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## Carlo's way out in Beep race

BY AARON SHORT

Carlo Scissura will not be Brooklyn's next Borough President — the fund-raising frontrunner has dropped his campaign to assume the presidency of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, instead.

Borough President Markowitz's right-hand man said abandoning his quest to succeed his term-limited boss in 2013 was "a tough decision."

"My primary focus was doing good, positive things to grow Brooklyn, and being the president of the chamber allows me to do that," said Scissura. "In the end, that's why the chamber won out."

"I do things based on what contributions I can make, and were  
*Continued on Page 12*



Mike "Big Baby" Scott can't wait for the start of the Brooklyn Kickball League season in McCarren Park on Sunday. For an in-depth preview, see page 37.  
Photo by Stefano Giovannini

# MASKED SNACK ATTACK

## Raccoons take leftover milk

NATALIE O'NEILL

Careless custodians at a Windsor Terrace school have turned the surrounding block into a cafeteria for hungry raccoons — and rotten milk is always on the menu, according to angry neighbors.



Residents say the clean-up crew at PS 154 regularly tosses dozens of trash bags containing half-empty cartons of milk on the sidewalk in front of the school, attracting families of chubby critters that tear into the plastic bags  
*Continued on Page 38*

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# INSIDE



Your entertainment guide **Page 23**

- Police Blotter .....8
- Letters.....18
- Borobeat .....19
- Sports.....33

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# Extremely loud, incredibly late

## Noisy Brooklyn Bridge construction goes from 11 pm to 6 am

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

One of the most famous landmarks in the city that never sleeps is making sure its neighbors take that phrase literally, according to groggy Brooklynites angry about late-night construction on the Brooklyn Bridge.

Noisy drilling at the base of the historic span begins at midnight and usually lasts until around 4 am, keeping residents on Cadman Plaza West awake until the sun rises, according to sleep-deprived neighbor Dan Lee.

"It's been hell," said Lee. "We're completely at their mercy."

He and other residents want the city to start any noisy construction work earlier and end it by midnight — but the city says it must burn the midnight oil to avoid impeding the flow of traffic on the Brooklyn Bridge as it undergoes a major renovation.

The drilling comes after engineering inspectors ranked the bridge as "poor" in a condition report, prompting a fix-up that will give the legendary viaduct new ramps, approaches, and decking.



**SOUND AND FURY:** Neighbors of the Brooklyn Bridge say noisy drilling at the base of the span is keeping them awake all night. Photo by Bess Adler

But it comes at a cost: it's been driving neighbors nuts for weeks, causing some of them to leave town, and even sleep in the bathroom, some said.

And the noisy phase of the project is expected to last through the summer.

Late-night construction is allowed in the event that daytime work "would result in unreasonable delay or increased expenditure for

a necessary public improvement," according to city noise code.

In this case, the city has obtained permits to drill between 11 pm and 6 am.

"We aren't allowed to start any earlier than that," Sabrina Lau, the project's liaison, wrote in an e-mail to a neighbor.

She later told this newspaper she's aware that noise is impacting residents — but declined to comment further.

The Department of Transportation, which is heading the project, said closing the bridge during the day would displace tens of thousands of motorists into DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights — slowing traffic to a crawl, impeding emergency responders, and prolonging the bridge renovation project, according to a spokeswoman.

Lee is now urging the city to begin the project after rush hour and wrap it up earlier for the health and sanity of residents.

"It's so loud," he said. "And this is only the start of a summer full of noise torture."

# Restaurants find allies in War on Brunch

## Beep, diners back eateries in fight for Sunday hours

BY AARON SHORT

It was all quiet on the Western omelet front on Sunday after North Brooklyn's rebel restaurants retreated, hunkering down and calling in reinforcements including Borough President Markowitz in the ongoing War on Brunch.

Restaurant owners kept their outdoor tables safe behind the ramparts of their dining rooms until noon rather than risk tickets from city forces in the escalating conflict over a little-

known regulation that bans eateries from serving food to sidewalk patrons on Sunday mornings.

Brunch mainstays Enid's and Lokal — which suffered the war's first casualty when city inspectors accused the bistro of serving outdoor diners at 9:35 am last month — kept morning customers indoors, but even though the eateries stepped back from the trenches they found a powerful ally in the brunch-loving Beep.

"Having brunch on the

sidewalks of Brooklyn is, in many ways, an extension of sitting on our stoops — a community experience that allows us to people-watch, get to know our neighbors, and enjoy the weather and fresh air — especially during the summer," said Markowitz. "It's hard to imagine New York City without it."

Markowitz said he hopes to bring peace to the Sunday morning dining scene, and urged legislators to rethink

*Continued on Page 16*



**LET THEM EAT BRUNCH:** Enid's hostess Alex Phillips holds a petition with the signatures of 300 diners who oppose the city's crack-down on serving brunch outdoors on Sunday mornings.



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# Home wrecked in W'burg



**PICKING UP THE PIECES:** Jadwiga Bronte says her landlord trashed her apartment on Bedford Avenue in an attempt to force her out. Photo by Ben Lockhart

BY BEN LOCKHART AND AARON SHORT

A landlord punished for strong-arming rent-stabilized tenants broke into a Bedford Avenue apartment under the auspice of home repairs and trashed the place in an attempt to force a tenant to move out, a Williamsburg resident told cops.

Jadwiga Bronte says she is going to sue land-

lord Jamal Alokasheh — who lost a 2010 housing court case filed by angry tenants in another Williamsburg edifice — for performing illegal “renovations” that left her two-bedroom abode near the corner of N. Eighth Street in shambles.

Bronte claims she and a roommate began subletting the rent-stabilized unit for \$700 per month

from a previous tenant last June, then started paying rent directly to Alokasheh in November after forging an agreement by e-mail.

The landlord allegedly promised to fix a leak on April 26, but when Bronte returned to her fourth-floor apartment, she found her walls and parts of her ceiling strewn about the living room, her front door pulled off its hinges,

and her bathtub laying on its side in the kitchen.

But Alokasheh insists his workers did no wrong and that Bronte doesn't even reside in the apartment.

“She is not my tenant,” said the landlord, who has owned the building since 2009. “I don't even know this person — my tenant left over six months ago.

*Continued on Page 18*

## Kruger sentenced to seven years for bribery

BY DANIEL BUSH AND COLIN MIXSON

A federal judge sentenced disgraced state Sen. Carl Kruger to seven years in prison on April 26, claiming that the pol's scheme to accept close to \$1 million in bribes was a “dagger into the heart of good government.”

Kruger accomplice Michael Turano — the former lawmaker's alleged lover and son of Community Board 18 District Manager Dorothy Turano, Kruger's longtime companion — received two years in prison for his role in the political corruption scandal.

A choked-up Kruger, who pleaded guilty to accepting payoffs from deep-pocketed lobbyists, told Manhattan federal court Judge Jed Rakoff that he'd learned his lesson.

“My actions will forever overshadow whatever legacy I intended to achieve,” he said. “My sentencing hasn't begun, but my punishment is well underway.”

Yet Kruger, who once led the state senate's powerful Finance Committee, wasn't as contrite in an interview with this paper moments before he stepped into court.

“If there's anything I can say about this it's don't stay at the table too long,” Kruger said. “If you stay at the table too long, you lose.”

Dorothy Turano, who prosecutors say benefitted from Kruger's bribe-taking, didn't show any remorse over



**WALK OF SHAME:** Ex-state Sen. Carl Kruger is escorted out of court after being sentenced to seven years in prison last week.

what Kruger and her son had allegedly done as she watched the proceedings from behind a pair of dark sunglasses.

“The streets of Brooklyn are safe now,” Turano said sarcastically to a friend as she left the courtroom. “Really good.”

Both Kruger and Michael Turano were able to leave court free men: their prison sentences are scheduled to begin on June 26.

Federal prosecutors say Kruger used his bribes to finance a lavish lifestyle that included a super luxury English-made Bentley automobile and the garish seaside mansion on Mill Island he shares with the Turanos.

“Year after year Kruger accepted bribes to help the Turano family,” said U.S. Attorney Michael Bosworth. “For what? They weren't im-

poverished. They lived in a million-dollar mansion with a movie theater.”

The case against Kruger unfolded a web of deceit and lies last March, when federal prosecutors charged him with offering his political clout to the highest bidder.

Prosecutors claim lobbyists funneled thousands of dollars in payoffs to a dummy corporation that Michael Turano founded so Kruger could help them on a litany of legislative matters, including:

- Delaying the expansion of a bill that included a five-cent deposit on bottled water.
- Altering the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law so grocery stores could sell wine.
- Going to war with American Indian reservations to demand they pay state sales taxes on cigarettes.

## Ex-state senator's highs and lows

*State Sen. Carl Kruger's fall from grace had many twists and turns. Here's a refresher course on the lawmaker's career and downfall:*

### February, 1994

Carl Kruger is elected to the state Senate in a special election.

For the next 14 years, he maintains an office on Avenue U and puts forth a litany of bills, such as one forcing pedestrians to shut off their iPods when preparing to cross the street.

Kruger is a Democrat, yet manages to fit in well with the GOP leadership in the state Senate, and becomes the first Democrat to be given a committee chairmanship in a Republican-run house.

ing Richard Lipsky, Aaron Malinsky, and hospital CEO David Rosen. Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Harrington says he has 100,000 documents and 30,000 recorded phone conversations backing up his case.

Prosecutors say that Kruger used the bribe money to pay for a multi-million dollar home in Mill Island that he shares with longtime companion Dorothy Turano, the District Manager of Community Board 18, and son Michael Turano, who the FBI outed as Kruger's lover.

### November, 2008

Kruger, forms a “Gang of Three” with a handful of other legislators and threatens to abandon the thin Democratic majority, which had just taken control of the chamber — handing power back to the GOP.

The Democratic leadership buckles under his threats and makes Kruger the powerful chair of the Finance Committee.

### Dec. 21, 2011

Kruger resigns from the state Senate so he can keep his pension. He then tearfully pleads guilty to federal corruption charges in Manhattan federal court, ending months of speculation over whether he had accepted the bribes.

The normally brash Brighton Beach Democrat, who professed his innocence for nearly a year, agrees to pay back \$450,000 of his ill-gotten gains as part of the plea deal hammered out with federal prosecutors.

### July 12, 2010

A Sheepshead Bay businessman tells an FBI informant that Kruger would fix his problems with the state if he threw a fund raiser for the pol.

After a week of tight-lipped silence, Kruger finally speaks out about the FBI's probe into his campaign practices, claiming that he's an innocent patsy.

“All I know is that I'm a victim in this whole thing,” Kruger says.

The business owner is charged with lying to investigators after he claims that he had lied to the informant about Kruger's alleged “pay to play” tactics.

### Jan. 11, 2012

Gov. Cuomo announces that the disgraced ex-pol's vacant seat will be filled in a March 20 special election, setting the stage for a showdown between Councilman Lew Fidler (D-Marine Park) and Brighton Beach attorney David Storobin.

### Jan. 27, 2012

State GOP leaders unveil their proposal to redraw the borough's nine state Senate districts, but their new map cuts Kruger's old district entirely — wiping his legacy off the map and handing a swath of real estate between Brighton Beach and Mill Basin to other pols.

— Colin Mixson

Photo by Tom Callan

# GARDEN GROANS

## Greenwoodsmen worried about outdoor beer bar

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Neighbors of a soon-to-open Greenwood Heights beer garden have long-brewing fears about the outdoor drinking destination — because getting in touch with the venue's owners is harder than getting the attention of a busy bartender during happy hour, critics say.

Greenwood Park will soon begin serving brews under the stars on 19th Street and Seventh Avenue — but its operators have not scheduled any meetings with the civic group that can play an advisory role in liquor license applications.

Community Board 7 district manager Jeremy Laufer says the owners of Greenwood Park haven't contacted his group to discuss permits for drinking, live music, and dancing, and when the board tried to contact them, it got no response.

The group's stance on the bar won't make or break Greenwood Park's chances at a liquor license — the State Liquor Authority makes the final ruling, and prospective bar owners are not required to gain community board



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

**BAR FIGHTERS:** Casey Petrillo and Jerry Simon want the owners of Greenwood Park to be good neighbors.

approval or even appear before a neighborhood committee.

But the perceived lack of responsiveness has raised warning flags for some who worry the bar owners will lure a rowdy crowd, then not deal with the aftermath.

"There's going to be a whole bunch of drunk guys walking down the street — we're worried about noise and safety," said

neighbor Jerry Simon. "Why not make yourself available and have a discussion about it?"

Some bar critics are hoping to force that discussion by storming an upcoming civic meeting to protest the 700-seat beer garden and outdoor concert hall, which is slated to feature a bandshell for music, a bonfire, and 40 beers on draft.

Greenwood Park co-owner Ted Mann — who happens to be the son of gun-slinging power-rocker Ted Nugent — didn't respond to calls and e-mails seeking comment.

Partner Michael Esposito said the venue will open in a month.

"We're just taking care of a couple more things," Esposito said.

Mann is no newcomer to dining and nightlife — he owns the popular neighborhood spots Cubana Social in Williamsburg, No Name Bar in Greenpoint, and Gold Coast deli in Bay Ridge.

Considering his track record, neighbors are hoping for the best.

"I've heard some concerns — but I've also heard some positive things, too," Laufer said.



File photo by Moses Gates

**PADDLE TALES:** Kayakers are not risking their lives by rowing down Newtown Creek, according to a state study.

# Row your boat!

BY AARON SHORT

Boating on Newtown Creek is safe, but be careful around the seafood and don't take a dip, a new state study concluded.

Kayaking in the putrid Greenpoint waterway is not dangerous as long as paddlers avoid drinking or touching the water and do not schedule boat outings after big rainstorms, when raw sewage floods the creek, according to state health and environmental officials who analyzed water and sediment samples along the 3.8-mile waterway.

