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Brooklyn's dirty, filthy history See 24/Seven









Biggest pre-fab at A'Yards

BY DANIEL BUSH From Gehry to pre-fab. Developer Bruce Ratner will build the world's tallest pre-fabricated tower as the first residential building inside his Atlantic Yards mega-project, dealing a blow to labor unions and architecture enthusiasts — whose original support for the development was conditioned on job creation and the promise of a mini city built by starchitect Frank Gehry.

Renderings released last Thursday by SHoP Architects reveal a 32-story building rising at the corner of Dean Street and Flatbush Avenue, just south of the under-construction Barclays Center.

Two identical-looking pre-fab buildings would come later — and *Continued on Page 20*

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<image>

Pie social

Erin Evenson wowed the crowd with her candied acorn squash mousse and dulce de leche pie at the second annual Bay Ridge Pie Social on Sunday at the Art Room on Third Avenue. For more, see page 12. Photo by Steve Solomonson

GET OUT OF MY RACE!

Man wants Marathon out of Ridge

BY DAN MACLEOD

A Bay Ridge man who walks with a cane is running out of patience with the New York City Marathon, and is demanding the racers avoid his neighborhood entirely so that Ridgites can get one more enjoyable fall day on a calendar that has too few of them to begin with.

Mike Byrne, who lives on 81st Street between Third and Fourth *Continued on Page 20*





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INSIDE OUR FIRST EVER EPIC RACE! Brooklyn Marathon begs the question: 'Why run anywhere else?'

BY SHAVANA ABRUZZO

Brooklyn made history at Prospect Park on Sunday when more than 350 runners legged the borough's first ever marathon, with our fearless co-editor leading the charge and the memorable moment crowned by a winner from Carroll Gardens.

Newsman Gersh Kuntzman — who tore up spring's Half-Marathon in just over two hours — led the pack on his bike (what else?) and kept runners on the straight and narrow as they hoofed it through six full laps and three smaller loops along the 26.2-mile course, taken well in stride by Brownstone Brooklyn's John Paul Montes, 24.

He landed in our history books by becoming the first man to cross the finish line in 2:43, bagging himself a trophy to prove it. Ditto for Manhattanite Kelly Gillen, who aced the women's race in 3:14.

The Brooklyn Marathon comes on the heels of that other, more famous epic run, which both our winners completed just a couple of weeks ago, but organizer Steve Lastoe, founder of NYCRuns, hopes its humble beginnings — however great — are soon dust.

"It really couldn't have gone any better, and now we're interested in putting on a really good homegrown marathon that will grow into five figures in a few years."

Sunday's slog wasn't without its ups and downs, and the throng wheezed admirably up the knobby, 200-foot knoll of Prospect Hill — also known as "Heartbreak Hill" which took the British



NYCHUNS.com



Women's winner Kelly Gillen



(Left) A slogger keeps his spirits up. (Right) Men's champ John Paul Montes (center) shares bragging rights with runners-up Will Guzick (left) and Brody Gann. Photos by Stefano Giovannini

for a loop in 1776 during the Battle of Brooklyn. Montes, an athletics coach at Packer Collegiate Institute in Brooklyn Heights, was charged over his history-making conquest, despite having three New York City marathons under his belt already.

"I had no idea that I could run as fast as I did!" said the athlete who is pursuing a career as a cop. "Running that race with intelligence was the name of the game."

The strategy ended up being a winning one.

Montes cruised in fifth place for most of the race, allowing himself three well-timed surges: to break away from the others, tail the leader, and distance himself at the end.

His hometown sweep is outta sight, bragged the nimble-foot who ran his first city marathon in 3:12 at the age of 18.

"Born, raised, schooled, work, train and run for Brooklyn!" he kvelled. Right on, guy!



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Brooklynites giving thanks

Borough news makers tell us what they're thankful for as Turkey Day approaches

his year, my 50th, was incredibly challenging: over the summer a mammogram

revealed something suspicious, and I had a surgical biopsy in September; in October I learned that the building where I've lived for 23



years was going on the market (and I couldn't afford to buy it). There were big challenges even before those things happened. But throughout, my husband, neighbors and friends put up with me, stood by me, made sure I was okay. You know who you are. My gratitude to you is profound, immeasurable.

Sharon Mesmer, poet

am thankful for my family, friends and

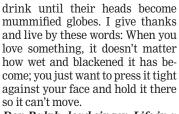
community. I am thankful for being a woman. Palestinian, Brooklynite, New Yorker! I am thankful for a

career that allows me to bring out the best in people and help them become active and engaged in Bay Ridge!

Linda Sarsour, director of the Arab American Association of New York

"m thankful that Freddy's has re-opened and provided that Lsorely needed refuge where cre-

ative misfits can share their gutwrenching musings, exhibitionists can parade about in diamond-encrusted thongs, and soulsearchers can



Don Ralph, lead singer, Life in a Blender

hank you for the support of family that ultimately led L me to find 'True Lug.' It is the kind of love that rescues you



from a small burning house and carries you across the hot coals of

fear to a place of boundless life, where I am happily married and just gave birth to the most perfect baby boy, Ajax. Every moment of life is truly

transforming into an unfolding work of art. Marni Kotak. artist

have so much to be thankful for this year. I am, of course, very thankful to all of the amazing

constituents of Brooklyn and Queens for their continued support during the election and since I've taken office. I am

thankful for the brave men and women of the armed forces who risk their lives every day to defend our freedoms. I am grateful to all the Veterans who served our

country with honor and integrity. I am above all else, thankful for my family. My wonderful wife Peggy along with our children and grandchildren, have continued to be my biggest supporters.

Rep. Bob Turner (R-Marine Park)

> his has been a special year for me and Kumiko. We learned that the citizens

of New York. no matter how gruff seeming at first, will reach out and help their neighbors in need. We are so thankful to



have our Winston back and we are unendingly grateful to all those that listened to the story of complete strangers and helped us. Thank you, New York.

Michael Reinhardt, whose dog, Winston, was returned after running away.

his Thanksgiving, Jamie and I wish all Brooklynites peace, happiness and good health, and hope they share in

our many blessings-friends and family, a wonderful place to call home and of course, living in Brooklyn, the 'coolest' city on the planet. But

it's also a time to help those less fortunate, and I'm thrilled that, thanks to the donations of generous





purpose. Councilwoman Diana Reyna (D-Williamsburg)

Nov. 24-30, 2011, Courier Brooklyn companies, we were able to distribute more than a thousand turkeys and trimmings to families

in need again this year. **Borough President Markowitz**

s a pastor, this can be a tricky question. I don't BR want to sound all preachy

or holy or anything. But, to be honest, it's because of my spirituality that I'm able to live the good life. It's not about material stuff, but rather



about seeing each day and all that fills it as a gift from God. I'm extremely thankful that I serve such a wonderful congregation, and that our soup kitchen and food pantry are able to feed so many people. I love my job - I'm passionate about my work - and that's a true blessing in life. I'm also thankful for my family. My partner Jen is fabulous, and we

have two great kids together. Pastor Ann Kansfield is a pastor at the Greenpoint Reformed Church.

know it sounds corny, but I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in government as an

elected official. It had been a lifelong dream and I know not many people get to live their childhood dream ... to be able to accomplish things that



help people and the community, and make an impact for the good in people's lives. And, of course, I am thankful for having such a wonderful and loving family and so many great friends.

Councilman Lew Fidler (D-Marine Park)

am thankful for life: and being able to spend

_another holiday season with my friends and family as well as for a wonderful staff that supports me to live a life with a



Ridgites: What gun-running? Some residents stand behind scandal-scarred precinct

BY DAN MACLEOD

Dozens of residents showed their support for cops at the beloved Six-Eight during the precinct's monthly community council meeting last Tuesday, offering thanks, praise — and a giant blue ribbon — to its top cop less than one month after five officers who worked there were charged in a gun-running scandal.

One lone Ridgite touched on the precinct's tarnished reputation during the hourlong meeting at the 65th Street station house, and his question came after members of the council heaped awards and accolades on their boys in blue.

"What is the 68th Precinct doing to correct the mistrust going on between law enforcement and citizens?" asked Michael Clancy. "Unfortunately, the actions of one or two can affect [the whole precinct.]"

Captain Richard DiBla-



Michael Clancy was the lone Ridgite to speak out on the recent gun smuggling scandal.

sio, commanding officer, denied that relations were strained, and said that crime was down in the precinct.

"I can tell you with 100-

percent certainty from my dealings with the community — it hasn't affected anything," he told us after the meeting in his first comments to the press over the scandal that resulted in the arrests of two of the precinct's most beloved and oftawarded community affairs officers, Joseph Trischitta and Marco Venezia. Still, residents said that

still, residents said that they were devastated by the accusations and have avoided bringing it up for fear of pouring salt in a wound.

"I'm sure that their morale was down, so I wanted to make sure that I was there for them," said Maureen Stramka, who cheered the cops at the meeting, even though she was devastated by the accusations. "I was very upset. It was total shock. I said, 'You never know people do you?' Deep down in my heart, I hope it's not true." Feds charged William Masso, Eddie Goris, John Mahoney, Joseph Trischitta and Marco Venezia, all of the 68th Precinct, with illegally transporting \$1 million worth of cigarettes, slot machines and guns, including M-16 rifles, handguns and a shotgun, to the city from New Jersey. Three other cops from Brooklyn were also netted in the Sept. 22 raid.

The bootlegging allegedly took place over the past two years — before DiBlassio took over as commanding officer this summer.

DiBlasio said that his precinct is leaving the investigation up to the feds and the Police Department's Internal Affairs Bureau. Meanwhile, he's standing behind his boys.

"Those allegations are being investigated and my job is to remain committed to the police officers and the community," said DiBlasio.



At the 68th Precinct Community Council meeting last Tuesday, longtime Bay Ridge resident Larry Morrish defended the police department in the wake of a gun smuggling scandal.

Photos by Elizabeth Graham

"That's my job and that's what I'm doing."

The president of the community council said that the scandal had unfairly sullied the reputation of the precinct, which she says is responsible for more good than bad.

"This is the best precinct in the whole world and this is best captain in the whole world," said Ilene Sacco, who pointed out that during Bay Ridge's Halloween Walk, Community Affairs Officer Anthony Curran found and took care of a lost child — something that wasn't on the front page of local newspapers.

"It wasn't just that he found a missing child, it was that he was consoling her," said Sacco. "She was crying and he picked her up. She was clutching to him for dear life — like he was saving her from falling off a building."

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Legend included in Hall of Fame

BY DAVE SKRETTA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bay Ridge legend and NBA-great Chris Mullin was inducted into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame on Sunday, in Kansas City, Mo.

The Xaverian HS standout and St. John's University star who went on to a Hall of Fame career with the Golden State Warriors and the Indiana Pacers reminisced about his playing days — and tight shorts — during his acceptance speech.

"I played before the three-point line, and as everyone here probably knows, in those short shorts. Very short and very tight," said Mullin, who is considered one of the greatest shooters in NBA history.

Mullin was joined at the ceremony by his coach at St. John's, Lou Carnesecca.

"My four years in college I cherished very much, the opportunity to be able to stay at home,"



Basketball legend Chris Mullin smiles as he talks about his basketball career during an induction ceremony into the Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame on Sunday in Kansas City, Mo. AP / Ed Zurga

Mullin said, looking to his sides across a dais where the luminaries were seated. "It's truly an honor and I'll cherish for the rest of my life to be associated with people like this."

People like fellow inductee Cazzie Russell, who starred at Michigan from 1964 to '66, who was the first player in that school's history to have his number retired.

Also on the dais was Ralph Sampson, considered one of the greatest players in college history who was one of three to win threestraight consensus player of the year awards.

North Carolina standout James Worthy, who led the Tar Heels of Dean Smith to two Final Fours and the 1982 championship, when he scored 28 points in a victory over Georgetown, also made the cut.

Former Coach Bob Knight was honored just a few days after watching his protege, Duke's Mike Krzyzewski, break his record for wins among men's Division I coaches. The longtime coach at Army, Indiana and Texas Tech has served as a presenter for other Hall of Fame inductees, but finally got his night under the spotlight.

Mullin graduated from Xaverian in 1981.



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During St. Anselm's 90th anniversary celebration, Kathleen Shea (left) and Janice Muccigrosso point to their mom Kathleen Kirby, who was among the first graduates of Saint Anselm's High School in 1931. Photos by Arthur De Gaeta



Father Kim, of Saint Anselm's Parish, Hannah Smith (left), and Amy Gruber enjoy Saturday's alumni event.

Ridge parish welcomes back old friends Former congregants and students return for special mass, wine

BY DAN MACLEOD

The prodigal children returned.

St. Anselm's Parish, on 82nd Street between Third and Fourth avenues, hosted a wine and cheese party for its former congregants and pupils on Saturday — drawing more than 300 people to mix and mingle with old friends.

The event was part of a year-long celebration marking the parish's 90th year, said the parish's pastor, Monsigneur John Maloney. A mass before the party

kicked it off.

"It was a mass to welcome back those people who used to attend the parish and went to the school," said Maloney. "This was a chance for them to see the parish that they grew up in and to celebrate because they are part of the parish; they helped to build it."

The parish first opened in 1922 with just a school, where mass was held in the auditorium.

Then, in 1952, the parish expanded with a church on Fourth Avenue, Maloney said.

A toy store that's fun for kids — and has prices you'll love

By Camille Sperrazza

What's more exciting than a kid in a candy store?

That's easy — a kid in a toy store! Open just in time for the holidays, Sandy's Toy Bin is a 2,200 square-foot shop that has everything a kid could want.



Owner Sandy Barsano considers herself a toy expert — and rightly so, because her store has every toy a kid could want.

Parents will want to shop at this Sheepshead Bay store, too, because brand names are offered at discounted prices, says owner Sandy Barsano.

Here you'll find items from big brands such as Disney, Mattel, Barbie, and more. There are toys for children of all ages, such as board games, dolls, and name brand items seen on television. Sandy's Toy Bin also carries Melissa and Doug products, including easels, puzzles, train sets, kitchen sets with fruit and vegetables, and so much more. This company is one of the leading designers and manufacturers of educational toys for children. There are art supplies, paint, paint-by-number sets, chalk, and items that celebrate a kid's imagination.

Shoppers looking to purchase items for stocking stuffers or grab bags will be able to find items for as low as \$5, says Barsano. A-less-than-luster economy doesn't have to keep Santa away.

Barsano considers herself a "toy expert," as she has two sons, ages 5 and 3, who "must have the latest toys out there," she says. Necessity is the motherhood of invention, and Sandy's Toy Bin was born from the desire to keep the boys happy, and stay within the family budget.

"I found a connection where I could get good prices on toys for them," says Barsano. "Now I'm passing along the savings by opening the store."

It's a real family affair.

"My two sons are the buyers," she says, with a chuckle. "They like this and that. They help me make selections." As a mom of young children, she's also well aware of what shopping with kids in tow is like. As a result, she is bringing a Bounce House to the store — a spot where kids can jump to their hearts' content, all under supervision. That way, parents are free to stroll the store, making their purchases in peace. It's a great way to do the holiday shopping, without tipping your hand as to what they might find under the tree.



The shelves at Sandy's Toy Bin are filled with toys your children will love.

The Bounce House will make its appearance on Sundays, and one or two other days of the week that will be announced, says Barsano.

The staff at Sandy's Toy Bin knows all



Get all your holiday shopping done at Sandy's Toy Bin in Sheepshead Bay.

about the latest toys, so if you're a grandparent shopping for something special, they can lend some insight.

"There are plenty of items in stock," says Barsano, "and we are constantly ordering new items all the time."

If you have something particular in mind and don't see it at the store, let a staff member know, and they'll look into ordering it for you, she says.

Sandy's Toy Bin [3808 Nostrand Ave. between Avenues Y and Z in Sheepshead Bay, (347) 275-7954]. Open seven days a week, 10:30 am – 7:30 pm. Hours will be extended for the holidays.

Photos by Steve Solomonson



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68TH PRECINCT

BAY RIDGE-DYKER HEIGHTS

Rim jobs

Thieves stole wheels off at least two cars last week:

•Wheel bandits swiped a set of fancy rims and tires off a car on 77th Street overnight on Nov. 16. The victim told cops that she parked between Fort Hamilton Parkway and 10th Avenue at around 9 pm, but all four tires were gone the next morning.

•Thieves took two wheels from a car on Shore Road overnight on Nov. 14. The victim said that she had left her Audi between 98th and 99th streets at 9 pm, but they were gone by 7 the next morning.

Sneak thief

Thieves sneaked into a Fort Hamilton Parkway apartment over the weekend on Nov. 11 and swiped nearly \$4,000 in goods and cash.

The victim told cops that he left his home between 95th and 97th streets at 2:30 on Nov. 10 and returned on Monday morning to find that burglars had sneaked through his front door and made off with his watches, iPod, laptop, clothes and cash.

Pick and grab

Burglars picked the lock on a 63rd Street apartment on Nov. 17 and made off with jewelry.

The victim told cops that she left her house between 11th and 12th avenues at 7:30 am. When she returned less than 12 hours later, her front door was unlocked, and a gold watch and pendant were missing.

Beatles fans

Thieves pinched \$1,000 from an 85th Street apartment on Nov. 17 after they came in through the bathroom window.

The victim told cops that he left his house between Third and Fourth avenues at 7:20 am. When he returned at 4:30, he found his bathroom window open, and \$1,000 missing.

Bar bawl

A light-fingered thief swiped a woman's purse at an 88th Street bar on Nov. 20.

