

Sandy stumps still sit

BY VANESSA OGLE

It's a case of debris-jà vu.

Residents of Bergen Beach and Marine Park say their neighborhoods are blighted with Hurricane Sandy wreckage all over again, as the city cuts down damaged trees and then leaves the debris by the road for months on end.

The Parks Department has 90 days to remove the branches and trunk section of a chopped tree — and it has no deadline for removing tree stumps, and the local councilman said residents are losing patience.

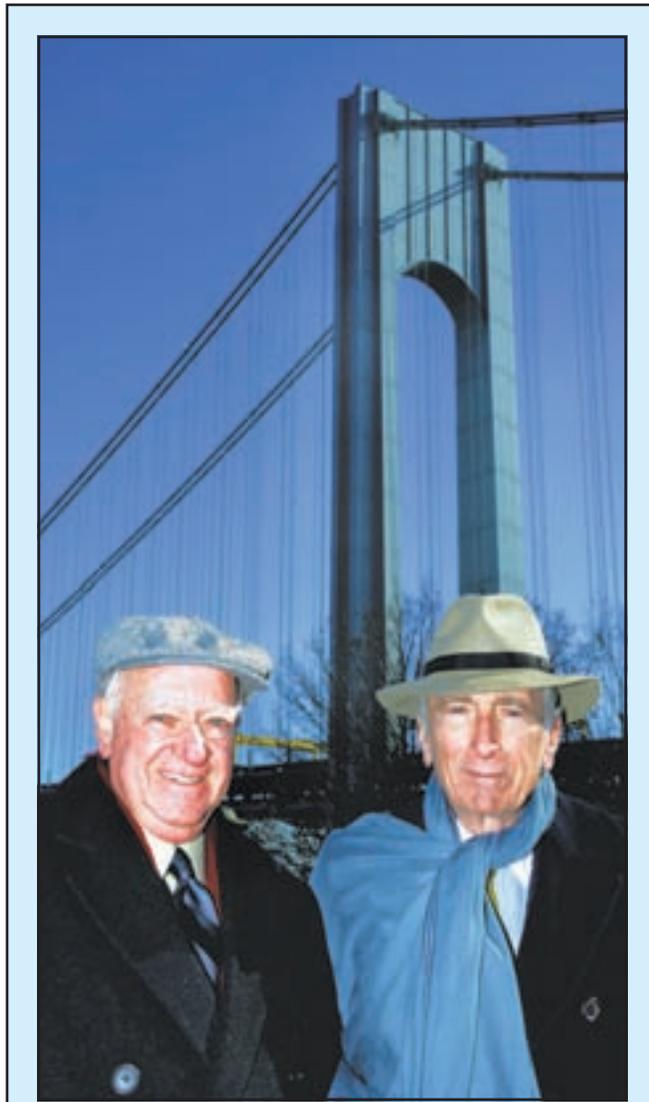
“People don’t like to hear those kinds of differences,” said Councilman Alan Maisel (D–Marine Park).

The department has removed more than 2,500 Sandy-damaged trees across Brooklyn so far, and it said it will continue to cut down trees until July 2015.

But the department said it has a backlog of stumps to remove so it is only removing stumps to plant saplings now.

One resident said the department’s policy needs to change, because chopped up branches awaiting removal shouldn’t be left to clutter the

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Words and deeds

George Scarpelli, at left, one of the first people to drive over the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge when it was completed, celebrates the span’s birthday with Gay Talese, author of a book about the building of the span. For more on the celebration, **see page 4**

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

M’PARK SPEED ZONE

Locals: Parkway detour turns streets to raceways

BY VANESSA OGLE

Construction on the Belt Parkway is turning Marine Park into a speedway, say angry residents.

The roadwork is causing cars to use nearby residential streets as an alternative route — and locals say that because Marine Park has virtually no visible police presence, hot-rodders are speeding through their neighborhood. One resident thinks that only stepped-up police patrols will slow down dangerous drivers who disregard the posted speed limit.

“All the signs in the world are meaningless if people

ignore them,” said Robert Lobenstein, who lives in Marine Park. “Maybe people would get the message — slow down.”

The Department of Transportation is repairing the lighting system on the Belt Parkway, which has been dark since Hurricane Sandy. The department is also reconstructing the Gerritsen Inlet Bridge, which will not be completed until 2017.

Lobenstein said until the work is complete, the city needs to increase police patrols on nearby side streets, which have become increas-

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STUDENTS 'SING!'

Kids compete in Madison High School's musical extravaganza

BY VANESSA OGLE

These kids hit the high notes! Students from the James Madison High School in Marine Park belted out tunes at the 64th annual Sing! competition on Nov. 21.

This year's theme was "Be Careful What You Wish For," and the students shimmed and swayed on stage while performing pieces that matched the humorously ominous theme, said a student advisor.

"It is a student-produced show — they have a theme, they write a script, they make the costumes, they make the props," said Marla Rutter, who serves as the lead advisor for the program. "Everything comes from the students."

The students were divided by grade, with teams of freshmen and juniors versus groups of seniors and sophomores. The performers donned colorful costumes and Rutter said the performance gave kids of all skill levels a chance to compete and — most importantly — gain confidence.

"Some kids say, 'I can't sing and dance,' but you don't have to be the greatest singer, the greatest dancer — we incorporate kids of all levels," said Rutter. "It really is open to all kids, and they really form a great bond."

The students who won last Friday's event will compete in multi-school Sing! competition on March 7 at Edward R. Murrow High School, which was revitalized last year after decades without the musical battle royale.

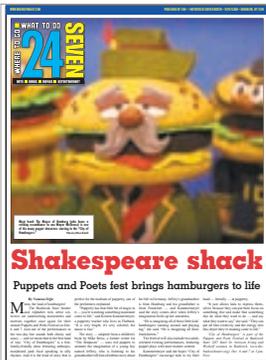
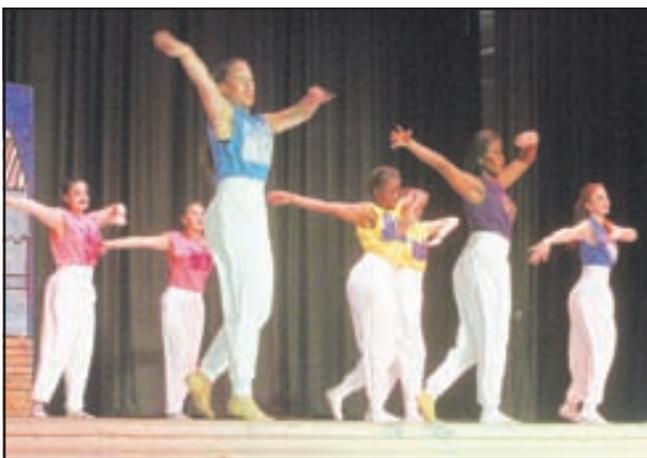
The big competition raises money for cancer awareness, and last year the show raised more than \$20,000 for Relay for Life. Rutter said she hopes spectators are gearing up for another altruistic show.

"It raises money for a great cause," she said.



A WHOLE NEW WORLD: (Above) Jaylene Torres and Khalil James perform as Jasmine and Aladdin at the 64th-annual Sing! at James Madison High School on Nov. 21. (Right) A performer hula hoops on stage. (Below) Freshmen and junior dancers give their all in their performance.

Photos by Steve Solomonson



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SNUG STREET: The Department of Transportation is considering turning the narrow Corbin Place into a one-way street.

Photo by Steve Solomonson

Locals say no way to one-way plan

BY VANESSA OGLE

Brighton Beach residents are rejecting suggestions that Corbin Place could be turned into a one-way street, saying it would make driving on the road complicated and unsafe.

Corbin Place connects two heavily used roadways and if the street was made one-way, one longtime local said residents would have to detour through several side streets to reach either Brighton Beach Avenue or Cass Place, which would waste time and fuel.

"It would mean I would hit three lights on the way," said Mark Shor, who has lived on Corbin Place for 29 years. "With all the stopping, it would use extra gas."

There are no plans as yet to make Corbin Place one-way, but Councilman Chaim Deutsch (D-Sheepshead Bay) said the suggestion was prompted by residents' complaints about cars speeding on the narrow street between the two thoroughfares.

Deutsch said he wants the Department of Transportation to perform a traffic study and he is asking for residents' feedback on the idea.

"That area got a lot of complaints — it is not a good intersection," said Deutsch. "I try to get input from the

people living there."

The Department of Transportation said it is considering a study for Corbin Place between Cass Place and Brighton Beach Avenue to address safety concerns. But Shor said a one-way street will only increase the speeding problems on the strip because it will be easier for cars to pass each other.

"With a one-way street, it would make it more reckless," said Shor.

He said residents are also wondering if the one-way is being floated as an accommodation for a controversial senior citizens' facility that is being built on Corbin Place. More than 50 of the street's residents are protesting the construction because they say it will increase traffic congestion.

Shor said he was initially intrigued when he heard Corbin Place might become a one-way, but after he thought about the long-term effects it could have, he said he agrees with his neighbors that the change would harm — not help — the community.

"The people I have spoken to about it don't think it is a good idea," he said. "I don't see that having it one-way will add anything to it — it'll just make it more difficult."



CONSTRUCTION CORNER: Residents say Corbin Place may become a one-way street to accommodate a senior citizen facility that is being built.

Photo by Steve Solomonson

Fear in Flatbush

Stickups at fancy eateries provoke split reactions

BY NOAH HUROWITZ

A string of armed robberies has Flatbush residents freaking out.

Five stick-ups have hit neighborhood businesses in the past month, including at least two at eateries in which the bandits targeted customers in scenes pulled straight out of "Pulp Fiction." Locals packed a Nov. 20 meeting on the rash of robberies, and offered sharply divergent views on how to address the problem. Local pols and police reps called for unity and vigilance on the area's bustling commercial streets.

"If we want safe streets, the NYPD can't do it on their own," Borough President Adams said. "We will not stand for crimes like this. Not while I'm Borough President."

The trouble began in late October when a lone gunman held up the Israeli dinner spot Mimi's Hummus on Cortelyou Road, the neighborhood's increasingly upscale restaurant row, bagging \$100 from the register, an employee said at the meeting.

Then, in early November,



NO MORE COPS: Gabriella Radeka joined others at the meeting in questioning the need for a more aggressive police presence in Flatbush.

Photo by Arthur DeGaeta

two desperados hit the Ox Cart Tavern on Newkirk Avenue at Argyle Road, stripping patrons of jewelry and cash and leaving with \$700, according to reports.

And on the evening of Nov. 13, a single raider stormed into Lark Cafe on Church Avenue between E. 10th Street and Stratford Road and forced members of a writers group to fork over three MacBooks and an iPad Mini, then took off running down Coney Island Avenue towards Prospect Park, per police and reports.

Robbers also struck a T-Mobile cellphone shop and a



SETTLE DOWN: Borough President Adams does his best to allay the concerns of a nervous neighborhood at a community meeting called to discuss a series of brazen robberies in Flatbush.

Photo by Arthur DeGaeta

deli in that time period, but the three heists targeting upscale businesses that opened in the last five years are connected, police said. And the brazen quality of the heists is eerily reminiscent of crime-ridden decades past, one victim said.

"I'd like to know what has emboldened criminals to go back to the crime that we haven't seen since the '90s," said Anya Shiferson, who was working the register the night Mimi's Hummus was robbed.

Police have deployed foot patrols to the affected commercial strips, and sent in undercover cops as well, an officer from the neighborhood's 70th Precinct said.

"We flooded the streets. We're doing everything we can to assist the community,"

said Lt. Jacqueline Bourne. "Unmarked officers are out there. You may not see them, but they're out there."

The pledge did not set Shiferson or her colleagues at ease.

"All of our employees feel extremely unsafe," she said.

The back-to-back stickups have sparked fears that the crooks are honing in on pockets of affluence in the predominantly Caribbean and African-American neighborhood where the median income is \$40,146, below Brooklyn's median of \$45,215. Racial and class tensions have flared up

there during the past year, with a dedicated vandal repeatedly scrawling anti-white-gentrification messages at the Church Avenue subway station. And, according to a New York Daily News report, two women robbed three tenants of an Ocean Avenue apartment, then forced them out at gunpoint and squatted their place. The crooks said they didn't like "that white people were moving into the area," per the News.

Members of a housing-activist group at the community meeting said the crimes should not be used as an excuse to ramp up what they called "racist policing."

"Increased police presence puts pressure on black and brown people, increases harassment, and makes people uncomfortable in their own communities," said Uliya Yshtaal, of Equality for Flatbush. "We want to work together to find ways to keep the community safe without more police."

Several commentators who criticized impulse to throw more police at the problem were met with applause, but others demanded more cops on the streets, now.

Despite the high-profile string of holdups, the rate of robberies in Flatbush's 70th Precinct is actually down substantially, from 324 this time last year to 274 so far this year, according to NYPD data.

Adams, a veteran cop before he went into politics, said there is often an uptick in robberies and thefts around the holidays.

"Some people believe it's faster to take from people than to earn it like the rest of us,"

Bridge birthday bash botched, boycotted

BY MAX JAEGER

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority's 50th anniversary celebration for the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge turned out to be mostly a celebration of itself — and rather a lonely one at that.

Authority honchos, engineering enthusiasts, and even some of the men who built the iconic span attended the celebration at Fort Wadsworth on bucolic Staten Island on Nov. 21, but only transit bigwigs delivered remarks, largely crowing about how their agency has maintained the bridge since its completion in 1964.

Politicians from both sides of the span were conspicuously absent from the party, however, in the wake of the days-earlier announcement that the Authority may raise tolls on the \$15 crossing.

"There is nothing to celebrate until our city's commuters can finally receive the Verrazano toll relief that they deserve," said Borough President Adams.

Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis (R-Bay Ridge), Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Bay Ridge), and state Sen.



SALUTE: Cannons at Staten Island's Fort Wadsworth fired a 50-gun salute to the bridge.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

Martin Golden (R-Bay Ridge), along with Staten Island elected officials, also issued statements that they would boycott the festivities in protest.

"Fifty years after Robert Moses's last great project in New York was completed, our community, which has been in the shadow of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, is hurting every day with the tolls," said Golden.

On Nov. 17 the transit agency unveiled plans to raise the E-ZPass fare for cars by 42 cents, possibly hike the commuter cash fare by \$1, and charge large trucks significantly more to help fill a multi-billion-dollar budget shortfall. The Authority's board will

vote on the toll-hike proposal in January.

Gentile also panned the Authority for focusing celebration on Staten Island and overlooking Brooklyn in its official events.

"The MTA completely ignored Bay Ridge in this historic half-century celebration of a bridge that we share with Staten Island," Gentile said.

Indeed, there was no mention during last Friday's fete of the great scar carved through the neighborhood in the early 1960s when the city razed 800 homes and businesses to build access ramps for the bridge.

Transit leaders called the pols' cold shoulder a snub to the workers who constructed the span.

"This event is about celebrating the structure and honoring the engineers and workers who built it," said Bridges and Tunnels chief of operations James Fortunato.

But the agency seemed to contradict that message at the event with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque — not to the three men who lost their lives building the span, or the



STAMP OF APPROVAL: Officials unveiled a new U.S. postal stamp to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

hundreds of ironworkers who erected the marvel, but to the workers who have maintained the structure and collected tolls from drivers since it opened on Nov. 21, 1964.

Regarding the proposed toll hike, the Authority's chief executive officer said the agency has to make ends meet.

"It takes a lot of work to keep a bridge that handles more than 180,000 vehicles daily safe and in good shape," said Thomas Prendergast. "That's why we spent more

than \$540 million in capital improvements at the Verrazano-Narrows alone in the last [five-year] capital program, and another \$431 million is proposed in the 2015-2019 capital program."

The span's average daily revenue is \$936,000, according to a transit spokesman.

Rounding out the ceremony was a performance by a Staten Island public school choir, a fire boat display, and a 50-gun salute from two Fort Wadsworth cannons.

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Santa rolls into Flatlands

BY VANESSA OGLE

Santa Claus came to town early this year.

The jolly old elf and his wife Mrs. Claus teamed up with the Bikers of Brooklyn motorcycle club for the 26th annual Toy Run on Nov. 22 in Canarsie. Santa swapped his sleigh for a motorcycle and followed the club to the Flatlands Family Residence, where he and his helpers distributed presents to kids of all ages.

The toys and books for babies, kids, and teenagers were donated by local businesses and the members of the motorcycle club.

It was touching to see the

kids play with their new gifts, said a longtime club member, who insisted that contrary to popular culture, bikers aren't Grinches.

"All our guys reach in their pocket and bring a toy," said Bobby Colon, who has been a member of the biker club for 26 years. "The bad guys are the one percent. They are Hells Angels and the Pagans and the guys depicted in the movies — and I'll be honest with you, even those guys have big hearts."

The club started their trip in Sheepshead Bay and the NYPD Highway Patrol escorted them as they cruised to the Flatlands Family Resi-

dence. Colon said the patrol blocked off the intersections for the bikers during their voyage to ensure their safety — a precaution he said the club appreciates.

"We've never had an accident — everybody arrives alive," he said.

Colon said seeing the kids smile when they receive their gifts was the best present of all — and he said the crew is already collecting toys for Santa's next Christmas delivery.

"It is rewarding. The old saying goes, 'It is better to give than receive,'" he said. "We started collecting already for the next year."

CHRISTMAS COOL: (Left) Mrs. Claus cozies up to Santa at the Bikers of Brooklyn Toy Run at the El Greco Diner in Sheepshead Bay on Nov. 22. (Center) Vincente LoBello — the president of Bikers of Brooklyn — joins Kris Kringle and Mrs. Claus at the toy run. (Above) St. Nick holds up a few of the toys he will give to kids this Christmas. Photos by Steve Solomonson

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60TH PRECINCT

CONEY ISLAND-BRIGHTON BEACH-
SEAGATE

Bad houseguest

Police arrested an alleged gun-toting squatter who they say kicked a guy out of his own Avenue V apartment for three weeks on Oct. 29.

The suspect allegedly burst into an apartment between W. 12th and W. 13th streets in Gravesend at 3 pm and punched the resident in the face before taking his keys. Police believe the suspect then whipped out a silver revolver and told the resident "If you call the police, I will shoot you."

The alleged gunman kicked the resident out of his own apartment, and the victim didn't come back for three weeks for fear of reprisal, law enforcement sources said. The man eventually came to police, who arrested the suspect.

So pushy

A man was arrested for beating up an undercover cop on Surf Avenue on Oct. 21 after agreeing to sell the officer crack cocaine.

Police say the undercover and the suspect met at an undisclosed location, and the dealer left to get the goods but never returned to the meeting place.

Later that day, at 7:50 pm, the pusher saw his potential client between Stillwell Avenue and W. 15th Street, but the deal went sour when the pusher allegedly started punching the undercover in the face, a police report states.

Two uniformed officers came to the undercover's aid, police said. All three officers left the fracas with cuts and bruises, and paramedics took them to Coney Island and Lutheran hospitals in stable condition, a police report said.

Road rage

A drive-by gunman took six shots at a man while he stood outside of his 28th Avenue apartment on Nov. 21.

The 33-year-old target was in front of his home between Cropsey and Harway avenues at 10 pm when a truck drove by and the driver squeezed off six shots, police said. The victim was not hit in the incident, a police report states.

Stealing hearts, cash

A bouquet-bearing stranger stole \$8,000 from a W. 31st Street apartment on Nov. 15.

The thief entered the woman's apartment with flowers at 3 pm, but he went into the bedroom and took an envelope containing the cash and then fled, a police report states. The victim could not recall the man's name, police said.



POLICE BLOTTER

Shopping for other's purses

BY MAX JAEGER

Police are looking for the woman who they believe took a shopper's unattended purse from an 86th Street clothing store on Nov. 8.

The 15-year-old victim was shopping at the store between Fifth and Gelston Avenues in Bay Ridge at 5 pm and left her handbag on a bench while she tried on some shoes, police said.

Someone took the purse, which contained \$40, credit cards, and personal items, and fled the store.

Police released a surveillance image of the suspect, seeking the public's help in finding her.



CLUTCH PINCHER: Police believe this woman stole a shopper's unattended purse from a Bay Ridge clothing store on Nov. 8. NYPD

Cops: Help us find tool thief

BY VANESSA OGLE

Police are still looking for a man they believe stole tools and electronics from two Canarsie businesses in July.

Authorities say the man broke into the businesses located on Avenue D near E. 105th Street at 3 am. Cops say the man is bald and was wearing a blue T-shirt, jeans, and tan boots.

Authorities released a surveillance image of the suspect, seeking the public's help in finding him.



Woman found dead in B'hurst

BY MAX JAEGER

Police found a New Jersey woman dead in a car parked at 18th Avenue and 70th Street in Bensonhurst on Nov. 20.

Someone called 911 at 9:20 am after seeing the woman slumped over in the front seat of a 2003 Hyundai Sonata at the intersection, a police report states.

Paramedics responded and pronounced the woman dead at the scene, police said.

Law enforcement officials said the deceased was 28-year-old Maria Raudino of Toms River, N.J. Medical examiners have not yet determined the cause of death, and a police investigation is ongoing, officials said.

Terrorizing kids

A group of brutes is preying on Coney Island students as they walk to school. Two students filed police reports on Nov. 17 saying that a group of five men surrounded them and tried to rob them, according to police reports.

The first incident went down as a kid was walking to school at Brighton Fourth Road.

He was near Brighton Sixth Street at 8:45 am when five goons surrounded him and asked him what was in his pockets, a police report states. The victim told the group he didn't have anything and bolted, police said.

Fifteen minutes later, at the same location, the fearsome five-some surrounded another student.

One said to the victim, "Don't bother running — just give me what you have in your pockets," police said. The goons patted the kid down and took his wallet before walking off, a police report states.

— Max Jaeger

63RD PRECINCT

MARINE PARK-MILL BASIN-FLATLANDS-
BERGEN BEACH

Car crook

A bandit broke into a sports utility vehicle and stole thousands of dollars worth of electronics and a slew of goods on Flatbush Avenue on Nov. 17, an officer stated.

The cold-hearted crook snatched the property from the vehicle sitting near Henrickson Place at 4:05 pm. The burglar stole two laptops, a digital camera, two wallets, a debit card, a watch, and two pairs of reading glasses. Police say the perp didn't damage the vehicle.

Technology tyrant

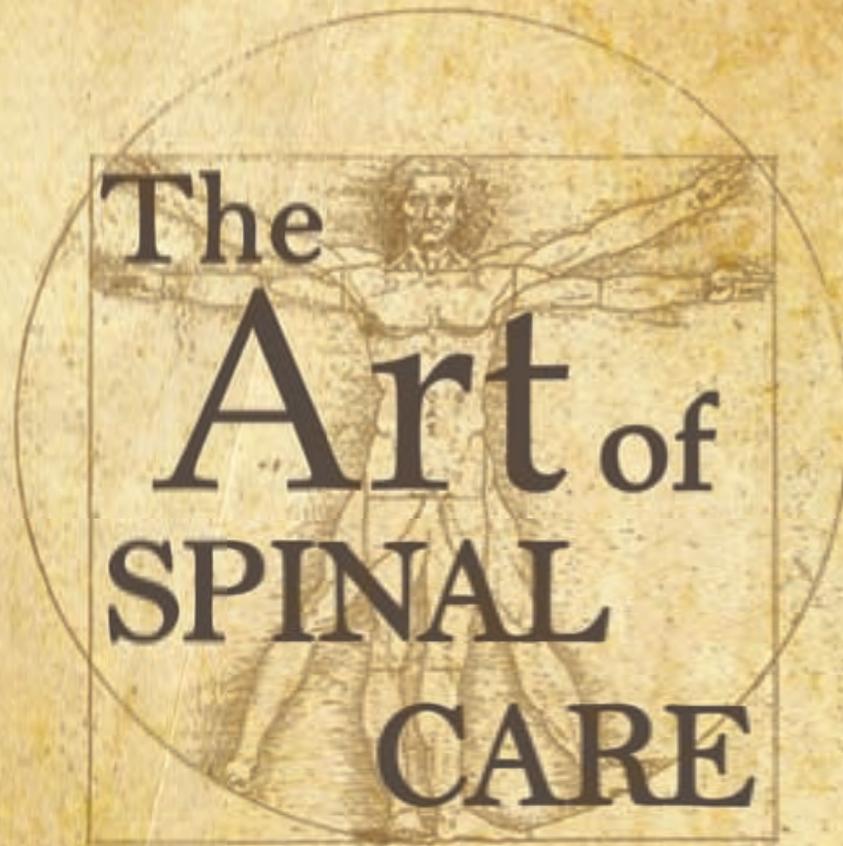
A scoundrel swiped a laptop from a car parked on Avenue K on Nov. 18, according to reports.

