

Sept. 9, 2012

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CNG

## Boss loss emboldens boro Dems

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

Scandal-scarred Assemblyman Vito Lopez is losing his iron-clad grip on borough politicians, as leaders who never dared cross the influential Democratic boss are defying his wishes now that he's stepping down from his party post due to a sexual harassment investigation.

Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D-Greenpoint) — a former Lopez supporter — made it clear that the Bushwick pol no longer runs the show by endorsing Democratic district leader Lincoln Restler, Lopez's bitter rival.

"I wanted to endorse Lincoln from the start, but knew Lopez had problems with him," said Lentol, who came out swinging for Restler in the state committeeman's re-election campaign for the obscure party post against Lopez-backed candidate Chris Olechowski. "I wanted to respect Lopez."

Lentol — who claims he actually helped Lopez attain his top

*Continued on Page 15*



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

## High fashion

Williamsburgers are famous for their eccentric and edgy sense of fashion — and Gina Tron and Arthur Arbit are hoping to capture that look at the Williamsburg Fashion Weekend on Sept 14 and 15. See page 13 for more.

## Arena suds till 1 am

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Spectators and club-goers at the soon-to-open Barclays Center won't be able to score booze after 1 am thanks to a state decision that residents are calling a small win for the neighborhood.

Vendors at the 18,000-seat stadium must stop

selling alcohol prior to the fourth quarter of basketball games, one hour before concerts end — and no later than 1 am if any event runs that late, the State Liquor Authority ruled last Wednesday.

Neighbors say the booze curfew — which is an hour

*Continued on Page 15*



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

**SHOT CLOCK:** Barclays Center is being ordered to lock up its bars at 1 am.

## City: Fix your own sinkholes

BY WILL BREDDERMAN

Homeowners are responsible for repairing the sinkholes that are forming throughout Bay Ridge, according to city officials who say that many of the dips, depressions, and holes opening on neighborhood streets are caused by faulty pipes that connect private

homes to the main water and sewer lines — pipes that should be maintained by the property holder.

Department of Environmental Protection officials are taking full responsibility for the 70-foot sinkhole near the corner of 93rd Street and Ridge Boulevard residents say has left

a cloud of noxious-smelling sewer gas over the community, but claim they are not to blame for more than two-thirds of the smaller street openings found in the neighborhood.

"Not all the holes in the street belong to us," Department of Environ-

*Continued on Page 13*

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Photos by Steve Solomons

**CLEANING UP:** A vendor sweeps up the street at the close of the 18th Avenue Feast, which residents say left nothing but garbage-strewn streets.

# NABE: FEAST WAS A BURDEN

Festival brings drunken brawls, residents say

BY WILL BREDDERMAN

Drunken teens attending the resurrected Santa Rosalia Festival left 18th Avenue in shambles, according to residents who hope the once-cancelled end-of-summer tradition doesn't return to the neighborhood.

Thousands cheered the return of the 11-day festival — which organizers cancelled last year during a permit dispute with the city. But those who live closest to the action say the 18th Avenue Feast was marred by drunken brawls, garbage, and parking nightmares.

"I never saw so many kids drinking underage," said Richard Morena, who claimed that the police did nothing to stop the youths. "Then after it gets dark, they sit on my stoop and get into fights."

Neighbors said fights and illegal activity witnessed at the 18th Avenue Feast bled out onto the side streets before the event



**UNWANTED LEFTOVERS:** Caroline Starsira Siracusa points out all the trash 18th Avenue Feast-goers left behind.

came to a close on Sept. 2, leaving residents with sights they would have rather not seen.

"I saw people urinating in the street on Thursday night," said Joannella Bells, who lives just off the festival, which stretched from 68th to 75th streets. "It's filthy and the organizers don't pick up a broom till it's over."

Bells wants next year's 18th Avenue Feast to be cancelled, but most of her neighbors say they don't want the yearly Italian-American tradition to be abolished — they just want it to be abridged.

"I wouldn't mind it if it wasn't as long," Morena said. "Eleven days is just too much."

Others complained about fistfights, rowdy behavior, and loud noises, but said it was all part of living near 18th Avenue.

"There's fights over here, and they're screaming and yelling at night," said resident Laura Tiezenman. "I felt kind of lost last year without it."

Community Board 11 officials said they have not received any official complaints about the 18th Avenue Feast, and that the 62nd Precinct had not respond to any disturbances.

"Everything went smoothly," CB11 district manager Marnee Elias-Pavia said.

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# Futons coming to Fulton Mall

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

Furniture retailer Raymour & Flanigan will open a store in the Fulton Mall — continuing the suburban mallification of the busy shopping corridor.

The seller of sofas and side tables, which operates stores throughout the Northeast, will set up shop alongside a newly opened Express and a Planet Fitness outpost on the second floor of 490 Fulton St. in February.

Scott Milnamow, senior vice president of real estate for the upstate-based home furnishings retailer, said Raymour & Flanigan has long eyed the Downtown shopping strip.

"We have been looking in the Downtown Brooklyn market for the right location for a couple of years with Fulton Mall as an area high on our list," said Milnamow, whose employer already operates two other Brooklyn locations, one in Coney Island and another in Marine Park.

"The pedestrian traffic and surrounding neighborhoods makes the market a great fit," Milnamow said.

In recent years, the Fulton Mall has undergone a rapid transform-

mation from a street of sneaker shops, discount jewelry sellers, and wig stores to a corridor lined with national brands such as Aeropostale, the Gap, and Starbucks.

