

BAY RIDGE Courier

June 9-15, 2017

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CNG

Kept in the dark

Ridge streetlights out two months, city mum on fix

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

This is their darkest hour.

Residents of a Bay Ridge block have been left in the dark for more than two months as the city and a utility company struggle to repair a trio of busted street lamps. Fed up residents are demanding that officials expedite the project and illuminate the block before tragedy strikes.

"It's pitch dark without the lights—it's a miracle that a senior hasn't tripped and busted their hip or something," said Jonathan Marcello, who is tired of fumbling in the dark when he walks his Jack Russell terrier, Rocky, at night. "I honestly think I can see better in the dark because of this. I feel like a mole person."

The street lamps went dark in mid-March on 83rd Street between Third and Fourth avenues—but not because of busted bulbs, which the city would have typically fixed within 10 days. Instead, workers discovered that the lamp posts have structural damage and require a major overhaul, according to Josephine Beckmann, the district manager of Community Board 10.

Since then, the Department of Transportation and utility company Con Edison have made slow progress with the task—making repairs to the foundations and electrical components of the street lamps, according to Beckmann.

But that work started more than two months ago and residents are still without functioning light poles, leaving lo-

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LOCAL HERO

Ridge teen saves man in London terror attack

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

A brave Bay Ridgite studying in London sprung into action during Saturday's terror attack when a wounded man stumbled into the pub where he was eating and collapsed.

Mark Kindschuh, the quick thinking 19-year-old, darted out from safety and wrapped his belt around the man's gushing head wound to quell the bleeding. It was selfless instinct, said his father.

"He thought of nothing other than stopping the bleeding," said Dr. Mark Kindschuh, director of Coney Island Hospital's emergency department. "Mark didn't know if he had been shot or stabbed or what. He was injured and needed help—it was real simple math for Mark."

The Boston College junior and friends were having dinner at The Wheatsheaf, just a few minutes from London Bridge, when chaos erupted and frantic locals streamed into the pub for safety. A man,

covered in blood, collapsed just inside the entrance and Kindschuh rushed to help him.

Cradling the man's head in his hands, Kindschuh's emergency training as a lifeguard kicked in as he fumbled for the wound, pressing down to stop the bleeding and desperately trying to keep the man awake, said the teen's father.

"Mark did everything to keep him conscious, talking about sports, soccer," said Dr. Kindschuh. "But there came a point when he realized that wasn't going to be enough."

The recent U.S. Army recruit whipped off his canvas belt and tied it around the man's head. When he couldn't find a doctor in the pub he dashed out into the street to find help—running into the thick of the terrorist hunt.

"He went out that door—and that's where I take pause—that's to me where it's really something," said Dr. Kindschuh. "That's self-sacrifice, because

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BRAVE RIDGE: Bay Ridgite Mark Kindschuh sprung into action when a man injured during the June 4 London terror attack stumbled to The Wheatsheaf pub where he was having dinner. Dr. Mark Kindschuh

EMTs hit the ice for slain colleague

BY JULIANNE CUBA

What an ice gesture!

Hockey players from New York City's FDNY-EMT team hit the ice for a memorial game at the Aviator Sports and Events Center on May 27 for the slain paramedic Yadira Arroyo, who was murdered in the line of duty back in March.

The native Bronxite left behind five sons, and her fellow medics wanted to show

their support by raising money for her family with a charity game, said the team's head coach.

"I thought it was a very successful event. I thought everybody had a lot of fun and came out to show her sons that they will be supported no matter what," said Bergen Beacher Bruce Funaro, who has been a paramedic for 20 years.

The teams raised more

than \$7,000 through ticket sales and merchandise, and handed her sons a framed jersey with the fallen hero's name and station number 26 on it, along with a memorial puck.

The FDNY-EMT team lost to New Jersey 5-3, but the game wasn't about the score, said another FDNY member.

"The game was great, we lost 3-5, but the team played



N-ICE!: The FDNY and EMT team took on the New Jersey Police Benevolent Association in a charity game. Photo by Sean Murphy

their heart out to the last second and everyone was on their feet to the last sec-

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**Ready to roll**

Vintage pinball games return to Coney

T-
The long-awaited return of vintage pinball games to Coney Island has been a hit with visitors since the machines were installed at the Luna Park entrance. The new games are part of the "Coney Island Reborn" initiative, which aims to bring back the classic fun of the early 20th century. The machines are located in a kiosk near the entrance to the park.