The thief smashed the passenger-side window of the auto parked between E. 52nd and E. 53rd streets and stole the laptop and a laptop carrying bag sometime between 5 am and 3:30 pm, police say.

— Vanessa Ogle

Police need your help

Anyone with information regarding these incidents is asked to call Crime Stoppers at (800) 577-8477. The public can also submit tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers website at www.nypdcrimestoppers.com or by texting tips to 274637 (CRIMES) then entering TIP577.



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COMING TOGETHER: The yearly gathering of thousands of rabbis from around the world is an effort to raise awareness about the practice of Judaism. Photo by Jason Speakman

It's raining mensch!

BY MATTHEW PERLMAN

Say challah!

Thousands of rabbis from around the world came together for the International Conference of Chabad Lubavitch Emissaries on Sunday. The men in black posed for a series of giant group photos in front of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish group's headquarters on Eastern Parkway, then headed to the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal for a banquet and what a spokesman described as "spirited" dancing.

The Hasidic organization is dedicated to converting fellow Jews and

has brought its rabbis together annually for the last 31 years to brainstorm evangelical tactics. This year 4,200 rabbis from 80 countries showed up, according to the group.

This year's conference also marked the 20th anniversary of the Lubavitcher Rabbi Menachem Schneerson's passing. Known as "the Rebbe," Schneerson is credited with starting the Lubavitcher movement, and came to the United States in 1941 fleeing the Holocaust. The visiting rabbis trekked to his gravesite in Queens ahead of the day's festivities.

Affordable tower in P'Heights

Atlantic Yards site to get two new high-rises

BY MATTHEW PERLMAN

It's the Great Wall of Prospect Heights.

Chinese-government-owned developer Greenland and Forest City Ratner are getting ready to break ground on two new Atlantic Yards high-rises next month, and to contain the noise the construction will generate, they are building a state-mandated 16-foot-tall wall around a whole block of the site. The wall bounding the area between Carlton and Vanderbilt avenues and Pacific and Dean streets will eat up 85-100 parking spaces and narrow each of the streets, according to a construction update at a community meeting last Wednesday night. A Forest City spokeswoman said the big barrier is unpleasant, but it's the only way.

"It is not lightly that we came to this solution," said Ashley Cotton. "This is rough, we realize that."

Joe Chan, a vice president with the Empire State Development and former head of the pro-business Downtown Brooklyn Partnership, echoed Cotton's mea culpa.

"Clearly you've got here a logistically complicated project, and not a whole lot of space to work in," he said.

The temporary wall, which is sup-



NEW DIGS: This rendering shows a planned new residential construction at the corner of Vanderbilt and Dean streets that will be a fully below-market-rate apartment building.

CookFox Architects

posed to stand for two years, will be made of steel, plywood, and cement Jersey barriers, and will be six feet wide at its base. Because the cranes needed to erect the two towers have to be placed outside of the buildings' foot-

Continued on page 26

Coney homes riddled with stray bullets

BY MAX JAEGER

Residents of Coney Island's west end are under fire in their own homes, and locals want the city to do more to protect residents from the stray bullets that riddle their neighborhood.

A recent spate of shootings has left houses along Mermaid Avenue pocked with bullet holes, and locals are worried the violence could turn deadly at any minute.

One resident living with her 92-year-old mother said they have abandoned the first floor of their home because slugs keep slamming through the walls and door.

"I don't want to stay on the first floor because this is going on," said Amy Cheung, whose Mermaid Avenue home is riddled with bullet holes after stray shots struck it during three separate shootings in July, October, and November. "I get home from work and go straight upstairs — it's safer there."

The latest incident was Nov. 10, when a group of goons fired a volley of at least 24 shots from at least three different



WINDOW PAIN: Ngo Yuk Kit's windows have three bullet holes from separate shooting incidents on her block. Photo by Steven Schnibbe

guns, missing their intended target and instead striking Cheung's home, according to a police report.

The 60th Precinct has seen 20 shootings so far this year — one less than the same period

last year, according to precinct commanding officer Deputy Inspector James Rooney — but the local councilman said those figures are misleading, because the police department only counts gunshots as

a "shooting" when someone is struck.

"I take serious issue with the fact that [police] can look at a bullet hole in a wall and say it doesn't count as a 'shooting,'" said Councilman Mark Treyger (D-Coney Island).

The city is pumping money into the Amusement District's redevelopment, and Mayor DeBlasio is crowing about growth citywide, but Treyger said the city needs to keep up by deploying more police — especially to Coney Island.

"If the city is growing — and the mayor boasts of it — we need to increase the budget for the NYPD," he said.

But budget-boosts alone will not resolve the issue, Rooney and Treyger agreed. Part of the problem is that people aren't reporting all the gun violence in Coney Island, the precinct commander and the councilman said in separate interviews.

"Nobody has reached out to us to say 'I know what happened,'" Rooney said. "You can remain anonymous."

One resident said locals have become so desensitized

to the violence that erupts around them on a regular basis that they often don't even call police after shots ring out.

"We have become numb to the sound of bullets," said Pamela Pettyjohn, a neighborhood activist who shares a wall with Cheung and has seen stray bullets pass through her home on two separate occasions. "If nobody's laying in the street dying, we just go back to bed."

Poor lighting along Coney Island streets also makes it tough for locals to identify shooters when they do report violence, Pettyjohn said.

Like the late Courier columnist Lou Powsner, Pettyjohn wants the city to fix lights in public housing along public streets to make the area safer, she said. She is also calling for training to help locals better describe assailants to police.

But Rooney said the last request was putting the cart before the horse.

"We just want people to call it in," he said, "without worrying about how to describe someone."

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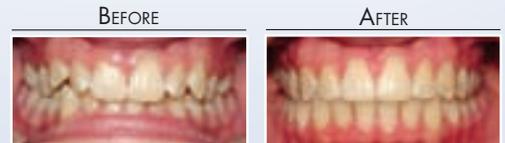
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university’s position as a leader in health sciences education,” said Dr. Kimberly R. Cline, president of LIU. “Students come to be taught by renowned experts in their fields, for the school’s partnerships in the health care industry, and for its record of excellent career placement.”

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TROUBLING TREES: The large logs leftover from a tree chopping are upsetting nearby neighbors. Photo by Steve Solomonson

STUMPS

Continued from cover

neighborhood for three months.

“It takes up two or three parking spots in the street,” said Linda Schain, who lives in Bergen Beach. “It is crazy when you think about it.”

Schain also says that even when the city does come to clear away the debris — only after multiple resident complaints — the hasty cleanups are incomplete.

“They never cleaned up the sawdust — which was piles and piles and piles,” she said, adding that the cleanup crew

came back to finish the job only after still more complaints. “Maybe the city doesn’t care about it — I don’t know.”

Maisel said residents are especially angry about the department’s clean-up policy now because there have been so many trees removed in the area due to Sandy. He said that before Sandy, there were only a few tree removals each year throughout the neighborhood, so residents didn’t notice. But now — with dozens of trees getting the ax at the same time — the policy is causing major problems.

“When you had a tree stump every couple blocks, it wasn’t a big deal,” he said. “Now people are unhappy.”

SPEED

Continued from cover

ingly dangerous.

“I’ve seen some spectacular accidents,” he said.

Another local said a police presence would make a big difference.

“I think always an actual physical

presence — once in a while — is preferable,” said Howard Leibowitz. “If I look out my front window now, I’m going to see people zooming by at 50 miles per hour — trucks, cars, what have you.”

The 63rd Precinct did not respond to multiple requests for comment about whether it plans to increase its patrols the neighborhood.



LIFE IN THE FAST LANE: Construction on the Belt Parkway is causing drivers to use Marine Park roads as a detour — and residents say that because police officers aren’t ticketing speeders, cars are driving dangerously fast. Photo by Steve Solomonson

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Thrills, chills at Aviator

BY VANESSA OGLE

Ice skating is cooler than ever! The Figure Skating Club's fifth-annual End of the Year Show on Nov. 23 at Aviator Sports and Events Center let skaters show off their skills on the ice.

The frigid temperatures — on and off the rink — didn't stop skaters from putting on a spectacular show that gave the crowd chills, said one parent.

"They definitely don't care about the ice being cold," said Janet Gusak, whose daughters, Juliana and Emily, com-

peted for Aviator's synchronized skating team. "They like the colors. They definitely enjoy having all the make up and hair — they feel all glammed up."

Aviator's synchronized skating team competed against performers from across the borough. Competitors were divided into groups based on their ages and skill levels. Gusak said even though her daughters have competed in other skating shows, she still shivered thinking about what could go wrong — especially since her youngest daughter

split her chin on the ice just days before the competition.

"I'm afraid that they're going to fall," Gusak said, but added that Juliana's fall before the competition didn't stop her from performing. "Even with the stitches and the bandages, she competed."

Gusak said the whole team did a great job performing the routine together — and she said the team is constantly practicing for their next performance.

"Synchronized is very difficult," she said. "They try to learn from each other."

SKATING SENSATIONS: (Above) Lillian Valiquette performs her piece for the crowd. (Left) Aviator's ice skaters show off their skills at the Figure Skating Club's fifth-annual End of the Year Show at the sports center's rinks on Nov. 23. Photos by Arthur De Gaeta

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Kings Plaza rings in the season with a little holiday magic

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Kings Plaza welcomed the holiday season with its second annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 22.

More than 1,500 shoppers received magic wands so they could partake in the event, bringing the tree to life, signaling the start of this enchanted season. Santa surprised shoppers by making his first appearance, spreading cheer and handing out prizes, too. The festivities continued when children were invited to enjoy milk and cookies with the jolly old elf himself.

On Dec. 1, bring your pet for a photo with Santa. That's when four-legged friends get to sit on Santa's lap and "woof" about how good they've been all year. The fun starts at 6 pm.

Then, on Dec. 6, create magical memories for the entire family by bringing them to Kings Plaza to have breakfast with Santa. This continental breakfast starts at 9 am, but the excitement will linger as kids are sure to be talking about Santa, the colorful Christmas tree, and holiday displays for a long time to come.

Kings Plaza celebrates the start of Hanukkah on Dec. 16 at 6:30 pm, inside the Flatbush Avenue entrance. That's when the Menorah Lighting Ceremony takes place.

Kings Plaza Shopping Mall [5100 Kings Plaza between Flatbush Avenue and Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 253-6842, www.KingsPlazaonline.com]. Open Mondays through Fridays, 10 am-9:30 pm; Saturdays, 10 am-10 pm; and Sundays, 11 am-8 pm. See calendar on website for extended holiday hours.



(Clockwise from top) Jamiah Shepard and Jianna Shepard tell Santa their wishlists while Tyana Holder looks on. Chelsea Tokard hands out magic wands that kids used to light the tree. Kings Plaza Marketing Manager Sara McGuinness gets a moment with the man of the hour. Kids use holiday magic to light the tree. Kris Kringle greets all the boys and girls gathered to see him. Santa makes his big entrance.

Photos by Steve Solomonson



Decking the malls

BY MATTHEW PERLMAN

The holidays have hit Fulton Mall.

Staffers from the pro-business Downtown Brooklyn Partnership lit up the neighborhood's illuminated holiday display on Nov. 20. The installation includes more than 260,000 bulbs, a 30-foot Christmas tree, and a smaller, but still substantial menorah. Downtown resident Amy Cramer said the decorations are a perfect way to herald the fun to come.

"The neighborhood really comes alive when they turn the lights on," she said. "It gets us in the mood for the holidays."

Cramer came down to Albee Square with her 4-year-old son Aiden for the occasion. It was their second holiday lighting Downtown, and it likely will not be their last, Cramer said.

"It's something we look forward to," she said.

The lights run overhead on Fulton and Livingston

Streets, and there are include large, lit-up cubes along Flatbush Avenue. In all, the Partnership says the display uses 90 miles of lights.

The ceremony also featured hot chocolate from Junior's Restaurant and a performance from a steel-drum band.

Cramer said the festivities help make Downtown feel more like home.

"We appreciate that they do this," she said. "It creates a sense of community."

'TIS THE SEASON: (Above) Amy Cramer and her son Aiden came down to Albee Square for the tree lighting to get into the holiday spirit. (Center) The former site of Albee Square Mall will be the centerpiece of the seasonal street-dressings. (Left) Keshawn Lewis needed some hot chocolate to keep warm. Photos by Elizabeth Graham



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Birdwatcher spots body in Bay Ridge

BY MAX JAEGER

A bird-watcher found a dead body in the New York Harbor on Nov. 20.

The woman was eyeing fowl from the Shore Road Promenade in Bay Ridge when she made the foul discovery, she said.

"I'm looking at rock, rock, rock, then ... blue jeans ... human," Roberta Manin told the New York Post. "I'm asking myself, 'What am I seeing?' Then I'm like, 'Oh s---, that's a body!'"

The body was lying face-down on the rocks near 68th Street, eyewitnesses said.

The police department's Harbor Unit responded at 12:38 pm, pulling the body from rocks, and paramedics pronounced the man dead at the scene, a police report states.

Police identified the victim as You Qian Guan, 38, of



WHAT A SIGHT: Bird-watcher Roberta Manian discovered a body washed up at the 69th Street Pier at 1 pm on Nov. 20. Photo by Paul Martinka

53rd Street in Sunset Park.

The medical examiner is still determining what

killed the man, and a police investigation is ongoing, police said.



LOST AND FOUND: Cops recovered a pair of heavy-duty semi-automatic weapons on the roof of a Gowanus public housing building between Baltic and Wyckoff streets on Nov. 22, according to a report.

Two Guns: Gowanus

BY NOAH HUROWITZ

Cops recovered a pair of heavy-duty, semi-automatic weapons from the roof of a Gowanus public housing building between Baltic and Wyckoff streets on Nov. 22, according to a report.

Police found the disassembled parts of a 9 mm machine pistol with an ex-

tended magazine and a .40-caliber submachine gun with an adjustable stock on the roof of the Gowanus Houses tower at 11 am, cops said.

In a tweet, Capt. Justin Lenz, commanding officer

of the 76th Precinct, attributed the find to police intelligence.

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STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE: (Above) Jaclyn Crespo and mom Tracy Russell show off their meals provided by, (right) Los Sures, community leaders, and the 90th Precinct at a Thanksgiving dinner for community members on Nov. 20. Photos by Stefano Giovannini



W'burg gobbles up turkey

BY DANIELLE FURFARO

Thanksgiving came early to Williamsburg on Nov. 20.

Locals gathered at the Church of God of Prophecy to partake of a free turkey dinner provided by the community group Los Sures. The annual event is a way of bringing neighbors together, a spokesman for the organization said.

“It makes us happy to see the community come together

and all enjoy dinner under one roof,” Thoms Servello said. “It is like people really care.”

The feast was the group’s 12th and more than 400 people attended, according to Servello.

One attendee agreed that the dinner strengthens the social glue of the neighborhood.

“It was good for everyone to get together and get to know

each other,” said Tracy Russell, who brought her daughter. “It is a good way to build relationships and meet people you did not know before.”

Local companies including Food Bazaar, El Canario, and Sazon donated supplies and a few dozen people volunteered to cook and staff the event.

Los Sures also gave away 100 turkeys for families to make their own Thanksgiving dinners — on the actual date.

ANNUAL CITYWIDE PUBLIC MEETING

On New York City’s CSO Long Term Control Plan

Thursday, 11 December 2014

Hostos Community College
Savoy Multi-Purpose room
500 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451
6:00pm to 8:00pm

DEP will provide a brief presentation at 6:30pm.

When there are heavy rains and the sewer system is at full capacity, a diluted mixture of rain water and sewage, known as combined sewage, may overflow into local waterways as a combined sewer overflow (CSO). The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is currently developing CSO Long Term Control Plans (LTCP) that will identify and evaluate alternatives to reduce the impact of CSOs in NYC’s waterbodies and waterway.

At this Annual Citywide Public Meeting, DEP will report on the work performed in 2014 on the individual LTCPs for Alley Creek, Westchester Creek, Hutchinson River, Flushing Creek and the Gowanus Canal and provide a look ahead to the upcoming LTCPs for Bronx River and Coney Island. In addition, DEP will provide an update on its Green Infrastructure program and NYC’s Climate Resiliency Plan.

Join us as we seek your input to improve water quality in the City’s waterbodies.

How to Get Involved?

To RSVP, please email ltpc@dep.nyc.gov or call (718) 595-3496.

For more information on DEP’s CSO program, please visit our LTCP Program website at www.nyc.gov/dep/ltpc or follow us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/NYCWater.



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The Pointing Finger

“If you like your illegal alien, you can keep...”

by Dr. Stephen Finger

President Obama this week announced that anyone who 1) has been in the country for at least five years, 2) has a child who’s a citizen or a permanent legal resident of the United States, and who 3) can pass a criminal background check, will not be deported even though he or she is in the country illegally. Is this, as the president claims, a legitimate exercise of ‘prosecutorial discretion’ or is he acting illegally or, at least, improperly?

Prosecutors at all levels, whether presidents enforcing immigration law or local officials enforcing criminal law, are given a lot of discretion as to how to enforce those laws.

For instance, suppose you were caught stealing a loaf of bread but had no criminal record and were stealing the bread to feed your family. Chances are, you would not be prosecuted and would be let go with a warning, an exercise of prosecutorial discretion which most would feel to be appropriate.

On the other hand, suppose the D.A. were to decide that bread is so important that no one should ever be prosecuted for stealing bread, that the ‘bakery

system’ is broken, and that until the legislature fixes it by giving everyone free bread or whatever, he’s not going to prosecute anyone for stealing bread. Would this also be a proper exercise of prosecutorial discretion?

Immigration law mandates that if you’re in this country illegally, then you’re in this country illegally. Even if you have children who are legal and even if you’ve been here for some specified amount of time and even though you may indeed be a very fine fellow, you’re still here illegally.

Congress has the right and the duty to pass laws and the president has the constitutional obligation to see that they are ‘faithfully executed.’ He can try and have them changed but, in the meantime, cannot behave as though they were already what he would have liked them to be. That’s not ‘discretion.’ That’s ‘nullification’ and is a power possessed by juries, not by presidents.

Dr. Finger practices medicine (Otolaryngology) in Brooklyn, NY. (718) 692-1515. drstevefinger@aol.com - Visit our blog at: www.ThePointingFinger.Blogspot.com



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Specialized Eye Care keeping an 'eye' out for Bay Ridge

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Dr. Thomas Conrad Aiello and Dr. Adam Bennett Pass, both ophthalmologists, are proof that the trees that grow in Brooklyn have deep roots.

The two, friends since they both attended Poly Prep Country Day School in the 1970s and '80s, have gone into business together, combining their skills into a state-of-the-art ophthalmic practice, Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge. And proving that the apples really don't fall far from the trees, it's interesting to note that Dr. Aiello's parents, Drs. Michael and Maria Aiello, and Dr. Pass's father, Dr. Sheldon Pass, had established neighborhood ophthalmology practices here in the late '60s. Both families exemplify the importance of keeping an "eye" out for the community.

The doctors' commitment to the Bay Ridge area was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at Specialized Eye Care on Sept. 10. Among those in attendance included state Sen. Marty Golden and Council member Vincent Gentile, who share the doctors' rock-solid devotion to the neighborhood. All are excited to have a facility of this caliber establish itself in Bay Ridge.

Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge diagnoses and treats diseases of the eye. The entire family can feel comfortable about receiving care here, as the establishment welcomes people of all ages.

"We treat everyone from newborns to adults in their 90s," says Dr. Pass. "The new office is fully equipped with all the latest diagnostic equipment to deliver 21st-century healthcare to all."

Dr. Pass is fellowship-trained in neuro-ophthalmology. He performs cataract surgery and regularly assists in retinal surgical procedures. Should you be experiencing blurry vision, it may be because you have cataracts, and this can be ascertained with a visit to Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge. If cataracts are the culprit, surgery may be



(Clockwise from top) The office on Third Avenue at the corner of 88th Street. Dr. Thomas Aiello and Dr. Adam Pass have teamed up to open Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge. Dr. Adam Pass examines a patient on one of the office's sophisticated ocular imaging equipment. There is an optical shop on the premises run by licensed optician Harry Cadiz.

Photos by Steve Solomonson

required. The good news is that this type of surgery is quite common, usually done on an outpatient basis, and is considered safe and effective. Many who undergo cataract surgery are very pleased with the results, thrilled to be able to see clearly again.

Dr. Aiello is skilled in refractive surgery and premium implant cataract microsurgery. Refractive surgery might be a good option for patients who want to depend less on glasses and contact lenses, as this surgery can correct nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism. LASIK surgery is one of the most popular types of refractive surgery, and involves using a laser to reshape the cornea. If you feel you might be a candidate for this type

of procedure, make an appointment at Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge to discuss your options. Dr. Aiello is proud to be one of the first Eye Surgeons in Brooklyn to offer the new LENSAR Laser System as part of an Advanced Cataract Surgery platform. "The LENSAR Laser Systems Augmented Reality tm" provides Dr. Aiello with a 3-D view of your eye, allowing for more accurate information and treatment choices during your cataract removal procedure.

Both Dr. Pass and Dr. Aiello are board-certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology and have been re-certified numerous times. They trained together at the highly regarded ophthalmology residency program at SUNY

Downstate Department of Ophthalmology.

They both believe in providing personal and professional care to all patients.

The brand-new facility was previously occupied by the Bay Ridge Home Reporter for years. But the building looks different now, as it has been completely renovated, to the doctors' specifications. There are four examination areas and a diagnostic testing room with the most sophisticated ocular imaging equipment on the market today. They have also built an optical shop on the premises, and hired licensed optician Harry Cadiz, making it a one-stop shop for patients who require eyeglasses. There's no need to leave the premises to go elsewhere to purchase glasses, as the

practice offers a wide variety of shapes and styles, all at competitive prices. Patients can also buy contact lenses here, including disposal and multi-focal lenses.

As Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge is state-of-the-art, it uses an electronic medical record-keeping system. This means the doctors have access to the medical histories of their patients, allowing for more comprehensive care.

Most major medical insurance is accepted.

Specialized Eye Care of Bay Ridge [8723 Third Ave. at the corner of 88th street in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-1779]. Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 9 am-6 pm; Tuesdays, 2-5 pm; Fridays, 8 am-1 pm; and Saturdays, 9 am-2 pm.



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TOWER

Continued from page 10

prints, the wall has to encroach on the roadway.

For the duration of the construction, Carlton will lose its bike lane and a sidewalk on one side; Dean Street will retain its bike lane, but lose a sidewalk; and Vanderbilt will lose a sidewalk and get narrower. Pacific Street will remain closed to everyone but construction workers.

The building at 535 Carlton Ave. is one of two towers the developers agreed to start work on as part of a deal cut with activists in June to speed the completion of the discounted portion of the project. All apartments in the tower will be rented for less than market rate. The other building, which abuts Vanderbilt, will contain condos to be sold at market rates. The block is supposed to include four new buildings in all.

These two are supposed to be constructed using traditional techniques rather than the modular process used at B2, the first residential structure in the megadevelopment formerly known

as Atlantic Yards. Work has been stalled at that building for months as a dispute rages between Forest City and contractor Skanska over cost overruns and alleged design flaws. This week, Forest City bought the Swedish contractor out of the joint company and Navy Yard factory they shared, and the Brooklyn developer hopes to restart work on the experimental structure as a lawsuit regarding cost overruns continues.

Cotton said at last Wednesday's meeting that Forest City still believes in modular construction techniques, but did not say what method future construction would employ. Her boss MaryAnne Gilmartin told the New York Times in April that the next three buildings would be built conventionally. The Times report outlined a dispute between Greenland and Forest City over continuing to use modular as work on B2 dragged, but Cotton stressed that the two companies have not settled the issue for good.