"Because people do not usually submerge their heads in the water during these activities, the presumed volume of incidental water consumption is lower than swimming, and subsequently, the risk of illness can also be assumed to be lower," the researchers said.

Brooklynites should be wary about eating anything they catch in Newtown Creek because of high bacteria levels, said state scientists, who recommended that women under age

*Continued on Page 14*

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# Your vote can make history

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

A giant corporation will donate millions of dollars to revitalize several cherished Brooklyn landmarks — if enough history buffs vote for them, that is.

Nine iconic Brooklyn places including the Brooklyn Public Library's main branch and Park Slope's Congregation Beth Elohim synagogue are facing off against 31 other historic New York City structures in an "American Idol"-style contest to determine how the bank and financier American Express will spend \$3 million slated for renovation work.

Brooklynites can vote for their favorite preservation projects — such as returning the B&B Carousell to Coney Island, rebuilding the bulkhead at the Greenpoint Manufacturing and Design Center, fixing the synagogue's roof, or replacing the library's doors — and the four most popular projects will divvy up the cash.

"It's a fascinating thing

to do," said Brooklyn historian Francis Morrone. "Buildings in desperate conditions — like the synagogue — should be taken care of first."

Contest promoters say voters should log on and vote — and do it for the children.

"It preserves history so our kids know what it looks like," said Katie Jackson, a spokeswoman for Partners in Preservation, the organization in charge.

Anyone above age 13 is allowed to vote once per day through May 21.



File photo

**PICK YOUR FAVORITE:** Should big bucks go toward fixing the Brooklyn Public Library's doors, or bringing the B&B Carousell back to Coney Island?



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# Food cart standoff in Bay Ridge

## Feud over street vendors boils over in bizarre confrontation

BY DANIEL BUSH

The simmering cold war between Bay Ridge's food vendors and Fifth Avenue's brick-and-mortar businesses boiled over on Monday morning when merchants occupied two prime pieces of sidewalk used by popular neighborhood gyro sellers — sparking a heated standoff that lasted well into the night.

Local merchants from a new group called Save Our Streets, led by Lone Star bar owner Tony Gentile, set up folding tables on both Fifth Avenue and 86th Street at 7 am — taking over the food vendors' spots — and sold newspapers and cookbooks. They also handed out T-shirts and literature about how food carts destroy neighborhood businesses.

But the irate vendors vowed to reclaim their turf — escalating the war for control on the busy intersection — with one food cart operator promising to circle the block until merchants break down their table and go home.

"I'm going to wait and go back as soon as they leave," said Sammy Kassen, manager of the Middle Eastern Halal Cart, who was forced to move further down the avenue in March

when a pair of benches were illegally placed on his usual spot.

Yet Gentile says he will meet Kassen's waiting game head on, and plans to stay put until the vendors leave Bay Ridge.

"I'll be out here every night as long as I need to be until they're gone," said Gentile. "I pay \$10,000 a month in rent — these guys don't pay anything."

Kassen said that the Save Our Streets tables were a violation of his civil rights.

"Why should I have to relocate like an animal when they tell me to relocate? Is it because of my color, is it because I have a beard, is it because I have an Arab name?" Kassen demanded.

But Gentile said ethnicity isn't the issue.

"This isn't about race, this is about money," the bar owner said, accusing Kassen of playing the race card to win sympathy.

Islam Bauiomy, who lost his longtime spot on 86th Street, complained that the food carts are constantly under attack.

"We don't bother anyone," Bauiomy said. "I'm here to work. I have a

family and we have to eat."

Police said they won't remove Gentile's folding tables because its legal to hand out literature on the street.

The standoff continued throughout Monday and into Tuesday, with Gentile asking his bouncers and other merchants to man the folding table.

Many residents defended Gentile's gambit.

"They're not paying rent," resident Michael Kerrighonh said. "The hard-working people here pay rent and contribute to the community."

The standoff is only the latest skirmish in a long-simmering feud between the two sides.

Business owners have long complained that food carts pollute the sidewalk and attract rowdy drunks. Kassen, who pays \$200 for a two-year permit allowing him to sell on the street, cried foul, claiming he and his fellow vendors have done nothing wrong.

Things got messy after the benches were mysteriously put in: Kassen was backing into his new spot a few feet from the benches when he hit Gentile with his cart, when the bar owner blocked his path.



**MEAL MELEE:** Middle Eastern Halal cart's workers (above) said they would spend day and night on the corner of 86th Street and Fifth Avenue after Lone Star Bar owner Tony Gentile (below, center) and other merchants blocked their spot with tables. Photos by Elizabeth Graham



BUSINESS BROOKLYN STYLE - ADVERTISEMENT

## Breezy Point Surf Club – a Brooklynite's cool escape

By Camille Sperrazza

Long before we ever heard the term, "staycation," generations of Brooklynites spent their summers at local cabana clubs.

Here, the kids would be amused with activities all day, and the adults would spend time chatting with their peers,



poolside, perhaps playing a game of Mahjong. In the evening, a band performed, and families would have a great time dancing the night away. It was a wonderful way to spend the summer because it was all about family bonding and creating memories.

Eventually, many of the cabana clubs closed, or lost their luster.

But not this summer. Family-bonding

time is back. Two of those cabana clubs, The Breezy Point Surf Club and The Silver Gull Beach Club, are under new management, and are better than ever.

Both are part of the National Parks Service, and have contracted with Ortega National Parks, a family-owned enterprise that operates retail stores, park concessions, restaurants, and hotels. The company has made a huge investment in these properties. One of its owners, Tanya Ortega, says, "We're bringing them back to their golden days."

At the same time, they are also being brought right into the 21st century, as the clubs will have WiFi in public areas, healthier food, updated gyms, and playgrounds. The Ortega family says it takes great care to be progressive stewards of the environment, "thinking green" in all of its business operations.

Kids will enjoy the new day camps, baseball fields, and planned activities. Adults can look forward to night time entertainment, such as live music and comedy. These events are expected to take place during the week and on weekends.

The party continues with a full bar of favorite brands and spirits. Cabana boys and girls can bring dinner right to your cabana. It all adds up to one heck of a

"staycation."

Make time for relaxation, too, because spa services, such as massages, will be offered at Silver Gull. Next year, an incredible spa facility is expected to open on the premises.

For those who may find walking to the beach a bit challenging these days, transportation will be provided.

The Ortegas are very excited about this new venture, noting that this historic area has been featured in movies such as "The Flamingo Kid," and "Goodfellas." Ortega calls the area, "a community gem," and takes pride in the restoration.



The best part for many Brooklynites is that all this fun is a short car ride away, making it a convenient and affordable



way to spend the summer. Season passes and day passes are available. Cabanas are available for rent, from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

Ortega National Parks has been operating National Park Service concessions for 16 years, and is currently managing sites within the Bandelier, White Sands, Muir Woods, Carlsbad Caverns, Death Valley, and Hawaii Volcanoes National Parks.

*Breezy Point Surf Club [1 Beach 227 St. in Breezy Point (718) 634-2500]. Silver Gull Beach Club [1 Beach 193 St. in Breezy Point (718) 634-1500]. Open houses at both beach clubs are taking place Saturdays and Sundays, 1 - 4 pm, until Memorial Day weekend.*

# Buy land and buy sea?

BY AARON SHORT

The operator of a ferry line that connects Greenpoint, Williamsburg, and DUMBO with Manhattan wants to accept MetroCards — a proposal that could streamline payment and lure more landlubbers to commute across the East River, transit advocates say.

New York Waterway, which runs the East River Ferry, has asked the MTA and the city to study how it can add ferry rides onto MetroCards, creating a single pass that straphangers can use to commute on land and by sea.

“The idea of integrating the MetroCard system into the East River Ferry system is something we’ve talked about in the past and we are interested in exploring options and learning more from the city and the MTA,” said Billybey Ferry Company CEO Paul Goodman.

A spokeswoman with the Economic Development Corporation, which is sub-



Photo by J.J. DeSpain

**FARE WELL:** An East River ferry operator wants to accept MetroCards on his boats.

sidizing ferry service with \$9.3 million in city funds over three years, said the city is weighing the idea.

An MTA spokesman declined to discuss how it would reconcile pricing differences between the two forms of transit: a one-way ferry trip costs \$4 and a monthly unlimited pass costs \$140 — considerably more than the MTA’s \$2.25 single ride and \$104 unlimited MetroCards. (The ferry also adds a \$1 surcharge for bringing bikes onto boats).

“It’s a bit early in the game to get in the details,” the MTA spokesman said.

In addition to address-

ing MetroCard pricing, the authority must also determine how to install card-swiping equipment comparable to the ones at subway stops at ferry landings.

And both the MTA and New York Waterway would have to determine how to process transfers.

“If there’s a free connection, one of the two entities would have to give up a free trip,” said a ferry spokesman.

Greenpoint resident Teresa Toro, who commutes to work via the ferry, says that MetroCards have proven their worth by making transfers between buses and subways more convenient — and she thinks the same would be true for boats.

“You encourage more riders when you make transfers seamless,” she said.

The city-backed ferry service set sail in June 2011, generating considerable excitement among residents

*Continued on Page 38*

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**78TH PRECINCT**

PARK SLOPE

**Mean street**

Cops say a crazed driver beat up a cyclist on Seventh Street on April 29.

The victim told police he was riding his bike near Fifth Avenue at 5 pm when an aggressive driver cut him off. The cyclist then tapped on the car — to warn the driver he was too close — but the angry motorist stopped the car, stormed out, and whacked the cyclist in the head, police say.

The poor pedaler fell to the ground and the violent thug continued to punch him, according to police. Passersby then pulled the enraged motorist away from the cyclist and he drove away, leaving the biker with gashes on his face and a bloody nose.

Cops arrested a 54-year-old suspect the same day.

**Heart, burned**

A thief stole electronics and prescription pills from a van parked on Sterling Place on April 26.

The 31-year-old victim told cops he parked a white U-Haul near Fifth Avenue at 6:05 pm, then helped his friend carry some furniture into an apartment. He came back 20 minutes later and discovered a laptop, some text books — and even his heartburn medication — gone.

**Disappearing Acura**

A crook swiped a car parked on Sixth Avenue overnight on April 23.

The 31-year-old victim told cops he parked his black 2006 Acura near Berkeley Place at 7 pm. When he returned to the place the car was parked the next morning at 9 am, it was gone.

**Whatta pain**

Someone swiped a wallet from a medical center on Prospect Park West on April 19.

A worker at the Union Street facility told cops she set her bag down inside of an office at around 11 am. When she returned to it at 6:30 pm, she discovered her wallet and checkbook were gone.

The thief later used checks to make a \$3,000 purchase.

**Jewelry jacked**

A perp swiped some expensive jewelry from a home on Prospect Park West sometime between November and April.

The 65-year-old victim told cops she placed some gold necklaces in a safe spot inside her home near Carroll Street at around 8 pm on Thanksgiving. She later hired contractors to fix up her pad. When she went to get the jewelry on April 19, it was missing.

**Purse snatch**

A jerk snatched a purse from a bargoer on Fifth Avenue on April 26.

**POLICE  
BLOTTER**

The 36-year-old victim told cops she was in the watering hole near Carroll Street at 11:30 pm when she hung her purse on a hook under the bar, then walked away for a couple hours. When she returned to get it, the purse — along with a bra, medical gloves, and \$400 that was inside it, was gone.

**Bad ride**

A pickpocket snatched a wallet from a straphanger on Seventh Avenue on April 25.

The 22-year-old victim told cops she was riding a Coney Island-bound F train near Ninth Street at around 9:15 pm, when she discovered that her brown leather wallet — which was full of credit cards — was gone. She later called her bank and discovered someone had used a card to make a \$104 purchase.

— *Natalie O'Neill*

**84TH PRECINCT**

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DUMBO-BOERUM HILL-DOWNTOWN

**Beat down**

A group of thugs mugged a woman on Willoughby Street on April 27.

The victim told police she was near Bridge Street at 6:50 pm when 10 crooks grabbed her purse, threw her onto the sidewalk, and ran.

**Boutique blues**

Crooks stole merchandise from a clothing store on Fulton Street on April 27, and damaged store property on the way out the door.

A worker at the store near Flatbush Avenue Extension told cops that a group of thugs came in at 7 pm, grabbed \$250 worth of clothes, and tried to leave. When a security guard stopped them, the thieves fought back and broke a glass display case before getting out.

**Subway sting**

Two thugs beat up a man and stole his headphones at the DeKalb Avenue train station on April 25.

The victim told police he was riding a Coney Island-bound Q train at 10:20 pm when the thugs got on at DeKalb Avenue and proceeded to pummel him in the face. The crooks grabbed his headphones and fled before the train pulled out of the station.

**Bag grab**

Two crooks stole a woman's purse on Bergen Street on the morning of April 24.

The victim told police she was near Fourth Avenue at 7:30 am when the thieves snatched her bag and fled.

**Train pain**

A thief swiped a sleeping woman's purse on a Manhattan-bound A train on April 24.

The straphanger told cops she nodded off after boarding the train at the Nostrand Avenue station at 12:15 pm. When she awoke later at the Jay Street stop, her bag was missing.

**Purse swiped**

A woman left her purse unattended at a Fulton Street restaurant and a thief made off with it on April 26.

The victim told cops she was inside the eatery at Pearl Street at 1:15 pm when she put her purse down. When she returned to retrieve it 20 minutes later, the bag was gone.

**Cell snatched**

A thief stole a woman's wallet and cellphone on Bond Street before dawn on April 28.

The victim told police she was near Dean Street at 3:10 am when the crook stopped her and demanded she hand over the items.

— *Daniel Bush*

**90TH PRECINCT**

SOUTHSIDE-BUSHWICK

**Humboldt shootings**

A man and woman were shot on Humboldt Street on April 29 after getting into an early-morning argument with tow other people.

