. (Inset) You know who.

By Meredith Deliso

The Brooklyn Museum is all shook up — over an African mask that looks like none other than Elvis Presley.

This Elvis sighting comes courtesy of the museum's new exhibition, "African Innovations," a mix of contemporary and ancient art pieces that emphasize interactions and familiarity with other parts of the world.

The intriguing tribal piece, worn by members of the Nyau, a society of the Chewa peoples in Malawi, is part of a genre of ceremonial masks that depict the King. And it's the cream of the crop.

"This is the best of this genre that I've seen," said Brooklyn Museum curator Kevin Dumouchelle. "It's the most that actually looks like Elvis, with the long, hairy sideburns and

pompadour."

Indeed, there's the slight curl of the hair at the forehead and the trademark facial hair, as well as his dark, soulful eyes, and you can almost make out a snarl of the lips.

The hand-craved wooden piece was made in 1977 — the year of the King's death — and would have been worn during socialization rituals to show young boys improper behavior, like hand-holding in public. Similarly used masks depict Charlie Chaplin, colonial officers and the Virgin Mary, said Dumouchelle, though he couldn't say why Elvis specifically was depicted for this use, and if it had anything to do personally with the hip-swiveling hound dog.

"I'm not entirely sure if they knew of the late Elvis's behavior," said Dumouchelle.

The Elvis mask, which is on view indefinitely as part of the exhibition, is a nice get for the museum.

"I don't know of many public museums that have them out on display," said Dumouchelle, who's been

wanting to get a piece like this in the museum's collection for a number of years. "We're breaking some ground."

The curator wisely assumes the Elvis mask will be a big draw.

"It's just kind of funny and unusual enough to catch your eye," said Dumouchelle, though he hopes museum goers will use the opportunity to also explore the rest of the exhibition, which features 200 objects from the museum's collection of African art, including "Mother with Child (Lupingu Lua Luimpe)," a Lulua sculpture from the Democratic Republic of the Congo that is considered to be one of the great masterpieces of African art.

Still, it'd be hard to upstage the King, and, indeed, visitors to the museum on Sunday were immediately drawn to the peculiar mask, which is found rather unceremoniously in the corner of the exhibit, in front of an air vent.

"I can't see too well, but I saw it from across the museum," said

Jack Ucciardino of Bensonhurst. "I thought, 'What's Elvis doing here?'"

His companion, Stacy Marshall, wasn't so taken with the piece.

"It's ugly," said the Sheepshead Bay resident. "What's wrong with his nose? It's not a very good depiction."

Still, she took a picture with her cellphone camera.

Other museum-goers were curious about the piece, but were left with more questions than answers.

"How do you wear it?" wondered Dan Greenberg, who was visiting from Connecticut. "I would love to see a video of how they used it."

For others, those curiosities are the mask's charm.

"It's definitely a good museum piece," said Aaron Harry of East New York. "You could contemplate about it for hours."

"African Innovations" at the Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], open now indefinitely. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

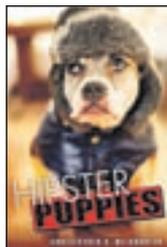
## DOG DAZE!

*'Hipster Puppies' to invade DUMBO*

By Kim Lightbody

Bearded, plaid-wearing hipsters are coming to DUMBO this month — but don't worry, these ones won't lock you into a conversation about Slavoj Žižek or Animal Collective.

"Hipster Puppies" will invade powerhouse books on Aug. 25 — a bark-filled beauty pageant to celebrate Christopher Weingarten's new photo book of dogs straight outta Williamsburg. In



other words, if you like your pups with oversized glasses, headphones, and wool hats on them, this is the event and book for you.

"I wanted to have an event for the book, but I wanted an excuse for people to bring their dogs," said Weingarten, a resident of Greenpoint. "It's a lot more fun than me standing in front of people reading from my book."

Weingarten began the puppies-

as-hipsters craze last year on blogging website Tumblr as a light-hearted parody of the bedheaded, Kombucha-drinking Brooklynites who have turned Williamsburg into something of a national joke.