"We've said this again and again," Cotton said at the meeting. "It was a problem with the partner, not the process."



SAY CHEESE: Left, Fifth Avenue Committee Executive Director Michelle de la Uz rounds up a crew of fellow do-gooders at a fund-raiser for Neighbors Helping Neighbors on Nov. 18. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Neighbors celebrate neighbors

BY NOAH HUROWITZ

Do-gooders gathered on Nov. 18 to raise money for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, a group dedicated to keeping low-income Brooklynites in their homes.

Pols, civic leaders, and locals poured into Union Hall in Park Slope to honor priest Kevin Sweeney of Saint Michael's Church in Sun-

set Park for connecting his flock with tenant advocates and letting the organization use space in the church. The annual gala is a way to celebrate unsung heroes, an organizer said.

"We try every year to recognize community members who work hard and don't get much recognition," said Rebecca Fischman, of the Fifth Avenue

Committee, a Neighbors Helping Neighbors ally. "Father Sweeney works a lot with tenants and refers congregants when they need help."

The event raised \$13,000 for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Fischman said. The organization provides counselling and advice to poor people facing eviction, foreclosure, and other housing issues.

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Allowing more outdoor air into a home is one way to improve indoor air quality.

Air pollution can be indoors, too

Air pollution is often associated with heavily trafficked highways or industrial areas home to manufacturing plants. But air pollution can occur anywhere, including inside your home.

Though it can be easy to recognize outdoor air pollution, indoor air pollution is not always so easily identifiable. But understanding indoor air pollution can help men and women, whether they live in a private home or an apartment, improve the air quality in their homes.

What causes indoor air pollution?

Indoor air pollution can be the result of many things, including biological contaminants (mold and mildew), tobacco smoke, radon, and household chemicals. The concentration of some pollutants can increase when the temperature indoors is high or if humidity levels indoors are high.

Poor ventilation may also contribute to poor indoor air quality. Without adequate ventilation, a home may not get enough outdoor air to dilute emissions from indoor sources. As a result, pollutants can accumulate inside a home, making the home uncomfortable and possibly putting its inhabitants' health at risk. In addition, insufficient ventilation makes it harder for indoor

pollutants to escape the home, forcing them to linger inside and negatively affect air quality. This is common during colder months when windows and doors are not open as often and fresh air from outside is not entering the home.

What are the negative health effects?

Indoor air pollutants can cause immediate problems or problems down the road. The immediate effects, which can include irritation of the eyes, nose and throat as well as headaches, dizziness and fatigue, are typically short-term and can be treated, oftentimes by removing the person's exposure to the source of the pollution. Symptoms of some diseases, including asthma, may also appear shortly after exposure.

Long-term effects of indoor air pollution may show up years after initial exposure or after prolonged exposure. Respiratory disease, cancer and even heart disease may result from prolonged exposure or not appear until years after initial exposure. The Environmental Protection Agency notes that there remains uncertainty about the concentrations or length of exposure necessary to produce specific health problems. Such uncertainty could be a result of different people

Continued on page 30

Improve home air quality

With winter on the horizon, homeowners who live in locales with harsh winters are preparing their homes for a season spent largely indoors. Unlike the other seasons of the year, when homeowners can comfortably air out their homes by opening windows, winter offers no such opportunities to let nature improve indoor air quality.

Such a reality can make a home uncomfortable as winter drags on. But that discomfort pales in comparison to the health risks presented by poor indoor air quality. Radon, volatile chemicals from fragrances used in conventional cleaners, and lead from house dust are just a few of the many sources of indoor air pollution commonly found in homes, and these pollutants can be especially harmful in winter, when many people spend more time indoors thanks to harsh weather. But while you might not be able to change the weather so you can open windows in the wintertime, you can take steps to improve indoor air quality in your home.

Clean the floors regularly. Dirty floors take their toll on a home's indoor air quality. Dust that's allowed to settle on floors may contain harmful chemicals and allergens that can lead to respiratory problems and additional uncomfortable health conditions. Clean your floors at least once per week during the winter months, ideally with a vacuum that's equipped with a HEPA filter. The HEPA filter is important because it can prevent dust and dirt from being blown back out of the vacuum in the exhaust. After you have vacuumed, mop the floors as well, as even the most effective vacuums leave potentially harmful dust particles behind. A once-over with a mop and some hot water can remove any lingering dust left behind by the vacuum.

Place a floor mat near every entrance. Winter is a messy season, and it's easy to bring in the great outdoors when you enter your home during cold weather seasons. Dirt that sticks to your shoes may contain potentially harmful chemicals, so place a floor mat near any door where people routinely enter your home and



Routinely vacuuming floors can improve indoor air quality in a home by preventing the buildup of dust mites and other harmful allergens.

politely ask that all who enter wipe off and remove their shoes before moving about the house.

Dehumidify your home. Mold and dust mites thrive on moisture, so homeowners concerned about the moisture in their homes during the winter months can purchase a dehumidifier to control allergens and reduce moisture in the air. In addition to using a dehumidifier, you can control humidity in your home by using an exhaust fan when cooking, addressing leaky plumbing fixtures to prevent mold growth, and making sure your clothes dryer is vented to the outside of your home.

Choose naturally scented laundry products. Everyone wants their freshly cleaned clothes to smell good, but the price you pay when using laundry products that employ synthetic fragrances may be far more steep than you realize. Such synthetic fragrances

emit dozens of chemicals into the air, so choose naturally scented detergents, fabric softeners and dryer sheets when possible.

Avoid plug-in air fresheners. Unless otherwise noted on the packaging, plug-in air fresheners likely contain volatile organic compounds, which contain a variety of chemicals that can negatively impact both short- and long-term health. Instead of plugging in an air freshener to improve a home's interior aroma, slice fresh lemons and leave them out in the kitchen and keep fresh indoor plants in living areas. Studies from NASA have shown that indoor plants naturally purify indoor air by absorbing materials released by synthetic materials.

As winter gets set to return, homeowners can employ several simple strategies to improve indoor air quality in their homes.

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Lung cancer deadliest of all

Many people are quick to assume they will be immune to lung cancer if they simply avoid smoking tobacco, but the disease is much more complex than that, and understanding it could mean the difference between life and death.

What causes lung cancer?

While the National Cancer Institute reports that smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer, that doesn't mean nonsmokers — or those who quit smoking — still aren't at risk.

Secondhand smoke has long been known to be very harmful, and no one, not even children, is immune to its effects. The American Cancer Society notes that, in the U.S. alone, roughly 3,000 nonsmoking adults will succumb to lung cancer each year because of secondhand smoke. Choosing not to smoke is a good decision, but being around smokers and breathing in their smoke could prove just as deadly as smoking. The less a person is exposed to tobacco smoke, the lower his risk for lung cancer.

Another risk factor for lung cancer is radon, a radioactive gas that cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted. Radon forms in soil and rocks, and people who work in mines could be exposed. Radon can also be found in homes when it pushes its way through cracks in floors or gaps around service pipes or in suspended floors. Testing a home for radon is inexpensive and won't take much time.

Older people are more likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer, as are those with a family history of lung cancer.

Are there symptoms?

Lung cancer is perhaps so deadly because it does not often have many symptoms in its early stages. Most will wait until the cancer begins to grow before they make their presence felt.

As the cancer grows, the following symptoms might appear:

- A cough that continues to worsen or won't go away
- Constant chest pain
- Coughing up blood
- A voice that grows hoarse
- Frequent infections of the lungs, including pneumonia
- Constant feelings of fatigue
- Unexplained weight loss

Each of these symptoms can occur even if a person does not have lung cancer. However, those who experience any of the above symptoms should con-



Choosing not to smoke is a good decision, but being around smokers and breathing in their smoke could prove just as deadly as smoking.

sult their physicians immediately.

How is it diagnosed?

In many cases, individuals will experience one of the aforementioned symptoms of lung cancer and then visit their doctors. Such a visit should be made immediately, and patients should expect certain tests to be performed upon visiting their doctor. In addition to ordering some blood work, a doctor will likely perform a physical exam to check for general signs of health and listen to breathing. During the physical, the doctor is likely to check for swollen lymph nodes, fluid in the lungs, and a swollen liver.

A doctor will also order X-ray pictures of the chest to detect if there are any tumors or an abnormal fluid buildup. A CT scan, which takes pictures of the tissue inside the chest, will likely be taken as well. These pictures can show if there is a tumor, abnormal fluid or swollen lymph nodes.

When determining if a patient has lung cancer, a doctor will also enlist the help of a pathologist to study cell or tissue samples. These cells or tissues can be collected in a number of ways, and a doctor might order more than one test.

Bronchoscopy: A thin, lighted tube is inserted through the nose or mouth into the lung, allowing a close exam of the lungs and the air passages that lead to them. A cell sample can be taken with a needle, brush or other tool.

Sputum cytology: Sputum, or thick fluid, is coughed up from the lungs and then checked for cancer cells.

More information about lung cancer is available from the National Cancer Institute at www.cancer.gov.

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Keep asthma controlled

A 2010 nationwide telephone survey of 1,001 asthma patients found that while most patients with asthma understood the risks associated with uncontrolled asthma, they didn't always act accordingly.

"This finding demonstrates a serious disconnect between the perceived consequences of uncontrolled asthma and the necessary steps people should take to achieve better control," explained Dr. Shailen Shah, an asthma expert with PA Allergy and Asthma Consultants.

"Some people believe that asthma goes away when their symptoms do, but asthma is a chronic disease. The good news is that with the appropriate treatment regimen, the inflammation that causes the symptoms may be properly managed."

Additionally, there are simple steps patients can take to avoid unnecessary

complications.

Understanding asthma

People with asthma suffer from chronic lung inflammation, with symptoms ranging from coughing and wheezing to chest tightness and shortness of breath. Additionally, asthma triggers such as air pollution, smoke, pet dander, pollen, and mold can set off an asthma episode.

It's important for patients to understand that when their asthma is under control with the help of their physicians, through lifestyle modifications, and the proper use of appropriate controller medication, they should exhibit few asthma symptoms.

Simple steps to asthma control

A physician can help create an asthma action plan and determine if a controller medication, in addition



to a rescue medication, is appropriate.

"Using an asthma action plan...can help patients stay in the know and in control of their asthma," Shah stresses.

"By understanding proper asthma management and appropriate use of medications, patients can help maintain control over their asthma symptoms and minimize the risks associated with uncontrolled asthma."

to a rescue medication, is appropriate.

POLLUTION

Continued from page 27

reacting differently when exposed to indoor air pollutants. But while that uncertainty means there's no guarantee exposure, be it brief or prolonged, will ultimately lead to disease, there's also no guarantee that even minimal exposure will prevent the development of disease down the road.

Can indoor air quality be improved?

Homeowners and apartment dwellers can take steps to improve the quality of the air inside their homes. Eliminating the sources of the pollution or reducing its emissions is a great place to start. Those with a gas stove can adjust their stove to reduce its emissions, which can save money while improving air quality.

Another way to improve indoor air quality is to take steps to get more outdoor air into the home. This can be as

simple as opening windows and doors and operating window or attic fans when the weather permits. In the kitchen, install fans that exhaust outdoors, which will immediately remove contaminants from the room. Each of these steps is meant to ventilate the home, and such ventilation should be emphasized when tackling home improvement projects that increase the amount of pollutants in the home. Such projects include painting, joint stripping or sanding.

Air cleaners can also be effective at improving indoor air quality, especially those cleaners that can remove particles from the air inside the home. Gaseous pollutants may not be removed by air cleaners, so if such pollutants are a problem then an air cleaner may not be the solution.

Indoor air pollution can make a home uncomfortable and unhealthy.

More information about improving air quality in a home is available at www.epa.gov.

NYM offers advanced diagnostic technique for Parkinson's Disease

Stiffness, slowness, tremor, and imbalance: these are most common characteristics of Parkinson's disease (PD). If a patient exhibits two or more of these, the question that follows is, does he or she have Parkinson's?

But the answer is not always straightforward. Though Parkinson's is often the cause, there are a host of other medical conditions, syndromes, and toxins that can also produce these symptoms. For instance, hands that shake may be a symptom of essential tremor, an entirely separate neurological disorder with a distinct course of treatment. Though there have been major advances in treatment options for patients with Parkinson's, those treatments are not without side-effects, so the ability to distinguish between PD and other conditions as accurately and quickly as possible can be a huge advantage for patients.

Through its Center for Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders, NYM offers an advanced diagnostic technique that helps physicians differentiate between Parkinson's and other neurological syndromes. The test is performed by the Hospital's Department of Radiology, utilizing a special camera and a substance called DaTSCAN that, when injected into the body, allows doctors to see specific activity in brain cells that can indicate the presence of Parkinson's disease.

"The symptoms of Parkinson's disease are caused by a shortage of dopamine in the brain," said Miran Salgado, M.D., chairman of neurosciences at New York Methodist. "In a normal brain, neurons (individual brain cells) communicate with each other by means of specific brain chemicals, called neurotransmitters. There are hundreds of kinds of

neurotransmitters, but one of the most important is dopamine, which plays a crucial role in cognition, voluntary movement, attention and other behaviors. The shortage of dopamine in the brain of a patient with Parkinson's disease is caused by very specific malfunctions in the way his or her neurons communicate. DaTSCAN allows us to examine that neuronal activity, helping our physicians to diagnose PD."

The Center for Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders provides multidisciplinary, "customized" care for its patients. The Center utilizes a team approach, engaging the skills of neurologists, neurosurgeons, speech pathologists, mental health professionals, nurses and rehabilitation therapists. If a patient is found to have PD, therapy options may include exercise, medication, rehabilitation or neurosurgical procedures. And if

DaTSCAN helps physicians conclude that the cause of the symptoms is not Parkinson's disease, they can tailor other treatment options, medications and physical therapies to the patient's diagnosis.

"A neurologist's expertise, coupled with the DaTSCAN technique, can help patients with or without Parkinson's disease find their way to the best treatment as quickly as possible," said Steven Garner, M.D., chairman of NYM's Department of Radiology. "This is another example of NYM's departments working together to provide enhanced patient care and minimize the impact of a degenerative disease on the quality 'golden years' a senior deserves."

For information or to make an appointment with a specialist at NYM's Center for Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders, call 718.246.8620.

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Infants are more susceptible to cases of bronchiolitis caused by the respiratory syncytial virus.

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Get the facts on bronchiolitis

Parents have likely heard about bronchitis. But another respiratory infection, bronchiolitis, gets far less attention.

Bronchiolitis is an infection of the small tubes inside of the lungs (bronchioles) that is caused by a virus and generally affects young children during the autumn and winter months.

During normal breathing under healthy conditions, air enters the lungs through the trachea. It then travels down the branching bronchi and into the small bronchiole tubes inside of the lungs. Then the air passes from the bronchioles into the millions of air sacs in the lungs, and eventually into the bloodstream.

When a child suffers from bronchiolitis, most often the bronchioles fill with mucus and experience inflammation thanks to a virus called the respiratory syncytial virus. The mucus and swollen tubes can make it difficult for oxygen to reach the lungs and get to where it is needed. The child may wheeze or breathe harder or faster in order to compensate.

In adults, this infection isn't generally serious. But in children it can be dangerous, particularly if the virus does not clear up quickly and leads to an acute case of bronchiolitis.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say that most otherwise healthy people recover from this in one to two weeks. Infants and young children may be prone to cases that don't go away and become bronchiolitis.

The best way to prevent bronchiolitis is to reduce the spread of cold viruses through the home with frequent

hand-washing and cleaning of shared items around the house. Children that fall into the following categories may be more likely to get bronchiolitis, according to the National Institutes of Health. These risk factors include:

- Age 6 months or younger
- Born prematurely
- Exposed to cigarette smoke, even in the womb
- Bottle-fed
- Born with Down's syndrome
- Close contact with other infected children
- Have a long-term lung disease

Symptoms of bronchiolitis include a cough that may be dry or produce phlegm. Wheezing may also occur because of inflammation of the airways. Rapid breathing, difficulty breathing, fatigue, fever, and nasal flaring in infants may be other signs.

Antibiotics do not treat viral infections, so it's unlikely the child will be given an antibiotic prescription for bronchiolitis. Usually supportive therapy, such as breathing in moist air, rest, drinking fluids, and avoiding any exposure to cigarette smoke, are recommended. Rarely antiviral medications may be used to treat very ill children. Some doctors may prescribe the use of a bronchodilator or steroid treatment to ease inflammation in the airways. These may be breathed in by use of a nebulizers or another inhaler delivery device.

Parents of children with breathing difficulties should consult with the pediatrician if symptoms of any respiratory illness take a while to clear up. The illness may have gone beyond just the common cold.

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Photo by Steve Solomonson

(Left) Dermatologist Dr. Josiane Lederman has joined with (right) Elena Solitario and Pilo Arts to offer Botox and Juvederm.

Pilo Arts now offering Botox, Juvederm treatments

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Why postpone pretty?

That's the question Dr. Josiane Lederman, dermatologist, posed to guests at a recent Botox party held at Pilo Arts Salon and Spa.

About 20 party-goers decided not to postpone it another second, taking advantage of \$200 discounts offered for Botox, Juvederm, and Juvederm Ultra Plus injections. They received these treatments on the spot.

The group had gathered to hear Dr. Lederman, a national trainer for Botox Cosmetic, Juvederm, and Radiesse facial fillers, speak about this subject matter. She provided the information, answered questions, and then administered the shots. Guests learned that Botox Cosmetic is a prescription medicine that is injected into muscles to get rid of frown lines between the brows.

"It works by blocking nerve impulses to the injected muscles," says the doctor. "This reduces muscle activity that causes those lines to form between the brows."

Those who decided to go ahead with the treatments were told they could expect their appearances to "soften" within 24 to 48 hours, and that they might continue to see improvement for up to a month. As for how long these results would last, that would depend upon the individual. While Botox treatments do last about three to six months, one must also consider how often the treated muscles are used. If one talks constantly or chews gum all day, then those muscles are being used a lot, so a second treatment may be needed sooner than later, said Dr. Lederman. On the other hand, to accentuate her point, she said, "If I put Botox in your ears, it would last forever."

Discomfort was minimal for those in attendance, who earlier, had been enjoying cocktails, wine, cheese, crackers, grapes, and nuts at the get-together.

Dr. Lederman also spoke about CoolSculpting, designed to remove unwanted fat resistant to diet and exercise. No surgery is involved. Instead, the FDA-approved procedure targets love handles, abdomen, and thighs, crystallizing fat cells so they die naturally, said the doctor.

"Once the treated fat cells are gone, they're gone for good."

It's all so pain-free, people can read, watch videos, work on laptops, or nap during treatment, she said. Pricing depends on goals and areas of concern. Those who were interested in learning more were instructed to make appointments with her office.

Dr. Lederman has been

practicing dermatology since 1988, and has a medical degree from the University of Paris. She completed her residency at the prestigious Saint-Louis Hospital in Paris, and at Harvard Medical School. Later, she joined the dermatology staff at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Lederman is board-certified by the French and the American Board of Dermatology, and a fellow of both the American Academy of Dermatology and the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery, as well as a member of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery.

Pilo Arts is the award-winning Bay Ridge salon, a member of Intercoiffure, an organization of the most elite salons in the industry. It is not easy to gain entry into this select group, as it accepts only 200 members from the United States. Yet, Pilo Arts

has been a member for more than a decade.

The salon has always been on the cutting edge, and one of its more recent innovations is the Brazilian Blowout Room, approved by OSHA. This special room is used to turn unmanageable manes into straight, beautiful, hair, all done in a safe environment where fumes are removed from the room, via an opening in the ceiling.

Whether it's skin or hair, no one has to postpone pretty anymore.

Pilo Arts Salon and Spa [8412 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 748-7411, www.piloarts.com]. Open Tuesdays through Sundays.

Josiane Lederman Dermatology Associates [116 Lamberts Ln. in Staten Island, (718) 370-0422, www.statenislanddermatologist.com]. By appointment.

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SHOP LOCAL SHOP BROOKLYN

Shop Brooklyn

A bounty of small businesses and mom-and-pops — right in our own backyard

BY SHAVANA ABRUZZO

Plump, juicy dates sourced from nine regions of the world. A reclaimed textile spool coat rack. A sacred-stone amulet made by Himalayan refugees. A personalized Brooklyn Nets burp cloth for baby. A smoky corn custard speckled with crispy moth larvae.

Brooklyn's indie shopping and dining scene is as intrepid and intoxicating as a hand-rolled bagel double-dipped in a coconut-curry craft beer, with yawning corridors acting as tree-lined frames for small businesses

as eclectic and extraordinary as any you'll find in London, Paris, Rome — and especially Manhattan.

Kings County is the new monarch of retail therapy, and its mom-and-pops are fast outranking "the City" for variety and overall shopping experience. Chances are the Brooklyn merchant or restaurateur knows your name and will greet you with a hug or a free espresso. It's also likely that the shopper or diner next to you is from Tokyo, Stockholm, or Melbourne because he or she has heard enough about Brook-

lyn's small-town splendor to cross the East River and personally discover its charms.

Brooklyn's diversified small businesses make every day an opportunity to appreciate the brick-and-mortar bounty in our backyard — without the crowds and long lines. Local commerce strengthens our communities, advances our borough's appeal, and makes our patronage matter. So, get going — and don't forget to pack our fabulous guide to the top shopping and dining turfs in town.



LOCAL FLAVOR: The Fulton Street shopping district in Bedford-Stuyvesant is thriving with locally owned businesses.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

a new wave of innovative merchants discovers the commercial promise of the neighborhood named after the British Duke of Bedford and 17th-century settler Peter Stuyvesant.

Fulton Street between Classon and Troy avenues:

- Doubles (A West Indian snack made of flat fried bread filled with curried chick peas).
- Millinery.
- Pharmacies.
- Event spaces.
- Art gallery.



WELCOME: Brighton Beach Avenue offers a multitude of unique Russian vendors.

Photo by Arthur DeGaeta

Nostrand Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Halsey Street:

- Boutique wines.
- Bakery.
- Cafes.
- Florist.
- Martial arts videos.

BRIGHTON BEACH

Sea air and squawking seagulls are as much a part of shopping and dining in Brighton Beach as the Russian men strolling the Boardwalk in Speedos. The hard-boiled, Russian-American neighborhood of homestyle restaurants, boisterous markets, pulsating nightclubs, and brassy street

BAY RIDGE

The "original Gold Coast" is immortalized in the 1970s cult classic "Saturday Night Fever," and its mom-and-pops — occupying three shopping districts and some around for more than a quarter of a century — would make Tony Manero boogie with pride. You'll get more than you bargained for with sweeping views of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge and side streets braided with stately row houses and majestic green spaces.

Third Avenue between 65th to 100th streets:

- Fine and casual dining with cuisine from more than 10 nations.
- Handmade cards, stationery, invitations, custom printing, bags, gift wrap.
- Framing.
- Home decorating and gifts.
- Toys and books.

86th Street between Fourth Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway:

- Family-owned pharmacies.
- Jewelers.
- Appliances.
- Shoe repair.
- Locksmith.
- Butcher.

Fifth Avenue between 65th and 85th streets:

- Beauty and hair supplies.
- Fish markets.
- Florists.
- Bridal.
- Gardening and landscaping.
- Pet services.

BEDFORD-STUYVESANT

Bedford-Stuyvesant's tradition of mom-and-pops — Jewish immigrants Morris and Rose Michtom invented the Teddy bear in 1902 above their tiny candy store at 404 Tompkins Ave. between Hancock Street and Jefferson Avenue — is a living catalog of the small business experience. A major revitalization is underway in this urban kaleidoscope immortalized in Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing," as



MERRY CHRISTMAS: Janna Shabib of Heart to Heart Cards and Gifts shows off the beautiful ornaments that the store sells.

Photo by Steven Schnibbe



RITZY STRETCH: Montague Street features upscale boutiques, specialty shops, and fine dining. Photo by Jason Speakman

vendors is dubbed "Little Odessa" for its predominance of ex-Soviets, who speak their own languages over English and remain loyal to their heritage down to the Cyrillic signage on their kitschy storefronts. Most of the action is on a street huddled below a rumbling elevated subway line, and along the Boardwalk which runs parallel.

