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Cheers to Women of Distinction





The boro's ultimate classified section



Historic library safe

— for now

BY NATALIE MUSUMECI

The Brooklyn Public Library has put a controversial plan to sell an historic branch on hold, claiming that it will now try to figure out a way to continue using the aging structure after a replacement library is built nearby.

Library trustees originally planned to sell-off Park Slope's beloved Pacific branch on Fourth Avenue to a private developer and use that cash to move into a new, more modern facility nearby, rather than shell out \$11 million to fix up the 109-year-old edifice.

Treating the borough's first Carnegie branch as a sacrificial lamb would let the Brooklyn Public Library focus on services and programming at its other 59 branches, which, including the Pacific branch, are in need of \$300 million in overdue repairs, trustees said.

Continued on page 14

TRAFFIC



It's outta here!

Cyclones outfielder James Roche hits a home run over the right field wall in the first game of the set against the hated Staten Island Yankees on Monday. For more on the Brooklyn boys, see page 50. Photo by Steve Schnibbe

Panel rejects plan to slow 4th

BY NATALIE MUSUMECI

Members of a local panel reversed course and shot down a major city plan to slow traffic on a dangerous stretch of Fourth Avenue in Park Slope last Wednesday night, calling the proposal "radical" and "ridiculous."

Community Board 6 voted 18 to nine to reject a Department of Transportation's plan that would reduce the number of lanes from three to two in each direction of the speeding-prone boulevard in order to make room for wider parking spaces and fatter pedestrian islands on a 28-block stretch between 15th Street to Atlantic Avenue.

Four members abstained from the vote, which flew in the face of the recommendation of the panel's Continued on page 36

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JOHN CATSIMATIDIS FOR MAYOR

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CHEERS TIMES TWO!

Our reporter parties, then does her best to try out for the Brooklynettes

BY JAIME LUTZ

Most journalists want to write the great American novel someday, but few have the ambition to dance in front of a roaring crowd at the Barclays Center.

Well, this one does.

So when I learned that the Brooklyn Nets were holding open auditions for the "Brooklynettes," the team's cleverly named intermissional troupe, I made a beeline for the Barclays Center with my tutu in tow.

The prerequisites were simple: eight years of technical dance training (check, I did my time at the Monroe Dance Academy in Connecticut between the ages of 4 and 18), an outfit that showed my midriff and legs (check, although it is difficult to find an outfit that shows your navel when you're only five feet tall), and performance hair and makeup (Finally!, a chance to use my new Paul Mitchell Express Ion Smooth!).

Once I was sure I fit the bill, I told everyone from my editors to my best friends — that I was going to be a Nets dancer. And at 3 am the day of the auditions. I told everyone in the bar that would listen that I would soon be a pom-pommed citizen of the cheeroc-

I was up at 10:30 on the morning of the big day to get ready for the noon tryouts, and conditions were not optimal. My makeup bag was mysteriously gone from my purse, and was probably on the floor of the Triple Crown Ale House. My head was aching. My hair, despite Paul Mitchell's



GO NETS!: (Above) After the first round of auditions, Bianca Tammaro, right, made it to the next round. Our reporter Jaime Lutz, left, didn't. (Top right) Jenna Velichko, from Pennsylvania, was part Lutz's intimidating competition at the open auditions for the Nets' dance team. (Bottom right) Lutz, in the modest gray shirt, didn't become a Nets dancer. She did have fun, though.

Photos by Stefano Giovannini

best efforts, was unkempt.

I had a quick breakfast of peanut butter from the jar, got a smudge on the only crop top I own, and took the Q train to the dance diva palace that was the Wellness, Recreation, and Athletic Center of Long Island University.

I have never seen so many potential Disney Channel Original Movie stars in one place. Everyone was smiling, pretty, sparkly, and athletic. The room smelled like Lady Gaga. I'm pretty sure I smelled like scotch and cigarettes.

The competition seemed tough. Suddenly, it occurred to me that I might not become a Brooklynette after all.

The throng of 200 former prom queens quickly picked up a dance routine that involved leaps, spins, and sass. I struggled with all three. My head screamed so loudly for coffee that the others auditioning probably heard it.

"Eugh," was a sound I

Much too quickly, it was finally time to perform. Those who made it to the next round of auditions would receive a ticket from the judges at the end of the routine. The speakers blared and Fergie sang "A Little Party Never Killed Nobody."

Sure, it didn't kill me, but what about my dreams! Somehow, I remembered all the moves. I did the best I could. But, alas, there was some magic missing: sass. I noticed it, and so did the ticket-dispensing judge, who did not run over to me, distraught, to thrust a ticket into my sweaty

I guess the dance I did atop the bar the evening prior didn't count for anything here.

Their loss, I say.

And the literary world's gain.



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STARBOARD SIDESHOW: Coney notables like Adam "RealMan" Rinn were among the passengers on the Coney Island Creek ferry's test run on Monday. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Dream of Coney boat a 'ferrytale'

BY WILL BREDDERMAN

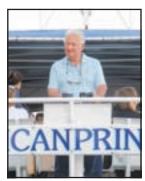
Is it a dream that can come true, or just a ferry

A second group of People's Playground boat lovers say that a pier tucked away in Coney Island Creek is the perfect place to dock a ferry from Manhattan, and even ran a successful test run to it from Battery Park on June 17. But a recently announced mayoral plan for the fetid waterway could leave their beloved vessel literally out to sea.

A boat with 150 passengers set sail from Manhattan and landed at what ferry backers are calling the perfect dock at W. 21st Street and Neptune Avenue in Coney Island on June 17 — a maiden voyage that they hope thousands of tourists may soon make every day.

But there is one major obstacle — Mayor Bloomberg's recently ananti-flooding plan would build a dam across the mouth of the creek and convert the waterway into a marsh, making it impossible for boats to get inside.

The cruise was the brainchild of Friends of Coney Island Creek Ferry and Landing, a month-old organization trying to convince the city to convert a derelict jetty and adjoining lot on the inlet's bank into a gateway to the People's Playground. It argues that creating a water route from the city to Coney would not just



CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP: The group chartered Captain Thomas Paldino and his American Princess ferry to make the trip from Manhattan to Coney Island.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

cut travel time in half — 29 minutes compared to at least an hour by train but would revitalize local businesses and the longneglected Coney Island Creek itself.

"A recreational ferry can provide much-needed community economic development on Coney Island," said founder Stuart Pertz, an urban designer and professor at Pratt Institute.

A city study on the possibility of launching a ferry service to Coney considered the fishing pier in Kaiser Park as a possible docking location. The city rejected both the dock and the creek, saying they were too far from the amusement district. But Pertz and Friends argue that the dock at the end of W. 21st Street got overlooked — and would be

Continued on page 21

Lost in the flood

Bloomberg plans to turn Coney Island Creek into a bog

BY WILL BREDDERMAN

Coney Island won't find itself up the creek in the next hurricane, if hizzoner has his way.

Mayor Bloomberg wants to cordon off the toxic Coney Island Creek and convert it into a giant swamp in hopes of protecting the former island — and Brooklyn's other Southern Brooklyn waterfront properties from the next Hurricane

The mayor's touted Resiliency Plan — a design for protecting New York City from the next flood - blames much of the flooding in Coney and Gravesend on the overflowing of the creek which rises and falls with the ocean tide. To contain a future storm surge, the plan calls for the construction of high, sloping rocky walls along the waterway. The mayor's designs would also create a gated dam across the mouth of the inlet at Gravesend Bay. The sluices on the levee would close at low tide just before a storm strikes. This would keep a destructive wall of water out, and create a basin for the inundated neighborhood to drain into. The Mayor's office said it has the money to start this part of the project, and expects work to begin before the year's end.

"That would happen immediately, because we know we have the funding," said spokeswoman Lauren Passalacqua.

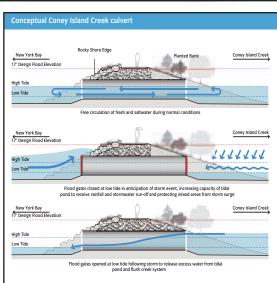
The most radical aspect of Bloomberg's proposal is to transform the long-neglected waterway — laced with 60 years of pollution from the defunct Brooklyn Borough Gas Works on its shore, and cluttered with the hulks of abandoned boats — into a lush green marsh. The Mayor's office argued that a thickly-vegetated wetland would both sponge up floodwaters and prevent erosion of the creek's banks. It called for





GREEN-EYED MAYOR: Hizzoner proposed turning the toxic Coney Island Creek into a lush marsh (top) as a way to avoid future flooding. A culvert across the mouth of the creek (right) would use a flood gate to regulate the amount of water allowed into the new wetlands. But the waterway would never again be navigable, as it was when the creek's eerie "ghost ships' (above) plied its waters.

New York City Mayor's Office



the well-financed Army Corps of Engineers to begin work as soon as pos-

"We know the Army Corps has the money to do this, and instead of having them looking at the creek and saying 'Oh, what should we do?' we said, 'Here, we did the hard work, let's do this," said Passalacqua.

The Army Corps of Engineers said that it

would still have to conduct its own studies, especially since the creation of a wetland may call for dredging the poisoned creek and transplanting new silt and vegetation. However, it could use the Mayor's research to expedite the process.

"We wouldn't just say, 'They want this, so we'll do this.' We would still need to do our own analysis," said Chris Gardner, spokesman for the Army Corps of Engineers.

The administration and the agency will have to reach a consensus soon, since the city won't start building the dam and stone walls without knowing the swamp is coming, according to Passalacqua.

"We're not going to just put a lot of rocks in the middle of the creek," the spokeswoman said.

Park advocates fear film festival

Prospect lovers worried party will destroy already-damaged meadow

BY NATALIE MUSUMECI

Some Prospect Parklovers are outraged that a massive outdoor short film festival, billed as the world's biggest, is coming to a popular meadow in Prospect Park next weekend, especially after the controversial Great GoogaMooga music and food extravaganza, they say, wrecked the greenspace last month.

Tropfest, a burgeoning international annual film festival that started 21 vears ago in Australia, will make its Brooklyn debut on June 22 on the park's Nethermead field. The event, which is free and open to the public, is expected to draw more than 10,000 film lovers to the borough's backyard. Park watchdogs claim that the much-loved meadow, still riddled with muddied ruts from Googa-Mooga's massive two-day party that drew more than 40,000 revelers on May 17-18, is in no condition to host

yet another extravaganza, which they say will only do more harm.

"Tropfest is, of course, going to just worsen the already significant damage visibly apparent in the Nethermead," said Prospect-Lefferts Gardens resident Seth Kaplan, who feared that the second coming of Googa-Mooga would leave the park in ruins.

But park officials said that they do not expect the event, which they claim is vastly different from GoogaMooga, to do any damage.

"It is a substantially smaller event," said Eric Landau, the vice president of government and external affairs for the Prospect Park Alliance, which manages the park. "It's totally different in size and scope and doesn't require nearly the same level of load in and load out as GoogaMooga did."

Landau said that the damage caused by the mu-

sic and foodie extravaganza is scheduled for repairs, but the work had yet to start due to recent weather conditions. Slated repairs will include reseeding and fencing off affected areas of the Nethermead in a restoration plan estimated to take eight to 10 weeks.

Greenspace activists say that it's irresponsible for park officials to let another festival further trample parkland that is in such desperate need of repair.

"The damage there is just so huge that if they were going to try to repair it seriously they couldn't have any event there," said park advocate Ed Bahlman. "This has to be a joke. I would figure it would be cancelled or moved."

One of the reasons why the Prospect Park Alliance allows events like Googa-Mooga and Tropfest is because it is a way to generate funds to pay for operations, maintenance, and free programming, according to officials. The Alliance made \$75,000 off of a rental fee from GoogaMooga and will receive a yet-to-be-finalized fee from next weekend's film festival.

Tropfest, the brainchild of director John Polson, made its American debut last year when it was held in Manhattan's Bryant Park and hosted by Hugh Jackman.

This year, actor and producer Liev Schreiber will host the day-long event, showing a handful of nominated short films on a massive silver screen. A panel of celebrity judges will pick the best film, whose makers will receive a grand prize of \$20,000.

Food trucks will be lined up on the park's Center Drive for the event, which will also feature live music.

"It's kind of sad when an event with 10,000 people, a VIP area and a 'black carpet' is considered small,"

UNFIT LAND: Tropfest, a massive outdoor short film festival, will descend upon Prospect Park on June 22 and park activist Ed Bahlman says the green space is in no condition to host the event, considering the damages that were left behind on the Nethermead from last month's Great GoogaMooga.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

said Kaplan.

Landau said that if any damage did occur from Tropfest, organizers of the event are required by contract to pay for it to be fixed, just as GoogaMooga's organizers are paying to repair the damage it caused.

Tropfest organizers did not return calls for comment by press time.

info@Imtours.net





Pools opening for summer

BY KELLY HAIGHT

Pool's open — dive carefully.

Summer has officially arrived in Brooklyn. Outdoor swimming pools across the borough open for the season on Thursday, June 27. Brooklyn's 15 outdoor pools will fit everyone's summer splashtime needs.

The pools will be open every day from 11 am to 7 pm with a pool-cleaning break from 3 to 4 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park's pop-up pool at Pier 2 is open 10 am-6 pm.

McCarren, Red Hook and Sunset pools offer adult lap swims Monday through Friday, 7-8:30 am and 7-8:30 pm or dusk, beginning July 9. Swimmers can register online at nvcgovparks.org/registration/lapswim.

Betsy Head Park Pool [694 Thomas S. Boyland St. between Dumont and Livonia avenues, (718) 257-1635]. Olympic-size pool. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.

Bushwick Playground Pool [817 Flushing Ave. be-

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Park Slope



DIVE IN: All of Brooklyn's public pools - including the one at Brooklyn Bridge Park - open on June 27.

Photo by Bryan Bruchman

tween Humboldt Street and Bushwick Avenue, (718) 452–2116]. Intermediate-size and wading pools. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.

Commodore Barry Park Pool [N. Elliott Place and Flushing Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 243-2593]. Intermediate-size and wading pools. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.

Clear Healthy Skin

isn't it time you call?

David Fox PS 251 Pool [E. 54th Street and Avenue H in East Flatbush, (718) 531-2437]. Mini-sized pool.

Douglas & Degraw Pool. [230 Douglass St. between Third Avenue and Nevins Street, at Thomas Greene Playground, (718) 625-3268]. Intermediatesize and wading pools. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.

Glenwood Houses Pool. [Farragut Road and Ralph Avenue in Flatlands, (718) 531– 2480]. Mini-sized pool.

Howard Pool [E. New York Avenue between Rockaway Avenue and Mother Gaston Boulevard, (718) 385-1023]. Intermediate-size and wading pools. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.

JHS 57-HS 26 Pool [117 Stuyvesant Ave. between Lafayette and Greene avenues, (718) 452-0519]. Minisize pool.

Kosciuszko Pool [670 Marcy Ave. between Dekalb Continued on page 12











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COURIER LIFE HONORS OUR

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LADIES' NIGHT: (Above) Keynote speaker – Brooklyn-born NY 1 reporter – Jeanine Ramirez addressed the attendees at the Brooklyn Women of Distinction gala at El Caribe on June 12. (Below, from left to right) Ana Oliveira, senior vice president of Investors Bank, accepts her award from Courier sales assistant Jennifer Stern. Borough President Markowitz presents event coordinator Stephanie Stallaccio with a proclamation declaring June 12, "Brooklyn Women of Distinction Day." Rabbi Linda Henry Goodman, spiritual leader of the Union Temple of Brooklyn, accepts her award from Courier sales coordinator Sara DaSllva.

Photos by Steve Solomonson





BY SHAVANA ABRUZZO

We're proud to say that Brooklyn women are a cut above the rest.

More than two dozen of the borough's prominent females were formally honored for their work and service when Community Newspaper Group and Courier Life Publications held its third annual Brooklyn Women of Distinction awards ceremony at the El Caribe Country Club in Mill Basin on June 12.

The accolades capped our 2013 Brooklyn Women of Distinction magazine, which came out last month and commemorated 25 honorees, who represented all levels of the workforce — from executives, entrepreneurs, and preservationists, to activists, volunteers, and social service employees.