Witnesses told police that the man and woman, who were cousins, were near Moore Street at 4:57 am when they got into a tiff with the gunman and a second man. The gunman then shot the victim in his chest and stomach, and the second man struck the victim in the face and head with a chain. The shooter then turned his gun on the woman, shooting her in the chest, police said. Both thugs ran down Humboldt Street and disappeared into a Moore Street building, witnesses told cops.

The victim was taken to Bellevue Hos-

pital and treated for his wound. Cops are searching for a 5-foot-5 man with brown hair and eyes, and dark skin.

**Nissan swiped**

A thief stole a Nissan parked on Scholes Street on April 26.

The driver told police he parked his car near Waterbury Street at 10 am, but when he returned two hours later, it was missing.

**Gun run**

Two gun-wielding thugs stole \$1,000 and an iPhone from four men inside a Scholes Street basement apartment on April 28.

The victims told police that the pair entered the building between S. Third Street and Union Avenue at 4:30 am with guns drawn. That's when one gunman said, "Dame tu dinero." In case the victims didn't understand, the other translated, "Give me your money. Call the police, and I will kill you."

The victims handed over the items and the thieves fled.

**Chain of fools**

A ruffian struck a man with a metal chain on Berry Street after the two got into an argument on April 27.

The victim told police he was near S. Eighth Street at 5:10 pm when he engaged the thug, who swung a chain at the victim's head and chest.

**Grand theft**

A masked thief hauled away a safe — and the \$10,000 reported to be inside it — from a second-floor Hewes Street business on April 25.

Cops said that video surveillance from the building between Broadway and Harrison Street caught the burglar break in at 10 pm, take the safe, and flee down Broadway.

**Kia keyed**

A thief stole a Kia parked on S. Second Street overnight on April 9.

The driver told cops she parked her car near Driggs Avenue at 4 am, but when she returned at 1 pm the next day, it was gone.

— *Aaron Short*

**94TH PRECINCT**

GREENPOINT-NORTHSIDE

**Hot pocket**

Three thugs assaulted and robbed a 14-year-old boy who was walking down Havemeyer Street on April 24 at 3 pm.

The victim told police he was near N. Ninth Street when the perps pushed him against a parked car.

The ringleader said, "What's in your pockets?" But before the victim could answer, the thief reached in and took out \$20. Then he punched the teen in the stomach before the trio fled on N. Ninth Street.



## Bottle rocket

A 28-year-old woman allegedly bashed a man's head with a glass bottle on Meeker Avenue on April 28.

The victim told police he was outside of a bar near N. Henry Street at 5 pm when he got into an argument with the woman. But the fight turned violent when the woman struck the man's ear with a glass bottle, cops said.

A woman was arrested at the scene.

## iPunch

Four teenage crooks beat up a 24-year-old woman and grabbed her iPhone on Richardson Street on April 25.

The victim told police she was near Humboldt Street at 5:40 pm when the teens approached and began to pull her hair, push her to the ground, and punch her in the back of the head.

One thief grabbed her phone from her hand and the teens ran off in different directions.

## Purse tug

A thief grabbed a woman's backpack and took off with it on N. Seventh Street on April 23.

The victim told police she was near the entrance to the Bedford Avenue L train station at 6 pm when the crook yanked her bag and fled.

## Mac moved

A burglar stole a laptop, camera, and backpack while a Wythe Avenue woman was out of her apartment on April 25.

The tenant told cops she left her home near N. Eighth Street at 5 am, but when she returned at 5:30 pm, her kitchen window was open and her belongings were gone.

## Heavy metal

A thief stole pipes, cooper wires, and steel stair pans from a Kingsland Avenue construction site overnight on April 25.

The manager told police he locked up the site near Beadel Street at 3 pm, but when he returned at 7 am the next day, the padlock was broken and the materials were gone.

## Cash swiped

A crook stole \$4,000 from a Manhattan Avenue business on April 26.

Cops said the thief cut the wires to video cameras and an alarm at the business near India Avenue at 4:06 am. He then drilled a hole through the rear bathroom wall, entered the building, and took the cash, police said.

## Copper caper

A thief stole several copper sheets and a hand truck from a Lombardy Street sheet metal shop overnight on April 26.

The manager told police he locked up his warehouse near Varick Avenue

at 3 pm, but when he returned at 9 am the next day, the goods were gone.

## Tundra taken

Someone stole a Toyota parked on Eckford Street overnight on April 23.

The driver told police he parked his car near Meserole Avenue at 11 am, but when he returned at 6:45 am the next day, his car, which contained his cordless drill, was missing from its spot.

## Nissan missing

A fiend stole a Nissan parked on N. Sixth Street on April 28.

The driver told police he parked his car near Roebling Street at 11 pm, but when he returned two hours later, his car, which contained his laptop, was gone.

— Aaron Short

## 70TH PRECINCT

FLATBUSH-MIDWOOD

## Dirty deeds

Cops arrested a 53-year-old man for allegedly threatening a Sanitation worker with a pistol on Church Avenue on April 28.

The victim, a street cleaner, told police that he was preparing his equipment between Flatbush and Bedford avenues at 9:10 am when the suspect left a nearby parked car and approached him. The suspect told the victim that he had just washed his car and that he didn't want the street cleaner to mess it up again.

When the city worker told the suspect that he should move his car, the suspect lifted up his shirt to display the pistol he had tucked in his pants, and allegedly said, "You're not going to get my f----- car dirty."

## Meter mad

A 39-year-old man was arrested for shoving a meter maid while she was writing him a traffic summons on Glenwood Road on April 27.

The victim alleged that she was between E. 29th Street and Nostrand Avenue at 5:20 pm and was in the process of issuing the summons when the man began to push and shove her, saying, "You're not going to write that ticket."

## Naughty neighbor

A 22-year-old woman was arrested for robbing a E. 15th Street apartment on April 27, taking a computer and TV, cops said.

A witness told police that she saw two the suspect and a man enter the victim's apartment between Avenues I and J at 8 pm, and leave with a TV and Dell computer.

The witness claimed she saw the victim's electronics lying outside of the suspect's apartment, which is in the same building.

— Colin Mixson

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# Subway sentinel freed

## 'Coffee' released after stint behind bars

BY ELI ROSENBERG

Ditmas Park's beloved subway sentry Coffee the Train Man was released from jail this week after a month-long stint in the slammer — but it is unclear if commuters at the Cortelyou Road station will hear his booming voice once again.

Coffee, whose given name is Charles Jones, was taken from the Cortelyou Road station, where he alerts commuters about oncoming trains, on March 22 for violating an order of protection filed by a woman he allegedly punched during a confrontation at the station last December.

He spent the last month at the Brooklyn House of Detention because he couldn't pay the \$1,500 bail, but was ultimately sentenced to time served, Daniel Ades, his court-appointed attorney, said.

"I wish that Coffee didn't have to make the choice be-



**TRAIN TRACKER:** Coffee the Train Man is no longer in police custody. Photo by Elizabeth Graham

tween getting out of jail right away or fighting the charges," said Ades, who persuaded a criminal court judge to lower the bail from \$1,500 to \$1,000 — a fee that was still beyond Coffee's means.

"The purpose of bail is to guarantee that someone returns to court, but when someone can't afford bail it means that they are held in jail unless they plead guilty. We would have loved to have made the prosecutors prove this case to a jury, but

to do that Coffee would have had to remain in jail until the end of the week and potentially beyond because he couldn't afford bail."

A lengthy prison stay would have certainly affected Ditmas Park strap-hangers, who rely on Coffee's early-warning system.

Coffee spends most mornings at the Cortelyou Road stop earning a living as the human version of Penn Station's big board, notifying hustling commuters when the next train is departing.

Yet Ades is unsure if Coffee will be going back to Cortelyou Road.

As a result of the plea deal, Coffee agreed to stay away from his accuser — who uses the Cortelyou Road stop. Coffee isn't forbidden from returning to Cortelyou Road, but any interaction with the woman could put his liberty in jeopardy again, Ades explained.

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## Scissura

Continued from cover

it not for this incredible opportunity I would be running," he said.

The Dyker Heights attorney has been actively campaigning for the top job in the county since last fall.

Scissura raised \$127,000 since the beginning of this year — cash he says will be returned in full to his contributors.

He faced considerable obstacles in the race for the Kings throne, as rivals Assemblyman Nick Perry (D-Flatbush), State Sen. Dan Squadron (D-Brooklyn Heights) and State Sen. Eric Adams (D-Prospect Heights) have all contemplated a run for the seat.

But when the chamber parted ways with former CEO Carl Hum earlier this year, Scissura expressed interest and emerged as a favorite candidate to run the borough's business association in the past two weeks.

Mayor Bloomberg said there is "no one better to take the helm."

"He represents the best of everything Brooklyn has to offer and has continually turned big ideas into real action and results," said Bloomberg.

Scissura credited his ex-

perience in Borough Hall for helping him understand the needs of small business owners, entrepreneurs, and shopkeepers — and says he learned a lot from Markowitz, his mentor and friend.

The Beep expressed regret that his top aide would be leaving his office.

The Beep compared his relationship with Scissura to a "proud parent who has mixed emotions when their children leave home."

But Scissura's time at Borough Hall wasn't without its pratfalls — the city fined Markowitz \$2,000 last year because Scissura represented his boss as a personal lawyer when the Borough President bought a house.

Scissura is one of several former Markowitz staffers who have recently left Borough Hall for prominent positions.

Former deputy Borough President Yvonne Graham took an associate commissioner job in the State Department of Health under the Cuomo administration.

And former Markowitz spokesman Eric Demby co-founded the Brooklyn Flea — the antiques market that has brought thousands of shoppers to the Williamsburg waterfront, Fort Greene, and DUMBO.

Scissura starts his new job in September.

## Candidates line up for chance to follow Marty Markowitz

BY AARON SHORT

Carlo Scissura's decision to bow out of the borough president race has opened the door for a number of people eyeing Brooklyn's top job.

So far there's only one declared candidate, State Sen. Eric Adams (D-Prospect Heights), but several lawmakers and at least one showman are reportedly considering a run. Here's the rundown and their chances at winning (in basketball terms — after all, politics is a game):

### State Sen. Eric Adams

**Qualifications:** Distinguished state legislator, former police captain who served for 22-years, and a fashionista who urged teens to pull up their pants in his "Stop the Sag" video.

**Setbacks:** Partially responsible for botching the state's selection of a racino in Queens.

**Shot at winning:** Slam dunk. Adams has the cash and the support from county leadership to become Brooklyn's first black borough president.

### Councilwoman Letitia James

**Qualifications:** As councilwoman she conducted oversight of wasteful city contracts including City Time and is known for criticizing Bloomberg's handling of the 2010 blizzard, the NYPD's treatment of minorities, and Atlantic Yards, earning kudos in progressive circles.

**Setbacks:** Took heat for launching a lawsuit after tripping over a truck's hitch.

**Shot at winning:** Lay-up in traffic. James is focused on the Public Advocate's race, but that's getting crowded in a hurry and the Borough President's office could line up nicely for her.

### State Sen. Daniel Squadron

**Qualifications:** Former Sen. Chuck Schumer aide, Squadron has passed legislation to improve pedestrian safety and drafted little-headed legislation to reform ethics in Albany.

**Setbacks:** Squadron's high school friends tell us he was sharper than everyone — but also a bit of a know-it-all.

**Shot at winning:** Three-point shot. Squadron is raising money for a run at a city-wide office, but some insiders think he would prefer stay in Albany.

### State Assemblyman Nick Perry

**Qualifications:** Deputy Majority Leader in state assembly, passed legislation that allows horny sexting teens who bother the objects of their affection to receive educational counseling instead of criminal prosecution.

**Setbacks:** Shares same name as Green Bay Packers's first round draft pick, but none of the talent at the linebacker position.

**Shot at winning:** Hook shot from under the basket. Perry is reportedly running ads promoting his candidacy for Borough President on local cable stations, but could struggle to gain support outside of Flatbush.

### Public relations exec George Shea

**Qualifications:** Turned a once-obscure sport — professional eating — into Major League Eating, which hosts of the Fourth of July Nathan's Hot Dog eating contest. Also, has Romney-esque head of hair, and an ability to give great quotes that parallels Markowitz's.

**Setbacks:** He refuses to rescind his duties officiating the contest, creating a potential conflict of interest — or an amazing marketing opportunity.

**Shot at winning:** Underhand from outside the stadium. Hey, people like hot dogs, right?

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# Meet Brooklyn's best brewer

BY ELI ROSENBERG



**CHEERS:** Brooklyn Heights rare book seller Douglass Flamm won the borough's biggest home-brewing contest with his oyster-infused stout.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

The war of the worts has been won by a rare-book seller from Brooklyn Heights who brews his beer with oysters.

Douglas Flamm, who was highlighted as a favorite by this newspaper in the days before the Brooklyn Wort home brewing competition, took first place in the April 28 contest with his "Moyster" stout — brewed with half a dozen oysters, shells and all.

Winning top prize at the twice-yearly event is a major accomplishment, as the contest has become a proving ground for amateur brewers across the city.

Previous Brooklyn Wort winners have established larger-scale breweries after winning the coveted crown, but Flamm who snagged third place in last summer's competition, would not say if he plans to quit peddling old copies of "Tropic of Cancer" for a chance at foamy greatness.

"It was a lot of fun," said a still breathless Flamm.

"You always go into something like this hoping for the best, but it was a great surprise and nice to be so well received!" he said.

## Kayak

Continued from Page 4

50 and children under age 15 refrain from consuming any fish caught in the waterway. Men over age 15 and women over age 50 should limit their intake of North Brooklyn seafood at one meal of bluefish, carp, and bass per month, and no more than six crabs per week, the study said.

Greenpoint boaters welcomed the news.

"The report confirms what we have always believed, that with simple precautions the creek is relatively safe for kayakers and canoers," said Dewey Thompson, founder of the North Brooklyn Boat Club.