Brighton Beach Avenue between Ocean Parkway and Brighton 14th Street:

- East European food.
- International newspapers and magazines.
- Travel agencies.
- Nightclubs.
- Banquet halls.



ARTSY ENCLAVE: On Knickerbocker Avenue you'll find consignment and arts-and-crafts stores. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Artists and writers, such as Salvador Dali and Truman Capote, lived in Brooklyn Heights, the city's first historic district, and its bucolic streets and elegant homes have been backdrops for numerous TV series and movies, including "The Cosby Show" and "Moonstruck." Its main drag for shopping and dining is canonized in Bob Dylan's "Tangled Up in Blue," in which he croons, "I lived with them on Montague Street, in a basement down the stairs, there was music in the cafes at night and revolution in the air." The seamless fusion of upscale boutiques, regional specialty shops, and casual and fine dining make this noble neighborhood one of the city's most blue-chip destinations.

Montague Street between Columbus Park to Hicks Street:

- Books.
- Thrift shops.
- Variety mart.
- Specialty foods.
- Wine and liquors.

BROWNSVILLE

A \$4-million city investment, affordable real estate — much of it art deco with Mayan and art nouveau touches — free Wifi, bike lanes, and the lowest crime drop in its recorded history are attracting merchants and shoppers to Pitkin Avenue. Coming soon, Brownsville's main shopping terminal will also be the leafy backdrop for five vibrant and beautiful murals celebrating the history and culture of the area — home of "deacon of American composers" Aaron Copland and boxing champ Mike Tyson — in a partnership with the Groundswell Community

Mural Project, according to its business improvement district.

Pitkin Avenue between Mother Gaston Boulevard and Howard Avenue:

- Fabrics.
- Travel agencies.
- Videos.
- Bakeries.
- Appliances.

BUSHWICK

Descendants of Hessian mercenaries settled in Bushwick after the American Revolution and made it a national brewery capital, supplying 10 percent of all beer consumed in the country. These days artistic talent abounds in this gritty, industrial neighborhood, which features a provocative bar scene and several unique mom-and-pops.

White Street between Boerum and McKibbin streets:

- Vintage clothing.

Wyckoff, Wilson, and Bushwick avenues (and Broadway) between Cooper Street and Flushing Avenue:

- Vinyl records.
- Fabrics.
- Books.
- Jewelry.
- Clothing.

Knickerbocker Avenue between Gates and Flushing avenues:

- Consignments.

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SMILE FOR THE CAMERA: Gabe Carino is owner of Gabe's Camera City on Cortelyou Road.
Photo by Elizabeth Graham



DIVERSE COMMUNITY: Opal Plunkett of Flatlands Avenue's Sally's Restaurant, which serves West Indian fare.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

• Arts and crafts.

CANARSIE

An amusement park on the pier drew revelers to Canarsie in the early 1900s, while a ferry transported them to the beaches of Rockaway — the L train now follows the same route from East New York to its eastern edge. Today a grapevine of small business help boost the cultural diversity and neighborliness that add to Canarsie's hometown feel.

Flatlands between Ralph and Pennsylvania avenues:

- Furniture.
- Electronics and cellphones.
- Caribbean cuisine.
- Window treatments.



KID IN A CANDY STORE: Peter Agrapides Jr. of Williams Candy on Surf Avenue has the perfect gifts for candy lovers.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

• Hardware.

CONEY ISLAND

Hurricane Sandy went nuts on the People's Playground, with floodwaters covering an area with more than 18,000 businesses that employed at least 200,000 workers, but that hasn't stopped the great melting pot by the seaside from being a great place to relax, eat, and shop. A \$64-million amphitheater — featuring a performance space, restaurant, rooftop cafe, and public park — is set to open in 2016. In the meantime, you're invited to wet your whistle at an upscale sports bar or a time-honored dive, nosh on a world-famous hot dog or a Zagat-rated steak, and shop for a magnificent memento you won't find anywhere else.

Surf Avenue between W. 37th Street and Brighton Beach:

- Beach supplies.
- Confectioners.
- Mexican and Turkish food.
- Souvenirs.
- Butcher.

Boardwalk between Corbin Place and W. 37th Street:

- Diner.
- Candy apples.
- Bar and grill.
- Frozen yoghurt.
- Beach supplies.

DITMAS PARK

Hot Real Estate N.Y.C. named Ditmas Park — a Big Apple historic district — one of the best young professionals neighborhoods in the city. It was farmland a little more than 100 years ago, and real estate gold for the Guggenheims, Gillettes, and other magnates who built elegant mansions here after the subway arrived and Brooklyn became part of the city. Exotic restaurants — including Afghan, halal Chinese, and Tibetan fare — are only half of a small-business message that offers a Pandora's Box of local delights.

Church Avenue between Flatbush and Coney Island avenues:

- Ethnic food.
- Variety discount.
- Beauty salons and barbers.

- Jewelry.
 - Pawn merchants.
- Cortelyou Road between Coney Island Avenue and E. 17th Street:**
- Handmade gifts.
 - Dance studio.
 - Cameras.
 - Food co-op.
 - Bagels.

DOWNTOWN AND NORTH FLATBUSH

Public and private investors are pouring billions into Downtown for public improvements while mainstream brands become consumer staples, but there are still enough great mom-and-pops around to make your shopping and dining trip a home-grown experience. Its central location also makes it the perfect launching pad to surrounding neighborhoods of Park Slope, BoCoCa, Dumbo, Fort Greene, Brooklyn Heights, Williamsburg, Bushwick, and Prospect Heights.

MetroTech Center, bounded by Jay Street, Johnson Street, Flatbush Avenue, and Myrtle Avenue:

- Bakeries.
- Variety.
- Clothing.
- Food markets.
- Discount-variety stores.

Fulton Street between Nevins Street and Court Square-Adams Street:

- Footwear.
- Jewelry.
- Clothing.
- Beauty.



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

IN BLOOM: Peter Morello displays an arrangement at Gramercy Park Flower on Adams Street. 2. Small shop, large collection: On Church Avenue you'll find card and gifts store Gifts on Parade.



Photo by Arthur Degeeta

- Wigs.
- Court Street between Joralemon Street and Atlantic Avenue; Livingston Street between Court Street and Flatbush Avenue; and Schermerhorn Street between Court Street and Flatbush Avenue:**

- Dry cleaners.
- Hardware.
- Boutiques.
- Tobacconists.

- Nail salons.
- Flatbush Avenue between Atlantic and Eighth avenues:**

- Health and wellness.
- Laundry, alterations, shoe repair.
- Chess.
- Toys.
- Gardening.

DUMBO

Jerry Seinfeld once joked that New Yorkers added the "O" in Dumbo

because they didn't want to live in a neighborhood called "Dumb." You might have that feeling if you left the armadillo-shaped waterfront district — crouched under the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges — off your shopping and dining bucket list. Artsy, eco-minded mom-and-pops and fun eateries embroider cobbled streets flanked by old warehouses, scenic open spaces, and swish high-rises. Front Street is the heart of this vibrant and creative

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BROWSE THE RACKS: Linen's and More and Rita's Clothing on Avenue M offer a wide selection.
Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

community that's also a new port of call for discerning shoppers and diners.

Front Street between John and Fulton streets:

- Cards and stationary.
- Furniture.
- Brick-oven pizza.
- Sporting goods.
- Art galleries.

Jay Street between John and York streets:

- Children's clothing.
- Bridal.
- Accessories.
- King-fu studio.
- Cafes.

Main Street between Front and Plymouth streets:

- Photo books.

Flatbush Avenue, one of America's oldest streets, was originally a country lane built over an Indian footpath — a future critical trans-borough byway inhabited by all types of immigrants seeking a better life. It adjusted its commercial vision soon after the opening of the Erie Canal, as 19th-century farmers — forerunners of modern-day mom-and-pops — grew fruits and veggies in market gardens, making Kings County the second-largest largest produce vendor in the nation. African-American, West Indian, Caribbean, Southeast Asian, Latino, and white business owners flourish in its integrating communities.

Flatbush Avenue between Parkside Avenue and Cortelyou Road:

- Tailors,
- Music and DVDs.
- Bodegas and delicatessens.
- Tattoo parlor.
- Housewares.

Church Avenue between Coney Island and Flatbush avenues:

- Nail salons.
- Car service.
- Card, gifts, collectibles.
- Electronics and computer repair.
- Eye care.

GEORGETOWN

Birds and animals thrive in the groves of honeylocust, smooth sumac, and ailanthus trees (of "A Tree Grows In Brooklyn" fame) cramming the 160-acre Paerdegat Basin Park that borders Georgetown — a sleepy sliver of suburbia situated between Canarsie and Old Mill Basin. Ralph Avenue is the major shopping hub, and boasts several mom-and-pops offering assorted services and merchandise.

Ralph Avenue between Avenue N and Flatlands Avenue:

- Eyecare.
- Travel agencies.
- Bedding.
- Clothing.
- Party costumes and supplies.

MARINE PARK AND MILL BASIN

If Marine Park was a yacht, Mill Basin would be its sail. The twin residential



'E.Z.' SHOPPING: Rai Huq of E.Z. Blue Clothing and Footwear on Ralph Avenue shows off a Ralph Lauren sweater. Photo by Steve Solomonson

neighborhoods — perched side by side on the lip of Jamaica Bay and secluded by a lack of subway service — are ideal terrain for small businesses. Marine Park boasts its own Little League chapter, named for former Yankees manager Joe Torre who grew up in the neighborhood. Mill Basin's multi-million-dollar homes feature Bentleys and Excaliburs parked in driveways, and pleasure boats docked in landscaped backyards.

Flatbush Avenue between Flatlands Avenue and Avenue U (Marine Park):

- Jeweler.
- Footwear.
- Arts and crafts.
- Lamps, chandeliers, and lighting.
- Variety stores.

Avenue N between Ralph and Flatbush avenues (Mill Basin-Marine Park):

- Bakeries.
- Watch repair.
- Luggage.
- Variety stores.
- Eyecare.

Strickland Avenue at Mill Avenue (Mill Basin):

- Banquet hall.
- Bridal.
- Deli.
- Eyecare.
- Hair salon.

MIDWOOD

Named "Midwout" by 17th-century Dutch settlers, Midwood was once



SERVICE WITH A SMILE: Ann McLeod shops local Vasilius Tsentzelis's Marine Florist on Flatbush Avenue.

Photo by Steve Solomonson

a mosaic of dirt roads and rickety dwellings wedged obscurely between the towns of Flatlands and Gravesend. It has been a major player in Brooklyn's commercial development, and an

enduring dark horse of community, culture, and shopping. Many stores are open on Sunday, but close a few hours before sundown on Friday, and remain closed all day Saturday in

this predominantly orthodox Jewish neighborhood.

Avenues J and M between Coney Island and Ocean avenues:

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Eye-popping structures — including the Montauk Club on Eighth Avenue, a filming location for HBO's "Boardwalk Empire" — provide an imposing backdrop for a variety of whimsical shops and eateries.

Fifth Avenue between Dean and 18th Street:

- Antiques.
- Botanicals.
- Pet care.
- Art, handcrafts, and galleries.
- Framing and stain glass.

Seventh Avenue between St. John's Place and 16th Street:

- Handcrafted jewelry.
- Footwear.
- Outdoor equipment.
- Organic beauty.
- Day spa.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Sheepshead Bay — perched on the Brooklyn Riviera, between Manhattan Beach and Coney Island — once boasted a race track and a millionaire's row. It's the King Neptune of modern-day mom-and-pops, managing to keep its small-business integrity admirably afloat after a battering from Hurricane Sandy. Restaurants, boutiques, and other small shops dot its commercial boulevards.

Sheepshead Bay Road between Avenue Z and Emmons Avenue:

- Locksmith.
- Bridal.
- Fishmonger.

LOCAL FINDS: (Clockwise from above) Renay's Antiques on Sheepshead Bay Road boasts a wide, "and unique," variety of collectibles and gifts. Brooklyn Sneaker Corner manager Charles Baker shows off some shoes at the Nostrand Avenue store. The shopping strip on Fifth Avenue is home to flower shops, art galleries, and more.

- Kosher restaurants.
- Judaica.
- Home improvement.
- Gifts.
- Human-hair wigs.

- Shoe and watch repair.
- Photography.
- Discount variety stores.
- Designer clothing.
- Lingerie.

Kings Highway between Ocean Avenue and Ocean Parkway, and two short blocks on Quentin Road:

PARK SLOPE

"Brownstone Brooklyn" was one of the

city's earliest historic districts, but it also played a dramatic role in the nation's birth as the site of the first and largest battle of the Revolutionary War, fought in 1776 on the borders of Prospect Park. These days, city intellectuals, actors, and stroller moms shop at the local food co-op, sip coffee at sidewalk cafes, and attend yoga class with their neighbors.

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Nostrand Avenue, between Shore Road and Avenue U:

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WILLIAMSBURG

This far-flung outpost in North Brooklyn — where Barbra Streisand, Gene Simmons, and Bugsy Siegel grew up — used to be a magnet for drug-dealers and petty crooks. Madonna, Gwyneth Paltrow, and other A-listers now routinely patronize its shops and restaurants, making it a top spot for shopping, eating, and chilling. Its energetic young vibe is splashed audaciously against an hypnotic jumble of old buildings and glitzy high rises, and its cobbled streets bustle with cafes, boutiques, galleries, and restaurants patronized by a fringe culture of hipsters powering a fierce indie scene.

Graham Avenue between Broadway and Boerum Street, including Moore Street, Flushing Avenue, Debevoise Street, and side streets:

- Family clothing.
- Furniture.
- Live poultry.
- Electronics.
- Rental center.

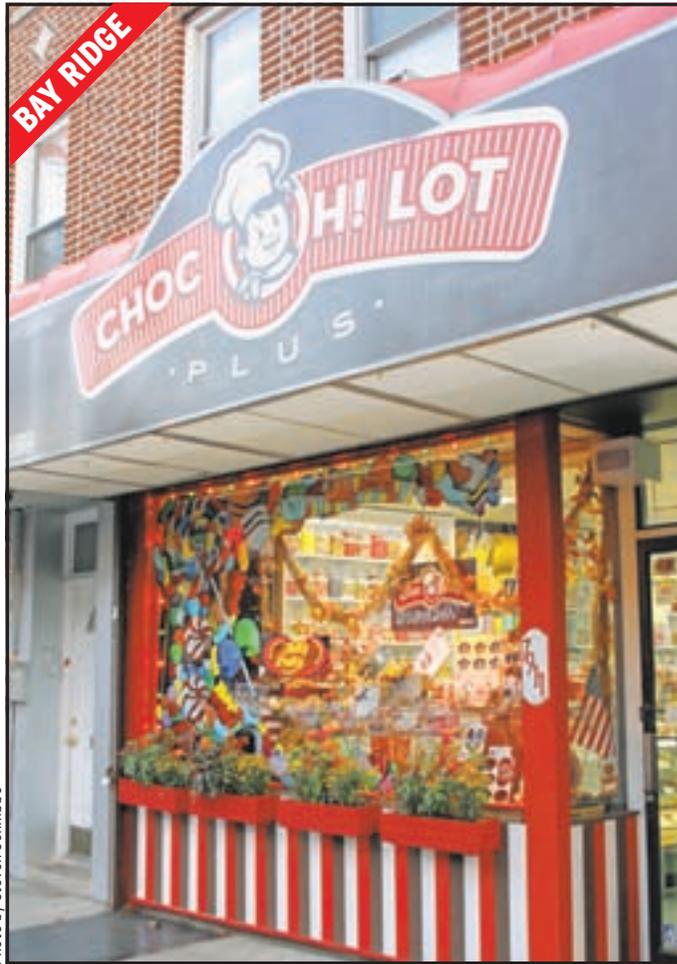


Photo by Steven Schimble



Photo by Steve Solomonson



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

SHOPPER'S DELIGHTS: (Clockwise from left) Choc-oh-lot Plus on Fifth Avenue is a chocoholic's dream. Valerie shops local at clothing store Eleanor Schain Ltd. on Strickland Avenue. Mehraj Zarin picks up some music at Human Head records shop on Graham Avenue.

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2003	Honda Accord, 91k	72885	\$3,995	2012	Honda Civic, 31k	5650	\$9,995	2009	Honda Pilot, 36k	1032	\$13,995
2011	Honda Civic LX, 47k	7569	\$8,995	2011	Toyota Rav4, 48k	1066	\$9,995	2011	Honda CRV, 24k	4923	\$13,995
2010	Toyota Camry, 34k	1013	\$8,995	2011	Nissan Altima, 10k	1026	\$9,995	2013	Nissan Altima, 20k	1226	\$13,995
2012	Ford Fusion, 27k	1880	\$8,995	2012	Nissan Altima, 32k	1079	\$9,995	2011	Honda Pilot, 23k	5210	\$14,995
2013	Kia Soul, 10k	10515	\$8,995	2012	Chevy Traverse, 50k	1260	\$12,888	2012	Nissan Murano, 12k	5822	\$16,995



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2007	Acura MDX, 104k	10125	\$8,995	2013	Chevy Malibu, 3k	1382	\$13,995
2011	Honda Accord, 31k	2651	\$9,995	2011	Honda Odyssey, 35k	4830	\$13,995
2014	Nissan Versa, 9k	3309	\$9,995	2008	BMW 528xi, 34k	1008	\$13,995
2012	Ford Escape, 72k	7278	\$10,995	2009	Infiniti G37x, 52k	1255	\$14,888
2011	Nissan Rogue, 32k	4761	\$10,995	2012	Dodge Charger, 8k	1030	\$15,995
2012	Honda Accord, 32k	1223	\$10,995	2012	Nissan Maxima, 20k	3788	\$16,400
2013	Dodge Caravan, 43k	3793	\$12,995				
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Max and Carmine are tops with Gay Talese

To the editor,

Thanks for your fine piece "Talese tales! Author to discuss 'The Bridge' at Transit Museum" (online Nov. 12), and also it was nice meeting reporter Max Jaeger.

I can't speak for Frank Sinatra, but I think he would (as I did) enjoy the tribute authored by the one and only Carmine Santa Maria ("Finally! Carmine gets sanctioned by Gay Talese," online Nov. 23).

**Gay Talese
Manhattan**

'Best' columnists

To the editor,

With regard to the 50th anniversary of the Verrazano Bridge, the actual spelling of the explorer's name, for whom the bridge is named, is Verrazzano ("Bridge birthday bash botched, boycotted," online Nov. 24). The second "z" was omitted when the bridge was named, but that doesn't change the original and correct spelling of his name.

By the way, I enjoy reading your newspaper. It features some of the best, most entertaining and informative columnists, and for this I thank you.

**E. Betz
Brooklyn**

Text laws

To the editor,

Automobile drivers and bicyclists, who text or otherwise use electronic devices while using their vehicles, are equally wrong (Cyclists: Text-messaging-while-biking ban has g2g," Nov. 18). If this behavior weren't responsible for tragedy, their mutual finger-pointing would be farcical. The same goes for people who cluelessly wander through intersections bathed in the blue glow of their smart phones and tablets. All are dangerously irresponsible, not only to themselves, but to everyone else. It's time that we approached this selfishly indulgent behavior as if it truly mattered.

The way to eliminate such hazards is to categorically and unconditionally prohibit the active use of electronic devices by drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians while on a roadway or in an intersection, in-

SOUND OFF TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS AND COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS

cluding those crossing streets. Please, let's have unambiguous laws that apply equally to all, and then demand that those laws be aggressively enforced across the spectrum of offenses. Fines never work as deterrents, and at best would be seen as the cost of doing business.

It's time that the adults take charge and the toys are put away. Compulsion is no excuse for mayhem. Councilman Mark Treyger's (D-Coney Island) efforts to control the distracted should be universally supported and expanded.

**Burt Bloom
West Brighton Beach**

Boardwalk blues

To the editor,

Who is the brainchild who decided to concrete the Brighton Beach Boardwalk from Coney Island Avenue to Brighton 15th Street ("City: Brighton Beach boardwalk's fate is set in concrete?" Nov. 20).

It has been two years since we were devastated by Hurricane Sandy, but what lesson have we learned? Brighton Beach has been the stepchild of the city without any representation — while other cities use recycled wood for their boardwalks we're still in the dark ages.

Let's continue to build near the water which looks oh-so good, until the next flood.

Does any one believe in global warming? How about six feet of snow in Buffalo, and the prediction of snow melts that will cause more massive floods, wild fires, tornados, hot summers then the year before? Polar ice is melting at a fast rate and will impact low-lying areas. Duh, does one need to be a rocket scientist to see this? Wake up and smell the coffee while you can.

**Jerry Sattler
Brighton Beach**

Ungodly Al

To the editor,

Thou shalt not steal is the eighth commandment, and someone should tell Sharpy Sharpton — also known as Rev. Al Sharpton — that stealing is wrong. Jeez, as a self-professed man of God, Sharpton surely sets a bad example for others! Maybe that's why kids of today are so disruptive, so arrogant, so lawless because they follow this "man of God."

Where and when did he get his "reverend" status? Has anybody researched this?

**Joan Applepie
Brooklyn**

Eco-concerns

To the editor,

As a new resident of Park Slope and an environmental professional, I am concerned about vehicle-idling on the streets of our community, contributing to local air pollution and climate change.

I am most concerned about the issue in the area surrounding Methodist Hospital and in Prospect Park. To encourage action, I have contacted Methodist Hospital, the Prospect Park Alliance, and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

**Jeff Potent
Park Slope**

Retroactive pay

To the editor,

For a decade, I have worked hard to provide an excellent school environment for students at PS 130, where I am principal. I came up through the ranks. So did many of my fellow school leaders who worked for years as teachers before accepting a leadership role. I worry that many of those who did — principals, assistant principals, and other supervisors — may not receive the retroactive pay they are owed for the years they taught our children. Moreover, I'm worried that many of those who would like to apply for promotions may not do so.

The city has developed a thesis that says these teachers have not worked "continuously" so they are ineligible for the retroactive payments earned during their long years without a contract. Yet, these teachers and now, administrators, have continuously worked for the Department of Education. In fact, many of them have remained in the same schools. This policy is already negatively impacting the pool for current school administration vacancies. Many vacancies have been re-posted again due to lack of qualified willing candidates.

At my school we strive to help students reach their full learning potential and this can't happen without high-performing school leaders. I am concerned that as I look ahead, schools like mine throughout the city may not be able to draw from these experienced educators because a promotion would mean they would lose thousands of dollars that could make a world of difference for them and their families.

Schools Chancellor Farina, who served as superintendent in my district, and Mayor DeBlasio who was on the District 15 school board, are

on the record saying that our schools are most likely to succeed when leaders come from the ranks of seasoned city teachers. That statement reflects a sound education vision. How ironic then that the city is taking a position in direct opposition.

Let's make the mayor's and the chancellor's visions a reality. It's time all city officials come together to ensure that all new administrators get the full payment that they earned when they served our children in the classroom.

**Maria Nunziata
The writer is principal of PS 130 in
Parkside.**

Weed screed

To the editor,

I would like to congratulate Mayor DeBlasio and Police Commissioner William Bratton on their prudent and informed decision to stop arresting people found with less than 25 grams of marijuana. They should not be left with a criminal record that will follow them around for the rest of their lives.

The punishment should fit the crime. The new guidelines call for a \$100 fine for first offenders and a \$250 fine for second-time offenders, which is as it should be. The city also needs a two-tiered prison system because we need to keep low-level offenders out of jails where hardened criminals may influence them and induce them to meet with their connections out on the street upon their release.

**Frank D'Amico, Sr.
Bensonhurst**

...

To the editor,

Our neighborhood youth needs to be scrutinized everywhere, not just on our school campuses. It is the responsibility of all people besides law enforcement to put a stop to those trouble-makers who incite others with their wicked ways.

All sensible adults must make a pledge to condemn kids who are disruptive in our communities, wherever the disruptions occur.

We must also nix all forms of harassment, and adults must set the tone for acceptable behavior. Some adults, unfortunately, lack human feeling for others and teach their children incorrect behaviors, including using foul language, demonstrating bad manners, and being bigoted. People need to be respectful and be treated with respect.