Swedish fashion chain H&M and discount department store Century 21 are both planning to open retail locations on the Fulton Mall in the coming months.

Meanwhile, popular local chains including Shake Shack and Brooklyn Industries have set up shop on the west end of the street, near Borough Hall.

Neighborhood boosters claim that the residents of the new high-rises that have sprouted in Downtown over the past few years helped spark the shopping street's transition away from small retailers toward national and international chains.

"More and more people are calling Downtown Brooklyn home," said Tucker Reed, president of Downtown Brooklyn Partnership.

"This continued transition into a 24/7 neighborhood is a driving force behind this vast diversification of retail that we are seeing today," Reed said.



**FUTON MALL:** Raymour & Flanigan will open a shop in this storefront.

# Grocery list of demands

## Walgreens critics to boycott if requests are not met

BY NATALIE O'NEILL

Windsor Terrace residents have released a list of demands for a Walgreens that's set to replace the neighborhood's only supermarket — and they say they'll boycott the drugstore if it doesn't meet their requirements.

At the top of the check-off list: 10,000 square feet dedicated to grocery store space — complete with organic and free range fare, "fresh-baked goods," and departments for meat, dairy, and produce.

Neighbors say they penned the list after the pharmacy, which is replacing a Key Food at Prospect and 11th avenues, failed to be clear about what type of food it would offer and how much space it would dedicate to groceries.

"If Walgreens refuses to be specific about how they will meet our needs, the community will," said Windsor Terrace resident Ryan Lynch.

Lynch and other neighbors held meetings, circulated e-mails and conducted research before drafting the list of demands — which comes after months of protests from residents who say replacing the supermarket with a drug store will create a "food desert" unless



**FOOD FIGHT:** Margaret de Cruz and other Windsor Terrace residents protested against a planned Walgreens this summer, claiming the neighborhood needs a grocery store, not a drugstore.

Walgreens provides fresh fare, or adjusts its lease to make room for a grocer.

Their demands now outline neighbors' definition of "a supermarket," noting that a "wide range of fresh fruits and vegetables," a section for household goods, and a deli department are essential.

Walgreens last week promised to sell some fruit, veggies, and frozen meat,

but declined to cite specifics or note how much space will be dedicated to food — a guarantee that neighbors called "vague."

A company spokesman wasn't much more specific when This Paper forwarded him the list of demands and asked for comment on Thursday.

"We are currently considering various options to meet the community's

needs," said spokesman Robert Elfinger. "We look forward to talking with community officials when we have more specifics in place."

But neighbors say there's still plenty more for the company to cross off the list if it wants support from the hundreds shoppers who plan to boycott the drug store unless Walgreens caves to their demands.

# Promenade bicycle backlash

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

Rule-breaking cyclists shatter the serenity of Brooklyn Heights's picturesque Promenade, weaving around park-goers and riding all over the borough's most illustrious sidewalk, according to angry neighbors.

Brooklyn Heights residents say two-wheelers frequently violate the vista's no-bike policy, ignoring signs posted at entrances so they can cruise down the pedestrian-packed Promenade.

"I'm here everyday and they ride by like nobody's



**BIKE PAIN:** Brooklyn Heights residents say cyclists are breaking rules and riding on the Promenade.

business," said longtime Brooklyn Heights resident Rob Rosenstein, who spends

his afternoons reading on the Promenade. "There's no concern for anyone else."

Rosenstein says he hasn't seen crashes yet — but he fears accidents are bound to happen as long as cyclists ride on the walkway.

Community Board 2 district manager Rob Perris has received calls about cyclists on the Promenade — and he fears that more bikers will turn to the walkway in the future.

"As bike riding increases in popularity in New York City and there are more places to rent bikes, we are probably going to see more of this," he said.

*Continued on Page 15*

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**BATH HOUSE BLUES:** Steve Cymbrowitz's proposal to transform the under-utilized Manhattan Beach Bath House into a Russian immigrant center is being panned by civic leaders.

# BATTLE FOR BATH HOUSE

Critics: Park building shouldn't be culture center

BY COLIN MIXSON

Residents are slamming Assemblyman Steve Cymbrowitz's plan to transform Manhattan Beach's long-shuttered bath house into a Russian immigrant cultural center—a move many are calling a political ploy to gain Russian votes as his race against Belarus-born challenger Ben Akselrod heats up.

Cymbrowitz announced last Thursday that the bath house will become a hub of Russian culture, but community leaders say they were never told that the bath house, which hasn't been open since the 1970s, would be used in such a way—and were outraged by what they see as a politically-motivated announcement.

"It's politics at its worst," said Ira Zalcman, the president of the Manhattan Beach Community Group. "Cymbrowitz is running against a Russian candidate so he announces this immigrant center two weeks before an election and it's the last thing we wanted. I thought we were going to have an educational

center on alternative renewable energy."

For the first time in years, members of the Manhattan Beach Neighborhood Association—longtime rivals of the Manhattan Beach Community Group—agreed with Zalcman's assessment.

"It's nice the city is rehabilitating the building but I would have been happier if they'd taken our suggestions and that of the community," said Alan Ditcheck, president of the Manhattan Beach Neighborhood Association.

Others said they were hoping that the bath house would have a restaurant or a food court for hungry beach-goers.

"When the architects met with us, we said we wanted some kind of cafe and a community meeting room," Community Board 15 chairwoman Theresa Scavo said.

But the legislator shrugged off the criticisms, claiming that the Parks Department and the architectural firm conducting the \$125,000 feasibility study came up with the idea.

