

BROOKLYN *Courier*

Feb. 19-25, 2016

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TRAM SWIPE-OUT!

DeBlasio: Streetcar may not offer free subway or bus transfers

BY LAUREN GILL

Straphangers may have to pay a second fare when switching from subways and buses to the streetcar Mayor DeBlasio wants to build along Brooklyn's waterfront for their ride, Hizzoner admitted on Tuesday.

The news contradicts previous claims from those working on the project that it will offer free transfers between services, which the mayor couldn't guarantee because the city has only just started speaking to the state-controlled Metropolitan Transportation Authority about connecting the two.

"We've just begun [discussions],"

said DeBlasio at a Red Hook press conference touting the benefits of the proposed Sunset Park-to-Queens trolley on Feb. 16. "Our goal is full integration and maximum transfers ... we've got to work that through with the MTA,"

DeBlasio reiterated previous promises that a ride on the \$2.5-billion city-funded streetcar would cost no more than whatever a standard MetroCard swipe does if and when the proposed service launches around 2024, but denied claims made by former traffic commissioner "Gridlock" Sam Schwartz — whose engineering firm worked on

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TALL TALES: Mayor DeBlasio touts his streetcar plan, flanked by local pols and business leaders, in Red Hook on Feb. 16. Community News Group / Max Jaeger



Horsing around

Hardcore "My Little Pony" fans such as Amanda here went all out with regalia inspired by the children's cartoon at PonyCon, held at Park Slope's sparkliest entertainment venue Grand Prospect Hall during the weekend of Feb. 13. For more, **see page 5.**

Photo by Louise Wateridge

Turf war

Students join street fight against Bklyn Law hedge

BY LAUREN GILL

This grass-roots opposition is growing!

Brooklyn Law School must pull its application to install large planters in front of its Downtown campus that will force out local sidewalk vendors, say students who joined the peddlers in their fight against the foliage last Friday with an online petition demanding school honchos stop using their fees on "frivolous" landscaping and let the merchants stay put.

"We, as students, believe that it is fundamentally unjust for our school to spend our tuition money displacing people who rely on those spots for their livelihood," said Devin Horzempa, who started the digital appeal and has since gathered more than 300 signatures.

The vendors — who hawk kids' books, fruit, and jewelry on Joralemon Street near Boerum Place — have been terrified of losing their prime trading

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Brooklyn's office boom!

Report: High-end cubicles are taking over the borough

BY LAUREN GILL

Brooklyn is no longer Manhattan's back office!

Developers are erecting high-end office buildings across the borough, and real estate experts say big companies are now rushing to relocate inside them so they can tap into the local talent pool — bucking Kings County's image as a place to stash away support staff in cheap digs.

"Brooklyn checks a lot of boxes now that the space is there," says Michael Berg of commercial broker Jones Lang LaSalle, which just released a report documenting the white-collar building boom. "More young, creative talent is concentrated there."

The borough will gain another 5.2 million square feet of cubicle space by 2019, the company estimates — the equivalent of almost two Empire State Buildings — with most development concentrated in Dumbo, Downtown, Fort Greene, and Williamsburg.

Demand is so high, some developers are ditching their plans for luxury residential towers to create swanky of-

fice complexes instead.

In October, Glacier Global Partners abandoned a condominium project inside a Dumbo waterfront warehouse to fit it out for businesses. And the next month, Jemb Realty announced it was scrapping a planned apartment building Downtown — which boasts some of the lowest vacancy rates in the city — to create a 40-story commercial building.

Jemb claims businesses are now beating down its door to snag space in its Albee Square West building — the first new office tower to rise Downtown in more than a decade — when it opens in 2018.

"They want us to build faster and they're very excited to get in there," said president Jacob Jerome.

Jerome says around 80 percent of the businesses looking at the building are creative companies hoping to move out of the overcrowded Manhattan market to the borough many of their employees call home.

"People want to live and work in Brooklyn," he said.

Berg claims an unnamed Fortune 500 company was previously sniffing around Empire Stores — a converted warehouse in Brooklyn Bridge Park that his firm is representing. It didn't sign on, but he predicts another huge company will migrate to the Borough of Kings in the near future.

"I think in the next 12 to 18 months we are going to see a big tenant," he said. "I think it's going to be a creative tenant."

In a sign of the times, banker Morgan Stanley is rumored to be moving its back office out of Brooklyn Heights' tony One Pierrepont Plaza, the same building that houses Hillary Clinton's campaign headquarters, in search of cheaper digs.

One local business booster says leaving Brooklyn would be sheer lunacy, but claims he has a long list of companies waiting to take its place.

"If a company leaves Brooklyn they're crazy," said Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce president Carlo Scisura. "There's plenty of others waiting to jump in."



TAKING OFFICE: Renderings of the new office tower slated for 420 Albee Square Downtown. KPF Architects

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This building could transform W'burg

BY ALLEGRA HOBBS

Talk about manufacturing consent.

A Williamsburg developer wants the city's okay to build a huge office complex in the neighborhood's industrial area, in exchange for constructing a small amount of manufacturing space. And local pols say it is so rare to see any new blue-collar space in the nabe, officials would be mad to say no.

"For the first time, someone is proposing a com-



IN LABOR: This building could become the model for erecting office buildings in industrial zones. Steelblue

mercial development with manufacturing in this neighborhood, and that is something to seriously consider," Councilman Steve Levin (D-Greenpoint) said at a Community Board 1 meeting last Wednesday, where real-estate firms Heritage Equity Partners and Rubenstein Partners pitched their plans to locals.

The developers need special permission to dedicate almost all of their proposed
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CAN'T STOP: Carroll Street residents say motorists don't stop for this temporary stop sign because it is in such a weird place — the middle of the street. Photo by Jason Speakman

Cars blowing weird Gowanus stop sign

BY COLIN MIXSON

Talk about a short stop!

The city has installed a stop sign in the middle of a residential Gowanus block, leaving residents angry and confused over what is perhaps the most unusually placed traffic sign in the entire borough. Carroll Street construction workers say the Department of Transportation ordered them to erect the sign after they closed down a stretch of sidewalk between Hoyt and Bond streets, but even they think it is bizarre.

"People complain all the time, but, unfortunately to follow DOT guidelines, we need this," said Chris Gleckler, a

superintendent overseeing construction of a condo building for Sterling Equity. "We have the sidewalk closed, and to do that we needed a crosswalk, and for that we needed a stop sign."

Most motorists just drive straight past the sign — which has no official Department of Transportation markings — not expecting to see one in such an odd location, according to one block resident.

"People blow past it, because no one looks for a stop sign in the middle of the block," said Alex Konyk.

But even locals who know it is there do the same thing,

Konyk said — and there doesn't seem to be anyone stopping them.

"Locals don't stop for it, I don't," he said. "I can't imagine cops would hand out tickets for that."

The transportation department generally avoids installing stop signs in the middle of blocks, according to a spokesman, and only did so here because the agency considered pedestrians at risk without it. And at least one local agrees.

"It's good, because we have animals driving cars down here," said one block resident, who curtly refused to give his name.

Three G'point buildings burn

Massive inferno engulfs homes, injures six

BY ALLEGRA HOBBS

A fire raged through three Greenpoint apartment buildings on the evening of Feb. 14, injuring four residents and two firefighters battling the blaze, authorities said.

The Fire Department says it still doesn't know what caused that conflagration, but the inferno ignited at a three-story Diamond Street residence near Nassau Avenue at around 10:22 pm before spreading to the two buildings on either side, according to a



WRECKAGE: The burned out building on Diamond Street. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

spokesman.

New York's Bravest fought the flames for three hours before subduing the fire at around 1:28 am on Monday morning, authorities said.

Four civilians sustained minor injuries, but only two agreed to be carted to nearby hospitals, while the others declined treatment on the scene, said the department rep.

The two injured firefighters were also sporting minor afflictions and went to nearby hospitals, said a rep.

Bike lane slated for Lafayette

BY LAUREN GILL

They're finally drawing the line.

The city plans to create a dedicated bike lane on Lafayette Avenue through Fort Greene and Clinton Hill, delighting cycling activists who have been demanding a safer way to peddle the congested street for years.

"It's a route that people want to take, but it's a scary street to bike on as it is now," said Caroline Samponaro, deputy director for pro-bike group Transportation Alternatives.

Transportation officials plan to employ the traffic-calming measure between Fulton Street and Classon Avenue, turning one of the one-way Bedford-Stuyvesant-bound street's two moving lanes into a dedicated peddling path, with some painted asphalt in-between the two species and parking lanes flanking the road.

The plan — which would mirror a buffered bike lane on DeKalb Avenue — also calls for expanding the parking lane on the car side of the street in an effort to dissuade drivers from double-parking in the narrower one next to the bike path.

The city had planned to make the change back in 2010 — and extend it all the way through Bedford-Stuyvesant to Broadway — but scrapped the scheme due to lack of enthusiasm from local community boards and broader anti-bike-lane sentiment sweeping the borough at the time.

Instead, it painted road markings on one of the lanes — so-called "sharrows" — indicating that it was a shared path for two and four-wheelers. But locals kept up the pressure for a lane of their own.

Samponaro said inexperienced



SHARING IS NOT CARING: Critics say this shared bike lane on Lafayette Avenue is dangerous.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

cyclists are especially vulnerable when riding in the midst of fast-moving traffic, because they typically cruise closer to parked cars and inadvertently put themselves at risk of "doorings" — when passengers open their car door unexpectedly, knocking cyclists off their bikes and sometimes into oncoming traffic.

But even experienced cyclists say riding bumper to mudguard is a hair-raising experience on Lafayette Avenue.

"There are sections of Lafayette now that are a little sketchy because it's shared," said Jason McMahon, a Williamsburg resident who works at bicycle store Bike Slug in Bedford-Stuyvesant near Lafayette Avenue and cycles on the stretch often. "It would be great to have a bike lane."

Between 2010 and 2015, 24 cyclists and 27 pedestrians sustained injuries on the road — three of them seriously, according to city data.

Community Board 2 — one of the aforementioned apathetic panels — voted to approve the new lane plan on Feb. 10. Some members were concerned that losing a car lane will back-up traffic and make it more difficult for residents to find parking, but those in favor said that slightly slower driving speeds are a fair trade-off for bike safety.



REIMAGINED: This diagram shows the current (inset) and proposed lanes for Lafayette Avenue. NYC Department of Transportation

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FLOCK ART

Artist training thousands of pigeons to carry lights for new piece



Photo by Will Star

ABOVE THE REST: Artist Duke Riley has been training and flying pigeons since he was a boy, but he will fly more birds than ever before in his new show at the Navy Yard.

BY LAUREN GILL

Call it a flight of fancier.

A Red Hook artist known for bizarre public performance pieces is now training thousands of pigeons to fly in formation over the East River while toting tiny lights on their legs for a series of shows at the Navy Yard in May. It is art, he said, but also a way to celebrate the species often pigeon-holed as “rats of the sky” and the dying New York pastime of pigeon keeping.

“I hope it brings attention to a greater appreciation of pigeons in general, and maybe draws more interest in the activity,” said Duke Riley, whose previous endeavors include sailing a home-made submarine in Red Hook waters, creating an illegal bar under the Belt Parkway, and staging a mock naval battle inside a fountain while toga-wearing audience members hurled tomatoes and baguettes at him.

Every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during the month, Riley — who has been a “pigeon fancier” himself since he rescued one as a boy growing up in Boston — will summon the performers via a whistle at sunset, then send the birds soaring out of a ship at the dockyard to light up the sky in a piece called “Fly By Night.”

Many New Yorkers mistakenly think of the city-slicking birds as disease-ridden pests, says Riley, even though breeding and training the species has been a borough tradition for more than 100 years. But the art is fading as more landlords refuse to let locals keep the birds on rooftops, and replace coops with lounge chairs and grills, he said.

“A lot of people complain and don’t want them, even though they used to

be such a New York staple,” said Riley.

Riley said he first got the idea for the show while reading a military pigeon-training manual. The army used the birds — renowned for their ability to fly non-stop for long distances — to carry messages during World War I and II, and the Navy Yard used to have one of the largest bird boot camps in the country.

This isn’t Riley’s first performance piece starring pigeons — he trained 50 birds to smuggle cigars from Cuba to Florida as a comment on the trade embargo in 2013 — but it is his largest.

The artist had to recruit troops from his friends in the New York pigeon-fancying community to reinforce his own personal flock and complete his massive avian army. And he will have help from public art organization Creative Time — the outfit behind the giant sphinx statue in the old Domino sugar factory in 2014, and the two giant beams of light at Ground Zero on the six-month anniversary of 9-11 — in staging the ambitious show.

Riley swears the stars of the show will be well cared for — he has hired a vet and a team of handlers to look after them and the city will give each one a clean bill of health ahead of the show. And because pigeons mate for life, he says he has made sure pairs and their offspring are being kept together.

The performances will be free to the public, but those who want to see them up close will need to reserve their spot online.

“Fly By Night” at Brooklyn Navy Yard (63 Flushing Ave. at Eighth Street in Fort Greene, www.creativetime.org/projects/flybynight). Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays in May. Free.



'Pony' magic in P'Slope

BY ALLEGRA HOBBS

These pony partiers couldn't rein in their enthusiasm!

Thousands of fans of the television show "My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic" galloped into Park Slope's sparkling Grand Prospect Hall on Feb. 13 through 15, where attendees say they celebrated their shared love of the pastel-colored animated horses by dressing up as their favorite one.

"I was really happy with

the positive reaction my costume got," said Connecticut native Mike Calzati, who dressed up as beloved character Big Macintosh for the annual convention PonyCon.