**Amy Kaye
Sheepshead Bay**

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Submit letters to: Vince DiMiceli, Editor, Community Newspaper Group, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, NY 11201, or e-mail to editorial@cnglocal.com. Please include your address and telephone number so we can confirm you sent the letter. We reserve the right to edit all correspondence, which becomes the property of Courier Life Publications.

Stan once again brings you the numbers

And here we go again with more of "America by the Numbers."

While some of the larger chain book stores have closed the number of independent booksellers in the U.S. has grown more than 20 percent in the past five years. Even with competition from Internet discounters, their book sales have steadily climbed about eight percent every year.

Andrew Tahmooressi, 26, was held in a Mexican jail for accidentally crossing the border into Mexico with guns in his vehicle. Here are two numbers that you might find interesting. The Marine reservist spent 214 days in a Mexican jail. How many telephone calls did our President make to the president of Mexico on behalf of our American hero?

None! Zero! Zip!

President Obama, you should be ashamed of yourself. You traded five terrorists for one deserter but didn't lift one finger to assist our hero.

In this so-called war on women, men's starting salaries are, on average, 7.6 percent higher than women's. According to a study of Carnegie Mellon business school graduates, 57 percent of men negotiated their salaries and benefits while only seven percent of women did, despite being coached to do so. It's only my opinion, but women should speak up for themselves instead of settling early on. Ya hear that Carol?

In a recent speech, my President proudly stated that we have turned the corner. Really? Tell that to the owners of 9.7 million homes in the U.S. that are still "under water."

Tell it to the 30,000 part-time Walmart employees who will soon lose their health-insurance coverage.

Before you jump all over Walmart about this, you might want to know that it is the last of its peers to cut insurance for part timers. As of last year, two-thirds of large retail chains did not offer them insurance at all.

Going back to the imaginary corner we were supposed to have turned, Time Warner Broadcasting Company, the home base of CNN, TNT, and TBS is eliminating 1,475 jobs. Ratings are one of the reasons for its attempt to



IT'S ONLY MY OPINION

Stanley P. Gershbein

save money. While competitors, such as the Fox News Channel, have been kicking them in the gut, so many of you still shout about how you hate Fox. Somebody out there must be watching O'Reilly, Greta, Megyn, and Sean.

Now, for more numbers that you will not like, let's look at Hewlett-Packard, the world's largest tech company, and its latest plan to split into two separate corporations. H.P. was already planning to reduce its workforce by 36,000 jobs. It changed its mind. That number has climbed to 55,000 jobs.

Headline: "U.S. services sector growth slows in October." The gauge of service sector activity fell from 58.6 to 57.1.

Mr. President, Please tell us again about the corner we have turned.

This column is dated Nov. 24. If you are reading it on the 24th, stop what you are doing right now. At this very minute, walk 10 steps over to the freezer and take out the 15-pound turkey. Put it in the warmest part of the refrigerator and let it defrost. Thawing will take three-and-a-half days. We remember what some of you did last year. You forgot all about the several days it takes for the frozen bird to become roast-ready. Not a problem. You sent your husband for Chinese takeout and served it all, buffet style. I am StanGershbein@Bell-south.net telling you that I heard the turkey lo mein really was pretty good.

Where's the anger over Islamo-psychos?

Another American beheaded. Another unprovoked terror attack on Israel. Another week of Islamo-havoc, with global blessings.



A BRITISHER'S VIEW

Shavana Abruzzo

On Nov. 16 humanitarian worker Peter Kassig, 26, became the third American in as many months to die a brutal death at the hands of Islamic State terrorists, reflecting wrenchingly in a tape sent to his family, "If I do die, I figure that at least you and I can seek refuge and comfort in knowing that I went out as a result of trying to alleviate suffering and helping those in need."

President Obama brushed off the Islamo-brutality as "an act of pure evil" in a passive drool of reproof. He and most of the free world similarly begged off castigating the Palestinian terrorists who hacked their way through a Jerusalem temple two days

later with a meat cleaver, killing five worshippers, including three Americans. There was no global anger to speak of over the disgusting sight of Palestinian Muslims dancing in the streets and passing out candy. There was no exasperation at the obscene congratulations blaring over mosque loudspeakers. There was no vexation over the Palestinian media hailing the attackers as martyrs. There was no chagrin over terror-group Hamas praising the attack. There was no ire over Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas having a tough time condemning the outrageous attack. Just imagine the political earthquakes if Christians and Jews cut the rug, rang a church bell, and

blew the shofar whenever a Muslim kicked the bucket.

Islamism is a diabolical international problem,

but where is the anger? The western way of life — complete with democracy, liberty, and fraternity — would not exist if good people had not been angered into action against tyrants, dictators, and other scum. Yet world fury at increasing, execrable Muslim extremism has sunk to an all-time low, as if the collective business of humankind these days begins and ends with coddling Muslims.

Universal anger is critical to combating the war on terror, and world governments, religious leaders, civil rights groups, the media, and liberty lovers need to get their Tarzan on.

Follow me on Twitter @Brit-Shavana

This year, Jo's more thankful than ever

Turkey Day is here again — let's sing a song of cheer again, Happy Turkey Day hooray!

This past summer my very good friend Daria tagged me with the Facebook "What I am Thankful For" challenge. It was a three-day challenge — but due to my aversion to reading instructions, instead of the three days I answered the call for the entire month.

The first few days were easy. Grateful for family, good health, a job, the usual. But as the days progressed I found myself really searching for those good things, and by the end of the 30 days, the miracle kicked in and taught me an invaluable lesson.

Nothing in this life is to be taken for granted.

From the smallest of good fortune to the biggest gift of all — another day — everything in this universe is to be appreciated and thanked.

By the end of the month I found the more I thanked, the more grateful I became, and the more I realized how truly rich I am. Finding that favorite seat happened on a daily basis along with an immensely



NOT FOR NUTHIN'

Joanna DelBuono

peaceful easy feeling (sorry Eagles) that greeted my everyday. So much so that my blood pressure went down, which is a miracle that not even medicine seemed to accomplish.

So here it is, T-Day again and I am sharing what I am thankful for:

My friend Daria for the challenge.

And now I am tagging all of you — give the challenge a go. Start with the turkey on your plate, your friends and family

around you, the warm sweater wrapped around your shoulders, and see where it takes you. Like me, you just might discover that peaceful easy feeling greeting you everyday and how many riches there really are.

Along with thanks here are my wishes for you all:

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

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

- May you never lose hope that you've run out of time.

- May your turkey be juicy, your gravy not lumpy, your sides plentiful and only split with laughter, and, most importantly, may you always have the time to savor those pies.

Thanks to those who read my words, whether you agree or not doesn't matter, because without you, there wouldn't be a "Not for Nuthin'™."

So Not for Nuthin'™ have a happy Thanksgiving.

Follow me on Twitter @JDelBuono.

Perception of 'middle class' should change

We have heard many elected leaders lament that our country — and our wonderfully diverse city — has lost its middle class in recent years. Bringing it back seems to be the rallying cry that everyone agrees is important.

It seems to me that the term “middle class” has a pretty wide range, and that most people in our city probably fall into this category. If you buy the terminology of “Occupy Wall Street” then society breaks down between the “one percent” and the remaining 99 percent. That means there is an “ultra upper class” and then there is “the rest of us.” Instead of a three-tiered look at society, this way breaks it down to just two tiers, “the haves” and the “have less.”

It seems that our government have in the past decade leaned in favor of “the haves” and that is why there is a perception of a shrinking “middle class.” Income inequality has widened, with CEOs and financial industry leaders making an ever-growing piece of the national pie. Tech industry start-ups have lavished



POLITICAL SPIN CYCLE

Tom Allon

gobs of money on enterprising entrepreneurs and so everyone under 30 these days seems to be working on developing a new app.

But we need to keep sight of the fact that there are three important things in society that are making it very difficult for working-class people to make ends meet. In many urban centers like New York, people spend more than 35

percent of their net income on housing. Even with Obamacare trying to bring down costs, health care coverage costs continue to spiral upward. And perhaps the most egregious problem stressing not just middle class parents, but also their children, is the outlandish cost of higher education.

Housing, health care, and education are the pillars of our society, and they shouldn't be so expensive that working families feel that they will drown in debt in order to attain them.

Now, with the holiday season approaching, it is a good time for us all to take stock of our station in life and to count our blessings, even if we are not one of the one percent or one of “the haves.” If you are relatively healthy, and those in your family and circle of friends are healthy, then you are very lucky.

If you have a roof overhead and food on the table, then you should consider yourself lucky. If you have a job that you look forward to each day and work with people who you trust and respect, then

you are also very lucky.

If you have someone in your life who you can talk to about your triumphs and defeats and who loves you through all life's ups and downs, then you are extra lucky. If you feel that your children and the next generation can benefit from your hard work to make a world better than the one you were born into, then you have an important purpose in life.

If those things mentioned above mean more to you than material wealth, then you are part of life's “upper class.” You have figured out what matters in life and you have your priorities straight.

Being “middle class” is still certainly something many of us should aspire to, but it's more than just about your income and material wealth. Being “middle class” should mean that you are content with your lot in life and that you are contributing to the betterment of society. Being “middle class” could mean that you recognize that life is not a “zero sum” game and that you can make things better for those around you in many ways that have nothing to do with money or

possessions.

It seems to me that “middle class values” is probably something that we should all strive for: from the poor to the .001 percent. These values are that an honest day's work should be rewarded with an honest day's pay. That you can provide for yourself and your family, while making sure that those you work with can do the same. “Middle class values” can mean that you are content with yourself and with your life, so that you have enough time and energy to make life better for your family, your friends and your colleagues.

So, I think we should resurrect “middle class values” as an aspiration in society. It seems very 1950s, but wasn't that a more innocent period in America, when we felt that we can all do better and that the deck wasn't stacked in favor of the few over the many?

Tom Allon, president of City & State NY, was the Liberal Party-backed mayoral candidate in 2013 before he left to return to the private sector. Reach him at tallon@cityandstateny.com.

Attention Brooklynites!

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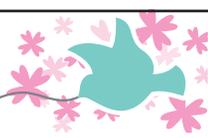
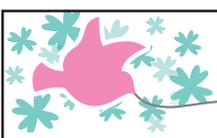
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Finally! Carmine gets sanctioned by Gay Talese

I'm madder than the first caveman artist who was blasted by the first caveman critic over the fact that too many of my reviews are written by knuckleheads that don't know a good thing when it hits them in the eyeballs!

Look, you all know the ol'Screecher has been doing this job diligently since before most of my critics — those wisenheimer commentators that think they know what they are talking about but clearly do not based on my years of receiving accolades and deflecting condemnations — were even born.

So I was ecstatic this week when I finally got a ringing endorsement from one of my contemporaries — and one of the only writers out there from whom I'm willing to take advice — the one and only Gay Talese.

That's right, Gay Talese! The guy that wrote some of the most compelling stories of the 1960s and 1970s and today. The practitioner of the "New Journalism" of which I am so closely attuned. The man who clearly has been reading my column since the day the New



BIG SCREECHER

Carmine Santa Maria

Yorker bought him a computer so he would stop sending in stories — as I still do — that were typed on a Smith-Corona!

Don't believe me? Well here is what the man himself told one of my fellow journalists — my pal Max Jaegermeister — after he read my classic prose "Carmine Santa Maria has hunger pangs," an ode to Talese's classic prose "Frank Sinatra Has a Cold."

And I quote: "Dear Mr. Jaeger: Thanks for your fine piece

in the Bay Ridge Courier, and also it was nice meeting you in person last night. I can't speak for Frank Sinatra, but I think he would (as I did) enjoy the tribute in brooklyndaily.com authored by **the one and only Carmine Santa Maria** [emphasis added]. Keep in touch and good luck, Gay Talese."

That's right, folks. The seal of approval from Gay Talese.

And that's all I ever needed to shake of what the haters are saying behind my back. What's the old saying? Haters going to hate, hate, hate, baby. I'm just gonna shake, shake, shake, Shake it off! Shake it off!

Take that "Go Back from Whence You Came"!

Of course, it doesn't surprise me that Mr. Talese would be such a big fan. He is well aware of the fact that writing a weekly column is no small task — and putting this one together is just like giving birth with just a six-day gestation period. All my columns are my little babies, and, while I'm prouder than some more than others, I like to point out a couple that you should re-read when you have an hour or 12. I can tell you the best part about these are the

comments on the bottom.

Take, for instance, my column where I demanded that readers buy American! It was so good, it prompted one reader to comment: "Only Carmine can take a good message like this, but make me want to buy exclusively Chinese-made products." Talk about getting action!

Then there was a time when I received accolades for my attack on Mayor Bloomberg. One reader said I nailed it, claiming "Carmine always penetrates Bloomberg's money armor for we non-billionaires." But another, less-smart reader got it wrong, claiming "Carmine sucks." Ha! Tell that to Gay Talese!

Then, of course, there was the time I got attacked for complaining my grandkids spend too much time on their iPad-Phones and not enough time wishing me a happy birthday when one commentator stood up for me, screeching that I was the columnist readers loved to hate: "He is the Howard Cosell of community journalism."

That's right! I'm just telling it like it is! Just like Gay Talese!

Now's the point in the column where I stop the narrative and switch gears to wish my readers a Happy Thanksgiving, brought to you by PC Richard and Sons, which isn't open on said holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone, with a special thanks to PC Richards, who doesn't open so as to allow his employees to be with their families, and a great big thanks to Macy's for its spectacular parade, which I've never been to, as I am not brave enough to whether the weather.

How about all of those thousands of parade participants from all the marching bands, giant balloon handlers, show biz performers, and my absolute favorites the Rockettes!

Wanna know what my secret wish is? It's to be Santa in the Macy's Thanksgiving parade and give my *Tornado* a break.

Watch out for all those Black Friday sales and especially, be on guard against identity thieves wherever you are.

Extending our love to you and your family — and above all, stock up on Brioschi!

Screech at you next week!

Body language can tell you all sorts of things. Like someone is having a stroke.

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HERO'S WELCOME: Medal of Honor recipient former Staff Sgt. Salvatore Giunta, center, takes part in a panel discussion in Simi Valley, Ca., on Nov. 15. Kevin O'Brien

Former soldier addresses forum

HARBOR WATCH

Former Army Staff Sgt. Salvatore A. Giunta, who in 2010 became the first living Medal of Honor recipient since the Vietnam War, says he is not a hero.

"It makes me feel awkward. I struggled with it for a long time," Giunta said about being called a hero.

Giunta, who received the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions in Afghanistan, participated in a panel discussion at the Reagan National Defense Forum at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Ca.

"It's almost been four years since I've been out of the military and the fact that someone would call me personally a hero seems inappropriate," he said.

All the soldiers worked together and fought together, Giunta said during the panel discussion about military heroism and valor.

"Nothing I ever did, did I do alone. I followed what someone told me to do and someone followed me," he said.

"I've served with heroes. We can be heroes. I am not a hero," he said.

Giunta received the Medal of Honor for his actions dur-

ing a fierce battle following an enemy ambush in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley, in October 2007. Two U.S. soldiers, Sgt. Joshua Brennan and Spc. Hugo Mendoza, were killed in the attack.

"Oct. 25, 2007, was my date of action that I would receive this award. My life didn't change other than I lost two good friends," Giunta said.

He said his life did "change drastically" in 2010, when the recognition of what he did became public.

He said it is not a burden to have the Medal of Honor, but rather an "awesome responsibility."

Giunta, then a specialist with Company B, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry Regiment, exposed himself to heavy enemy fire to aid a fellow soldier he believed was injured during the ambush.

He engaged the enemy and advanced up a hill alone and under fire. Giunta saw two insurgents carrying away a gravely injured Brennan. Giunta killed one of the insurgents and prevented the enemy from taking Brennan.

"When I was told I was going to receive the Medal of Honor, it hurt my feelings. I

Continued on page 54

Aid to West Africa

National Guard will be deployed in spring



TRIAGE SPECIALIST: Lt. Col. Tom Englehart talks to a Ugandan woman about her child's health at Pajimo Clinic's triage station. Maj. Corey Schultz

HARBOR WATCH

More than 2,000 Army National Guard and Army Reserve troops were mobilized in support of Operation United Assistance in West Africa, the Department of Defense announced.

The deployments will occur in the spring as part of the next rotation of forces to relieve the 101st Airborne Division headquarters and other troops now involved in the Ebola relief effort.

About 1,200 Guard Soldiers will be mobilized from six states, along with about 850 Army Reserve troops.

Mobilizing Army National Guard units include elements of the:

- 34th Infantry Division Headquarters, Rosemount, Minnesota
- 16th Engineer Brigade, Columbus, Ohio
- 223rd Military Intelligence Battalion, Fort Funston, California
- 236th Engineer Company, Lewisville, Texas and
- 272nd Engineer Company,

Angleton, Texas

- 294th Area Support Medical Company, Washington, Iowa

- 891st Engineer Battalion, Iola, Kansas

Mobilizing Army Reserve units include elements of the:

- 96th Sustainment Brigade, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Denver, Colorado

- 313th Movement Control Battalion, Baltimore, Maryland

- 324th Fire Fighting Detachment, Granite City, Illinois

- 324th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, East Point, Georgia

- 329th Survey and Design Team, Saint Joseph, Minnesota

- 387th Medical Logistics Company, Miami, Florida

- 398th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, Rockville, Maryland

- 452nd Preventative Medicine Team, Miami, Florida

- 996th Horizontal Engineer Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- Company, 412th Civil Affairs Battalion, Columbus, Ohio

Units will begin training shortly for their spring deployment to West Africa in support of Operation United Assistance, officials said.

The Army Reserve will be contributing soldiers who possess specialized capabilities needed by the joint-force operation to ensure human suffering is mitigated in West Africa, according to the U.S. Army Reserve Command.

"Army Reserve soldiers are highly educated, and professionals in their civilian careers," said Lt. Gen. Jeffrey W. Talley, chief of the Army Reserve and U.S. Army Reserve Command commanding general. "They are our doctors, lawyers, academics, scientists, engineers and information technology specialists on the leading edge of high-tech industry — a new generation of soldiers who grew up with technology in their hands, practice it in their profes-

Continued on page 54

She's daddy's girl

First father-daughter dance held at Japan base

HARBOR WATCH

The first "Father-Daughter Date Night" was held on Nov. 15 and hosted by the Camp Zama Protestant and Gospel Chapels at the Camp Zama Community Club, in Camp Zama, Japan.

The event coordinator, Maj. Paul McCullough, assigned to Defense Science and Technology Center Far East, said the purpose of the event was to give (fathers) an opportunity to spend some quality time with their daughters, and "to remind fathers of their awesome responsibility."

McCullough said 40 daughters and 28 fathers participated in the event, and included a scrumptious dinner, dessert, games, and of course dancing.

Games included "How Well do We Know Each Other," and more. Daddies held their daughters close and shared special moments with the special little ladies in their lives. Chaplain (Capt.) James Souza, assigned to 35th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion



DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL: A soldier dances with his daughter during Father-Daughter night at Camp Zama, Japan.

Noriko Kudo

ion said the event was a nice way to set aside a significant amount of time.

"We celebrated the relationships between fathers and

daughters," said Souza.

McCullough's 6-year-old daughter Sarah said her favorite part of the night was "dancing with (her) daddy."

FORUM

Continued from page 53

was so angry. I was so upset," he said.

"The fact that I did this with everyone and you want to put an award around my neck and slap me on the back and tell me 'congratulations,' when I didn't do it alone," Giunta explained.

"Two of my buddies gave every single-one of their tomorrows so I could have a today, and you're going to put a medal around my neck? I struggled with that," he said.

The Army wants to know what makes a hero, according to Army Gen. David G. Perkins, the commanding general of U.S. Army Training

and Doctrine Command.

"This term 'hero' we don't take lightly," Perkins said during the panel discussion. "We actually think about it quite a bit, and try to figure out what is it that makes one."

A hero is someone, in the face of adversity or danger and from a position of weakness, displays a will for self-sacrifice for the betterment of others, he said.

Perkins said Giunta did all of that during the battle.

"Valor is really the strength of mind and will to face danger and stand firm in the face of it," he said. "You have to possess valor to act in a heroic manner."

Giunta is an example of that, Perkins said.

"The medal that Sergeant Giunta wears is not the

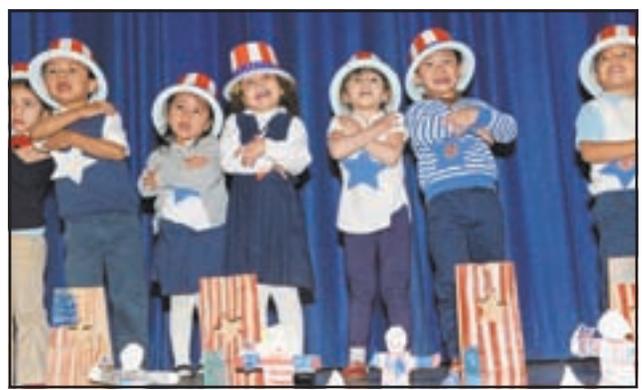
'Medal of Heroism,' it's called the Medal of Honor," Perkins said.

It is a great honor to be an officer who salutes a Medal of Honor recipient, Retired Air Force Gen. Paul Hester said.

"A sergeant wearing the Medal of Honor no longer offers his salute to an officer; the officer offers his salute to the Medal of Honor recipient," Hester said.

"A prouder moment for me as a one-star was when I stood at the bottom of the ramp of an airplane and [Army] Master Sgt. Roy Benavidez came to my base, Medal of Honor recipient from Vietnam, for me to stand there and offer him the salute as he came down the stairs," he said.

"It is a true honor," Hester said.



STARS AND STRIPES: Pre-kindergarten students at PS 216 sing songs during the program.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Vets honored at Ft. Hamilton Base

BY VANESSA OGLE

It doesn't have to be Veteran's Day to celebrate a hero.

The Veteran's Day Celebration at PS 216 in Gravesend on Nov. 18 gave kids a chance to thank the veterans who fought for their freedom with a series of songs and patriotic poems — but one Vietnam veteran said seeing the youngsters' smiling faces made him feel thankful that he had the opportunity to serve his country.

"It just makes you feel good that somebody appreciates it," said David Goldberg, who served in the Army and is a member of the Jewish War Veterans. "When you see the kids and you hear them, it makes you think of your own kids and makes you prouder to serve your own country."

The kids donned red, white, and blue outfits and performed on a stage that was decorated with stars and stripes. The youngsters' swayed and shimmied throughout their performances — and Goldberg said every piece was perfect.

"All of the presentations



SENIOR SALUTES: David Goldberg — an Army Vietnam veteran from Marine Park — sings the "Star Spangled Banner" at PS 216's Salute to the Veterans in Gravesend on Nov. 18.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

were great — it was the way it was done and by whom that mattered," he said. "I was moved throughout the entire performance."

Goldberg said he attends the performance every year with his fellow veterans and he said the celebration means more to him than the kids will ever know.

"You did something that made their world a little bit better," he said. "It means so, so much."

AID

Continued from page 53

sions, and leverage it while in uniform."

Soldiers will not be on the front lines of treating patients, officials said.

"Preserving the health of our soldiers is the highest priority for this mission," said Maj. Gen. Neal Loidolt, commanding general of Minnesota's 34th Infantry Division.

Minnesota will send nearly 700 "Red Bull" Infantry Division members to Liberia, for about six months,

officials said.

The Army says all soldiers who return from duty will undergo a 21-day "controlled monitoring period" to ensure they are healthy and have not contracted Ebola.