The victim told cops that she set her bag on a shelf at the bar between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 2 am, but it was gone when she looked for it later.

- Dan MacLeod

61ST PRECINCT

SHEEPSHEAD BAY-HOMECREST-MANHATTAN **BEACH-GRAVESEND**

Horrific hitchhiker

Cops say a 31-year-old thug was arrested on Nov. 19 after he was caught stopping traffic on E. 29th Street — demanding that a passing motorists give him a ride.

The motorist was driving by Emmons Avenue when he found the suspect in the



POLICE BLOTTER

middle of the street, forcing him to stop his vehicle.

"Let me in and give me a ride," the man demanded. But, when the motorist refused, the suspect ripped off his side view mirror. Cops took the 31-year-old into custody, where they later learned that there were several warrants out for his arrest.

Pipe attack

A thug jumped a 22-year-old man on E. 12th Street on Nov. 18 — hitting him over the head with a pipe.

The victim was approaching Avenue T as he made his way home at 2:15 am when he was attacked — and left with a deep cut to the head that needed medical attention.

Mail heist

A gun-toting goon raided the Mail Drop on Avenue U on Nov. 18, taking an undisclosed amount of cash.

Workers at the postal store, located near E. 12th Street, said the suspect came in at 10:50 am, flashed his firearm and leapt over the counter, demanding that an employee open up the safe for him.

Avenue Y burglary

A thief broke into an Avenue Y apartment on Nov. 18, taking an iPad and more than \$3,000 in jewelry.

The 48-year-old victim left her apartment between Coyle and Batchelder streets at about 7:30 am. When she returned at 6 pm that night, she discovered a rear window that led out to the fire escape had been forced open.

Nabbed for break-in

Police arrested two people who they say broke into an E. 14th Street home on Nov. 18.

Witnesses told suspects that the thieves smashed a front porch window to the home near Avenue Z, entered, and remained at the scene — only to flee after a witness called 911.

Cops caught up with the duo, a 46-yearold man and a 50-year-old woman, a short time later on Avenue Z, charging them with burglary.

Safe stealers

A crew of thieves raided a W. Sixth Street home on Nov. 18, removing a safe containing more than \$5,000.

The suspects forced open the front door of the home near Avenue W sometime after 8 am.

Bill bilkers nabbed

Cops arrested two women accused of the ol' dine and dash: they allegedly feasted at the Katz Cafe on Emmons Avenue on Nov. 17, then fled without paying the check.

The two women, the oldest 57, the youngest 46, entered the restaurant between Ocean and Bedford avenues at 11:10 pm. After eating, they ran out of the cafe at 11:30 pm, leaving store employees high and dry.

60TH PRECINCT

CONEY ISLAND-BRIGHTON BEACH-SEAGATE

Brotherly hate

Police arrested two men — believed to be brothers — who they say attacked a woman at a Brighton Beach Avenue store on Nov. 17.

The victim said that the suspects, who she knew, barreled into the address near Brighton 12th Street at 6:30 pm and claimed that they were going to close the store for the day.

One of the men allegedly slapped the woman, knocked her to the ground and began hitting her, said police, who caught up with the duo a short time later, charging them with assault and menacing.

Where's Herbert?

Cops are turning to the community for help in their search for Herbert White, a 60-year-old Surf Avenue man who's been missing since Nov. 10.

Friends and relatives told police that White, a 5-foot-10-inch, 150-pound black male with brown eyes and salt-and-pepper hair, was last seen leaving his home near W. 24th Street at 8 am.

Choked on Mermaid

A goon attacked a woman on Mermaid Avenue on Nov. 10 — attempting to crush his victim's windpipe before running off with her jewelry and handbag.

The victim was nearing W. 16th Street at 12:40 am when the thief jumped her and ran off with her belongings — only to be arrested by police a short time later.

Office loot

Police arrested a thief who they say broke into a Trump Village West office on W. Fifth Street on Nov. 13 — damaging an assortment of electronic equipment in the process

Cops caught up with the thief shortly

after the 5 pm break-in, which building workers said was videotaped.

Locker raid

Investigators from the 60th Precinct have arrested a 17-year-old who they believe is responsible for looting a gym locker inside William E. Grady Vocational High School on Brighton Fourth Road.

Cops said the suspect was caught on videotape running out of the locker room seconds before a student reported that someone had broken into his locker, taking \$150 and an assortment of credit cards.

62ND PRECINCT

BENSONHURST-BATH BEACH

\$46 grab

Cops say a goon pulled a gun on a teen on 17th Avenue on Nov. 12 - but didn't get far with his ill-gotten gains.

The victim says he was near 86th Street at 10:14 pm when the 19-year-old suspect approached, flashed his weapon and demanded his victim's cash.

Cops caught up with the goon a short time later, charging him with robbery.

Jean jack

Cops arrested a 47-year-old man who they say swiped three pairs of jeans from the Kohl's on Bay Parkway.

Workers at the store near Shore Parkway said that the thief entered at 4:10 pm, picked up the jeans, but was grabbed by security after he tried to walk out of the store without paying for them.

Laptop taken

Cops say a thief took a laptop computer from a Benson Avenue home on Nov. 6 then ensured his capture by telling his victim what he had done.

Police said that the 32-year-old forced his way into the apartment near 19th Avenue at 12:30 am, then called the victim a few days later to tell him that he had taken the computer and wasn't going to return it.

Left hospitalized

Cops say a goon attacked another man with a heavy metal object during a Nov. 13 argument on McDonald Avenue - leaving his victim hospitalized with a deep gash to his head. The two men were arguing near Billings Place when the 2:50 pm attack took place. Cops said a 20-year-old man was arrested and charged with assault a short time later.

Gunning for trouble

Police arrested a 25-year-old who they say was walking along Bay 16th Street with a gun in his pocket on Nov. 10.

Cops were patrolling between Cropsey Avenue and Shore Parkway at 10:44 pm when they say they saw the suspect toss a gun as they approached. Police stopped and frisked the suspect, finding a loaded magazine to the discarded gun in his - Thomas Tracy pocket.

Four arrested for alleged sex trafficking

Two men and two women are each facing 25 years in prison for allegedly forcing girls as young as 12 into prostitution, District Attorney Charles Hynes announced on Monday.

DA Hynes called defendants Melinda Carmichael, 22; Gary Whitfield, 29; Kendale "Ace" Judge, 21; and Shanique Davis, 19; the "lowest of the low."

"They forced children to have sex for money," he said. "My oldest grandchild is 13. How this played out is such a nightmare for the kids and my sex trafficking unit and I will see them punished to the fullest extent of the law."

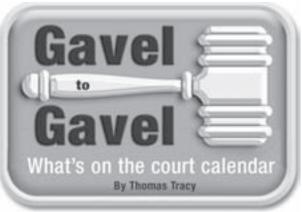
Prosecutors allege that Carmichael befriended a 12-year-old girl in November, 2010, promising her easy money and luxurious gifts. Carmichael then introduced the child to Whitfield, who forced her to dance at clubs and bachelor parties, officials say. A few months later, Whitfield forced the girl to pick up johns on the street.

In an unrelated case, Judge met a 13-year-old girl who ran away from a group home this past September. Prosecutors say that after promising to love and protect the young teen, he beat her and forced her into prostitution — advertising her services with pictures that were posted on the website Backpage.com. Davis took the photos for Judge, Hynes alleged.

All four suspects were arraigned on Monday. Attempts to reach their attorneys were unsuccessful by Monday afternoon.

The announcement of the sex-trafficking arrests came the same day that Avon announced it will donate toiletries and other products to sex-trafficking victims.

"Sex-trafficking victims are lucky to escape with



the clothes on their backs," Hynes said. "Something as simple as soap can help give them back some of the dignity and sense of independence of which they have been stripped."

Railing against redistricting

A group of voters and civic leaders are petitioning Brooklyn Federal Court to assign a judge to supervise New York's controversial redistricting process of state Assembly, Senate and congressional district lines that needs to be completed in the next few months.

In their 33-page suit filed on Nov. 17, attorneys from Willkie Farr and Gallagher said that an impartial judge should oversee the redistricting process because state lawmaker's partisan bickering "threatens to throw the state's 2012 elections into a quagmire absent court intervention."

The firm filed for a group of plaintiffs — including East Flatbush resident Weyman Carey, who says he wants to volunteer for a political campaign, but state redistricting is preventing potential candidates from announcing their desires to run — who want to see the redistricting process sped up and based on numbers, not political ideologies.

District lines are changed every 10 years following the census, but plaintiffs claim that the redistricting decisions are not made by populations shift, but rather securing power for political parties.

"When New York's legislators were running for office, they promised to reform the partisan system in which legislators draw their own lines and choose their own voters in order to assure their own re-election," said the plaintiffs' lawyers, Richard Mancino and Dan Burstein, in a statement.

"But when those candidates were elected, they broke that promise."

The plaintiffs, who named Gov. Cuomo, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver (D–Manhattan) and State Senate Minority Leader John Sampson (D–Canarsie) as defendants, want the federal court to declare that the current redistricing process violates voters' constitutional rights and appoint an independent "Special Master" to promote new state Assembly, Senate and House of Representatives district lines in conformity with the 2010 census.

State officials hadn't responded to the suit by Monday night.

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A bloody Tuesday

One killed, one shot within blocks of each other

BY THOMAS TRACY

A knife-wielding stalker stabbed a 50-yearold accountant to death on Homecrest Avenue early last Tuesday morning the first of two bloody incidents to rattle the Sheepshead Bay area.

Horrified residents between Avenues U and V called 911 at 12:43 am when they heard Larisa Komsky's blood-curdling screams. But when they went outside to see what had happened, Komsky was already dead, lying in a pool of blood just a few doors down from her apartment building.

Witnesses told police that a man who knew Komsky crept up and attacked her just after she parked her Mercedes.

"What are you doing here?" Komsky reportedly screamed before being stabbed in the hand and the legs, where a vital artery



Volunteers collect the blood left behind at the spot where 50-yearold Larisa Komsky was stabbed to death on Tuesday.

was severed.

Cops found a blood trail leading from the Mercedes to where Komsky collapsed. Her assailant fled in a black-colored SUV, witnesses told police.

Stunned neighbors laid flowers near the spot where Komsky died, and some collected her blood so that it could be buried with her, following Jewish tradition. The victim and her son had lived on the block for more than 15-years. Komsky ran an accounting practice nearby. Cops said they were reviewing her client list to see if her business dealings had anything to do with her murder.

Overcome by grief, Komsky's son Vadim demanded that cops make a quick arrest. "They have to catch [the killer]," her son told our sister publication, the New York Post. "She was a very good person, no enemies."

But Komsky's death was not the only blood-soaked scene cops from the 61st Precinct came across last Tuesday.

Several hours later, in an unrelated incident, cops were called to a home on Bedford Avenue where a 49-year-old man had been shot in the head.

The victim was found in the basement apartment of the home, near Avenue V, at about 4:30 pm by his wife, who said she had just returned from running some errands.

The victim was rushed to Coney Island Hospital, where he was listed in critical condition. It was unclear if the shooting was self-inflicted, an NYPD spokesman said.



Neighbors lay flowers near the spot where Larisa Komsky was killed. Photos by Gregory P. Mango

Komsky's death is the 13th murder to take place in the 61st Precinct this year. Last year at this time, only five slayings had taken place in the precinct, which includes Gravesend, Sheepshead Bay,

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Manhattan Beach and Homecrest.

Anyone with information regarding either incident is urged to contact CrimeStoppers at (800) 577-8477. All calls will be kept confidential.

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Private-eye gets on cafe owner case

BY ELI ROSENBERG

A private investigator searching for a missing Ditmas Park cafe owner has expanded the search to hotels, homeless shelters and even to Zuccotti Park.

The investigator, hired by the family of Whisk Cafe owner Josh Rubin, who disappeared without a trace on Halloween night, said he has been so desperate to get the word out about the missing man that he even handed out fliers at the Occupy Wall Street encampment before its eviction last week.

"I've been to every hotel, shelter, halfway house, outreach program and any place in the city that I feel that he could have been," said investigator Eric Lopez, who was hired on Nov. 4 to assist police, whose threeweek investigation has come up empty.

Breaking an extended media silence on Saturday, Rubin's relatives gathered in front of the 70th Precinct stationhouse on Lawrence Avenue to not only announce the hiring of their private dick, but also to offer a \$5,000 reward for information leading to Rubin.

No officers joined the press conference, lending an air of frustration with the police effort.

The family hopes that somebody caught a glimpse of Rubin as he walked out of his apartment at Lawrence Avenue and Seaton Place in Kensington — less than a block away from the stationhouse.

"We are hoping that someone has seen something, anything, that can help us find him," Hilarie said.

Police have yet to disclose any significant details since Rubin went missing, although officers have said that they are investigating whether Rubin was bipolar.

New details have emerged in recent days about the period before Rubin disappeared.

Rubin was trying to sublet his room, according to Ditmas Park resident Zach Boyce, who says he met Rubin at Ocean Parkway and Lawrence Avenue before walking to Rubin's apartment the day before he went

missing.

Rubin also ordered bagels in advance of his scheduled shift Nov. 1 at Whisk — his last phone call, Hilarie said — before he left his apartment on foot and never returned.

Medical issues continue to be a concern in Rubin's disappearance.

Rubin, who is Type 1 diabetic, left his nighttime insulin at his apartment, Hilarie said, but she did not know whether he had his daytime insulin with him.

Type 1 diabetics need doses of insulin to maintain their blood sugar, without it, they can quickly become disoriented and confused, with a risk of coma and organ failure.

"We are devastated that Josh is missing and frustrated that we have been unable to find him after almost three weeks of searching," said Hilarie. "Please help us find Josh. We need him to come home."

Anyone with information about Josh Rubin should call Detective Perry at the 70th Precinct, (718) 851-5560.

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OCCU-PIE BAY RIDGE

Pie social draws crowd for ample pies, good cause

BY DAN MACLEOD

Pie-eyed Ridgites showed up at the Art Room on Third Avenue on Sunday for a gigantic banquet of Thanksgiving treats — and to raise money for a good cause.

A nascent holiday tradition, the Bay Ridge Pie Social is a fundraising event for the Guild for Exceptional Children, a nonprofit that works with developmentally disabled kids.

"Bay Ridge has always been synonymous with a proud volunteer spirit," said organizer Justin Brannan. "I like to think of the holidays as a time when the whole world starts acting like Bay Ridge."

Not that we could hear him over the sound of our own masticating.

Local bakers made a plethora of pies for the second annual event — from a sage-scented maple pork belly and potato pie, to a Dodgeville, Wisconsin cheddar-crusted Winesap apple and rosemary pie, to a Greek pumpkin pie made with phyllo dough.

Erin Evenson, the creator of the pork belly pie — a savory and rich treat that helped balance the otherwise sugary treats also made a candied acorn squash mousse and dulce de leche pie, and said that she spent days working on her treats.

"It's a serious hobby," the legal assistant said.



Baker Rachel Rosen's cranberry pear pie was a popular dish at the second annual Bay Ridge Pie Social, held on Sunday at the Art Room on Third Avenue.



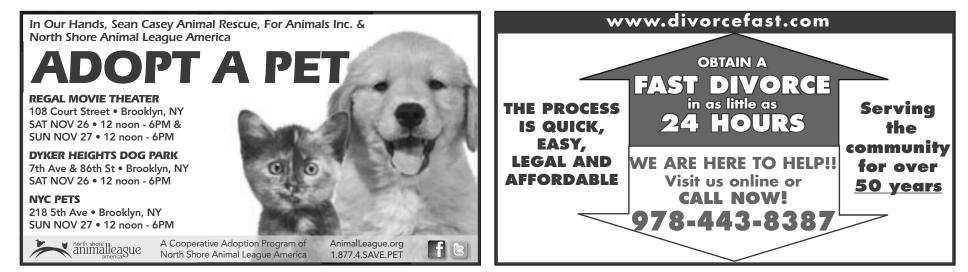
Everyone who baked a pie was a winner – including Caroline Mansuetto, associate director of development for the Guild For Exceptional Children.



Bay Ridge reporter Dan MacLeod and his fiancee Kate Richmond baked this tasty pecan pie, which was quickly devoured by the otherwise pecan-starved crowd. Photos by Steve Solomonson



Chris McCreight, Susan Romero, state senate candidate Andrew Gounardes and Dean Rasinya chowed down on the 15 varieties of pies during the annual pre-Thanksgiving event.



One-stop shopping for your wedding at this Bay Ridge store

By Camille Sperrazza

They set out to fill a Brooklyn void. "We wanted to create a more trendy, more modern take on the wedding business," says Veronica Andrade, co-owner of Everything But the Dress in Bay Ridge.



You'll find everything you need for your wedding — and more — at Everything But The Dress in Bay Ridge.

She and business partner Crystal Mele opened their shop in October of 2010, bringing headpieces, veils, shoes, invitations, card boxes, seating charts, centerpieces, garters, ring pillows, candles, bridal wear, and more into the lives of thousands of brides-to-be.

In short, they carry all the fun stuff. If you've seen groups of women wearing T-shirts or hoodies that say, "Bride to be" and "Bridesmaids," they may very well have purchased these items here. Some shirts proclaim the titles in dazzling letters; others are more understated. There are even ways they can make the soles of your wedding shoes say the words, "I do," or your flip flops imprint "Just married" in the sand. All of these items make great bridal shower gifts.

Items that make any wedding more special include heart-shaped serving pieces; umbrellas that open to say, "Thank you;" dazzling initial cake toppers; and candles with the names of the happy couple.