Several of the women

— nominated by their peers and selected by independent judges — were chosen for their smart response in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Some mobilized urgent recovery efforts in their communities, while others pitched in to help clean up and deliver vital supplies to devastated areas.

One Coney Island activist rushed to help her neighbors, as a 15-foot wall of water gushed into her own apartment.

Another awardee — a waste management executive — helped to remove 22 tons of debris from the shattered Rockaways.

Yet another honoree opened up her beauty salon for complimentary, morale-boosting makeovers.

The other local celebrity in the room was Brooklyn, itself.



WONEN OF DISTINCTION 7 JUNE 27-27, 2013, COURTED TO THE 25 Brooklyn honorees feted during last week's gala at El Caribe

Borough President Markowitz joined the evening's keynote speaker — Brooklyn-born NY 1 reporter Jeanine Ramirez — in tooting the borough's horn proudly, both of them calling it a worldclass destination.

Markowitz recalled a recent visit to Williamsburg where he said he was astonished to see "bus-loads of Japanese tourists" exploring the lively streets.

"I said to myself, 'What is going on?'" chuckled Mr. Brooklyn, adding he also drew attention in the hipster enclave for his "one-colored hair" and absence of body ink.

Markowitz presented each awardee and CNG with proclamations, and declared June 12, "Brooklyn Women of Distinction

Ramirez, who grew up

in Sunset Park, spoke about the "Manhattanization of Brooklyn," and called the honorees the "building blocks" of a borough on the rise.

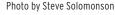
The ceremony was coordinated by Courier and CNG executive staff Stephanie Stellaccio, Celia Weintrob, Jennifer Stern, Jeannie Eisenhardt, Carol Magluilo, and Sara DaSilva.

Attendees included Les Goodstein, senior vice president of News Corp., CNG publisher Clifford Luster, and Ralph D'Onofrio, vice president of advertising at CNG and the New York Post.

Check out our 2013 Women of Distinction magazine at www. brooklynpaper.com/ women-of-distinction



LOVELY LADIES: Congratulations to our 2013 Brooklyn Women of Distinction.







(Left) Dr. Melony Samuels, founder and executive director of the Bed-Stuy Campaign Against Hunger, shares the spotlight with Courier senior account executive Jeanne Eisenhardt, who presented the award. (Above) Honoree Rachel Amar, public affairs manager for Waste Management, Inc., is flanked by Courier senior account executive Stephanie Stellaccio, left, and Brooklyn Paper publisher Celia Weintrob. Photos by Steve Solomonson

78TH PRECINCT

PARK SLOPE

Ride-by

A quick-handed perp riding a bicycle snatched the iPhone out of a woman's hand on Fifth Avenue on June 13.

The 27-year-old victim told police that she was near Third Street at 7 pm checking her messages on her phone when the mobile crook grabbed the cellular device and fled down Third Street toward Fourth Avenue.

Alarmed

A crook looted all four rims and tires from a car parked on Prospect Park West sometime between June 7 and 11.

The 54-year-old victim told police that he left his gray Nissan parked near Second Street at 8:30 pm on June 7.

Four days later — at about $3:30\,\mathrm{am}$ — he heard his car alarm go off, and when he returned to his ride he found it rimless and tireless.

All in the family

Someone stole about \$2,500 worth of goods from a Fifth Street apartment sometime between June 8 and 11.

The 44-year-old victim told cops that she suspected that her stepson looted four bins, one full of sterling silver items, from her abode between Prospect Park West and Eighth Avenue.

The woman said that her stepson was at the apartment on June 8 when he and her husband were removing items from the house, police said.

Unlucky straphanger

A thug stole a man's iPhone from out of his pocket while he was sleeping on a Bay Ridge-bound R train on June 15.

The 23-year-old victim told police that he fell asleep on the train at around 2 am. About 30 minutes later fellow passengers woke him up at the Fourth Avenue-Ninth Street stop and informed him that a criminal had just stolen his cellular device from his shirt pocket.

Motorcycle heist

A bandit jacked a man's motorcycle that he left parked on Saint Marks Place sometime between June 7 and 10.

The 40-year-old victim told cops that he left his black Ducati bike on the street between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 10:30 am on June 7 and went away for the weekend

When he returned to move his motorcycle at 11:30 am on June 10, it was gone.

Checkmate

A thief stole a man's checkbook out of his Third Street apartment's mailbox and cashed \$9,500 worth of fraudulent checks on June 15.

The 35-year-old victim, who lives between Fifth and Sixth avenues, told police that the crime happened at about 9 am.



Snatched

A swift miscreant seized a woman's cellphone while she was inside the Atlantic Avenue subway terminal on June 12.

The 30-year-old victim told cops while she was walking up the stairs to the 4 and 5 train platform at 9:45 am, the perp approached her from behind, grabbed her phone out of her hand, and fled.

Shopping for free

A criminal stole an Eighth Avenue man's credit card information and went on a pricey online shopping spree from May 23 to 27.

The 42-year-old victim, who lives near Eighth Street, told cops that someone used his credit card to purchase a Bylgari watch and a Bylgari ring, together costing more than \$10,000.

— Natalie Musumeci

84TH PRECINCT

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DUMBO-BOERUM HILL-DOWNTOWN

Just awful

A horrible ruffian put his hands around a 21-year-old woman's throat and stole her iPhone on Cadman Plaza West on June 15, police claim.

Cops say the woman was near Clark Street at 5 am, when the thief pressed her against the wall, and took off with her phone.

Glovebox a battlefield

Someone stole a wallet from a locked car parked on Washington Street on June 13, police said.

The owner left the car near York Street at 8 am, with the billfold in the glovebox, and returned later to find a window smashed and the wallet gone, reported police.

Different kind of robbery

A thief looted seven laptops from a bank on Montague Street at some point between April 17 and May 29, police said.

Cops said the computers were stored in an room at the building near Cadman Plaza West. — *Jaime Lutz*

76TH PRECINCT

CARROLL GARDENS-COBBLE HILL-RED HOOK

Knife-wielding duo

Police arrested a 29-year-old man and a

33-year-old woman for brandishing knives at a man on Columbia Street on June 16.

The victim said he was between Mill Street and Centre Mall at 7:26 pm when the two knife-wielding menacers followed him down the street waving the blades at him.

The suspects face charges of menacing, harassment, and criminal possession of weapons.

No hitting

A 28-year-old man was arrested for hitting a woman on Bond Street on June 14, police say.

The victim said she was between Baltic and Wyckoff streets at 5:35 pm when the man punched her twice in the face, causing lacerations and swelling to her right eye.

The man faces assault and harassment charges. $-\mathit{Kelly\ Haight}$

94TH PRECINCT

GREENPOINT-NORTHSIDE

Party crasher

Two brawling men injured a woman in a fight at a Wythe Avenue nightclub on June 15.

The victim told police she was partying at the night spot between N. 11th and N. 10th streets at 1:45 am when the goons started fighting and one of them threw a glass.

The woman suffered a cut on her right arm and had to be taken to Bellevue Hospital.

Man shot

A thug shot a man in the leg on Kingsland Avenue on June 16.

The victim told police he was near Weaver Street at 3:25 am when a man confronted him.

"Where's my liquor?" the shady man asked.

Just as he said that, a gunman jumped out of a blue van parked across the street, ran up to the victim, and shot him in the leg. Then the two men got back into the van and drove away.

Holden would be upset

Someone broke into a clothing store on N. 11th Street and stole electronics sometime overnight on June 13.

The manager at the shop between Bedford and Driggs avenues told police that when he came in at 9:30 am on June 14, he found a mini iPad, an iPad, a MacBook Pro, speakers, and other items missing.

The manager said he believes that the

burglar came in through a window that was closed but not locked. Whoever did it also wrote "FU" on a sketch pad.

Phone home

Two goons grabbed a woman's iPhone 5 out of her hand on Humboldt Street on June 9

The The 32-year-old victim told police she was walking home from a bar and was behind a group of guys near Conselyea Street at 5 am when two of the guys suddenly turned around, ran back to her, and one of them grabbed the phone from her hand. She tried to hold onto it, but he eventually pried it from her fingers.

Cell grab

A brute grabbed a woman from behind and stole her iPhone 5 on Kingsland Avenue on June 6.

The 31-year-old victim told police she was on Frost Street at 7 pm when the man ran up and grabbed her from behind.

She tried to struggle with him, but he got her phone and ran into a nearby building on Frost Street.

Gang theft

Four teenagers were arrested and charged with robbery after they allegedly stole an iPhone from a man on an L train on June 4.

The 30-year-old victim told cops he was sitting in the L train at 4:20 pm when four teenagers grabbed the iPhone 5 out of his hands. The victim tried to struggle with one of them and ended up injuring his shoulder

The robbers all ran out of the train at the Graham Avenue stop, said police, who canvassed the area and arrested the four boys.

— Danielle Furfaro

90TH PRECINCT

SOUTHSIDE-BUSHWICK

Bottle problems

Police arrested a 40-year-old man for allegedly hitting another man with a bottle on Lorimer Street on May 31.

The victim told police he was between Grand and Maujer streets at 5:20 pm when the defendant struck him in the face with a glass bottle.

Two against one

Two men, ages 27 and 28, were arrested for allegedly punching a man in the face repeatedly on Wythe Avenue on June 15.

According to police, the victim was between Division Avenue and Clymer Street at $6:20~\mathrm{pm}$ when the defendants beat him in the face and head. — Anna Wendt

70TH PRECINCT

FLATBUSH-MIDWOOD

Sweater diver

A 45-year-old woman was arrested for stealing a man's wallet from his sweater

The victim told police that he had set his sweater down in the deli between Caton Avenue and Lenox Road at 4 pm, only to see the suspect reach into the article's pockets and flee.

Checking his sweater, he found that, sure enough, his wallet — containing his cash, credit and Social Security cards — was missing.

Cup of pain

A 22-year-old man was arrested for allegedly beating a man with a drinking cup on Nostrand Avenue on June 17.

The victim told police that he was between Avenues H and I at 5 pm when the suspect struck him in the neck and head with the beverage holder.

Sullen looter

A 36-year-old woman was arrested for shoplifting from a Church Avenue pharmacy on June 16.

An employee told police that she was working at the store between E. Third and E. Fourth streets at 2 pm when she noticed the suspect stuffing merchandise, including a travel mirror, into her handbag, and then heading for the door.

Employees say they stopped the suspect and reclaimed the stolen items — and took the suspect's personal bag, too. In a fit over getting caught, and losing her own property, the suspect hurled a rock at the store's front window, cracking it, before stomping off, according to police.

— Colin Mixson

68TH PRECINCT

BAY RIDGE-DYKER HEIGHTS

Senior scam

Three fraudsters scammed a 70-yearold woman out of \$5,000 on 85th Street on June 13, police say.

The victim said she was between Fourth and Fifth avenues at noon when the con artists pulled over in their car and flashed a large stack of cash.

The lowlifes told her that they would share the swag with her if she contributed some of her own funds.

The victim agreed and let the scammers drive her home. The senior then went inside and got \$1,500, and offered it to the perps.

The schemers told her that the sum was not enough, and told her to get more. The woman then went back inside and retrieved another \$3,500.

The crooks then drove the woman back where they found her, and told her to go to a real estate office on Third Avenue to pick up her portion of the money, before driving off. The woman went to the realtor, and on discovering there was no cash there for her, called the police.

That's sick

A trio of tricksters pulled an elaborate scam at an Eighth Avenue doctor's office

on June 14, police report.

The victim told cops that she was sitting in the waiting room of the facility at the corner of 63rd Street at 2 pm when three other women approached her with the idea of starting a business selling medication.

The femme fatales asked the victim to pitch in \$6,000 in start-up cash. The victim agreed, and rode with the shady ladies to a pair of banks in Queens to withdraw the funds

The group then decided to stop at a restaurant on 70th Road in Forest Hills to use the bathroom. When the woman was in the loo, the threesome fled with her money.

Check and see

A thief smashed the window of a delivery truck on 86th Street and stole a bag full of checks from inside on June 13, according to cops.

The driver said he left his vehicle between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 3:15 pm and went into a store to drop off supplies.

When he came back out he found the passenger-side window glass in shards and the checks missing.

Gadgets gone

A burglar slipped out of a 79th Street apartment with hundreds of dollars in electronics on June 12, authorities allege.

The victim told police she departed from her pad between Ridge Boulevard and Third Avenue at 9:30 am — leaving her rear window unlocked — and returned at 8 pm to discover her laptop and iPad gone.

Degree crook

A sharp burglar stole a man's bachelor's degree — along with \$875 and other assorted papers — from his Senator Street apartment on June 11, cops report.

The victim said he left his flat between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 1 pm and returned at 2:30 pm to find his door chained shut from inside. He crept around the side of the building and saw his kitchen window open. The victim climbed in and found his home ransacked, with his cash and college diploma gone.

— Will Bredderman

60TH PRECINCT

CONEY ISLAND-BRIGHTON BEACH-SEAGATE

Fighting it out

Police arrested a 29-year-old man who they say knocked another man to the ground and assaulted him on Coney Island Avenue on June 18.

The victim told police he was between Avenue Z and E. 11th Street at 3 am when he and the suspect had an argument. The suspect kicked him in the stomach, and when he fell to the ground, the suspect kicked him again in the abdomen, police said. $- Anna \ Wendt$



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CYCLING AGAINST VIOLENCE: Jay Ruiz and the other members of the Brooklyn Bike Patrol volunteered to accompany women home from train stations across the borough, but the service shut down after Ruiz suffered heart attacks.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Bike safety patrol ends

Guided 100s of women from subway to homes at night

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

The Brooklyn Bike Patrol, an all-volunteer escort service that walks women home after dark, shut down its services after founder Jay Ruiz suffered two heart attacks earlier in the week.

"I'm so sorry to all the women who depend on our service," Ruiz posted on the patrol's Facebook page last Friday morning.

Ruiz initially thought he had heartburn, but finally went to the hospital after he started vomiting. Doctors ran tests that revealed he two heart attacks.

The 48-year-old said he was shocked to find out he had heart problems.

"I ride 200 miles a week and do 100 pushups a day,"

he said from his hospital bed. "I thought I was perfectly healthy."

Even though Ruiz manages a handful of volunteers who help the service reach women at 55 subway stops across Brooklyn, he said that none of them were regular enough to take over running the service, which has helped hundreds of women get home safe in the past two years.

"Hopefully, I can come back someday, but right now I have to concentrate on my health," he said.

Ruiz started Brooklyn Bike Patrol in 2011 in the wake of a series of gropings in South Park Slope, Windsor Terrace, and Kensington. The service gained more attention in December of last year after a handful of sex attacks in Williamsburg.

The service requires women to call 45 minutes before they expect to be at their subway stop so that the escorts could be there waiting to walk them home when they arrived.

After Ruiz posted the announcement on Facebook Friday morning from his hospital bed, there was an outpouring of support from women who used the service.

"Thank you for what you've given to Brooklyn," said Diane.

"Thanks for keeping an eye out for the ladies of Brooklyn," said Chloe. "You're kind of the coolest."

Knifepoint rape in Greenpoint

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

A woman was raped at knifepoint on a Greenpoint sidewalk early Sunday morning.

A man put a knife to the victim's face as she was walking along Java Street between Manhattan Avenue and McGuiness Boulevard just after midnight on June 16, the victim told police. He pulled her down onto the sidewalk and raped her. He told her it was because of her sexual

orientation.

"I'm doing this to you because you're gay," the man told her in the middle of the act.

The woman was taken to Woodhull Hospital in stable condition. Police are searching for the rapist.

This is the first documented rape by a stranger in Greenpoint this year, although there have been a few date rapes. Last year, at least one man was attacking women in Bushwick,

during a handful of groping incidents. No one was arrested in those incidents.

Women in Greenpoint will no longer be able to count on Brooklyn Bike Patrol to walk them home. The volunteer service that escorts women home from subways that was started in 2011 during a series of attacks in Park Slope ended last week after founder and head coordinator Jay Ruiz suffered a pair of heart attacks.