"It was their concept to make it Russian immigrant cultural center," Cymbrowitz said.

Yet, aside from its name, it's unclear just how the building will be honoring Russian immigrants: facilities being considered for the bath house include a fitness center, a multipurpose room, as well as bathrooms, changing, and shower rooms, according to city officials. The multipurpose room could hold educational materials and classes about Russian culture, but nothing has been finalized, city officials say.

Architects at Beyer Blinder Belle Architects and Planners LLP said that the plumbing and wiring within the bath house would have to be replaced, but that the building itself was structurally sound and could be retrofitted to hold whatever the city wants to put there.

On Sept. 13, voters will choose between Cymbrowitz and Akselrod, a former CB15 district manager who emigrated to the U.S. when he was 18.

# Tots locked out

Residents say park now closed for too long

BY ELI ROSENBERG

The Parks Department is turning the Lt. Federico Narvaez Tot Lot on Cortelyou Road into a haven for night owls, say Ditmas Park parents who claim city officials leave the park wide open all night, then keep the gates locked for most of the morning.

City officials promised to lock the small play space that 85-year-old volunteer Leroy Harris opened and closed each day until March — when he was given the boot for following the rules too strictly — following this paper's report about claims that the park has been overrun by drug dealers, drinkers, and vagrants.

But a recent visit to the playground showed that whoever is locking up the tot lot is following his own schedule: the gate wasn't closed at dusk on Aug. 29, when it should have been,



**UNLOCK IT:** Families were locked out of the park last Thursday morning.

but was closed to the public for most of the next morning. The park was supposed to be open at 8 am.

Residents were not pleased with the play space's new hours.

"The park was supposed to be closed at 9 pm [last Tuesday] night," a Ditmas

Park Corner blogger wrote last week. "I visited the park at about 10:15 pm to see the gate open with an older man sitting on a bench in the dark in the back corner of the park. That's not exactly a scene that evokes terror, but the fact remains, the park was supposed to be closed."

Parks Department officials say they are scrambling to find someone to open and close the park on a regular basis.

"We are looking at all other options — including volunteerism — to continue this effort," said Parks Department spokeswoman Meghan Lalor.

So far, about 11 residents have volunteered to open and close the tot lot, but residents assisting the city's effort to keep the park safe say more volunteers will be needed.

"The Parks Depart-



**CHAIN PAIN:** Bianca Morisit, who brings her young son to the tot lot, says the park should be locked at night, but reopened in the morning.

Photos by Arthur De Gaeta

ment's promise to close the gate at night is a short-term fix only, but one that can tide us over until we find a long-term solution," said one neighbor, who would

only identify herself as Christina.

Volunteers will meet to coordinate a daily schedule in the next few weeks, Christina said.

Yet some hoped for the return of Harris, the rule-bound octogenarian who was dismissed from service after parents complained that he was cursing at unruly youngsters and would argue with residents who said he was closing the gate too early.

"If kids were riding bikes he would tell them to stop, and if older kids were in there, he would tell them to leave," said parent Maria Smythe, who claims that young adults routinely hang out in the park and blast music — which she says is against the park's rules. "He was good. Being stern was what people needed."

Harris, however, has made it clear he has no plans to return to duty.

"Even if they ask me again, I don't want to have nothing to do with it," Harris told this paper in an earlier interview. "Nobody paid me, and all I got was insults."

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# Insiders: Storobin will be a 'Super Jew' as election nears

BY ELI ROSENBERG

Republican state Sen. David Storobin is wearing his Judaism on his sleeve as he tries to snag the new super-Jewish district from Democratic challenger Simcha Felder, an Orthodox Jew with deep roots in Midwood and Borough Park, political insiders say.

Over the last few weeks, Storobin (R-Brighton Beach) volunteered at a kosher soup kitchen, took a trip to Israel where he was photographed at the Western Wall, straightened out a restitution payment snafu for a Holocaust survivor, and lashed out against the city's push to ban the practice of metzitzah b'peh — where a religious leader performing a bris removes the blood from a newborn's circumcision wound by

mouth.

Political watchdogs say all of these events were carefully orchestrated to ingratiate himself in the new community he hopes to lead.

"It's a smart attempt to wed Russian Jews, plus the Orthodoxy, plus conservative Jews in one place," said veteran politico Hank Sheinkopf. "Going to Israel is part of that strategy."

Storobin — who won a narrow victory over Councilman Lew Fidler to fill the seat left behind by disgraced state Senator Carl Kruger this spring, but will be forced to leave Albany when his district disappears in January — has also articulated increasingly conservative positions.

One of his first moves

after being elected into office was to put forth a bill that would prohibit gay marriage. He has also spoken out against President Obama and former House speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-California).

Yet Storobin, who was born in the Soviet Union, denies that he's milking his religion for votes.

"I don't think any of us here is running for chief rabbi of Brooklyn," Storobin told us during an interview that coincided with his trip to Israel. "I have no issues with Simcha Felder on that front and I think that the differences are political."

Both candidates are striking a sharp pro-Israel and conservative line. Storobin said he would support Mitt Romney in November, while Felder re-

cently announced his support for the Romney-Paul ticket.

And both say Israel and the Palestinian territories are meant for Jews and Jews alone.

"It's not what I believe — it's what god believes," said Felder. "The Torah says the whole land of Israel is holy and that it belongs to the Jewish people."

Storobin echoed a similar sentiment, referring to the West Bank by the names favored by Zionists: Judea and Samaria.