The website launched the book, "Hipster Puppies," which includes not only the photos of dogs looking like art school drop-outs, but sarcastic captions that poke fun at the hipster lifestyle. One dog claims, for example, that he can taste the difference between regular and fair-trade coffee — and

looking at the picture, you almost believe him.

Weingarten, who begrudgingly admits that he, too, is a hipster (must be the "artisanal ketchup" he buys at Smorgasburg), said it wasn't difficult to find inspiration for the book.

"I wrote a huge chunk of it just walking up and down Bedford Avenue," he said. "A lot of the captions come from the narcissism that comes with being an

artistically inclined person interacting with other artistically-inclined people."

But rather than make fun of people, Weingarten chose to relay his message through furry canine companions.

"I'm an amateur social anthropologist when it comes to people," joked Weingarten. "But I'm a full-blown professor of hipster animals."

His skills will be put to the test at the pageant, where he'll have to choose the prize-winning pup. As guests sip on free cans of PBR (what else?), Weingarten will be judging each pupster's accessories and attitude.

"It's going to be really hard for me to not just go with the cutest dogs, because I'm very partial to smushy-faced pugs and Chihuahuas," he said. "But I don't want to compromise the integrity of the pageant. It's going to be which one is the most hipster."

*Hipster Puppies Pageant at powerHouse Arena [37 Main Street at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], Aug. 25, 7 pm.*

## MEET YOUR "HIPSTER PUPPIES"

These were our favorites



Isabelle's new punk band is called Bed, Bath and Beyoncé.



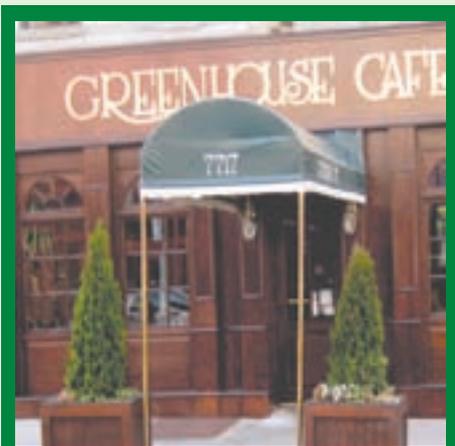
Frequently used words that Pippin's iPhone autorecognizes: douchenozzle, douchery, jagoff, asshole.



Andy moved to San Francisco because it was more "laid-back" and "anticonsumerist" than New York, but still manages to drink two cups of Starbucks a day.



Ace requested that his new black metal band's logo be drawn "incomprehensible" but not "indecipherable."



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Princ. bus. addr.: 68 Jay St., Ste. 309, Brooklyn, NY 11201. LLC formed in DE on 4/28/10. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: The Corporation Trust Co., 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, P.O. Box 898, Dover, DE 19903. Purpose: any lawful activity.

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the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to James P. O'Day, C.P.A., P.C., 70 Glen St., Ste. 270, Glen Cove, NY 11542-2859. General Purposes.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

LLC served upon him/her to The LLC, 1685 Pitkin Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11212. General Purposes.

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● 'Defensively [Kevin Martir] has professional skills right now.'

— Coach David Owens

● 'I'm trying not to be one-dimensional.'

— Rhamel Brown

## Xaverian's Kevin Martir commits to Maryland

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Jose Cuas and Kevin Martir joked about playing college baseball together, like all good friends and teammates do. The two played different positions, were both well-respected prospects and are basically brothers.

Neither, however, really expected it to happen.

"We planned it like friends joking around, 'Imagine if we did this?'" Martir, the Xaverian rising junior, said.

David Owens, their summer ball coach with the New York Grays, took them seriously, making calls about the possibility. Maryland, it just so happened, was graduating its starting shortstop and catcher this coming spring and wanted both of the Brooklyn natives.

They wanted Maryland just as much and recently both Cuas, the smooth, 6-foot-3 Grand Street Campus shortstop, and Martir verbally committed to the on-the-rise ACC school.