The Environmental Protection Agency required the state to assess the health and environmental risks of Newtown Creek after the federal agency declared the waterway a Superfund site — meaning it will undergo an extensive cleanup implemented by the feds and funded by the polluters — in September 2010.

Two months later, the Department of Environmental Protection suspended boating on Newtown Creek until the agency could obtain more public health data, angering environmental watchdogs.

The ban was lifted last spring, but the city bickered with community activists over the health and safety risks for recreational boating and pressured state officials to stall funding for a proposed Greenpoint boat-house. The state approved

the boathouse last October and its health assessment confirmed that kayaking does not hold significant health risks.

A spokeswoman for the city's Department of Environmental Protection did not immediately return requests for comment.

Environmental activists called on government agencies to continue testing on the creek and add signage to alert residents about fishing risks.

"Much more needs to be done to educate everyday fishermen about these hazards so they don't put the health of their children or families at risk by consuming fish or crabs that may be toxic to their health," said Mike Schade, an organizer with the Center for Health and Environmental Justice.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: TEN CREATIVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/16/2012. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 10 JAY STREET, SUITE 524 BROOKLYN, NY 11201. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: TDY LOGISTICS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/01/2012. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 1400 AVE Z SUITE 307 BROOKLYN, NY 11235. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: BED BUG DETECTIVES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/22/2011. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: JONATHAN ZHAO 215 SOUTH 4TH STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11211. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**Notice of formation** of LLC: 441 EAST 95TH REALTY LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on March 13, 2012. Office Located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served against the LLC to: C/O 441 East 95th Realty LLC, 1161 EAST 86th St. 1st Flr, Brooklyn, NY 11236. Purpose: any lawful purpose. No Specified dis-solve date.

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**Notice of Formation** of Meserole Management LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 2/8/12. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 128 East Broadway, Ste. 1157, NY, NY 10002. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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**Notice of Formation** of RUTA 1 LA SUPERIOR LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/14/12. Office location: Kings County. Princ. bus. addr.: 295 Berry St., Brooklyn, NY 11211. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o Mark Rosenblum, CPA, 37 Brighton 11th St., Brooklyn, NY 11235. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**Notice of Formation** of Shelter Air Charter LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/12/12. Office location: Kings County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: 26 Orange St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. Registered agent upon whom process may be served: CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**Notice of Formation** of VS Collective, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/28/10. Office location: Kings County. Sec. of

### LEGAL NOTICE

State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business addr.: 442-D Lorimer St. #165, Brooklyn, NY 11206, Attn: Venessa Arizaga, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful activity.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**Notice of Qualification** of AGILERA, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/23/12. Office location: Kings County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 01/27/99. NYS fictitious name: ACS AGILERA, LLC. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts. of Org. filed with Div. of Corps., John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St. - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**Notice of Qual.** of Tavares Media LLC. filed with Sec of State NY (SSNY): 5/27/11. Office in Kings County. Formed in FL: 8/1/10. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to its principal office: 1995 Pitkin Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11207. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. Of State Kurt S. Browning, FL Dept Of State, R.A. Gray Bldg, 500 S. Bronough St, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250. Purpose: General.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**OC CARE LLC** Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 3/27/2012. Office in Kings Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 255 First St., 10B, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

### LEGAL NOTICE

**PORT EQUIPMENT LLC**, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/20/12. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Ken Kalmus, CPA, 585 Stewart Ave., Ste. 550, Garden City, NY 11530-4785. General Purposes.

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**RAPID REALTY COBBLE HILL LLC**, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/2/11. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, c/o Laura S. Hobgood, 184 State St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. General Purposes.

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**ROCKIN' LOCKS LLC**, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/26/2012. Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 4 Marcy Ave #3, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an on premises license, #TBA has been applied for by Hobohemia LLC d/b/a Tooker Alley to sell beer, wine and liquor at retail in an on premises establishment. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 793 Washington Ave. Brooklyn NY 11238.

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# It's not over for 'Grove' parties

## Canal-side dance bashes plan their return to Gowanus

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Gowanus's once-embattled canal-side dance party is back — and this time the civic group in charge of watchdogging boozy bashes is feeling the beat.

A formerly illegal outdoor dance fest-turned-legit daytime romp is slated to return to the former Brooklyn Yard party site on Carroll and Bond streets — and for the first time ever the dance series has won support from a Community Board 6 committee tasked with green-lighting outdoor alcohol permits.

"It's a welcome addition to the neighborhood," said board member and bar owner Lou Sones. "It's an appropriate location and it's not going to keep anybody up."

The support of CB6's permits and licenses committee helps legitimize a formerly underground bash that did not have proper li-



**PARTY TIME:** Organizers of daytime dance parties are gearing up for the summer, and this time they scored the approval of a local panel.

File photo by Aaron Short

quor and sound permits two years ago, when landlords abruptly shut it down.

The Sunday parties, now dubbed "Gowanus Grove," have since changed promoters and are back in full swing with local food vendors, beer, and turntables spinning on the grassy,

half-acre lot until 9 pm. Organizers threw the parties last year with a 9 pm curfew and a legit beer license — but did not go before the community board for approval.

Promoter Mark Connell told the civic group last week that the fam-

ily-friendly parties won't bother anyone because they will be held more than a block from residential buildings. Connell declined to talk in more detail about the event, saying he prefers to wait until Community Board 6's official full board vote on May 9.

But a website for the event offers a few more details about the promoter's shows.

"We haul out our big blue sound system, get some amazing local food vendors, and set up a bar," it reads.

That's fine by business-boosting Gowanus residents, who are happy to see banks of the waterway slated for something other than a toxic clean-up site.

"I support it — it brings people to our streets and into our shops," said Paul Basile of the Gowanus Alliance. "We like it when people use the canal — as long as it's done safely."

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# The Hipster Hilton?

Now all those tourists in Williamsburg will have somewhere to stay thanks to the new Wythe Hotel, which opened its doors on Tuesday. Boasting 72 rooms, posh bars, a restaurant with seasonal fare, and paintings by mural artist Espo, the long-stalled hotel developed by Two Trees Management is Williamsburg's newest luxury inn.



PHOTOS BY DERRICK LYLE

## Brunch

*Continued from Page 2*

the largely ignored rule that has banned outdoor Sunday morning brunch for decades.

"Although the law is the law, perhaps the City Council could take a second look at this one," he said. "I am hopeful everyone can find common ground on this issue, and figure out a way for Brooklyn brunchers and pedestrians heading to and from Sunday services to share the same sidewalk."

And Markowitz isn't the only Brooklynite questioning the Sunday brunch ban.

Enid's co-owner Ashley James has already collected 300 signatures over the past two weeks from diners who can't stand the city crackdown and a law she considers outdated.

"People want to enjoy the weather and have a bite to eat and I don't see that

our particular sidewalk is causing any kind of traffic jam," she said. "I don't see a problem with other sidewalks in the neighborhood either. The only thing I see is our customers enjoying themselves."

But Community Board 1 public safety committee chairman Tom Burrows — who lead the charge against brunch rule-breakers — said illegal sidewalk noshing degrades quality of life in Williamsburg and Greenpoint, equating eateries that violate the regulation with the kinds of petty crime policed under the NYPD's "broken windows" strategy.

"Often the acts of one have a deleterious effect on others who have not been an issue," said Burrows, who has become the General Patton in the War on Brunch. "As long as certain operators act with impunity to operate outside the law, strict enforcement may be necessary to prevent further violations."

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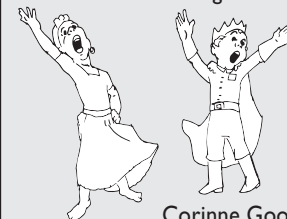
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# Boro's Rocky wins big

## Pride of Bensonhurst earns belt, gets Barclays match

BY WILL BREDDERMAN

Next stop: Barclays Center.

A Bensonhurst-born boxer snatched a World Boxing Association title belt from the Ukraine Master on Sunday, paving the way for a defending bout at the Barclays Center this fall — the first fight to be held at the Brooklyn Nets' new home.

In a near-repeat of the end of "Rocky IV," Paulie "Magic Man" Malignaggi pounded undefeated Welterweight Champion Vyacheslav "Ukraine Master" Senchenko for nine rounds in Senchenko's hometown of Donetsk.

He pulped the Ukrainian's face so badly that the referee finally stopped the carnage and declared Malignaggi the winner by technical knock-out.

The referee said Senchenko couldn't see out his left eye.



**HE'S THE CHAMP:** Paulie Malignaggi won the welterweight belt by taking down Vyacheslav Sechenko — and he'll be the first boxer to brawl in the borough's new arena. Photo by Steve Solomonson

Sunday's victory marked the fifth title win for the Southern Brooklyn scrapper, as well as his 31st win

in a 35-fight career.

But it also means that one of Malignaggi's dreams will now come true: he will

get his first match in Brooklyn since he made his professional debut in an under card fight at the former Key-span Park in 2001.

"I've always wanted to have a big fight in Brooklyn," Malignaggi told this paper before the fight. "I had my first fight 11 years ago in Coney Island, and I've always had a sour taste in my mouth because I never had another fight here. The Barclays Center promised me that if I win against Senchenko, the first fight there will be my defense of the title."

Malignaggi, whose face appears in banner ads for the new arena, said his next battle will be his shot at the history books.

"I want to be the answer to the trivia question, 'Who had the first fight at the Barclays Center after it opened?'" he said. "Paulie Malignaggi."

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# Equal parts of cheers and jeers

*South Slopers served their sentiments neat in response to our story about neighbors of a new outdoor beer garden being given an unhappy hour by the owners, who they claim are harder to get hold off than a brewski at a teetotalers' ball ("Garden moans: Greenwood Heights fears new beer garden," online April 30).*

We said "cheers" to the comments below.

This beer garden cannot open soon enough.

**Prillis**

Originally I wasn't too concerned about the opening of a beer garden on my block, but now seeing what kind of classy people this establishment will host, I am having a change of heart.

**K.C. from Park Slope**

The place looks awesome!  
Bocce court, lots of seating and trees.  
I can't wait!

Naysayers, move to the suburbs if you don't like it!

**Arc from Greenwood Heights**

Go to Queens if you want a damn beer garden.

**H.S. from Park Slope**

Drunk people driving in a residential neighborhood next to a highway — nope, no cause for concern there.

Live music till all hours of the night when people who work for a living try to

sleep nearby — nope no cause for concern there.

School's near the garden, one being a high school with after-school programs that run well into the drinking hour — nope no cause for concern.

A.A. meetings which take place across the street — nope no cause for concern there.

**Anon from nearby**

I have a feeling this is going to be such a fun place. No reason to think this will be any more dangerous than anywhere else. They have beer gardens in deserted parts of Williamsburg and Bushwick, and everything seems just fine. This place to go kick back and have a beer sounds great to me. What was there before? Auto body shop?

**Ed from Sunset Park**

Can't wait until it opens.

**J.B.O.B.**

I pick my daughter up from after-school program every day at 5 pm, and on Wednesdays she's there till 6:30 pm for basketball practice. Now I gotta rush to get there extra early to make sure nobody strays away from the beer garden and gets rowdy right across by her school. It's not a little bar or cafe — 700 adults drinking across from a school and playing loud music is something to think about.

**Jasmine from South Slope**

## 'Scrambled' streets

To the editor,

Your paper does a terrific job of covering the borough scene, yet sometimes the story gets by even the best and the brightest. As Mayor Fiorello La Guardia supposedly said, "When I make a mistake, it's a beaut!" Your article on the Putnam plaza controversy is a beaut. Even the headline

is wrong: "Putnam Triangle Foes Fight to Save Hated Plaza" (online, April 23). It should read "Putnam Plaza Foes Fight to Save Putnam Triangle."

The triangle and the plaza are two different quantities. The triangle has been with us ever since the street grid was laid out more than 100 years ago. The "plaza" is a seven-month-old "temporary" concoction of the Department of Transportation.

Critics of the agency's poor work on the plaza were astonished to find out a couple of weeks ago, entirely by accident, plans were well afoot to cut the triangle for the plaza.

Why? Because the plaza has usurped the route of the B26 bus, which for more than 70 years carried passengers along Putnam, from Queens to Fulton, thence to downtown. The bus's smooth sweep onto Fulton at Cambridge has been replaced by two too-tight turns at Grand and Fulton.

The agency and the Fulton Area Business Alliance have claimed the bus was doing fine with the turns. Anyone not with them knew otherwise: we had never before seen traffic backed up on Grand and Putnam, and couldn't remember lines of five, six, seven cars, buses and trucks backing down the uptown lane of Fulton because the B26 couldn't make the turn without crossing into the uptown lane. Now we saw traffic conflicted and contorted, all day, every day.

We knew the Department of Transportation paid us no attention, so we made a video called "Plaza: The Fight to Save Putnam Triangle" to show the difficulties the buses were having.

Your story alludes to the video as "chronicling opposition to the Putnam Triangle."

Did you even watch it? Because you got it exactly wrong again. At the time we

had no idea the triangle would fall victim to the plaza.

To us, the triangle stood for the neighborhood. ["The Battle for Brooklyn," similarly presents that fight as the attempt to save a neighborhood the also politically backed Atlantic Yards was poised to destroy.]

Throughout, you confuse triangle with plaza. Not true that "the biggest opponents of a controversial pedestrian plaza have become the mini-park's staunchest defenders."

The opposition to the plaza remains, and now grows with the news that the city now wants to mess up the triangle. It's wrong and nonsensical to say that the city plans "to hack away a few feet of the open space to make room for buses." The corner of the triangle at Grand and Putnam is not "open space." That's the reason why the city wants to hack away — to make open space so the bus can get by.

You report, "Many curb cut critics say it makes more sense to reroute the bus than rip up a portion of the square less than a year after its installation."

Again, the city wants to rip up a portion of the triangle, which was installed way longer than "less than one year (ago)." The plaza was installed less than a year ago. The triangle goes back to the 19th century. And as a triangle is not a square, neither is Putnam Triangle a square, or a plaza.