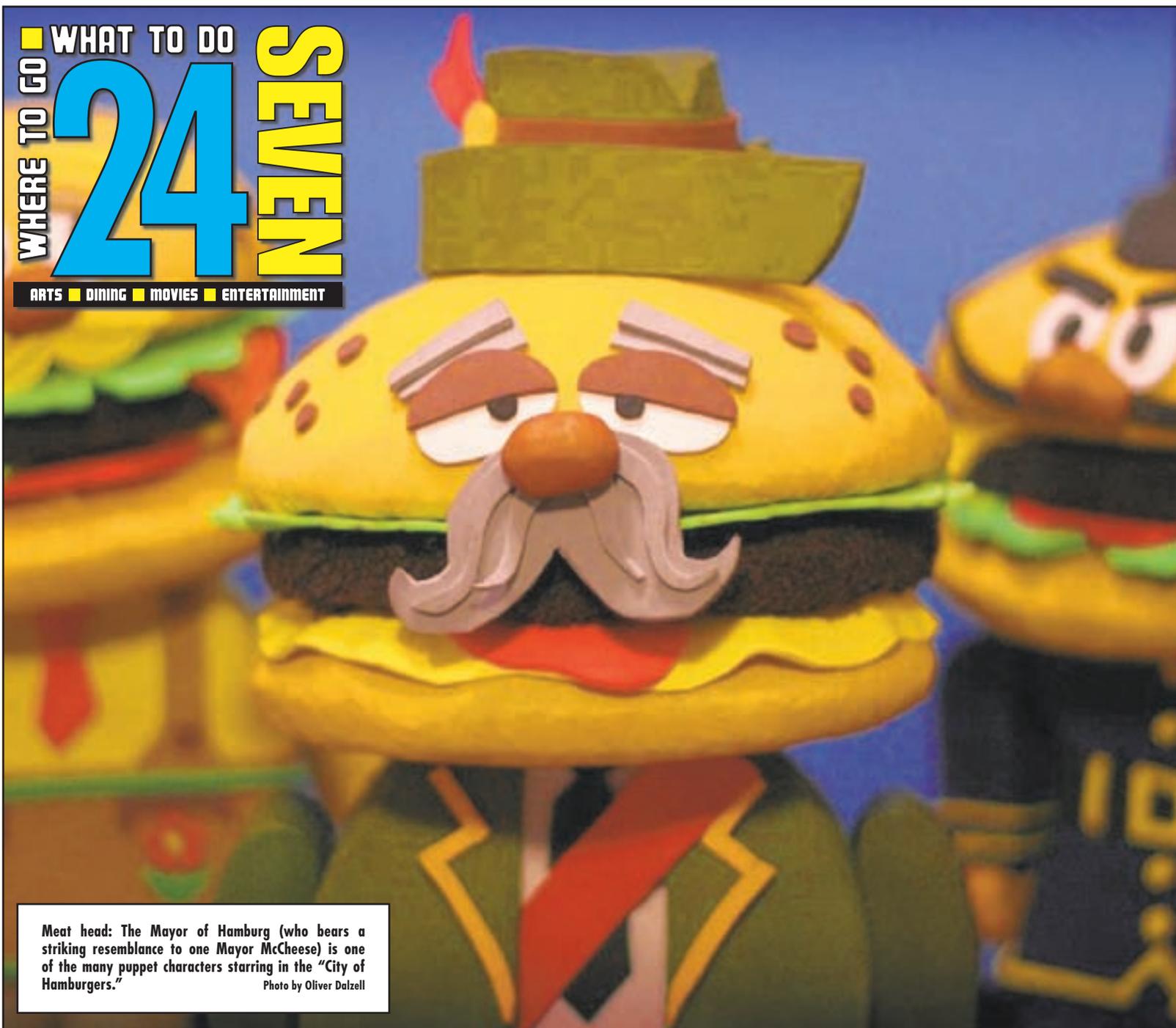
Units were selected based on their capabilities and ability to respond to the unique demands of the mission, officials said.

All mobilizing soldiers will conduct regionally-specific training on Ebola prevention, malaria prevention, other medical threats, and medical readiness requirements before deploying, officials said.

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WHERE TO GO ■ WHAT TO DO
24 SEVEN
 ARTS ■ DINING ■ MOVIES ■ ENTERTAINMENT



Meat head: The Mayor of Hamburg (who bears a striking resemblance to one Mayor McCheese) is one of the many puppet characters starring in the "City of Hamburgers."

Photo by Oliver Dalzell

Shakespeare shack

Puppets and Poets fest brings hamburgers to life

By Vanessa Ogle

Mmm, the land of hamburgers! The Bushwick Starr theater and Alphabet Arts artist collective are sandwiching marionettes and metrists together once again for their annual Puppets and Poets Festival on Dec. 6 and 7. And one of the performances in the two-day fest sounds both cheesy and saucy — and we mean that in the best kind of way. "City of Hamburgers" is a free, family-friendly show featuring anthropomorphized junk food speaking in silly rhymes. And it is the kind of story that is

perfect for the medium of puppetry, one of the performers explained.

"Puppetry has that little bit of magic in it — you're watching something inanimate come to life," said Kirsten Kammermeyer, a puppetry teacher who lives in Flatbush. "It is very bright, it's very colorful, the music is fun."

The story — adapted from a children's book by Mike Reiss, a former writer for "The Simpsons" — uses rod puppets to animate the imagination of a young boy named Jeffery, who is listening to his grandmother tell him a bedtime story about

her life in Germany. Jeffrey's grandmother is from Hamburg and his grandfather is from Frankfurt — and Kammermeyer said the story comes alive when Jeffrey's imagination beefs up her anecdotes.

"He is imagining all of these little kids' hamburgers running around and playing tag," she said. "He is imagining all these frankfurters."

The festival will also include two adult-oriented evening performances, featuring puppet plays with more mature content.

Kammermeyer said she hopes "City of Hamburgers" encourage kids to try their

hand — literally — at puppetry.

"It just allows kids to express themselves because they can put their focus on something else and make that something else do what they want to do — and say what they want to say," she said. "They can put all that creativity and the energy into this object they're making come to life."

"City of Hamburgers" is part of the Puppets and Poets Festival at Bushwick Starr (207 Starr St. between Irving and Wyckoff avenues in Bushwick, www.the-bushwickstarr.org). Dec. 6 and 7 at 3 pm. Free.

CYBORG NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

Robot to star in Downtown tree lighting

By Vanessa Ogle

Friends, Brooklynites, countrymen, lend me your gears.

A robot named Caesar — or cellularly accessible expressive semi-autonomous robot — is going to help Santa spread Christmas cheer at the 25th annual tree lighting at MetroTech Commons Downtown on Dec. 1. The electronic emperor, which stands 40-inches tall, is going to press a button on St. Nick's stomach that will activate the lights. But Caesar's primary job will be getting spectators young and old, naughty and nice into the holiday spirit, according to one of his creators.

"His main goal is to stand there and smile at onlookers, to wave his arms, and do other small facial expressions," said Jared Alan Frank, a doctoral student at New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering and the principle investigator of the project. "Caesar will be very animated on stage."

A team of more than six students and professors helped construct Caesar about two years ago as part of the university's robotics program, which is funded by the National Science Foundation. But



Photo by Jason Speakman

Bow down to your festive robot overlords: Caesar the robot will activate the Christmas tree lights at MetroTech Commons Downtown on Dec. 1.

Frank said he has given the droid some new upgrades specifically for the tree lighting ceremony.

The button that operates the tree lights is a heavy-duty industrial knob, so Frank had to restructure Caesar's arm into a much thicker limb than the original prototype.

"To be able to generate that

amount of force has taken a lot of brainstorming and repurposes," he said.

The tree lighting celebration will also feature some other electrifying acts — dancers from the American Ballet Theatre Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School, entertainers from Big

Apple Circus, singers from the Brooklyn Tech High School Choir, and members the Brooklyn Nets.

Frank said the ceremony will give Caesar a chance to mingle with the crowd and he said he hopes that the audience realizes that robots are truly a gift to all mankind.

"To illustrate that robotics is advancing where it can be brought out in public settings and used — we're going to show that," he said.

Tree lighting at MetroTech Commons (2 MetroTech Center between Lawrence and Bridge streets Downtown). Dec. 1 at 5 pm. Free.



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Pro-creations: Art show inspired by parenthood



The kids are alright: Artist Monica Carrier poses with her artwork and children, Lola, 5, and Cecilia, 1-and-a-half.
Photo by Stefano Giovannini

By Danielle Furfaro

Meet the parents — then meet their artwork.

A group of artists with offspring are exhibiting their work in a show at Rhombus Space in Red Hook show called "Post Partum Party," which examines the effects of pregnancy and raising young children on an artist's life and work.

No, the exhibition is not made up of sculptures featuring diapers, pacifiers, and baby shoes, but the works are all influenced by a life marked by wiping tiny runny noses.

"Having children has pushed me in the direction of being more playful, because of the way I communicate with my kids and talk to them about imagery and what they see," said painter and Williamsburger Monica Carrier,

whose has contributed several abstract images made from spilled ink to the show. "I have wanted more absurdity in my work, letting it be silly and letting people see what they want. I am now willing to have less control over the process."

"Post Partum Party" also includes the work of Hugh Walton, who made video pieces about his interpretation of childhood, Sydney Chastain-Chapman, who painted portraits of three generations of her family, and David Lukowski, who has created sculptures out of hams.

Another progenitor participating is artist Marni Kotak, who famously gave birth to her son, Ajax, in a Brooklyn art gallery three years ago, and then made another performance piece of going off the anti-depression med-

ication that she had been taking for post-partum depression.

The show's curator said she wants to celebrate the creations that procreation can inspire, rather than the limitations it is often seen to impose.

"There is a lot of stigma against artists who are parents being able to pursue an active practice and be competent parents at the same time," said Katerina Lanfranco, the show's curator. "I wanted to put on a show that embraces the complexities of that dual role and use it as fertile territory for creative practice."

"Post Partum Party" at Rhombus Space (183 Lorraine St. third floor, between Clinton and Court streets in Red Hook, www.rhombusspace.com). Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 pm until Dec. 14. Free.



Some Samples From Our Menu:

'PPA CUMINCIARI / APPS

ARANCINI • FRITTO MISTO

LE ZUPPE

ZUCCA LISCIA

N'ZALATE / SALAD

N'ZALATA DI BARBABIETOLE

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BRINE TIME!

Bulgarian pickling class comes with stories, songs

By Matthew Perlman

This class is kind of a big dill.

Members of a local Bulgarian arts collective are putting on a workshop for families in Greenwood Heights to teach them the art of pickling, Bulgarian style. But the recipe for this class contains some unexpected ingredients — the participants will also sing and tell stories from their home countries as they cook. One of the organizers said it is all about preserving culture while preserving food

“It’s an important way of sharing knowledge,” said Daniela Kostova, a Bedford-Stuyvesant artist who helped launch the Bulgarian Collaborative. “It’s a real cultural exchange.”

Kostova, along with fellow collective members Vlada Tomova and Meglena Zapreva, will supply all the fixings needed for pickling on Dec. 6 at Open Source Gallery — jars, vegetables, herbs, and brine. During the pickling process, the artists will explain their traditions and teach kids about the plants they are working with. At the end of the workshop, they will use the leftover veggies to make a soup. The idea is to take the sharing of cultures out of art galleries and museums and open it up to people from all walks of life, Kostova said.



Jarring: Daniela Kostova and Maglena Zapreva will run a pickling workshop for families in and around Greenwood Heights where they will sing and tell stories from their home country of Bulgaria.

Photo by Jason Speakman

tive to the exclusivity of the art world,” she said. “We want to make people feel comfortable and not be intimidated.”

Kostova said that pickling in Bulgaria is basically a survival skill that people use to preserve vegetables through the winter season. She remembers her grandmother preserving peaches, plums, and cherries for cold compotes, which were her favorite.

“It was just part of our culture,” she said. “You couldn’t have a meal without pickles.”

Kostova said she finds it interesting that artisanal pickling has become so hip in Brooklyn, while ethnic stores around the city have always sold the brined basics.

“We wanted to connect these two different cultures — the gourmet and the real-deal pickling,” she said.

“Pickles / Stories / Songs” at Open Source Gallery (306 17th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Greenwood Heights, exchange-works.co/offers/pickling). Dec. 6 from 1–2 pm and 2:30–3:30 pm. \$35 per family.

Bay Ridge lights up for the holidays

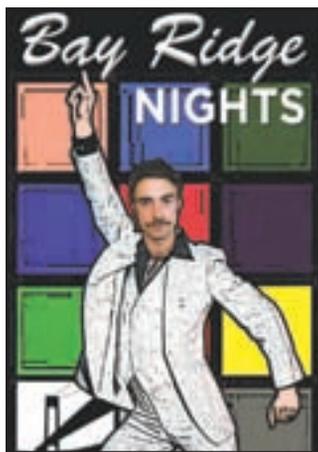
By Max Jaeger

Now you are stuffed full of Turkey Day cheer — and turkey — work off that stuffing by rocking out in the Ridge.

There is plenty of live music to sweat to this weekend, and with Thanksgiving out of the way, the neighborhood is already turning its sights to the rest of the holiday season.

On Friday, waddle over to **Greenhouse Cafe** (7717 Third Ave. between 77th and 78th streets), where British Invasion mavens London Fog will drape the cafe in a haze of Brit-Pop goodness starting at 9 pm.

On Saturday, celebrate the life and music of local a legend — the late Jerry Greaney — at the fourth annual Jerry Greaney Day Celebration at **Lief Bar** (6725 Fifth



Ave. between 67th and Senator streets). The Head and South band is headlining with special guests, so you can bet you bottom dollar there will be some serious Southern rock going around. The tribute kicks off at 9 pm.

If you are stuck taking your visiting family out for the night, head to the **Wicked Monk** (9510 Third Ave. between 95th and 96th streets) for party-pop tunesters Hot Date at 11 pm. The Long Island group plays dance, hip-hop, rock and country, so you have got all your bases covered if trying to please a fickle array of relatives.

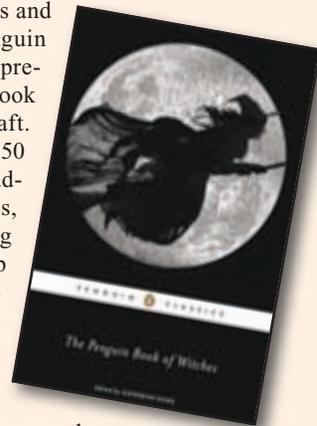
Wednesday night is all about getting into the holiday spirit. The Owl’s Head Park Horticulture Group is lighting up a holiday tree in **Owl’s Head Park** (68th Street and Colonial Road) at 7:30 pm. There will be hot chocolate on tap and live music from the Guild for Exceptional Children Choir’s choir, as well as an appearance from Santa. The park’s super-secret new mascot will also be making his debut, according to a hot scoop from the event’s organizer.



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

Word’s pick: “The Penguin Book of Witches” by Katherine Howe

Spanning two continents and three centuries, “The Penguin Book of Witches” is a comprehensive and fascinating look at this history of witchcraft. Howe has curated nearly 50 primary sources — including warrants, court records, and even a witch-hunting manual — which, with help from her insightful introductions, give the reader an entirely new perspective on witchcraft and early American history.

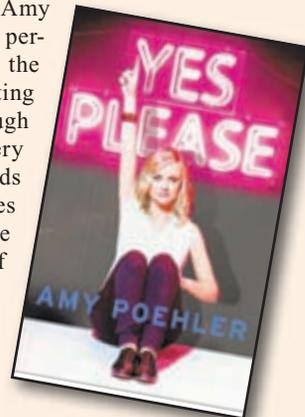


If you’ve ever wondered over the judgement of our ancestors or our continuing fascination with witches, this book will certainly satisfy.

— Emma Nichols, Word [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383–0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com].

The BookMark Shoppe’s pick: “Yes, Please” by Amy Poehler

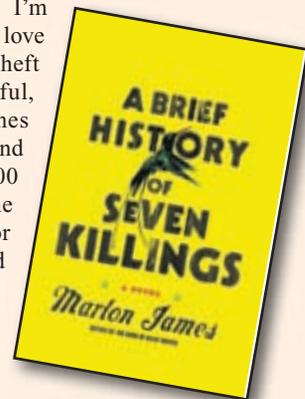
Sharp and insightful, Amy Poehler’s “Yes, Please” is a perfect way to get through the holiday madness by just sitting back and enjoying a good laugh and some fun writing. Every single Amy Poehler fan needs to read this book. She tackles many important topics while using her amazing sense of humor to personalize it.



— Christine Freglette, The BookMark Shoppe [8415 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833–5115, www.bookmark-shoppe.com].

Greenlight Bookstore’s pick: “A Brief History of Seven Killings” by Marlon James

In short, a masterpiece. I’m completely and utterly in love with this book. Don’t let its heft deter you — James’s powerful, evocative writing combines with a story so convoluted and so compelling that these 700 pages are devoured in the blink of an eye. Perfect for fans of John Le Carre and James Ellroy (weird combo, I know), though honestly, if you consider yourself a real lover of fiction, this is one of the year’s must-reads.



— Emily Russo Murtagh, Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246–0200, www.greenlightbookstore.com].

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, ROBERT RAN-DOLPH AND THE FAMILY BAND, ANIMAL YEARS: \$20. 6 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklyn-bowl.com.

MUSIC, RUNAWAY DOROTHY: Free. 8:30 pm. Hill Country Barbecue [345 Adams St. at Willoughby Street, (718) 885-4608], www.hillcountrybk.com.

MUSIC, AKIM FUNK BUD-DHA'S HIP-HOP HOLIDAY: Free. 9 pm. BAM Cafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene], www.bam.org/programs/bamcafe-live.

THEATER, "TAMBURLAINE, PARTS I AND II": Christopher Marlowe play about a Scythian shepherd who rises to power to become king of half the world. \$55-\$100. 7 pm. Theatre for a New Audience, Polonsky Shakespeare Center [262 Ashland Pl. between Fulton Street and Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (212) 229-2819], www.tfana.org.

THEATER, "TRISTAN AND YSEULT": Kneehigh Players present an adaptation of the play. \$30. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [29 Jay St. between John and Plymouth streets in Dumbo, (718) 254-8779], www.stannswarehouse.org.

OTHER

ART, "BIRTH CULTURE": Photographer Alice Projanski's exhibition documents the ways different cultures regard birth, from midwives and hospitals to the nature of birth itself. Free. 10 am-6 pm. United Photo Industry [111 Front St. between Washington and Adams streets in Dumbo, (718) 215-9075], www.unitedphotoindustries.com.

ART, "MONKEY SEE": Featuring art by Matther Couper, Robert McLeod, Mason Saltarrelli, Warwick McLeod, and Lorene Taurerewa. Free. 1-5 pm. Tabla Rasa Gallery [224 48th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park, (718) 833-9100], www.TablaRasaGallery.com.

COMEDY, RHYS DARBY: \$25. 6:30 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouseny.com.

COMEDY, LIVING ROOM SHOW: Featuring comics Lance Weiss, Nore Davis, and Kareem Green. Free. 8 pm. Postmark Cafe [326 Sixth St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope].

COMEDY, ANDRES DU BOUCHET: Celebrating the release of his second comedy album, "20-Sided Guy." \$10. 9 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouseny.com.

WHAT TO DO SEVEN EVENTS



Art of Glass: Philip Glass and nine pianists will perform "The Etude" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Dec. 5 and 6.

SAT, NOV. 29

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

TALK, INTRO TO BIRD

WATCHING: Take a tour and learn about the 250 species of birds that call Prospect Park home with Brooklyn Bird Club. Free. Noon-1 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400], www.prospectpark.org/audubon.

WATERFOWL: Kids join with rangers to discover the birds of winter. Bring field guides and binoculars or ask a ranger to borrow a pair. Free. 10 am. Salt Marsh Nature Center [3302 Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 421-2021].

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, ROBERT RAN-DOLPH AND THE FAMILY BAND, MICHAEL BELLAR & THE AS-IS ENSEMBLE, LIONS ON THE MOON: \$20. 6 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklyn-bowl.com.

MUSIC, MORIA, AIR FOR ANTS, PLEISTOCENE, BETHLEHEM STEEL: \$8. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, TODD ADELMAN: \$12. 8:30 pm. Hill Country Barbecue [345 Adams St. at Willoughby Street, (718) 885-4608], www.hillcountrybk.com.

THEATER, "UN BALLO IN MASCHERA": Presented by the Regina Opera Company, in Italian with English subtitles. \$25. 3 pm. Our

Lady of Perpetual Help School [5902 Sixth Ave. at 60th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 259-2772], www.olphschoolbrooklyn.org.

OTHER

COMEDY, ANDY KINDLER — LIVE AND IMPERSONAL: \$12 (\$10 advance). 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

SUN, NOV. 30

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, MUSIC FROM GOOD SHEPHERD: Featuring Roger Verdi on the trombone. Free. 6 pm. Good Shepherd Church [Avenue S and Batchelder Street in Marine Park, (718) 998-2800].

MUSIC, NERD KARAOKE: DJ Joe Rude and the Kings of Karaoke present a night to sing songs from nerdy acts such as They Might Be Giants, Tom Lehrer, and Jonathan Coulton. Free. 10 pm. The Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (718) 627-4949], www.waystationbk.com.

OTHER

WINTER ON A FLATBUSH FARM: Kids learn how to make candles, watch a master spinster spin wool thread, and enjoy Dutch treats. St. Nicholas will also make an appearance at 3 pm. \$3. 1-4 pm. Lefferts Historic Homestead [452 Flatbush Ave. between Empire Boulevard and Eastern Parkway in Park Slope, (718) 789-2822], www.prospectpark.org.

WOMEN'S SOCIALIZING AND DINING CLUB:

Weekly women's group for single women aged 48-68. Reservations are a must. 2 pm. El Greco Diner [1821 Emmons Ave. at Sheepshead Bay Road in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 336-7908].

MON, DEC. 1

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

ICE SKATING SCHOOL: Instruction, fitness, homework help, and more for students in grades first through eighth. Must live in Brooklyn or go to school in Brooklyn, and be eligible for free or reduced lunch program. Preregistration required. Free. 4-6:30 pm. Lefrak Center in Prospect Park [Parkside and Ocean avenues in Prospect Park, (718) 594-7439], www.brooklynice.org.

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, COMPOSERS CONCERT: Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music composers present new acoustic and electroacoustic works. Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn College, Studio 312 [2900 Bedford Ave. at Campus Road in Flatbush, (718) 951-5792], www.bc-music.org.

MUSIC, ENCYPPER, QEW LUNEL AND THE MO-SAIC, CANCION, FOXY, SIM ROSS & THE EASY TRUTH: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

OTHER

READING, GRINCH DAY: Celebrate the eye-guy at a special reading of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" with a coloring activity to follow. Free. 4 pm. Barnes and Noble [267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066], www.barnesandnoble.com.

TALK, MY NAME IS NEW YORK — RAMBLIN' AROUND WOODY GUTHRIE'S TOWN WITH NORA GUTHRIE: Nora Guthrie discusses her father Woody's travels across the United States in this multimedia presentation. \$10. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierreport St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklyn-history.org.

COMEDY, SACK MAGIC: Weekly comedy show hosted by Grant Gordon and Louis Katz. Free. 9 pm. Legion (790 Metropolitan Ave. at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg), www.legion-bar.com.

TUES, DEC. 2

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, THE NTH POWER, FREEKBASS: \$10. 6 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklynbowl.com.

MUSIC, BROOKLYN COLLEGE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC JAZZ ENSEMBLE: Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn College, Studio 312 [2900 Bedford Ave. at Campus

Continued on page 60



Bulls on parade: The Nets charges the Bulls at Barclays Center on Nov. 30. Associated Press / Seth Wenig

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, NOV. 28

SPORTS, BARCLAYS CENTER CLASSIC: Basketball tournament featuring Virginia, Rutgers, Vanderbilt, and La Salle. \$35.50-\$250. 7 pm.

SAT, NOV. 29

SPORTS, BARCLAYS CENTER CLASSIC: 7 pm. See Friday, Nov. 28.

SUN, NOV. 30

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. CHICAGO BULLS: \$75-\$4,000. 3 pm.

WED, DEC. 3

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. SAN ANTONIO SPURS: \$35-\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

FRI, DEC. 5

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. ATLANTA HAWKS: \$25-\$3,000. 7:30 pm.

SAT, DEC. 6

SPORTS, BROOKLYN BOXING: David Lemieux vs. Gabriel Rosado. \$15-\$150. 8 pm.

SUN, DEC. 7

SPORTS, BIG APPLE CLASSIC: Basketball tournament featuring Virginia State University, Virginia Union University, North Carolina Central University, and Howard University. \$26-50-\$46.50. 3 pm.