Everything But The Dress will help brides and their families plan special event parties, too. For example, Andrade says a mom wanted to have a bridal shower with a shoe theme, and didn't know how to go about it.

"We created it for her," she says.

The shop secured shoes made of wire, and decorated them with fabric and ribbons. These became table centerpieces. Ring holders each had a tiny shoe on them, and every table was named after a shoe designer. Another themed event they helped plan was a "Sex and the City" party, says Andrade. There were lots of fun decorations, and each table was named after one of the characters.

Andrade says she takes pride in helping brides select headpieces and accessories, including

evening bags, for their special days. Before opening her store, she worked in the bridal field for 10 years, so she is familiar with designers, fabrics, styles, and beading.

"I can look at a picture of a dress, and will know the material used," she says. She can then recommend accessories that will go best.

"We let customers try on headpieces; we'll fix their hair," says Andrade. It's all done in a friendly, fun-filled atmosphere. "Tell us your vision and we can help make it a reality," is the shop's theme.



What better than Swarovski jewelry to finish your wedding look?

Andrade and Mele, friends since grade school, enjoy making dreams come true for their customers. They've planned many happy events



You really can get everything for your wedding — but the dress — here.

together, not only at the store, but apparently in their personal lives as well.

"We got married a month apart," says Andrade. "And now, we're both pregnant." The babies are due within a month of each other

Everything But The Dress [8521 Third Ave. between 85th and 86th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-4868]. Hours for November and December: Wednesdays and Fridays, 1 - 6 pm; Thursdays, noon - 8 pm; Saturdays, noon - 6 pm. Effective January: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon- 8 pm; Thursdays and Fridays, noon - 7 pm; Saturdays, 11 am - 6 pm. Sundays and Mondays, by appointment.

Photos by Steve Solomonson



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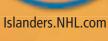
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Restauranteur says controlling CB10 has him thinking of moving — to Park Slope!

BY DAN MACLEOD

A Third Avenue restaurateur says that he made the worst mistake of his life when he bowed down to a local civic panel so he could get a liquor license and now he's considering a move to Park Slope!

In a classic Brooklyn vs. Brooklyn smackdown, Raphael Abrahante says that dealing with Community Board 10 has persecuted him since he unveiled plans to open his restaurant on Third Avenue between 71st Street and Ovington Avenue just because the last restaurant in the storefront had a bad reputation, and now he's considering a move to the Ridge's uptown cousin.

"I want to take my restaurant to a community that's more welcoming,' he said. "I've heard that Park Slope is nice. I would never have tried to set up shop here if I had known it would be like this.'



Raphael Abrahante, owner of Logan Restaurant on Third Avenue between Ovington Avenue and 71st Street, finally got a temporary liquor license last Monday after nearly two months. CNG / Dan MacLeod

Members of the board said they were worried about the location because Water Grill, the previous restaurant in the space, was known as a den of drug use and underage drinking.

So when board members demanded it regulate things like hours of operation, the size of the bar area, and whether or not music could be played within the new restaurant. Abrahante obliged them.

But now that he finally has his liquor license in his hands after working two months without one, he regrets it.

"I want to be able to cater to my customers without any restrictions," he said.

Abrahante says that he has sunk his entire life savings - and mortgaged his house — to pay for the dream of opening Logan Restaurant, where he would like to feature live jazz music on weekends and keep his French doors opened onto Third Avenue to let in a breeze.

Abrahante said that he didn't put up a fight when he went before the board because he was scared.

The board's recommendations are only advisory, but the State Liquor Authority is less likely to grant a license to a business if local leaders pan it. And if Abrahante decides not to abide by the stipulations, it could affect his chances of getting his license renewed.

It's not the first time CB10 has used of stipulations to curb potential troublemakers before they pour their first margarita. In September, Ibiza on Third Avenue between 82nd and 83rd streets withdrew its request for a liquor license after residents learned that its owners were planning a nightclub instead of a restaurant.

But Abrahante still hopes to make a go of it for now.

"If everything is fruitful — great, I'll stand here and be the better man," he said. "Hopefully one day the community will believe in me and want this restaurant to succeed.'



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needs Albany approval. So guess what: We got two state lawmakers — one Democrat and one Republican — to weigh in.

Yes, parking permits are awesome!

or years, neighborhoods like Downtown have been clamoring for residential parking permits. Residents spend hours circling for spots near their homes, where commuters often leave their cars on the street and take public transportation. In fact, a Downtown Brooklyn Council study found that more than 40 percent of on-street parked vehicles in the neighborhood are commuter cars.

The endless circling and ensuing congestion, pedestrian hazards, and air and

noise pollution — is bad already, and will spread to even more neighborhoods when the Barclays Center opens.

My bill, sponsored by Joan Millman in the Assembly, would set aside spots for residents on their streets while leaving at least 20 percent of spaces for visitors and non-permit parking. Streets with commercial and retail space, and spots with existing meters and other restrictions would not be eligible for permitting — providing protection for small businesses and their customers. The exact cost would be set by the City Council, but other cities provide a pretty good estimate: anywhere from free to about \$100 a year. Revenue from the permits would directly fund the



BY DANIEL SQUADRON

upgrading and improvement of NYC subways and buses.

Most important, communities would opt into the program through public hearings with the local community board and City Council member.

Yet opponents are trying to ensure that this bill, which provides communities with the choice they've been demanding for years, is dead on arrival. It's only fair to let residents, not politicians, decide whether they want parking permits on their streets. Opponents of residential parking permits seem

to be missing one key fact: if they don't like the idea, they don't need to opt into it. What our legislation does is provide communities with a choice: neighborhoods that want permitting will get it, and those that don't simply won't.

The Council agrees, voting this month behind the support of Councilmembers Steve Levin, Letitia James and others to give Albany a green light to consider our bill. Now it's time for Albany to act: the Senate Republican majority must bring parking permits to a vote: Residential parking permits should not be killed in an Albany backroom.

Daniel Squadron, a Democrat, represents Brooklyn Heights in the state Senate.

No, we deserve free parking!

ast week, the City Council voted to send a home rule message to the state Senate. It is asking for the right to allow residential parking permits to be issued, for a fee, by neighborhood. This plan is nothing more than another tax on residents

Every day, it gets harder and harder to make ends meet. Property assessments increase, parking fines in-

crease, meter fees increase, water rates and gas bills get higher and higher. We keep getting nickel-and-dimed to death living in New York City. The only thing we have left in South Brooklyn is the right to park on residential blocks without a tax or fee. The idea that we would now have to pay a yearly fee to park on our streets is ludicrous.

I understand the daily struggle we all face to find parking, but we need solutions that do not include forcing New Yorkers to pay even more to the city. They pay enough. They pay every day, every week, and every month, and it's time we stand up and say no.



BY MARTY GOLDEN

In addition to the implications on every individual's wallet, we cannot ignore the practical implications on businesses. To tell businesses that the only people who can reasonably find parking around their stores are the people that live next door. is simply another jobs-killing measure from a group that has never met a tax increase or business-inhibiting regulation that it

Finally, for a program

like this to be put in place, it would require another bloated government agency to issue, enforce, and regulate these fee-based parking permits. Is that what we really need, when city agencies are cutting back — another branch of parking enforcement? I say no. We cannot create more government at a time when we are talking about cutting essential services. That's just wrong.

I will continue to oppose this plan, as I feel that we pay enough, our businesses need more help, and our government doesn't need to be inflated.

Marty Golden, a Republican, represents Bay Ridge in the state Senate.

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Yards

Continued from cover

one of them would be 50plus stories, which would set a new record for modular buildings.

The first residential tower would be constructed using 930 pre-fabricated steel boxes known as modules that would be built in a factory and transported to Dean Street, where they would be bolted into place.

Rather says that the method could cut costs by up to 25 percent because most of the work would be done in factories where union laborers earn less than they do at construction sites.

The design would also save money because it would take less time to build: the world's tallest modular building, a 25-story dormitory in Wolverhampton, England, was built in less than one year.

Ratner said that construction on the first tower would begin early next year, with

Marathon

Continued from cover

avenues, is collecting signatures on a petition to block the world's most-important long-distance running event from traipsing through Bay Ridge.

Byrne says it would be better for everyone — especially Ridgites — if racers stayed on the Gowanus Expressway after leaving the Verazzano Narrows Bridge, then exited at 65th Street, where they could hang a left and head toward Fourth Avenue, where they would resume the normal route.

Crazy? Some of his neighbors don't think so.

"The parking is bad enough as it is," said Stella Nicolosi, who lives in Byrne's building. "The traffic [during the marathon] creates too much congestion."

But chances of the New York City Roadrunners, which sponsor the race, changing the route are slim. In fact, the group is considering expanding the race to two days, according to the Daily News.

Of course, that doesn't sit well with Byrne, whose petition also demands organizers keep the race to one day.

ground-breakings for the others following at six- to ninemonth intervals after that the first three in the eventual 16-tower development.

That timetable could change, given that Ratner still hasn't secured financing for the first tower, according to the developer's spokesman, Joe DePlasco.

Ratner has also not sold the plan to unions, who loudly supported the project from the outset because of its promise of thousands of jobs. Those same union supporters, already angered by a shortfall of jobs on the project, have signaled that they oppose modular construction because it could cost hundreds of jobs.

Last Thursday, however, union leaders appeared willing to have their members work for lower wages to move forward with the prefab model.

"We are in the process of attempting to reach an agreement on modular construction that will work for the building trades," said Gary LaBarbera, president of the Building and Construction Trades Council.

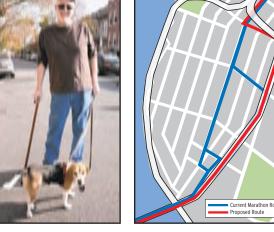
Ratner still hasn't committed to the modular design for the entire project. But longtime critics of Atlantic Yards slammed the plan, which came one day after seven residents filed a federal lawsuit against Ratner alleging that he falsely promised them jobs on the project.

"It's another despicable slight to the community surrounding the project by eliminating more crucial jobs for residents," said Councilwoman Letitia James (D–Fort Greene).

James and others felt similarly slighted by the notion that a project that was once meant to be an architectural showcase by legendary designer Frank Gehry will now comprise far more mundane pre-fab buildings.

Gehry was fired in 2009 in a cost-saving move.

Ratner's spokesman said the developer will begin to seek financing for the first building, but declined to comment further.



Mike Byrne says he has had enough of the NYC Marathon passing through Bay Ridge, so he's started a petition to get it detoured around it. Community Newspaper Group / Dan MacLeod

"I'll hang piano wire [to trip runners] before I let the marathon go on for two days," said Byrne, who's wife volunteers to hand out water to runners each year.

Presently on Marathon day, Fourth Avenue in Bay Ridge is closed from 82nd to Third streets, as well as parts of 74th, 92nd and 95th streets. Traffic over the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge to Staten Island, a neighboring borough, is closed in two sections from midnight to 3 pm, and from 7 am to 3 pm, wreaking havoc on traffic in the Ridge. The annual event drew 47,000 runners this year in a 26.2 mile race that is usually won by someone from a foreign country.

Of course, not everyone is on board with the course change.

"I thnk he's being selfish," said Bob Cassara, a bicycling advocate who said he liked to watch the marathon with his kids. "It would make us an outlier among all the neighborhoods. If you can't find a parking space or it disrupts your routine, go out of town for the weekend."

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BR

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Small Business Saturday trumps Black Friday

To the editor,

This year, trade "Black Friday" madness — which now starts on Thanksgiving — for the second annual national "Small Business Saturday" on Nov. 26.

Stay home and enjoy your Thanksgiving meal with friends and family. Get a good night's sleep and instead come out and support your area shops. In these difficult economic times, it is especially important to patronize your neighborhood businesses. There are so many great options to choose from.

My wife and I don't mind occasionally paying a little more to help our community businesses survive. Also, don't forget to tip at your favorite neighborhood restaurant.

We try to tip 20 percent of the total bill, including taxes. If it is an odd amount, we round up to the next dollar. If we can afford to eat out, we can afford an extra dollar tip!

When ordering take out, we always leave a dollar or two for the cook. It is appreciated.

Remember that these people are our neighbors. They work long hours, pay taxes and provide employment in the community.

If we don't patronize these stores and restaurants to shop and eat, their workers don't eat either.

Please join me and your neighbors in continuing to support this newspaper, and patronize its advertisers; they provide the necessary revenues to help keep it in business — let them know you saw their ad! This helps keep our neighbors employed and the local economy growing.

> Larry Penner Great Neck, N.Y.

Bklyn BOO-seum

To the editor.

The Brooklyn Museum is exhibiting a video of insects crawling over the bloody body of Jesus Christ — just in time for the

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to Vince DiMiceli, Editor, Courier Life Publications, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, New York 11201, or sent via e-mail to editorial@cnglocal.com. All letters, including those submitted via email, MUST be signed and the individual's verifiable address and telephone number included. Note that the address and telephone number will NOT be published and the name will be published or withheld on request. 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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

holidays. And they call this art?

In someone's sick mind it is and it's also protected by the First Amendment because it's the artist's interpretation of something that only he knows about.

This is just another instance of Catholic-bashing that happens to be very popular these days, especially around Christmas.

> **Rosie Boxer** Rockaway Point, N.Y.

'Screech' on this!

To the editor.

Carmine Santa Maria "screeched" about interruptions from telemarketers ("All these interruptions are interrupting my life!" Big Screecher, Oct. 22).

A very simple and effective method to avoid this is to use an answering machine.

Let the machine take the call. You will hear the incoming message, and if it's from someone you want to speak to, you can take the call.

Telemarketers will usually just hang up. If any of them leave a message, you can just delete it.

> Sarah Vogel Seagate

OWS 'drivel'

To the editor.

Just who do the underachievers, who illegally squatted in private-owned Zuccotti Park for two months, think they are trying to intimidate?

Block it off? Take it over? Clog it up? Burn it down? Sounds to me like a bunch of unruly children who were told, "No," throwing a fit.

These are not Americans exercising their right to protest whatever it is they are protesting today, these are radicals, anarchists and Marxists who have no problem violating the rights of others with their noxious odors and political drivel.

They have a right to protest, but there is no guarantee that anyone will listen to them, and therein lies the problem. When the 500,000 Tea Party members rallied on Capitol Hill, they had to get a permit, put money for clean-up in escrow, and obey the law.

When they left, nobody was arrested, and they cleaned up after themselves so that there was no evidence that they had been there.

Contrast that to the Occupy Wall Streeters, who had no permits and no money in escrow.

When the city cleaned up their mess with pressure washers, they found excrement, drugs, used condoms, weapons and lots of garbage!

That's the difference between responsible citizens and a mob. It's time for them to leave - permanently.

Mayor Bloomberg, you have wasted enough taxpayer money on these clowns. Do your job!

David Podesta Marine Park

To the editor,

Occupy Wall Street isn't a disaster, it's calling attention to the vast income disparity in this country ("OWS 'disgrace'," Letters to the Editor, Nov. 10).

...

The top one percent controls almost half of the country's money, while the rest of us have fallen on hard times. Wages are low and many people are unemployed. The situation in this country has never been this bad.

I had not heard of any crime wave or great health hazards at Zuccotti Park before the protesters were booted. The movement is peaceful, except for some minor incidents.

Thousands of protesters have joined the "Occupy" movement across the country.

No doubt they will have an impact on governmental policies.

The rich should pay their fair share, so important services and benefits we depend on will not be cut.

We should thank the protesters for standing up for us.

Jerome Frank **Coney Island**

Hang 'em high To the editor.

I can't for the life of me understand how anyone can watch a child be sexually abused by an adult and not beat the creep to a pulp before calling the police.

Anyone who knew about the Penn State child abuse controversy and didn't do everything humanly possible to help put the monster in jail is also guilty.

Sarah Palin said that if the allegations about Jerry Sandusky are true, he should be hanged from the highest tree — and she would bring the rope!

I'll pay for the rope.

Peter Orsi Marine Park

Bleak time

To the editor,

I don't understand why we turn the clocks back an hour in the fall. At 5 pm it is dark already.

What a waste of energy.

I'm sure most people would rather see an extra hour of sun in the late afternoon than in the morning.

It would also be safer for kids getting off from after-school.

Raymond Davis Homecrest

More rev-enue

To the editor,

Last year, I noticed a police car stationed just north of Avenue X and East Seventh Street in Sheepshead Bay, watching cars and trucks pass stop signs and ticketing them.

It's been at least six months since this was last done.

It should be brought back.

Any given time of the day you will witness a driver's irresponsibility.

> **Tom Trotta Sheepshead Bay**

Ps and qs To the editor,

I agree that Council Speaker Christine Quinn lacked proper etiquette when she chewed gum behind Mayor Bloomberg while he was addressing the press, but it

is fair to say Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis smoked cigarettes while they were on stage. It should also be remembered that in

1865. Andrew Johnson was drunk at his own inauguration for vice president.

Elliott Abosh **Brighton Beach**

Bare rage To the editor,

When did it become okay to make fun of the mentally ill?

I am appalled at your story about the poor woman who had what seems like a psychotic break in Bay Ridge ("Her naked rampage, Nov. 17).

Why did you feel it OK to post photos? I am embarrassed for you, for your paper and for the people who feel this is newsworthy and amusing.

Have you no decency?

This is someone's child, possibly someone's mother.

The poor woman needed help and Bay Ridge residents stood by with cameras, capturing every minute of her breakdown. I only wish someone had been able to help her before it turned into a media circus.

Classy move Brooklyn. I only hope that no one reading this has to experience mental illness in their life. It is truly terrifying and not something to joke about.