We don't blame good reporters for getting it all mixed up. That's what the city and the Fulton Area Business Alliance want. If no one knows the elements of the game, they win. The city and the alliance like to say, "You have to break a few eggs to make an omelet." They've broken eggs, alright, and left us with scrambled streets. Thank you for staying on the story.

**Schellie Hagan  
Clinton hill**

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Submit letters to: Vince DiMiceli, Editor, Community Newspaper Group, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, NY 11201, or e-mail to editorial@cnglocal.com. Please include your address and telephone number for so we can confirm you sent the letter. We reserve the right to edit all correspondence, which becomes the property of Courier Life Publications. To read more comments, visit [www.BrooklynDaily.com](http://www.BrooklynDaily.com).

## Wrecked

*Continued from Page 3*

She claims she had some belongings there. I told her, 'If you have any belongings there, just take them.'

But Bronte said that's impossible, claiming she has talked with him in person several

times and even let him borrow her DVDs.

Bronte says she has no lease for the space, and insists she began paying Alokasheh in checks several months ago. But Bronte claims Alokasheh never cashed them, often saying he lost them or that she had spent so much on her own renovations that the rent was covered.

The city issued Alokasheh a

permit on April 23 to add new plumbing pipes to her unit and replace its fixtures — a \$17,570 job, according to the Department of Buildings.

Clearly dissatisfied with the work, she called the cops on Tuesday, but an officer told her to settle the dispute with her landlord individually.

This isn't the first time Northside renters have alleged

that Alokasheh has harassed them into leaving their coveted buildings.

In 2010, several tenants accused Alokasheh of deliberately undermining the foundation of their N. Eighth Street rent-stabilized building in hopes of attracting wealthier residents, forcing city inspectors to bar them from returning home for nearly a year.

But pro-tenant activists say she has a case, and that Alokasheh's actions will have big ramifications.

"This is demolishing the apartment," said Kurt Hill, an organizer with the People's Firehouse, a Williamsburg tenants rights group. "He's going to have trouble. We're going to take the building away from him."

# Boro **beat**



**HATS ON:** (Above) Max Rome, 7, looks great in an EMT helmet. (Below) Medic Emily Keany helps Alyson Lazaro, 5, of Kensington, try on similar headgear.



Photos by Elizabeth Graham

## A WHEELY GOOD TIME FOR GREENWOOD KIDS

BY ELI ROSENBERG

For kids, trucks can be a truckload of fun.

Just ask the students at PS 295 in Greenwood Heights, which held its second annual Touch-a-Truck fundraiser last weekend — giving children an opportunity to check out nearly 20 heavy duty vehicles including a police car, two fire trucks, a cement mixer, a garbage truck, and even a trolley from Greenwood Cemetery.

Mothers gave their stamp of approval, and many admitted that the event was a child's dream come true.

"It was just short of setting up Disneyland in the school lot," said Andrea Scotting, the proud mother of two young truck aficionados. "It's every child's fantasy to climb on all these trucks and pretend like they're driving the police cars or the fire trucks or the other ones."

Children also had the chance to chat with the drivers of the vehicles.

And the young truck-lovers weren't the only ones enjoying the assorted engines on 18th Street.

"I had a great time and the weather was great," said Amy Janzen, who helped organize the event and showed up with her two children. "I danced a little bit in the DJ truck."

All fun aside the event, the event raised over \$30,000 for the school and drew about 5,000 visitors.

Janzen said the money will likely help fill holes in the



**HANDS ON:** (Above) Nolan Lubomski, 13 months, of Park Slope, in the driver's seat of a garbage truck at PS 295's Touch-a-Truck fundraiser. (Below) Dylan Dosik, 2, of Park Slope, holds a fire hose at the Greenwood Heights event.



school's budget.

"Last year we hired a part-time teacher to help alleviate the classroom sizes in the fourth and fifth grades," she said. "The new

normal is ongoing budget cuts, and we want to use it in a way to have a significant impact to make sure the student that need additional support will get it."

## STUDENTS SAY 'DOMO ARIGATO, PROFESSOR ROBOTO'



**ROBOCOPY:** Alex Barbaran, Aiden Murphy, Fritz-Patrick Rogue, Ethan Wong, Bijan, and Bayat-Nokhutari show off their turtle-shaped creation at the first-ever Robotics Tournament of Champions at Mechatronics Technology Center last Saturday.

BY AARON SHORT

Brooklyn's brightest mechanical minds inched the world one step closer to its inevitable robot takeover on Saturday when they put their high-tech, creations to the test at the first ever Robotics Tournament of Champions at City Tech's Mechatronics Technology Center.

Computer, mechanical, and electrical engineers tapped into their inner Will Robinson and assembled mini-robots with micro-control-



**HANDY DESIGN:** Professor Ali Harb, Dexter Patrick, and Denis Fadeyev of the tournament-winning team, Fast Track.



Photos by Stefano Giovannini

lers capable of accomplishing simple tasks.

The winning team, which included professor Ali Harb and his students,

Dexter Patrick, Denis Fadeyev, and Raymond Yap, built a motorized mechanical monster named "Fast Track" that effi-

ciently drove on a straight line.

This year, straight lines; next year, world domination.

# Help for thyroid at NY Methodist

Park Slope medical center can test for and treat Brooklynites' thyroid conditions

BY EDMUND GIEGERICH

Have you been trying to gain or lose weight, but found that the pounds don't seem to budge? Have you looked in the mirror after months of intense exercise and a healthier diet, only to see the exact same reflection you did before?

If that's the case, you may want to ask your doctor about a possible thyroid disorder. New York Methodist Hospital can help.

The thyroid is a gland located in your neck just below your voice box. The hormones it secretes help to control the body's

metabolism, so if your body produces abnormal amounts of these thyroid hormones, you may gain or lose weight as a result. Two of the most common thyroid conditions are hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism.

Hypothyroidism pre-

vents your body from producing enough thyroid hormone. It often causes inexplicable weight gain. In addition, early signs may include increased sensitivity to cold, constipation, low heart rate, and fatigue. If hypothyroidism is not detected early on, it is possible that it will cause slow speech, chronic low body temperature, depression, and in women, abnormal menstrual cycles.

Conversely, hyperthyroidism is the term used when the body produces too much thyroid hormone. It is usually accompanied by inexplicable weight loss. In addition, those with hyperthyroidism may find their hearts racing, or experience symptoms like frequent

bowel movements, hand tremors, difficulty sleeping, intolerance of heat, and for women, light menstrual cycles.

Thyroid conditions are unrelated to lifestyle choices and can sometimes be genetic. Because symptoms do not always present themselves immediately, the conditions are often confused with a host of other health problems.

To identify a thyroid condition, your doctor will test the levels of thyroid hormones found in your blood. The good news is that both hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism are often treatable with common prescription medications. However, in rare cases, more potent treatments or surgical procedures may be necessary. If

you believe you have a thyroid condition, it is important to get tested as soon as possible. Left untreated, these illnesses can lead to life-threatening conditions such as cancer and heart disease.

An estimated 60 million Americans have a thyroid condition, so if you find that you're one of them, there's no need to despair. With quick action and dedication to a treatment regimen, hypothyroidism or hyperthyroidism can be just a small bump on the road to a long and happy life.

For more, call New York Methodist Hospital at (718) 780-3000.

Edmund Giegerich, MD, is the chief of Endocrinology at New York Methodist Hospital.

## Thinking 'FAST' can save a life

Know these signs to recognize a stroke

Quick thinking and prompt action can help keep you and yours from being among the 700,000 strokes that occur in the U.S. annually and result in 160,000 deaths.

Carotid arteries in the neck build up plaque as we age. Strokes result either from obstruction of blood flow to the brain by plaque, or when bits of plaque and clots break off and flow to the brain. Left untreated, carotid artery disease may lead to stroke, when lack of oxygen and other essential nutrients cause damage to the brain.

It is sometimes difficult to know if someone is having a stroke. The National Stroke Association recommends this simple test to determine if someone is having a stroke:

### Think FAST

•Face: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of her face droop?

•Arms: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

•Speech: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Does his speech



Taking the time to answer a few questions may help to reduce your risk of stroke.

sound slurred or strange?

•Time: If you observe any of these signs, it's time to call 9-1-1.

If you are diagnosed

with carotid artery disease, see a vascular surgeon.

For more, visit [www.vascularweb.org](http://www.vascularweb.org).

## What you don't know can hurt you

It affects more than 240,000 Americans every year, according to National Stroke Association, but most people don't know what it is and many don't realize when they've had one. It's called transient ischemic attack — and it's a major warning sign that a stroke may happen.

Many don't know they've had an attack because it happens so quickly. According to National Stroke Association, attacks last less than a day — most last less than five minutes — and don't leave any lasting effects to cause worry. Many people don't tell their doctors about the short-lived attack, but it's important to seek immediate medical care because

more than one-third of people who have an attack will suffer a stroke. In fact, although studies may vary, up to 20 percent will have one within 90 days, says the American Heart Association.

By knowing more about transient ischemic attacks, you can recognize your risk, know when to seek immediate medical attention, and talk with your doctor about treatment options and lifestyle changes that can help reduce the risk of stroke after an attack.

It's important to call 9-1-1 immediately if an attack occurs. Here's how to recognize if you or someone you know is having an attack:

• Sudden numbness or

weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body

• Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes

• Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding

• Sudden dizziness, trouble walking, loss of balance or coordination

• Sudden, severe headache with no known cause

"Transient ischemic attack and stroke education are so important. If I had known more, I would have talked to my doctor about my risk and tried to reduce it before I had a stroke," said attack patient Charlie Harris, 62.

For more information, visit [www.TalkAboutTIA.com](http://www.TalkAboutTIA.com).



A study shows that 40 percent of women said they were only somewhat – or not at all – concerned about experiencing a stroke in their lifetime.

## Study: Women underestimate stroke

A national survey conducted by HealthyWomen, the nation's leading independent health information source for women, found that many women may be dramatically underestimating their risk of stroke.

According to the survey of 2,000 women, 40 percent of women said they were only somewhat — or not at

all — concerned about experiencing a stroke in their lifetime.

“The results of the survey underscore what we see too often with women when it comes to dealing with their unique health issues,” said Elizabeth Battaglino Cahill, RN, executive director of HealthyWomen. “As they put the health of

family members and everyone else first, they often underestimate their own risks and ignore warning signs of serious health problems, like stroke.”

An acute ischemic stroke occurs when an obstruction, such as a blood clot, blocks blood flow to the brain. The obstruction deprives the brain of blood and oxygen,

destroying valuable nerve cells in the affected area within minutes.

“Stroke knows no gender and can happen to anyone at any age,” said Marilyn Rymer, MD, director of the Brain and Stroke Institute at Saint Luke's Hospital in Kansas City.

For more, visit [www.healthywomen.org](http://www.healthywomen.org).

## Kingsbrook offers diabetic care

Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center's diabetes treatment program was recently certified by the National Committee for Quality Assurance's Diabetes Recognition Program. This means that the diabetes program's clinicians have met the highest standards of quality care, an honor given to only a few Brooklyn hospitals. Kingsbrook has also established a diabetic registry that tracks improvement.

A crucial component of diabetes care is teaching patients self-management. Patients are taught diabetes techniques for medication, nutrition, how to read food labels, and dealing with depression.

Patients who are diagnosed are examined and treated for complications of diabetes, including eye and foot problems, circulation problems, and kidney disease. Related services include:

### Vascular

Diabetes causes blood vessels in the legs and feet to narrow and harden, leading to poor circulation that can result in damaged nerves. Hardening of the arteries caused by high blood sugar can lead to heart disease and stroke.

Kingsbrook's fully accredited Vascular Lab diagnoses problems through quick, painless, and non-invasive procedures so patients can be directed to

the best treatment for their conditions. Screenings at the lab can help doctors determine the best treatments for patients, including medication, surgery to improve blood flow, or a combination of both.

### Healing, hyperbarics

The Comprehensive Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center integrates state-of-the-art hyperbaric oxygen therapy with more traditional treatments to treat hard-to-heal wounds. By providing the body with 100 percent pure oxygen under increased pressure, doctors can significantly improve the body's natural healing abilities, and increase its effectiveness in fighting infection. The goal is prevention of amputation.

### Podiatry

Foot problems in people with diabetes are often caused by nerve damage, or neuropathy, which causes a loss of feeling in the feet. Kingsbrook's podiatrists use the newest technologies, such as bio-engineered skin grafts and new healing substances.

### Dialysis

Patients admitted to Kingsbrook for dialysis treatment meet with a team consisting of a doctor, nurse, dietician, and social worker, to plan for the dialysis, medication, and nutrition.

For more info, call (718) 604-5000.

“When I had my stroke, I was afraid life would never be the same.”

**New York Methodist is one of the only hospitals in Brooklyn with the latest technology to treat and reverse strokes.**

Speedy diagnosis and expert treatment are crucial when dealing with a stroke. Should you ever experience one, you'll get the fastest, most qualified care possible at New York Methodist Hospital. The latest drugs, and the most sophisticated technology are tools used by our highly trained neurosurgeons to remove blood clots and reverse stroke effects up to twelve hours from the onset of symptoms. Permanent damage can often be prevented and a full recovery is possible.

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# FOLKIN' AROUND!

## Three-day festival hits Downtown Brooklyn

**Banjo man: Eli Smith, the founder of the Brooklyn Folk Festival, is ready for the event's fourth year, which starts on May 18.**

Photos by Elizabeth Graham

By Eli Rosenberg

Everybody is jumping on the banjo-wagon!

Brooklyn's annual homegrown folk festival is back and still growing in its fourth year, evidence of a steadily expanding folk resurgence that has made Brooklyn — not that other borough to the west — the city and perhaps country's folk capital.

"The modern folk music movement in New York City started in the 30s and it never really died out," said Eli Smith, the festival's founder, who teaches banjo and hosts the Down Home Radio Show. "But it is back in a major way now — and instead of being located in the Village it's centered in Brooklyn now."