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SERVE IS UP

All-weather sports bubble for McCarren courts in fall

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

A private vendor will build an all-weather bubble over the Mc-Carren Park tennis courts this fall, allowing aficionados to play through the winter months.

Chintan Trivedi, a tennis coach and real estate agent from the Bronx, said it was his lifelong dream to create a year-round tennis venue where he could teach the sport to kids.

"There are a lot of tennisloving people around here and they should be able to play yearround, and the kids should have more to do during the summer,"

said Trivedi, who, along with his partners, is laying out \$160,000 to build the heated bubble.

The bubble will cover McCarren's six full-sized and two halfsized courts from October until the end of April. Hourly rates will run from \$35 to \$57.50, while season passes will run from \$910 to \$1,495, depending on which hours are covered in the pass. Seniors will get an hourly rate of \$15 an hour, and 10 percent off seasonpass rates.

The city will initially take a five percent cut on admission, which will go up to 10 percent in future years.

The bubble was originally approved two years ago but it took Trivedi and his partners until now to get all necessary paperwork in order.

The McCarren Tennis Association raised \$70,000 to repair the decrepit courts in 2011. Now, the bubble will mean that the courts will be taken care of even if the notoriously underfunded Parks Department ignores it, said McCarren Tennis Association spokesman Sean Hoess.

"The courts will finally be maintained and there will finally

GAME CHANGER: Players in McCarren Park are finally getting a tennis bubble like this one at the Prospect Park Parade Grounds. File photo by Stefano Giovannini

be lights," said Hoess.

Cons to the bubble include having to pay higher fees in months that the courts have traditionally been free, something bubble advocates say is worth it, because

the courts will actually be usable when it otherwise wouldn't.

"But at least you'll be able to play," said Hoess. "Playing tennis outside in November is challenging."

Pools

Continued from page 5

Avenue and Kosciuzko Street, (718) 622-5271]. Olympic-size and wading pools. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.

Lindower Park Pool [E. 60th Street, Mill Road and Strickland Avenue, (718) 531-4852]. Mini-size pool.

McCarren Pool [475 Leonard St. between Bayard Street and Driggs Avenue, (718) 218-2380]. Olympic-size pool. Includes a

wheelchair accessible ramp or lift. Offers adult lap swim.

PS 20 Playground Pool [Claremont Avenue between Willoughby and Dekalb avenues in Fort Greene, (718) 625-6101]. Mini-size pool.

Red Hook Pool [155 Bay St. be-

tween Henry and Clinton streets, (718) 722-32111. Olympic-size pool. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift. Offers adult lap

Sunset Park Pool [44th Street and Seventh Avenue, (718) 972-2180]. Olympic-size pool. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift. Offers adult lap swim.

Brooklyn Bridge Park Pop-Up Pool [334 Furman St. at Pier 2 in Brooklyn Bridge Park, (718) 802-0603]. Open 10 am-6 pm. Mini-size pool. Includes a wheelchair accessible ramp or lift.



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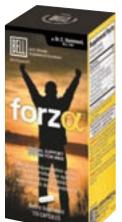
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* These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.



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Library

Continued from cover

Soon after news of the plan was reported, residents started rallying around the old building, which many claimed was a monument that needed to be preserved.

Now officials say that the old library, just steps away

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from the Barclays Center, will be spared from a sale and bulldozer — at least for the time being.

"It has become clear that the neighborhood highly values that branch and its historic building," Brooklyn Public Library spokesman Jeremy Soffin said in a statement.

The Library claims it will work with elected offi-

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cials and community stakeholders to develop a plan for the Classical Revival-style building through a yet-tobe-decided "open process," said Soffin.

"This plan could include maintaining some or all of the Pacific Street building and continuing to provide library service and programming for children in the community." he said. "At the same time, we will continue to work with our partners to address the Library's urgent funding needs."

Book lovers pushing to landmark the building say the new plan is a big win in the fight to save the branch.

"The fact that the [Brooklyn Public Library] has begun to openly acknowledge the depth of community opposition to [its] plan is a huge victory for the people who love the Pacific branch," said Park Slope resident S.J. Avery, who added that even though officials made a "vague" promise about an open community process, the fight is not over.

"This is the time to step up our activities, not to turn down the volume of the expressed opposition to their original plan," she said.

The reprieve of the Pacific branch came as the City Council voted on Monday to approve a developer's plan to build a massive 32-story tower in the BAM Cultural District in Fort Greene that will include a new library within it.

Library trustees originally intended to replace the Pacific branch with that brand new, "technologyrich" facility in the mixeduse skyscraper for nearly no construction cost, due to a longstanding deal with Two Trees Management Co., the development firm that will build the tower on what's currently a parking lot bounded by Flatbush Avenue, Lafayette Avenue, and Ashland Place.

The council voted 46 to 1 to approve the \$135-million development. Developers intend to break ground in early 2014, said Two Tree's David Lombino.

As part of the deals struck between the city and the developer, Councilwoman Tish James (D-Crown Heights), whose district includes the site of the tower, negotiated



SAVED!: This historic structure will stick around for the time being. CNG / Natalie Musumeci

an agreement between the Bloomberg Administration and the Library to maintain the Pacific branch.

"I have always supported Two Trees' vision for the project, and I believe it was important to ensure the project included significant community benefits such as increased affordable housing, maintaining the Pacific Street library, a commitment that cultural organizations utilizing the space will reflect the diversity of this community, and assurance that future utilization of the open space includes the input of all stakeholders," said the public advocate candidate in a statement.

That said, Soffin noted

that selling-off the property is still in cards for the Library.

Library officials did not offer any details on how they planned to include the public when making decisions about the Pacific branch.

But Pacific branch proponents say they know exactly what needs to be done.

"A truly open community process would be to have representation from elected officials, the local civic organizations, community board members, and the users," said Peter Bray of the Park Slope Civic Council. "In that way, BPL can't cherry pick who is involved."

When completed, the new Two Trees building is expected to include 50,000-square-feet of "cultural" space that will include the library branch, movie theaters, and a rehearsal space managed by the dance troupe 651 Arts. There will also be commercial space and a public plaza.

Sixty of the 300 apartments in the tower will be rented at so-called "affordable" rates.



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Obstacles no match for boaters

Kayak racers don hazmat suits to avoid floating raw sewage, dead rats

BY NATALIE MUSUMECI

Floating dead rats and decomposing human feces couldn't stop fearless boaters from racing along the fetid Gowanus Canal.

More than 50 kayakers, canoers, rowers, and even one stand-up paddle-boarder, took to the toxic inlet on Saturday for the much-hyped Gowanus Challenge, a non-motorized watercraft race along Brooklyn's nautical purgatory.

And many of the racers were in on the joke.

A few boaters donned full hazmat suits, goggles, gloves, and even paper face masks, in preparation of paddling through the foulsmelling waterway, which is loaded with hazardous heavy metals, raw sewage, cancer-causing chemicals, and, famously, has gonorrhea.

But none of that scared the racers.

"I was hoping not to fall in," said Red Hook dare-



AND THEY'RE OFF!: Kayakers, rowers, canoers, and even a daring stand-up paddleboarder took to the toxic Gowanus Canal on June 15 for the Gowanus Challenge. Photo by Elizabeth Graham

devil Chru Brar, the risktaking paddleboarder who was dressed in protective gear from head to toe.

Throngs of spectators watched about 30 cleverly-named teams race the 2.5-mile course, which started at a dock on Second Street, went to the mouth of the canal near the Gowanus Bay, and looped back to the dock for the big finish.

Brar, a member of the

Red Hook Boaters, had to kneel on his 12-foot board when traveling under the low-lying Ninth Street Bridge that spans the canal, and miraculously managed to keep the contaminated tide from touching his skin.

"The hazmat suit really helped," he said. Competitors who didn't

wear any protective clothing weren't so lucky. "It was really nerveracking there," said Williamsburg resident John Marra, referring to when the stinky water kicked up from his paddle and splashed him in the face.

The race, billed as the first-ever to start and end on a federal Superfund site (which basically means humans shouldn't go near it), was more about advocating for the putrid canal than anything else, said organizers.

"It was a huge success," said Owen Foote, a founding member of the Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club, which organized the race. "I think it did exactly what we wanted, which was that everyone walked away saying that this waterway needs a lot of help and a lot of funding from the federal government."

Foote wanted to raise awareness that every time it rains, millions of gallons of raw sewage flood the waterway. This is why the fed-



VICTORIOUS: Ormando Watson of Brownsville (left) and Rob Buchanan of Fort Greene made up the winning team of the Gowanus Challenge. The rowing duo completed the 2.5-mile course in just over 20 minutes.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

eral government will likely force the city to install massive \$78-million holding tanks to catch the runoff as part of a federally mandated cleanup.

The race also served as a fund-raiser. It generated \$10,000 to support the

Dredgers' work of bringing free waterborne recreational activities to the city.

Rower Rob Buchanan of Fort Greene and his student, Ormando Watson of the Benjamin Banneker Academy's rowing team in Continued on page 21

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The rookie: Kidd takes helm of Nets

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Jason Kidd believes he is ready to be a head coach in the National Basketball Association and so do the Brooklyn Nets.

The future NBA Hall of Fame point guard was introduced as the 18th headman of his former team at a press conference at the Barclays Center last Thursday afternoon.

Kidd, who played 19 seasons in the NBA, helped revitalize the Nets organization in New Jersey from 2001 to 2007 and reached two NBA Finals. The Nets hope he can do the same thing again with no prior coaching experience after retiring from playing following a stint with the crosstown rival Knicks this past season. The 40-yearold Kidd understands the challenge and is optimistic about what the Nets can accomplish — even if he's a little worried.

"I'm nervous." Kidd said. "I go from being one

of the oldest players in the league to now being a rookie coach."

He becomes the Nets' third coach in the last year. Avery Johnson was fired in lateDecemberaftertwo-plus seasons as the team started a disappointing 14–14. Assistant coach P.J. Carlesimo took over on an interim basis. Under him Brooklyn finished 49–33, fourth in the Eastern Conference, but he was not brought back after the Nets were ousted in the first round of the playoffs by a depleted Chicago Bulls team

Kidd, who won a title with the Dallas Mavericks in 2011, came into the picture late. He quickly got the job over Indian Pacers assistant Brian Shaw after meeting with Nets general manager Billy King last Monday. Kidd hopes to move the franchise to a point of consistent success.

"We want to be a team that wins 50 games on a regular basis for 12 to 13 years," he said. "My job is to put people in a position to be successful. Also, guys have to be patient and listen."

King said he understands the risks of bringing on someone who has never coached before, but compared it to the Indiana Pacers hiring Larry Bird in 1998. King hired Kidd despite the new coach being arrested for DWI a year ago. Kidd pled not guilty to the misdemeanor charge that can carry the potential for up to a year in prison. He is scheduled for a hearing next week in Southhampton Town Court.

"We talked about it and I'm comfortable with it," King said. "When we first sat down we talked with his attorneys."

King trusts his gut and in the hard working Kidd after the two talked a lot of basketball, including Kidd's plans for using the current team's roster. He



THE ROOKIE: Jason Kidd, right, was introduced as the head coach of the Brooklyn Nets at a press conference at the Barclays Center last Thursday afternoon.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

said Kidd strives to not just be good at something, but great.

"His ceiling is very high because of his great work ethic and knowledge," King said. "I think working together we can build something that can last a long time."

Kidd wants this team to play much like he did. He expects the Nets to be an up-tempo team that will look to score more than 100 points per game. Kidd talked about the importance of ball movement, defense, and making sure All-Star point guard Deron Williams, with whom Kidd is friends, isn't the only one bringing up the ball. Williams couldn't be happier with his new coach and is looking forward to getting started.

"It's exciting for me personally," Williams said.
"It's a guy I grew up watching, trying to emulate and now I get to really learn from him."





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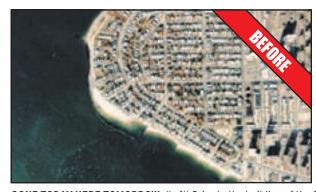
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GONE TODAY HERE TOMORROW: (Left) Prior to the building of the Coney Island and Brighton Beach groins, Seagate had only a very thin beach. (Center) The government dumped tons of sand onto the Seagate coast to shore up the Coney Island groins – but the new waterfront didn't last long. (Right) The beach has now mostly washed away.

Army Corps of Engineers

Seagate seawall could open up private beaches

If the city solves sand problem, residents in gated community may have to tear their fences down

BY WILL BREDDERMAN

Seagate may have to let visitors in if it wants to keep floodwaters out.

The Mayor's Resiliency Plan — a list of proposals released earlier this week for fortifying the waterfront against future superstorms — calls for the feds to shore up the private community's Sandy-shattered beaches.

But the project comes with one condition — the neigh-

borhood must tear down its fences and let the masses stake their umbrellas on its long-sequestered sands.

Hizzoner's vision has the Army Corps of Engineers buffering Seagate's depleted beaches and constructing a protective seawall or range of dunes on the Gravesend Bay coastline.

The mayor's plan notes that Seagate's sandy strand melted away over the past two decades as a result of the community's refusal to take part in a publicly-financed anti-erosion program in 1992 — a decision the neighborhood made because participation would have meant permitting the public to put towels down on its shore.

The lack of a beach barrier left residents' homes exposed to Sandy's assault — which the plan warns could happen again.

"Seagate is highly vul-

nerable to wave action risk," the proposal reads.

But a new infusion of government funding would force the neighborhood to grant access to outsiders — a stipulation the neighborhood is not sure it is willing to accept.

"We all want to make sure we're protected, but we have to weigh all options," said Tami Maldonado, manager of the Seagate Association. Maldonado said Seagate will hold meetings with residents and the mayor to come to an arrangement.

But some Seagaters said they'd be willing — if reluctant — to sacrifice their seclusion for greater security.

"I wouldn't be happy about it, but if that was the only condition of it, I would say fine," said resident Ellen Mausner, who lost the back wall of her house during the storm. "It's scary how close we are to the water."

The measures outlined in the Resiliency Plan would be in addition to a \$30 million federally funded beach replenishment project in Seagate due to begin later this year — an undertaking that has aroused controversy because it will not require the community to share the restored shore with the public.





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Are LICH's books cooked?

Hospital advocates demand hospital sale go public

It's the *really* hard sell.

The state could be scaring off potential buyers of Long Island College Hospital by cooking the books to make the medical institution appear completely unsalvageable, a move that would once again open up the land it sits on for sale, hospital advocates fear.

Residents and politicians who want to keep the 155-year-old Cobble Hill hospital operating say the only way they can be sure the State University of New York, which owns it, is doing right by the community is it to open the books so everyone can see once and for all how bad the hospital is actually doing - or if the situation isn't as dire as the state is making it out to be.

"Without open books, potential suitors cannot evaluate LICH's economic viability — and there is no



OPEN THE BOOKS: How bad is LICH doing? Residents want to know for sure, so they want to see the books. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

assurance that the disposition of LICH will be a fair one," wrote the community watchdogs at the Brooklyn Heights Association in a message on their website. "SUNY Downstate's actions have revived fears that its real goal is to sell the land to a real estate developer."

Hospital backers rejoiced last month when the state backed down from plans to shutter the hospital and sell off its incredibly valuable real estate, but now that it has been operating behind closed doors when it comes to the sale, they fear the worst.

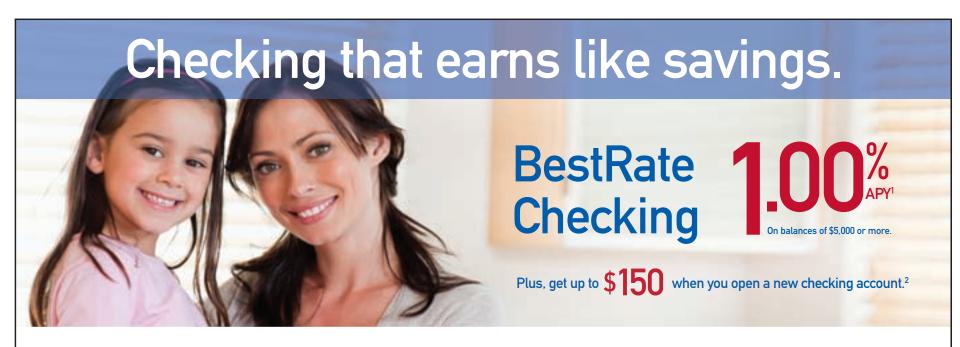
Jane McGroarty, head of the Long Island College Hospital committee of the Brooklyn Heights Associa-

tion, said that both the State University of New York and the governor have not responded to requests to meet with her organization to talk about those fears.