Calzati commissioned the big, red costume from an on-line craftsman for the slew of pony conventions he attends every year — after PonyCon, he will make his way to Baltimore's BronyCon in July.

Plenty of younger fans showed up to the all-ages

convention to watch pony-inspired rockabilly band the Shakeups in Ponyville play musical tributes to the cartoon and sing until they were a little horse.

But the event was mostly dominated by adults who just really love the children's show about magical ponies. Calzati says he attended with a pal he met at a different pony convention two years ago — and their friendship is now appropriately magical.

FRIENDSHIP TRULY IS MAGIC: (Above) Mike and Frist first bonded over their mutual love of "My Little Pony" at a convention two years ago — and the pony-powered pals are still going strong! (Center) Yeah, we don't know what is on Jimmy's head, either. (Left) Adults dressed as My Little Ponies.

Photos by Louise Wateridge

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PHOTO: JESSICA HILLS



Hell you spray?!

For no good reason, Queens stadium advertises 'sold out' Mumford show on C'Gardens sidewalks

BY LAUREN GILL

A Queens stadium is defacing Carroll Gardens streets by spraying sidewalks with advertisements for shows they can't actually attend.

The stenciled ads offer details for two upcoming concerts by British folk-rock outfit Mumford and Sons at Forest Hills Stadium — immediately followed by the words "Sold Out" in capital letters — leaving locals scratching their heads at the apparent act of senseless vandalism.

"It seems pointless," said Chloe Bean, a Clinton Hill resident and Mumford and Sons fan who said the graffiti only served to remind her that she isn't attending the show.

The band's June 16 concert in the outer borough sold out within hours of being announced earlier this month,



BANJ-NO! Indie-folk artists Mumford, second from left, and his sons evidently enjoy gritty, graffiti-covered streets. James Minchin III

and the "Little Lion Man" performers subsequently announced a second show for the following night, which is also now full up.

Residents say the ads just seem like bragging.

"I guess they want me to

know they're successful?" said Red Hook resident Don Wollner upon examining the pavement. "It has virtually no relevance to me in Brooklyn, but I guess promotion is promotion."

Either way, the signs are graffiti because they are on public pavement, a spokesperson for the city's sanitation department said, but added it was up to local police to erase them. A rep for the transportation department, which also has jurisdiction over sidewalks, said it is aware of the illicit folk art and is investigating.

But one local says she is happy for the ads to stay, as she views them as an avant-garde statement on the neighborhood's residents.

"It's sort of this senseless, totally out-of-the-neighborhood random stamp everywhere — which is kind of like



SAY IT DON'T SPRAY IT: A Queens stadium is senselessly vandalizing Carroll Gardens to advertise a sold-out show.

Community News Group / Lauren Gill

the people who live around here," said Janie Gordon, who has lived in Carroll Gardens for 40 years.

A spokesman for the stadium later claimed the signs are written in chalk — which

the city still often considers graffiti — and it plans to clean them up.

The shows' promoter AEG Live said it was too busy with a Justin Bieber concert to comment immediately.

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76TH PRECINCT

CARROLL GARDENS-COBBLE HILL-
RED HOOK

Change chump

A penny pincher snuck into a Congress Street apartment on Feb. 9 and stole a bunch of pricey tech items — and a whole lot of loose change.

The victim told police he was out of his apartment near Columbia Street between 3 and 4 pm, but when he returned he noticed someone had stolen his laptop, camera equipment, and \$25 in coins.

Slap and dash

A brute slapped and pushed a woman on Columbia Street on Feb. 15.

The victim said she was near Verona Street at 10:30 pm when a cad came up to her and slapped her on the left side of the face, leaving a bruise. He then pushed her to the ground, causing scratches her body, and fled, authorities stated.

Sticky fingers

Police arrested an employee who they say lifted a load of luxury items from an Atlantic Avenue department store on Feb. 15.

The worker stole three pairs of premium jeans, one pricey perfume, a designer cardholder and wallet, two shirts, and a smattering of other items from the store near Court Street, police allege. A security guard caught him and he admitted to sneaking out the items, said police.

Cashed out

Cops cuffed a man who they say stole a wad of cash from a woman's coat pocket on Court Street on Jan. 21.

The victim told police she was near Luquer Street at 1:50 pm when a guy reached inside her left-side jacket pocket, removed \$80, and fled, said police. The woman called 911 and officers arrived on the scene, arresting the alleged thief, accord-



ing to a police report.

84TH PRECINCT

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DUMBO-
BOERUM HILL-DOWNTOWN

Rent-a-car hurts

A pair of scammers promised to rent a flashy car to a guy on Bridge Street on Feb. 9 — then robbed him instead.

The victim told police he met the crooks over Instagram and told them he wanted to lease a 2016 Bayerische Motoren Werke car they had advertised. When they met up near Concord Street at 7:05 pm, the guys told him to sit inside the vehicle to make the deal.

But once inside, one of the fiends asked, "Do you know what time it is? Give me your money," while flashing a silver gun. The victim handed over \$5,200 in cash and his cellphone, and the thieves fled to an unknown location, police said.

Crime pattern

A thief lifted more than \$1,000 worth of clothes from a Smith Street store on Feb. 10 — and the design could come in handy in his future if police track him down.

The lout entered the store near Bergen Street at 7:30 pm and grabbed four white-and-black striped men's button-down shirts and five gray and khaki pants and fled.

Saved by the guard

Cops cuffed a pair of guys who they say punched a man in the face and rifled through his pockets on Jay Street on Feb. 13.

The victim told police he was

near Tillary Street at 1:30 am when the two guys socked him, cutting his lip and chipping a tooth. One of the muggers allegedly asked him, "You know we have a knife right?" and went through the guy's pockets, cooing, "Give me your money."

But before the situation could escalate, a City University of New York security guard stepped in and told the guy to drop his knife, officials said. Police then came and arrested the two suspects, a report said.

— Lauren Gill

90TH PRECINCT

SOUTHSIDE-BUSHWICK

Cold cash

Some freebooter smashed his way into a S. Fifth Street restaurant on Feb. 13 and made off with a box filled with cash that was stored in the fridge.

Surveillance video shows the baddie take a hammer to the glass front door of the eatery near Wythe Avenue at around 6:58 am, cops said. The rogue then walked behind the bar and pulled a metal container out of the refrigerator, which the victim says held about \$1,000, according to a police report.

The burglar, who left his hammer at the scene, was wearing a large black coat, red pants, and a white scarf around his face, police said.

Sweet 'n' low

A knave trounced a guy outside of a Flushing Avenue bakery and ran off with his jacket and a haul of tools on Feb. 13.

The victim told cops he went to the store between Broadway and

Throop Avenue at 4 pm for pastries, where some guy asked him for \$50, then followed him inside and then out to the corner once he left.

At that point the victim wandered back to the bakery, but the villain followed again, and when he exited for a second time, the brute punched him in the face and snatched his jacket and tools he had on him — including a hammer and a power drill — before fleeing in a dark gray car, police said.

Smoking gun

A scoundrel snagged a wad of cash and smoking goods from a Graham Avenue smoke shop in broad daylight on Feb. 13.

The troublemaker walked into the shop near Avenue of Puerto Rico at 1:38 pm, police said. When the shopkeeper stepped around the counter to assist him, the perp forced the victim back behind the counter and shoved him to the floor, authorities said.

The rogue then pulled out a black gun and snatched up \$600, plus some cigars and rolling papers, before fleeing in an unknown direction, according to a police report.

94TH PRECINCT

GREENPOINT-NORTHSIDE

Low spirits

Cops cuffed a couple of scamps who they say stole a bottle of top-shelf tequila from a Metropolitan Avenue liquor store on Feb. 10.

The victim was working at the store near Leonard Street at 4:45 pm when the alleged crooks came in and grabbed a bottle of Patron before fleeing on foot, cops said.

The arresting officer saw the store clerk struggling with the duo outside the shop and ran up to apprehend one of the men, police said.

The officer caught up with the other alleged thief a few blocks from the shop after chasing him down Leonard Street, authorities said.

— Allegra Hobbs

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Golden couples celebrate

BY LAUREN GILL

Love will keep them alive. Brooklyn's longest-lasting married couples celebrated their enduring love at a lunch at Borough Hall's annual Golden Couples event last Friday. The yearly Valentine's shindig celebrates pairs who have been betrothed for 50 years or more, and attendees say they were wowed by the borough's devotion to keeping the flame alive. "It was just perfect, very beautiful," said Shiela Ganoz, a Sheepshead Bay resident who has been married to her

husband Anton for 64 years. Host Borough President Adams gave a champagne toast to honor the nearly 200 couples in attendance, who enjoyed food, dancing, and each other's company. One attendee said he had a blast chatting with the other pairs about their secrets to continuing matrimonial bliss, revealing that he has stayed together with his wife for more than a half-decade by always remembering why they fell for each other in the first place. "Love and respect each other and don't forget the

first week of marriage," said Crown Heights resident Esiah Ingram, who met his wife Mary in high school and has been married to her for 59 years. "I don't think my life would be any sweeter than being with her." This was the fourth year the pair honored their love at the lunch, and Ingram said he can't wait to celebrate his diamond anniversary and beyond in the years to come. "Make every day seem like the last," said Ingram. "We're looking forward to 50 more years together."

YOUNG AT HEART: (Above) Flora and Leonid Levingart are still sweethearts after 54 years together. (Center) Sheepshead Bay residents Anton and Sheila Ganoz celebrate 64 years of marriage with Borough President Adams. (Left) Zinada and Pavel Gankin share a passionate smooch at Borough Hall. Photos by Jordan Rathkopf

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Brooklyn's Premier Entertainment Guide

War on elder poverty!

Brooklyn focuses on struggling seniors

BY SHAVANA ABRUZZO

“The cry of the baby was heard across the land” almost nine months to the day after World War II ended — resulting in a massive generation of baby boomers now aging past 65 at a rate of 250,000 a month. And facts show many of them struggle to make ends meet.

“The percentage of seniors living in poverty is staggering,” New York City Department for the Aging Commissioner Donna Corrado told CityLimits magazine in June. “Too many older New Yorkers make difficult choices about purchasing food, medicine, and paying their rent.”

More than 25 million Americans aged 60-plus live at or below the federal poverty level of \$29,425 per year for a single person (or \$11,770 for a single senior), but Supplemental Security Income provides just \$433 each month for the average elder and may be the individual’s only source of income, according to the National Council on Aging.

Retirement security was a major topic at last year’s once-a-decade White House Conference on Aging, but many seniors don’t realize federal help is available, according to a civic activist at the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, which will hold a panel discussion called “New York Seniors and the Rising Food Insecurity Crisis” at Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Plaza on Feb. 23.

“We want to educate them about the possibility of supplementing their income with government subsidies, so they get to keep more dollars in their pockets,” said Blaine Arthur, program manager of social services.

The symposium, which is aimed at seniors whose annual pre-tax income is \$23,544, is the result of a partnership between the New York City Department for the Aging and the Aging in New York Fund. Jennifer Goodstein, the President and Publisher of Community News Group — the owner of this publication — will be a guest speaker along with: Caryn Resnick, Deputy Commissioner for the New York City Department for the Aging; Lisa A. Boyd, Chief Operating Officer of the Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Corporation; Terry Kaelber, Director of Community Engagement Projects at United Neighborhood Houses of New York; Maggie Meehan, Associate Director of Nutrition Education at City Harvest; and Jose Luis Sanchez, Program Manager at Citymeals-on-Wheels.

Workers will pre-screen seniors for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as food stamps). The allowance — based on certain financial factors and immigrant status — has been a lifeline for poor Americans for 40 years as the first line of defense against hunger and a powerful tool for improv-



COMMUNITY INPUT: Jennifer Goodstein, president and publisher of Community News Group, is an invited speaker at the symposium. Community Newspaper Group

ing nutrition among low-income people. Benefits come to the household via electronic debit Electronic Benefit Transfer cards that recipients can use to buy food at more than 246,000 approved retail stores nationwide.

Gotham's graying

The golden years of New Yorkers could be tarnished ones:

- More foreign-born seniors live here than in any other American city — with one out of every 10 older immigrants in the country calling the Big Apple home, according to the Center for an Urban Future.

- The city’s 60-plus community will equal Chicago’s current population by 2020, increasing the odds that more seniors will struggle to put food on the table and pay their bills, Mayor DeBlasio informed an astonished American Association of Retired Persons forum in December.

Bridging the gap

The first national food stamp program was instituted in 1939 after the Great Depression. Its chief architects were Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace and Milo Perkins, the program’s first administrator.

“We got a picture of a gorge with farm surpluses on one cliff and undernourished city folks with outstretched hands on the other,” Perkins famously said. “Then we set out to find a practical way to build a bridge across that chasm.”

Panel discussion “New York City Seniors and the Rising Food Insecurity Crisis” at Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Plaza [1368 Fulton St. between New York and Brooklyn avenues in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (212) 602-4460] on Feb. 23 at 3 pm. RSVP by Feb. 20; <https://nycseniorsfoodinsecurity.eventbrite.com>.

Rebounding from a late start to retirement savings

Some people do not have the ability to begin saving for retirement early on. Others may have brushed retirement savings aside for so long that they are now worried that it's too late to begin socking away money for retirement.

While it's best to start saving for retirement as early as possible, the good news is that it's never too late to start planning for retirement. If your 40th birthday has long passed and you're fi-

nally thinking ahead to retirement, consider these catch-up strategies.

- Research tax-advantageous retirement savings plans. A financial planner can point you in the right direction, or consult with your employer about employee programs. Deposit money into a 401(k) or 403(b) plan or another retirement vehicle. Jump on any opportunities when your employer matches invested funds. Investigate an IRA and find out if there are any government incentives. Depending on your age, you may be able to deposit more money into such accounts than other investors.