Marybeth Smith-Affe Bay Ridge

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Courier Life, Nov. 24-30, 2011

Turkey chow mein never tasted so good

Happy Thanksgiving. I hope you take the bird out of the freezer several days before the holiday so it has time to defrost. And be sure to note that I said several "days," not "hours."

Not that it is too much of a problem if you don't.

When Uncle Morris, Aunt Sarah and all the cousins come to visit and comment that they don't smell the usual fragrances of roast turkey and stuffing, you can stand up to make the following announcement.

"Dear family. After so many years of serving the same thing over and over again, our family has decided to do something different: This year we will be celebrating the world on holidays, and this Thanksgiving, we're having Chinese take-out. Later on, we'll take a vote on what foreign nation we will serve on Hanukkah."

Over the years I have dined on many turkeys. Some were wonderful, succulent, tasty, delicious - really vummy. Others were dried out, over cooked, unappetizing and so bland that I filled my belly with less bird and more sides. But I don't think I have ever dined on bad Chinese food. Some were better than others. Some were finger-licking good. And some were supersensational. But chow mein is chow mein. So how about turkey chow mein, turkey in lobster sauce and turkey egg drop soup in front of the tube watching a football game? How bad can that be?

Trust me on this. You'll get away with it. Next year you'll remember to defrost — or you can defrost it on Dec. 20 and serve it with latkes at Hanukkah.

However, if you were one of the people who remembered to take out the frozen turkey and defrosted it in plenty of time, I have two predictions. 1) Your bird will be full of flavor, delicious, the best you have ever served; and 2) There will be a political fight at your table before the turkey is served. Please e-mail me and let me



IT'S ONLY MY OPINION *Stanley P. Gershbein*

know when I am right.

I have much to be thankful for in spite of these troubling times. I am thankful for my wonderful wife and my marvelous family, especially my grandchildren. Did I ever tell you about my grandchildren? Got an hour?

I am thankful that I reside in the United States, the greatest nation on the planet. I am thankful for you, my readers. Without you I'm not here. I am thankful that so many of you who used to write letters to me that called me names, were nasty, sarcastic, and took the low road, have since turned over a new leaf.

President Reagan said that it is OK to disagree without being disagreeable. Even though we still disagree, I am thankful that MOST of you are no longer disagreeable. I love receiving those polite letters with your change of tone.

My Thanksgiving wishes for all of us are for health, happiness, wealth and time to spend it. My prayers are for a safe, speedy and successful return of our men and women in uniform all over the planet. I am thankful for their service and for keeping us free. I am **StanGershbein@Bellsouth.net** wishing you all a very happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Give thanks for being American

I t's no coincidence that a uniquely American holiday — one rooted in the nation's birth — is also the one we set aside each year to give thanks for all that we have.

Gnaw on this after the turkey has been gobbled:

Everyday is "Thanksgiving" in the U.S. — even in times of economic, personal and material strife — because Americans have more reasons to be grateful than any other folk on earth.

Unemployment, ravaged health, bereavement, debt and loneliness make it difficult to adopt an attitude of gratitude, yet the struggle in the most fortunate nation of all pales in comparison to the agonies of millions of people around the world who suffer chronic hunger and disease, and lack the essential of all — safe drinking water.

Of the world's estimated 925 impoverished people, 239 million live in sub-Saharan Africa, 578 million in Asia and the Pacific, and just 19 million in developed countries.

Those flabbergasting figures ridicule any notion of "poverty" in America.

Today's "poor" Americans enjoy a higher standard of living than rich people did 100 years ago, according to government reports compiled by the Heritage Foundation:

A typical family classified as "poor" by the U.S. Census Bureau, which put the average poverty



threshold for a family of four at \$22,314 in 2010, has at least two TVs, a VCR and a DVD player, states the watchdog group, adding that a third of "poor" households possess a widescreen, plasma or LCD TV, and needy families with kids own a video game system, such as Xbox or PlayStation, while living in homes that are in good repair and bigger than that of the average European.

Heritage also found that "poor" families were able to get medical care when needed, and admitted in surveys that they were "not hungry and had sufficient funds during the past year to meet all essential needs."

"Their living standards are far different from the images of dire deprivation promoted by activists and the mainstream media," maintains the organization.

If that's not cause for gratitude, consider the abundance of federal safety nets that ensure nobody goes without in America — from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Head Start, to the Elderly Assistance Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and the Women, Infants and Children Program, to name a few.

Here, even illegal aliens have much to be thankful for. Grassroots gladiators at Park Slope's Fifth Avenue Committee, and simi-

lar civic groups across the country, work tirelessly to help undocumented arrivals achieve a better life than the one they fled.

At the top of the gratitude heap, of course, is personal freedom — a birthright that allows us all to have our say, sue our government, celebrate our religion, customs and sexuality, and even change our gender with the law's blessing.

If you aren't happy right now, chances are you at least know what it is like to be happy — unlike that frozen-eyed, malnourished, bloatedbellied child eternally depicted on international relief posters or that burka-clad woman whose controlling society won't permit her the life's rewards she deserves.

Still not feeling thankful? Millions of foreigners will gladly trade places with you, judging by the throngs waiting in the wings: the Department of Homeland Security welcomed 1,042,625 legal residents and 619,913 new citizens last vear.

For them, like the millions before them, everyday is "Thanksgiving" in America.

Sabruzzo@cnglocal.com

Here are some reasons to be thankful

Sed fugit interea fugit irreparabile tempus... "But it flees in the meantime:

time flees irretrievably." This old world has turned round

the sun one more time and here we are again. My time to wish you all the time to do all those things that you never have the time to do, and offer a few of my thanks and wishes.

Top-10 list of things to be grateful for:

•Harold Camping was wrong, wrong and then wrong again.

•Osama bin Laden sleeps with the fishes.

•Moammar Khadafy sleeps with the fishes.

•Mayor Bloomberg cleaned up Zuccotti Park.

• It's Mayor Bloomberg's last term (we hope).

The troops are coming home. My basement is dry.



NOT FOR NUTHIN'

Joanna DelBuono

• My roof is fixed.

• My family is healthy.

• I am part of the 99 percent that still has a job.

Wishes

• May you never lose hope that you've run out of time and may you always have time left to say goodbye.

• May you always have the ability to laugh at yourself and have your tongue firmly planted in your cheek.

• May you always have the time you need, the time to appreciate the small things and the time to live through the big things.

• May your turkey be juicy, your gravy not lumpy, your sides plentiful and only split with laughter, and, most important, may you always have the time to savor your hellos.

Thanks

Thanks to those who read my words, whether you agree or don't doesn't matter, because without you, there wouldn't be a Not for Nuthin[™]. Not for Nuthin[™], but have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Jdelbuono@cnglocal.com

23 Nov. 24-30, 2011, COURIER

LF

Carmine finds teens who care – and keep this place clean!

Courier Life, Nov. 24-30, 2011

immadder than a squirrel who's lost the map to his nuts after spending all summer hiding them over the fact the media today focuses all of its attention on the bad things that young people do, instead of pointing out all the positives that are begging to be written about!

Look, I know what your thinking: "Carmine, you're part of the problem. Your just an old windbag who screams 'Get out of the way you whippersnappers!' while your ride *Tornado* down 86th Street looking for something else to eat."

Well let me tell you something: nothing could be further from the truth (except that stuff about me calling young people "whippersnappers." And the thing about riding my scooter down 86th Street. Oh, and that thing about me always being hungry. But now I'm off point!).

Now, whenever I turn on the 6 pm evening news, all I hear about is how these kids are making a mess of Zucchini Park, or spending



too much time playing on their Z-boxes or iPhonies, and not paying attention to the things that matter (namely, that they are doing everything wrong!).

I don't need to tell you that to some degree, the old saying is true: Youth *is* wasted on the young. And that is the impression you would get if you let the media paint its picture of today's youth with its broad brush strokes of unwanted antics, crimes, and shenanigans of the few, as though they were the majority.

But old Carmine *is* here to tell you that you can't always believe what you read or see, and that no matter how cloudy and stormy it might get out there, the sun's rays find a way to not so much burst through, but, well, you get the picture.

My case in point is a young lady whose leadership and good deeds have grabbed the headlines of our local newspapers and television stations — namely News 12, which, by the way, I love, and who just so happens to be my colleague at Assemblyman Bill Colton's office.

Priscilla Consolo is 17years-old and goes to Midwood HS, but she's also well known around the neighborhood for organizing clean-ups of our streets — the last one happening last week, when she got 400 other kids together to clean up 86th Street from 19th Avenue to 26th Avenue!

And she does it all on her own! By herself!

This young go-getter reached out from Assemblyman William Colton's office. gathering members of Our Lady of Grace Church Youth Team, students from Midwood HS. Brooklyn Tech. and New Utrecht, members of Bensonhurst Cluster Youth Ministry, members of Our Lady of Grace Boys & Girls Scouts troops, members of the United Chinese Association, and NYC Comptroller John Liu's Youth Action Team. All were anxious to enlist in this endeavor, a major and important civic effort that gave them a chance to prove themselves as concerned citizens.

She got so many kids together, we weren't sure we would have enough shovels!

I sent out a press advisory using my trusty old standbys — my Smith Corona and Bert the homing pigeon (take that, Twitter!) — to let all the media know what was going on: everyone was to meet at 9:45 at Bay 25th Street and 86th Street.

I drove over on *Tornado* to check out the scene, expecting to find camera crews from the big-three networks and possibly old Brian Williams himself, but, lo and behold, they chose not to cover this momentous event that was happening thanks to the hard work of one teenager.

Shame on them!

Because you know something, they missed the biggest story of the year! There were kids carrying garbage bags bigger then they were, and one kid even had a huge wooden deck twice the sizes of him — talk about energy, enthusiasm and dedication!

When all the kids got back from their assigned rounds, we did what all big corporations do when they want to thank staffers for a job well done — we gave out 400 personalized Certificates of Merits and had a pizza party which required 90 pies! Much to my chagrin, not one had sardines on it. Apparently, kids today say that eating a sardine is like eating an eyebrow. But I digress. Afterwards, I drove

Afterwards, I drove around to find out what the merchants thought of all the hard work.

Not surprisingly, they were impressed: Charlie, the conveniently named son-inlaw of the guy who's owned Charlie's Handbags on the corner of 86th Street and Bay 25th for 30 years had nothing but praise for the kids.

So if I may, I want to nominate Priscilla Consolo as Teenager Wonder Woman of the Year, and I'm sure Assemblyman Colton will second the nomination. The Bensonhurst-Gravesend legislator was so impressed with Priscilla, he added her to his staff, possibly making her the youngest staff member in the New York State Assembly. But I'm not sure because Bert hasn't gotten get back to me with that information.

Last but not least, kudos to those 400 great kids who proved to us skeptical old fogies that for some, youth is not wasted on the young! Screech at you next week!

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Dr. Thomas Yechout was named Colorado's "Professor of the Year" by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Dr. Yechout honored again

HARBOR WATCH

Dr. Thomas Yechout, a professor in the Air Force Academy's Aeronautics Department, was recognized for writing an engaging flight mechanics textbook and for inspiring the Academy's cadets to become part of nationallevel aeronautics research projects.

Yechout consistently receives the highest ratings from cadets, averaging 5.8 on a six-point scale, Engineering Department Head Col. Douglas Barlow wrote in his letter of recommendation. Yechout also received the Heiser Award from the Academy's Class of 2005, recognizing him as the outstanding senior faculty educator for that year.

In another recommendation letter, fellow Aeronautics professor Dr. Aaron Byerley describes Yechout's classroom presence as "legendary."

"The word in the hallways here is that you are incredibly fortunate to wind up in one of Tom's flight mechanics classes," Byerley wrote. "He has the reputation for being the best in the department for (relating) complicated and difficult concepts" in an easy-to-understand fashion.

GeraldLeBeau, NASA's chief of applied aeroscience and computational fluid dynamics, praised Yechout both for his involvement with NASA research and for involving cadets in the research process.

"From the onset of our collaboration, Yechout has insisted that his Academy students also participate in our activities," LeBeau wrote. "My job as a NASA manager is to produce results, and I guarantee you that these young women and men produce! Over the years, I've had numerous opportunities to review formal reports and witness briefings by his cadets relating to our collaborative projects, and I can say without hesitation that they are among the most professionally presented that I have ever Continued on Page 26

Timberlake rocks the bash

Cpl. Kelsey De Santis was the bell at the ball



Marine Corps. Cpl. Kelsey DeSantis with her date, singer and actor Justin Timberlake, at the Marine Corps Birthday Bash.

HARBOR WATCH

The blogs are still humming with Justin Timberlake's glowing account of his experience attending the 236th Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Richmond, Va.

"The event turned out to be one of the most moving evenings I've ever had," the pop singer and actor wrote in a blog post on his website after attending the Nov. 12 event.

Marine Corps Cpl. Kelsey De Santis invited Timberlake to her unit's ball this summer via You-Tube. She jokingly told him that if he couldn't attend, "All I have to say is, cry me a river!" — a reference to Timberlake's hit single.

Timberlake said he felt flattered by the in-

vitation and went into the evening knowing he "would have an evening that I wouldn't forget" to share with his friends.

"What I didn't know was how moved I would be by the whole experience," he wrote.

Timberlake had special words for his date, who he said went out of her way to ensure he enjoyed himself.

"I have to tell you, it's not every day that I meet a 23year old girl and she's more worried about if I'm having fun or if I'm comfortable," he wrote.

He said he loved meeting De Santis's friends, and felt an immediate connection with them.

"It hit me all of a sudden that these were the type of people that look after us and our freedom — humble, concerned for others before themselves," he wrote. "This was the type of person our Marine Corps was building. I was really blown away."

Timberlake said he's been lucky to have met many of his heroes, from Michael Jordon to Michael Jackson.

"And, nothing makes me feel more honor and pride than when I get to meet one of you," he wrote in his blog to the men and women in uniform.

"Last night changed my life and I will never forget it," he wrote. "Thank you, Corporal Kelsey De Santis. Thank you for inviting me. And, thank you for being my hero." De Santis has been making the media rounds, sharing her impressions of her date with Timberlake.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Emmanuel Ramos

She said she was particularly struck by his reaction to a video played during the ball that showed historic events that drew the Marine Corps into action, including Pearl Harbor, World War II and the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Right after the ceremony, we kind of locked eyes and we were both grateful for the things our country stands for and just everything that our military has done for us," De Santis told ABC's "Good Morning America."

It was reflected, she said, "not only in the look on his face, but also the look on everyone else's face and the feeling in the entire room."

War of 1812 remembered Ships come into Baltimore Harbor for festivities slated for June 2012

HARBOR WATCH

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Courier Life, Nov. 24-30, 2011

USS Hurricane (PC 3) and USS Monsoon (PC 4) arrived in Baltimore's Inner Harbor for the launch of Maryland's Star-Spangled Bicentennial, a War of 1812 commemoration event that will be held in Baltimore in June 2012.

With sailors manning the rails, the ships joined Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Department of the Navy General Counsel Paul L. Oostburg Sanz, Rear. Adm. William Moran, and chairman of Operation Sail, Inc., Jose Fuentes for a ceremony on Nov. 17 to kick-off the multiyear commemoration of the War of 1812.

"This area is the perfect place to launch a commemoration as there is so much history here," said Hurricane Commanding Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Eddie Bertucci. "Coming into port, we passed Fort McHenry, a national monument and historic shrine, famous as the birthplace of the 'Star-Spangled Banner.' It is a great privilege to sail into Baltimore Harbor, which is an epicenter of our Naval heritage, and to follow in the footsteps of the heroes who fought in defense of America two-hundred years ago," Bertucci said.

The War of 1812 marked a critical period in U.S. history when the nation was forced to fight for its independence — a second time. The bicentennial events will commemorate this milestone in American history, and serve to provide the public a greater understanding of the pivotal role the sea services played in securing a final victory.

Beginning next year and continuing through



Cyclone class USS Monsoon arrives in Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

2015, the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Coast Guard, along with Operation Sail and a host of partners, will commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Week-long events, will include parades of sail, public visitation, spectacular air shows, international athletic competitions, and community relations activities. Signature events will mark the occasions in New Orleans, New York, Norfolk, Baltimore and Annapolis,Md., Boston, MA, and New London, Conn.

Events will also take place in Milwaukee; Chicago; Toledo, Ohio; Cleveland; Detroit; and Buffalo, NY.

"While a lot has changed in these locations over the past 200 years, one thing that will never change is that more than two-thirds of the Earth's surface is covered with water," said Monsoon Commanding Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Ryan Ventresca. "With 90 percent of world trade traveling on those oceans and seas, it's still critical after all those years to keep the world's sea lanes open and free, which is why it is so important for us to have a strong Navy."

Many of the qualities that helped the Navy carry the day 200 years ago during the War of 1812 still hold true today: our fighting spirit; our ingenuity and technological supremacy; the direct tie between a strong Navy and a prosperous America; and the Navy's key role in preserving American sovereignty.

Dr. Yechout

Continued from page 25

seen." Yechout, along with a team of cadets, also contributed to NASA's Return to Flight program after the Space Shuttle Columbia was destroyed during reentry on Feb. 1, 2003.

"His attention to detail, technical expertise and search for answers is not only exceptional, but his impact is magnified through his students' development, practical experience, and future potential," LeBeau wrote.

That, Yechout said, is what matters most.

"Students will be inspired to learn if the educator is inspired," he said. "I feel so fortunate to have been a part of so many students' lives — it truly has kept my passion for all this alive."