The Brooklyn Folk Festival will take place this year in an old hardware store on Jay Street, which will be dressed up as a 1940s streetscape, and will feature such straight-shooting musical groups as the Blind Boy Paxton, the Whiskey Spitters, and legendary bluegrass singer Alice Gerrard, who will be coming in from North Carolina.

Despite a few far off zip codes like Gerrard's, Smith said the majority of performers in the festival's three nights of

music will be from the vibrant scene here in New York.

"In the South there's a lot of old-time music and bluegrass, but the place where a large scene of diversity and talent in terms of American folk is located — it'd have to



**Folks frolicking: The Brooklyn Folk Festival is sure to be a foot-stompin', banjo-pickin', slow-talkin', square-dancin' and perty singin' good time.**

be here," said Smith.

Folk may be a traditional and seemingly antiquated style of music, but its appeal strikes upon something distinctly modern, the festival's organizers say.

"There's a desire to go back to the roots of everything right now," said Lynette Wiley, the co-owner of Red Hook's Jalopy Theater. "People are making their own

clothes and building their own bicycles and there's a real interest in studying what went before. So people are looking for the music of the past to put their own take on it."

Not that music is the only thing the festival is offering.

Last year's banjo toss — in which participants competed to chuck a banjo furthest into the East River — is out, but this year's festival will include an entire banjo-themed carnival, a harmonica battle-off, a reading and a workshop or two, and a tribute to onetime Coney Island resident and folk legend Woodie Guthrie, who would have turned 100 this year.

And it might be the thing you need to take the edge off your hyper-New York mind.

"Folk is straight up music that gives us a certain feeling of ease in our crazy modern world here in New York," said Smith. "Just seeing some down home, homemade music makes people feel good!"

*The Fourth Annual Brooklyn Folk Festival in Downtown Brooklyn [345 Jay street, between Metrotech Roadway and Willoughby Streets, (718) 395-3214]. May 18 - May 20, \$20 day pass or \$45 weekend pass. Visit [www.brooklynfolkfest.com](http://www.brooklynfolkfest.com)*

## Borough Bayou!

If you're more of a fan of the fiddle than the banjo, you probably should head to Bayou 'n Brooklyn festival instead of or in addition to the folk festival.

This year's Louisiana-themed event, held at the Jalopy Theater will include three days of ragin' cajun music from groups such as Dr. Zsa's Powdered Zydeco Band, Forest Huval & Al Berard, and others, between May 11 and 13.

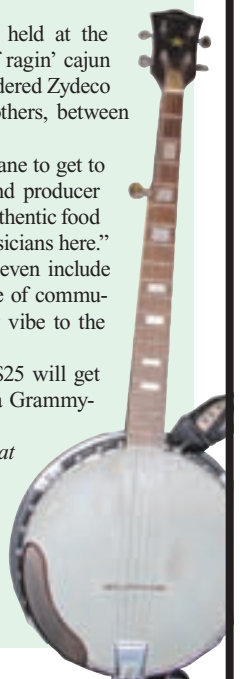
"You won't even have to jump on a plane to get to Louisiana," said the festival's founder and producer Deborah Monlux. "We're going to have authentic food and dance because we're bringing the musicians here."

The festival, the second annual, will even include workshops on cajun fiddlin' and a couple of community jam sessions to bring that Big Easy vibe to the big city.

And as a creative fundraising stunt, \$25 will get you the chance to jam out with Berard, a Grammy-nominee, on Saturday night.

*Bayou n' Brooklyn Music Festival at the Jalopy Theater [315 Columbia St. at Hamilton Avenue in Columbia Waterfront District, (718) 395-3214] May 11-13, various times. Day pass \$15. For info, visit [www.bayou-n-brooklyn.com](http://www.bayou-n-brooklyn.com)*

— Eli Rosenberg



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BRING YOUR MAN AND STOP IN



# Brooklyn slaves

It's said that history often repeats itself and it most certainly will this month in Fort Greene. The Irondale Ensemble's theatrical production "In Pursuit of Freedom" will bring the abolitionist movement back to life in the first public history project on the anti-slavery movement in Brooklyn, but sit tight, because history is never as neat and tidy as it is remembered.

After winning a \$2 million grant from the city of New York for a project that would celebrate Brooklyn's abolitionist past, the producers of Irondale said they spent three years uncovering the anti-slavery efforts in Brooklyn — and were shocked at what they found.

"One of the eye openers is that Brooklyn actually came to abolition late," said Terry Greiss, the executive director of the theatre troupe. "Brooklyn itself was built on a slave economy. Emancipation was in 1827, but the commercial structure of Brooklyn was very much tied to slavery — the banks owned mortgages on slaves and sugar was big here."

Greiss said that while the show focuses on history — he promises the past is never antiquated, even in such a forward-leaning place as Brooklyn.

"One of the things we're trying to show in our theater piece is that the struggle is not over," said Greiss. "If you look at the stuff going on in Arizona around immigration, or the gay rights movement — the past isn't over."

As part of the grant, Irondale, the Brooklyn Historical Society and the Weeksville Heritage center will unveil permanent exhibitions around the borough to denote spaces involved in issues around slavery in 2013.

*Irondale Ensemble's In Pursuit of Freedom: Color Between the Lines at the Irondale Center [85 South Oxford St. between Lafayette Avenue and Fulton Street in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233] Tuesdays at 7 pm, Wednesday-Saturday at 8 pm. \$35, \$10 on Tuesdays. For info, visit irondale.org*  
— Eli Rosenberg

## Quick finishes

Hyperactive? Try these one-acts. A Park Slope outdoor performance space is featuring a series of ten-minute plays that cater to the modern, attention deficit-swamped mind.

The showcase offers five mini-plays — including a mystery, a dark comedy and coming of age story — some of which reach their dramatic climax in the time it takes to brush your teeth.

"They're a snapshot of a human relationship or society," said producer Carter Spurrier. "You get snippets."

The quick-hit performances include two ship-wrecked teens, a small-town murder, and a fighting mom and daughter.

The art-form — which is the "short story" of the theater world — also embraces improvisation and is a chance for emerging actors, directors and writers to network, Spurrier said.

"It's a great way to see new talent and it's cheaper than a movie ticket," she said.  
*Ten Minute Plays at Cocoa Bar [228 Seventh Ave. near Third Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-4080] May 14, 7 pm. \$5.*

Now thru  
5/24

Sat.  
5/14

— Natalie O'Neill

WHAT TO DO  
WHERE TO GO  
24 SEVEN

# BEST BETS

## Dirty deeds, done for art



**Reuse, recycle: Artist Chin Chih Yang's "Comissioned Installation," is made entirely of recycled industrial scraps, like hospital masks and oxygen tubes, at FiveMyles gallery.**

Garbage has never looked this good.

Crushed cans hang from the ceiling above mounds of industrial junk — all of it illuminated by a rainbow colored lights in artist Chin Chih Yang's solo show "Comissioned Installation," which opens at Prospect Heights's FiveMyles gallery on Saturday.

The artist picked through hundreds of plastic oxygen tubes, used hospital masks, aluminum cans, industrial cables, and other scrap to build a floor-to-ceil-

ing installation that has all the charm and ambience of Wall-E's apartment — if he lived in Park Slope.

"Yang has done fabulous practical palaces built out of recycled aluminum cans and puts lights inside so they transcend their usage, so they become luminous gorgeous environments," said curator Hanne Tierney.

The indoor landfill actually feels welcoming — and the accumulation of artfully arranged garbage alludes to the aesthetics of manufactured products, while

also calling attention to the sheer volume of waste created every day.

The installation is open to the public on May 5, but those who drop in before then can see the artist at work, said Tierney.

"The process is as interesting as anything else," the curator said.

*Chin Chih Yang "Comissioned Installation" at Five Myles [558 St. Johns Pl. between Classon and Franklin avenues, Prospect Heights, (718) 783-4438]. Opens May 5, 1-6 pm.*

— Aaron Short

Opening  
4/5

## Harsh soap for a new season

Cleanliness is next to artfulness.

Park Slope's Open Source Gallery will smell like an industrial laundromat this month thanks to Artist Patrick Cadenhead's fresh installation "Spring and Renewal," opening on May 5.

The works include wooden panels caked in Tide, fabric softener, and borax crystals, while a speaker emits the rhythmic droning sounds of your corner laundromat. The centerpiece is a sculpture that resembles a washing machine that spurts soapy suds from a pump.

The art space will keep its windows open, but a whiff of the show might catch some visitors by surprise — or remind them it's time to do the laundry.



**It stinks: You can't smell it but this piece gives off a really strong odor.**

"I'm trying to hit that line where it's slightly uncomfortable and you don't know if you're going to stay or go," said Cadenhead. "I added the fountain element to up the smell factor. There was some con-

cern that it might not smell enough."

Open Source's Monika Wuhrer insists the scent of detergent won't be strong enough to make guests leave, claiming the works evoke the "religious cleansing process" of getting rid of one's burdens.

"He thinks very much about life and death and religion, he doesn't want this to be obvious, but he said that's something in the back of his head that is permanent," said Wuhrer.

*"Spring and Renewal" at Open Source Gallery [306 17th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues, Park Slope. (646) 279-3969] Opens May 5. 7-9 pm.*

— Aaron Short

Opening  
4/5

# Kafka and pappa



**The metamorphosis: For one hour, actor Michael Guagno becomes the great Czech author Franz Kafka in "Letter to My Father."**

Fans of Oedipal anxiety and existential terror rejoice!

"Letter to My Father," an hour-long solo show that resurrects Czech writer Franz Kafka, puts him behind a desk, and has him read an unsent message he wrote to his father while on his deathbed, opens May 10 at Magic Futurebox Theatre on 33rd Street between Second and Third avenues in Greenwood Heights.

"Basically it says, 'You have emotionally abused me my entire life and because of that I am a shell of a human being, but it's not you, it's me. It's my fault I'm so sensitive,'" said James Rutherford, the director. "Kafka's father was like a god to him, and the piece by being so personal for Kafka is also so personal for anyone who hears it."

Rutherford decided to bring the letter's intensity closer to the audience by piping it directly into the their ears through headphones linked to a microphone on the desk where actor Michael Guagno — an old friend of Rutherford's and a Park Slope resident, now making his Brooklyn debut — sits and speaks.

"Kafka talks ad nauseum about the barriers between his father and himself, so it adds to the piece to have this barrier between the audience and myself," said Guagno, who will also use a laptop to cue atonal music and play sound bites whenever the author quotes his father's words.

Rutherford said that he found Magic Futurebox — a 20,000 square foot warehouse — to be the ideal location to put on such a neurotic and cerebral piece.

"It's an incredible space, really wild. I think of it as being like the inside of a human mind. And it's a great challenge to create a sense of claustrophobia in such a huge place," said Rutherford.

If all this sounds a little odd, and, well, a little uncomfortable, then Rutherford accomplished his goal.

"This isn't the kind of play where the lights go down and the audience forgets they exist for a couple hours. It's an overwhelming sensation and it's impossible to not step back a little bit and consider your own relationship to your father," the director said.

*"Letter to My Father" at the Magic Futurebox Theatre [55 33rd St. between Second and Third Avenues, Greenwood Heights. (646) 470-6321] May 11, 7pm. Visit www.brownpapertickets.com.*

— Will Bredderman

Wed.  
5/11

## ■ BROOKLYN EATS

# FROM NOWHERE BUT HERE

## Restaurant tries to define Hudson Valley cuisine



From the northeast: Evan Hanczor is bringing Hudson Valley ingredients to Parish Hall on North 3rd Street in Williamsburg. Photo by Bess Adler

By Sarah Zorn

The American South is known for fried chicken, collard greens and shrimp and grits. The West Coast claims fish tacos, cioppino, cobb salad, and sourdough bread. The Great Lakes region chows down on fried cheese curds, deep-dish pizza, and Cincinnati chili. So what's the defining cuisine here in the Northeast?

"That's what we're trying to figure out," said George Weld, owner of beloved Williamsburg breakfast spot, Egg, and now the recently opened, Hudson Valley region-inspired Parish Hall.

"A lot of amazing food grows and grazes in Northern New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the Northeast of New York, yet there are no dominant, cultural traditions to tie it all together," he continued. "We want to strip away the idea of imposing French technique, say, or Southern cuisine upon these ingredients, so we can discover what they want to be on their own. The dishes that express themselves will help us draw upon the truth of the Northeast."

To Weld and his Parish Hall chef, Evan Hanczor, that means bare-bones amalgams of local dairy, grains, proteins and produce, like in a roast chicken over Cayuga barley, storage vegetables and wild mustards (\$17), lamb with flax and nettle pesto, carrot sauce, and chickweed (\$26), and a salt-aged duck

with parsnip, beet sauce, and braised leeks (\$25).

And although Weld is first to admit that the streamlined menu and seasonal/local mission statement isn't exactly earth shattering at first glance, he hopes a dogged refusal to imitate established culinary practices will take Parish Hall where no restaurant has gone before.

"Basically, we're trying to avoid doing anything that pulls out of another area's tradition. We're not turning our Hudson Valley duck into an Italian bolognese sauce, for example," he said.

"Look at California — the cuisine that developed there is basically an extension of their natural resources," he added. "And if it happened in California, why couldn't it be here, where the food we grow is every bit as interesting?"

Of course, it doesn't hurt that Weld has his own farm in upstate New York to furnish such an exploration — sending truly homegrown fruits and vegetables straight to the dinner plates of Parish Hall's patrons.

"I want to treat my guests just as I would if they came for dinner my apartment," he said, "and that means serving food from places I feel good about."

Parish Hall [109A North Third St. between Wythe and Bedford Avenues in North Williamsburg, (718) 782-2602].



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# 'REBEL' BINGO TAKEOVER

By Daniel Bush

Don't bring your grandma to this bingo party.