But hospital representatives say that releasing the ailing hospital's financials would be, at best, akin to playing poker with an open hand, and at worst, against the law.

"The seller does not provide financial information until, first, they know the buyer is serious, and, second, until both parties sign a legal confidentiality agreement," said spokesman Robert Bellafiore. "It's not like someone walks in and says, 'Hey I want to buy your hospital,' and you say, 'Okay, here are the books.'

The state will seek formal proposals from prospective buyers to save the money-losing center this week, Bellafiore said.



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RISKY PADDLER: Suited up Mike Rosalie of Crown Heights took his chances on the fetid Gowanus Canal in an inflatable kayak.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Gowanus

Continued from page 16

Fort Greene, won the race thanks to what they dubbed "superior technology."

"We had the fastest boat," said Buchanan, who, paddling a handmade, sliding-seat, rowing boat, completed the course in a little more than 20 minutes. "It would have been embarrassing if we didn't win."

Buchanan was awarded a bottle of Perry's Tot Navy Strength Gin for winning. Second place winners received gift certificates to local restaurants.

Most of the racers were

local, but boating teams from Canada, New Jersey, and Maine came to compete, surprising many who thought a race in such a location would, for lack of a better word, stink.

"This was something that naysayers felt no one would join," said Foote. "The opposite was true."

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Ferry

Continued from page 3

just a 10-minute walk from MCU Park, the Parachute Jump, and Borough President Markowitz's planned amphitheater in the former Childs restaurant.

They say that alone should convince that city that building a dam that would block their ferry is a bad idea.

"You can look right down and see the amusements," said Inna Guzenfeld, an assistant to Pertz.

The group also claims that the calm creek would make for much better mooring than Steeplechase Pier — a location other Coney Island ferry advocates have

proposed. At Steeplechase Pier, the city would have to build a \$20 million bulwark to control choppy ocean wayes.

Guzenfeld added that the June 17 ferry had no problem negotiating the wrecks of half-sunken boats that illegal dumpers have been abandoning in the creek for decades — another concern the city report raised. Guzenfeld claimed the forsaken flotsam only made the trip more interesting.

"If anything, all of that just added to the scenery," she said.

And what scenery. The passage allowed passengers to take in awesome views of Brooklyn's piers and bridges, plus the shorelines of Staten Island and New Jersey.

"It's a very scenic tour," said Guzenfeld "You get a view of the entire Brooklyn waterfront, and you get to see places that are difficult to get to and people aren't familiar with.

Numerous groups have floated the idea of shipping tourists to Coney, the most recent being the Small Business Coalition, a lobbying group for Brooklyn enterprises. The Staten Island Ferry used a floating dock to usher baseball fans to the People's Playground from the Rock and back when the Brooklyn Cyclones played their hated cross-Narrows rivals, the hated Staten Island Yankees, in 2001 and 2002. That model was discontinued.





Readers: No red carpet for Tropfest

Pan and scram is the best format for a free international film festival headed to Prospect Park this weekend, say exasperated environmentalists, claiming thousands of foot-stomping revelers at last month's music fete left its beloved, rolling grounds unfit for a sequel ("Park advocates fear film fest crowds will destroy damaged meadow," online June 17).

Tropfest — billed as the world's biggest short-film festival — is expecting upwards of 10,000 visitors when it debuts at the Nethermead on June 22, but it won't be getting any Oscars from park lovers, who say the meadow is still recovering from the Great GoogaMooga and can't take any more action.

Commentators made their cameos online.

I believe it's reasonable to use these fields for public events, especially if they are free, and if they are used a few times during the summer. However, the park authorities that oversee these events must protect the park.

The parties involved need to get together and fashion a working plan for the future use of the park. Cultural events in the park bring business to the surrounding areas, and we should not throw away this economic benefit, if this issue can be resolved to the satisfaction of all. Not everyone makes their money in Manhattan or elsewhere! Charles from Bklyn

Hmmm. So next up is an event letting people just take a big poo on the meadow. That is basically one step short of what is going on.

jay from nyc

I have an even better idea. Let's make it so no one can use the park, that way the grass will never be destroyed.

NotInMyPark from Park Slope

The use of all the fields needs to be more controlled. A lot of the erosion and brown spots are created by sports teams. For example there are brown spots cre-

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SOUND OFF TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS AND COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS

ated by Pee Wee baseball near the duck pond that is new.

But the GoogaMooga thing is just too big. And the continuous helicopter drone was the icing on the cake. Really obnoxious. **Pete from Windsor Terrace**

You would hope that the geniuses who agreed to let this happen before would have, by now, figured out that destroying parkland is counterproductive.

Anita from Park Slope

Burn it down and put parking garages in — too many trees anyway.

old time Brooklyn from slope

The damage to the park is overstated. However, I think if the Prospect Park Alliance is going to have an event or two on the Nethermead, they should be generating more money for it, and require the any repairs necessary in an expedited manner.

Park User from Windsor Terrace

I love the park. I love free events. I like music, food, drinking, children, dogs, even short films. But I think all major events should be at the bandshell, end of story.

Why ruin a major part of the park for one event, then fence parts of that field off to reseed, right in the middle of summer, for 10 weeks? It is irresponsible.

There is plenty of money in our area now, plenty of ways to raise money for the park without ruining it. Why have this event for fundraising, if it is going to ruin the very thing you are raising funds for?

Vic from South Slope

So now Eric Landau [vice president of government and external affairs for the Prospect Park Alliance] is admitting that GoogaMooga did really damage the park to the extent we were complaining about?

We need more morons like him to continue to shamelessly vomit out the usual line of bullcrap about how the destruction of public-use lands in the park is justifiable for a few thousand dollars in revenue. But hey, it only takes like a year to repair the damage!

Kasper from Yellowhook

When will Bigfoot be fighting Grave-digger in the Long Meadow?

MG from Bay Ridge

The park has a bandshell, which is equipped to handle large crowds for this

type of event. Trashing the Nethermead again is inexcusable.

Jamie from Flatbush

Alliance workers are going to repair the extensive damage to the Nethermead meadow in the same shoddy way the rest of the park is maintained. Shame to all who turned a blind eye while this was going on, and continues to go on throughout the year.

The Prospect Park Alliance's inability and unwillingness to oversee the care for the park and speak out against the abuses becomes more and more obvious.

John from Windsor Terrace

Why is everybody complaining, aren't these events held to help raise money for the park? Funding for the park is shrinking and it has to be maintained. If these events help to raise money so the entire park can be maintained, then why is this a bad thing?

Have any of you complaining about the damage, spearheaded any fundraising initiatives so the park doesn't have to rely on these events? If only we could maintain the park with criticisms, the Nethermead would be a plush jungle.

MomtoShawm from PLG

Not only is the grass destroyed, the landscape has been ruined by the vehicles that were allowed to run over the meadow before, during, and after the rainstorm.

The duplicitous response from the alliance — saying reseeding is going to be done at some unknown point this year — explains why this occurred in the first place.

The irrational decision to hold any event that requires days to set up in advance, and days to remove what's left on the Nethermead Meadow, is a breach of the public trust.

Frank from Prospect Heights

Google maps' satellite view shows patches of dirt in this meadow. Are you sure that this is really caused by the festivals, and not just a longstanding feature of the park?

Tom from Park Slope

The damaged areas in the Nethermead need to be properly aerated and reseeded and in many places completely resodded. Simply throwing down seed didn't work last year and will not work this year. As a city gardener told me, after having 50,000 people walk on the grass "you might as

well throw the seeds onto concrete for all it will do." Despite the fact that the park has a public promise from Superfly to repair the destruction, the current, pro-business, Bloomberg administration seems loath to present the promoter with the kind of bill it would truly take to restore the meadow properly. Tropfest took place last year in Bryant Park, a facility that has the capital to completely resod its lawn twice a year. Why the parks department relocated a festival that boasted an attendance of 10,000, to an already damaged area in a park that is strapped for funds is inexplicable and irresponsible.

Seth Kaplan from Prospect Lefferts Gardens

Yes, this was caused by the festivals. And the patches you see, which myself and others photographed in detail prior to this year's GoogaMooga, are now twice as large and in some cases considerably deeper. Head to the Nethermead and see for yourself.

Seth Kaplan from Prospect Lefferts Gardens

There are fewer and fewer workers in the park, so the Alliance invites into the middle of Prospect Park, on a meadow no less, thousands of transient, trash-producing, drinkers to stumble around, pretending that they are having a good time. Next year, the circus, a rodeo, dog racing, Monster Truck events.

Paul from Park Slope

Once again, why not stage it on the Long Meadow? I think we know the answer.

PLG resident from PLG

The Prospect Park Alliance knows this is all a scam to exploit and privatize parks.

sp from ps

The mishandling and disregard for Prospect Park the past two years by everyone involved shows what the alliance is all about. Using and abusing a public park for events that have no special need, to be presented in a way that destroys a meadow for the rest of the year.

Diane from Windsor Terrace

The cost-benefit just doesn't work. There is more damage and disruption to the park than could ever be justified by the tiny, tiny fees they charge groups like Googamooga, etc. There's also the whole privatization narrative.

ty from pps

Will labor pains give birth to a new mayor?

ne of the reasons New York has had Republican mayors for the last 20 years is because the city's public- and private-sector unions haven't rallied behind the same candidate during Democratic primaries.

And even though labor talked about unifying around one candidate in 2013, history is about to repeat itself.

The conventional wisdom last year was that Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio, one of the founders of the labor-backed Working Families Party, would be the consensus choice for mayor.

But since Christine Quinn was so far ahead in the polls until recently, labor leaders were wary of backing DeBlasio too soon, and a few renegade unions peeled off early and supported Quinn or John Liu, with the Retail Workers going to the speaker, and city employees (District Council 37) to the comptroller.

DeBlasio reeled in one big fish, the healthcare-workers union, which has a large membership and a strong political and field operation.



MAYORAL SPIN CYCLE

Tom Allon

The Uniformed Officers Unions lined up for Bill Thompson recently, and it seems likely that the United Federation of Teachers will back Thompson or DeBlasio.

Where does that leave the Working Families Party, an amalgam of unions that needs a 60 percent quorum to give its line

to a mayoral candidate?

Probably on the sidelines for the Sept.10 primary, because the party won't have a consensus and can't afford to back a loser. Again. But it will likely jump in strong for the inevitable Oct. 1 Democratic run-off.

This gives the four major Democratic candidates not named Anthony Weiner — the johnny-come-lately, scandal-scarred wannabe who won't get union backing no matter what he does at this point — a claim to significant union support.

Why should voters who don't belong to unions care about who these organizations support?

Because the city's fiscal health and tax policies are inextricably linked to how the next mayor handles labor negotiations.

For the past four years, all the city's union have been working without a contract, and some believe that they now deserve retroactive raises.

That means the next mayor may be facing an unfunded liability of approximately \$10 billion in back pay. That's almost 15 percent of the annual \$70-billion budget — a huge looming gap that would either necessitate deep cuts to services or a whopping tax increase.

That's not a great choice for an incoming mayor.

What does the current crop of contenders actually say they will do?

GOP candidates John Catsimatidis and Joe Lhota say the city cannot afford retroactive raises, and that's that.

At least they have a position.

Among the Democrats, Weiner has half-attempted to confront this issue by saying any retroactive raises have to be weighed against requiring city employees to pay a portion of their health care premiums.

Thompson, Quinn, and De-Blasio all say they don't want to negotiate future union deals in public, which translates to either they don't want to jeopardize those union endorsements, or they don't have a clue how they'll pay for retroactive raises.

Liu, who is running so far to the left that he should see if the Socialist Party Line is still available, believes we must pay those \$10 billion in retroactive raises, but as far as I can tell, he has not offered a concrete plan on where that money is coming from.

So, it looks like another circular firing squad on the Democratic side this year with four union-backed candidates alternately pandering for endorsements and then trying to swivel back to the middle to try to assure New York's powerful business and real estate interests that they will be their champion, too.

And once again, the labor unions's fragmented support may deliver a mayor to City Hall who has not been endorsed by many of the major players — just as it happened in 1993 and 2001, when Giuliani and Bloomberg were swept into office without much of big labor's backing.

Tom Allon, a former public school teacher, is the president of City & State media and a former Liberal Party-backed candidate for mayor. Questions or comments? E-mail tallon@cityandstateny.com.

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White Castle might slide out of Williamsburg

Land sold out from under Metropolitan Avenue joint

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

Hold it now ... close it!

"From here to White Castle" may get a little longer now that the ground has been sold out from under the burger joint that has served Williamsburg the chain's famous sliders since 1992.

The owners of the family-run, fast-food chain, which has been a Brooklyn institution since the 1930s and the muse for many early Beastie Boys songs, opened its Williamsburg location on Metropolitan Avenue near Humboldt Street around 1992, but the company never bought the land it was sitting on, said regional director John Vogt.

"It's a shame that we



SLIDING OUT: The borough may lose one of its eight White Castles, down from the original 10 the company ran at its heiaht. Photo by Hannah Egan

didn't buy that property years ago," said Vogt, who opened that store himself and said the company

couldn't afford the cost of the property these days. It sold for an astounding amount that you'll learn if you read the next para-

A business called 781 Metro Investors last month purchased the sprawling property, which includes a drive-thru lane and ample parking, for \$6.72 million.

Vogt said White Castle is in negotiations with the new owner to extend its lease, but acknowledged that it might be a lost cause.

"You're 100 feet from the subway," said Vogt. "It has everything you need."

If the legendary slider slingers cannot agree on lease terms with the new

CASTLE BESIEGED: The Williamsburg White Castle, with its iconic - well, white castle - facade, might soon be torn down now that the land on which it sits has been sold. Photo by Hannah Egan

owners, the company plans to look for another location in Williamsburg. And, yes, they plan for it to be another one of the iconic castle constructions.

"We'll find something with more visibility and a better corner," said Vogt.

Today, there are eight White Castles in Brooklyn, just two down from the 10 the company owned at its height. All the existing restaurants have the classic castle design. A storefront location on Willoughby Street closed two years ago.

Vogt said the castleshaped buildings are ideal.

"We've had some problems with the storefront locations," said Vogt. "It's better to have them in our own buildings."

Of course, the most famous White Castle was on 92nd Street in Bay Ridge, because it was featured in the John Travolta movie, "Saturday Night Fever." It closed more than 20 years

BROOKLYN BUSINESS STYLE - ADVERTISEMENT

Brooklyn Cheerleading and Sports wins eight national titles

Brooklyn Cheerleading and Sports is a certified cheerleading, dance and tumbling training facility. Our staff is highly experienced in their expertise and certified instructors are always present. We are the home of the Empire All-Stars Cheerleading and Dance program. The Empire All-Stars is a competitive cheerleading and dance group made up of boys and girls ages 3 to 18 traveling across the country in search of various national titles.

Our most recent victory happened Mother's Day weekend in Hershey, Pa as our athletes swept away eight national titles!

Agile athletes members of the Empire All-Star Cheerleading and Dance program at Brooklyn Cheerleading and Sports tumbled, danced, and pyramided their way across the stage in Hershey, Pa. to clinch eight national titles last month on Mother's Day.

The terrific twirlers buried the competition in trophies and laces — from three first-place wins to three grand champions.

The All-Stars finished the Hershey tourney after successfully tumbling and flipping titles in March at Walt Disney World in the largest cheerleading competition in the country.

Among the first-place team winners were Raquel Whittingham, Shalisa Chevers, Imani Moffit, Trinity Febus, Kayla Hughey, Kenaysia Bellerand, and Sarabeth Velasquez.