- Cut back on expenses. Cutting back on unnecessary expenses is a great way to save more money for retirement. Figure out where you can save some money

you can then allocate to retirement savings. Maybe you can reduce insurance coverage on an older car or raise your deductible? Downsize cable packages or skip that costly cup of coffee on the way to work. Perhaps it's time to look for a smaller, less expensive home or a compact car instead of an SUV. Any money saved now will benefit you when the time comes time to bid farewell to the workforce.

- Delay your retirement. Many people who retire find themselves bored and looking for ways to fill their time, and as a result more and more people are delaying their retirement, which also gives them more time to save for that day when they do call it quits. If you want to work less, discuss and negotiate a phased re-

tirement with your bosses that allows you to stick with your employer but gradually work fewer hours until you retire completely. You may be able to work part-time for several years and retire when you're most comfortable.

- Consider more aggressive funds. Even if you are 50 you still have a few decades before retirement, which leaves lots of time to grow your retirement savings. But you may want to consider more aggressive funds that can help you catch up more quickly than less aggressive investments. Just know that aggressive funds may also leave you susceptible to substantial losses.

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VENDORS

Continued from cover

posts since learning of the school's plans to pay the city \$250 a year so it can stick 10 boxwood hedges where they do business in late November, days after the local community board had already given its okay.

The lawyers-in-training claim the school also led them up the garden path — they only learned of the planters after reading a news article about a public hearing on Feb. 13, where city officials told the vendors they had 10 days to fight the application by finding powerful community members to support them — and they're serious about winning the turf war.

"We're really committed and we're not just making noise," said Horzempa, adding that even students with corporate aspirations, who aren't usually drawn to activist causes, are on board. "We're angry and upset they tried to sneak it by us."

Horzempa said the news was especially galling because Brooklyn Law has a partnership with advocacy group the Street Vendor Project, where students do volunteer work fighting for the rights of curbside entrepreneurs just like the ones it is trying to boot from its doorstep.

"It's on our website and we brag about doing this pro bono representation, and they turn around do this," he said.

Ironically, the vendor-defending outfit is now working with the trad-



SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED: Brooklyn Law School student Devin Horzempa with his petition demanding the school withdraw its application to install planters that could displace long-time sidewalk vendors.

Photo by Louise Wateridge

ers, students, and local pols to stop the shrubbery. The transportation department had originally given the merchants until Feb. 13 to collect comments from locals opposed to the foliage before it makes up its mind, but a rep for the project says it is working with officials to push that date back.

The groups are now gathering locals' signatures to take back to the department, and will meet again on Tuesday evening to plan their next move.

A rep from Brooklyn Law refused to comment on the petition or vendors, but said the planters will "beautify" the street and improve life for everyone in the area.

"The planters will add much-needed greenery to the streetscape and advance the quality of life for the thousands of students, workers, residents, and visitors who pass through our neighborhood every day," said spokesman John MacKin.

REZONING

Continued from page 2

eight-story building at Kent Street and West Avenue to office space — instead of having to set aside half for mandatory "community facilities," which typically end up as medical offices.

The exception would also let them build up to six stories higher than the zoning currently allows, and nix parking spaces and loading docks they'd otherwise have to include.

In return, they're offering to set aside around 17 percent of the building for light manufacturing uses — such as microbreweries and metal-working studios.

The developer and proponents say the project could serve as a model for bringing business hubs back to the neighborhood's so-called industrial business zone — land the city has earmarked specifically for manufacturing, but has become a de facto entertainment district because hotels and nightclubs are snapping up much of the space.

"This will foster manufacturing uses," said Ray Levin (no relation to the councilman), a lawyer for the developers. "It will foster producers and goods to be produced in the IBZ, which hasn't happened in certainly more than a decade."

But some locals said 17 percent of the building was a pretty crummy commitment, and opening the door to a rash of similar developments would

essentially just turn the neighborhood into an office district.

"You would think that in an industrial business zone, that it would be a higher percentage than that," said housing activist Armando Chapeliquen.

Others insisted the city create a way to make sure the developer — and any future ones copying the same model — don't weasel out of the industrial allocations once the buildings are complete.

"This is big deal," said Leah Archibald of business advocacy group Evergreen. "It's going to be written to be mapped in other industrial zones around the city."

A handful of local business owners and manufacturers showed up to voice their tentative support for the project and exemption, but said they wish they had the clout and know-how to score the same kind of special consideration.

"We've always wanted to build up," said Lucky Lee of beloved neighborhood staple Lucky's Real Tomatoes. "We've always wanted the opportunity to grow and provide more jobs in Brooklyn, but it's not feasible."

The developers' presentation to locals was the first step in the arduous seven-month process of securing the city's approval for the special permit, which will ultimately come down to a Council vote.

If the city does approve the plan, construction should kick off later this year and wrap up by the end of 2017.



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Better living through therapy

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

No one ever said life would be easy.

But it can be easier when you have someone to talk with.

Three Bay Ridge psychotherapists are here to help — Rivkah Kaufman, Eleonora Yerukhimovich, and Joseph Lovecchio. All are licensed mental health counselors.

They work with families, couples, and individuals, offering insight that can improve quality of life. They have experience with Brooklyn's diverse population, and welcome people of all ages.

Eleonora Yerukhimovich says, "We connect with them."

Many seek assistance because they are overwhelmed with stress. Their workload is exhausting as they strive to balance family, aging parents, career obligations, and sometimes illness, too. Others are paralyzed by uncertainty, unsure of which fork in the road to follow.

Bay Ridge Psychotherapists is here to assist.

Rivkah Kaufman says, "Whatever your issues, psychotherapy can help you learn who you are, what you're looking for, and how to push past insecurities and vulnerabilities to reach your full potential."

It takes time, but people do benefit from this learning experience. She notes that a psychotherapist's initial goal is to make a person feel comfortable and validated.

"Everything else we accomplish will follow from this basis."

Psychotherapists are practical and supportive in their quest to help people cope with every-



(Right) Ridge Psychotherapists Rivkah Kaufman, Eleonora Yerukhimovich, and Joseph Lovecchio work with families, couples, and individuals, offering insight that can improve quality of life in their (above) 73rd Street office.

day challenges. They can also offer insight into long-standing behavior patterns. Kaufman says, "As a psychotherapist, I draw on experiences in the corporate, academic, and educational sectors, as well as on general life experience, to provide you with insightful, culturally sensitive treatment."

She finds that such treatment leads to patients being able to for-



mulate and articulate of purpose and peace of mind," she says.

She works with those who are dealing with trauma, abuse, depression, anxiety, dual di-

agnosis issues, career changes, and life transitions. In addition to speaking English, she can conduct therapy in Hungarian and Yiddish.

Yerukhimovich says, "Whether you are going through a transition or find yourself repeating the same patterns, therapy can give you a chance to examine your inner struggles and work towards personal growth."

She encourages individuals to embrace self-discovery and learn how to view obstacles as opportunities for change.

Some of these obstacles may include addiction, alcohol abuse, anger management, depression, and divorce.

Joseph Lovecchio strives to improve overall quality of life by assisting people in developing coping skills.

"I engage clients in a person-centered approach, and explore early developmental conflicts that impact daily life," he says. He has worked extensively with women who are survivors of domestic violence. In addition, he deals with gender-related issues that include bisexuality and transgender identity.

Each counselor's individual profile can be viewed at www.therapists.PsychologyToday.com. Their particular specialties and accepted insurances can also be found here.

Yerukhimovich notes that they work on a sliding scale to accommodate those who may not have insurance.

Bay Ridge Psychotherapists [545 73rd St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 238-1580]. Call Sundays through Fridays, 9 am-8 pm.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto



Gather bouquet of roses for Rose

BAY RIDGE

Put your hands together for **Rose Marciante**. The lovelier-than-roses Rose turned 105 years young on Feb. 12, and helping her celebrate the great day was grandson **Micheal Marciante**.



Micheal planted a big kiss on his glorious grandma, helped her blow out the candles on her red frosted cake, and thanked his lucky stars for having such a remarkable relative.

"I'm very thankful and truly blessed to have such a strong, loving, and cheerful nana at the age of 105," said Micheal.

Standing O is sending out 105 b-day shout-outs to Rose, and wishing her an Italian toast, "*Cent'anni.*"

BOROUGH WIDE

Save the date

Come to this very important double header on March 15 (3-7:30 pm) and be prepared to give.

Public School 102 will hold a blood drive in memory of **Mathiew Johnson**, and a bone marrow drive for 6-year-old **John Faro Vitale**, who is suffering from a rare blood disease.

Roll up those sleeves and donate a pint or two, and be tested for a marrow match. Enjoy snacks, coffee, and tea; some really great raffles; and leave with the wonderful knowledge that you helped to save a life.

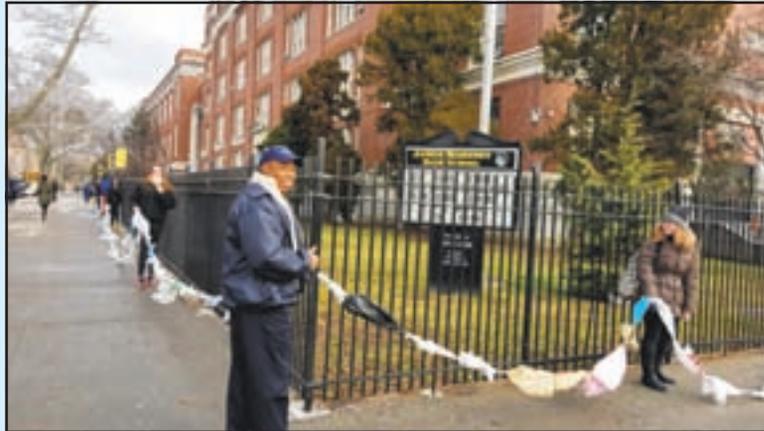
What are you waiting for? Don't forget to bring a photo or signature identification — you can't donate without it.

PS 102 [211 72nd St. at Ridge Boulevard in Bay Ridge, (800) 688-0900]

Hip, hip, hooray!

The Innovation Awards named **Brooklyn Public Library** its "Tech Mission Organization of the Year" for having the biggest impact on inclusivity, education, or access in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, thrilling administrators.

"Brooklyn Public Library's staff and volunteers provide creative, edu-



BAGS APLENTY: Borough President Adams helps students at James Madison High School make a chain of plastic bags around the building.

Eco buffs in a class of their own

MARINE PARK

Students at **James Madison High School** took conservation to the next level when they constructed Brooklyn's longest plastic-bag chain, drawing attention to environmental issues.

Special Education students wrapped the record chain around the perimeter of the school building in an attempt to heighten awareness of the growing plastic crisis in our nation.

"Plastic is strangling our planet," said one budding greenie.

The project grew after teachers **Brian Schoenfelder**, **Jeanne Quarto**, and **Renee Kaiser** asked conservation-minded students in their environmental science and botany classes to research an environmental issue and potential solutions. Students were also challenged with designing an event that could heighten awareness of the issue and prompt their peers to change a behavior that was adversely affecting our world. They began collecting

plastic bags for recycling and reupposing, creating the record-breaking chain.

The students will now distribute reusable fabric bags to their peers in hopes of breaking their ties to plastic.

Borough President Adams showed his support, digging right in and helping the students wind the chain around the school.

"This event is so important because it helps kids shine, and take pride in their work and accomplishments," he said.

Principal **Jodie Cohen** agreed. "Every student has such great potential," she said. "The secret is tapping into their unique skills or interests."

Students broke the chain at the end of the day to symbolize breaking the plastic habit and saving our environment.

Standing O says, "Recycle, reuse, re-purpose."

James Madison High School [3787 Bedford Ave. at Avenue P in Marine Park, (718) 758-7200].

ational S.T.E.M. programs to young people of all ages and to the adults who teach them," said chief librarian **Lisa Rosenblum**.

Brooklyn Public Library offers free access to technology to Brooklynites and is one of the borough's largest providers of free, wireless internet access.

Brooklyn Public Library (www.bklynlibrary.org).

Save the date part deux

Temple Sholom and **Hatzolah of Mill Basin** volunteer ambulance corps is hosting a blood drive for **Maimonides Hospital** on Feb. 28 from

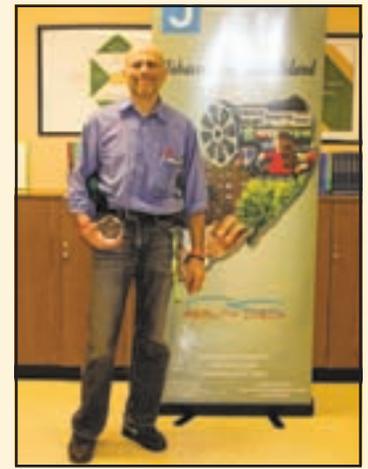
10 am to 5 pm in memory of **Marvin Master**.

A glatt kosher buffet and gifts will be provided for donors, who must be in good health, between the ages of 16 and 76, and weigh at least 110 pounds. Donors who are 16 years old must have parental consent and supply a parental consent form.

Temple Sholom [2075 E. 68th Street between Avenues T and U in Mill Basin, (718) 283-7657].

Scouts honor

Boy Scout Troop 76 and **Cub Scout Pack 76** will hold its annual "A Scout is Reverent" celebration on



BOROUGH WIDE

Just say no!

Standing O is taking a deep breath and cheering for **Paul Gammarano**. The health and wellness guru was honored by **Tobacco-Free Staten Island at New Dorp High School** in Staten Island for his work in educating hundreds of young people each day on the dangers of smoking.

Paul's wisdom extends to instructing his students on the manipulative methods used by the marketing execs who push tobacco on young people, and how today's youth can change the habit and develop a healthy, smoke-free lifestyle.