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education sponsors the U.S. Professors of the Year Program, along with The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement for teaching.

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*Military tuition rate applicable for Associate and Bachelor's degrees only. **Not all credits eligible to transfer. See the university's catalog regarding CTU's transfer credit policies.

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BY DANIEL BUSH

Christmas came early this year in Coney Island when members of Bikers for Brooklyn including two dressed as Santa and Mrs. Claus — visited the Coney Island Community Day Care center on W. 27th Street on Nov. 19 to hand out free presents to neighborhood children ahead of the winter holidays.

Residents who toted their youngsters to the event said the trip was well worth it.

"My son's very happy," said Shieshia Taylor, whose 4 year old was pleased with his new toy truck — and the chance to sit on Santa's lap. "I didn't know [bike clubs] did things like that."

The club's president George

Barker said the group holds the event to give back to kids in under-served communities. This year more than 100 bikers rode in an imposing motorcade from Kensington to Coney Island to deliver the gifts, which ranged from board games to sports equipment to stuffed animals.

"Kids always look forward to seeing Santa," said Barker.

Nigerian immigrant Babatunde Olowolayemo said the free

"I really appreciate that they did this for us," he said. "I'm definitely coming back next year."

It was the 23rd time in it's history that the riding club's hosted a Christmas Toy Run.

BIKERS HOST CONEY TOY GIVEAWAY



ZOOM ZOOM: Santa and the missus leads the motorcade of toys from Kensington to Coney Island.



Santa Claus (Robert Colon) handed out toys to youngsters, including 5-year-old James Pena, at Bikers for Brooklyn's annual toy run on Nov. 19





Kimberly Ramirez met Georgette Colon, also known as Mrs. Claus, at the Bikers for Brooklyn's annual holiday toy drive in Coney Island before Mr. and Mrs. Claus waved goodbye after handing out toys to more than 100 children.

Brooklyn's Biggest Booster by Joanna DelBuono

Junior's show real heart

DOWNTOWN

Heads up, cheesecake fans: Junior's is getting into the holiday spirit by donating \$5 from every purchase of its delicious Strawberry Swirl Holiday cake (\$34.95), through December. The money will be presented to Brooklyn Community Foundation to help borough residents in need. "Brooklyn has been our home for more than 60 years and our success is due to the enormous love and support we have from our friends and neighbors throughout the borough," Junior's owner Alan Rosen told Standing O. What are you waiting for? Those cheesecakes aren't going to eat themselves, you know?

Junior's Restaurant [386 Flatbush Ave. Ext. at Dekalb Avenue in Downtown, (718) 852-5257].

BAY RIDGE

One more block to go

Here's a big shout out to the girls at Visitation Academy. The students took on the challenge of a walk-a-thon to raise funds for the school's outreach programs. The second-grade class, led by teacher Noreen Romano, did five laps around the block —

which is a disgreat tance when you consider how big academy's grounds are (and how small second graders are). "Parents and stu-



dents were more than generous in raising the much-needed funds," said Standing O pal Eileen LaRuffa, director of development at the school.

Visitation Academy 18902 Ridge Blvd. between 89th and 91st streets in Bay Ridge (718) 680-9452].

MIDWOOD

Blow out those candles

Congratulations to Dynamic Youth **Community** on celebrating its 41st anniversary. The group whose motto is "Drugs destroy families, but families destroy drugs," is a non-profit group offering treatment for youths, ages 13 to 23, who have severe drug or alcohol dependencies. More than 720 young people have graduated, then gotten an education, a job and their lives and self respect back. The gala event is planed for Dec. 7 at the Prospect Park Picnic House.

Dynamite Youth Community [1830 Coney Island Ave. between Avenues O and N in Midwood, (718)376-7923].



Owner Ben Bohen with a bottle of an artisinal variety.

Photo by Alice Proujansky

Bottle of red, bottle of white

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

BOERUM HILL

Woof is all she said

Heights residents have a beautiful new space to pick up a bottle or two of a worthy potent potable, thanks to Ben Bohen, Donald Killinger, Maio Martinez and Mike Holloway, owners of Waterfront Wines and Spirits, which opened in One Brooklyn Bridge Park, along Furman Street, earlier in the month. "We were excited about the new park and wanted to offer small production wines to a corner of the community that doesn't have a lot of retail," Bohen told Standing O. So far, business has been brisk (this is a community with its wallets, and goblets, open!).

ping for pet owners, the new store houses

everything your pet needs for a happy and

healthy life. This location boasts groom-

ing and training and an in-house veteri-

nary clinic, Banfield Pet Hospital. "I'm

thrilled to have PetSmart and PetSmart

Charities adoption centers in our neighbor-

hoods to help create new families by help-

ing pets find loving homes," said **Borough**

President Markowitz, who is as almost as

No wonder, Waterfront Wines offers spirits from small artisanal producers. And if you don't know what you want, the helpful staff helps you make the right choice for the perfect bottle of vino. FYI, Waterfront Wines is right next to Wag's (a dog spa), so Bohen, a friend to both man and beast, keeps a few doggie treats on hand for those lucky pooches whose owners stop by to pick up a lovely Chablis or Sauvignon blanc to go with dinner. Hint, hint.

Waterfront Wines and Spirits at One Brooklyn Bridge Park [Furman Street at Joralemon Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 246-51011.



(Left), Dr. George Melillo, Dr. Carly Czuba, Lila Branigan with dog Chloe, Joey Chestnut, and Ashlev Harns medical director. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

good a Brooklyn booster as Standing O herself. Almost.

Pet Smart, 1238 Atlantic Ave. at Boerum Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 852-2519 and 8725 Avenue D in Canarsie, (718) 241-1379].



Steve Witt has written a second semiautobiographical book - and it's about Atlantic Yards! **MIDWOOD**

Papa Witt?

Former Courier Life reporter extraordinaire Stephen Witt has finished his second novel - and this one is going to be a blockbuster. No, that's not a dig at Witt's first novel, "American Moses," but his new one, "Street Singer," is set in the tumultuous saga of the Atlantic Yards megaproject, which Witt covered from its inception. "Street Singer" is Hemmingway-esque — no, not because it's the greatest book of all time or features lots of drinking in Paris, but because its such a thinly veiled look at the intrigue surrounding the deal that brought the Nets across the river from that other state. Spoiler alert — "Street Singer" follows subway musician Jason Spirit (he's based on Witt, by the way) through the seamy backroom deals, on the hustings with the anti-project rabble, and into the offices of Russian oligarchs. Yikes! Standing O can hardly wait for that personally autographed first edition, which is scheduled to hit the shelves early next year. Interested publishers should con-

tact Witt at stephenwitt1@gmail. com.

BOERUM HILL

Calling AT&T!

Can you hear them roar? AT&T Foundation, the philanthropic arm of that big communications giant, made a \$10,000 donation to PS 261. The money, which is roughly to equivalent of two reporters' cellphone bills for the month, will improve the science department. "In a time when American students rate so low on the international scale in science, the community is lucky to have the support of AT&T," **Principal Zippo-riah Mills** told Standing O. **Carmelo Pi**azza, aka Carmelo the Science Fellow, and a teacher at the school for the past 15 years, added his two cents: "I am so thrilled for the opportunity to motivate thousands of children in the world of science." Standing O is thrilled to be thrilled.

PS 261 [314 Pacific St. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 330-9275].

BOROUGH WIDE

For the birds

To all our readers: Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Courier Life, Nov. 24-30, 2011

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DIRTY, FILTHY ARTS DINING MOVIES ENTER

BROOKLYN! Mike Edison explores our borough's contribution to pornography!

mores, sexual liberation and American culture.

By Juliet Linderman ounty of Kings? More like county of pornographers!

Both Screw Magazine magnate Al Goldstein and Penthouse proprietor Bob Guccione are Brooklyn natives - and they're two of the four XXX kingpins at the center of author Mike Edison's raunchy (and that's just the title!), "Dirty! Dirty! Dirty! Of Playboys, Pigs, and Penthouse Paupers: An American Tale of Sex and Wonder."

On Dec. 8, Edison will wrap up his book tour by returning to the loamy loins of our indelicate borough, toasting himself and the seamy underbelly of publishing at the Way Station Bar in Prospect Heights.

"These guys are fearless," Edison said, of Goldstein and The Gooch. "And that's what you get coming up in Brooklyn - fearless, dirty Brooklyn."

"Dirty! Dirty! Dirty!" is part porn history, part social commentary, part cultural criticism, all deliciously risque, and chronicles the rise and fall of Goldstein, Guccione, Hustler heir Larry Flynt and Playboy playboy Hugh Hefner — the four guys who took sex from the bedroom to the newsstand. But this isn't simply a history book

about girlie mags; it's a rumination on changing social

"America runs away from sex while simultaneously running towards it," Edison said. "People are still shy on the subject because we have a hangover from our Puritan heritage. But at that same time, you push a button on the Internet and you can see all the pernicious filth you can think of. For free."

And when he talks about filth, he knows it inside and out. As former editor of celebrated marijuana magazine, High Times; past editor-in-chief of Screw Magazine; and author of booze-soaked, porn-tinged, sex-steeped, smoke-enveloped memoir, "I Have Fun Everywhere I Go," Edison and raunch are old familiar friends.

But Edison's bread and butter is free speech and ultimately, that's what "Dirty! Dirty! Dirty!" is really about. All Four Horsemen of the Brapocalypse tangled with, and ultimately triumphed over, would-be censors.

Hefner's publication was accused of obscenity from its first issue in 1953; his victories paved the way for Goldstein, who was arrested 21 times on obscenity charges, yet won a landmark trial in 1974. And Flynt famously defeated Jerry Falwell after the reverend claimed he was libeled by a cartoon in Hustler.

"These four guys did more for free speech than anyone," Edison said. "Every American owes them - it's because of them that we can be dirty, and that The Brooklyn Paper can do what it does."

Mike Edison at the Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (917) 279-5412]. Dec. 8, 9 pm. Free. For info, visit www.mikeedison.com.



Dirty! Dirty! Dirty! Mike Edison's new book delves into the lives of four pornographers, two from our own filthy borough!

Photo by Erik C. Pendzich / Rex Features

HUGH HEFNER

BOB GUCCIONE LARRY FLYNT AL GOLDSTEIN



Makethis a Happy Holiday for Everyone



MAUT

Featuring former performers from Cirque De Soleil, Ringling Bros Circus, The National Chinese Circus and The Pet Theatre, originally from Russia. Other star performers will be world famous clowns such as Gregory Popovich from Moscow and Mimi Richi, a National Clown finalist, from the highly popular "America's Got Talent" TV show. Described as "The World's Best Magician", Jay Matioli, a two time National Magic Championship will also bring his unique talents to the Millennium Theatre's Holiday Circus Show. Tickets: \$25.00 - \$55.00

Holiday Carnival

During the December 22nd to December 31st period, the Millennium Theatre will also play host to a Holiday Carnival on the first floor of its venue; Families and kids of all ages will meet Santa Claus, participate in carnival games, slides, rides, see and touch exotic animals in a petting zoo and engage in interactive games with their favorite cartoon characters such as Harry Potter, Shrek and Spiderman. Tickets: \$20.00

> For Tickets or More Info: www.HolidayCircus.com | 718-307-5656









Millennium Theatre 1029 Brighton Beach Ave., Brooklyn, New York 11235 718-307-5656

Bump and rhyme!

oetry and striptease — together at last! A quirky cast of semi-nude dancers, bards and blues musicians will converge at Sideshows by the Seashore on Dec. 3 in writer-producer Michael Schwartz's latest off-beat effort, "A Coney Island From The Behind."

Schwartz will headline the smorgasbord variety show, whose title pokes fun at beat poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti's famous collection of



poems, "A Coney Island of the Mind," which will feature stories and comedy based on his hard-knock

childhood in 1970s Coney Island — the inspiration for his plays "Coney Island Last Stop" and "In the Shadow of The Third Rail."

"It's always been a place for wonder and magic," said Schwartz. "This show is going to capture that spirit."

Or at least provide for an unusual evening of entertainment. Additional acts include a reading of "The Coney Island Love Letters," by Mermaid Hawley and Bill Brovold, a ragtime piano performance and a harmonica solo set by Hank Coyote Wagner.

"A Coney Island Of The Behind" at Sideshows by the Seashore [1208 Surf

Ave. at W. 12th Street in Coney Island, (718) 372-5159], Dec. 3, 7 pm, \$10. For info, visit www. conevisland.com.



The multi-tasking entertainer will use proceeds from the show to help fund his arts production com-

pany, Coney Artland.

BEST BETS

Live hot sex (talk)

This month's topic is sim-

ply "More" - interpret as

you like — and performances

are followed by a sex toy

raffle with goodies from

Diana Adams, whose long-

term polyamorous relation-

ship was the subject of an

MTV documentary. Her story

One of the tales is told by

Babeland.

Norget about the birds and the bees: A new night of storytelling probes candid, real-life sex.

Head to Union Hall for "Bare!" — a performance showcasing true stories of lust, desire and romance told by comedians, actors and educators.

The first-person tales are inspired by a nightly topic - such as "My First" - and range from stories about high school romance to ones about sadomasochistic phone sex.

Storytellers are shameless, often funny and always brutally honest.

"To tell a good story about sex, you need more than a few minutes," says pseudonymous host Jefferson Bites, explaining the subject matter isn't always universal. "The audience has to go from, 'What did he just say ??' to "Ohhh. That's how he fell in love at the orgy."

Storytellers include a sexpositive activist, an improv actor and a self-proclaimed "pervert" blogger.

Last month, the first performance drew a standing-

– Daniel Bush



Jefferson Bites (and a friend) will host "Bare! True Stories of Sex, Desire and Romance" at Union Hall in Park Slope. (Do you think he gave us a fake name?) Photo by Elizabeth Graham

room-only crowd, featured is about the evolution from an on-stage sex toy "review" strict Christian to a queer and an impromptu love story activist. from an audience member.

"It's important to talk openly about theses things," but if we're not doing it, who will?"

Bare! at Union Hall [702 Union St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], Nov, 28, 8 pm, \$5. For info, visit www. unionhallny.com. – Natalie O'Neill

'Babes' at the Brick!

f you call this performance "poor," you'd be right.

Little Lord Theater Company is staging 108-year-old musical extravaganza, "Babes in Toyland," which calls for 24 actors, elaborate sets, and dozens of extravagant costumes, as a "recession extravaganza," at the Brick Theater.

"We're putting on a spectacular!" said direc-



tor Michael Levinton, whose play premieres on Nov. 30. "With the lowest means."

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lows two orphans who run

away from their wicked uncle, and find themselves lost in the titular land. Along the way, they meet Mother Goose, Little Bo Peep, and Little Red Riding Hood. But Toyland isn't all sunshine and lollipops - it's littered with demon-posessed dolls and evil toy makers.

The play's dreamy setting typically necessitates multiple backdrops, but Levinton's reimagining of the Christmas classic was acheived with a budget of just \$10,000 - one-tenth of the average musical production.

"Most of our set is made out of cardboard," Levinton said. "The treetops are nothing more than a couple of sticks."

Bare bones, yes, but earning raves from critics at the New York Times and New York Magazine.

"It's so fun, because it becomes less about the story, and more about five desperate actors trying to play several dozen characters," Levinton said. "It's absurd."

"Babes in Toyland" at the Brick Theater [575 Metropolitan Ave. between Union Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189], Nov. 30-Dec.10, 8 pm. Tickets, \$18. For info, visit www.littlelord.org.

- Alfred Ng

Hope shines in new play

ope can be a light out of the darkness - but in the new musical, "The Lost Light," that's no treacly metaphor.

In writer Jackie Danziger's play, actors carry around light emitting jars that glow stronger as their character's become filled with hope — a key plot element that visibly demonstrates on stage what can only be felt in life.

"We wanted a physical embodiment of this kind of

very intangible idea," said producer Reed Whitney. "We wanted to give our visual

Starting

12/1

designers a play that they could really sink their teeth into."

The glowing jars serve a plotline that explores the nature of hope.

The child-friendly play, which bows at Sharkmother Theater on Dec. 1, centers on a



Ensemble members rehearse for SharkMother Arts Collective's production of "The Lost Light."

village devasted by drought. The villagers are invited to a land of ever-lasting contentment — but on the condition that

they give up their hopes and dreams.

Only one villager — a little kid named Penny — resists the Faustian bargain, and begins a quest to restore optimism in the land.

First-time composer Benjamin Bernstein's score is anything but standard musical theater, thanks to his background in jazz and experimental music.

"I approached this project with two different idioms in mind, that the musical be centered around jazz and also American Minimalism," said Bernstein, referring to composer Philip Glass's preferred idiom.

The play might be off-beat, but its message is right on point.

"It gives a message that hope isn't something that's given to you," said Whitney, "it's something you have to work for."

"The Lost Light" at Center for Performance Research [361 Manhattan Ave. between Jackson and Withers streets in Williamsburg, (718) 349-1210], Dec.1-4. Tickets, \$12 (\$8 for children). For info, visit www. sharkmother.org.

- Colin Mixson

Ramblin' woman

all her Rosie the

Rambler! Sultry burlesque temptress Rosie 151 is taking the stage at the "Dr. Who"themed Prospect Heights steampunk bar Way Station on Dec. 1, part of a year-long residency as frontwoman of six-piece Depression-era bluegrass outfit, The Red Hook

Ramblers "The drums. horns, the bass of

bone just lends itself to bump and grind," said Rosie, who will sing, dance and, of course, do the strip-tease. "But the songs are about marijuana and making whoopee - nobody knows who wrote them — and even I

Maybe so, but the buxom Brooklynite is no shrinking ing throughout the burlesque circuit for six years. But singing



Check out Rosie 151 and the Red Hook Ramblers at their new home. the Way Station bar in Prospect Heights!

is a challenge she's willing to take on full-bore - and scantilv clad.