The Junior league's high-point winners included Natalie Negron, Christina DiTore, Jourdan Garnett, Katherine Arrabito, Janelle Chasten, Danielle Loadholt, Cheyenne Superville, Madison Patriarca, and Julia Sha-

The second-place seniors in Black (under 18 years old) were Kristie Carey, Julia Carey, Lind-Casanova, Lauren





Clark, Marina Cregan, Christina DiTore, Alison Ebert, Madison Efron, Sonya Epelman, Joanna Grossman, Jenna Mackoff, Kaia Archer, Marie Toussaint, Michael Santiago, Tori Sutera, and Shadine Walker, among others.

Mini tumblers in Team



Orange placed third to finish the season, and included Michaela Bowry. Deanna Califano, Penelope D'Onofrio, Mia Guglielminetti, Samantha Musarella, Lauren Soblovesky, Darien Pennachio, Chloe Petit, Ariyana Nesfield, and Victoria Cummings.



Owner and coach Madiha Butt, with fellow coaches Ozzie Montes, Alexa Gioia, and Joanna Martinez, were really impressed with the success of the teams, and how well the teams bonded over the season to work like a well-oiled clock in order to accomplish all their victo-

"Our Hershey finish

was a great way to close out our 2012-2013 season". Madiha said. "I look forward to welcoming the new cheer season that is just beginning." Girls and boys 3-to-18 are welcome to try out for the new season — just give Madiha a call.

Brooklyn Cheerleading and Sports [8115 Foster Ave. at E. 81st Street in Flatbush (718) 841-7105].

Never Underestimate the Power of the Republican Party...

By Dr. Stephen Finger

... to self-destruct.

Benghazi, IRS, DOJ, NSA, Five million dollars for the Obamas to go to Ireland with the prez, Daddy Prez. 100 million for The Family to take a trip to Africa next month (Sequester? What sequester? Did somebody forget to bring the sequester?)

All add up to 'opportunity knocking' for the GOP? No way!

Instead, a perfect time for the Republicans to introduce a bill to outlaw late term abortions, the one that was written by that guy who explained that rape hardly ever causes pregnancy. You go, girl!

If Romney had won last year, if he had gotten all the votes, all 126 million of them, if it were 126 million for Romney, zero for Obama, [Right, that

would mean that Barack and Michelle and Sasha and Malia - Hey, sometimes kids know.] and all the rest of us had voted for Mitt, and if Obama called him to offer congratulations and then went out and conceded and then if the sky got all dark and there was thunder and lightening and a giant hand came down and pointed to Romney and a loud voice announced, "You Won!"...... the Republicans would have asked for a recount.

Sometimes it seems so hopeless...

Visit our blog at: www. ThePointingFinger.Blogspot.com. - We'll leave the light on for you.

Dr. Finger practices medicine (Otolaryngology) in Brooklyn. He ran for Congress in '06 on both Libertarian and Republican lines. Contact: DrSteveFinger@aol.com



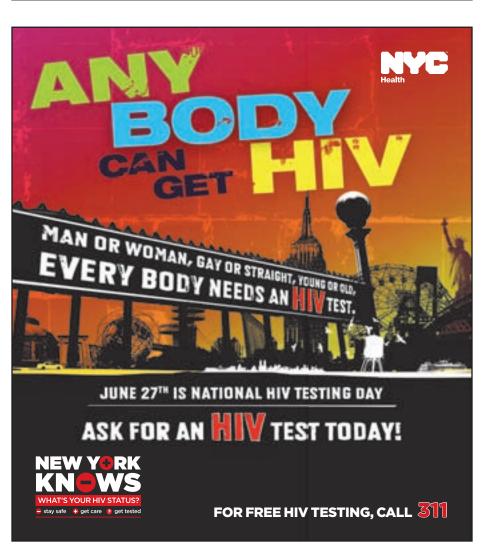
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HORSING AROUND

Art show focuses on hoofed animal

By Natalie Musumeci

ow that's horse of a different color.

A new art show dubbed "Equus," which is a Latin word meaning horse, features artists who all share a love for the hoofed animal, letting their aesthetic imaginations

running free and wild.

"This is not an exhibition of predictable 'pretty pictures,' horse 'portraits' or sentimental 'cliches,'" said Audrey Anastasi, the co-director of Sunset Park's Tabla Rasa Gallery, who has co-curated the newly opened show with abstract artist and skilled equestrian G. G. Stankiewicz.

"Instead, artwork in the show is as much about the artist's individual vision, as it is about the subject matter," said Anastasi, who added that she and Stankiewicz tried to choose artwork for the exhibition that covered traditional, as well as

nontraditional, representations of the horse.

Anastasi, who curates thematic group shows at the Tabla Rasa Gallery, said that the horse is presented to the viewer in various interpretations that may include wild, serene, clever, and even disturbing.

A total of 18 artists in the show portray the horse through a variety of media including paintings, photographs, sculpture, works on paper and leaded glass, and even a pre-cinema, optical animation device called a praxinoscope,

"Simply put, it's a gorgeous show, but even more, it's fascinating to see the range of creative expression," said Anastasi.

Anastasi said that some of the featured artists have shown their work at the 48th Street gallery before, while others are brand new "discoveries" for the gallery.

Artist Tom Bennett whose oil paintings are displayed in the

eclectic exhibition said that the horse represents one of the most powerful metaphors in art history.

"As an expressionist figurative painter, the form and movement has always appealed to me," he said. "The essential force of motion inherent in the animal lends itsself to the fluid plastic medium of paint."

Sculptor Wendy Klemperer, whose bronze falling horse sculpture is also featured in the show, said that she has always been captivated by animals.

"The imagery that pervades my work reflects a lifelong fascination with animals," she said. "As a child this led to hours of watching, drawing, and imagining."

"Equus" at Tabla Rasa Gallery [224 48th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park, (718) 833–9100, www. tablarasagallery.com]. Through July 31.

AROUND TOWN

SPIRITUAL PERFORMER

Star performs sacred Indian dance at festival in Downtown

internationally acclaimed dancer will star — as a performer and instructor — in the six-day festival DanceFest India this month.

Sujata Mohapatra is one of the leading contemporary performers of Odissi, one of India's oldest surviving dance form, close to 2,000 years old.

Mohapatra studied under the tutelage of several of the best Odissi experts, and credits her mentors as her inspiration.

"For me, passion, patience, perfection, and faith in my Gurus' blessings give me the inspiration to continue to strive to achieve my best artistically," she said.

When decked out in full garb, Mohapatra is the vision of a venerable goddess. Her floral headdress completes the look, appearing not unlike a halo. She said it takes her a minimum of two hours to get ready for a program.

The time-consuming process of getting dressed is the least of her worries.

"Unfortunately, injury is part and parcel of a professional dancer's life," she said.

"While it is unavoidable, I always try to explore various means to prevent injury. I am a regular practitioner of yoga. I also enjoy walking, jogging, and stretching. The mind is just as important as the body; meditation is another way to keep oneself balanced and focused."

Although British occupation threatened to extinguish Odissi, the classical dance revolves around the love between Krishna and Radha was flamed back to life following India's independence.

Among DanceFest India's highlights is "Sacred Vision," a concert held in association with Kumble Theater for The Performing Arts, during which Mohapatra will appear alongside other classical Indian dancers.

The pieces she will be presenting are part of the traditional Odissi repertoire: Mangalacharan, an invocation dance, Pallavi, a pure dance piece, and Abhinaya, an expressional dance that uses facial expressions and codified hand gestures to convey a story.

The festival's schedule

of events also includes in-depth workshops, several of which will be led by Mohapatra.

"The workshops are educational and dynamic and beautifully illustrate dated, she added, as Classical Indian Mohapatra offers patient Dance," said Mohapatra.

newcomers to practice 'Sadhana,' which roughly translates to 'practice' or 'self-discipline,'" said Mohapatra. "'Sadhana' gives one the spiritual inspiration to evolve through his or her art, and the confidence to stand on one's own." DanceFest India's "Sacred

Vision" concert at Kumble Theater for the Performing Arts, LIU [Flatbush Avenue between DeKalb Avenue and Willoughby Street, (718) 488-1624, www.dancefestindia.com]. June 29, 7:30 pm, \$25 in advance, \$30 day of show, \$20

Newcomers

teaches a spiri-

tual calm to stu-

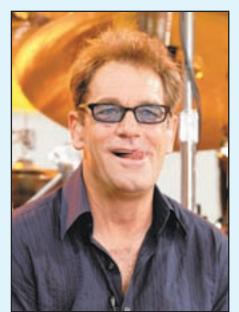
dents as well. "I always advise

need not be intimi-

counsel — but she said

the learning processes

Reaching for the heavens: Sujata Mohapatra will be performing Odissi dance, which is a 200 year old art form, at Dancefest India in



Power of love: Believe it or not, there's a cover band for this guy — Huey Lewis of Huey Lewis and the News.

Huey Lewis cover band in Park Slope

By Jaime Lutz

t's a group of punk rockers who also think it's hip to be square.

The Power of Love - a Boston-based Huey Lewis and the News cover band that's coming to Union Hall June 30 — is a unique thing among kitchy tribute bands. It's comprised of rockers from well-established groups on the pop-punk spectrum akin to mix tape staples like ska group Big D and the Kids Table and wordy punkers The Mr. T Experience.

"I wasn't sure if it was going to be a onetime thing or if it would continue," said Randy Tartow, the band's drummer and founder. But, he said, the question was answered when the cobbled-together group starting selling our all their shows. Now, the group is approaching their one year anniversary in August.

The band isn't a slavish tribute act — the songs are given a punk edge, and the bass player and guitarist in the group take turns doing Lewis's vocals.

"We feel that there is no one that can do Huey himself," Tartow said.

The group's love of Huey Lewis is real — two of the members have flux capacitor tattoos on their body (a reference to "Back to the Future," a movie Huey Lewis wrote several songs for). All of them have seen Lewis play live.

But the band also recognizes that he's earned an uncool rep (hence that famous scene in American Psycho). Which is why they're having fun with that image.

"I'm doing a booze cruise in July," Tartow said. "I couldn't find anything more ideal than this - doing something like that."

On the cruise, The Power of Love will be playing with a Billy Joel cover band.

The Power of Love at Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com]. June 30, 8 pm, \$10.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo comes to the Bandshell

By Samantha Lim

The soulful voices of the internationally acclaimed South African choral group, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, will fill the Prospect Park Bandshell at Celebrate Brooklyn this month.

Joseph Shabalala, who is Ladysmith Black Mambazo's founder and leader, said that his passion for music stems from musical gettogethers that were held in the communal setting of his village.

"I clearly remember my upbringing on our family farm in South Africa. We had no electronic entertainment, no TV, radio or record player, so our large family would gather many nights and sing songs and dance. This was the seed to my musical passion," said Shabalala.

The multi-award winning all-male ensemble was founded nearly half a century ago. As of today, the only two remaining original members are Shabalala and Albert Mazibuko.

The choral group specializes in two singing styles dubbed isicathamiya and mbube; the former emphasizes harmony while the latter prizes loud and powerful singing.

For Ladysmith Black Mambazo,



bringing their community-inspired songs back to Celebrate Brooklyn.

their namesake reflects on South African tradition and pride. While "Black" and "Mambazo" are Zulu terms for "oxen" and "axe," Ladysmith in KwaZulu-Nata is where Shabalala grew up.

"Ladysmith is a beautiful small town, and much more developed than many people imagine," said Shabalala. "It's where my roots are."

Touring takes Shabalala and Mazibuko far away from home, but is necessary for the musicians' farreaching goals.

"I do miss [South Africa] when I am away, but there is excitement

in traveling, singing for fans and meeting new people. It's a duality I think many musicians have to deal with," said Shabalala.

Mazibuko, who has been with the group since 1969, said their travels are a necessary part of their goals as artist.

"Sharing our music and culture with people all over the world is our mission and we are very serious about it," he said.

The singers are also fueled by the positive feedback about their music's healing qualities.

"Many times, people let us

know that either themselves, family members or friends have a serious illness and that our music has helped them deal with the situation. This is a very emotional to us," said Shabalala. "If our singing can bring peace to someone then there is nothing better."

The group's music is so uplifting that South Africa's "father of the nation," Nelson Mandela, requested they accompany him to the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo, Norway.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo broke through to even wider audiences after Paul Simon approached them to collaborate on his 1986 album, "Graceland." Shabalala expressed his appreciation for the ground-breaking opportunity, calling Simon "Vulindlela."

"In English, it means, 'He who opened the gate,' which is what Paul did for us," he said.

"Ladysmith Black Mambazo: Celebrate Brooklyn" at Prospect Park Bandshell [Entrance at Prospect Park West and 9th Street, (718) 683–5600, www.bricartsmedia. org]. June 28, 7:30 pm, \$3 suggested donation.





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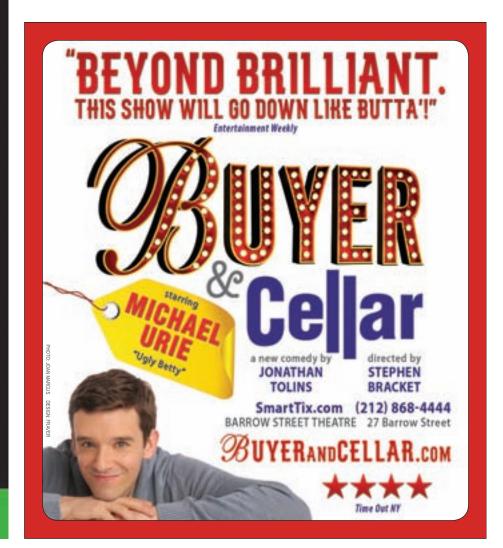
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ROUND TOWN

THEY HEART TATTOOS

An ink-on-skin convention finally comes to Sunset Park

By Colin Mixson

If you're going to get a tattoo, you should get it somewhere special.

New York's annual ink expo, the Urban Tattoo Convention, is leaving Manhattan this year and, on June 28, its landing in a borough close to its founder's heart.

"It's coming to Brooklyn, where it should have been," said Al Fliction, president of the Urban Tattoo Convention.

The annual expo, now entering its fourth year, spent its infancy at a club in midtown Manhattan called Amnesia, which accommodated about 30 booths, but the convention has since outgrown its crib and Fliction, a Park Slope native, was more than happy to bring his baby to Kings County after discovering Sunset Park's Industry City, which can accommodate three times the amount of ink insiders.

"I always wanted to bring it back home," he said. "Then I saw Industry City."

Fliction, who spent a few years traveling the country on a

quest for tattoo knowledge, not to mention starred on the Spike TV reality show, Ink Master, has more than a few associates in the tattoo business.

The convention will feature some of America's foremost inkers, including Shane O'Neil, Bili Vegas, Tripple X Jess,

King Afa, Kay Kutta, and Gino.

"You will find the best of the best," said Fliction

Not only will convention guests be able to peruse some of the country's best tattoos in sweet-home Kings County, but they'll be able show them off as well.

The expo will hold nightly tattoo awards, including ones for best black and white, best Japanese, best color, and best animal created during the show.

The convention will also feature a competition for the worst tattoo of the show, with the winner receiving a free cover up as a prize.

"For a lot of people who can't afford the cover up, this is there only way out," said Fliction.

Urban Tattoo Convention at Industry City [233 37th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park, (786) 333–7023, www. nycurbantattooconvention. com]. June 28, 3 pm; June 29–June 30, noon. \$15 in advance, \$25 at the door.

Are you not entertained?: Al Fliction, founder of the Urban Tattoo Convention, shows off the back tats he recieved from his apprentice Josh Glasser, with a little help from his lovely assistant Anais Bastet.

Photo by Al Flictio

Same story, different times

Novel follows two women in New York City, a century apart

By Sol Park

For women, it's not easy wearing the

pants — or selling them, either.
A new novel called "Astor Place Vintage" is about two women who try to make it in the fashion business — one wants to be a buyer at the Manhattan department store Macy's while another is an entrepreneur who opens a vintage clothing shop in the East Village — but they're separated by

Author Stephanie Lehmann's book is the focus of a reading at the Bay Ridge bookstore Bookmark Shoppe, and the shop owner Bina Valenzano says it will be a great opportunity to talk about professional women in society — past and present.