But Sheinkopf said there is nothing surprising about Storobin's focus on religion given the increasingly devout nature of the residents in the neighborhood he's targeting — a political strategy that's been employed in Brooklyn for decades.



Photo by Steve Solomson

**AS JEWISH AS HE WANTS TO BE:** State Sen. David Storobin is trying to snag the so-called "super-Jewish district" in Midwood and Borough Park.

"The facts are that outer boroughs have always been conservative. There's nothing new there," said Sheinkopf. "The outer borough

Catholics have declined in number and been replaced by outer borough Jews who are religious and just as conservative."

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# Parade a celebration of Caribbean culture

BY COLIN MIXSON

Costumed dancers, colorful floats, and thousands of revelers made their way up Eastern Parkway on Monday, celebrating Caribbean pride in the 45th annual West Indian Day Parade.

Despite the celebration's advanced age, the crowds were thick as ever, although the event ended a bit early this year, attendees said.

"Compared to last year, it was just as crowded," said Sabine Franklin, who marched with Public Advocate Bill De Blasio's entourage. "The event seemed a little short this year, though."

"I remember last time, the parade went into 7 pm, but this year I saw the last float coming down Eastern Parkway at 4:30 pm and the Sanitation trucks were literally right behind the float," she said.

And participants say the same sense of pride that sparked the first West Indian Labor Day celebration 45 years ago was still evident at the latest parade.

"They were playing Haitian music and there was this huge, giant red bus, and there were literally a thousand people walking around it," Franklin said. "I really felt proud to be represented as a Haitian in such a powerful way."



Photos by Paul Miletta



**DANCE IN THE STREET:**  
The 45th annual West Indian Day Parade drew huge crowds along Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, giving onlookers a front-row seat to amazing costumes and floats.



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# Gravesend is gang land, political hopeful says

BY COLIN MIXSON

A Republican state assembly candidate who claims to be a gang expert says that violent, vengeful crews could be jacking up crime in Gravesend — and the proof is in the graffiti.

Russell Gallo, a former National Guardsman who's taking on Assemblyman Steve Cymbrowitz (D-Sheepshead Bay) this fall, attributed scrawlings he found on walls along Avenues U and X to gang warfare, which could be a key factor in the neighborhood's rising crime rate.

"Gangs rob people; they sell drugs and break into people's cars — these things are related," said Gallo, who said he found tags belonging to Latino gangs such as La Raza and Surenos 13 during a brief stroll down Avenue U between W. 11th Street and Ocean Parkway. Several of the markings were scratched out, indicating that rival gangs are warring



**THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL:** This "La Raza" gang tag has been crossed out, which could signify a territory war between two gangs.

over territory, Gallo claims.

"Most politicians just think of it as [the act of] stupid kids, but it's really much more scary than that," Gallo said. "There are rival gangs roaming the streets and a lot of the shootings going on are probably con-

nected to this."

But authorities at the 61st Precinct said Gallo's claims are completely overblown.

"This isn't really a gang neighborhood, I've never seen any evidence of organized gang activity," said one cop.

"Sounds like a politician looking for a step up," said another officer.

But Gallo countered that the cops aren't properly trained in detecting and combatting gang activity.

"Our street cops are not being trained to recognize gang markings, it's extra training and the cops need it," he said. "They have specialized gang units, but I think more street cops need the training as well."

Gallo's concerns aren't completely unfounded: to date, crime is up more than 50 percent in the 61st Precinct.

Robbery rates have risen 94 percent compared to last year,



Photos courtesy Russell Gallo

**SPRAY WHAT?**: Assembly candidate Russell Gallo thinks this Avenue U Boys tag was spray-painted over a Surenos 13 tag — meaning the two crews are at war.

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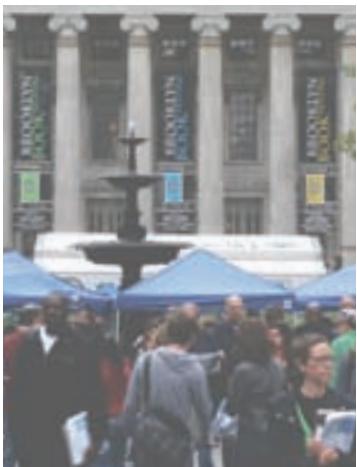
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# MODEL CITIZENS

Williamsburg's upcoming Fashion Weekend casts aside the runway in favor of the stage

BY HANNAH PALMER EGAN

In a neighborhood known for its sometimes-schizophrenic style sensibilities, a carnival fashion show is just right.

Forget the tents and paparazzi, Williamsburg's answer to Manhattan's fashion week features trapeze artists, stilt-walkers, and smoky cabaret performances — all decked out in the season's hottest styles.

"We don't do runways," said Arthur Arbit, the artist, designer, and master tailor who founded Williamsburg Fashion Weekend — the smaller, weirder fashion celebration that takes place twice annually in its namesake neighborhood.

"We like performance-based shows — it makes [it] memorable for the audience and gives designers a chance to not just show fashion, but show another facet of who they are."

And while a good chunk of the show will be art pieces that will never be seen on a store rack, this fashion show blurs the line between the unwearable and the ready-

to-wear — from a Hellraiser-inspired collection by Mark Tauriello, to a beastly series by Russian-born designer Uta Bekaia.

In a nod to the late, great Alexander McQueen, Bekaia's models will wear antlers, as will the show's creative director, Gina Tron.

"I feel like a deer in headlights every season," Tron said.

Antler-antics aside, Williamsburg Fashion Weekend is on a serious mission to shake up the fashion world, touting cutting-edge design while pushing to the center stage the politics of looking pretty.