"It's really sweet," Martir said. "We basically grew up together. We're best friends, brothers."

Martir, 17, and Cuas have known each other for more than a decade, going back to playing Little League together at Highland Park in Brooklyn. The two East New York residents went their separate ways for high school, but reconnected with the New York Grays two years ago. They have a unique bond, having played together for so long they use



Xaverian's Kevin Martir has verbally committed to Maryland, joining longtime friend Jose Cuas of Grand Street Campus.

Photo by David Allen

eye contact instead of words to communicate.

"They have their own little language," Owens said. "If you watch the two of them, you notice they are really in sync, both on and off the field."

The two picked Maryland for the same reasons: an opportunity to start right away, a full scholarship and the promise of a bright future. Though the Terrapins went just 5-25 in the ACC a year ago and 21-35

overall, it was the first season with third-year coach Erik Bakich's nationally ranked recruiting class. A former assistant at national powerhouse Vanderbilt for seven years, 22 of Bakich's recruits were drafted.

"I like his plans on building the program," said Martir, who helped Xaverian to the CHSAA Class AA city title in the spring. "He was a big part of bringing up the program at Vanderbilt. Why can't he do the same here?"

While Cuas, 16, may be the city's top prospect next spring — he hit .620, bashed four home runs, had 34 RBIs and scored 28 times as a junior — Martir is impressive in his own right. Though he played first and third base for Xaverian as a junior to make way for Pittsburgh recruit Elvin Soto, Martir is a splendid backstop, Owens said. At the Perfect Game Showcase last January, Martir had the top POP — the time it takes a catcher to throw to second base after the ball hits his mitt — and has excelled this summer blocking balls and throwing out runners.

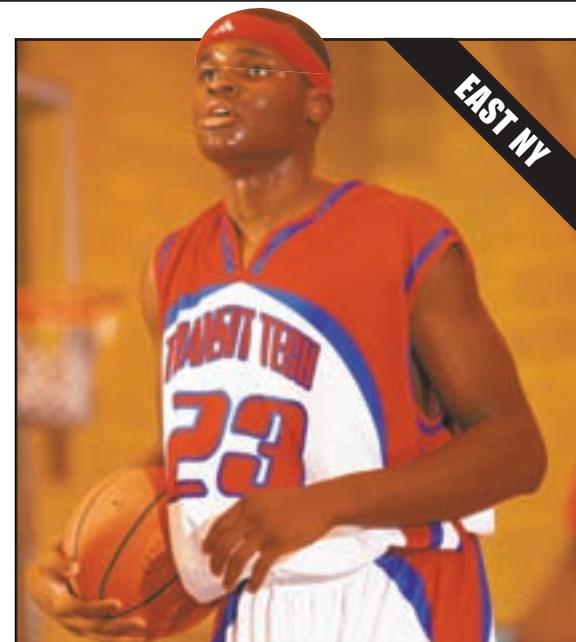
"Defensively, he has professional skills right now," Owens said. "He just stops running games. That was one of the things the coaches at Maryland really liked."

He's been one of the Clippers' top hitters the last two years on the varsity and has begun to spray line drives to all fields.

"Kevin will turn around any fastball thrown at him," Owens said.

Martir committed first and Cuas followed shortly thereafter. Martir was overjoyed when his good friend shared the good news, saying "there weren't words" to describe his emotions. The two missed out on high school together, but will get to grow into young men now alongside one another.

"It makes up for it," Martir said. "It'll be big, you have someone you can turn to, talk to, who will take stress off your shoulders. You won't feel that far away from home."



Former Transit Tech star Rhamel Brown is excited for his second season at Manhattan College. Photo by Kendall Rodriguez

## Stronger Brown readies new era

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Peter Wehwe noticed a difference in Rhamel Brown the moment he laid eyes on him this summer. The former East New York Transit Tech forward had finished his first year playing basketball at Manhattan College and was back for a second season with Wehwe's X-Men team at Rucker Park's Entertainer's Basketball Classic.