"What I did find interesting was how men behaved towards women in 1902 happened exactly the same way in 2012," said Valenzano, who is herself a small business owner, referring to how both women in the book struggle with financial dependence on men.

In the book, the two characters Olive Westcott and Amanda Rosenbloom come together when present day Amanda finds Olive's journal from the turn of the century.

In chapters that switch between the two



Buttons: Author Stephanie Lehmann's love for vintage clothing partly inspired her new book "Astor Place Vintage," a novel about two women in New York City separated by a century.

Photo by Stephanie Lehmann

women's perspectives, two stories with similar themes are unraveled. The unfortunate Olive loses her father to a car accident, leaving her nearly destitute. Though her goal is to become a buyer at Macy's, no one will

hire her, so she sneaks her way into a sales position at the Seigel-Cooper department store in New York City, determined to work her way up without depending on marriage — a mean feat in 1902, when Victorian ideals of society are still popular.

Amanda's story also involves a man, who she depends on for financial support as she is pushed out of her retail space in the city. The problem is, he's married.

A kind of "Julie and Julia," the novel connects the stories of two women in different eras, but instead of the culinary world, Lehmann's book weaves a story through the city of New York, which is a prominent character. The author's fascination with the city is apparent, as the book contains old photographs of spots such as Herald Square, and Astor Place.

The first photo in the book is of a Madison Square taxi stand, with two women in elegant dresses wearing defiant expressions on their faces, walking side-byside in 1900.

Stephanie Lehmann at Bookmark Shoppe [8415 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833–5115, www. bookmarkshoppe.com]. June 27, 7:30 pm.

BROOKLYN EATS

It's halloumi heaven

Eatery serves huge flavors in cheese sandwich

By Will Levitt

t was an omen of good things to come.

The wedge of homemade focaccia would have nearly been a meal on its own. The interior was hearty and the crust golden brown, studded in spots with fragrant rosemary and black salt — a rare mineral harvested in parts of India, Pakistan and the Himalayas.

But it was the fantastic stuff sandwiched in between the black salt focaccia that kept spinning through my head for days, after I ate one of the best sandwiches this side of the East River: The Halloumi Sandwich (\$10) from the talented team at Newtown, a vegetarian and vegan restaurant in Bushwick focusing on Middle Eastern cuisine.

Halloumi is a Middle Eastern cheese with an unusually high melting point, which allows it to retain its shape and texture when warmed. It plays the part of protein in this



Edgy sandwich: Bushwick restaurant Newton serves a dish that features a middle eastern cheese. Photo by Alex Lau

sandwich, its exterior, like the focaccia, crisped to golden brown. It is an artful selection, a miracle of dairy more akin to meat than cheese.

Also layered into the sandwich are generous slices of warm eggplant, Portobello mushroom and tomato. And where other establishments might liven up their sandwich with hummus or mayo, the folks at Newtown add a New

York-size shmear of herbed cream cheese, which takes the sandwich to rich and creamy new heights.

Newtown hosts a bite-size kitchen and just a few crammed tables in a calm and inviting front room. But, as they say, from tiny kitchens come great sandwiches.

Newtown [55 Waterbury St. between Scholes and Meserole streets, (347) 984-6215].



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FRI, JUNE 21

ART, BATTLE OF BROOKLYN

EXHIBIT: Battle Pass-Revolution IV, the third and last exhibit of the Proteus Gowanus Battle theme, explores the pathos of the Battle of Brooklyn, featuring artists, and educators. Free! The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], www.theoldstonehouse.org.

ART, 'BASED ON A TRUE

STORY...': Pierogi is pleased to present an exhibition of new work by Daniel Zeller, in which the artist explores nuances of texture and structure which develop into powerful extensions of perceived reality using graphite or ink and acrylic on paper. Open Tuesday through Sunday. Free. 11 am-6 pm. Pierogi [177 N. 9 St. between W. John Street and W. Hoffman Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-2144], www.pierogi2000.com.

RIDE THE CAROUSEL: Yeah it's open; the beautiful 101 year old ride is up and running for little children to enjoy. \$2 per ride. 12-5 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center (Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park), www.prospectpark.org/ audubon.

ART, 'THINGS THAT FELL OUT OF MY POCKET': Associated Gallery presents "Things That Fell Out of My Pocket' by Steven Charles, a body of painted and sculpted works showcasing the use of a diverse range of materials, from synthetic fur to corks. Free. 1-6 pm. Associated Gallery [566 Johnson Ave. between Stewart and Gardner avenues in Bushwick. (201) 953-40621. www.associatedgallery.tumblr.com.

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pect Park, (718) 287-34001. www.prospectpark.org/ audubon.

MUSIC, MIZIK AYITI! SUM-MER CONCERT SERIES:

Haiti Cultural Exchange is back with their second annual Mizik Ayiti! Summer Concert series! The concerts are free with performances by Haitian bands and artists. Free. 3 pm. Cuyler Gore Park [Fulton Street between (Greene and Carlton avenues, (347) 565-44291.

MUSIC, MARIA HERNANDEZ PARK SHOW: Thanks to Make Music New York we are bringing you a free music event within Maria Hernandez Park that will urge the community of Bushwick to go out and party! Free. 3 pm. Maria Hernandez Park (Kinickerbocker Aveenue between Starr and Suydam streets in Bushwick). https://www.facebook.com/ events/537317336306350/? fref=ts.

FUND RAISER, BUMP, CRASH & SMASH DMD: Charity events raises money for the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy organization. \$30 for children (Accompanying adults free). 4–7 pm. Adventurer's Family Entertainment Center [1824 Shore Parkway in Bensonhurst. (646) 582-08001.

BROOKLYN AMUSEMENT

PARK: Pietrosfight.org is hosting their first kid's event, "Bump Crash & Smash DMD", at Adventurer's Family Entertainment Center, \$30 per child, 4 pm. Adventurers Family Entertainment Center [1824 Shore Parkway Brooklyn NY 11214, (718) 975-2748].

A MUSICAL SHABBAT: Service with live music led by Rabbi Dina Rosenberg. Free. 6:30 pm. Bay Ridge Jewish Center [405 81st St. and Fourth Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-31031

THEATER, MY BROTHER GEORGE: Brooklyn, NY: brooklynONE productions (bkONE) is proud to present a new one man show written and performed by Elliot

Sneider, who plays Ira Gershwin, who shared the highs and lows of George Gershwin's life as his main lyricist, the man always by his side. \$20 (Online) \$25 (at the door). 8 pm. St. John's Parish Hall [461 99th St. in Bay Ridge, (917) 623-6709], www.brooklynone.org.

Caesar.

WITH LAUGHS: A full bench of Beantown-raised comics are showing up for "A Wicked Awesome Boston Comedy Show," a stand-up benefit to support Boston Marathon bombing victims. \$10. 10 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope,

4 Course Lobster Dinners

Power suit: Sarah Dacey Charles plays the head honcho in Smith Street Stage's new production of Julius

their newest installation, "The People to Come." Sponsored by the Brooklyn Brewery. 21+ only. \$20. 9 pm. The Invisible Dog [51 Bergen St. between Court and Smith streets in Cobble Hill, (347) 560-3641], theinvisibledog.org

Photo by Chris Montgomery

MUSIC, 2 1/2 HOUR NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL: Come to the first 2 1/12 Hour New Music Festival, which will feature some of the most creative powerhouses in New York. \$5 suggested donation. 10 pm–1 am. Brooklyn Fire Proof [119 Ingram St. between Porter and Knickerbocker avenues in East Williamsburg, (347) 223-4211], www. brooklynfireproof.com/cafe/ events/2-hour-new-musicfestival.

ART, PAINTING FROM THE

YARD: Brooklyn Navy Yard Visiting Artist, Enid Braun, invites experienced landscape painters or first timers (with some drawing or painting background) to take in Brooklyns working waterfront from the perspective of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. \$30. 11am-1 pm. Brooklyn Navy Yard BLDG 92 [63 Flushing Ave., BLDG 92 Unit 300, (718) 907-5992], bldg92.org/events.

WORKSHOP, BE A BUILDER: Learn the basics of building with Gary John Oshust Jr., owner and operator of SPark Workshop Brooklyn a collective creative space located at 34th Street, 2nd Avenue in Brooklyn. You will be able to walk home with a great bench for both indoor and outdoor use. \$80. 11:30 am-3:30 pm Build it Green!NYC Gowanus [69 Ninth St. in Gowanus.

(718) 725-8925], www.bignyc. DINING, HOMEBREWKLYN

EVENT: This years judges will be: Peter Salamond - head brewer At Kelso Brewing, Scott Simpson - Brewer at Chelsea Brewing And Mary Izett - Co-host of Fuhmentaboudit on Heritage Radio Network & BJCP National Beer Judge. \$30. 11:30 am. The Green Building [452 Union St., (848) 702-9319], www.rallydowntown. org/#!brewklyn/cvkt.

CELEBRATE JAMAICA: Children discover the tastes of the island and explore the rich culture. Free with museum admission. 11:30 am and 2 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

FREE BEACH PARTIES ALL

SUMMER LONG: Join Commander Rican Vargas and his famed Coney Island Dancers for free outdoor Boardwalk parties all summer long, with DJs spinning house, disco, soul, and funk. Free. Noon. Coney Island Boardwalk [1001 Boardwalk W, at W. 10th Street in Coney Island, (347) 496-2032], www.coneyislanddancers.com.

CLOTH DIAPERING WORK-

SHOP: If you want a thorough explanation of all things cloth diapers, visit Gumbo for a cloth diapering workshop. \$20. 12:00 pm. Gumbo [493 Atlantic Ave. between Nevins Street and Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (718) 855-7808].

THE POWER GRID BRUNCH:

Enjoy Corlette Restaurant & Lounge's famous Caribbeanstyle tacos or just mingle with the great people of Brooklyn at The Power Grid Brunch. \$26. Noon. Corlette Restaurant & Lounge [193A Nostrand Ave. between Dekalb and Myrtle avenues in Clinton Hill, (718) 596–4860], www. corlettny.com.

RIDE THE CAROUSEL: 12-5 pm. See Friday, June 21.

WATER, WATER EVERY-

WHERE!: Introduction to bird watching, animal encounter, and a discovery tour. Look for the organge tent for a fun-flled activities. Free. Noon-4:30 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400], www. prospectpark.org/audubon.

EAST MEETS WEST: The Shakuhachi Flute and Dragon Trumpet with Aaron Shragge Free with museum admission. Noon. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

PINOCCHIO: For children ages 3 years old and up. The classic story comes to life on the puppet stage. \$9 (\$8 children), 12:30 and 2:30 pm. Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391], www.puppetworks.org.

ART, 'THINGS THAT FELL OUT OF MY POCKET': 1-6 pm. See Friday, June 21.

DINING, BACKYARD BARBE-**CUE FOR LITERACY: Behind** the Book's Young Executive Board is hosting their annual



DINNER SPECIAL

Monday - Thursday

3:00 to 11:30 MAXIMUM 8 PEOPLE (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

SPECIAL

Monday - Saturday 12:00 to 3:00 MAXIMUM 8 PEOPLE (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS:

Children learn how to process wool into yarn, card, spin and use a drop spindle and even make a felt ball to take home. \$3 (Children free). 1-2 pm. Lefferts Historic Homestead [452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway in Park Slope, (718) 789–2822], www. prospectpark.org

DINING, THE DRUNKEN MER-MAID GALA: You are invited to a very special post-Mermaid Parade gathering, featuring a pig on a spit, music, and magic. \$15, \$20. 6 pm. Gowanus Ballroom [55 Ninth St. in Gowanus, (347) 576-46381, gowanusballroom.com.

FILMS, ON THE NYC BUS DRIVER STRIKE: Free screening of "Under the Bus," a documentary film on the NYC school bus driver. Free. 6 pm. Coco66 [66 Greenpoint Ave. between Franklin and West streets in Greenpoint, (917) 807-6045], www.myspace. com/coco66.

FILMS, ROOFTOP FILMS. TIGER TAIL IN BLUE: Director Frank V. Ross' chatty story of a young married waiter who flirts with his co-worker is simultaneously sad, funny, sweet and above all uncomfortably familiar. \$13.8 pm. The Old American Can Factory [232 Third St. in Gowanus, (718) 417-7362], rooftopfilms.com/2013/schedule/ tiger-tail-in-blue.

SALES AND MARKETS

BAY RIDGE GREENMARKET:

Shop, share recipes and meet the neighbors. And a great selection of produce, seafood baked goods, seasonal fruit, veggies, and flowers. This year the market is adding dairy, eggs, pickles, and cured meats. Free. 8 am-3 pm. Walgreens parking lot (Third Ave. at 95th Street in Bay Ridge), www.grownyc. org/greenmarket-site/brook lyn/bay-ridge-greenmarket.

STOOP SALE: Free. 10 am-2 pm. Bay Ridge United Church . [636 Bay Ridge Parkway in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-4978].

SUN, JUNE 23

THEATER, MY BROTHER GEORGE: 5 pm. See Friday, June 21

FLEA MARKETS: A fun filled afternoon where families can bargain hunt, clothes, memorabilia, and much more. Free. 8 am - 3pm. Richmond hill [117-09 Hillside Ave. in Richmond Hill, (347) 709-7661], www.richmondhillfleamarket.

WALK-TO-LIVE WALKATHON: The Imani House Walk-to-Live Walkathon is a community event aimed at improving family health while bringing awareness to ending child hood obesity. Register online. \$10 (\$5 children). 9 am - 3 pm. Grecian Shelter, (718) 638-2059, ihiwalktolive.com

CELEBRATE JAMAICA: 11:30 am. See Saturday, June 22. HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS: 1-2 pm. See Saturday, June 22.

SILHOUETTES OF SOUNDS:

OVer 150 young artists perform a dance extravaganza at this year's event presented by the New York Children's Dance Theater, \$30-\$45. 2 pm. Millennium Theater [1708 Sheepshead Bay Rd. in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 646-33341, www.ruconcert.com.

MIL'S TRILLS: Amelia Robinson performs her brand of kid rock and roll, as part of the concert series. Free, 2 to 5 pm. Carroll Park (President St. and Smith Street in Carroll Gardens), www.carrollparkbrooklyn.org.

HAPPY B-DAY R2D2: Visit with the oldest Eastern Box Turtle in New York as he celebrates his 60th celebration and help feed him fresh veggies. Free with museum admission. 4:15 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

MON, JUNE 24

THEATRE, "LA HIJA DE RAP-PACCINI": Daniel Catan's 1988 opera presented by Gotham Chamber Opera. \$35. 7 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220], www.bbg.org

READING, "WE NEED NEW NAMES": Author NoViolet Bulawayo, launches and discusses a new book. RSVP. Free. 7–9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO. (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

TUES, JUNE 25

SIDEWALK SALE: New and used items. Flea Market. Free. 10 am-4 pm. Guardian Angel Church [Ocean Parkway and Oceanview Avenue in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 907-3478].

ART, 'BASED ON A TRUE STORY...': 11 am-6 pm. See Friday, June 21.

ART, 'THINGS THAT FELL OUT OF MY POCKET': 1-6 pm. See Friday, June 21.

EMERGENCY CARE PRO-GRAMS: 6-10 pm. See Monday, June 24.

WED, JUNE 26

DANCE, DANCE CLASS: The Federation of Italian American Organizations of Brooklyn (FIAO) is again sponsoring its popular free ballroom dance instruction for teens and seniors alike in its ballroom dance classes on Wednesday nights. Special bonus: the instructor will be Carmine "Big Screecher" Santa Maria. Free. 6 pm. I.S. 96 [99 Avenue P, between W. 11th and W. 12th streets in Gravesend, (718) 232-2266].

THURS, JUNE 27

ART, 'BASED ON A TRUE STORY...': 11 am-6 pm. See Friday, June 21.

TALK, FREE BEACH PARTIES ALL SUMMER LONG: Noon. See Saturday, June 22.

RIDE THE CAROUSEL: 12-5 pm. See Friday, June 21.

ART, 'THINGS THAT FELL OUT OF MY POCKET': 1-6 pm.