"We want to start a revolution in the fashion industry," Arbit said.

"Whenever you buy a blouse at H&M for \$29.95, someone on the other side of the world is paying for that blouse with their blood," he said.

Williamsburg Fashion Weekend features designers who embrace ethical, transparent business practices, and the clothing is sweatshop-free.

And nearly all of the works are handcrafted in Brooklyn by the designers themselves.

Many collections even use recycled or salvaged fabrics and non-toxic dyes and chemicals.

"It's very do-it-yourself," Tron said.

They must be doing something right. This season, Bushwick artists declared Sept. 22 and 23 "Bushwick Fashion Weekend."

That event will center around a "Bushwick Zoo," an animal-themed costume parade beginning at the Morgan Avenue L stop and winding through the neighborhood to the Living Gallery, on Flushing.

"You know you're doing something right if people start copying you," said Tron. "You can't patent a good idea. We'll take it as a compliment, I guess."

*Williamsburg Fashion Weekend at the Windmill Studios (287 Kent Ave. between S. First and S. Second streets, (718) 384-7300, williamsburgfashionweekend.com). Sept. 14, 15, 8 pm. \$15 advance, \$20 day of show.*



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

**HIGH FASHION:** (Clockwise from top left) Marsha Larose, Arthur Arbit, Gina Tron, and Nathalie Krayina are gearing up for Williamsburg Fashion Weekend — an event intended to make fashion fun and freaky again by showing off the latest sartorial styles.

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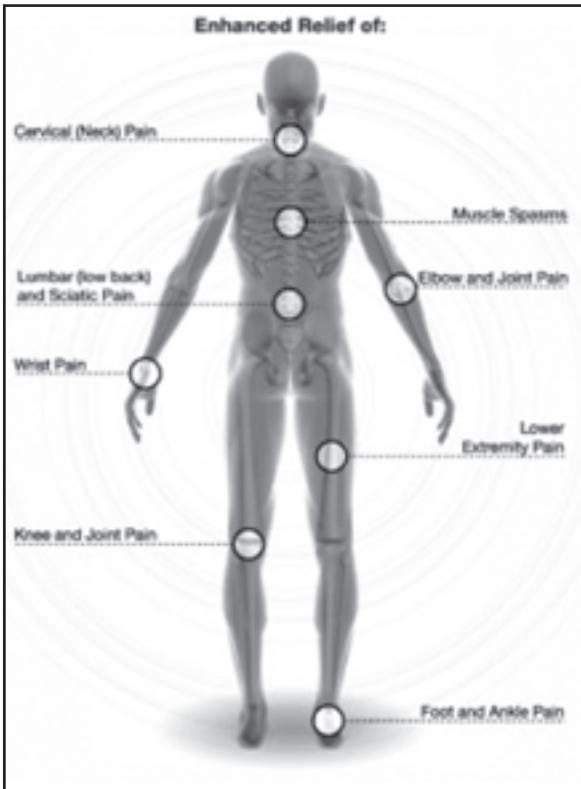
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**HOLE LOT OF PROBLEMS:** Peg Parker, Margaret Carroll, and Evelyn McCabe discuss an Aug. 1 street collapse that almost swallowed a car on 79th Street.

Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

## Sinkhole

*Continued from Cover*

mental Protection Deputy Commissioner Jim Roberts said, pointing to a busted sewage conduit coming out of a home on 92nd Street between Ridge Boulevard and Colonial Road — which is just a block away from the 93rd Street sinkhole. Construction crews are tearing up part of 92nd Street to replace the pipe, but Roberts said it was unrelated to

the work being done on the 93rd Street sinkhole, which he says won't be fixed, filled in, and sealed until the end of the month.

Residents and civic leaders overwhelmed by the foul stench coming from the 93rd Street opening, as well as the loss of parking spots as crews work on the hole, were frustrated by the news and demanded that the city do a better job monitoring their underground infrastructure in the future.

"We deserve a little more assurance that this will not happen again," said Community Board 10 Environmental Committee Chairman Bob Huddock.

Still, some welcomed Roberts' optimistic outlook.

"They were talking about finishing up around Christmas," said Community Board 10 Chairwoman Joanne Seminara. "They've been very responsive to our concerns."

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# APPLE OF BKLYN'S EYE

The maker of iPhones has its choice of primo property if it opens in Brooklyn

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

Journalists around the world are scrambling to write speculative stories about Apple in the days before the company's much-ballyhooed Sept. 12 announcement — and so are we!

But this newspaper cares not about the latest iPhone minutiae or miniature iPad rumor — we just want to know where Apple will open its first store in Brooklyn. We contacted the tech giant and heard nothing back, so we called in Brooklyn commercial real estate expert Chris Havens and started hypothesizing about where Apple will plant its roots when it finally settles in this Mac-loving borough. Here are the front-runners:

## 182 Flatbush Ave.

Apple is famous for its glass cube — but the makers of MacBooks could have their own glass triangular prism if they come to Brooklyn. The three-sided plot that houses Triangle Sporting Goods is up for sale, and the space just steps from the soon-to-open Barclays Center and Brooklyn's biggest transit hub could make for an iconic home for the borough's first Apple store. The footprint is a bit small compared to many of the brand's shops, but Apple has been known to compromise — and the location boasts high visibility, plenty of foot traffic, and lots of eager laptop-toting shoppers in nearby Park Slope, Prospect Heights, Boerum Hill, and Fort Greene.