The Standing O pal teaches sage advice on both sides of the bridge. He shares his knowledge with students at **Kingsborough Community College** as well, encouraging them and community members to live a healthy, tobacco-free life, and educate others on the dangers and lack of knowledge on current products.

Standing O agrees and says, "Thank you Paul for teaching us all how to enjoy taking a deep breath."

Kingsborough College [2001 Oriental Blvd. in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368-5000].

Feb. 28, with a Mass at **St. Bernard Church**, followed by brunch in the St. Bernard Parish Hall at 10 am.

Scout Sunday is one of the highlights of the Boy Scouts of America calendar year, and has been designated as the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to scouting.

Fifth-grade **Webelo Scouts** will take part in a crossover ceremony — from cub scouts into boy scouts — and become members of Troop 76. The event will also feature raffles and 50-50 drawings.

The Mass is open to all. Tickets for the brunch are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 8 years and older, and free to children under 8.

St. Bernard Church (2055 E. 69th St at Avenue T in Mill Basin, info at troop76brooklyn@gmail.com).

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Brooklyn College also calls the neighborhood home, giv-

ing residents with school-aged children a higher-education options accessible by public transportation.

Flatbush played an integral role in America's favorite pastime, too, after an impresario named Charlie Ebbets bought the block encircled by Bedford Avenue, Sullivan Place, McKeever Place, and Montgomery Street — the site of a former garbage dump called Pigtown — and turned it into a Major League Baseball stadium. Ebbets Field opened in 1913 as the storied home of the Brooklyn Dodgers before the team broke Brooklynites' hearts and headed West.

The bragging rights are sealed in ink, making our featured property a Flatbush exclusive for smart buyers.

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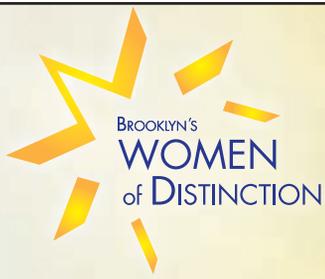
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Our Honorees will be celebrated in a Keepsake Publication May 20, 2016

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To congratulate and thank Brooklyn's Women of Distinction, please call Jennifer Stern at 718-260-8302 or email jstern@cnglocal.com

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BUT MAIN STREET'S STILL ALL CRACKED AND BROKEN: A rendering imagines a streetcar gliding past Industry City in Sunset Park – which in this fantastical future also sports bike lanes and repaved roads.

Friends of the Brooklyn Queens Connector

STREETCAR

Continued from cover

the original pitch for the so-called Brooklyn Queens Connector and who has been touting its benefits to media outlets — that commuters will be able to step off a train and onto the tram without paying again.

“We see it as being seamless with the MTA, so we don’t see paying a separate fee,” Schwartz previously told this paper.

Local transit boosters say free transfers and integration between the two systems would be essential for winning residents over to the plan — especially those from low-income areas in Sunset Park and Red Hook, who the mayor insists the streetcar will help.

“Having to pay two fares is unrealistic, even for someone who is wealthy enough to afford a monthly MetroCard,” said Eric McClure, a co-chair of Community Board 6’s transportation committee, which encompasses Red Hook and Cobble Hill, where the trolley will travel. “It would be critical to its success for it to fully integrate with the MTA system.”

But Red Hook commuters may not have much choice in jumping aboard — the mayor also admitted that the new system could encourage the transit agency to scrap the subway-starved nabe’s sole bus service, the B61 — which currently ferries around 30,000 people along the waterfront every weekday.

“If the MTA ended up with any excess capacity there are sure parts of the outer boroughs that could use a lot more bus services,” he said.

The news is another blow for

cash-strapped local commuters who learned last year that the ferry service DeBlasio plans to roll out between Dumbo and Bay Ridge in 2017 will also not offer free transfers or integrate with the transit authority’s system. There are also no guarantees of free transfers between the ferries and streetcar, a rep for the mayor’s office said.

Transportation honchos also fielded questions on the key question of whether the streetcar will tangle with regular traffic or have its own light-rail-style lane with right-of-way, but offered only vague assurances that it would be a mix of both.

“Our goal here is to have streetcars move in traffic, but as much as we can a right-of-way where we’ll be keeping traffic out so we can achieve speeds that are going to make the real travel time savings that we’re talking about,” said transportation department czar Polly Trottenberg.

DeBlasio first announced his support for the Brooklyn Queens Connector earlier this month, jumping on board a proposal created by waterfront developers and businesses, who hope the yuppie-friendly mode of transport will encourage more building and higher property values along the proposed route. Both the mayor and backers claim the system can pay for itself via increased property taxes, though some transit experts have slammed that plan for leaving too much to chance.

A spokesman from the Metropolitan Transit Authority declined to comment on integrating fares, but said it was ready to talk with the city.

“We look forward to learning more about the city’s proposal,” said the authority’s press guru Kevin Ortiz.

ISLANDERS FAN OF THE WEEK

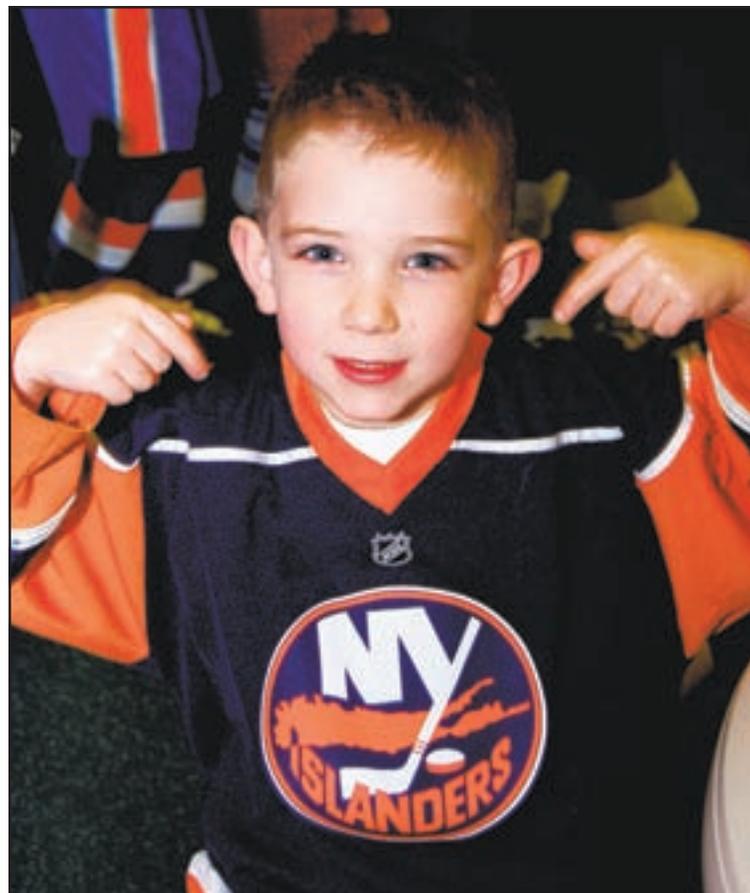


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Students battle law school over vendor-booting bush

Aspiring legal eagles got on their law school's case for proposing shrubbery that would uproot pavement peddlers hawking fruit, books, and clothing outside their Downtown campus ("Turf war! Brooklyn Law students join street vendors' fight against sidewalk hedge," by Lauren Gill, online Feb. 15). Pupils started an online petition requesting college bigs ditch their application for 10 boxwood hedges around Joralemon Street and Boerum Place, so hucksters can hustle without hassle. A local panel has approved the planters, but neighbors claim they would block views of traffic and become trash cans for litterbugs. The Department of Transportation will make the final decision. Online readers dug our report:

I am a current Brooklyn Law School student, and I stand with the street vendors. If we, as a law school, strive to be a public interest institution, to be good community members and neighbors, to engage in critical thinking on gentrification during our annual Race and the Law program series, to run a Street Vendor Project pro bono program, then we cannot also displace local vendors and jeopardize their livelihoods. Not to mention doing so in an opaque way that prevents vendors from being able to defend their space or adequately prepare for change. If we need more plants, put them inside the courtyard! Solidarity, not "beautification" and displacement!

Jill from South Slope

Doubtful most are actually licensed with the city. Illegal goods sold tax-free with no rent paid. Fantastic issue to throw your weight behind.

Ian from Williamsburg

As a current B.L.S. student I stand

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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

SOUND OFF TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS AND COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS

with the street vendors and support them in their fight to keep their livelihoods, and prevent the further gentrification of the neighborhood at the hands of an institution that claims to be a supporter of the local community. Also while we may not all buy DVDs, we all eat at that halal cart and it is delicious, come on.

Claire from Crown Heights

The photo actually shows a vendor (are they licensed?) holding bootleg DVDs for sale. I understand that they're trying to support themselves, and I sympathize with the loss they face if kicked out. But the school isn't trying to bulldoze an orphanage to build a faculty lounge here. It's trying to act within the law at the expense of people who have been acting without it.

"Trying to support one self" cannot be the sole standard applied in these scenarios. At least some of the vendors are breaking the law by selling bootleg property. Others are possibly violating regulations by selling without permits.

Claiming that they deserve protection because this is their means of subsistence is equivalent to saying they've been allowed to profit from breaking the law for this long, you can't deprive them of their right to continue to break the law. Understanding their plight and supporting them is one thing, but vilifying the school seems entirely inappropriate.

Passerby from Brooklyn

This is just step one of the B.L.S. plan to expand its main building toward Joralemon, remove or reduce the courtyard, and rent out street-level retail space.

But they're not telling you that yet, minions, because if you haven't yet figured it out they don't care what you think and only want your \$50 grand a year. I'd be interested in their spokesman's thoughts on this plan.

A little bird from Brooklyn Heights

The Brooklyn Law School administration seems to lack accountability to the students that pay its members' (very high) salaries. This is an issue of transparency, and it shows up in other areas of how the law school conducts itself both internally and in the public sphere. The fact that we, as a school, sponsor a pro bono project that advocates for this type of vendor is ironic and adds insult to injury.

Rachel Russell from Brooklyn Heights

Wow. One of the vendors appears to be holding an illegally made, bootleg DVD right in front of a law school that offers concentrations in Copyright Law. They are a nuisance and get in the way. I've lived my whole life walking around that area and it will be good to see them go.

Jim from Cobble Hill

I hear the point about the illegal DVDs and such. That's a separate issue. They are licensed by the city to be street vendors. If they are breaking the law, it's up to the city to prosecute those individuals. There's a whole bunch of other things the various vendors sell which are perfectly legal. A private institution displacing all of them for the alleged offenses of a few is obviously inappropriate.

Chris A. from Crown Heights

Not exactly a tragic ending if these vendors actually end up paying retail rents, like the rest of the taxpaying businesses downtown.

Ian from Williamsburg

One question: the petition signers include non-student neighbors and alumni. How does that represent "our tuition money" and current students?

Rena from B.H.

The petition collected well over 100 signatures before anyone outside B.L.S. found out about it. I would also encourage you to look at the comments on the petition itself. The overwhelming majority are from B.L.S. students.

B.L.S. Student from B.H.

I am a current student at B.L.S. and also stand with the street vendors. While I do love greenery and the trees found around Brooklyn, I do not love it at the expense of people and people's livelihood.

These vendors have become a part of my daily life in Brooklyn and add to the diversity of the city that I love so much. Brooklyn Law School purports to be a public interest school, attracting the attention of many public interest-minded students, and this action goes against everything we stand for.

This is not the B.L.S. I have spent over \$200,000 to attend, and I am not okay with my tuition dollars helping displace people from their jobs and income.

Meghan from Brooklyn Heights

The planters would help with

storm runoff. **Jane from Bushwick**

This is only one side of the story! Interview the plants! What do they have to say about this? Are they more important than tax-free, pirated DVDs?

Henry Dooter from Brooklyn Heights

I rarely buy DVDs, so that particular vendor (others sell vegetables, gloves, children's workbooks etc.) being displaced doesn't really affect me. I don't buy makeup, so I would like to replace Sephora with a green house. I don't have a car, so I'd like to close Joralemon Street to traffic and plant a farm there. I usually don't take the bus, so can we get rid of that bus stop already? I've never been on fire, so I would much prefer a tree to that hydrant I always step around.

Chris Antonelli from Crown Heights

The community voted to get the planters there. Additionally couldn't they just locate really close by? There seems to be a lot of spots open. I may be wrong, but it seems they could move pretty easily within the street vendor guidelines.

Kyle from Brooklyn Heights

I wouldn't agree that the community voted to put the planters there, because most of the stakeholders (students, faculty, staff, the vendors themselves) weren't even aware of this plan until last week. The school created and pushed for this proposal without telling anyone about it. There was no referendum. I take it you mean the community board voted to allow the planters there — this is true. They did so after hearing commentary from only two parties: the Brooklyn Downtown Partnership (businesses with an interest in kicking out the vendors who are their competition) and B.L.S. (which apparently has decided to abandon its commitment to advocating for people with less resources to advocate for themselves). **Jerehme from Brooklyn Heights**

The same ones who want them removed better not say anything if the vendors decide they wanna go on welfare because of it.

I say leave them alone and let them make a living, just like all the other vendors Downtown.

You might not think whatever they're selling fits your tastes, but they still gotta eat, just like the next person.

jjm from c. hill

Mr. Governor, tear down these sexist ads!

Dear Gov. Cuomo, Like you, we are the parents of three daughters. Walking the streets of New York, they tell us they are catcalled, leered at, and objectified. Last year, one of them was groped by a stranger on the street. In high school and college, they are highly likely to experience unwanted sexual advances.

The New York City subway system is no joke either, but we never expected the train itself to objectify our daughters.