See Friday, June 21. **BLOOMING NATURALIST: 2-3** pm. See Friday, June 21.

FRI, JUNE 28

SUPERHERO DAY: Calling all superheroes to come on down and celebrate an action-packed day of activities including celebrating the Man of Steel's birthday. Free with museum admission, 10 am and 11:30 am d. Brooklvn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklvnkids.ora

TOT SHABBAT: Join Bay Ridge Jewish Center's young families with children aged 4 and younger to bring in the Sabbath with songs, stories, dancing, and rhythmic instruments. \$5 (Free for members). 5 pm. Bay Ridge Jewish Center [405 81st St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-3103], www.bayridgejewishcenter.

THEATER, LADY CASEAR: A theater company has made one slight change from the norm in its production of Julius Caesar, operating under the theory that a Julius by any other gender would smell as sweet — and probably even sweeter, Free, 7 pm, Carroll Park (Carroll Street between Court and Smith streets) smithstreetstage.org.

TIM BERNE: More Snakoil. \$15. 8 pm. Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. in Boerum Hill, (917) 267-0368], roulette.org/

SAT, JUNE 29

THEATER, LADY CASEAR: 7 pm. See Friday, June 28.

ART, 'BASED ON A TRUE STORY...': 11 am-6 pm. See Friday, June 21.

RIDE THE CAROUSEL: 12-5 pm. See Friday, June 21.

WATER, WATER EVERY-WHERE!: Noon-4:30 pm. See Saturday, June 22.

PINOCCHIO: 12:30 and 2:30 pm. See Saturday, June 22

ART, 'THINGS THAT FELL OUT OF MY POCKET': 1-6 pm. See Friday, June 21.

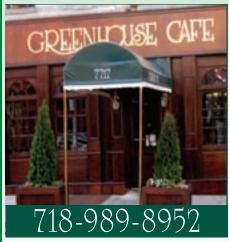
HISTORY IN YOUR HANDS: 1-2 pm. See Saturday, June 22

LADYBUG RELEASE: Celebrate the end of the school year and help release hundreds of ladybugs into the garden. Free with museum admission. 1:30 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], www.brooklynkids.org.

FUND-RAISER, MUSIC FESTI-VAL: Presented by the Society for the Advancement of the Caribbean Diaspora this is its annual charity event that supports scholarships and activities. \$45. 7-10:30 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (917) 771-7935], wwwsacdchm2013.eventbrite. com/#

SALES AND MARKETS

BAY RIDGE GREENMARKET: 8 am-3 pm. See Saturday, June 22.



Every Wed. 8pm Thurs.-Sun. Nights JUNE 21-27, 2013, COURIER LIFE

24

SEVEN

Friday, June 21 - High Tides - 10pm Saturday, June 22 - The Rockinghams - 10pm Sun., June 23 - Gearth, Wind & Fireman - 4pm Friday, June 28 - Head & South - 10pm Saturday, June 29 - The Ridge - 10pm Sunday, June 30 - Tommy & Mary Ellen - 6pm

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ENTREE

ROAST LOIN OF PORK With Baconkraut And Bass Ale Gravy - Fresh Vegetable, Potato Or Rice SAUTEED SHRIMP SCAMPI Sautéed With White Wine, Lemon, Garlic, Butter Fresh Vegetable & Potato Or Rice

CHICKEN PARMAGIANA Served With Linguini Or Penne Marinara CHICKEN FRANCAISE Served With Fresh Vegetable & Potato Or Rice BROILED TILAPIA OREGANATA STYLE Lemon, Garlic, Butter, Seasoned Bread Crumbs Fresh Vegetable & Potato Or Rice

VEAL MILANESE Breaded Cutlets Topped With Chopped Greens Salad PENNE ALA VODKA With Grilled Chicken Or Shrimp

AVOCADO SALAD TOPPED WITH GRILLED SALMON Mixed Greens & Crisp Spinach With Avocado, Tomato, Red Onion, Sliced Pepper, Cucumber, Grilled Salmon, Raspberry Vinaigrette CAFÉ MARGARITA Grilled Chicken Fresh Mozzarella, Roasted Peppers With Oregano, Olive Oil, Balsamic Vineaar On Toasted French Bread Served With Fresh Cut French Fries STEAK SANDWICH Marinated Sliced Steak, Caramelized Onions, Choice Of Cheese On A Toasted Garlic Loaf

Served With Fresh Cut French Fries

DESSERT BROWNIE, FRESH FRUIT, CHOCOLATE MOUSSE, CHEESECAKE, LEMON SHERBET, VANILLA ICE CREAM, APPLE STRUDEL, RAINBOW SHERBET, CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM • COFFEE OR TEA

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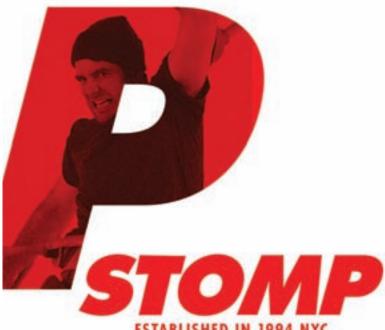
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STANDING

Brooklyn's Biggest Booster
by Joanna DelBuono

Sono buono St. Saviour graduate!

PARK SLOPE

Brava, brava to **Taylor Taglianetti** for receiving the Columbus Citizens Foundation scholarship to study all things Italian.

The award offers the St. Saviour fresh-



man an opportunity to participate in a language camp, Lago del Bosco, Concordia Language Villages in Minnesota this and summer, immerse herself in la dolce vita. All "villagers" must parle Ital-

iano during the two-week course, according to the website.

"Being a villager isn't about sitting in a classroom learning grammar and memorizing facts," it states. "You will be surrounded by Italian sounds, sights and flavors."

Now the flavor part is what Standing O is interested in. Our pal Taylor may not speak Italian, so it will be quite the *contestare*, but we know she will ace it. Hey, she's from Brooklyn. *Capisce?*

Standing O wishes Taylor, "Buono fortuna e viaggio."

St. Saviour High School [588 Sixth St. between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park West in Park Slope, (718) 768–4406].

BOROUGH WIDE

Rags to riches

Graduating seniors from around the city were honored with the Horatio Alger New York Scholarship award for their commitment to education, dedication to community service, and strength of character. The award is \$5,000 and may be used toward tuition, fees, books, and on-campus room and board. The hard-working do-gooders also have access to financial aid and scholarship counseling, college readiness tools and assessments, 24-seven support and referral services, free housing opportunities provided by Campus Crest at 44 campuses around the nation, graduate school funding, and access to a network of peers and alumni.

Standing O sends shout-outs to the following Brooklyn honorees: April Aguilar of Edward R. Murrow High School, Ebony Cadet of Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School, and Rui Chang Mei and Catherine Zhang of Midwood High School at Brooklyn College.

BENSONHURST

Graduation gratis

Congrats to Marykate Huwer. The award at a senior awards night last month.



SNIP, SNIP: Assemblymember Joe Lentol, Borough President Markowitz, Denise Arbesu, Carlo Scissura, and Assemblymember Joan Millman cut the ribbon for new offices at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce on June 7.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Snip, snip and welcome to the hood

DOWNTOWN

Welcome to the neighborhood. **The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce** snipped the ribbon on its new offices on June 7

More than 100 guests were treated to a breakfast sponsored by National Grid. Well-wishers included Borough President Markowitz, (hey, there was breakfast involved), Assemblymen Joe Lentol (D–Greenpoint), Alec Brook-Krasney (D–Brighton Beach), Rafael Espinal (D–Queens), and Joan Millman (D–Cobble Hill), state Sen. Simcha Felder (D–Midwood), and Councilmen Vincent Gentile (D–Bay Ridge) and Stephen Levin (D–Boerum Hill).

Also present were Chamber presi-

dent and C.E.O. Carlo Scissura; chairwoman Denise Arbesu; Kathryn Wylde, president and C.E.O. of Partnership for New York City; and Gregg Bishop, deputy commissioner of N.Y.C. Small Business Services.

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce boasts more than 1,300 members, and is growing each and every day, said Standing O pal Carlo. It figures the staff needed bigger digs to help serve more Brooklynites.

Carlo thanked chairwoman Denise Arbesu, as well as **Stan Markowitz**, **Josh Muss**, and others involved in the grand move.

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce [335 Adams St. in Downtown, (718) 875–10001.



graduating senior at **Bishop Kearney High School** was honored by the school's Lay Faculty Association with the L.F.A. award at a senior awards night last month

Leadership, service, and scholarship are the hallmarks of this recognition — and the words that best describe Marykate, the daughter of Mary Farrell of Marine Park. She's also the borough's daughter, tirelessly helping out in her school's fund-raising and service activities, and never passing up an opportunity to advance a good cause — from sending "snowflake" tributes to families of the Newton massacre to assisting victims of Hurricane Sandy.

Marykate, who has also served on the student council, has her faculty's admiration.

"She's a mover and a shaker, she's just amazing," bragged **Sister Virginia Lake**, director of Institutional Advancement.

Standing O wishes Marykate all good



CARROLL GARDENS

Puppet master

Three cheers to borough son and Carroll Gardens resident **Cory Einbinder** for taking top honors at the United States Institute for Theater's 2013 Tech Expo in Milwaukee, Wis.

Our pal Cory teaches in the Department of Entertainment Technology at City Tech, and was recognized for creating an interactive puppet, featuring a video projector embedded in its head. The puppet, which looks like a big bobblehead, figured prominently in the school's production of "The Service Road."

The rear projection screen displays the expressions of an actor, according to Cory.

"I really wanted the puppeteer to be unencumbered by wires and have the freedom to move about the stage,"

The marionette man added that his high-tech puppet wouldn't have been possible a year ago, but the advent of smaller, brighter, battery-powered projectors and cameras changed that.

"I was able to overcome the issue of the actor to move about the stage with the puppet, and have the display bright enough not to interfere with the stage lighting," Cory added.

Standing O wants to know, "Can you make a bobblehead puppet that looks like Standing O?"

City Tech [300 Jay St. at Myrtle Avenue in Downtown, (718) 260– 5500].

wishes in her future.

Bishop Kearney High School [2202 60th Street at Bay Parkway in Bensonhurst, (718) 236–6363].

Get well soon

Standing O sends out get-well wishes to Sharon Santa Maria, who is recovering from a stroke.

Sharon is the lovely wife of our very own Big Screecher, Carmine Santa Maria. Speedy recovery, Sharon.

Continued from cover

traffic experts, who unanimously approved the changes last month.

But some members reconsidered after concerned residents and the board's transportation committee chairman Tom Miskel met with city officials and Councilman Brad Lander (D-Park Slope), demanding the city drop plans to ban left turns at Third and Ninth streets — something agency representatives refused to consider.

Hence, even Miskel changed his mind on the changes.

"We better understood the plan," said Miskel, explaining his "No" vote.

If the plan comes to fruition, left turns would be banned for Bay Ridge-bound traffic at Dean Street, Third Street, Ninth Street, and 14th Street. Downtown-bound traffic would no longer be allowed to turn left onto Butler Street, Degraw Street, Eighth Street and 13th Street. At those intersections, the existing turning bays would become part of wider pedestrian islands - something some members of the board thought was too much.

"It's a pretty radical solution to take away almost half of the turn lanes on a mile-long stretch of Fourth Avenue," said CB6 member Matthew Silverman, who voted against the plan, at the public forum at John Jay High School.

The shocking vote was a complete turnaround from last month, when the committee signed off on the plan after a public hearing where Department of Transportation officials presented the plan. Most residents at that meeting applauded the plan, saying that Fourth Avenue needed to be made

From 2007 to 2011, 53 people were killed or severely injured along the 1.4-mile stretch, according to the city.

But opponents said they fear the left turn bans, especially at Third and Ninth streets, would funnel traffic onto narrower thoroughfares such as Fifth, First, and Seventh streets, which they say would simply move the pedestrian dangers nearer to schools and playgrounds, not to mention increasing traffic congestion across the neighborhood.

"You have to take a left on Third Street and Ninth Street," said James Bernard, a board member who lives in Park Slope, and made the motion to reject the entire plan.

"It's ridiculous on its face to not utilize Third and Ninth [streets] when originally they were meant for increased traffic," said Ber-



NO LEFT TURN BANS: Community Board 6 rejected a new major city plan last Wednesday because it calls for the elimination of eight left turns along Fourth Department of Transportation

nard, adding that those thoroughfares are wider than most. "All of those cars are going to go up those narrow streets.'

A group of Fifth Street residents who recently got wind of the proposal showed up to Wednesday's meeting with signs urging the community board to vote against the redesign.

"We think it's a bad idea," said Sonya Baehr, one of the residents who also attended the meeting at Lander's office.

The redesign is a response to resident complaints about speeding, narrow medians, double parking, and hazardous pedestrian conditions, which the city agency heard at a Feb. 12 public workshop in the neighborhood. Groups such as the Fourth Avenue Task Force and the Park Slope Civic Council's Fourth on Fourth Avenue Committee have long pushed for safety enhancements along the thoroughfare.

CB6 members in favor of the plan were stunned by the rejection.

"Fourth Avenue is a dangerous place where you have people getting maimed and killed," said transportation committee member Gary Reilly. "This is something that could have made it safer. I'm incredibly disappointed."

The community board vote is advisory, and the city can still move ahead with its plans.

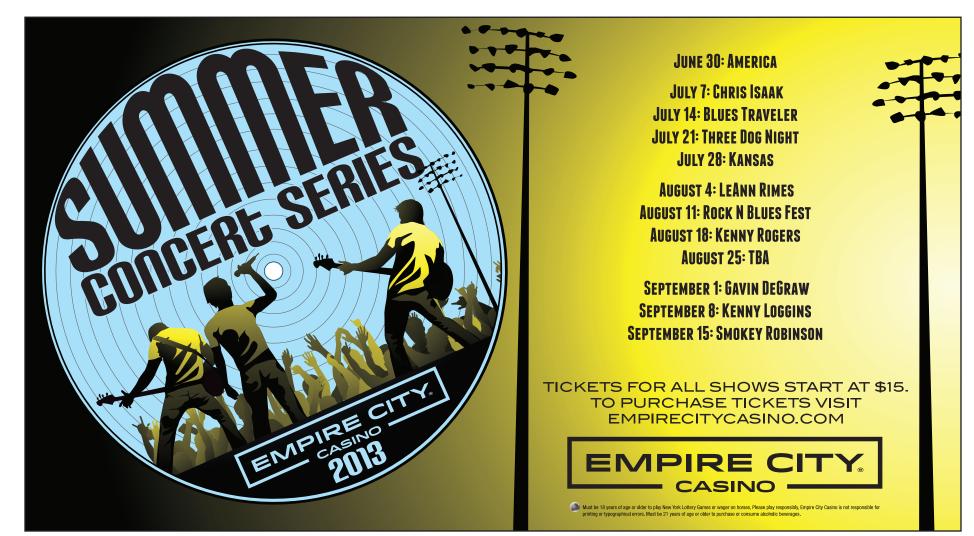
Under the plan, only the Downtown-bound lanes from Union Street to Atlantic Avenue would retain the existing three-lanes.

The city also wants to add planters to the pedestrian island between Pacific Street and Atlantic Avenue, and to extend the curb on the corner of Pacific Street near the subway entrance.

At another public forum on Wednesday night, Community Board 2, which covers nearby Boerum Hill and Fort Greene, overwhelmingly endorsed the city's plan with a unanimous vote of 27-0.

This isn't the only stretch of Fourth Avenue up for a pedestrian-friendly makeover.

In Bay Ridge, Community Board 10 faced a similar dilemma as CB6, with vocal constituents blasting certain parts of the city's plan after it was approved by the panel's transportation committee. But instead of rejecting the entire proposal outright, CB10 voted on it piecemeal, approving most changes while voting down plans for a center island and pedestrian fencing at the 86th Street intersection.





'Obviously, they see something in me. I'm going to go out there and bust my behind.'

- Xaverian's Elvin Soto on being drafted for pro ball

'It's going to be fun to watch him all year.'