"For some people, burlesque is over-saturated right now, so our performance is more like an all-around good time," Rosie said. "It's great jazz music of some bygone era, and it's me singing, and of course, a little bit of burlesque. There's not too much of anything, and a little bit of everything."

Way Station proprietor Andy Heidel thinks an eclectic musical lineup is the key to a successful watering hole.

"I'm booking blues, jazz, soul, bluegrass, Dixieland stuff I like to see," Heidel said. "Having a burlesque dancer as the frontwoman, backed up by a Dixieland jazz band? Yeah, that's a great combo."

Red Hook Ramblers at the Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (917) 279-5412], every first Thursday beginning Dec. 1, 9 pm. Free. For info, visit www.waystationbk.blogspot. com

Starting 12/1

blush a little while singing!"

violet - she's been entertain-

the tuba and trom-

"Babes in Toyland" fol-

AROUND TOWN THE REAL BROOKLYN **BRIDGE STORY**

Historian explores the famous Roeblings and brings to life their iconic span

By Colin Mixson

raffic is pretty damn bad on the Brooklyn Bridge - but that's nothing compared to building it.

More than 20 men died during its construction, but their sacrifice yielded a bridge that has endured more than 125 years of horse-drawn carriage, car, truck and even elephant traffic without buckling — an epic saga that forms the heart of Clifford Zink new book, "The Roebling Legacy."

"It's such a classic American story," said Zink, who will read at PowerHouse Arena in DUMBO on Nov. 29. "It has immigration, the Industrial Revolution, visionary engineering accomplishments and, of course, tragedy and heroism."

The bridge was designed, engineered and, in part, funded by the Roebling family - so it's fitting that Kriss Roebling, the great-great-great-grandson of engineer Washington Roebling - will be on hand.

Needless to say, Roebling is a fan of his ancestors' work.

"Being a life-long New Yorker, there are so many times that I'll be walking over the bridge and my sense of family history dissolves into the experience of being a New Yorker," said Roebling, who lives steps from the bridge in Brooklyn Heights. "Even if I had no family connection, I would still love the bridge."

Sure, every Brooklynite feels he knows the bridge and its history intimately. But Zink's book is chock-a-block with details that will delight even the most jaded New Yorker, such as:

·How Washington Roebling, the son of the bridge's designer, became disabled in a construction accident - and then oversaw the final construction of the bridge by watching his workers through a telescope from an apartment in Brooklyn Heights.



Kriss Roebling — a descendent of the guy who built the great bridge — will introduce author Clifford Zink at a reading on Nov. 29 in DUMBO. Photo by Elizabeth Graham

•How Emily Roebling, Washington's wife, became a liason between her husband and assistant engineers at the bridge after his accident and was an early symbol for the women's rights movement by shouldering a man's responsibilities in a man's world.

• How the family business operated for four generations and developed what some people call America's first sports car, the Mercer Raceabout.

• How Washington Roebling II, Washington's nephew, died with the sinking of the Titanic.

It's a fascinating tale - and the setting for Zink's reading could not be more appropriate: DUMBO, after all, earned its name from being "down under" the bridge overpass, and the neighborhood has sweeping views of the true Robeling legacy.

Clifford Zink reads from "The Roebling Legacy" at PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. between Water and Front streets in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], Nov. 29, 7-9 pm. Free. For info, visit www.powerhousearena.com.

The way we were

By Dan MacLeod

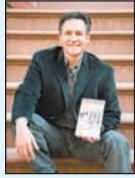
epending on whom you ask, Brooklyn in the 1980s was either a violent, dirty, cesspool, or a wonderland filled with hilarious characters. For author John Khoury, it was both.

The Carroll Gardens native's new book, "Go Sit on Your Own Stoop!" pays tribute to a time in Brooklyn's history when danger lurked around every corner and neighborhood guys with names like "Jimmy The Mute," "Frankie Parrot," and "Chunky Flappers" made up a colorful cast that gave the borough its patented character.

"Go Sit On Your Own Stoop!" is a coming-of-age story set on Henry Street in the 1970s - and being a classic bildungsroman, it prominently features the Triple Crown of Brooklyn life in the "Warriors" era: Mafia goons, local punks, and, of course, girls.

"Out-of-towners who've recently moved into Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn Heights and Park Slope really have trouble believing and comprehending how dangerous, tough and dirty these neighborhoods were up until about 10 to 15 years ago," Khoury writes in a chapter that recalls when his uncles got stomped after one of them flirted with the ex-girlfriend of a made man. "Brooklyn in the 1970s was a lot more nasty than romantic."

Khoury, a broadcast operator for American Movie Classics, has since pulled up stakes for Long Island, but he was compelled to revisit his old neighborhood after years of enthralling friends with stories of his exploits.



Carroll Gardens native John Khoury, author of self-published memoir, "Go Sit on your Own Stoop!" practices what he preaches.

"The stories were riveting to them," he said. "The feedback was terrific."

The book, whose title evokes what old ladies used to yell at him and his friends, doesn't follow a conventional plot line or narrative arc; it is instead split into sections based around pivotal moments in Khoury's life.

For example, there's a chapter about his attempts to get a girl to make out with him, a section that also brings up the most exciting -and then most horrific - sexual experience of Khoury's young life, when he sneaked a peak at a topless woman only to then recoil in agony as she plucked hairs from her nipples.

There is also a chapter about stickball, handball and whiffle ball that features a crazy neighborhood lady who tries to teach them "a lesson" by pouring boiling water on them from a secondstory window. And it wouldn't be a 1970s book without a chapter about 1977 - the year that "Saturday Night Fever" and Son of Sam remade the city.

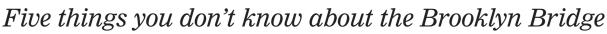
As Khoury writes in that chapter, the craziest place in the borough for him was Bensonhurst.

"On July 4, the neighborhood 'boys' didn't feel like lighting fireworks one at a time so instead they poured some gasoline and set the street on fire," he writes. "There was literally a raging inferno in the street. ... It was an insane place to be, but it's where I spent a lot of time as a kid."

Khoury's triumph is his ability to find humor in the face of violence and decay, and to craft charming vignettes that make it hard to not miss the days before Smith Street - once an uncrossable line of demarcation - became a go-to brunch spot with \$4 coffee and three places serving croque monsieurs.

"I did not want to put something out that said, 'This is when the neighborhood was the best," he said. "We can't look at what Brooklyn is today and dismiss it. Every generation creates their magic. Just because it's different from what you grew up with, doesn't mean it's any less magical."

John Khoury at Brooklyn Farmacy [513 Henry St. between Sackett and Degraw streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 522-6260], Dec. 3, 11 am. For info, visit www.gositonyourownstoop.com.



veryone loves the Brooklyn Bridge, ◀ but there's a lot you don't know ▲ about the fabled span. Such as:

• The bridge, completed in 1883, was built without with the aid of electricity.

•After several workers died after spending long stretches in caissons under the East River, scientists started studying the condition - now known as "the bends" - helping to improve safety for deep-sea divers.

•The bridge began as a privately financed project - funded by the New York and Brooklyn Bridge Company. But the work went over budget, and investors were bailed out by the state, which



The Brooklyn Bridge - awesome 125 years ago. Awesome today. Associated Press / Kathy Willens

financed the remainder of the \$15-million project — more than \$2.5 billion in today's money.

• A week after the bridge opened, a rumor spread that the span could collapse prompting a stampede that killed 12 people. But to reassure bridge users of the bridge's strength, PT Barnum marched 21 "Jumbo" elephants across it (successfully, by the way).

• And those stories of people "buying" the Brooklyn Bridge? Well, they're true. One con man, George Parker, sold the bridge to several unlucky marks, once for as little as \$50. And another, William McCloundy, spent two and a half years in Sing Sing for hawking the bridge in 1901

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SEVEN

Yiasou welcomes diners with an array of sumptuous dishes

By Helen Klein

To walk into Yiasou is to be transported thousands of miles from Sheepshead Bay to the shores of the Aegean Sea.

The elegant eatery, right on the Emmons Avenue waterfront, beckons hungry diners with the promise of freshly grilled fish, steaks and chops, as well as a bevy of mouth-watering Greek



Yiasou waitress Evelina shows a plate of black seabass and lavraki.

specialties — all served up in an idyllic setting that is relaxed, yet refined.

Every course on the menu tempts with palate-pleasers.

"Everything is cooked to order,"

said Peter Katsichtis, who opened this gleaming estiatorio five years ago with sons Michael and George.

"Only in Manhattan can you find someplace that serves what we serve here in terms of freshness and quality," stressed Katsichtis.

Specialties include simple, yet spectacular seafood preparations — whole fish such as branzino and pompano lusciously flavored with lemon and extra virgin olive oil, as well as lobster, Alaskan crab legs and langoustines, shrimp scampi rich with garlic and wine, and filet of sole on a bed of spinach and mushrooms.

The meat menu is equally appealing, including such show-stopper presentations as rack of lamb for two, as well as grilled veal chops, grilled lamb chops and hearty sirloin steaks, brought to the table by the welcoming and attentive wait staff.

Appetizers range from the savory purées for which Greek cuisine is known such as taramosalata, a rich spread made with caviar; skordalia, a fragrant spread combining garlic and potatoes, to grilled octopus, stuffed grape leaves;



Yiasou may sit right on the Emmons Avenue waterfront, but you'll feel as if you've been transported to the Aegean Sea.

and buttery spanakopita, spinach pie encased in crisp filo dough.

And, of course, there's saganaki, the famous flambéed cheese appetizer, which is one of Yiasou's signature dishes, as well as creamy avgolemono, a classic Greek soup studded with chicken and orzo, and enriched with egg and lemon.

Yiasou [2003 Emmons Ave. in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 332-6064]. Open Sunday through Thursday, noon–11 pm; and on Friday and Saturday, noon–midnight.

Photos by Steve Solomonson



Nobody treats you like New Corner Restaurant treats you

By Camille Sperrazza

This Brooklyn institution has been serving fine, traditional Italian fare in Bay Ridge location for 75 years.

To celebrate this special anniversary, New Corner is inviting patrons to enjoy a fantastic three-course dinner, with wine, any night from Monday, Dec. 5 through Thursday, Dec. 8. There will be live music and entertainment, plus you'll feast on a magnificent meal for \$19.36. That price commemorates the year New Corner Restaurant was born.

Back then, you could enjoy homemade manicotti for 75 cents. A bowl of minestrone cost 40 cents, and shrimp cocktail would set you back 85 cents. A cup of demitasse coffee was a dime. For big spenders, a veal scaloppine with mushrooms was a whopping \$1.10. And

Bartender Sandy Przystawak can mix you a martini or any other drink you'd like. Yum!

how do 50-cent martinis sound? History such as this not only provides insight into the restaurant, but offers a glimpse into Brooklyn lifestyles, too.

The \$19.36 anniversary menu allows guests to choose from some of New Corner's favorite family recipes. For appetizers, it's mozzarella carrozza and eggplant rollatine; baked clams; portobello over tri-color salad; or soup.

Select from 10 different entrees, including veal or chicken parmigiana with spaghetti; chicken scarpariello; fettuccine alfredo with shrimp; veal and chicken scaloppini marsala with mushrooms; eggplant parmigiana with spaghetti; grilled salmon over tri-color salad; veal francese and chicken Vincenzo; veal pizzaiola with homemade gnocchi; chicken elephante; and homemade manicotti and ravioli with meat balls. For dessert, it's homemade Italian cheesecake or tortoni, as well as coffee, tea, or espresso.

The entertainment is a real "blast from the past." New Corner has confirmed that Ernie Barry will be performing on Dec. 6 and 7. Singer Carl Thomas will be there Dec. 5 and 8.

New Corner started as a one-room pizzeria. Photographs of the restaurant in its early days adorn the walls, and these memories are part of the restaurant's charm. Three generations of the Colandrea family have put their hearts and souls into this place, and it's been a labor of love, evident in the food and the atmosphere.

Eat in the main dining room, and be part of the lively, vibrant ambiance, reminiscent of family gatherings at your own home. Today, Vincent Colandrea and his brother, Stephen, manage the restaurant, started by their grandparents. On any given day, you'll find one of them here, overseeing the various rooms, assuring that every guest is greeted, happy and well-fed.



Be sure to try the veal scaloppine pizzaiola with mushrooms and homemade gnocchi, shown here by Executive Chef Giovanni Iorizzo.

The Colandrea family knows its stuff — and stuffed you'll be — enjoying food that's consistently good and reasonably priced. Portions are as generous as ever, something you don't often see at many restaurants these days. Nearly everyone goes home with leftovers.

Many of the recipes are traditional



New Corner Restaurant is celebrating its 75th anniversary by offering a three-course dinner and live entertainment for a great price from Dec. 5 through Dec. 8.

family favorites, created by the Colandrea grandparents when they worked in the kitchen. Today, these recipes maintain that same home-cooked flair. For example, the stuffed artichokes are prepared just like the way my grandmother used to make them — huge, and bursting with breadcrumbs and garlic, classic southern Italian fare in full bloom.

Likewise, the baked clams taste like... well, baked clams. There's no messing with tradition here; no "new" flavors. When something is done right, you stick with it. This consistency has no doubt been instrumental to the restaurant's success and longevity.

New Corner's hot appetizers are legendary. Eggplant rollatine is rich and creamy. Fried calamari is wonderful. The mozzarella carrozza is chewy and cheesy, surrounded by a crisp crust. One of my favorites is the fried zucchini, sliced in long, thin sticks, and cooked to perfection.

Pasta dishes abound — many covered with classic red tomato sauce and fish, such as scungilli. All delicious, all abundant portions.

The menu is as thick as a good book, and on any given day, there are still specials galore. Among them are tender crab legs, dressed with tomato sauce, and placed atop a heaping bowl of macaroni. It doesn't get any better than this.

For those looking for alternatives to red sauce, there are plenty of dishes with olive oil, butter, and garlic — such as veal and chicken, prepared oreganata, marsala, or francese. Enjoy class seafood dishes such as shrimp scampi or filet of sole. New Corner also has tender Chilean sea bass, prepared any way you like.

For dessert, New Corner makes its own homemade Italian cheesecake, a thick, creamy treat. It also makes its own tiramisu, a sweet and light pastry, flavored with coffee, and surrounded by lots of luscious whipped cream. Or, indulge in a lemon sorbet, served inside a real lemon shell, presented in a beautiful glass bowl.

New Corner does more for the economy that any politician, offering price breaks for just about every day of the week. Mondays through Thursdays, it's a three-course dinner, with wine, for \$24.95. On Fridays, it's a fish feast for \$26.95. Lunch specials are \$19.75. A "lite lunch special" is \$14.75 and still three courses. That's "lite," Italian-style.

New Corner has catered countless engagements, bridal showers, christenings, confirmations, and retirement parties. Now it's our turn to salute them. Join the party. Here's to another 75 years.

New Corner Restaurant [7201 Eighth Ave. between 72nd and 73rd streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-0800]. Open Mondays through Thursdays, noon – 10 pm; Fridays and Saturdays, noon – 11 pm; and Sundays, noon – 9:30 pm. For more information, visit www.NewCornerRestaurant.com.

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SEVEN

ON STAGE 'A Christmas Carol' in Bay Ridge

By Juliet Linderman

Community Theater in Bay Ridge, where the resident company will stage a musical rendition of the holiday classic, "A Christmas Carol," beginning on Dec. 2.

"It's a very wonderful piece of music and theater," said Narrows Community Theater representative Anne Gubiotti. "The story is classic beautiful, heartwarming, and really puts you in the spirit of Christmas. It has a very nice message of redemption that people can change, that one should be sensitive of those less fortunate than ourselves. "A Christmas Carol" is the third full-length production the 40-year-old theater has staged this year, including "The Wizard of Oz" and "42nd Street," and will feature 40 actors. Attendees are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots drive the Narrows Community Theater is sponsoring this Christmas.

The Narrows Community Theater presents "A Christmas Carol," at the Fort Hamilton Army Base [101st St. at Fort Hamilton Parkway in Bay Ridge, (718) 482-3173]. Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10 at 8 pm; Dec. 4, 11 at 2 pm. \$20. For info, visit www.nctheaterny.com.





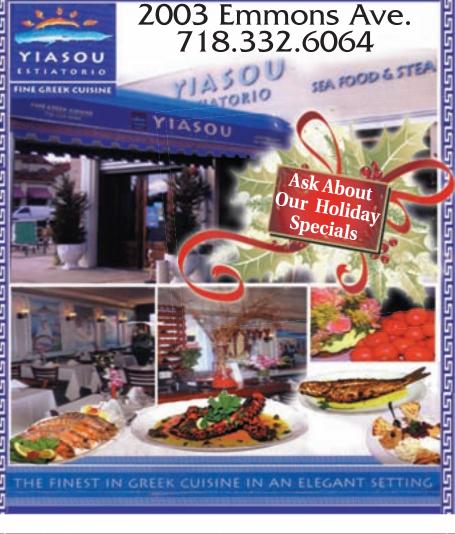
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-30-

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SEVEN



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COURIER LIFE, Nov. 24-30, 2011

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SEVEN

The best reads — handpicked by some of the best Bklyn bookstores

ho can you always count on when you're in a bind and need a good book? Your neighborhood bookstore, of course, whose employees read all the newest books before you do. That's why we're running this semi-regular column featuring must-reads, handpicked and written about by the staff at some of our favorite independent bookstores in Brooklyn.