**Havens's take:** "That would be a great location, but I don't know if it's big enough."

## 1 Hanson Pl.

Apple isn't afraid of history — the iPhone inventors abided by strict city regulations to set up shop inside the landmarked interior of Manhattan's Grand Central Terminal. So what's stopping Apple from doing the same thing in the famous Williamsburgh

Savings Bank? The cavernous former bank — which is the wintertime home of the Brooklyn Flea — boasts a stunning and similarly landmarked interior that could wow shoppers with little modification. That's a good thing, because little modification is allowed due to its historic status.

**Havens's take:** "Landmarks doesn't want the interior to change. There are the teller cages and the tables — none of that could be touched."

## Empire Stores

DUMBO offers almost everything that Apple covets: an iconic retail space, a posh neighborhood, and a techy community filled with Mac users. The builders of Brooklyn Bridge Park are seeking tenants for the historic Empire Stores — a Civil War-era warehouse with a prime location alongside the waterfront tourist attraction. Apple would need to do lots of work to convert the building into one of its glitzy retail outposts. But upon opening, there would be plenty of foot-traffic from well-heeled tourists, not to mention customers from the web businesses that work in the neighborhood and DUMBO residents capable of paying Brooklyn's highest rents.

**Havens's take:** "The interior is not practical. And that location is not yet a 24-hour location."

## 247 Bedford Ave.

Williamsburg is the global capital of cool — and its already bus-

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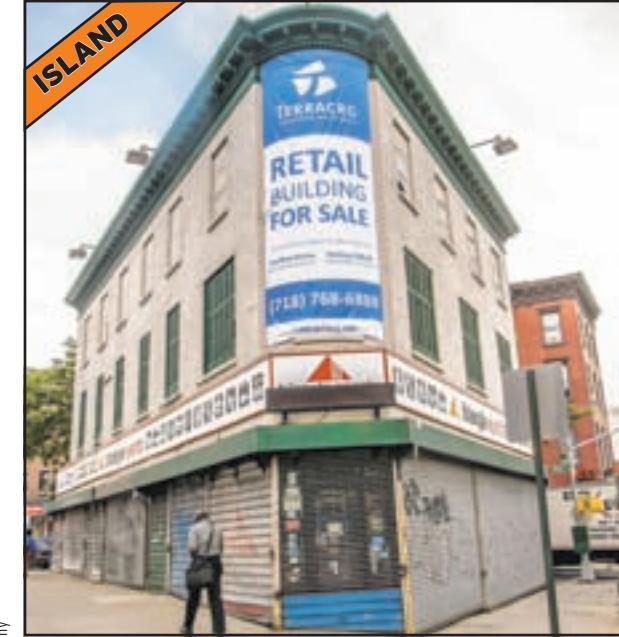
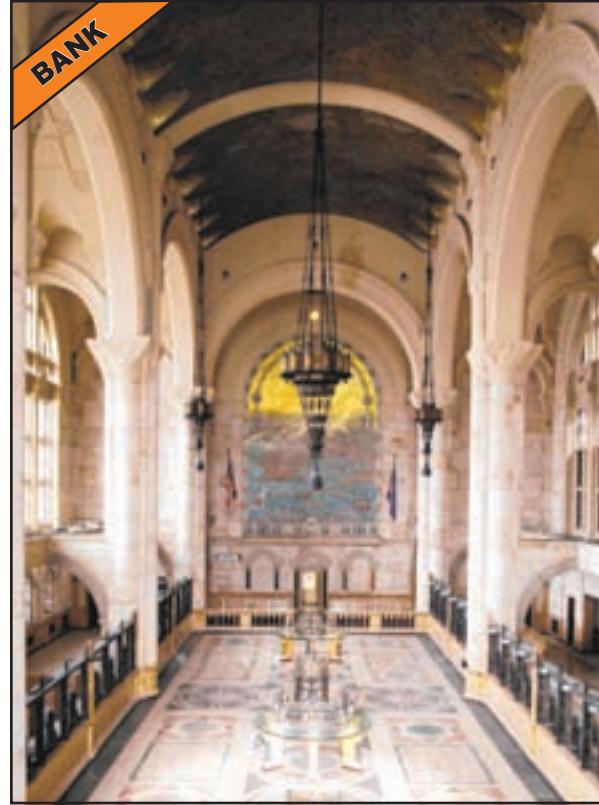
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Courtesy the Dermot Company

**APPLE PICKING:** The makers of MacBooks and iPhones have plenty of great real estate options if they choose to set up shop in Brooklyn, such as the stunning, landmarked lobby of 1 Hansen Pl. (above), the perfectly located Triangle Sports building (top right), or even the Kings Plaza Shopping Center (bottom right).

tling business strip is poised to become an even bigger commercial corridor once a planned Whole Foods opens up shop on Bedford Avenue at N. Fourth Street. Could the arrival of a high-end supermarket could pave the way for a high-end computer store? If Apple really wants the skinny jean-set, the tech titan could snag a primo storefront one block away at the corner of N. Third Street that used to be home to the Bagel Store.

The vacant space has already been the center of much speculation — including rumors of a possible J. Crew takeover. Sources fa-

miliar with the building tell us a brand with an even higher profile is eying the space. But if Apple's first Kings County shop is in Williamsburg, it could be tough to draw all of those Mac fans who live in Brownstone Brooklyn.

**Havens's take:** "I don't think it covers enough of Brooklyn. That space would work great if they want to do more than one store, which I hope they do."