There are three ads currently on display from Doctor's Plastic Surgery — one more offensive than the other.

In one of these ads, a young woman making a sad face holds two oranges in front of her breasts. Next to her stands the same woman, but this time she is beaming ear to ear. Why? She is now holding two grapefruits in front of her breasts — she is the happy recipient of breast augmentation surgery by the crass medical group that paid for this public ad seen by millions of subway riders.



POLITICAL SPIN CYCLE

Tom Allon

Would you and the MTA allow an ad with a young man making a sad face while holding a pickle in front of his penis next to the same man making a happy face while holding an eggplant there?

We think not.

I doubt we are the only par-

ents in New York whose blood boils every time we're standing in a cramped subway car in front of sexist "breast augmentation" ads. Most men in New York either have daughters or nieces or sisters or wives or girlfriends whose daily commute is subject to this body-shaming image.

Gov. Cuomo, we know this situation has upset you in the past. In April 2014, your former aide, Howard Glazer, sent a pointed note to MTA Chairman Tom Prendergrast on your behalf objecting to a similar ad. "Made in New York" (which was emblazoned across a woman's oversized breasts) was another augmentation ad that featured oversized cleavage as a desirable outcome.

Your aide's letter to the MTA read: "In response to a query from our office, the MTA advised that such ads fall within the MTA's written standards for advertising. With all due respect, we suggest those standards need to be revisited ... Tens of thousands of children ride the subway every day to get to school

... The public has a right to expect that the MTA will strive for a family-friendly environment."

MTA spokesman Adam Lisberg said then that the agency would look into the governor's request.

"The MTA understands the concerns that Gov. Cuomo and others have raised about this advertisement and about maintaining a family-friendly environment on our trains and buses. We will revisit our standards and our process for reviewing them."

That was almost two years ago.

When we recently wrote to the MTA to complain about the offensive "breast augmentation" ads, an MTA employee wrote back that "because of the First Amendment" the state agency cannot make guidelines to reject ads that are offensive or demeaning unless it would "imminently incite or provoke violence."

Really?

Gov. Cuomo, you have the power to change this clearly mistaken MTA policy.

If an ad demeaning to men was posted in New York City subway or bus, we have no doubt that it would wisely be rejected by the MTA.

Why are ads demeaning to women any different?

Your instinct two years ago, when you had one of your aides question this sexist ad campaign, was absolutely correct. We are not sure why you backed down so quickly.

We know that in 2014 you were busy running for re-election and starting the Women's Equality Party, which delivered more than 50,000 votes in your victorious campaign.

Now it is time to stay true to your beliefs and do the right thing. Tear down those sexist ads on the subway.

We know you can do it, Governor. If nothing else, do it for your daughters. And ours.

Sincerely,

Tom Allon and Rebecca Cohen

Tom Allon and Rebecca Cohen are domestic partners living in Brooklyn. They have three teenaged daughters between them.



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Branding sex offenders yet again

One day after President Obama signed legislation that will brand the passports of sex offenders last week, a federal court challenge was filed against it.

The International Megan's Law is supposedly a way to alert foreign countries to sex offenders who may be traveling there for sex tourism or trafficking purposes. Of course, who isn't against sex trafficking? We all are! But branding people's passports isn't going to do any good. The U.S. State Department itself found that the law's rationale is "very misleading." And after conducting a study, the General Accounting Office "found no evidence that the offenders used their passports to commit sex offenses abroad."

Got that? No. Evidence. But heck — what's a complete lack of evidence compared to political grandstanding? The bill was sponsored by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) and passed both houses with only a single, brave lawmaker, Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), speaking out against it. He said that he



RHYMES WITH CRAZY

Lenore Skenazy

endorsed the bill's provisions to notify foreign countries about sex offenders' travel plans, but was repulsed by the idea of the "unique passport identifier" — government-speak for passport branding.

"It is simply bad policy to single out one category of offenses for this type of treatment," Scott told the House.

"We do not subject those who murder, who defraud the government or our fellow citizens of millions and billions, or who commit acts of terrorism to these restrictions."

Terrorists? Pffff. It is only sex offenders who must declare their past deeds this way. And that is what the court challenge is hinged upon.

"We don't want those 'identifiers' on anybody's passport," says lawyer Janice Bellucci, president of the group California Reform Sex Offender Laws, who is filing the federal challenge on behalf of four sex offenders. "Our strongest argument is that it violates the First Amendment, because that 'unique identifier' is compelled speech."

In other words, "The government is making you say something you don't want to say."

Bellucci has been down this legal road before. Twice she argued against California towns forcing sex offenders to put "No trick-or-treating" signs on their doors, and twice she won. A third time she sued

the California Department of Corrections for the same thing. The department had told registrants they had to put that sign on their doors on Halloween. And if they didn't have a home and lived in a tent, well by golly, they had to put a "No trick-or-treating" sign on their tent flap. And if they were living in a sleeping bag at the side of the road, they had to put a "No trick-or-treating" sign on their sleeping bag, too.

Presumably this would help fend off the hordes of children seeking bite-size Snickers from the homeless. Bellucci won that case, too.

Like candy-doling, Halloween-activated predators in sleeping bags, the problem of registrants traveling abroad for sex tourism is also not a common one. Chris Smith has written that, "currently tens of thousands of offenders could be traveling abroad as child sex tourists."

But they aren't. The U.S. Justice Department itself says that about 10 Americans a year are con-

victed of "sex crimes against minors in other countries." Meantime, there are more than 800,000 people on the Sex Offender Registry — about a quarter of them minors. This means that the vast majority of registrants — at least 790,990 one of them — are not sex tourists. And yet we won't give them the basic right of traveling this great earth.

The United States has never branded anyone's passport until now. Somehow we have survived 200-plus years of giving all citizens the right to serve their time and then go on with their lives. Former drug dealers can travel south of the border. The Ocean's 11, 12, and 13 crews can hop on a plane to Monaco. But sex offenders, including teens who sexted and former flashers now in their 80s, will be branded with the scarlet S and kept in internal exile. It is for the sake of the children, of course.

It always is. *Lenore Skenazy is founder of the book and blog Free-Range Kids, and a contributor at Reason.com.*

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WHERE TO GO ■ WHAT TO DO
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D is for double-entendre: Elissa Blount-Moorhead has created an alphabet book with dirty double meanings, so adults can get a secret kick out of reading to innocent, oblivious kids. Photo by Jason Speakman

I is for innuendo

Alphabet book drips with double meanings

By Allegra Hobbs

Finally, a sexy way to learn your ABCs!

A Bedford-Stuyvesant writer has penned a sneakily subversive children's book that teaches kids the alphabet with dirty double-entendres. But the author of "P is for Pussy" says that the double-meanings are totally lost on the innocent — or at least, they should be.

"If your children know all these sex and drug references, you have a bigger problem," said Elissa Blount-Moorhead, who will celebrate the launch of her picture book at Dumbo's Powerhouse Arena on Feb. 29.

The book pairs potentially dirty words with innocent illustrations, such as "A is for ass" — accompanied by an image of a donkey — and "C is for cock," depicting a guy holding a rooster.

She dreamt up the idea while trying to keep her youngsters — and herself — entertained during a long road trip, and started spouting off a naughty but kid-friendly alternative alphabet to mix up the ho-hum "A is for apple."

The former Pratt professor and mother of two, who splits her time between Brooklyn and Baltimore, decided the current kids' book market could use more low-key adult humor to keep par-

ents laughing while putting the little ones to bed.

"I spent a lot of time trying to find more subversive and visually arresting books, and I was completely bored with what was being offered at the time," said Blount-Moorhead.

The adult alphabet book can potentially be read to kids, unlike the similar work "Go the F--- to Sleep," which aped the form of a children's book while being aimed solely at adults.

In addition to the naughty double-meanings, mature female readers may get a kick from the book's decidedly sex-positive, feminist voice, said Blount-

Moorhead. Many of the words and images, like "V is for vixen" and the more dicey "H is for hoe," were carefully rendered to depict sexually-liberated women in full control of their bodies.

The book's illustrator, local artist Wangechi Mutu — known for her bold, colorful collages of female figures — is currently visiting Nairobi, but will join the author at the launch via Skype to chat about feminist themes across their work.

"P is for Pussy" book launch party at Powerhouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhousearena.com]. Feb. 29 at 7 pm. Free.

BUZZ WORTHY

The best NYC Beer Week events in Brooklyn

By Julianne Cuba

Hands on over to Sanders Studios!

The city's annual celebration of suds, New York City Beer Week, will flow into more than 400 beer-centric events across all five boroughs on Feb. 19. And the highlight of the eighth annual beer-tasting festival — New York City Brewer's Choice — will take place right here in Brooklyn, at Sanders Studios in Clinton Hill on Feb. 24.

Brewer's Choice is a celebration of craft beer that brings together brewers and beer-lovers for a night of quality food paired with craft beer, says the event's co-founder and producer.

"It's kind of an amazing evening. If you love beer," said Jimmy Carbone, host of the event, and also of the radio show "Beer Sessions."

Visitors to the beer feast will easily spot Carbone, who will sport a pink-striped seersucker jacket, an outfit he reserves for special events, he said.

This year's Brewer's Choice will feature more than 40 breweries, including six from Kings County, including Brooklyn Brewery, Threes Brewing, Greenpoint Beer and Ale, Keg and Lantern, Other Half, and newcomer Strong Rope brewery. The rest of the beer producers mostly come from the New York City area.

A ticket to the event will allow unlimited samples from the beer vendors, with many of the brews poured by the brewers themselves. Visitors can also sample food from an eclectic group of chefs and food purveyors, including Boerum Hill's Mile End Deli and Park Slope's Palo Santo.

"It's our favorite night of the year. We put a lot into it," Carbone said.

Brewer's Choice at Sanders Studios [525 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill, (646) 232-8857, www.nycbrewerschoice.com]. Feb. 24 at 6 pm. \$80.

Beer in sight

Kelso Beer Company, located right next door to Sanders Studio, will host "Brewpiphany," a special sampling of home-brews, on the night before Brewer's Choice. In early January, Kelso's brewmaster Kelly Taylor gave about 50 homebrewers an un-hopped, un-fermented beer, so each could put a unique spin on it by fermenting, aging, or souring the beer as they saw fit. Visitors will sample



Tell me how you really feel: Brewer's Choice co-founder Jimmy Carbone celebrates local beer at last year's event, along with Erin Fairbanks of the Heritage Radio Network. The 2016 Brewer's Choice beer-tasting happens on Feb. 24. NYC Brewer's Choice

each of the options and choose a winner.

"The event is all about celebrating the beauty and quality of craft beer," said Taylor, who is also president of the New York City Brewer's Guild, organizers of New York City Beer Week.

Brewpiphany at Kelso Beer Company [529 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-2731, www.kelsobeer.com] Feb. 23 at 7 pm. \$27.37.

Old enough to drink

At the 21st birthday party for its Black Chocolate Stout, the Brooklyn Brewery will serve up 10 different vintages of the seasonal imperial beverage. Visitors can taste the differences between different stouts while listening to a play-list of songs paired to the year of each version.

Brooklyn Brewery [79 N. 11th St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 486-7422, www.brooklynbrewery.com]. Feb. 22 at 6 pm. Free with RSVP.

Try a new cold brew

By Dennis Lynch

The weather and the mugs are frosty!

Brooklyn drinkers seeking an antidote for winter weather have discovered a new option on the shelf. Brooklyn Brewery has switched up its seasonal offering this year, replacing its usual Winter Ale with an Insulated Dark Lager. The new brew was designed for drinking from late fall through early spring, but it truly shines now that winter grips the borough, said the brewery's founder.

"Insulated is a lighter in body, but it's got much more pronounced roasty and chocolatey flavors to it," Steve Hindy said. "We were looking for a little more of a bracing beer — something nice and bracing when you've just come into the house after walking home in 20-degree weather."

The brewery's previous cold-weather brew, the Winter Ale, had been in production for 10 years, and Hindy felt it was time for a change.

"We like to change things up and give our customers something new," said Hindy. "And of course our best selling beer is Brooklyn Lager, so I've always wanted to do a dark lager."

Lagers are a Brooklyn tradition, says Hindy, and 19th century breweries run by German immigrants turned out strong, traditional lagers.

"We based Brooklyn Lager on what they were brewing here, and Insulated Dark Lager is in that tradition," Hindy said.

Words like "insulated" and "dark" may evoke thoughts of a heavy-in-alcohol brew, but Insulated Dark Lager's 5.6 percent alcohol by volume content is right on par with most of the



Come in from the cold: Brooklyn Brewery's Kaitie Lynch holds up a pack of the Williamsburg brewery's new winter offering: Insulated Dark Lager.

Photo by Jason Speakman

brewery's year-round brews. So even if you fill up on a few, you can trek into Brooklyn's wintry wilderness while still being quick on your feet.

But Hindy does not have to venture into the snowy streets to get some of the new brew. He has Insulated Dark Lager on tap at his Gowanus home and is making good use of it — he is on his second keg of the winter.



A critical guy: David Cohen, founder of the monthly Review Panel of contemporary art criticism, moved the event to the Brooklyn Public Library after a decade in Manhattan. Gregg Richards

Critical split

Manhattan art discussion heads to a better borough

By M. Randazzo

Brooklyn is where the art is!

A prestigious monthly discussion of contemporary art has vacated its home in Manhattan in favor of Brooklyn, the city's creative center. After a decade at Manhattan's National Academy of Art and Design, the Review Panel has a new home in the Brooklyn Public Library's Dweck Center. The move brings the panel closer to the makers that fuel New York City's vibrant art scene, said its founder.