The BookMark Shoppe's pick: "Everything We Ever Wanted"

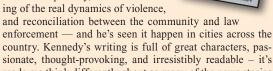
Best known for her YA series, "Pretty Little Liars," author Sara Shepard delves into the adult fiction world with "Everything We Ever Wanted." The Bates-McAllisters, an affluent wellstanding family find themselves in the midst of a scandal involving adult adopted son, Scott, under-achiever and general disappointment. The point of view changes between Joanna, married into the family; Sylvie, family matriarch; and Scott,

accused of being involved in the suicide of a student on his high school wrestling team, whom he coaches at his family founded prep-school Swithin School. Longtime hidden secrets start to unravel as the family tries to uncover the truth behind the hazing scandal. The family is forced to answer the question: What if the life you always planned for and dreamed of isn't what you want after all?

— Bina Valenzano, co-owner, The BookMark Shoppe [8415 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-5115].

Greenlight's pick: "Don't Shoot"

Fort Greene resident and nationally in-demand criminologist David Kennedy proposes a radical and workable solution to urban violence, based on years of work in the field and some miraculous successes. It's about transparency, an understanding of the real dynamics of violence,



made me think differently about so many of the news stories I hear, and suggests that a better world is actually possible. — Jessica Bagnulo, Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200].

WORD's pick: "Thinking Fast and Slow"

This is a book that you can really only read slowly, not fast at all, but it will change the way you think about your thinking, and also the way you think about how you think about your thinking. We all know that's it's easier to judge other people's actions than to step back and examine our own, but this book gets at the heart of why, what to do about it, and many other

mental quandaries.

- Stephanie Anderson, manager, WORD [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096].



FRI, NOV. 25

MUSIC, BEN STIEFEL: Hunter's Steak and Ale House. Free. 7 pm. 9404 Fourth Ave. at 94th Street, (718) 238-8899.

SAT, NOV. 26

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, GENE MATERA: Hunter's Steak and Ale House. Free. 7 pm. 9404 Fourth Ave. at 94th Street, (718) 238-8899. OTHER

- WORKSHOP, JOB TRAINING: Computer literacy and job readiness classes. Free. 10 am—1 pm. Prospect Park YMCA [357 Ninth St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-7100], www.ymcanyc.org. WILD CARROT HUNT: Wildman
- Steve Brill leads four-hour foraging tour of Marine Park. \$20 (\$10 children under 12). 11:45 am. Marine Park [Avenue U and Burnett Street in Marine Park, (914) 835-2153].

SUN, NOV. 27 PERFORMANCE

MUSIC FROM GOOD SHEP-HERD: Choral recital with the Brandy String Trio. Free. 6 pm. Good Shepherd Church [1950 Batchelder St. at Avenue S in Marine Park, (718) 998-2800].

MON, NOV. 28

- FILM, "PINGU": A "Big Movies for Little Kids" series favorite. \$7. 4 pm. Cobble Hill Cinema [265 Court St. between Butler & Douglass streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 596-9113], www.cobblehilltheatre.com.
- READING, ED ROTH: Author of "Stencil 201." Free. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.
- MUSIC, BRANDON SANDERS QUINTET FEATURING WAR-REN WOLF AND TIA FULLER: Part of "Jazzy Mondays" series. Free. 7 pm. For My Sweet [1103 Fulton St. at Claver Place in Bedford Stuyvesant, (718) 857-1427].
- OPEN REHEARSALS: Brooklyn's Sweet Adelines Barbershop Chorus welcomes singers of all voice ranges. Free. 7:30 pm. Call for location, (718) 567-8190.
- MUSIC, BEN STAPP AND THE ZOZIMOS COLLECTIVE: . \$25. 8 pm. Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. between Third Avenue and Nevins Street in Downtown, (917) 267-0363], www.roulette.org.

TUES, NOV. 29

MUSIC, THE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY BAND: Featuring performances by the PS 44 and PS 56 Choir and the Brooklyn Technical High School Select chorus. Santa will distribute candy canes. Free. 4:15 pm–5:45 pm. MetroTech Commons (2 Metro-Tech Ctr. at Lawrence Street in Downtown).

- READING, PHIL SCHULTZ: Pulitzer Prize-winner of "My Dyslexia," with Meghan O'Rourke, author of "Once, The Long Goodbye." 7 pm. WORD [126 Franklin St. between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096], wordbrooklyn.com.
- READING, CLIFFORD W. ZINK: Author of "The Roebling Legacy." Free. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena. com.
- MUSIC, JERKS AND JAMS: An "old-time" jam, open to all. Free. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Farmacy and Soda Fountain [513 Henry St. between Sackett and Union streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 522-6260], brooklynfarmacy.blogsoot.com.
- COMEDY, JUKEBOX COMEDY KARAOKE: Featuring Julie Klausner, Kurt Braunohler, Joe Randazzo, and Giulia Rozzi. \$5. 7:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

WED, NOV. 30

- WORKSHOP, TANGO LESSONS: For adults and youngsters interested in ballroom dancing. No experience and no partners necessary. Pre-registration for youngsters required. Free. 6 pm–9 pm. IS 96 (99 Ave. P at W. 11th Street in Bensonhurst, (718) 232-2266].
- WORKSHOP, JOB TRAINING: 6:30 pm—9:30 pm. See Saturday, Nov. 26.
- READING, ROMEO ALAEFF: Author of "I'll Be Dead by the Time You Read This: The Existential Life of Animals." Free. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.
- MUSIC, HENRY THREADGILL: \$25. 8 pm. Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. between Third Avenue and Nevins Street in Downtown, (917) 267-0363], www.roulette.org.

THURS, DEC. 1

- TALK, A MORNING WITH PETE HAMILL: Acclaimed essayist, novelist and journalist. Free. 11 am. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200].
- TALK, OUIARA ALEGRIA HUDES: Theatreworks hosts a Q&A with author of "In the Heights." Free. 4 pm. Vorhees Theatre [186 Jay Street in Downtown, (718) 260-4973], www.theatreworkscitvtech.org.
- TALK, ST. ANNE'S BOOK CLUB: "A Month in the Country," by J.L. Carr. Free. 6:45 pm. St. Anne's Trinity Church [157 Montague St. between Clinton and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights,



Join documentarian Nathan Kensinger for a discussion about urban exploration and street history at Union Docs in Williamsburg on Sunday at 7 pm! Photo by Nathan Kensinger

(718) 875-6960], www.saintannandtheholytrinity.org.

- READING, HOLIDAY PARTY: Celebrate the release of "Food 52 Cookbook." Free. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.
- MUSIC, LITTLE ANCHOR, BLACK FOREST, PLATES OF CAKE: \$5. 7:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.
- MUSIC, HENRY THREADGILL: 8 pm. See Wednesday, Nov. 30. MUSIC, OUT TO LUNCH: Free. 9 pm. Tea Lounge [837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762], www.tealoungeny.com.

FRI, DEC. 2

- "TEDXBROOKLYN": Talks, music, art exhibits, tech demos and more. \$100. 7 am. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www. brooklynbowl.com. MUSIC, NATALIE PIRES AND
- TUDO ISTO E FADO: Free. 7 pm. BAMCafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129], www.bam.org.
- MUSIC, JEFFREY FOUCAULT, MARK ERELLI: \$12. 7:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.
- MUSIC, HENRY THREADGILL: 8 pm. See Wednesday, Nov. 30. DANCE, PERFORMANCE AND DISCUSSION: Featuring BAX's grant recipients. \$15. 8 pm. BAX – Brooklyn Arts Exchange [421 Fifth Ave. in South Slope, (718) 832-0018], www.bax.org.
- MUSIC, MARGRET GREBOWICZ: Free. 9 pm. Tea Lounge [837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762], www.tealoungeny.com.

SAT, DEC. 3 OUTDOORS AND TOURS

COFFEE BARK: FIDO offers free goodies for dogs and their owners. Free. 7–9 am. Prospect Park Picnic House (West Dr. at Third Street in Park Slope), www. prospectpark.org.

NATURE WALK: Hunt for wild coffee with Wildman Steve Brill. Pre-registration required. \$20 (\$10 children under 12). 11:45 am. Prospect Park [Grand Army Plaza at Flatbush Avenue in Prospect Heights, (914) 835-2153], www.wildmanstevebrill.com.

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, TASCA AS PART OF TUDO ISTO É FADO: Free. 7 pm. BAMCafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St.

- Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129], www.bam.org. DANCE, BALLET: Music from Bach to Lady Gaga. \$30. 8 pm. Kingsborough Community College [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Decatur Avenue in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368-5596], www.onstageat-
- kingsborough.org. EVENT, THE DESK SET BIBLIOB-ALL: A dance party for librarians, archivists, authors and the people who love them. \$20-\$40. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouseny.com.
- MUSIC, MYLES MANLEY: Free. 9 pm. Tea Lounge [837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762], www.tealoungeny.com.

OTHER

WORKSHOP, JOB TRAINING: 10 am—1 pm. See Saturday,

Nov. 26. WINTER FESTIVAL: Benefit for the Gowanus Canal Conservancy. \$40. 6–9 pm. Build It Green (69 Ninth Street, between Second Avenue and Smith Street in Gowanus), www.gowanuscanalconservancy.org.

BAROQUE ACROSS THE RIVER:

A celebration of French culture. \$20.7 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www. brooklynhistory.org.



THINKING,

FAST-SLOW

DANIEL

KAHNEMAN



24 SEVEN

James Sewell Ballet presents the ultimate dance challenge *LE DANCE OFF*

Saturday, December 3 at 8:00 p.m. | ^{\$}30

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20.00 Admission per person Which includes a hot buffet

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For more info contact Marie Stack 917-841-1617 www.mariestack.com

sullivanhallnyc.com

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SEVEN



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Complete Dinner Menu

Appetizers

Soup Du Jour Chef's Selection Made Daily Eggplant Rollatini Egg Battered and Rolled with Three Cheeses French Onion Soup Onions in Rich Bouillon Broth, Gratins Swiss Cheese Pasta Of The Day Chef's Selection Fried Calamari Lightly Dusted & Fried with Medium or Hot Sauce Seafood Salad A Medley of Shellfish Stuffed Mushrooms Cilegine Mixture of Olives, Peppers, Bread Crumbs, Mozzarella House Salad Garden Greens, Cucumbers, Tomato, Olives, Radishes

Zuppa De Mussels White or Red Sauce Grand Caesar Salad Romaine, Parmesan, Capers, Croutons, Creamy Dressing Shrimp Cocktail (Add \$5) Large Shrimps with Horseradish Cocktail Sauce Baked Clams Oreganta (Add \$5) Clams topped with seasoned bread crumbs in garlic wine sauce

Entrees

Roast Loin of Pork with Baconkraut and Bass Ale Gravy Served with Baconkraut & Dark Beer Gravy

Boneless Chicken Breast Parmigiana, Francaise or Grilled Lemon Pepper Veal Scaloppini

Marsala, Milanese or Pizzaiola **Grilled Pork Chop**

With Apple Sauce or Hot Cherry Pepper Sauce

Marinated Sliced Flank Steak With Bordelaise Sauce Talapia Filet Oreganata, Toasted Seasoned Bread Crumbs,

Wine, Shallot, Olive Oil

Above Entrees Served with Fresh Vegetables & Mashed Potato or Baked Potato or Rice

Rigatoni Broccoli Rabe Roasted Red Peppers, Garlic & Cheese with Grilled Chicken

Penne Ala Vodka Crushed Tomatoes, Light Cream with a Hint of Vodka, with Grilled Chicken

Vegetable Lasagna Vegetarian Style in a Pink Light Cream Sauce Linguini Primavera Garden Vegetables Sauteed in Garlic, Olive Oil & Basil

Marinara Sauce Seafood Linguini White or Red Sauce "Spicy" with Clams, Mussels & Small Shrimp

LUNCH | DINNER | BRUNCH

Wednesday, November 23 -THANKSGIVING EVE

Frankie Marra And Tony Monier - 9 pm

Friday, November 25 -The Ridge - 10 pm

Saturday, November 26 -Head Over Heels - 10 pm Sunday, November 27 -

Maurice - 6 pm

Every Wed. 8pm

Thurs-Sun Nights Valet Parking

LIVE MUSI

Desserts

Brownie Cheesecake **Apple Strudel Chocolate Mousse** Ice Cream Sherbet





Includes Appetizer, Entree, Dessert, American Coffee, Lipton Tea

Premium Complete Dinner Menu

Appetizers Soup Du Jour Chef's Selection Made Daily Eggplant Rolletini Egg Battered and Rolled with Three Cheeses French Onion Soup Onions in Rich Bouillon Broth, Gratins Swiss Cheese Pasta Of The Day Chef's Selection Fried Calamari Lightly Dusted & Fried with Medium or Hot Sauce Seafood Salad A Medley of Shellfish Stuffed Mushrooms Cilegine Mixture of Olives, Peppers, Bread Crumbs, Mozzarella House Salad Garden Greens, Cucumbers, Tomato, Olives, Radishes Zuppa De Mussels White or Red Sauce Grand Caesar Salad

Romaine, Parmesan, Capers, Croutons, Creamy Dressing Shrimp Cocktail Large Shrimps with Horseradish Cocktail Sauce

Baked Clams Oreganta Clams topped with seasoned bread crumbs in garlic wine sauce

Entrees

Filet of Sole Broiled, Francaise or Stuffed with Crabmeat

JR Seafood Platter Chef's Selection of Three Broiled with Wine, Lemon & Butter

Sauteed Shrimp Scampi or Portofino Style

Salmon Fillet

Cold Water Farm Raised, Broiled or Grilled over Spinach **RJ Mixed Grill**

Chef's Daily Selection of Three Meats with Portabella Mushroom & Sherry Wine Sauce Boneless 14 oz. Shell Steak

Topped with Blue Cheese Butter or Au Poivre Cognac Sauce



Twin Lobster Tails (Add \$5) Broiled with Garlic, White Wine & Butter

Surf n' Turf (Add \$5) 6 oz. Fillet Mignon, 5 oz. Lobster Tail with drawn Butter & Bearnaise Sauce



Additonal Entree Choices

Filet Mignon (Add \$5) Lightly Seasoned, Served with Bordelaise & Bearnaise Sauce



Dinner For Two

Rack of Lamb

Roasted New Zealand Lamb Dijon Glazed with Rosemary Potatoes & Garden Vegetables

Chateaubriand

Center Cut Fillet of Beef Sliced, Served with Dutchess potatoes Garden Vegetables, Bordelaise & Bearnaise Sauce

Seafood Festival

A Bounty of Shellfish, Calms, Mussels, Calamari, Scungilli, Lobster Tails. Served over a Bed of Linguini With Crushed Tomatoes, Garlic & Oil



Includes Appetizer, Entree, Dessert, American Coffee, Lipton Tea Tax & Gratuity

Desserts

Chocolate Mousse Homemade Cheese Cake **Rainbow Sherbet** Chocolate Mousse Cheese Cake Chocolate Mousse Pie **Fresh Fruit Plate** Ice Cream Banana Sundae

Apple Strudel Assorted Ice Cream Brownie Overload Peach Melba Homemade Tiramisu



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American Home Mort- Chase Home Finance, accordance with its rights its rights as current setary lease and 63 shares 28 shares of stock of of stock of CONCORDE Said security is appurten- appurtenant to premises: ant to premises: located located at 416 OCEAN at 225 ADAMS ST APT 3K BROOKLYN. 11201. Said sale inarticles of personal prop- property now or hereafter erty now or hereafter af- affixed to or used in confixed to or used in con- nection with said premisnection with said premis- es. The sale shall be on es. The sale shall be on December 1st, 2011 at December 15, 2011 at 10:15 AM at the foot of the the facing Adams Street, of the Supreme Court of the the Supreme Court of the State New of County of Kings, located at 360 Adams Brooklyn, NY 11201. The secured party reserves the right to bid. The serepresentations or warpremises being herein

tioneer. License # 1224356 ROSICKI, ROSICKI & AS-SOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Secured Party Fishkill Office 2 Summit Court Suite 301 Fishkill, NY 12524 845.897.1600 845.897.1600

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lawful purpose. LEGAL NOTICE

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LEGAL NOTICE

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Nov

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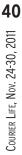
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'We're a fast-paced team. We're going to give a lot of teams problems.'

– Xaverian senior Dillon Burns

'When we play our best, we can be the best team.'

- South Shore's Terrence Samuel

Whitehead needs to be leader for Railsplitters

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Dwayne "Tiny" Morton would sign up right now for Isaiah Whitehead to emulate his on-court behavior from last year.

He would take 13 points, five rebounds and three assists per game and all the late-game heroics. From transfers such as Tafari Whittingham from Strat-Conneticut, Traford. vis Charles from Bishop Loughlin and Da'Shawn Suber from St. Patrick to holdovers Shaquille Davis, Ethan Telfair and Ian Vasquez, the pieces are in place around Whitehead so he doesn't have to average 30 points per game.

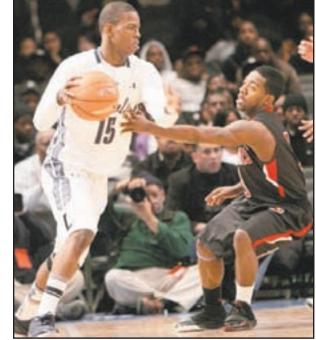
All the same, the longtime coach needs a different person on the court and off. Morton wants the six-footfour Whitehead to emerge as a leader, to play the point at times and to become more vocal, since he isn't buying Whitehead's quiet label.