## Kings Plaza

The Kings Plaza Shopping Center is about as far from the gentrified bustle of Brownstone Brook-

lyn and Williamsburg as possible — but a retail space doesn't need blog buzz to make business sense. An Apple in Marine Park is a long shot, but the mall is already a home to major national retailers including a Best Buy, H&M, Aldo, and Express. And Apple doesn't shy away for malls. Scoff all you want, but shoppers in suburban Long Island currently enjoy four Apple stores, while Brooklynites continue taking the train to Manhattan whenever they need to get to the Genius Bar.

**Havens's take:** "It's hard to imagine that."

# YOUR PRIMARY GUIDE

## Three Democratic candidates battle to replace Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries on Sept. 13

*Three Democrats are vying for the Assembly seat that incumbent Hakeem Jeffries will vacate as he pursues his Congressional ambitions, leaving the representation of Fort Greene, Prospect Heights, Clinton Hill, Downtown, and parts of Crown Heights up for grabs.*



### WALTER MOSLEY

- Democratic district leader in Fort Greene.
- Born and raised in Clinton Hill.
- Earned a law degree from Howard University.
- Worked for Gov. David Paterson and the Democratic National Party.
- Picked up endorsements from Jeffries, Borough President Markowitz, and Councilwoman Leticia James.
- On his platform:** “There is a great demand for the affordable housing and we are trying to get people who are not considered rich and not considered poor in a position where they don’t have to worry each and every day.”



### OLANIKE ALABI

- Born and raised in Brooklyn.
- Attended Cornell University’s Industrial and Labor Relations program.
- Longtime employee labor union employee.
- Has the backing of unions including the Correction Officer’s Benevolent Association and the AFL-CIO, among others.

**On why endorsements don’t matter:** “Voters don’t ask me about endorsements. They ask me why I’m running, what have I done and what will I do if elected? Many endorsements are based on political deals and future ambitions.”



### MARTINE GUERRIER

- Born and raised in Queens to Haitian immigrant parents.
- Graduated from Wells College in Aurora, New York.
- Worked as chief family engagement officer for the Department of Education, where she founded the Office for Family Engagement and Advocacy.
- Took a unique approach to fund-raising — refusing to focus on individual donations.

**On the problem with fund-raising:** “My base can’t afford to give \$100 right off the bat. I started to feel like I was a bill collector. I can see why some candidates go after organizations and the special interests.”

## Sipper

*Continued from Cover*

earlier than the 2 am last call requested by the Barclays Center — will help prevent throngs of drunken fans from trashing and disrupting residential streets around the arena.

“There are a lot of people who wanted see a much earlier cut-off — but overall it’s a positive decision,” said Gib Veconi of Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council.

The last call rule ap-

pplies to the arena’s 53 vendors, including Jay-Z’s 40/40 Club as well as all “premium access” sections such as luxury boxes.

The decision to implement a 1 am last call comes after dozens of residents stormed a Community Board 6 hoping to block the arena’s liquor license bid altogether. The neighborhood group later signed off on the stadium’s request for a 2 am alcohol cut-off — despite outcry from neighbors who wanted the booze to stop flowing as early as 10 pm.

The 1 am rule is roughly three and a half hours later than the cut-off at Wrigley Field in Chicago, which is comparable to Barclays Center because of its size and proximity to residential streets. The Windy City’s earlier last call leaves some arena neighbors saying serving times must be scaled back further.

“I’d like to see it much earlier,” said Peter Krashes of the Dean Street Block Association. “These streets are not designed withstand noise and crowds.”

The former office space has no kitchen or outdoor recreation area, which adds to the problem, other neighbors say.

“If you shut these students in all day with no space, they’re going to get rowdy,” said Susan Metz, a neighbor and former teacher who claims the city is “importing problems” to the community.

Department of Education spokeswoman Marge

Feinberg said the agency has met with elected officials and community leaders to plan how to oversee the teens and communicate with neighbors.

“[Class] dismissal will be staggered and staff will be on the perimeter as students leave the property,” said Feinberg. “A community coordinator will be on site available to the community.”

## Promenade

*Continued from Page 3*

Neighborhood cycling expert Tony Scarselli, the owner of Brooklyn Heights Bike Shoppe on Atlantic Avenue, says bikers ride on the Promenade for recreation, not commuting. But even though it’s car-free, it’s not a safe place for two-wheelers, Scarselli said.

“I wouldn’t advise that

people ride a bike there,” said Scarselli, who recommended that bicyclists explore the bike-friendly path in Brooklyn Bridge Park instead.

“There’s no reason to ride a bike there — it’s like an oversized terrace for the neighborhood,” he said.

Promenade regulars claim that cyclists pose a danger — but some say they may not be intentionally disregarding the rules.

The signs that warn bikers to stay away — which also outline a number of other prohibited activities such as skateboarding and walking off-leash dogs — aren’t particularly prominent and could be hard to read for cyclists on the move.

“The signs are so small, you can barely see them,” said neighborhood resident John McKaig. “Maybe if they were bigger, people would pay attention.”

## Lopez

*Continued from Cover*

Democratic party spot in 2006 — said it’s time to move past Lopez’s strong-armed style of leadership.

“You can’t have a Democratic party that exists by fiat,” said Lentol, who added his name to the long list of borough politicians calling for Lopez to resign from the Assembly. “I believe this community can leave behind the petty politics that have seeped in over the past few years.”

And Lentol isn’t the only Democrat now willing to cross Lopez.

Warren Cohn, who ran against Restler in the 2010 election with Lopez’s blessing, also came out in support of his former rival.