"When you saw him walk in the door you saw the physical difference immediately," Wehwe said. "Once he played, we saw it automatically."

Brown was always strong, but now he was more chiseled and solid after going through a strength and conditioning program at the Riverdale school. His time with the Jaspers added confidence to his game on both ends of the floor and a greater assertiveness. His improved conditioning allows him to

play more minutes.

Wehwe said Brown is rebounding better, challenging shots more effectively and is more comfortable with the ball in his hands.

"He specializes in blocking shots and rebounding," the coach said. "Now he is finishing."

In the X-Men's convincing 81-58 win last Tuesday over Team Posse at Gauch's Gym, Brown finished off a few dunks, but the most telling example of his improvement came in the first half. He caught the ball at the top of the key, took one strong dribble, took the contact and finished between two defenders for a 3-point play.

"I'm extending my abilities, trying not to be one-dimensional," the 6-foot-6, 215-pound Brown said. "The more dimensions to your game you have, the harder you are to guard."

He was a major contributor  
*Continued on Page 40*

# Buy-a-Run day returns, continues to challenge ethics of sport

BY AARON SHORT

Kickball's controversial fundraiser is back for a second helping.

On the last day of the regular season on Aug. 28, teams will be able to purchase runs at \$10 a piece, a benefit for the Greenpoint Reformed Church's food bank.

League Commissioner Kevin "Com-mish" Dailey is encouraging teams to "corrupt the system" by buying runs, and even wins, against rival teams to help the church buy food supplies for its pantry and soup kitchen.

"Some teams can buy themselves a playoff seed; others will be boxed out," said Dailey. "All I can say is put up or shut up. If your team is good enough, you can kick your way out of being out-bought."

Still, the fundraiser allows talentless teams such as Salute Your Jorts, ironically named Natural Born Winners, or the beyond-stale Taco Taco Taco to finally beat the league-leading John Cougar Mellencamps.

As such, not everyone is a fan.

"Whoever gives the most money wins? It's not really about playing a good game of kickball," said New Frontiersman pitcher Jessica "Sporting All-American Style" Siebert.

Last year, the league raised \$2,665 for the church, as one of the season's lowest-ranked teams, Hot Mess, bought victories over second-ranked Never Scared and third-ranked New Frontiersmen for \$300.

"It was the only day Hot Mess mer-cied anyone last year, so it was a good day," said Hot Mess infielder Ashley "The Megaphone" Terrill. "Though I don't think the 'ranked' teams like it so much."

So far Dailey has already raised \$4,000 and hopes to generate more through sponsorships with restaurants and bars near McCarren Park.

Several veteran kickball players have volunteered at the



Fernando 'El Matador' Martinez

Kickball Fever

church's soup kitchen on Wednesday nights, and Dailey says that now the players can put their money where others mouths are.

"What people need to understand is unemployment is high, and services are being cut," said Daley. "Starving people need more money and there are more needy people."

## Game notes

A record rainfall on Sunday washed out much kickball ac-

tion, as only 10 teams showed up to play.

Brooklyn United reaffirmed its reputation as the league's best sloppy weather team, butchering the Bacon Bits, 10-2, and dismissing People's Court.

"It was disgusting!" said Brooklyn United's "Hey" Kate Brown. "There was a huge puddle just past home plate, so to slide into home meant you were getting soaked. Everybody went for it."

In other games, of which there were few, Baywatch solved the slumping Mathletes, 5-4, Bacon Bits stomped on Natural Born Winners, and a rag-tag team of five kickball players, including Dailey, mercy-ruled Salute Your Jorts.

Dailey was proud of the teams that came out.

"It was warm enough so it was like a water park — everyone got wet and extremely sore," said Dailey. "If you take a bad hop to the face, it's not going to hurt very much."