MON, DEC. 8

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. CLEVELAND CAVALIERS: \$85-\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

THURS, DEC. 11

MUSIC, SMOKEY ROBINSON: \$40.50-\$105.50. 8 pm.

620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights (917) 618-6100, www.barclayscenter.com.

FRI, DEC. 12

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. PHILADELPHIA 76ERS: \$70-\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

SUN, DEC. 14

MUSIC, JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE: The 20/20 Experience World Tour. \$54.50-\$200. 8 pm.

TUE, DEC. 16

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. MIAMI HEAT: \$20-\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

THURS, DEC. 18

SPORTS, LIU BROOKLYN BLACKBIRDS VS. FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY: Basketball tournament. \$15-\$25. 7 pm.

FRI, DEC. 19

MUSIC, CHRISTMAS IN BROOKLYN: featuring Run DMC, LL Cool J, DJ Z-Trip, and Lecrae. \$19.99-\$225. 7:30 pm.

SUN, DEC. 21

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. DETROIT PISTONS: \$22-\$3,000. 6 pm.

MON, DEC. 22

SPORTS, BROOKLYN HOOPS HOLIDAY INVITATIONAL: College basketball tournament featuring Providence, Miami, Fordham, and Manhattan. \$15-\$56.50. 6 pm.

TUE, DEC. 23

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. DENVER NUGGETS: \$30-\$3,000. 7:30 pm.

WHAT TO DO SEVEN EVENTS

Continued from page 59

Road in Flatbush, (718) 951-5792], www.bcmusic.org.

SALES AND MARKETS

BOROUGH HALL GREEN-MARKET: Fruits and vegetables, plants and flowers, grass-fed meat, fish, free-range eggs, and grass-fed dairy products. Free. 8 am–6 pm. Borough Hall Plaza (Court Street at Montague Street in Downtown), www.grownyc.org.

OTHER

ART, PAINT NITE: Students learn to paint while drinking cocktails. Materials provided, no experience required. \$65. 7–9 pm. Schnitzelhaus [7319 5th Avenue between 73rd and 74th St. in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-5600], www.paintnite.com.

TALK, THE MOTH: Storytelling competition with the theme of the streets. \$8. 7 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklynhistory.org.

PROM THROUGH THE DECADES FUNDRAISER: Dance to prom songs from the past, plus a photo booth, open bar, snacks, dessert, and crowning of prom king and queen. Dress in your vintage prom best. All proceeds go to fund the Junior League of Brooklyn's Belle of the Ball Program and College Scholarship. \$45–\$55. 7 pm. Roulette (509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Downtown), https://2014jlbprom.eventbrite.com.

PAT KIERNAN'S POLAR CORTEX: "Winter pop culture"-themed trivia night hosted by Pat Kiernan. \$26. 7:30 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouse.com.

COMEDY, "THE FANCY SHOW": Producers Michael Joyce, Langston Kerman, Lane Pieschel, Simmons McDavid, and Jenny Zigrino share the stage with local talent. Free. 8 pm. Bar Reis [375 Fifth Ave. between Fifth and Sixth streets in Park Slope, (718) 974-2412].

MOVIE TRIVIA: Six rounds, including famous movie quotes, not so famous movie quotes, and Nicolas Cage quotes. Free. 8:30 pm. Videology (308 Bedford Ave. at S. First Street in Williamsburg), www.videology.info.

WED, DEC. 3

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, SLAP BRACELETS, EULOGY CLUB: \$10 (\$8). 7:30 pm. Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-

5740], www.therockshopny.com.

MUSIC, KIM GORDON AND LOREN CONNORS, GARY WAR: \$20. 8 pm. Issue Project Room [22 Boerum Pl. at Livingston Street in Downtown, (718) 330-0313], www.issueprojectroom.org.

MUSIC, "ON BEHALF OF NATURE": Meredith Monk explores our connection to the natural realm. \$20. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

OTHER

ART, KNIT AND CROCHET GROUP: Learn how to crochet and knit with instructors or simply spend time with fellow makers. All experience levels and ages 10 and up welcome, and participants can come and go as they please. Free. 1–3 pm. Brooklyn Pharmacy & Soda Fountain [513 Henry St. at Sackett Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 522-6260], www.brooklynpharmacyandsoda-fountain.com.

BALLROOM DANCE PROGRAM: Free ballroom dance classes. Students learn merengue, foxtrot, tango, cha cha, and swing. 6 pm. IS 96 [99 Avenue P between W. 11th and W. 12th streets in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 232-2266].

TREE LIGHTING: Candy canes, Christmas carols, Toys for Tots collection, and a visit from Santa. Free. 6:30 pm. McKinley Park [Bay Ridge Parkway and Ft. Hamilton Parkway in Dyker Heights, (718) 238-6044].

THEATER, "RODNEY KING": A solo work from Roger Guenveur Smith on the life of Rodney King. \$22 (\$18 advance). 7:30 pm. BRIC Arts Media House [647 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 683-5621], www.bricarts-media.org.

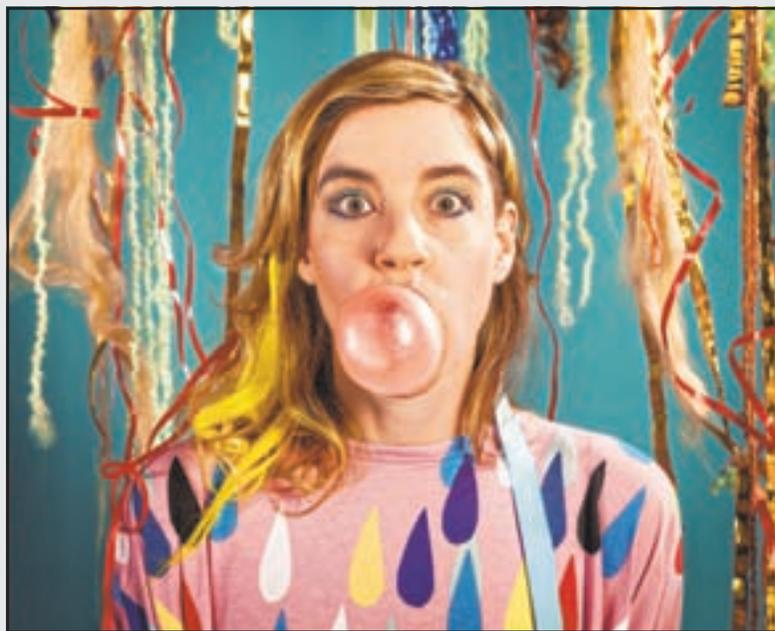
THURS, DEC. 4

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, AFTERNOON CHAMBER MUSIC: Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music students perform solo and chamber works. Free. 1 pm. Brooklyn College, Studio 312 [2900 Bedford Ave. at Campus Road in Flatbush, (718) 951-5792], www.bcmusic.org.

MUSIC, TUNE-YARDS: \$35. 8:30 pm. Music Hall of Williamsburg [66 N. Sixth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 486-5400], www.musichallofwilliamsburg.com.

MUSIC, THE JUDY BLOOMS, COUCH JACKETS, WILD BORE: \$10 (\$8). 7:30 pm. Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park



Yard work: Freak-folk artist Tune-Yards, also known as Merrill Garbus, will play a four-night run at the Music Hall of Williamsburg, Dec. 4–7. *Holly Andres*

Slope, (718) 230-5740], www.therockshopny.com.

MUSIC, BILL EVANS' SOULGRASS, JAMES CASEY AND FRIENDS: \$15. 6 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklynbowl.com.

OTHER

TALK, INVISIBLE CHILD — ONE YEAR LATER: One year on from the New York Times' "Invisible Child" series on 11-year-old Dasani, the reporter and one of Dasani's teachers look back at what has, and hasn't, happened in the intervening year. \$5 (free for BHS and Green-Wood members). 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklynhistory.org.

READING, KEN SIEGELMAN'S POETRY OUTREACH: Anthony Vigorito hosts a night of poetry featuring guest poets each week. For teens and adults. Free. 6:30 pm. Barnes and Noble [267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066], www.barnesandnoble.com.

TREE LIGHTING: Candy canes, Christmas carols, Toys for Tots collection, and a visit from Santa. Free. 6:30 pm. Lady Moody Square [Van Sicklen St. and Avenue U in Gravesend, (718) 238-6044].

READING, AARON REZNY AND JORDAN SCHAPS: Authors discuss Jewish cuisine in the Lower East Side at the launch of their cookbook, "Eating Delancey." 7–9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

FRI, DEC. 5

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, I AM THE HEAT, THE DANBEES: \$8. 7:30 pm. Rock Shop [249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and

President streets in Park Slope, (718) 230-5740], www.therockshopny.com.

MUSIC, "THE COMPLETE PIANO ETUDES BY PHILIP GLASS": Glass and nine other pianists will perform his 20 etudes, dating back to 1994. Performers include Aaron Diehl, Tania Leon, Maki Namekawa, and Jenny Lin. \$20. 7:30 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene], www.bam.org.

MUSIC, AZIZA MILLER: Free. 10 pm. BAM Cafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene], www.bam.org/programs/bamcafe-live.

MUSIC, DAN ABRAHAM, JESSI ROBERTSON, RICHARD BUCKNER: \$15. 7:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

MUSIC, THE OMNI ENSEMBLE: An evening of holiday chamber music. \$50 (\$50 per couple; \$25 students). 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300], www.bqcm.org.

OTHER

TREE LIGHTING: Features a window design competition, live performances, speakers, refreshments, Santa, and a toy and book drive. Free. 6–8 pm. Belarusian Church [401 Atlantic Ave. at Bond Street in Boerum Hill].

FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES AND SOUTHERN STYLE DINNER: Welcome Shabbat with food, singing, socializing, and stories. RSVP by Dec. 2. \$40 per family, \$20 per single. 6:30 pm. Bay Ridge Jewish Center [8025 Fourth Ave. between 80th and 81st streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-3103], www.brjc.org.

READING, "THE POLAR EXPRESS": Free. 7 pm. Barnes and Noble [267

Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066], www.barnesandnoble.com.

SAT, DEC. 6

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Featuring the Grand Street Community Band. Free. 6–7:30 pm. New Utrecht Reformed Church [1831 84th St. between 18th and 19th avenues in Bensonhurst, (718) 256-7173], www.historicnewutrecht.org.

MUSIC, "CHRISTMAS ORATORIO": Musica Nuova and the Weckmann Project present Baroque work by Heinrich Schutz. \$10–\$25. 7 pm. Zion German Evangelical Lutheran Church [125 Henry St. between Clark Street and Love Lane in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 852-2453], peatix.com/user/525203/view.

MUSIC, MATT WONG: Seventeen-year-old guitarist performs for the release of his second album "Reflections." Free. 8 pm. Tea Lounge [837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762], www.tealounge.com.

THEATER, "JERRY'S GIRLS": Gallery Players present a musical revue of Broadway composer Jerry Herman. \$18. 8 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101], www.galleryplayers.com.

SALES AND MARKETS

35TH ANNUAL UNIFAIR: The First Unitarian Congregational Society hosts its 35th annual Unifair, with clothing, jewelry, household goods, decorated holiday wreaths, books, records, DVDs, and baked goods. Free. 10 am–4 pm. First Unitarian Church [50 Monroe Pl. between Pierrepont and Clark streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 624-5466], www.fuub.org.

BROOKLYN HOLIDAY BOOK FAIR: Independent

and antiquarian booksellers sell rare, vintage, and out-of-print books. Free. 11 am–5 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], theoldstonehouse.org.

FLEA MARKET: Monte's Restaurant hosts a holiday flea market. Noon–5 pm. Monte's Restaurant [451 Carroll St. between Nevins St. and Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 852-7800], www.montesnyc.com.

OTHER

SPORTS, JINGLE BELL JOG: Family-friendly four-mile race with raffles and prizes. Proceeds benefit New York Road Runner's Youth Programs. Entrance fee includes bells for your sneakers, a pair of knee-high tech socks, and hot chocolate. \$55. 7:30 am. Prospect Park Nethermead (Enter the park at Flatbush Ave. and Lincoln Road in Prospect Lefferts Gardens), www.nyrr.org.

WINTER JAMBOREE: Face painting, temporary tattoos, arts and crafts, a bake sale, snacks, balloons, and live music from City Stomp. Proceeds go to Families First charity. \$25 per family. Noon. [250 Baltic St. between Court and Clinton streets in Cobble Hill, (917) 543-2011].

WALTZ OF THE FLOWERS: Explore the world of "The Nutcracker" in a workshop for children 4 through 12 years old. No dance experience necessary. On-line registration required. Free with admission. Noon–1:30 pm and 2 pm to 2:30 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220], www.bbg.org.

SINTERKLAAS: Go inside New York's oldest house to explore the origins of Santa Claus. With traditional live music, Dutch treats, holiday crafts, and a special visit with St. Nicholas as he arrives on horseback. Free. 1–4 pm. The Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum [5816 Clarendon Rd. between E. 59th Street and Ralph Avenue in Canarsie, (718) 629-5400], www.wyckoffmuseum.org.

THE BROOKLYN COOKIE TAKEDOWN: Bakers from across the city compete to create the best cookies. Observers can consume bottomless cookies and eggnog. \$20. 2–4 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouse.com.

HOLIDAY FIESTA: Food, fun, and dance along with holiday gifts, an audience nutcracker freeze dance, and an open house. \$10 (\$15 at the door; children under 5 \$5). 3:30 pm and 5 pm. PS 77 [62 Park Place, between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 522-4696].



Their 'Finest' hour at the precinct

BATH BEACH

Put your hands together for New York's boys in blue. Cops from the **62nd Police Precinct** in Bath Beach were medaled and rewarded for going above and beyond the call of duty at ceremonies at St. Finbar's Msgr. Scanlon Center on Nov. 15.



It is no surprise that the officers were commended with medals because, not only do they stand at the forefront of protecting the members of the community every day, but they go way above what the shield requires.

Our roving photog **Steve Solomonson** — friend to the Finest and to Standing O — was present to snap away and congratulate the awardees.

Standing O offers thanks to the officers for their dedication and commitment to keeping the streets of Bath Beach safe for all.

62nd Police Precinct [1925 Bath Ave. at Bay 22nd Street in Bath Beach, (718) 236-2611].

BAY RIDGE

He says goodbye

Standing O bids a happy retirement to **Dr. Laszio Biro**, after 57 years of treating the community at **Bay Ridge Skin and Cancer Dermatology**, the firm he founded more than 40 years ago.

The good doctor will be trading his white coat and stethoscope in for a set of irons and a natty golf sweater, and heading to warmer climes in sunny Florida. In his long and storied career, Dr. Biro pioneered cryosurgery — the use of extreme cold in surgery to destroy abnormal or diseased tissue — and has lectured around the country on the topic.

He was the former president of the Bay Ridge Medical Society, and a professor of dermatology at the Statue University of New York Health Science Center, and Lutheran Medical Center.

He leaves the practice in the very capable hands of his son, **Dr. David Biro**, and hopes that one of his grandsons will follow in the family business as well.

"He will be greatly missed," said a staff member. "It is an end of an era."

Standing O wishes Dr. Biro a bogey, eagle, and hole in one.

Bay Ridge Skin and Cancer Dermatology [9921 Fourth Ave. at 99th Street



LIGHTING UP: Catholic clergy and staff of Maimonides Medical Center gathered for a celebration of lights. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

Twinkle, twinkle, Christmas lights

BOROUGH PARK

Maimonides Medical Center kicked off the season of holiday cheer and Christmas ho, ho, ho with a celebration of light on Nov. 19 in the hospital auditorium.

"The annual event is an opportunity for Maimonides to provide financial support to Catholic parishes in Southern Brooklyn to defray the cost of Christmas lighting," said **Pamela Brier**, president and chief executive officer at the healing center.

Fellow attendees that helped

light the way to the seasonal festivities included "Mr. Maimonides" **Douglas Jablon, Dominick Stanzone**, our very own state Sen. **Marty Golden** (R-Bay Ridge), **Larry Morrish**, community activist **Eileen LaRuffa**, **Anne Blumetti-Stravaci, Msgr. John Maloney, Msgr. Jamie, Rev. Khader El-Yateem, and Arlene Figaro.**

Standing O says, "Thanks for keeping the lights on."

Maimonides Medical Center [4802 10th Ave. at 48th Street in Borough Park, (718) 283-6000].

in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-7616].

EAST FLATBUSH

Welcome, snip, snip

Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center's Department of Psychiatry snipped the ribbon and held its grand-opening of the new 25-bed Adult Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit. Festivities were held on Nov. 14 at the hospital's campus.

The new unit boasts a state-of-the-art inpatient psychiatric unit specifically designed for the treatment of younger adults with acute psychiatric illnesses in need of hospitalization. The new unit will expand the department's range of care.

Helping to cut the ribbon were **Dr. Stephen Mark Goldfinger, Dr. Linda Brady, Councilman Mathieu Eugene (D-Flatbush), Dr. Ellen Tabor, Jane Lederer, and Robert Dubicki.**

The psychiatric program includes an entire multi-disciplinary team of board-certified psychiatrists, registered nurses, psychiatric technicians, recreational therapists, behavioral health associates and clinical social workers, who remain committed to providing the highest quality of patient and family-centered care.

Mental disorders are among the most common causes of disability in our country, with almost 20 percent of our population, around 61.5 million

Americans, suffering mental illness in any given year, and approximately four percent of our adult population, or 13 million American adults, being chronically disabled by mental illness, said Dr. Tabor.

This new unit will provide an invaluable service for the community, and Standing O extends the welcome mat.

Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center's Department of Psychiatry [585 Schenectady Ave. at Rutland Road in East Flatbush, (718) 604-5000].

PROSPECT LEFFERTS GARDENS

Take a seat, Mr. Chairman

We hear that **Dr. Aam Baqui** has been appointed the new chairman and medical director of the department of Pathology and Laboratories at Interfaith Medical Center.



Hospitals president **Dr. Steven Korf** told Standing O that he is delighted with the appointment of Dr. Baqui, who has more than 30 years experience in the field and will provide vital diagnostic and assessments services to the community.



MIDWOOD

Frost-ing on the cake

Felice Frost of FrostBiz — Standing O friend and pal to seniors everywhere — hosted the third annual healthy aging expo at the Council Center for Senior Citizens on Nov. 13. Seniors received free screenings for blood pressure and blood sugar, flu shots, giveaways, and health-smart information on how to boost winter wellness.

More than 25 businesses attended this year's much anticipated event, including Agewell N.Y., Walgreens, and Affinity Health Care. **Nickie Cheng**, a representative from the New York City Department for the Aging, and staff from Coney Island Hospital were among the experts answering questions.

Thanks for the vital outreach, Felice, this Standing O is for you.

Council Center for the Senior Citizens [1001 Quentin Rd. at E. 10th Street in Midwood; (718) 627-7680].

Prior to joining Interfaith, Dr. Baqui served as assistant medical director, and director of microbiology and cytopathology in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Coney Island Hospital, and as medical director for anatomic and clinical pathology at Precise Diagnostics in New Hyde Park, N.Y.

The physician has also served as a pathology resident at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park, N.Y., completed a fellowship in cytopathology at Louisiana State University in Shreveport, L.A.; and completed a clinical post-doctoral fellowship in medical microbiology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Hospital in Baltimore, M.D.

Dr. Baqui is a member of the American Society for Microbiology, the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, and the College of American Pathologists. He is a resident of Elmont, N.Y.

Standing O is delighted to welcome Dr. Baqui, and wishes him a very long tenure.

Interfaith Medical Center [1545 Atlantic Ave. at Albany Avenue in Prospect Lefferts Gardens, (718) 613-4000].

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● 'This is our last chance, so we have to go out with a bang.'

— South Shore senior Brianna Fraser on the prospect of winning a title this season

● 'We are on a roll and hope to keep it rolling.'

— FDR coach Paul Klyap on reaching the Bowl Conference title game

Roosevelt reaches first-ever title game

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Tristin Thomas needed just one yard to keep a drive alive on fourth down as Franklin Roosevelt was trying to hold off Bayside in the fourth quarter. He got much more.

The senior running back burst through the middle of the defense untouched for a 46-yard touchdown that ensured the second-seeded Cougars a 32-20 victory over No. 4 Bayside in the Public School Athletic League Bowl Conference football semifinals last Sunday at Midwood Athletic Complex.

Thomas's teammates ran with him in celebration down the sideline.

"They told me, 'get the first down,' and I tried my hardest," said Thomas, who scored twice. "I saw the hole and I was gone."

The victory earns Franklin Roosevelt (10-2) its first-ever trip to the final, where it faces top-seeded McKee-Staten Island Tech at 7 pm Nov. 29 at Abraham Lincoln.

Roosevelt had not won a playoff game before this season. FDR's program only started in 2006, and the team lost its first two games this year, but won 10-straight games since then.

"It's very special," FDR coach Paul Klyap said. "Right now we are on a roll. We are on a roll and hope to keep it rolling."

Bayside (8-3) did its best to derail the Cougars' run, but it had an answer for each second-half charge. The Commodores got within 18-12 on a five-yard touchdown pass from Charlie Flug to Tyrell Plaza with 2:12 to go in the third quarter. FDR didn't take long to counter.

It needed just seven plays to go 71 yards on a drive that ended with Kaseem Morrison hitting Monrico Cummings for a 20-yard score to make it



EXTRA EFFORT: (Above) Franklin Roosevelt's Tristin Thomas dives into the end zone for a touchdown. (Right) Monrico Cummings runs down the sideline for FDR.

Photos by Joseph Staszewski

26-12 early in the fourth quarter. Bayside made it 26-20 on Tyrell Plaza's second touchdown run of the game before Thomas put the game out of reach.

The combination of Thomas and Morrison proved too much for Bayside to handle. Thomas carried the ball 16 times for 136 yards and two touchdowns. Morrison rushed for 67 yards and a score on eight carries, and also threw two touchdown passes to Cummings.

"At any point they can take over the game," Klyap said. "A little bit here, a little bit there and then — bam — they are gone."

Franklin Roosevelt felt its performance could have been even better, as fumbles and penalties gave Bayside a chance to stay in the game. FDR did take advantage of the Commodores' mistakes in the



first half. The Cougars scored just before halftime after a high snap on a punt left them deep in Bayside territory. Morrison found Cummings for a 16-yard score and Thomas ran in the two-point conversion to make it 18-6 at the half.

FDR knows it will need to be better to get revenge on a McKee-Staten Island team that beat it 22-18 in the season opener. The Sea Gulls scored a touchdown with eight seconds left to steal the victory. That left Franklin Roosevelt even hungrier to claim the crown.

"We were praying for this," Thomas said. "We were praying to play them again. We got one more shot."



GOING DEEP: Grand Street quarterback Justin White gets set to throw a pass.

Photo by Joseph Staszewski

Grand Street gets to semifinals

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Grand Street continues its historic playoff run, and is now just one win away from playing for a championship at Yankee Stadium.

The No. 5-seed Wolves used a big play from returning quarterback Justin White and defensive back Justin Phillip to beat No. 4 and host DeWitt Clinton 28-8 in the Public School Athletic League City Conference football quarterfinals last Saturday afternoon.

Grand Street, which has won eight-straight games, reaches the semifinals for the first time in program history.

"We are just rolling," said Grand Street coach Bruce Eugene. "Everybody said Fort Hamilton is the hottest team going. I just feel right now, my team is confident and we're just rolling."

White, who missed last week recovering from a concussion, made sure to keep the roll going. He completed eight of 12 passes for 188 yards and three touchdowns. White opened the scoring with an 80-yard touchdown pass to Kimani Talbot in the first quarter, and tossed a back-breaking 48-yard scoring pass on third and long to Taysir Mack to give Grand

Street a 20-8 lead with 5:51 to go in the third quarter. His 10-yard scramble on fourth down also kept a scoring drive alive in the second quarter that resulted in a 15-yard touchdown pass to Romilio Littlejohn.

"He's the trigger man," Eugene said. "He's the guy everybody on this team looks to, and we're all comfortable with him back there."

Eugene got on White for not getting an open Mack the ball. On the next play White scrambled in the pocket to get free enough to deliver a pass to Mack. The junior shook a defender along the left sideline and ran the final 15-yards for the score.

"The matchup was good," White said. "[The defender] was playing off we had to take a shot."