Fans of the Underground Rebel Bingo Club — which puts on secretive, bingo-themed boozefests run by Williamsburg residents Freddie "Fortune" Sorensen and James "Flames" Gordon — will dust off their score cards at the Bell House's upcoming math bash on May 5.

"We're taking bingo back from the grannies," said Gordon. "This is all about having fun and letting go of your inhibitions."

In Gordon's modern take on the classic senior center game, scantily-clad dancers announce the winning numbers to hundreds of participants who compete for mirrored disco balls, megaphones and other party prizes.

"The atmosphere is a lot like the Roman Coliseum," said Gordon. "It's very gladiatorial."

Gordon and Sorensen launched the club in 2008, after stumbling across unused bingo equipment in a church basement in London.



**Numbers game:** The secret society's version of the classic senior center contest involves an old-school bingo cage, music and plenty of dancing.

The British TV producers and childhood friends brought the concept to Glasslands Gallery on Kent Avenue after moving to Brooklyn two years later. Since then, the club has spread to cities around the world, including Los Angeles, Madrid, and Beijing.

Gordon said the Brooklyn shows, which are staged at different venues every two months, draw up to a thousand revelers.

But he warned older bingo enthusiasts to steer clear of the raucous late-night shindig at the Bell House.

"This is not something you should come to for regular bingo," he said. "Leave that to your grandmother."

*Underground Rebel Bingo Club at the Bell House [149 Seventh St. between First and Second avenues, Gowanus (718) 643-6510] May 5, 10 pm. \$3-15. Visit [www.rebelbingo.com](http://www.rebelbingo.com).*

## Brooklyn's best bingo spots

By Daniel Bush

Twenty-something partiers can't get enough of the Underground Rebel Bingo Club, which hosts wild bingo-themed soirees in Williamsburg and Gowanus every two months. But Brooklyn still has plenty of high quality, traditional bingo contests for the purists out there. Here are some of the most popular bingo spots across the borough:

• **Swinging Sixties Senior Center:** The Williamsburg center's tri-weekly bingo games are friendly, laid-back and attract up to 50 players during the summer months. It's more exciting than taking a tour of the Brooklyn Brewery or shopping on Bedford Avenue.

*211 Ainslie St. between Manhattan and Graham avenues. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1:30 pm. (718) 963-3793.*

• **The Moxie Spot:** Who said bingo is an old person's game? The Brooklyn Heights community center runs the borough's premiere kid-friendly bingo contest. Children aged four to 10 compete for toys, books and other prizes.

*81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets. Sunday at 6 pm. (718) 923-9710.*

• **Fifth Avenue Bingo Hall:** One of the most competitive bingo halls in the borough. Hardcore gamers at the Park Slope venue square off six nights per week. Crowds are bigger here than they are at nearby Union Hall.

*416 Fifth Ave. between Seventh and Eighth streets. Wednesday through Sunday at 7:15 pm. (718) 788-1691.*

• **St. Columba Roman Catholic Church:** Classic church basement-style bingo at it's very best. Winning bingo at St. Columba is harder than shooting under par at the nearby 18-hole Marine Park Golf Course.

*2245 Kimball St. between Avenue U and Avenue V. Mondays at 6:45 pm and Tuesdays at 11 am. (718) 338-6265.*

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• Lentils w/ Escarole • Cold Antipasto • Mussels In Red Sauce • Salad Of The Day  
• Pasta E Fagioli • Fried Zucchini • Stuffed Mushrooms • Shrimp Cocktail Pan Am
- Second Course:** • Cutlets w/ Gorgonzola Sauce • Veal Rolls  
• Ravioli w/ Meatballs • Sausage w/ Broccoli Rape • Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad  
• Chicken Cutlet Parmigiana • Rigatoni In Vodka Sauce • Filet Of Sole Francese  
• Trippa Siciliana • Chicken Scarpariello Con Patate • Lasagna Della Mamma  
• Stuffed Pork Chop • Braised Lamb Shank • Fried Calamari Aioli Or Spicy
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## happy MOTHER'S DAY

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### Prix Fixe Mothers Day Menu

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Choice of Entrée • Dessert and Coffee

- Entrées:**
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*Baked ½ Chicken with Sauted Spinach*
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  - N.Y. Sirloin Steak.....35.95  
*Served with Herb Butter*
  - Filet Mignon .....38.95  
*Grilled 10oz Filet w/ Red Wine Mushroom Sauce*
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*Stuffed w/ Swiss Cheese and Ham*
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5 <sup>th</sup>	Red House Sunset	10pm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Dr. Bill Kolb	2pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	Max Christopher	8pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Jefferson Thomas	7pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	The Rockinghams	10pm
18 <sup>th</sup>	Mistaken Identity	10pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	Human Karaoke Experience	9pm
20 <sup>th</sup>	Martin McQuade	6pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Soundgazzm	10pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	Jefferson Thomas Full Band Show	10pm

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# Nobody does Mexican and Spanish cuisine like Casa Pepe

By Camille Sperrazza

Casa Pepe has been serving the finest Spanish food in Brooklyn for 32 years.

Everything is always fresh at this Bay Ridge restaurant because owner Jimmy Sanz makes sure only the finest ingredients go into every dish.



For a taste of traditional Spanish and Mexican fare, head to Casa Pepe on Bay Ridge Avenue between Narrows Avenue and Colonial Road.

Start with the popular guacamole dip, prepared tableside. You can order it as mild or as spicy as you wish because the ingredients — onions, cilantro, toma-

Another favorite starter is gambas al ajillo — shrimp sauteed with garlic, virgin olive oil and white wine, a wonderful combination of flavors. It's presented straight from the oven, so it's still sizzling.

Try ravioli frito — fried homemade lobster ravioli in a creamy chipotle sauce is another tempting possibility. Likewise, you can't go wrong with chorizo Espanol — grilled Spanish sausage.

Don't miss the ensalada de remolacha y aguacate — a delicious salad of slow-roasted beets, sliced avocado, and greens, topped with Fresco cheese, which is a white cheese from Mexico. It's all dressed with a tantalizing citrus vinaigrette.

Entrees are extensive, and cover just about anything you might want — paella, chicken, beef, pork, and fish dishes that include lobster, salmon, and striped bass. One notable choice is the chuleta de cerdo a la parrilla, a boneless double-cut pork chop, marinated in a garlic brine, then grilled with ancho pepper adobo.

"It's marinated for three days to loosen the meat," says Sanz. This unique dish is served with creamy, garlic-laced mashed potatoes.

Take advantage of Casa Pepe's lobster celebration. For \$30, enjoy a choice of soup or salad, a lobster, and a dessert of cheesecake or flan, plus a steaming cup of coffee. Lobster can be prepared a number of ways, including baked with garlic and olive oil; broiled with lemon and butter; or served in a creamy lobster bisque. The



What traditional Spanish restaurant wouldn't be complete without a tapas bar?

toes, and jalapenos — are added by the server, as you watch it prepared. Scoop it up with colorful green, black, yellow, and red tortilla chips. Of course, it's best enjoyed with a tall glass of Sangria or a frothy Margarita, and both are expertly prepared here.

latter is an excellent choice, a blend of bold flavors. Not to miss a drop, scoop the rest of that creamy sauce over saffron rice. Delicious.

And during the summer take advantage of the new "Fridays under the stars," during which the outdoor garden



On fire: Casa Pepe sous chef Juan Romero makes paella with saffron rice, lobster, calamari, mussels and clams.

becomes a dining area with extra tables, plus an outdoor bar with a bartender making your favorite drinks. The atmosphere is relaxing and is a perfect way to end your work week.

Another summer treat is fiesta Friday drink specials, with frozen margaritas, pina colodas, sangria, and Mexican beer available for \$3.50 per drink. Get there early, though, it's only available from 4 to 7 pm.

Another entree, mariscada en salsa verde, combines clams and mussels, peeking out of their shells, with shrimp and lobster in a green sauce of garlic, parsley, and white wine — another tasty blend. It's served with Spanish rice to soak up those luscious liquids.

End a meal with Casa Pepe coffee, because doing so means everyone seated near you will appreciate the fine presentation. The "show" starts when a cart is wheeled tableside, and stemmed glasses are warmed over a flame. Next, the rims of the glasses are brushed with lemon, then coated with sugar. Taking care to continue to warm the glasses, the server adds brandy, and now flames fly from the glassware. He rocks the mixture back and forth, then adds Kahlua. Still heating the mixture, coffee is added, then whipped cream. When it's topped with cinnamon, sparks fly. Finally, it's wrapped in a white napkin, and presented to enjoy. What a treat.

Flan, a traditional Spanish custard, is always delicious, served with a mound of whipped cream. The creme brulee arrives, flaming. Put out the fire when you deem the topping to be crisp enough for your taste.

Casa Pepe's atmosphere is relaxed and inviting. Sit in the garden room, a bright area in which natural light shines through

huge windows that overlook the outdoor garden. Or, sit inside the area that houses the huge bar, which is a bit darker, and allows for more intimate dining.

A weekend brunch menu includes a mimosa or Bloody Mary, with entree choices such as shrimp, salmon, steak, and chicken. It's all a very reasonable \$12.50.



Casa Pepe bartender Erubiel Ramirez shows off the restaurant's paella with saffron rice, lobster, calamari, mussels and clams in the outdoor patio. The eatery is known for its traditional Spanish cuisine.

*Casa Pepe [114 Bay Ridge Ave. in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-8865]. Open Mondays through Thursdays 4 from 11 pm; Fridays, 4 pm to midnight; Saturdays and Sundays, noon to midnight. For more information, visit [www.casapepe.com](http://www.casapepe.com)*

Photos by Bess Adler



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**All Entrees Served With Potato or Rice and Fresh Vegetable**

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● 'We're taking this division, definitely. No one is catching us.'

— Xaverian's Louis DeAngelis

● 'I had to make sure I was stronger, and I am.'

— Poly Prep's Ciara Schirripa

## Bernardi to learn under former Knicks coach

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Basketball shooter Brian Bernardi got out of class one day last week and figured something terrible had happened: his phone was flooded with hundreds of text messages and voice mails.

But it was actually some good news for the Xaverian hoop star — the best news he's received in months.

"Everyone was telling me Larry Brown was going to be my coach," the dead-eye shooter recalled. "It was crazy."

After Bernardi and his parents spoke to the Hall of Fame coach on April 26, he made it official: he would be playing for the newly hired Brown at Southern Methodist University this winter.

Bernardi plans to head to Dallas at the end of July for the second summer school session.

"All the things he's done, winning an NBA championship and National Collegiate Athletic Association championship, I'll be able to learn a lot from him," Bernardi said of Brown, who was last with the Charlotte Bobcats, briefly coached the Knicks, led the Pistons to the 2004 NBA championship, and led Kansas to the national title in 1988. "I'm definitely excited to meet him and learn all the new things I know I can learn from him. He's going to help me in my overall game."

After Southern Methodist University fired head man Matt Doherty on March 13, Bernardi briefly toyed with backing out from his agreement with the college, even though he signed his National Letter of Intent last November. Once Brown was hired, that notion went away.

"Once they got Larry Brown, I couldn't turn that down," he said. "I love the school, too — it's a great school."

Xaverian coach Jack Alesi thinks it's a perfect match: a coach who always talks about "playing the right way" and a player Alesi said is one of the hardest workers he's ever been around.



**COACH COMMITMENT:** Xaverian's Brian Bernardi said he will stick with Southern Methodist University now that Hall of Fame coach Larry Brown (inset) is there. Photo by Denis Gostev

"Brian is very conducive to what Larry Brown has done wherever he's coached. It's a great fit." Alesi said. "There's nobody better than Larry Brown. He's not only a Hall of Fame coach, he's an active Hall of Fame coach."

Bernardi said he and Brown talked in general terms when the coach called him: Brown told Bernardi he's heard great things about him, from his work ethic to shooting range, and

was looking forward to building a relationship with him and changing the program, which went 13-19 last year.

Bernardi is thrilled that his uncertainty about Southern Methodist University is gone. After Doherty's ouster, Bernardi ignored the rumors about who was interviewing and who may get the job. Then his phone blew up.

"When I finally learned it was Larry Brown," he said, "it was great."



**BAT BROTHERS:** Xaverian's John DeAngelis celebrates a home run the same day his brother Louis did. Photo by Lauren Marsh

## Sibling sluggers win for Xaverian

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Call them the home run hermanos.

John and Louis DeAngelis made the only two runs in Xaverian High School's 2-1 victory over rival Archbishop Malloy last Wednesday in Catholic High School Athletic Association Brooklyn-Queens 'AA' baseball action at Stanner Field in Briarwood.

After running the bases and putting his team up by two, Louis DeAngelis received a few high-fives from his teammates. He also received some playful ribbing: just three innings earlier, his older brother John hit a much longer home run.

"That was pretty far," Louis said. "I was joking with the guys that mine was about 300 feet and his was like 400."

Yet John DeAngelis was quite proud of his little brother, even though his ball went further.

"It was awesome," John said of he and his brother homering in the same game. "It's one of the first times we've been on

the same team."

It wouldn't have happened had John not injured his leg in the pre-season. With him out, Louis got a chance in right field — the two play the same position — and performed well. The younger DeAngelis made a huge, game-saving catch against John Adams in Monroe Tournament semifinals two weeks ago.

"He got some at bats, maybe it helped him," John said. "It felt great having him come in."

Now that John is back, coach Lou Piccola has jostled the lineup around a few times. Last Wednesday, he had Louis play right field and hit ninth with John as the designated hitter in the five-hole. John is still favoring his leg, so Louis provides a little better defense now, Piccola said. And they both provided some power.

"What am I, a genius?" Piccola said jokingly. "Tomorrow I'll make a move and it'll be the wrong move."

Continued on Page 37

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# 'Sopranos' no hit girl

## Schirripa scion strikes out seven in game vs. Riverdale

BY MIKE SMOLLINS

She's the daughter of a famed "Sopranos" actor — but she isn't a fan of hits.