*Brooklyn Kickball at Gilroy Field in McCarren Park (Bedford Avenue at N. 13th Street in Greenpoint), Sundays, 5-11 pm.*

## Rhamel Brown

Continued from Page 39

utor for the Jaspers and former coach Barry Rohrssen as a freshman. Brown was the best shot blocker in the city as a senior at Transit Tech as he led the Express to their first ever PSAL Class AA semifinals.

He averaged 6.7 points and 7.1 rebounds playing in all 31 games and starting 25 at Manhattan. He posted consecutive double-doubles back on January, including 10 points and 11 rebounds in a loss to Canisius. Brown also had 13 points on 6-of-7 shooting in a season-ending defeat to Siena in the opening round of the MAAC Championships.

Brown mentioned helping the Jaspers shut down the University of Pennsylvania late in an early season win as the moment he realized he could make a considerable impact. Despite the strong core of local talent that includes All Hallows alum Michael Alvarado, Kidani Brutus of Wings and Roslyn's George Beamon, Manhattan finished a disappointing 6-25 and Rohrssen was fired. There is now an enthusiasm around the program for new head man Steve Masiello, a former assistant at Louisville and Manhattan.

"I think he rubs off on a lot of guys," Brown said of Masiello. "He motivates everyone to work hard. The expectations are very high. We are going to do whatever it takes to live up to our expectations."

He isn't setting any individual expectations for himself next season only to do whatever is needed to put Manhattan in the win column. It's exactly what he's done for the X-Men this summer as they are a victory against one of streetball's most famed teams awat from accomplishing their goal of putting their names with the city's top squads.

"It's a tough tournament," Brown said. "It's an honor to win any of the top tournaments in New York City."

# Ford star ends stellar summer with St. John's offer

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Mike Toro meets with each of his players individually before every season and the Bishop Ford girls basketball coach had a special message for rising junior point guard Aaliyah Lewis. He approached her about being more of a leader, something Toro felt she's begun to do. He wanted her to be one of the team's captains this year.

Lewis told him to hold off on the latter, feeling she wasn't ready just yet.

"I feel like I haven't matured yet," Lewis said. "Basketball wise I'm there, but [not yet] off the court."

Toro felt that her statement in itself was a sign of her growing as a person and a player by taking a wait-and-see approach be-

fore taking on the responsibilities. He said she needs to learn to deal with frustration better, to put it aside and not let it affect her play on the court.

Her ability there is unquestioned. During a timeout at St. John's University team camp Sunday, Lewis pulled rising junior forward Tanasia (Sweets) Blake aside to explain something she saw.

"You see on the court as a point guard she always tries to lead the team, tries to be vocal," Toro said.

Lewis ended a stellar summer with Ring City with an offer from St. John's to go along with ones from Rutgers and Boston College. The 5-foot-4 guard also has serious interest from West Virginia,

Hofstra, Southern Illinois, Iona, North Carolina State and VCU among others. She said the process hasn't become overwhelming yet, but knows it will only intensify with time. It's her motor and fearlessness at her size that impresses coaches the most.

"St. John's is a good look," Lewis said. "I actually like this campus. That just motivates me to get better. I know I have a lot to do to prepare myself for a top D-I school."

The attention she has gotten has only motivated her to get better. Lewis always has had the ability to get break down defenders and get to the basket. She has even become more efficient at it, needing less dribbles and steps to get into the



Bishop Ford guard Aaliyah Lewis picked up an offer from St. John's last weekend.

Photo by Denis Gostev

lane and get off a shot.

Her concern now is finishing more, by adding a floater and improving the consistency of her jump shot. Lewis connected on

3-pointers in bunches last season, including three in the third quarter of an 18-point performance of an overtime win over Molloy in the CHSAA Brooklyn/

Queens Division I quarter-finals. Toro said that, combined with her passing ability, allows her to make her teammates better.

"At least she knows that no matter how good she is now there is always improvement," Toro said.

That's exactly what her focus is for a Falcons team that loses just two players, one starter, after an uneven campaign. Ford fell to Mary Louis in a CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens Class AA tie-breaker game last winter. Lewis will be part of a deep and talented backcourt with Shanice Vaughan, Aaliyah Jones and Jill Conroy.