"I'm conscious of the fact that much of our audience is made up of artists who live and or work in Brooklyn," said David Cohen, who is also the editor and publisher of artcritical.com. "It dovetails the desire to be closer to a younger and more creative audience and wanting to be in a public library."

Brooklyn galleries are getting increased attention from the critical establishment, he said.

"Bushwick and exciting points south in Red Hook and downtown Brooklyn constitute quite a vital scene these days," said Cohen.

The Review Panel brings together artists and critics to examine current exhibits at galleries and museums around the city, though the new spot may lead to an increased focus on Brooklyn shows.

"I think there will definitely be a more Brooklyn angle," said Cohen. "We've always been interested in Brooklyn, so it's not a radical departure but I think it will be natural to have more of a sense of Brooklyn."

Changing the location also gave Cohen a chance to tinker with the night's format a bit. The first panel in Brooklyn, held on Feb. 9, featured a novelist in addition to critics and artists.

"One of the things in rethinking the panel is seeking greater diversity in terms of the demographics of panels," he said, "but also tapping the expertise of people beyond the art world."

Cohen believes the move can attract a new audience without alienating its regular attendees.

"I find Manhattanites are happy to have an excuse to get to Brooklyn," he said.

At the next Review Panel, scheduled for March 8, Cohen will be joined by critics Svetlana Alpers and Laurie Fendrich, and Brooklyn artist David Salle.

The Review Panel at the Brooklyn Public Library [10 Grand Army Plaza at Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights (718) 230-2100, www.bklynlibrary.org]. March 8 at 7 pm. Free.



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TROPICAL SPIRITS

A ghostly Caribbean comedy plays Fort Greene

By Alley Olivier

The sunny Caribbean has plenty of stories about spirits and black magic.

Those stories take center stage — literally — in the play “Zingay,” manifesting in Fort Greene on Feb. 20. The one-act performance will take the audience on a comedic journey of jealousy, violence, and the world of obeah women — those who use folk magic and sorcery. But it is also a reflection on Caribbean tradition, storytelling, and culture, said its director.

“For me, ‘Zingay’ is the story our grandparents told us,” said Faith Armstrong. “I would like the audience to take away how rich the Caribbean culture is, tradition is, and how much of an impact those stories had on us growing up.”

Written by Trinidadian playwright Freddie Kissoon in 1966, “Zingay” was adapted for this production by Armstrong and producer Marlon Gervis. The story follows a married couple, played by Karen Joseph and Curtis Browne, who suspect that someone has cast a type of black magic on their child.

The two clash over whether to seek help from a neighborhood obeah woman — the wife believes in the stories of evil spirits told by her grandmother, but her husband is more skeptical.

“He doesn’t approve or believe in those things, but the wife is very gullible and was raised around that



Giving up the ghost: The cast of “Zingay” (Karen Joseph, Curtis Browne, Sharon James and Tala Albert) deal with black magic in the Feb. 20 show. Heatwave Productions

storytelling,” Armstrong said.

“My character is a very concerned mom who is very spiritual and believes everything anyone tells me,” said Joseph.

Despite the comedic nature of the play, some of its more serious elements made the show more difficult for Armstrong to get ready than her previous play “Letters from Leonara.”

“This one is more challenging for me because it is a fun play but it’s also somewhat a heavier play,” she said. “I had to work a little bit more to get the cast members into character, there is fighting, jealousy, arguments.”

The prominent role of spirits in the play was also a challenge for

some of the mixed Caribbean cast.

“Dealing with the obeah, spirits you will find some people are not comfortable acting certain parts,” Armstrong explained.

The show is only scheduled to run for one night, but the cast has grand hopes about bringing it to a larger stage.

“It’s a lot of fun and I hope we can bring it back and do it on Broadway,” Joseph said.

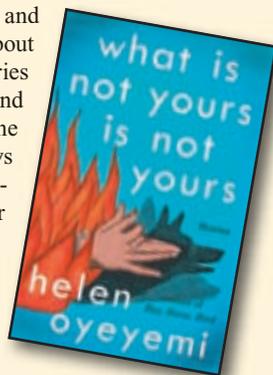
“Zingay” at Brooklyn Music School [126 St. Felix St. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place in Fort Greene. (347) 692-9428. zingay.eventbrite.com]. Feb. 20 at 8 pm. \$30.



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

Word’s pick: “What is Not Yours is Not Yours” by Helen Oyeyemi

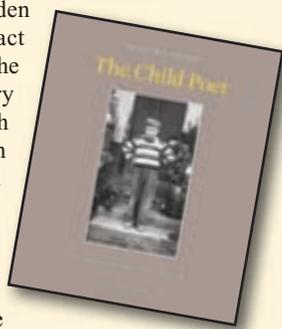
I finished this collection and could not stop thinking about it! The first couple of stories seemed so simple, but I found myself thinking about the characters and events for days after. Oyeyemi is good at getting these quiet stories under your skin. After reading one particular story, I want desperately to be a part of the Wenches — you will have to pick up the book to see what that means.



— Katelyn Phillips, Word [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.word-brooklyn.com].

Community Bookstore’s pick: “The Child Poet” by Homero Aridjis

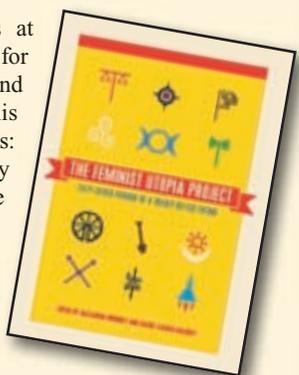
Memoir can be a leaden form, encumbered by fact without fancy — but in the best of hands, a life’s story can rise up off the page with the buoyancy of fiction. Such is the case with “The Child Poet,” beautifully translated by author (and daughter) Chloe Aridjis. A literary light in Mexico, Aridjis is largely unknown in the United States, which is a great loss for us. His memoir explores the moody textures of childhood with a keenly Proustian sense for the shimmering quality of novel experiences.



— Hal Hlavinka, Community Bookstore [43 Seventh Ave. between Carroll Street and Garfield Place in Park Slope, (718) 783-3075, www.communitybookstore.net].

Greenlight Bookstore’s pick: “The Feminist Utopia Project” edited by Alexandra Brodsky and Rachel Kauder Nalebuff

This collection bursts at the seams with visions for a future, some radical and some so reasonable. This book contains multitudes: an island where only women live; childcare centers at high schools; increased hourly wages for restaurant workers; a walk through the desert at night alone and unafraid; twelve-year-old musicians who refuse to be labeled a “girl band”; and sex-positive, body-loving conversations. The book’s 57 written and illustrated visions are informative, intentional, and laugh-out-loud fun. Reading this book, I felt a little closer to a utopia of my own.



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

Bay Ridge is jam-band-packed!

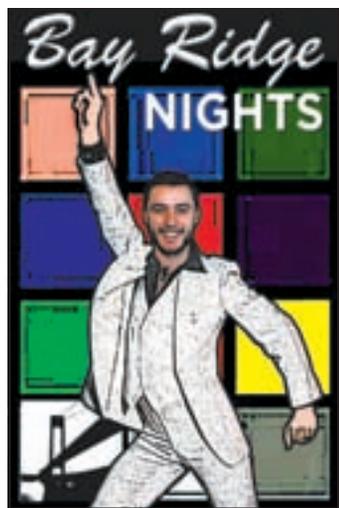
By Dennis Lynch

Good news, Bay Ridge! It is going to be a relatively warm weekend and there are plenty of reasons to get out there.

But Friday night you should rest up, because the rest of the weekend will be jam-packed, as well as packed with jams!

It starts early on Saturday with cover band the Social Zoo, which will have a “laid-back jam session” to audition new bass players at No Quarter Tavern (8015 Fifth Ave., between 80th and 81st streets) starting at 1 pm. The playlist-by-request outfit will ask the audience to vote for which four-string slapper should ask join the band, so show up and do your part for democracy.

Or celebrate Mardi Gras — the Scandinavian way! Have a Fat Tuesday party on Saturday afternoon at the Danish Mardi Gras at Vesuvio (7305 Third Ave. between 73rd and 74th streets). The Scandinavian East Coast Museum and Lodge Brooklyn-



Sons of Norway have a slew of traditional festivities for you, including “hitting the barrel” (a pinata-like game), decorating spring branches, and chowing down on traditional *fastelavensbolle* sweet buns — you know you love ‘em! The party starts at 1 pm and costs \$35 (\$20 for kids

7-17, \$15 for ages 6 and younger).

You can’t always get what you want — unless you want to rock out to the Stones all Saturday! Rolling Stones tribute band Sha-Doobie hits the stage at Red, White, And Brew (8910 Fifth Ave. between 89th and 90th streets) from 4 pm until 8 pm. For those four hours, you get all-you-can-drink wine, beer, and well drinks for \$40.

Then you have enough time to make it to the Leif Bar (6725 Fifth Ave. between 67th and Senator streets) to catch Tiberius, a band covering the Grateful Dead, Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, and Led Zeppelin. Tiberius goes on at 9 pm and will play two full sets.

Football season is over, so there are no more excuses for spending Sunday afternoon on the couch. Bar circuit vet Max Christopher is playing at Schnitzelhaus (7319 Fifth Ave. between 73rd and 74th streets) on Sunday at 4 pm, so grab a pint and liverwurst a little.

ART, "AGITPROP!": This exhibit explores the legacy and continued use of power and politically engaged art. \$16 museum admission. 11 am–6 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638–5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND": The Lewis Carroll adventure is adapted for marionettes. \$10 (\$9 kids). 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965–3391], www.puppetworks.org.

ANNUAL PARK SLOPE UMC BOOK SALE: More than 10,000 books will be offered at this massive annual sale for only a buck or two each. Donations welcome. \$5 admission. 7–9:30 pm. Park Slope United Methodist Church [410 Sixth Avenue at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (917) 328–7125], www.park-slopeumc.org.

THEATER, "PERICLES": Shakespeare's story of adventurous travel, redemption, and forgiveness is performed with an original score from Tony-nominated composer Shaun Davey. \$55–\$85. 7:30 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.

MUSIC, SLAVIC SOUL PARTY: The nine-member Balkan funk band performs. Free. 7:30 pm. BRIC Arts Media House [647 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 683–5621], www.bricarts-media.org.

MUSIC, EVENING HYMNS, HEAVEN'S JAIL, LOVE LOVE: \$8. 7:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.union-hallny.com.

THEATER, "MEN ARE DOGS": Narrows Community Theater presents a original comedy from Joseph Simonelli. \$20 (\$15 seniors). 8 pm. St. Patrick's School Auditorium [401 97th St. at Fourth Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 482–3173], www.narrowscommunitytheater.com.

DANCE, "BORDERS": Brooklyn ensemble Leimay uses sound, light, voice and movement to create a hauntingly evocative landscape of bodies turned inside out. \$25–\$40. 8 pm. BAM Fisher [321 Ashland Pl. between Hansen Place and Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene], www.bam.org/visit/buildings/bam-fisher.

SAT, FEB. 20

COLONIAL DAY AT THE FORT PUTNAM RE-DOUBT: Join the Urban Park Rangers for a day of colonial fun. Free. 10 am–3 pm. Fort Greene Park Visitor Center [Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Wash-

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Hanging around: The Balkan soul gypsy funk band Slavic Soul Party will play a free concert at Bric Arts Media on Feb. 19. The band has teamed up with some Brooklyn teenagers to write a few tunes inspired by "West Side Story," so expect those to slip into the funky repertoire. Slavic Soul Party

ington Park in Fort Greene, (718) 722–3218).

WINTER SPORTS: Not sure which winter sport at the LeFrak Center at Lakeside is right for you? Try skating, hockey, curling, or broomball. Free. 1–8 pm. LeFrak Center at Lakeside [171 East Dr. at Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 462–0010], www.lakeside-brooklyn.com.

THEATER, "PERICLES": 2 pm and 7 pm. See Friday, Feb. 19.

THEATER, "MEN ARE DOGS": 2 pm. See Friday, Feb. 19.

MUSIC, ROUX SERIES: The Roux Roux gallery launches a new music series with Fond Pursuits, the Ghost, and Vaubel Gilmore Duo. \$10 (\$8 in advance). 7 pm. Roux Roux [243 Smith St. at Douglass Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 875–4858], www.rouxrouxgallery.com.

MUSIC, NINE LIVES OF ELECTRONIC MUSIC WITH YUKA C. HONDA: \$20 (\$15 students and seniors). 8 pm. Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (917) 267–0363], www.roulette.org.

ANNUAL PARK SLOPE UMC BOOK SALE: 9 am–5:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 19.

"THE BOOK OF LIFE": The Sunset Park Cinema Club for Kids shows the stop-motion film. With a performance and puppet show by the Ballet Folklorico Quetzalcoatl at 10:30 am. Film at 11:45 am. Free with RSVP. 10 am. Industry City Factory Floor [241 37th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park, (718) 417–7362], rooftop-films.com.

FREE FAMILY DAY AT WYCKOFF FARMHOUSE: Wyckoff Farmhouse hosts a day of kid-friendly tours, hands-on activities, scavenger hunts, and more. Special activities for kids younger than 10 before 2 pm. Free. 1–4 pm. Wyckoff House Museum [5816 Clarendon Rd. at E. 59th

Street in Canarsie, (718) 629–5400).

TALK, FROM BROOKLYN COLLEGE TO CONEY ISLAND: Three Brooklyn College graduates who spend years photographing Coney Island present an illustrated discussion of their careers. Free. 2 pm. Valentine Museum of Art [1655 Flatbush Ave. between Avenue I and E. 23rd Street in Midwood, (718) 696–8355], www.valentinemuseumofart.com.