"If you look at his Facebook, he's on that all the time," the coach said. "If you can talk on Facebook, you can talk here."

Whitehead is fine with that new role, though he admits he is quiet by nature. Whittingham has already seen his new teammate make strides.

"You make a mistake in practice, Isaiah corrects us," the forward said. "He helps me with my moves."

Whitehead, who holds scholarship offers from Pittsburgh, St. John's, Rutgers and Syracuse and has drawn interest from Kansas, Kentucky and Arizona, is fine with being more vocal. He was a leader in ju-



Lincoln's Isaiah Whitehead needs to rise up and become a leader for the Railsplitters this year.

nior high school, too, and last year, with seniors like Shaquille Stokes and Kamari Murphy, felt his role was to cede the spotlight.

"It's just growing up," he said. "If I talk more now, my junior and senior year will come easier."

On paper, Lincoln could be the most talented team in the city. With the additions of mid-major prospects Charles and Whittingham, the Railsplitters can go big like last year, yet still play fast. Morton went as far as to say he "loves" the sixfoot-seven Whittingham, his new power forward, a word he rarely uses, as much for his versatility as his temperament.

"He makes the new kids

feel so comfortable you would think he's not new," Morton said. "He fits in so well."

Bringing in Suber, a heady sharpshooting point guard who spent his first two years at Rice then helped St. Pat's off the bench last year, adds depth to an already deep backcourt. Davis and Telfair emerged over the summer as combo guards, able to play on and off the ball, while Vasquez is ready to flourish as a dynamic spot-up shooter. Morton's son, Trevonn, could start because he knows the system so well and is one of the team's best defenders.

Tiny Morton said this team "definitely" has the talent to accomplish its goals — Brooklyn Division AA title, borough crown and city and state championship.

"It can go either way," he said. "It can be a team that never works well because we're too new or we can work well and take it all."

The team that won Brooklyn AA and reached the Garden last year is vastly different from this one. Stokes is at Hawaii. Murphy is doing a postgraduate year in Florida and role players Reuben King and Jordan Dickerson are gone, too.

Not only is Whitehead the only returning starter, but returning players Telfair, Davis and Trevonn Morton saw only part-time duty off the bench last winter. That's why Tiny Morton needs so much from Whitehead as an extension of himself.

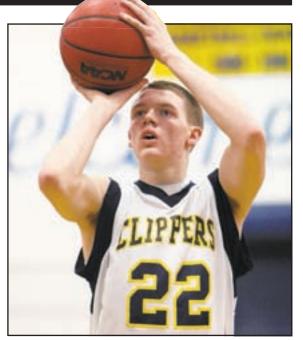
"Everybody thinks he's the star," Tiny Morton said. "He has to really step up. He has to be the leader."

Though just a sophomore, Whitehead's been through all this already, he's won at Boys & Girls and Thomas Jefferson; he's made clutch plays and gotten to the Garden; he's adeptly handled the hype as the next great player at Lincoln.

The loss to Boys & Girls at Madison Square Garden still stings, he says. When he wears the sneakers he wore that March afternoon, it pushes him to go harder.

"We're gonna get back there and win," he said.

If that is to happen, Whitehead will need to break out of his shell.



Xaverian linchpin Brian Bernardi is going to need backup if his team is going to take the Catholic High School Athletic Association league championship.

Xaverian aims to make noise

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Undersized, underrated, relying on unproven commodities surely you've heard this about the Xaverian boys basketball team before.

In fact, it's almost an annual rite of winter.

"It's gonna be the same thing," said senior Dillon Burns. "Go out and prove teams wrong."

The C.W. Post-bound 5-foot-6 guard embodies the Clippers – gritty, small and tenacious. He isn't their most important player. And neither is the team's star, Southern Methodist University-bound guard Brian Bernardi, longtime coach Jack Alesi says.

They are the two givens. For Xaverian to be a factor this winter, to challenge the Christ the Kings, St. Raymonds and Cardinal Hayeses of the league, a third primary piece will need to arise.

Alesi isn't sure who that player is yet, though there are options. Senior Shakeel Kemp, a talented 6-foot-5 forward, is one of them, along with railthin 6-foot-7 forward Andrew Petric and versatile 6-foot-3 senior George Lawlet. Kemp saw sparse playing time as a junior, but has improved at both ends of the floor while Petric is a solid outside shooter and passer, but the question for him is can he battle the league's bigger bodies inside.

"Good big players are like good starting pitchers — there aren't a lot of them," Alesi said. He added: "I've never gone into a season as unsure of what kind of season we'll have."

Xaverian will have *Continued on Page 44*

South Shore basketball enters year full of confidence

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

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Courier Life, Nov. 24-30, 2011

Three years ago, Terrence Samuel and Shamiek Sheppard bypassed traditional basketball powerhouses Lincoln, Boys & Girls and Thomas Jefferson High School to attend South Shore for one reason: The two wanted to create their own legacy, not follow anyone else's footsteps.

They've already changed the once-floundering program — South Shore failed to win a single league game the year before their arrival — leading the Vikings to the PSAL Class A quarterfinals last March and nearly upsetting two-time champion Boys & Girls. But they want even more now.

"South Shore hasn't been to the championship in [21] years," said the sixfoot-four Samuel, a passfirst point guard who holds a series of Division I schol-



(From left) South Shore's Doudmy Saint Hilaire, Shamiek Sheppard, Wayne Martin, and Terrence Samuel look to lead South Shore to its first championship in 21 years. Lauren Marsh

arship offers from, among others, Iowa State, Pittsburgh, West Virginia and Oklahoma State. "We never won a championship. We want to change that. That's our number one goal. We want to make history." For that to happen, the two juniors need to become leaders, coach Mike Beckles believes. They are in their third year as starters and the coach said a major problem last year was a void in leadership. He wants to see

Ida's still with the Jets!

This Thanksgiving, our gridiron gourmand Ida Eisenstein did what she does best – entertain a gaggle of dignitaries that included former ambassadors, textile manufacturers, and professional ping pong players. The usual fare was served: a kosher bird from the Silver Star market, bowls of delicately seasoned jellyfish purchased for a dear price from a Mott Street fishmonger, and of course, Ida's specialty, pan-roasted beet greens. The crowd gobbled up Eisenstein's yarns of days long gone, each guest at one point in their lives benefitting from her pigskin prescience. Oddly, nary a mention was made of Ida's stunning week, where she went 7-7 as this paper went to press. By night's end, everyone was pleasantly stuffed, but nonetheless managed several hands of canasta – and gulps of brandy. Ida, reflective as usual, found her inspiration from writer Saul Bellow: "Everybody needs his memories. They keep the wolf of insignificance from the door."

IDA'S PICKS:

Packers (-6.5), Saints (-6.5), Steelers (-7.5), Broncos (+6.5), Patriots (+5), Bucs (+3.5), Falcons (-7.5), Panthers (-3.5), Raiders (-3.5), Seahawks (-4.5), Rams (-1), Bengals (-7).

IDA'S BREAKOUTS:

Jets (-8) over Bills: "Home team." Dolphins (-3.5) over Cowboys: "They seem to have woken up." Jaguars (+3.5) over Texans: "Houston just lost their quarterback."

IDA'S KRYPTONITE LOCK OF THE WEEK: 49ers (+3.5) over Ravens: "They're that good."

Season record: 82-70-6; 9-2 on Kryptonite Lock of the Week.



a toughness develop, especially when the team is behind, or in a slump. And who better than to take the lead than the two highest rated prospects?

"Being a leader is on and off the court," said Sheppard, a hybrid six-foot-five wing known for his highflying finishes, who has offers from Iona, Hofstra and Drexel. "We have to encourage our teammates, not yell at them. Pick everybody up."

He added: "No matter what we go through, we have to find a way to stick together."

Samuel and Sheppard are far from alone. South Shore has one of the deepest — and most talented teams in the city. Transfers Gene Toussaint from Rice and David Tate from Brooklyn College Academy bolster an already impressive front line which includes Sheppard, six-foot-six senior Wayne Martin and sixfoot-seven junior Kwanique Martin.

The six-foot-four Samuel anchors the backcourt, though he has plenty of help in elite defender Ayodele Akinmola, improving sophomore Doudmy Saint Hilaire and sharpshooting sophomore Tyrone "Bird" Johnson.

"We're gonna be only as good as we work," Beckles said. "We have to understand teams are going to look to bring it to us. You have to work hard to be successful."

Furthermore, unlike most of the Public School Athletic League's other top programs, chemistry shouldn't be an issue for the Vikings. Only Toussaint and Tate are new; the rest of the expected rotation has been together for at least a year, and in some cases, two years.

"It's somewhat of an advantage if they can use that experience," Beckles said. "I like that they've been through this together."

Sheppard said: "I think we're ready. The challenges *Continued on Page 44*

Falcons set to spread wings

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Bishop Ford followed the best season in program history with an upand-down campaign. The Falcons showed flashes during games of what they could be, were hurt by injuries and let frustration set in at times, all leading to a sub-500 campaign. It's left a large returning group hungry to prove themselves once again.

"I think we definitely have a statement to make this year," senior forward Brittany Lewis said. "Last year wasn't our ideal season. It's a personal thing. We want to do better than last year and go further."

With just two key seniors graduated, a host of players a year older and some important new additions, the Falcons believe they are deeper, more versatile from a year ago. They finished 12-15, fourth in Catholic High School Athletic Association Brooklyn/Queens Division I and lost in a Catholic Hich School Athletic Association Class AA state tournament play-in game to Mary Louis. Coach Mike Toro, now in his third season, believes he needs to prepare them better for game and they can't let in-game adversity get the best of them.

"I think we got to get them to buy into not only believing that we can compete, but understanding each individual role on the team," he said. "We are not worried about having issues or problems like people thought we had in the past."

One problem they certainly don't have is lack of talent at the guard position. That starts with junior Aaliyah Lewis, a versatile scorer who can get into the lane, score or create for others or knock down an open 3-pointer. Senor Shanice Vaughan is strong getting to the rim. Shooters Ajannae Gates and Jeane Jennings also return.

"Me and Shanice have to step up big time," Aaliyah Lewis said. The biggest additions from junior varsity are sharpshooting junior Jill Conroy and sophomore Aaliyah Jones, who plays bigger than her 5-foot-7 frame and can score inside and out. Both can defend and allow the Falcons to keep up their pressure defense. They will also add to Ford's ability to frustrate zones from the outside, something that was lacking last season.

"It's finally like a dream come true because most teams if they decided to sit back in a zone we are going to shoot them out of it," Toro said. "If they decided they are going to stay in zone we will just keep knocking down shots. If they decide to play man we just take each of their kids to the basket."

Brittany Lewis, who has a full academic scholarship to study pharmacy at Pittsburgh, is the club's top returning forward. She can bully people inside and hit the midrange jumper .Toro believes 6-foot-3 senior Brittany Martin and junior Tanasia (Sweets) Blake have improved. It's junior Brittany Henry that is primed to make the biggest impact of that group.

"You can tell she believes in herself more," Brittany Lewis. "She is going to go rebound the ball and put it back up instead of shying away."

Unlikely last season Ford is shying away from calling itself a Catholic Hich School Athletic Association Brooklyn/Queens title contender right out of the gate. This year they feel they need to earn that distinction with how deep the league is.

"Everyone predicting Nazareth, picking Christ the King, picking Mary Louis, they are saying Molloy and Loughlin are going to be dangerous," Toro said. "Someone decides to forget about Bishop Ford. Instead of going the usual route of being cocky and confident we are going to go game by game and silence all the critics game by game."



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AVIATORS Confidential Aviators end the hex at their home

BY THOMAS TRACY

Courier Life, Nov. 24-30, 2011

The hex at the Hangar has been broken!

The Aviators reclaimed their home ice at Floyd Bennett Field in stunning fashion last weekend thanks to back-to-back victories that featured back-to-back hat tricks.

Whatever was keeping Brooklyn from winning at the Aviators Sports and Events Center was killed, dismembered and buried in the weeds behind Flovd Bennett Field on Saturday when they filleted the Cape Cod Bluefins 5-3.

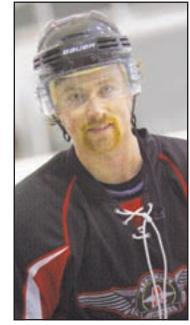
Center and fan-favorite Jesse Felten did most of the fricasseeing on Friday, scoring three of the five goals — and ending a curse that cooled his sticking career: Felten had only scored once in three and a half weeks of regulation play before the fated match up with the Fish.

"I had a slow start this season, but things are starting to pick up," Felten explained. "Coach [Rob] Miller paired me up with two great players (right wingers Vladimir Nikiforvov and Chris Ferazzoli), so things are going to get better."

Miller called hat tricks "rare" for Brooklyn.

"We don't usually have highscoring games, and we don't have that level of consistency," he said.

That just made the three-peat repeat by center Andrew Owsiak even more fun to watch. Owsiak



Aviator Andrew Owsiak repeated Jesse Felten's Friday night hat trick on Saturday, helping the Aviators decimate the Danbury Dashers 9-3.

followed Felten's skate grooves on Saturday, netting three of Brooklyn' goals scored in a 9-3 thrashing of the Danville Dashers.

Owsiak scored twice with less than a minute to go in the first period, then netted his third goal late in the second.

And Felten wasn't about to be outdone: he scored twice in the second period as the Aviators secured an astounding seven point lead against Danville — making the Dashers look like they were standing still.

As they entered the fifth week of the season, the Aviators have played six games at the Aviator Sports and Events Center — known to true fans (and our readers) as the Hangar — but didn't pull out a single win until last weekend.

Saturday's 9 goals was a season high for the Aviators, but the Dashers weren't much of a challenge: the Federal Hockey League expansion team from Illinois hasn't won a single game.

It also didn't do much for Brooklyn's standings: with their five wins, three losses and three loses in overtime, the Aviators are in fourth place, tied with the hated Akwesasne Warriors, the team that

The Brooklyn Avia-

tors will be back home to play the 1,000 Island Privateers at Aviator Sports [3159 Flatbush Ave. in

Floyd Bennett Field in Marine Park, (718) 758-7580] on Nov. 23 at 7:35 pm. Tickets \$12 (\$10 for se-

information visit www.brookly-

Photos by Steve Solomonson

Xaverian

Continued from Page 41

help for Bernardi and Burns in the backcourt. Alesi said sophomore Raven Owen, a 5-foot-11 guard, is the program's next great player, a skilled and talented shooter. Junior Lamel Faison can also light it from the perimeter. Six-foot senior guard Shawn Taylor, who missed all of last year with a knee injury, is also in the plans. Alesi plans to use the speedster at the point to free up Burns on the wing.

"We're a fast-paced team," Burns said. "We're gonna give a lot of teams problems. We're tough to match up with."

Taylor is an exceptional defender, too, and will often pick up the opposition's top guard, which is important.

Alesi is confident the team can shoot well and has quickness to match up with anyone in the league. But there are surely question marks.

"I don't know if we can defend at the 'AA' level," Alesi said.

Bernardi, one of the league's top seniors and the city's top spot-up shooter, has improved at the defensive end. Instead of traveling over the summer on the Amatuer Athletic Union circuit, he spent much of July and August working on his deficiencies, such as ballhandling and defense.

"I want to be a leader to this team, to do what is needed," he said. "I need to step up and be that guy. I need to bring the intensity up on defense, help out re-

bounding and keep hitting shots." It's been seven years since Xaverian last won a city title. Though it has picked off the league's top teams during the regular season in Bernardi's two previous varsity seasons, the Clippers have failed to even reach the final four. He doesn't want to head off to Southern Methodist University with that on his resume.

"Our ultimate goal is to get to the championship and win it," Bernardi said.

South Shore

Continued from Page 42

we faced last year, we're prepared for."

While expectations are naturally high for South Shore, Beckles is doing his best to temper the excitement. There was a similar feeling last year at the time, before the Vikings dropped their first four league contests, and needed to rally just to finish in a fourth-place tie

with Robeson.

"For me, it's about improvingevery day," he said. "I don't want these guys to look ahead. We have a very good schedule and we play in a very tough league."

Samuel had a hard time not looking ahead. Though he played sparingly in a recent scrimmage against Queens powerhouse Cardozo, South Shore still won four of six quarters.

"When we play our best, we can be the best team," Samuel said. "We can go all the way this year."

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stole the cherished Com-Aviator center Jesse Felten helped break the hex at the Hangar on Friday when he scored missioner's Cup from three goals - securing the team's 5-3 victory over the Cape Cod Bluefins. them during last year's playoffs.

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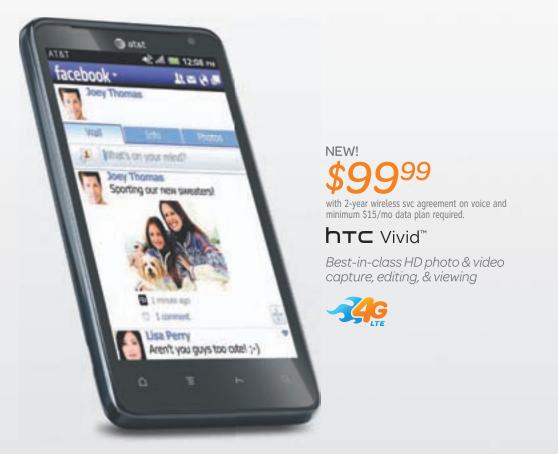






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