Poly Prep's softball star Ciara Schirripa — scion of Steve Schirripa — took to the mound against Riverdale on April 28, pitching a complete game while giving up only three runs on six hits and striking out seven.

The sophomore pitcher is striving for a great year after a stress fracture in her back sidelined her for almost all of her freshman season.

Schirripa was solid in aiding her defending New York State Association of Independent Schools Athletic Association champion Blue Devils to a 5-3 victory.

"I couldn't just come back and give them what I had before," Schirripa said. "I had to make sure I was stronger, and I am. I had to come and give them 150 percent of what I had."

Schirripa gave up three runs over the first two innings, but was solid the rest of the way.

The Blue Devils trailed 3-2 until the bats came to life for a two-out rally in the third inning. With two outs and nobody on, Breanna Sarubi hit a single to center off Riverdale pitcher Nicole Cornet and then stole second. Jacquie Kennedy then drove her in the tying run on a base hit and came around to score when Kerri Saputo hit a single to leftfield that was misplayed by Rosemary Leahey. Saputo then scored on an error by Sarah Ben Ezra to cap the three-run inning.

Kennedy drove in the tying run before scoring what eventually proved to be the game-winning run and went 2-for-3 with two singles.

"We knew it was gonna be a tough go," Kennedy said. "Our warm-up put us in the mindset to keep the energy up and it stayed throughout the entire game and we didn't let it go. Ciara has been stepping up."

The game didn't start off too well for Poly Prep as Riverdale was able to scratch across one run in the first inning on an RBI double by Harlie Silver, and then added two runs in the top of the second on a double by Ben Ezra with the bases loaded. On the double, Madison Kahn tried to score from first, but leftfielder Claire Regan fired the ball to shortstop Lindsay Holcomb, who gunned out Kahn at the plate on a bang-bang play.

Trailing 3-0 in the bottom of the second, Poly Prep took advantage of sloppy defensive plays by Riverdale.



**TAKE A WHACK:** Ciara Schirripa, the daughter of "Sopranos" star Steve Schirripa (inset), struck out seven in Poly Prep's game against Riverdale. Photo by An Rong Xu

After Amanda Schnell and Leahey both dropped fly balls on back-to-back plays, Lauren Klehammer dropped down a bunt that scored Saputo, and Regan then hit an RBI double that plated Lily Seibert to cut Poly Prep's deficit to 3-2.

"We had too many errors," Riverdale head coach Sue Fleming said. "A team like Poly, you can't give them that or they're gonna capitalize and that's what they did."

Cornet got the loss for Riverdale and lasted four innings while strik-

ing out three and giving up five runs, two earned, on four hits. Kahn then took over and pitched two scoreless innings in relief. After Schirripa was staked to a 5-3 lead, she cruised to victory.

It was a hard-fought victory for Poly Prep, and Schirripa will hope to continue her success after missing all but two innings last season.

"Ciara's been improving every game," Poly Prep coach Mildred Piscopo said. "She gets stronger with every start."

# Midwood sticks it to Hunter

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

It's been a different kind of season for Midwood's stick men in many ways.

The Hornets are used to being Public School Athletic League's defending Class A boys lacrosse city champions. But, with 16 seniors graduated, this year, the team has gotten off to a much slower start.

Building early momentum this season was hampered by the fact that renovations are being done on the Hornets' home field, limiting practice times and routines.

"It was tough on the kids," Midwood coach Andrew Shipman said. "They are used to going to the field, having the locker room. When that normalcy is disrupted, it affects them."

The second-year coach joked that he carries their practice around in his car after a 10-7 win over Hunter in Public School Athletic League Championship division boys lacrosse on April 26 at Aviator Sports Complex.

Stuffed in his back seat and truck are cones, tarps, water, portable creases, and a medical kit, along with other things. His team was doing conditioning in the gym for much of the preseason and now practices regularly at Marine Park. Last Thursday's win moves Midwood to 4-3 and into sole possession of fourth place.

"We had to build that chemistry," senior midfielder Desean Abraham said.

That was on display from late in the first quarter and into the third. The Hornets settled down and ran their offense. They scored five straight goals to take a 7-2 lead 12 seconds into the third when Abraham



**STICK SENSATION:** Midwood's Desean Abraham had three goals against Hunter last Wednesday. Photo by Lauren Marsh

scored his second of three goals. He also added an assist and Nick Dopyera scored four times. Daniel Marroquin had two goals and an assist and Louis Barbaro added two goals of his own.

"We haven't been shooting as much as I would like," Shipman said. "I told them, 'let the hands fly,' and they did."

Hunter (2-5), which was coming off a win over division leader Totenville, didn't go quietly. It pulled within 7-5 on a Nick Mietkowski score with 5:15 left in the third and 8-6 on a Cameron Scott goal late in the quarter.

The Hornets put the game away with two straight goals. Midwood senior keeper Billy Ardamis, the hero of last year's title game, didn't let them get closer. He made 21 saves, including two in the final seconds of the first half and two more after Hunter was within 7-5.

"I believe confidence comes off any save," Ardamis said.

The Hawks, who won the Public School Athletic League Class B title last season, got four goals from Mietkowski and a goal and an assist out of Max Baren.

*Continued on Page 37*

# Get ready to play 'ball!

## Rookie teams will shape Brooklyn Kickball's 10th season

BY AARON SHORT

The Brooklyn Kickball League will crown a new champion this year after last year's title-winners disbanded — putting the game on the brink of what could be its greatest transition since the advent of the rubber ball.

The purple players who took the field last summer as Never Scared swept the dynastic John Cougar Mellencamps and promptly retired, leaving the league riddled with uncertainty as North Brooklyn's boys and girls of summer prepare for the season's May 6 kickoff.

Never Scared isn't the only club to call it quits. Gone, too, are a number of other McCarren Park stalwarts, including Brooklyn United, Dolls Kicking Balls, Diddy's White Party, and Ramrod, whose star kickers have signed up with other squads.

The demise of these storied kickball clubs has opened the door — perhaps, just a bit — for a handful of experienced teams and a few eager newcomers that want nothing more than to stake their claim on the 2012 Chuck D trophy at Greenpoint's dusty fields.

Longtime observers are putting money on the Math-



**HAVING A BALL:** Anthony Politi, Stephen Kreick, Mike Stee, Matt Pozorski, and CJ James, of the rookie team, Last Licks, is ready for the new season to start. (Right) Hillary Kaylor, of Space Rabies, can't wait to play kickball.

letes, who tackled a tough schedule and an injury-plagued season last year until the Pony Boys knocked them out of the round robin playoffs.

But this year, many insiders say the Mathletes have solved their problems. The team returns with captain Kiley "Algebra" Edgley and a slew of wily kickers who also defend well.

Other veteran teams that have faltered in past playoffs — including the plaid-clad New Frontiersmen, the scrappy Pony Boys, and the spirited People's Court — are also in the hunt for a first-round bye.

And despite the critics who say the two-time champion Mellencamps are in a

rebuilding year, the team claims it has merely reloaded, signing Brooklyn United's Justin "Anarchy" Taylor and adding a few rookies of its own — enough new talent to put it in the league's

upper echelon, according to Andrew "W.B." Yates

"I'd be surprised if this is a competitive season," Yates said. "There may only be four or five good teams. The rest are mediocre."



**READY TO KICK:** Booze on First has perhaps the best logo of any kickball team.

where it's a shorter porch.

The pitching took care of the rest. John Pena started and gave up one run on three hits and five walks in five innings to pick up the win for Xaverian (8-0). He got out of a bases-loaded jam in the fifth by getting Mike Lipovac to ground out to second. Blaise Scerbo, the team's ace who is coming back from a sore arm, closed it out with two domi-

nant innings.

"He's had even better stuff than he did today and he still only allowed one run," Louis DeAngelis said of Pena.

Chris Piteo drove in Donovan Armas with a double in the fifth for Molloy (4-3), which has now lost two straight after falling to Monsignor McClancy last Tuesday. The Stanners are still without Evansville-

bound third baseman and pitcher Jonathan Ramon (pinched nerve), who is still a week or two away from returning.

Xaverian, meanwhile, is now three games in the win column, ahead of everyone else in Brooklyn/Queens.

"We're undefeated and not looking back," Louis DeAngelis said. "We're taking this division definitely. No one is catching us."



Photos by Stefano Giovannini

But even the most casual fan of kickball knows that newcomers should never be overlooked.

No rookie squad has received as much buzz as Milk Believe, a team of former college athletes led by MVP-hopefuls Mike "Big Baby" Scott in the outfield and Priest "Marathon" Fontaine on third base.

"Without a doubt we're definitely a dark horse favorite to win it all," said Scott, a former Mellencamp who is nothing if not self-confident. "I think the Mellencamps are going to be really bad. It's bad when you can't keep your best players."

Other new teams, including Last Licks and Perfect Strangers, were temper-

ing their expectations and spent the preseason focused on fundamentals.

"We're trying to learn the game," said Last Licks's Matt "Lucky Licks" Pozaroski. "Most of us have never played before."

Scott's teammate Ariella "Hasn't Signed On Just Yet" Schwerd will rely heavily on the skills she acquired 20 years ago during recess — and she thinks that should be enough.

"There's no school you go to learn kickball, except elementary school," she said. "And if you told your teacher you wanted to be a Williamsburg kickball champion when you grew up, you'd probably get tested for something."

## Brothers

Continued from page 33

John crushed a Rosario DiLorenzo offering in the third inning over the high fence in left center and it carried across the street near the doorway of an apartment building. Louis had a more modest blast off DiLorenzo, clearing the tall chain-link fence to left

not making that extra effort," Wong said.

It's been a season of working out of a comfort zone for Midwood. The hope is things are starting to come together heading into playing the division's top teams the second time around.

"Early on we were sluggish," Shipman said. "We are definitely making strides."

## Midwood

Continued from page 36

Hunter coach Johnson Wong saw his team again suffer from a slow start, something he's seen happen after long bus rides.

"If you look at that third quarter compared to other quarters, it's just a matter of being lazy and slow to the ball

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## MetroCard

*Continued from Page 7*

in North Brooklyn and DUMBO, who use the boat to commute to Wall Street and midtown Manhattan in as little as 15 minutes.

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And Boston residents get around Beantown by buying a CharlieCard, which allows unlimited travel on buses, subways, commuter trains, and ferries in the harbor.

Transit advocates lauded the idea and called on other transit agencies to join the discussion.

"To paraphrase Tolkien, let's have 'one card to rule them all!'" said Transportation Alternatives spokesman Michael Murphy. "There should be one transit card that people can use on the MTA, the ferries, the PATH, bike share, and commuter rail. A seamless public transportation experience would be a welcome development for New Yorkers and regional commuters."

## Raccoons

*Continued from cover*

and spread rotting trash on Windsor Place near 11th Avenue.

"It's disgusting — it's like the school serves them dinner every night," said neighbor Pat Maliha.

She said school officials are ignoring the problem by failing to drain milk cartons before chucking them in the garbage and not placing the trash in dumpsters.

And a soon-to-open green market slated to open in the schoolyard could make the fat furballs even more aggressive — and even better fed, neighbors fear.

The raccoons are already testy enough, according to Maliha, who claims a pushy fella' banged so hard on a neighbor's window that one Windsor Terrace resident had to call pest control. A huge one spooked another neighbor, who then took a photo of the masked bandit.

Maliha snapped some

evidence herself. Her photos show roughly 20 large white trash bags on the street in front of the school — many dotted with bite marks.

District 15 superintendent Anita Scop said the district is working with the school to remedy the trash trouble.

"The school is dealing with the problem," she said.

But Maliha said school officials have given her that answer for months — without taking action.

"They're being bad neighbors," she said.

*Each woman's unique accomplishments will be highlighted in a keepsake publication on May 24, 2012.*



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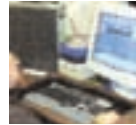
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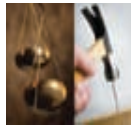
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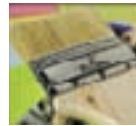
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## EDUCATION & CAREER TRAINING

### Career trends you should know

ARA

Students graduating from college this year should expect better job opportunities and salaries than graduates from recent history, but that doesn't mean new graduates will have an easy time finding employment. Competition will still be fierce with hundreds of applications submitted for jobs in many industries, both from new graduates and former graduates still looking for work.

If you're graduating soon and seeking career opportunities, here are some employment trends to be aware of to stay on top of the career market:

•First, expect to change jobs numerous times in your career. In today's career world, job stability does not always equal job security. Employees change jobs about every five years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Reasons differ for many people, but could be due to changes in the industry, restructuring in the company, or because of lack of job growth within one company.

•The U.S. economy is fundamentally changing, and employees can no longer expect to work their way up the company ladder," says Brad Kuchenreuther, campus president at Everest Collegen Vancouver.

•Second, know where the jobs are. "Our nation is experiencing huge demographic and economic changes, which are creating major shifts in the types of jobs available today," says Mary Durall-Dupree, academic dean Everest. "Students should prepare themselves for a changing job market."

Current careers in need of employees include information technology, engineers, and accounting and finance, according to Fortune 500 magazine.

•Third, consider going back to school for additional career training. Today's job market requires that employees keep their skills current, and as a result, more and more adults are going back to school. "Students come to us to keep their skills up-to-date or get the credentials they need to advance in their careers," says Durall-Dupree. "They find that it is increasingly necessary in today's changing job market."

Careers that require education higher than a bachelor's degree are expected to have the fastest employment growth by 2020, according to the BLS. But several occupations in the medical field and the marketing industry which require associate or bachelor's degrees are also projected to grow rapidly through 2020. Going back to school for additional training, or earning a degree while already in the job are options for employees.

"Employers understand that a one- or two-year program can give new employees exactly the mix of academic learning and hands-on experience they need to excel in today's changing job market," says Kuchenreuther.

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