"Now that I see it's getting closer and closer to my senior year," Lewis said, "now I see I really have to step up now."



# CYCLONES CONFIDENTIAL

## Cyclones stay tough while away

### Team goes 4 for 5 during last week's road trip before heading into All-Star break

BY GERSH KUNTZMAN

After taking three-of-four from the hated Staten Island Yankees, the Cyclones took four-of-five on the team's road trip last week. So at the All-Star break, Brooklyn was just four-and-a-half games behind the Yankees for first place and in a three-way tie for the league's lone wildcard slot. Here's a look back at the week that was:

#### Cyclones 9 Muckdogs 2

Aug. 9 at Batavia

The Cyclones began the road trip with a resounding win over the pesky Muckdogs that included a grand slam by hot-hitting Travis Taijeron.

The pride of Brooklyn got on the board first, with four runs in the second. After three walks, Ismael Tijerina knocked in two with a single. Then Javier Rodriguez knocked in two more with

his 18th double of the year.

The Muckdogs did get two in the eighth to cut the score to 4-2, but the Cyclones went nuts in the ninth, putting up a five spot and batting around.

Daniel Munro led off with a double and later scored on Rodriguez's RBI single. After an error loaded the bases, Taijeron hit the grand slam that served notice that these Cyclones are getting that last playoff spot.

#### Cyclones 3 Muckdogs 1 (Game 1)

Aug. 10 at Batavia

The Cyclones got all they'd need in the third inning. Carlos Leyva led off with a single, and Daniel Munro doubled. Javier Rodriguez hit what should have been a groundout, but the Batavia shortstop threw home too late to catch Leyva. Munro scored on an error on the next play.

The Cyclones scored an-



Travis Taijeron has been hot at bat this week. Photo by Tom Callan

other run in the fifth. After Leyva and Munro singled, Richard Lucas knocked in a run with a single.

#### Muckdogs 2 Cyclones 1 (Game 2)

Cyclone reliever Jeremy Gould blew the nightcap. He had pitched two innings, striking out four, before starting the home eighth

with a walk. He got the next two outs before yielding a walk-off RBI double.

It erased a nice performance by starter Jeffrey Walters, who gave up one run in five innings.

#### Cyclones 10 Muckdogs 4

Aug. 12 at Mahoning Valley  
The Scrapppers, aided by

a double-steal, got a run in the first, but after that, it was mostly all Cyclones.

In the second, the Cyclones got on the board on Cole Frenzel's double. And in the third, a run scored on an error, making it 2-1.

Three more runs scored in the fifth, two on Richard Lucas's triple and another on a wild pitch.

The Cyclones made it 6-1 in the sixth when Ismael Tijerina bunted home Travis Taijeron.

The Scrapppers got to starter Carlos Vazquez in the sixth, loading the bases on a single, a double and hit batter. That's when manager Rich Donnelly summoned Orlando Tovar from the bullpen — but Tovar promptly gave up a sac fly and a two-run double, making the score 6-4.

But the Cyclones put it out of reach in the eighth, scoring four runs in a barrage. Charles Thurber led

off with a double, moved to third on a bunt and then scored on a wild pitch. After Tyler Carpenter walked, Tijerina doubled him home, then scored on two wild pitches. Another single scored another run before the rally ended.

#### Cyclones 2 Muckdogs 1

Aug. 13 at Mahoning Valley

The Clones took the second game in a row from the Scrapppers, thanks to a two-out double by slugger Richard Lucas and a sixth inning groundout.

But the story here was Cyclone pitching, which limited the Scrapppers to just two hits on the night.

Starter Randy Fontanez gave up both in his four innings, but after that, the bullpen tandem of Steve Winnick and Todd Weldon shut down the Scrapppers, giving up no hits and striking out seven in five innings.



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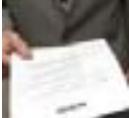
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