“Lincoln has worked incredibly hard for the community,” said Cohn. “He has earned my respect and deserves to be reelected.”

And Brooklyn political insider Hank Sheinkopf expects other Democrats will emerge from the shadow Lopez cast over Brooklyn politics.

“People outside of his district have no reason to have an allegiance to him anymore,” said Sheinkopf.

In just a few week’s time, Lopez went from the party’s leader to Brooklyn’s Typhoid Mary, with even his closest allies distancing themselves from the 14-term incumbent after the Assembly’s Ethics committee booted him from an influential housing post when staffers complained about attempted kisses, unwanted advances, and repeated orders to write love letters expressing their gratitude to the party boss.

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A COMMUNITY MEDIA PROGRAM OF  
BRIC ARTS | MEDIA | BKLYN

Learn to use professional cameras  
and video editing software for less  
than \$60. Then, use that equipment  
to create your own BCAT TV Network  
television program – all for free.

Visit [bricartsmedia.org/cm\\_CNGad](http://bricartsmedia.org/cm_CNGad)  
or call 718-683-5645 for more  
information.

All classes take place at BRIC Community Media  
Center: 242 3rd Street in Brooklyn.

**ADL INSTITUTE**  
WE OFFER HOME HEALTH AIDS  
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We offer weekend, full time or evening courses

**FREE PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE!**

**NO GED OR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA NEEDED**

Call For Immediate Registration

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Equal Employer Opportunity

## ADVERTISING SALES PRINT AND ONLINE

The Community Newspaper Group (CNG) is the largest network of neighborhood newspapers in New York City. With multiple community newspapers and websites, CNG distributes hundreds of thousands of newspapers each week in Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx and Manhattan. These long-established community-specific papers deliver geographically targeted news, lifestyle, local sports and entertainment information. In addition, CNG's monthly Family Publications and annual Wedding, Prom, Bar Mitzvah and Sweet Sixteen magazines reach readers during their family formative years and important life events.

For advertisers, CNG offers an opportunity for both market-wide and neighborhood targeted advertising, allowing them to get their message into the areas they want to reach.

### DISPLAY & ONLINE SALES

#### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

##### Downtown Brooklyn - Full Time (Permanent):

We are seeking motivated display & online advertising sales representatives. The position involves selling advertising, working closely with clients to achieve and exceed customers' expectations, maintaining and developing a client base and seeking new business opportunities via face-to-face sales calls within the territory.

#### REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS:

- Previous sales experience preferred
- Good verbal and communication skills
- Strong computer skills
- Ability to work in a close team environment
- Car and valid driver's license required

Position offers paid salary, plus commission, 401K, medical, expenses & paid vacation. Please send your resume and cover letter to: [salesjobs@cnglocal.com](mailto:salesjobs@cnglocal.com)

### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: Print and Online Sales Business Development

We are seeking motivated display & online advertising sales representatives. The position involves selling advertising, working closely with clients to achieve and exceed customers' expectations, maintaining and developing a client base and seeking new business opportunities via telephone.

#### REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS:

- Ability to work unsupervised and in a close team environment
- Clear speaking voice
- Computer literate
- Must have previous sales experience

Please send your resume and cover letter when applying for this position to: [atarley@cnglocal.com](mailto:atarley@cnglocal.com)

### ADVERTISING ACCOUNT COORDINATORS

We are seeking pro-active, energetic Advertising Account Coordinators to join our Sales Development Program and build a solid career in sales.

**YOU MUST BE RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATE TO QUALIFY.**

#### RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Assist and contribute to the development of client proposals, presentations, and client analysis through proficient knowledge of marketing and research tools
- Process ads and manage advertisers through the full sales process
- Communication between clients and internal department
- Participate in sales calls with Advertising Account Executives and Managers
- As skills are developed, assist in prospecting and qualifying business leads
- Provide customer service to team's client base by assisting through sales process
- Liaison between sales team and sales support departments

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must have graduated no earlier than May 2011
- 3.0 Minimum cumulative GPA required (transcript required for interviews)
- Excellent written & verbal skills
- Strong work ethic
- Initiative and follow through
- Problem-solving skills
- Strong leadership skills
- Priority setting ability
- Strong desire for a career in sales management

Please submit your resume and unofficial transcript to [salesjobs@cnglocal.com](mailto:salesjobs@cnglocal.com)  
Subject Line: Advertising Account Coordinator



CNG is an EOE

# ► LEGAL DIRECTORY

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## ATTORNEY



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**212-569-1969** (fax)

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Fiance Petitions • Adjustment of Status

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### NAME CHANGE

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- False Imprisonment
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Construction Accidents

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LAW OFFICES

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## ATTORNEY

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- Residential & Commercial Real Estate Transactions
  - Accident Cases/Medical Malpractice
  - Business Formation & Business Disputes

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## ATTORNEY



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**Tel: 718-769-6352 • 718-769-6571**

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Our Criminal Defense practice includes, but is not limited to:

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# ► HERE'S MY CARD

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**FOR 2 COATS!**

\$1.60 per sq. ft. for 3 Coats!

(Minimum 300 sq ft)

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# Back to School Values!

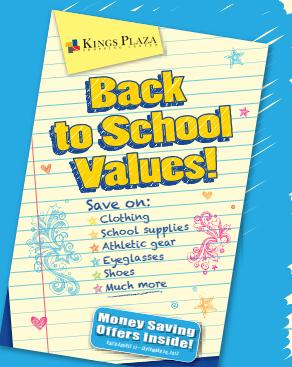
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