- Clones' Rich Donnelly on LJ Mazzilli

Xaverian catcher drafted by D-Backs

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Elvin Soto never doubted he would be drafted to play professional baseball. It was just a matter of time.

The moment didn't come back in 2011 when Soto, now a sophomore at the University of Pittsburgh, was the star catcher for

He lead his team to the Catholic League Class AA intersectional title, but was not drafted. There was some disappointment, but Soto shrugged it off, confident it would happen eventually.

That time finally came.

The Arizona Diamondbacks selected Soto in the 16th round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Players Draft — the 480th pick overall — on June 8. Arizona was at the top of the list of teams, including the Milwaukee Brewers and Cleveland Indians, that were interested in him, according to Soto. He could finally enjoy the moment that eluded him two years ago.

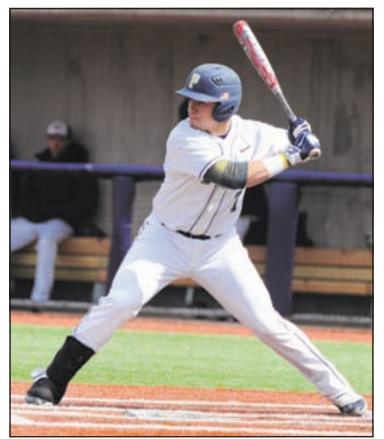
"It's a pretty good feeling, especially after 2011 when I was a senior in high school," he said. "It's

pretty exciting to see my name being called."

Soto didn't exactly see it as it happened. He avoided following the draft closely after not being selected the first time and was driving to the Greyhound Bus station to pick up his parents, who were helping him move out of school. Soto's father Erasmo broke the news to him when he arrived.

"He's like, 'You just got drafted by the Diamondbacks," Soto said. "I was like, 'Man, stop playing.' But he showed me, 'Here, look!' and then the text messages started coming in."

The Diamondbacks are getting a player coming off a big season that garnered him an All-Big East first team selection. The 6-foot, 200-pound Soto played in all 59 games and started 57. He hit .320 with six homers, 43 RBIs, and a team best six triples. Soto, who struck out 14 fewer times than in his freshman season, had a .514 slugging percentage and had a .416 on-base percentage for a Pittsburgh Panthers team that went 42-17 overall and 18-6 in conference.



"I didn't want second or third [team]," Soto said. "I wanted first

A lot of his All-Big East selection also had to do with his work behind the plate. Soto admitted to being intimidated by catching the older pitchers when he was a freshman. A year later he took charge and spoke up to offer more advice. The Pittsburgh staff posted a program low 3.59 ERA.

Soto is excited about the possibility of signing with the Diamondbacks, but he knows he would face high expectations. He feels an obligation to perform if he joins an organization that wanted him and took a chance on him.

"Obviously they see something in me," Soto said.

"I'm going to go out there and bust my behind."

SNAKE CHARMER: Former Xaverian catcher Elvin Soto was passed over in his first year of eligibility for the draft. But this year Soto, now at the University of Pittsburgh, was drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 16th round. Pittsburgh Athletics

FACE OFF: Paulie Malignaggi and Adrien Broner will duke it out at the Barclays Center on June 22. Photo by Esther Lin

Malignaggi set to defend title

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

He may be an up-and-coming ringside commentator for Showtime, but World Boxing Association welterweight champion Paulie Malignaggi really shines with his colorful pre-fight trash talk.

In the lead up to his June 22 welterweight championship bout with Adrien Broner, Malignaggi called his opponent "an ugly ninja turtle-looking dude."

The 32-year-old Brooklyn native also warned the up-start Broner, 23, about stepping into a

welterweight title fight right after moving up in weight class. "I don't think that was the most intelligent move by his

team's part," Malignaggi said.

"They are going to have egg on

their face after the fight and Adrian can have a bloody face after the fight."

For his part, Broner (26–0–0 22 KOs) called the aging Malignaggi a better commentator than a boxer at this point, and he predicted that his first welterweight fight would be his third title win in as many weight classes.

"At the end of the day," Broner said, "he is fighting Adrien Broner and I will be the ruler of boxing in a year or two."

Malignaggi is just excited to have a chance to fight in a main event against a big-time opponent in a major arena for his

hometown crowd. "As long as there are fights like this getting my adrenaline going and getting me excited to train then I'm going to keep fighting," Malignaggi said. "This is the type of fight that makes me appreciate being a fighter and boxing."

But Malignaggi admitted that the pre-fight back-and-forth with Broner — which got extremely personal, even insulting Malignaggi's ex-girlfriend — has gotten his blood up.

"At times I'm [upset]," Malignaggi said. "At times it's tongue and cheek. But it doesn't really matter. We have a job to do."

Saturday's card at the Barclays Center also features a comain event rematch between heavyweights Jonathan Banks and Seth Mitchell. Both bouts will be broadcast live on Showtime.

CYCLONES CONFIDENTIAL

Meet the Maz!

Mazzilli's son one to watch this season

BY SCOTT HANSEN

The smartest guy in the Cyclones dugout may not be in charge, but he's got a heck of a sweet swing.

Cyclones skipper Rich Donnelly, who will lead Brooklyn's Boys of Summer into the 2013 season tonight on Staten Island, hinted that his new second baseman L.J. Mazzilli — the son

of former Met Lee Mazzilli - may have enough baseball acumen to manage someday, but right now he'll take what he gets from him in the batter's box.

"He probably knows more baseball than all of us put together," said Donnelly, who was the elder Mazzilli's first base coach with the Pittsburgh Pirates

in 1986. "(Lee) keeps telling me that L.J. hits better than him. If he does, I'll take that right now, because Maz was a heck of a player."

That he was. The Brooklvn-born outfielder and first baseman played 14 years in the bigs, 10 with the Mets, and compiled 93 homers, 460 RBIs and 197 stolen bases.

Continued on page 39



SON OF A GUN: L.J. Mazzilli, the son of Mets legend Lee Mazzilli, will play for the Brooklyn Cyclones this season.

Photo by Steve Slade

Clones lose first game to Yanks

BY SCOTT HANSEN

STATEN ISLAND — Hopefully, this isn't a sign of things to come.

The Brooklyn Cyclones dropped the opener of the team's 13th season in the borough to the hated Staten Island Yankees despite the fact that pitcher Robert "Silent G" Gsellman gave up just two unearned runs in five innings of work.

But all the Clones could muster offensively was a seventh-inning homer from James "Papa" Roche, and the

Gsellman undoing came in the second, when two singles sandwiched between a hit batsmen loaded the bases with one out. The pitcher got Bubba Jones to pop up for the second out of the inning and appeared to get out of the jam when he induced a ground ball to Anthony Chavez at third. But Chavez threw the ball away, allowing the first run of the game to score.

The error seemed to rattle Gsellman, who pitched for the Savannah

"Silent G" Sand Gnats earlier in the season, as he walked the next batter, forcing in the run which would turn out to be the difference in the game.

Third-year manager Rich Donnelly, who literally has seen it all during his professional baseball career, chalked up the loss to first-game itters.

"It was a pretty good game by two teams with a lot of players that hadn't played pro ball before," Donnelly said. "This first week is like the first time

Continued on page 39

Now 13, Sandy to have bar mitzvah

BY SCOTT HANSEN

Man, they grow up so

The Brooklyn Cyclones' beloved mascot, Sandy the Seagull, turns 13 this year and, in keeping with his Jewish faith (he is named for Sandy Koufax, who famously refused to play on Yom Kippur, after all) he will begin his journey into adulthood with a ceremonial bar mitzvah and everyone's invited to the party!

The team will celebrate Jewish Heritage Night at MCU Park on Sunday, June 23, with the bar mitzvah of the century, which will take place before the 5 pm game against the Hudson Valley Renegades.

"It's been a great 13 years with Sandy," Cyclones general manager Steve Cohen said. "It's



SANDY MAN: Sandy the Seagull, the Cyclones' mascot, will have a Sandy Mitzvah on June 23 at MCU Park in celebration of Jewish Heritage Night.

File photo by Steve Solomonson

great to have this night to celebrate Sandy and the different fans that come to our games."

Activities will begin as the gates open at 3:30 pm, when fans can help Continued on page 39





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Tech's Gales wins Wingate

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

James Gales, Brooklyn Technical High School's senior running back and defensive end, is the epitome of the stu-

Not only was he one of the Public School Athletic League's most explosive players on the field, but he's also an exceptional student. This combination earned Gales the league's Wingate Award, given to the top senior in each

"He sets the example athletically and academically. He is one of the hardest working people in the room in both aspects," said Brooklyn Tech coach Kyle McKenna. "You can point to him and say 'that's what you should be emulating."

Gales took seriously his responsibilities to show others the way. He said members of the school's junior varsity team, and even people he didn't know, would tell him they looked up to him for what he has accomplished. And students will have even more to aspire to now that Gales is headed to Princeton University with a spot on its football

"I don't want to be that kid who is cutting class," Gales said. "I don't want to be that kid that's not keeping his



IVY LEAGUE MAN: Brooklyn Technical's James Gales won a PSAL Wingate Award for football on June 10. Photo by Yinghao Luo

grades up."

Gales's numbers say it all. He made the varsity team three years, and last season helped the Engineers to a 7-3 record. The 5-foot-11, 185-pound running back rushed for 1,345 yards and a leagueleading 18 touchdowns on 178 carries. He also caught a touchdown, made an interception and recovered a fumble.

'When you put the ball in his hands good things happen," McKenna said. "We designed whole packages on being able to get the ball to him."

Not that things always came easy to Gales. He said freshman year at the demanding school was his toughest academically, but his time-management skills improved quickly, and he finished senior year with a 92 grade point average and a 1700 out of 2400 on his

"It went from very hard to hard," Gales joked.

He was also motivated by the chance to attend school in the Ivy League. The opportunity came in the summer of his junior year after attending Princeton Camp. He wasn't going to let it slip

"If I study for these extra 20 minutes, if I get five more points on this test, I'm going to be in the Ivy League," Gales said. "It really pushed me."

Gales was a member of an exemplary senior class at Brooklyn Tech. It produced three Division-I players and helped bring the program to an elite level in the city.

Gales is sorry to leave, but glad to leave a lasting legacy behind.

"I want to set an example for young kids," Gales said. "So when it's their turn, they can get a Wingate Award."

ended up playing with the Knicks. Then, he retired after 19 seasons. But now, the two friends will finally

get a chance to work together since winning a gold medal with Team USA in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. But this time they're a different kind of teammates coach and player.

it wasn't to be.

"[When I played] I felt like I was an extension of the coach." said Kidd. "Now I look to Deron to be the guy to execute the game plan and I think that we can win."

During his introductory press conference at the Barclays Center June 13, Kidd referred often to Williams.

'It starts with your leader," Kidd said.

"That's your best player, and he's the one who is going to relay the message."

But, in the end, it's the relationship between the player and coach that determines how well a team jells. And the close relationship these two men have makes the choice to hire Kidd without any coaching experience much less of a risk. Because anytime you can get your franchise player 100 percent on board, good things usually happen.



Kidd, Williams

finally get to

by Joe Staszewski

"He'll make great coach," Williams said. "I'm eager to learn from him and take direction from him.'

Unlike the methodical approach that got the Nets as far as the first round of the playoffs last season, Kidd wants to play uptempo, and preach defense and ball movement.

There will be a learning curve for all involved, but I believe in time there will be consistent success. Nets' ownership and fans just need to be patient.

Together, Kidd and Williams will shape their immediate and long-term futures. Failure means both won't be in Brooklyn very long. Williams can opt out of his contract after three more seasons, the same time Kidd's guaranteed deal ends.

Success could mean owning a city that has long belonged to the Knicks. And if they do succeed, they could end up changing the perception of the Nets franchise once and for all.

Mazzilli

Continued from page 38

Both Mazzillis were on hand Saturday at MCU Park in Conev Island as the team had in first workout of its 13th season in Brooklyn.

The right-handed hitting Mini-Maz, who helped the University of Connecticut win the Big East Tournament with a home run in the championship game against Notre Dame and a .354 batting average, six homers, and 51 RBI in 63 games overall, says he's ready to make a name for himself as a professional ballplayer, and isn't afraid to follow in the footsteps of a dad who help lead the Mets to a World Series championship, and went on to manage the Baltimore Orioles.

"I'm so proud to be his son, and be able to not necessarily follow his footsteps, but add to my own legacy and wear my last name with a lot of pride," L.J. said.

L.J. will join some players who already have Cyclones experience, including Gavin Cecchini and Jorge Rivero, both of whom played for the Clones last season.

Mitzvah

Continued from page 38

lift Sandy into the chair as the Horah, a traditional Jewish dance, is performed.

The ceremonial first pitch will be thrown out by an MCU Park record 18 rabbis because the number 18 signifies life in the Jewish faith. The players will take the field wearing special uniforms that will spell out

"Cyclones" in Hebrew. The jerseys will later be auctioned off for charity.

The game against Hudson Valley will be the first of a three-game set against the Renegades, and the only one at MCU Park, which now has artificial turf.

Jewish Heritage Night at MCU Park (Surf Avenue and W. 16th Street in Coney Island, www.brooklyncyclones.com) on June 23 at 5 pm. Gates open at 3:30 pm.

Clones

Continued from page 38

you ever did anything in your life. Everything is going fast."

But it wasn't all bad news for the Cyclones.

As we predicted, L.J. "Mini-Maz" Mazzilli, the highly touted son of former Met Lee Mazzilli, had a stellar professional debut, going 2-for-4 and once again impressing his coach.

"(L.J.'s) been around, and knows what's going on." Donnelly said. "That's how much confidence I have in him. It's going to be fun to watch him all year. He can do some things with the

The Clones squad missed its first chance at revenge when its home opener at the artificially turfed MCU Park was rained out June 18, but the team was back on the Rock the next night. bats swinging.



OUTTA THERE: Outfielder Eris Peguero connects with the ball for a base hit in Monday's opening game against the hated Staten Island on the Rock. Monday's lost left the Clones 0-1 against the Evil Empire of the New York-Penn League this year. Photo by Steve Schnibbe





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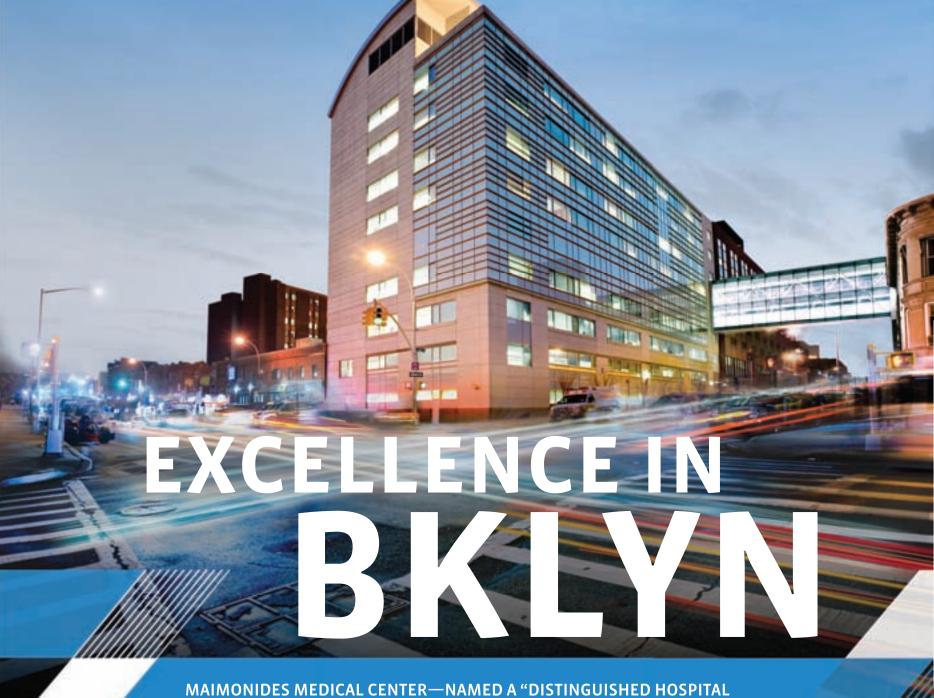
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