FUND RAISER, "THIS MIGHT HURT" FUND-RAISER: The Pongo Power gym helps raise money for a documentary about people living with chronic pain. The night will feature live music, food, drinks, and a silent auction. \$30. 4 pm. Pongo Power [350 Flatbush Ave. between Sterling and St. Johns places in Park Slope, (917) 340–0720], www.pongopower.com.

THEATER, A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC: A Sondheim musical about the romantic lives of several couples. \$18. 8 pm. The McKinney Chapel, at First Unitarian Society (116 Pierrepont St., between Clinton St. and Monroe Place in Brooklyn Heights), www.theater2020.com.

SUN, FEB. 21

MUSIC, CONTINENTAL CONNECTIONS — AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY: Classical music from Hungarian composer Iván Fischer, Mozart, and Haydn. \$10–\$38. 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638–5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

MUSIC, NATE CRAIG & FRIENDS: With comedians Rachel Feinstein, Nick Vatterott, David Angelo, Josh Gondelman, and Jon Rudnitsky. \$8 (\$6 in advance). 9 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.unionhallny.com.

ANNUAL PARK SLOPE UMC BOOK SALE: 12:30–5:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 19.

ART, "ADVENTURES IN THE BORDER LAND" OPENING RECEPTION: A group exhibition exploring geographies through time, space and radiance. Free. Noon–2 pm. Dancewave [45 Fourth Ave. at Dean Street in Park Slope, (718) 522–4696], www.dance-wave.org.

ANIMAL TRACKING: Learn how to find and know animals through their tracks. Led by the urban park rangers and for children 10 and older. Free. 1 pm to 2:30 pm. Salt Marsh Nature Center [3302 Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 421–2021].

COMEDY, SASHEER ZAMATA FOR AN HOUR: The comedian, actress, writer, and current SNL cast member performs. \$12 (\$10 in advance). 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643–6510], www.thebell-houseny.com.

MON, FEB. 22

MODERATELY DIFFICULT TRIVIA: Every Monday, the Lodge hosts a session of its 14-week trivia league, with a mega-prize at end and weekly prizes as well. Drop-ins and teams welcome. Free. 8 pm. Sycamore [1118 Cortelyou Rd. between Stratford and Westminster roads in Ditmas Park, (347) 240–5850], www.sycamorebrooklyn.com.

FILM, MUPPET VAULT PRESENTS MOVIES!: Take a trip to Tinseltown with Kermit and the gang at this screening of the Muppets' most memorable movie spoofs. \$8. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.union-hallny.com.

TUES, FEB. 23

SENIOR SALSA: Free salsa classes for seniors. Free. 10:30 am. Park Slope Senior Center [463A Seventh St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 832–3726].

READING, MANHATTANVILLE READING SERIES: The Crown Heights showcase for emerging writers speaks with novelist Mira Jacob, Jennifer Baker, Matthew Daddona, and Amy Yedida Wolfe. Free. 7:30 pm. Manhattanville Coffee [167 Rogers Ave. at St. Johns Place in Crown Heights, (646) 781–9900], www.manhattanvillecoffee.com.

TALK, SECRET SCIENCE CLUB: The monthly meeting for mind-bending lectures, volatile experiments, chemical libations, stargazing sounds, and more. Free. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643–6510], www.thebell-houseny.com.

WED, FEB. 24

BRIDAL EXPO AND FASHION SHOW: A Bridal Affair to Remember presents a



Sit down and talk it out: An accommodating Charlotte Hornets player offered Brooklyn Nets guard C.J. Watson a place to sit during their last match-up. The game on Feb. 21 may not be so friendly. Associated Press / Gerald Herbert

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FRI, FEB 19

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. NEW YORK KNICKS: \$69–\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

THU, MAR 3

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 7 pm.

SUN, FEB 21

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. CHARLOTTE HORNETS: \$25–\$3,000. 6 pm.

FRI, MAR 4

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 7 pm.

THU, FEB 25

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$75. 7 pm.

SAT, MAR 5

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 11 am, 3 pm, and 7 pm.

FRI, FEB 26

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 7 pm.

SUN, MAR 6

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 11 am, 3 pm, and 7 pm.

SAT, FEB 27

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 11 am, 3 pm, and 7 pm.

TUE, MAR 8

SPORTS, NEW YORK ISLANDERS VS. PITTSBURGH PENGUINS: \$90–\$2,500. 7:30 pm.

SUN, FEB 28

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 11 am, 3 pm, and 7 pm.

WED, MAR 9

SPORTS, 2016 ATLANTIC 10 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND: \$24. 6:30 pm.

TUE, MAR 1

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 10:30 am, 3 pm, and 7 pm.

THU, MAR 10

SPORTS, 2016 ATLANTIC 10 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SECOND ROUND: \$30–\$35. Noon and 6:30 pm.

WED, MAR 2

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY PRESENTS LEGENDS: \$15–\$90. 7 pm.

FRI, MAR 11

SPORTS, 2016 ATLANTIC 10 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP QUARTERFINALS: \$26–\$62. Noon and 6:30 pm.

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● 'Their desire and their will to win is stronger than it's ever been.'

— Bishop Loughlin girls coach Chez Williams on his team's strong postseason performance.

● 'Every game from now on is huge for us.'

— LIU forward Jerome Frink on the Blackbirds' win over St. Francis.

Railsplitters regain boro crown

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Brooklyn belongs to Abraham Lincoln again.

Senior Cahiem Brown scored a game-high 30 points to power the Railsplitters to an impressive 87-77 win over rival and defending champion Thomas Jefferson in the Public School Athletic League Brooklyn borough boys' basketball final at York College on Feb. 14.

The win puts an exclamation point on Lincoln's turnaround. The Railsplitters were 7-5 in league play before winning six-straight contests to solidify its place as a city title contender.

"It proved that we are able to compete with anyone in the city," Brown said. "I think coming out here and getting this win proves that we are the best team in the city right now."

Lincoln, which lost its last two postseason games to the Orange Wave, came in with



HOT SHOT: Lincoln's Rakym Felder shoots a corner jumper.

Photo by William Thomas

extra motivation after Jefferson coach Lawrence "Bud" Pollard sat stars Shamorie Ponds and Rasheem Dunn for the regular season finale on Coney Island on Feb. 2.

"We felt disrespected when they did that," said sophomore guard Tyler Bourne, who had 12 points.

The feeling propelled his team to a flying start against a Jefferson club that appeared to be cruising instead of competing. Lincoln led 16-8 after one frame, 27-11 after two Rakym Felder free throws at the second quarter's three-minute mark, and 33-16 at the half. Felder (14 points) did an excellent job keeping the ball away from the St. John's-bound Ponds in the first half. Pollard wasn't surprised by the slow start, but his "second half team" just couldn't overcome it.

"We didn't jump on them," he said. "We kind of hurt our-

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TOP DOG: Lincoln coach Dwayne "Tiny" Morton claimed he is the "big dog" in Brooklyn again after his team beat Thomas Jefferson.

Photo by William Thomas

The leader of the pack

Lincoln coach says he is 'big dog' after borough title win

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Talk about a dog fight.

Thomas Jefferson boys' basketball coach Lawrence "Bud" Pollard and Abraham Lincoln headman Dwayne "Tiny" Morton got into a square off over who was Brooklyn's "big dog" during the Railsplitters' 87-77 victory over top-seeded Jefferson in the Public School Athletic League Brooklyn borough final at York College on Feb. 14.

"I might be the big dog again," Morton yelled to Pollard with 30 seconds to play. "I might be."

The jab was a reference to Pollard's proclamation he was "the new boss in town" after the Orange Wave upset his top-seeded Lincoln team

in the Public School Athletic League Class AA semifinals two years ago.

Morton down-played his comments in the final — it was just another well-timed barb in the city's best boys' basketball rivalry.

"I feel if Bud thinks he can talk to the media about me, I can do it back," Morton said. "It's nothing personal. It's just jabs."

Pollard claims he didn't hear what Morton said from across the bench — others told him. He wasn't surprised by the comments, joking that his counterpart has been waiting two years to say that.

"Today he is — he is the big dog," Pollard said. "He's been waiting to say that a long

time. That goes to show you how much that loss hurt him a couple of years ago. Two years later he came back, he can't sleep at night. It is what it is."

Lincoln and Jefferson have been dueling for supremacy in Brooklyn and New York City after Boys & Girls won its third straight city title in 2012 against Jefferson. The Railsplitters beat the Orange Wave for the crown a year later at Madison Square Garden. Jefferson returned the favor by winning the next two postseason meetings — that included last year's borough final with now-Orange Wave assistant coach and longtime Morton assistant Kenny Pretlow as the Railsplitters' head man.

Continued on page 37

Balanced Blackbirds handle St. Francis

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

An inspired performance helped Long Island University reclaim some of its bragging rights — and improve its chances for a postseason berth.

The Blackbirds men's basketball team led rival St. Francis College from start to finish in a 82–67 win at the Pope Center on President's Day. Long Island University, which lost its first meeting with the Terriers 64–49 in late January, opened up a 15-point lead in the first half on Feb. 15 and never looked back. The Terriers had won the last four meetings, so victory was sweet for the Blackbirds.

"It was another chance to get revenge on this team," forward Jerome Frink said.

The win is the Blackbirds' fifth in the team's last six games, and it ties the squad with St. Francis for sixth place in the Northeast Conference with four games remaining for both. The top eight clubs make the postseason tournament, and the Blackbirds still hope to be in the top four and earn a first-round home game.

"Every game from now on is huge for us," point guard Martin Hermannsson said.



GOING AROUND: Jon Doss tries to get past LIU. Photo by Jason Speakman

"We were one game behind St. Francis before this one."

A balanced offense was key — four players scored in double figures and generated 19 assists and just seven turnovers on 28 field goals. The Blackbirds' held a sharpshooting Terriers team to just 40.4

percent for the game and six-for-25 from behind the arc.

"That was a pretty complete game by our group — both offensively and defensively," coach Jack Perri said.

Hermannsson scored 11 of his team-high 19 points in

Continued on page 37

Electrified: Subway trip sparks Lions' surge

BY TROY MAURIELLO

A team that trains together wins together.

Bishop Loughlin girls' basketball coach Chez Williams used an unconventional approach to team-building during his squad's 69–56 road win over Christ the King on Feb. 13 — he had players ride the train together to their host's Queens campus.

"I think, being together like that, it helps," Williams said. "That's the only thing I'm superstitious about ... coming to games together — I believe you play better."

The hocus pocus paid off — Loughlin rolled to an easy win over the parochial power-

house, securing second place in Brooklyn-Queens and a first-round bye into the diocesan semifinals.

"Beating them today was wonderful," said senior guard Ellease "Toucan" Billings-Harrison. "It just sets the tone for us going into the playoffs."

Four of five Loughlin starters scored in the double-figures against Christ the King, with Billings-Harrison leading the way with 16 points. Junior guard Lynette Taitt had 15, freshman guard Laysha de la Santos added 14, and Reid — Loughlin's leading scorer — had 12. The balance was exactly what Williams was looking for.

Continued on page 37



PUSHING THROUGH: Loughlin guard Lynette Taitt drives to the hoop strong against Christ the King. Photo by William Thomas

The Lions are roaring into postseason

What a difference a year makes.

This time last year, Bishop Loughlin's postseason was spiraling downward after Christ the King handed the team a 13-point loss, but instead of entering this year's playoffs with a whimper, the Lions are rushing in roaring. On Feb. 13, Loughlin routed the Royals 69–56 — the same deficit it lost by a year ago. The Loughlin squad clinched the win by using its biggest strengths — depth and athleticism — with a touch of sheer will and determination.

"Their desire and their will to win is stronger than it's ever been," said an emotional Loughlin coach Chez Williams. "I feel our early schedule prepared us for the games right now. I'm so proud of the way they played for me today. If they can continue to play like that, it will be an interesting end of the year."

Sure Christ the King was visibly tired playing its fourth game in five days (and on back-to-back days), but it's how the Lions pounced on the sluggish play that matters.

Loughlin never gave the Royals a chance to breathe, swarming them on defense, pushing the pace, and capitalizing when coach Bob Mackey went to the bench in the second quarter in an attempt to keep his starters fresh. There was never any panic or infighting when things got tough, just troubleshooting and results.

"Whatever wasn't right, we made it right," Williams said. "We didn't argue. That is the sign of a



JOE KNOWS

by Joe Staszewski

team that is learning how to win."

Four separate Loughlin players scored in double figures. Guards Ellease Billings-Harrison (16 points) and Lynette Taitt (15 points) took the pressure off star Millicia "Mimi" Reid (15 points), allowing her to close the game in the final quarter instead of carrying the load for four.

"We all have to be on the same page," Taitt said. "Last year everyone was on a different page."

Billings-Harrison echoed the sentiment that a full year under their belts and a tough early season schedule is the reason why things are falling into place at the right time — now the team is more experienced, more composed, and more determined to win.

"It got us ready for this game today," she said.

And it's a better note on which to enter the playoffs.

The score was same — the outcome totally different.

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Here I Come: Lincoln's Rakym Felders looks for an opening in the Jefferson defense.

Photo by William Thomas

LINCOLN

Continued from page 35

selves early. We just didn't play well today in the first half. Second half we played a lot better, but we were in a whole, couldn't get over the hump."

The Railsplitters spent the rest of the afternoon fending off Orange Wave runs. Jefferson (19-9) rattled off



UP AND AWAY: Lincoln's Cahiem Brown goes in for a slam. Photo by William Thomas

MORTON

Continued from page 35

Things only heated up when Pollard chose to sit his stars Shamorie Ponds and Rasheem Dunn to rest them for the playoffs in the team's season finale in Coney Island. Morton, who has beaten the Orange Wave twice this year in three contests, called it "kind of disrespectful" and said his players were happy to beat Jefferson at full strength.

an 11-2 run to start the third quarter behind the St. Francis College-bound Dunn, who scored a team-high 33 points. Things got dicey after that.