The offense for Clinton (9-2) didn't have as much luck outside of a 20-yard touchdown pass from DaShown Wilson Jr. to Chesley Carter to cut the Grand Street (11-1) lead to 14-8 with 1:23 to go in the first half. The Governors, with help from some Grand Street penalties, appeared ready to answer to Mack's touchdown in the third quarter. Philip made one of the game's biggest

Continued on page 66

Lightning Rod

Four Rodriguez touchdowns power Lincoln past Flushing

BY STEPHEN ZITOLO

Abraham Lincoln's defense was suffocating last Saturday, and senior Luis Rodriguez continued to make a strong case for being the city's best all-around player as Lincoln returned to the semifinals.

The second-seeded Railsplitters led from start to finish and beat the No. 7 Red Devils 31-6 in the Public School Athletic League City Conference football quarterfinals in Coney Island on Nov. 22.

Lincoln's stout defense didn't allow the usually explosive Flushing to do much, and forced five turnovers on the afternoon. The Railsplitters beat Flushing 56-0 in last year's semifinals.

"We knew Flushing scored a lot of points leading into this game," said Lincoln coach Shawn O'Connor. "Our defense was able to give our offense good field position all day long, and our defensive line did a good job of pressuring the quarterback."

Rodriguez provided more than enough offense for Lincoln (9-2), and was simply



HE'S OUR MAN: Lincoln's Luis Rodriguez, No. 11, was a major force in the Nov. 22 game against Flushing. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

unstoppable all day. He tore apart the Flushing defense with four touchdowns — three on the ground and one receiving.

"He's our go-to guy," O'Connor said. "He has been the guy for us all year long."

Rodriguez got the ball roll-

ing on the game's first drive as he caught a 15-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Paul Litvak to give Lincoln (9-2) a 7-0 lead. Litvak returned to action after missing the prior three games with an injury.

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Lincoln's Tripp in position to reclaim spotlight

Jahlil Tripp was supposed to arrive last season.

Instead, one of the most highly regarded and talented players in New York City ended up on the bench with crutches. He was shot in the leg early in the league season and later broke his tibia during the warm ups of his return game for Brooklyn Collegiate.

The talented junior wing, who still has plenty of Division-I interest and scholarship offers from Manhattan and Quinnipiac, is prepared to put his lost season behind him at his new home of Abraham Lincoln. The start of the season cannot come quick enough.

"I can't wait for Dec. 2 to roll around," said the 6-foot-4, 210-pound Tripp. "The ball will go up in the air and everyone will be there to see me back on the court."

He will again have a chance to put his name among the city's elite players. The Railsplitters are in need of a new star with the graduation of Isaiah Whitehead, and Tripp has the talent to be that guy. He can average a double-double, can score inside, and can also step back and hit the jumper.

"He is a miss-match problem for most schools," said Lincoln senior forward Ezekiel Charles. "If you put a big guy on him, he will go past him. You put a little guy on him, he will post him up."

First-year Lincoln coach Kenny Pretlow said Tripp is close to 100 percent, but his knee acts up on him now and again. It was tough early on because Tripp was so eager to play, but needed to take it slow in order to comeback healthy. Once Pretlow saw him starting to dunk again he knew Tripp was feeling better.

"I think he is anxious," Pretlow said. "He realizes that he can be one of the better players in the city."

Doing so at Lincoln was



JOE KNOWS

by Joe Staszewski

an easy choice for Tripp. He had wanted to join the Railsplitters out of grammar school, but formed too strong a bond with then-Brooklyn Collegiate coach Jacob Edwards.

With Edwards now an assistant at Lincoln, Tripp felt comfortable coming to Coney Island. Tripp is capable of playing any position on the court and will fill many different roles for Lincoln this season.

He went from an up-and-coming team to the Public School Athletic League's primer program. The spotlight is really on him now. It is an opportunity he is embracing.

"It's been really cool to be here, seeing all the trophies and all the legacy that has been left here, with all the players that have been here," Tripp said.

He has the chance to put his name with them over the next two seasons. It won't be easy. This year, he can simply return himself to the discussion with the likes of Christ the King's Rawle Alkins, Benjamin Cardozo's Rashond Salnave, Thomas Jefferson's Shamorie Ponds, and St. Raymond's Sidney Wilson as the city's premier talent.

A difficult season of bad breaks is well in the past, and limitless possibilities lie ahead of him.

South Shore seniors aim to win elusive crown

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The urgency to win this year isn't lost on Brianna Fraser and her fellow seniors at South Shore.

The Maryland-bound forward and her classmates have led the South Shore girls' basketball team to consecutive Public School Athletic League city title games, coming up short both times.

This season marks their last chance to bring the Vikings program its first crown.

The opportunity is there with defending champion Francis Lewis losing center Chelsea Robinson to graduation and Murry Bergrauam potentially taking a step back from its dominance after the resignation of legendary coach Ed Grezinsky. South Shore wants to have its turn to celebrate.



NOW OR NEVER: Brianna Fraser and her fellow seniors at South Shore know this is their last chance to win a city championship, after falling one game short in the past two seasons.

Photo by Ken Maldonado

"This is our last chance, so we have to go out with a bang," Fraser said. "We have to play as hard as we can, so we cannot only make it to the championship, but win the championship."

The 6-foot-3 Fraser is arguably the city's best player. She can post a double-double on any night and can handle the ball like a guard even at her size. It's a weapon most teams in the five boroughs don't have.

"She is one of the top players in the country," said South Shore coach Anwar Gladden.

The amiable Fraser sometimes needs a little push to dominate games, and said he needs to stop being tentative at times. She will have plenty of help in the paint from bruising junior forward Jordan

Continued on page 66



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Dutchmen take Fort Hamilton

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

No loss is a good one, but Erasmus Hall falling to Tottenville in the final game of the regular season led to a shake up of the running game that coach Danny Landberg had long been pondering.

The rushing load was spread out amongst more backs after a bye week. Shavar Brathwaite, and Keon Gravenhise were given bigger roles. The change led to three different players scoring on the ground for top-seeded Erasmus Hall in a 26-14 victory over No. 8 and visiting Fort Hamilton in the Public School Athletic League City Conference football quarterfinals last Saturday.

"I was just trying to improve and try to figure out how to use what we have in the best situation," Landberg said.

Gravenhise ran for 70 yards on 12 carries, and Brathwaite compiled 64 yards on eight rushes. Jahquel Webb carried the ball twice for 24 yards, including a nine-yard score to put the Dutchmen up 26-6 at the half. Kefa Cort ran for 23 yards and a touchdown on three carries. Jahsen Wint also added a score.

Getting off to a quick start was important against a Fort Hamilton team that had won four straight after losing to the Dutchmen 28-22 back on Oct. 18. Aaron John recovered a fumble and returned it for a touchdown to highlight a 19-point second quarter for Erasmus Hall (10-1). Freshman Matt Jones, who is now starting at nose guard, helped slow down the Fort Hamilton attack.



WEBB-SLINGER: Erasmus Hall's Jahquel Webb ran for a touchdown against Fort Hamilton last Saturday. Photo by Steven Schnibbe

"Coming out fast and strong and aggressive was the game plan," Landberg said. "That being done was a very important part of our momentum."

Fort Hamilton (7-5) couldn't take advantage of a long Devon Watts interception return in the third quarter, but still got itself back in the game. Sharif Legree ran for a three-yard touchdown to pull Fort Hamilton within 26-14, but that was as close as it got.

Erasmus hosts No. 6 Curtis at noon on Nov. 29 in the semifinals. The Dutchmen beat the Staten Island school 22-0 in the third week of the season, but Landberg doesn't expect it to be that easy the second time around.

"We expect them to come out rocking and socking,

ready to fight," he said. "We just have to give it our A game and make sure we carry out our plan."

Eagle Academy II 20, Adlai Stevenson 18: Ramell Redd carried the ball 18 times for 165 yards and two touchdowns for second-seed Eagle Academy (11-1) in the Public School Athletic League Cup Conference semifinals. Eagle Academy heads to the title game in its first season as a varsity team. Redd also caught a 48-yard touchdown pass. Du Sean Barnett completed six of seven passes for 138 yards and a touchdown. Brian Varick, Charles Hinton, Claude McCammon, and Tisshun Williams all collected interceptions. Eagle Academy II faces No. 3 Stuyvesant in the championship game at 6 pm Sunday at Abraham Lincoln.



CELEBRATION: Grand Street celebrates its victory over DeWitt Clinton. Photo by Joseph Staszewski

GRAND ST.

Continued from page 63

plays to ensure it didn't happen.

He scooped up a Clinton fumble from a pile of players and returned it 76-yards for a touchdown to help give Grand Street a 28-6 lead late in the third quarter. On the next play from scrimmage, he intercepted Wilson Jr.

Philip didn't want to call the scoop and score the biggest of his carrier, but said it was up there.

"I saw the ball on the floor and picked it up and ran," he said. "It was a very big play.

The play came and I took the opportunity to put it in the end zone."

It helped put Grand Street in position to avenge its only regular season loss when it visits No. 2 and defending champion Abraham Lincoln on Nov. 29 at noon. The Wolves celebrated with fans that made the trip to Clinton, but understood there is plenty of work to be done if Grand Street is going to bring home a championship.

"Our main goal is Yankee Stadium," Philip said. "We've said it since the beginning of the year — 'Chip or bust' — so this is another chapter in the story."

LINCOLN

Continued from page 64

"It's fantastic having Paul back," Rodriguez said. "He's our starter and he played really smart football today."

The defense then got involved on Flushing's first drive as it forced and recovered a Red Devil fumble, but couldn't capitalize on the turnover. On Flushing's next possession, the Lincoln defense was able to force senior quarterback Terrence Chavis to cough up the ball at his own 15-yard line. This time Rodriguez was able to punch the ball in from two yards out and give the Railsplitters a 14-0 advantage.

Flushing's offense seemed to be figuring things out in the second quarter as it drove down to Lincoln's side of the 50-yard line, but the Railsplitters stout defense stopped Flushing in its tracks and forced a turnover on downs. Rodriguez set up his team for another score as he blew by the Flushing defense into its secondary for a 58-yard run. The drive re-

sulted in a 35-yard field goal by junior Axel Pembele and a 17-0 lead heading into halftime.

The Red Devils (8-4) did attempt a comeback. Litvak was intercepted in the end zone and the ball was returned to the Lincoln one-yard line and eventually run in for a score to cut the Railsplitters' lead to 17-6 in the third quarter.

Rodriguez followed up the Flushing score with a 65-yard rushing touchdown, giving Lincoln a 24-6 lead. He put the game away for Lincoln with a 14-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

The win sets up a semifinal matchup with Grand Street at noon on Nov. 29 in Coney Island. Lincoln narrowly beat the Wolves 21-18 in the regular season.

"We have to have a week of intense practice," Rodriguez said. "We cannot take any days or plays off this week. They're going to come in one game away from Yankee Stadium just like us. Everyone is going to put it all on the line and do what we have to do to come out victorious."

SOUTH SHORE

Continued from page 64

Washington, who was a surprise contributor a year ago.

"This team is a little bit smaller," Fraser said. "We don't have a lot of big, but we are fast. We are going to try to blow teams out by being faster than them."

That's because the team is deeper and more seasoned

than last year, especially in the backcourt.

Senior Ashley McDonald, who has improved her ball handling, appears primed for a break out year. Classmate Amanda Cruz brings plenty of speed, and wing Ashley Salkey has shown improvement.

The x-factors could be sophomore guard Valena Hickerson and freshman wing Diamond Shavis. Both play with skills and confidence well be-

yond their years and can really score the ball.

South Shore believes it has all the ingredients to be a championship team. The seniors are determined to not let them go to waste after having their season ended one win from the crown in the last two years.

"It would mean everything to us," McDonald said. "We know how it feels to lose, but we want to know how it feels to win the championship."

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NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS JPMorgan Chase Bank. N.A., Plaintiff, against Keeler Rogers; et al., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 24, 2014 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201 on December 18, 2014 at 2:30PM, premises known as 117 Marcus Garvey Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11206 All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 1591 Lot 9. Approximate amount of judgment \$362,655.58 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 25782/2010. Jean Carmel Wesh, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard, Rochester, NY 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: November 6, 2014 11/18/2014 11/14, 11/21, 11/28, 12/05/2014

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- Identify client needs, communicate the benefits of our audience-based marketing solutions as they relate to each need and then sell the appropriate campaign.
- Negotiate contracts.
- Manage day-to-day activities using a CRM system.
- Meet or exceed revenue expectations.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Sales experience.
- Understanding of digital media platforms and be digitally savvy.
- Proficient in sales calling including up-selling, appointment setting and cold calling.
- Ability to work through objections/ concerns regarding costs, budgets and selling strategies.

POSITION OFFERS

Base salary plus commission, 401 K, Paid Vacation and medical

Please send your resume and cover letter to: epchenaya@cnglocal.com



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* Inquire for Details

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MEDICAL HELP WANTED

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Call
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- Use of car and valid driver's license

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We are seeking motivated outside sales reps to sell ads in our newspapers, magazines and websites. The positions involve selling advertising, working closely with clients to achieve and exceed their expectations, maintaining and developing a client base and seeking new business opportunities through face-to-face sales calls within your territory.

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Ralph D'Onofrio
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Tel: 718-260-2510



➤ MEDICAL HELP WANTED

➤ MEDICAL HELP WANTED

➤ HELP WANTED

➤ HELP WANTED

➤ JOB INFORMATION

➤ TUTORS

➤ MERCHANDISE WANTED

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Only submissions to the email box will be considered. Please do not call the store.

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- Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field
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- Must be bilingual in Cantonese and Mandarin

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Major household cleaning and chemical products Co. Needs several people to service customers **call Mon-Fri 9am-6pm**
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Leticia James Warns Consumers About Classified Ads

Toll numbers may be a direct line to trouble. Classified ads are intended to help people by facilitating communication and advertising available services; however, some of the hotlines & service numbers in classifieds actually hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. Any number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee beyond a local call. In some instances, ads initially advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all information & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party."

Office of the Public Advocate

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MILL BASIN TAG SALE BY MONA
WEDNESDAY 12/03, 10-3
5319 AVE. T
Treasures Await!!! Retro & Provincial & more fun, lamps, vintage cosmetic ads, china & more to uncover.

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CHRISTMAS Flea Market!
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➤ FLEA MARKETS

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CATALOG DISTRIBUTOR
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AUCTIONS

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DEC. 3 9:30AM
NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
Staten Island DDSO
930 Willowbrook Rd., Staten Island, NY 10314

DEC. 4 9:30AM
NYS Office of Mental Health
Kingsboro Psychiatric Center
681 Clarkson Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11203

Complete details and listings: nysstore.com

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Sun 11/30, 12-4 PM
546 EAST 87th ST
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NEW CONSTRUCTION
CONDOS
All Modern 2 & 3 Bedrms,
2 Baths, Hardwood Flrs,
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Laundry Rm, Recessed
Lighting. \$379K-\$429K.



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GRAVESEND
SUN 11/30 1pm-3pm
217 AVE S

Detached one family
corner property. 3
bdm duplex, with semi
finished basement. One
car garage off corner.
Has lots of potential.
Handy Man Special.
Near F & N trains
Asking \$668,000
Fin #414021

FILLMORE REAL
ESTATE
718-998-8820

BROOKLYN OPEN HOUSE

Sheepshead Bay
OPEN HOUSE
SAT. 11/29, 2-4PM
2827 East 26 St.
#1A

2 BDR condo in Water
Village. Central air & heat,
indoor parking included.
Patio, pool, sauna, gym.
Low maintenance-
only \$290 a month.
Asking \$550,000

WILK R.E.
Alex 347-276-0010

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www.traceyrealestate.com



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MIDWOOD
Detached Duplex, 4 Bdrs, 2
Baths, Large LR, DR, Den,
Hardwood floors through-
out, new boiler, private
drive, garage. 58x100 Lot!
.....PL1296



**SHEEPSHEAD
BAY**
3 Bdr Detached Duplex,
Large LR, DR, EIK, 1/2 Bath
over full basement, large
yard, shared driveway
.....PL1395



MIDWOOD
Detached 35x100 Lot! 3
Bdr Duplex, Large LR,
Formal DR, Large EIK, Bath
on every floor, full bsmt,
private drive, garage, yard.
.....PL1396



MARINE PARK
3 Bdr Detached Duplex,
EIK, Sun Room, Large LR,
Bath on every floor, Full Fin
Bsmt, Yard, Pvt Drive.
.....RT1404



MARINE PARK
4 Bdr Semi-Attached
Duplex, Full Fin Bsmt, 3/4
Bath, Shared Drive, Carport,
Garage, Updated Hot Water
Heater and Burner
.....PM1360



FLATLANDS
2 Bedroom Attached Brick
Ranch, Large LR, DR,
Kitchen, Living Room, Full
Finished Bsmt, Private Drive,
1 Car Garage, Rear Yard
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WE BUY HOUSES - ALL CASH!!

BROOKLYN OPEN HOUSE

Gravesend
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY 11/30
1-3 PM
2400 EAST 4th ST
#1-B

Modern, large 2 BDR
Duplex Condo, 2,000SF.
Jacuzzi. Beautiful kitchen
with granite counter tops
& island, stainless steel
appliances. Huge recreation
area with BATH. Low
maint. Tax abatement.
Prking & storage included.

WILK R.E.
Alla 718-775-8309

BROOKLYN OPEN HOUSE

OLD MILL BASIN
OPEN HOUSE
SAT NOV 29 1:30-3:30PM
5817 AVE L

Fabulous s/a w extra
long 1sr fir, custom kit,
s/s appl, cherry cabinets
& granite counters; wine
fridge as well. Half Bath
on 1st fl, Master br has
vaulted ceilings &
additional loft space, fin
bsmt, pvt yd & more!
Exclusive-Asking
\$485,000 BB1993
(718)-763-4110



BROOKLYN OPEN HOUSE

Sheepshead Bay
OPEN HOUSE
SUN. 11/30, 1-3PM
4240 Bedford Ave.

1 Fam 2 BDR Duplex, plus
walk-in recreation area with
a lot of storage space.
2 Bths. Andersen windows,
new boiler, water heater,
parquet flrs under carpet.
Very clean house. Nice
front and back porch,
bkyrd. Garage, private
drive. Asking \$649K

WILK R.E.
Tanya 917-435-6074

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Ave T & Bedford first floor
6.5 ultra \$1800 Joseph RE
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Ave U & Bedford 3.5 rms. 1
fl. up \$1100 "also" B/hurst
off 23rd Ave mod 4.5 "also"
Marine Park mod. 4.5 WI
"also" Mill Basin 6 + 2 bths
+ terr \$1750 Joseph RE
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Bath Beach
Don't Miss This! 3 room
W.I. 1BR, Lots of closets.
W/D there. 82 bus, 5 min.
to train, & shopping. Pet
ok. Pay all util. \$1100 Neg.
America
"The Greatest" Realty
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BAY RIDGE, 4 rooms,
private house. Call
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2 Bath, Lrg LR & DR.
25 mins to Manh. &
Close to "R" Train.
\$2,690/mo. (Negot.)
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917-716-8398

BENSONHURST
2 Bdrm, 4th Flr, All New,
Painted, Move Right In!
85th St btwn 18th & 17th
Aves.\$1475/mo.
1 Bdrm, 2nd Flr, Move-In
Cond, Prvt House, 63rd St
btwn 20th & 19th Aves. . .
.....\$1200/mo.
1 Bdrm, 2nd Flr, Move-In
Cond, 67th St btwn 18th &
17th Aves.\$1250/mo.
OWNER- NO FEE
References/Credit Chk
9am-5pm 646-208-9918

BROOKLYN APT. UNFURNISHED

BENSONHURST: 3Rms
\$1000, 4Rms \$1250, 6Rms
\$1500 Agent 917-805-8324

BENSONHURST: 3 Rms:
\$1,050.00 & 4 Rms, Terr:
\$1,300. 10% OFF FEE!
Bravo R.E.: 718-344-4444

BENSONHURST: Beautiful
Renovated 1 Bedroom. 1st
Floor. Near Shops &
Transportation. \$1,150/mo
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Non smoking. OWNER:
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8pm-11pm)

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Brand New One Bedroom
Apt with Mahogany Kitch,
Cabinets, Granite Counter
Tops, Hdwd Flrs, Hi Ceils,
Near N Train. Heat & Hot
Wtr Incl. No Pets. \$1300.
By Owner, Lve Message
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1.5 baths, 3 bedrooms, LR/
DR. Completely renovated.
Access to backyard, 2 ter-
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elevator apt building. Near
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Zone. 3.5 & 4.5 Rm apt.
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parking. Near All Transporta-
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washer, No pets, No smok-
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C12, 4th Flr, 1 BR: \$1,250
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6 1/2 rooms, 3BR, 1.5BA.
F/D, terrace. Painted.
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PLAZA: Huge 3 Bedroom,
1 New Bath. AGENT:
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1 and 2 Bedrm Rentals
Located on the Park!

Totally Renovated
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& Bathrooms
Stainless Steel Appliances
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Near Belt Parkway
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Lic. R.E. Salesperson



BORO PARK- New Utrecht
Ave/ 49th Street. 1 bedrm
apartment, freshly painted,
excellent condition, near
transportation, shopping.
\$1360. Section 8 welcome.
Owner 718-438-0118
No Saturday calls.

Ditmas Park-NO FEE
Unique Period 6 Fam Bldg.
3 Bedrm, Eat-in-Kitchen,
1 Flight Up. No Pets.
1 Block to Newkirk Plaza,
Train, Shops.
\$1649/month
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GRAVESEND, Newly
renovated 3.5 rooms, video
bell, new wood & tile floors,
prvt house, non-smoking,
no pets, \$1,400/month incl
heat, gas, h/wtr.
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GRAVESEND NO FEE
217 Quentin Rd
#11, 2nd fl, Studio: \$1100
#3A, 4th flr, 1 BR: \$1250
OPEN HOUSE Tues 3-4PM
Sat & Sun, 2-3:30PM
Call super for additional
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Marin Mgmt. 157 East 25
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Madison- Cozy 1 bdrm, 1st
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\$1,100/mo. Century-21
Homefront, 718-252-6060

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Combo apt for rent. 1st
floor 2BR w/ fin bsmt. Bsmt
can be used as 1 or 2 BR.
Full bath on 1st flr. Bsmt
has 3/4 bath. Newly renov.
w/2 car gar.

Call Owner
917-749-5377
MARINE PARK: Large 3
rooms. Freshly painted.
HWF. Renovated kitchen,
bathroom. Near transit.
Heat/Hot water included.
No pets. \$1400.
917-324-5069

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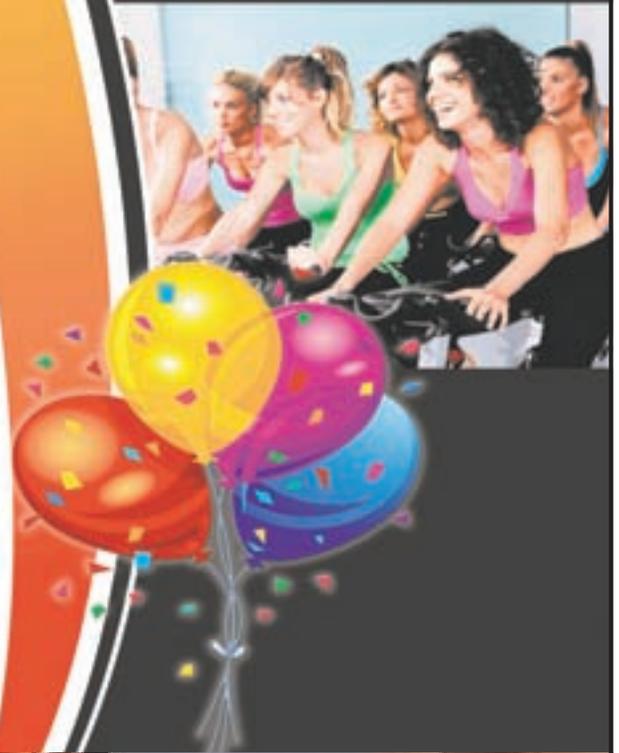
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