Two technical fouls on Jefferson, which had three in the game, fueled a 9-0 Lincoln run that started with a three from Bourne. A Brown hoop and a foul shot allowed the Railsplitters (19-9) to take a 58-40 lead into the fourth, but the Orange Wave kept coming.

Jefferson, which trailed by 18 twice in the second half, used a 7-0 run to get within 10 points on a layup by Ponds (21 points) with 4:44 to play. He missed a three on the next possession, and Brown made Jefferson pay with consecutive hoops inside. Bourne later fed Brown for a transition layup that put the Railsplitters up 74-59 with 2:20 to go in the contest.

"I'm in the right spots at the right time being aggressive," Brown said. "My teammates are doing a great job getting me the ball."

The Orange Wave had one more run in it. A 9-0 spurt fueled by its defense got Jefferson within six points after Ponds made one of two free throws at the 1:43 mark. Felder scored the next four points, closed out the game at the free-throw line, and completed his team's resurgence.

"We lost a few games during league play, and we usually don't lose that many games," Bourne said. "We came a long way."

"It's a great win for coach," said senior guard Cahiem Brown, who scored 30 points in the victory. "Everyone is on his back doubting him about everything. I feel he proved he is still the best coach out here in the PSAL."

Pollard acknowledged this round went to Morton, but knows this year's battle is far from over with the city playoffs set to begin.

"Today I guess he was the big dog," Pollard said. "He won the chip, but there can only be one big dog — know what I'm saying?"

BLACKBIRDS

Continued from page 36

the first half, dished out five assists, grabbed seven rebounds, and collected five steals. The sophomore has scored 17 points or more in his last six games.

"The kid has just been tremendous for us," Perri said.

Joel Hernandez and Nura Zanna each had 15, and Aakim Sainstil chipped in 11 to go along with eight assists for Long Island University (13-12, 7-7).

The Terriers squad (11-16, 7-7) could never dig itself out of a first-half hole. The team pulled within 10 on different occasions after the break, but Long Island University met it with swift responses each time. Chris Hooper paced the Terriers with 15 points, Yunis Hopkins had 13, and Antonio Jenifer chipped in 12 to complement eight rebounds.

Terriers coach Glenn Braica wants to see his team improve its ball movement and rely less on three-point shots.

"I don't want it to be our identity, he said. "I want us to get the ball in the paint more. We have gotten away from that."

The Terriers will have to regroup after a missed opportunity to sepa-



RACKING UP SHOTS: Long Island University's Martin Hermannsson scored 11 of his team-high 19 points in the first half of the game against St. Francis on Feb. 15.

Photo by Jason Speakman

rate from pack, but Long Island University surging at the right time.

"We have been talking about it all year — that we want to peak at the end," Hermannsson said. "[Defending champion] Robert Morris did this last year. They were up and down all season, and then they peaked at the end. That is what we are trying to do this year."

LOUGHLIN

Continued from page 36

ing for.

"I said before the game, 'It's not important that one girl has a good game — it's important that all of you have a good game,'" he said.

Overall, Loughlin controlled the game's tempo. The Lions faced an obvious height disadvantage, which Christ the King tried to exploit with St. Peter's-bound center Ashlie Howell, but the Lions used stingy defense and speedy guards to create turnovers and, in turn, transition baskets.

"They know we're a very small team," Billings said. "But we kept the composure. We kept boxing out, getting rebounds."

Loughlin took a 14-10 lead after the first quarter, and every time Christ The King looked to make a run, the Lions responded with a spurt of its own. Christ the King tied the score at 15-15 midway through the second quarter, but Taitt went on a six-point run, setting the momentum that Loughlin rode to a 34-25 lead at halftime.

The Royals managed to cut the deficit down to just six in the third quarter, but the Lions responded with a 10-2 run over the third and fourth quarters to grab a comfortable 52-38 lead. Christ the King didn't get closer than 10 in the fourth.

The Royals, playing its fourth game in five nights, got only 19 combined points from its Division I-bound senior guards Sydney Zam-



DOUBLE-TEAMED: Lions guard Milicia Reid splits the Christ the King defense for two points. Photo by William Thomas

brotta, Kaela Kinder, and Dominique Toussaint, who will head to Louisville, Virginia Tech, and Virginia respectively next season.

Loughlin is 1-1 in games where the squad rode the train together, but Williams is confident the transit gambit will help them as they approach the playoffs, he said.

"Whatever works," Williams said with a laugh. "If it's taking a train, taking a bus, whatever works."

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General purpose.

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General Purposes.

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Name of LLC: Rebecca
Henry LLC. Arts. of Org.
filed with NY Dept. of
State: 11/13/15. Office
loc.: Kings Co. Sec. of
State designated agent of
LLC upon whom process
against it may be served
and shall mail process to:
Rebecca Henry, 345
Eldert St., Apt. 112,
Brooklyn, NY 11237,
regd. agt. upon whom
process may be served.
Purpose: any lawful act.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Application for
Authority of Pollyanna
Events LLC, a foreign
limited liability company
(LLC). Application for
Authority filed with Secy.
of State of New York
(SSNY) on 11/20/2015.
LLC organized in District
of Columbia on
02/06/2013. NY office
location: Kings County.
SSNY designated as
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served. SSNY shall mail
copy of process to: Sara
Alepin, 1748 Willard
Street, NW, Apt. 2,
Washington, DC 20009.
Office address in
jurisdiction of
organization: 138 Park
Place Brooklyn, NY
11217. Copy of Articles
of Organization on file
with Secy. of State of
Patricia E. Grays,
Superintendent of
Corporations,
Government of the
District of Columbia,
DCRA Corporations
Division, P.O. Box
92300, Washington, D.C.
20090. Purpose of LLC:
Event Planning Services.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability
company (LLC). Name:
GEEK FOREST, LLC
Articles of Organization
filed with Secretary of
State of New York (SSNY)
on 10/29/2015. Office
location: Kings County.
SSNY designated as
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served. SSNY shall mail
copy of process to:
UNITED STATES
CORPORATION AGENTS,
INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE
STE 202, BROOKLYN, NY
11228. Purpose: any
lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation
Deer Baby Photography,
LLC Arts. of Org. filed
with SSNY 11/5/15. Off.
Loc.: Kings Cnty. SSNY
designated as agent of
LLC whom process may
be served. SSNY shall
mail process to: c/o
United States Corporation
Agents, Inc., 7014 13th
Ave., Ste. 202, Brooklyn,

NY 11228. The reg.
agent is: United States
Corporation Agents, Inc.
at same address.
Purpose: all lawful
activities.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of
75 Spencer Debt LLC,
Art. of Org. filed with
Secy of State (SSNY) on
12/1/15. Office location:
Kings County. SSNY
designated as agent of
LLC upon whom process
against it may be served.
SSNY shall mail copy of
process to c/o Bluestone
Group, 225 Broadway,
NY, NY 10007. Purpose:
any lawful activities.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of
Kier LLC. Arts. of Org.
filed with NY Dept. of
State on 2/8/16. Office
location: Kings County.
Sec. of State designated
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served and shall mail
process to: 68 Jay St.,
Suite 601A, Brooklyn, NY
11201, principal
business address.
Purpose: all lawful
purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability
company (LLC). Name:
GEEK FOREST, LLC
Articles of Organization
filed with Secretary of
State of New York (SSNY)
on 10/29/2015. Office
location: Kings County.
SSNY designated as
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served. SSNY shall mail
copy of process to:
UNITED STATES
CORPORATION AGENTS,
INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE
STE 202, BROOKLYN, NY
11228. Purpose: any
lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability
company (LLC). Name:
RED HOOK PRODUCERS
LLC. Articles of
Organization filed with
Secretary of State of New
York (SSNY) on
12/02/2015. Office
location: Kings County.
SSNY designated as
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served. SSNY shall mail
copy of process to: RED
HOOK PRODUCERS LL

230 HUNTINGTON
STREET BROOKLYN, NY
11231. Purpose: any
lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification
of 248-250 Bedford NYT,
LLC. Authority filed with
NY Dept. of State on
1/11/16. Office location:
Kings County. Princ.
bus. addr.: c/o Forest
City Ratner Companies, 1
MetroTech Center North,
Brooklyn, NY 11201.
LLC formed in DE on
12/22/15. NY Sec. of
State designated agent of
LLC upon whom process
against it may be served
and shall mail process to:
c/o CT Corporation
System, 111 8th Ave.,
NY, NY 10011, regd.
agent upon whom
process may be served.
DE addr. of LLC: The
Corporation Trust Co.,
1209 Orange St.,
Wilmington, DE 19801.
Cert. of Form. filed with
DE Sec. of State, 401
Federal St., Dover, DE
19901. Purpose: all
lawful purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability
company (LLC). Name:
404 DEGRAW LLC.
Articles of Organization
filed with Secretary of
State of New York (SSNY)
on 11/04/2015. Office
location: Kings County.
SSNY designated as
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served. SSNY shall mail
copy of process to: JED
S. MARCUS C/O
MARCUS ATTORNEYS 13
GREENE AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NY 11238.
Purpose: any lawful
purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability
company (LLC). Name:
TPA LITIGATION
SUPPORT, LLC. Articles
of Organization filed with
Secretary of State of New
York (SSNY) on
01/05/2016. Office
location: Kings County.
SSNY designated as
agent of LLC upon whom
process against it may be
served. SSNY shall mail
copy of process to: TPA
LITIGATION SUPPORT,
LLC. 91 BOERUM
STREET SUITE 4E
BROOKLYN, NY 11206.
Purpose: any lawful
purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: 316 DETAILER LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/27/2016. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 956 MCDONALD AVE BROOKLYN, NY 11230. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC). Name: Bright Star Child Development Center, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/15/2001. NY office location Kings County, SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is the LLC 9502 Seaview Avenue Brooklyn, NY, 1 1 2 3 6 . Purpose/character of LLC: Any Lawful Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: HOW TO TELL YOU'RE A DBAG LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/20/2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: TAHIR JETTER 1033 PACIFIC ST. 4L BROOKLYN, NY 11238. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: 24WEST RECORDINGS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/12/2016. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THERESA MONTGOMERY

LEGAL NOTICE

240 KENT AVENUE #K2-B15 BROOKLYN, NY 11249. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: ROBIN'S CONSTRUCTION LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/21/2016. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: MOHAMED PARJOHN 208 MONTAUK AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11208. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: RUBIS SOLUTIONS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/08/2016. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: SHAWN CHEATHAM 249 SMITH STREET SUITE 112 BROOKLYN, NY 11231. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: FEDERAL BRICK MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/13/2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: BEVERLY MCDONALD 108 MAC DONOUGH ST BROOKLYN, NY 11216. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: VODIY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/05/2016. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as

LEGAL NOTICE

agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: SARDORJON A NAZIROV 1671 E 17TH ST APT 1B BROOKLYN, NY 11229. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: FU SHUN LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/04/2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: FU SHUN LLC 715 52ND STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11220. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Scott Moe Design LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 1/8/16. Office location: Kings County. Princ. bus. addr.: 41 Park Place, Unit 4, Brooklyn, NY 11217. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SHB Communications LLC, Art. of Org. filed with Sec'y of State (SSNY) on 11/30/15. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 218 Prospect Pl., #2C, Brooklyn, NY 11238. Purpose: any lawful activities.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Two Rivers Agency LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 1/4/16. Office location: Kings County. LLC formed in MO on 7/21/15. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to:

LEGAL NOTICE

c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. MO and principal business address: 16600 Swingley Ridge Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017. Cert. of Form. filed with MO Sec. of State, 600 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65101. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

PBPNP Development LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 1/15/16. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Paul Basile, 135 13th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

PGNPB Development LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 1/15/16. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Paul Basile, 135 13th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

R D Vigor Real Estate LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 1/8/16. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 359 Metropolitan Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

SAMIA & RAMLA PROPERTIES LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 2/03/2016. Office in Kings Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 12 Bergen Beach Place, Brooklyn, NY 11234, which is also the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Septimius LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 2/4/16.

LEGAL NOTICE

Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Thomas Petersen, 1 Northside Piers, 11B, Brooklyn, NY 11249. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Stereobuyers LLC, a domestic LLC, f/k/a Stereo Buyers LLC, filed with the SSNY on 1/5/16. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 276 13th St., Apt. 3B, Brooklyn, NY 11215. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Upfront & Personal Global Management Consultants, LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 12/15/15. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 801 Franklin Ave., 1st Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11238. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Violence Prevention Agency LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 1/22/14. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Jonty Daryn Braun, 223 Bedford Ave., Ste. 546, Brooklyn, NY 11211. General purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Vithal Stats LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 1/11/16. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 70 Remsen St., Apt. 4G, Brooklyn, NY 11201. General purpose.



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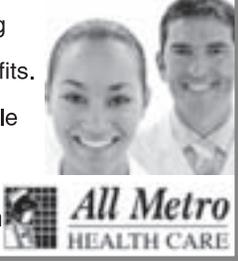
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MSRP \$21,620

Lease **\$129** /MONTH at signing
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CONVENIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PKG., REMOTE START, APPLE CARPLAY, MY LINK AUDIO 8" TOUCH SCREEN WITH STREAMING BLUETOOTH, WIRELESS CHARGING, USB CHARGING PORTS



MSRP \$26,790

Lease **\$129** /MONTH at signing
one for 24 MO STK# A6221

2016 BUICK ENCORE FWD

CONVENIENCE, REMOTE START, PWR DRIVER'S SEAT, BACK-UP CAMERA, BLUETOOTH



MSRP \$27,675

Lease **\$129** /MONTH at signing
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