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CHEERING OUR 2017

Community News Group celebrates the strong,

BY JAMES HARNEY

Like the borough they're from, the Brooklyn Women of Distinction Class of 2017 are a tapestry.

Courier Life Publications and Community News Group honored 25 of Kings County's most worthy women during a June 1 awards gala at Sirico's Caterers in Dyker Heights, the accolades celebrating ladies — who include activists, designers, executives, volunteers, and a roller disco queen — that were profiled in our 2017 Brooklyn's Women of Distinction magazine.

The awardees — nominated by their peers and selected by independent judges — included top borough judge Kings County Supreme Court Justice Katherine A. Levine, Marine Park's famed "Ice Cream Lady," Anastasia D'Amato, and Katie Lusso, the News12 Brooklyn reporter whose "Bravo! Brooklyn!" segments spotlight do-gooders across the borough.

Certain women were honored because they are synonymous with community service in their neighborhoods, including Aileen McKinnon of East Flatbush, Candace Woodward of Park Slope, and Lola Star of Coney Island. And others — like Grisel Amador, Violetta Livshiz, Frances Schwartz, and Pauline Yeung-Ha — were recognized for their careers of selfless giving to Brooklyn's senior citizens.

Some Women of Distinction are ladies of the cloth, including the Rev. DeVanie Jackson, who brings healthy food and dietary practices to needy neighborhoods, the Rev. Amy Kienzle, who opens the doors of her missionary church to all in Greenpoint, and the Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Butler, whose Bedford-Stuyvesant ministry mixes activism



WOMEN WE ADMIRE: 1. Keynote speaker Katie Goodman — an award-winning musical comic, actress, and social activist — treats guests to a hilarious song about aging. 2. Volunteer, right, Marina Trofimova and Raisa Chernina of the Be Proud Foundation. 3. Bed-Stuy Farm founder and "food justice" crusader Rev. DeVanie Jackson is all smiles accepting her award. 4. Brooklyn Supreme Court judge, center, Hon. Katherine Levine was joined by family and friends.

Photos by Jordan Rathkopf

and community outreach.

"There are only two kinds of people in the world; those who live in Brooklyn, and those who want to live in

Brooklyn," Butler said, reciting a favorite quote.

And while this year's honorees may have taken different paths to "Distinction,"

they are united in their fondness for their home borough.

"I am proud to call Brooklyn home," said honoree Tonya Ores, the executive di-

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The event gave important recognition to the service each woman performs in her community, which they all do with little fanfare.

"The night celebrated 25 outstanding women in Brooklyn who go above and beyond their day-to-day responsibilities to make their neighborhoods and communities a better place. They are often the unsung heroes who see a problem, organize their friends and family and tackle the issue," said Community News Group President and Publisher Jennifer Goodstein. "Their stories are truly inspiring."



FIERCE FEMALES: 5. The 2017 Brooklyn Women of Distinction. 6. Roller disco queen and Coney activist Lola Star accepts her award. 7. Ralph D'Onofrio, Jennifer Goodstein, and Cliff Luster congratulate former CNG sales executive Stephanie Stellaccio. 8. Elite Academy Principal Yelena Sokolin thanks her loved ones. 9. Left, executive director and affordable housing advocate Tonya Ores celebrates with a guest. 10. Businesswoman Kim Moore poses for the camera. 11. Senior center director Grisel Amador gives all the honorees "thumbs up" with Eugena Pechenaya behind her.

Photos by Jordan Rathkopf



A Golden opportunity

Locals demand state Sen. Golden back bill for universal healthcare

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

Southern Brooklynites rallied in front of state Sen. Martin Golden's Bay Ridge office on May 31 demanding the legislator support a single-payer, universal healthcare bill that's stalled in the state Senate.

The New York Health Act aims to replace New York's multi-payer system with a program that would universally cover state residents. But the legislation is tied up in the Senate's health committee, and locals are calling on Golden (R-Bay Ridge) — a committee member — to use his role to bring the act to a vote before the legislative session ends on June 21.

"Golden is on the committee that the bill has historically been stuck in, and we weren't even calling on him to vote for it, we just want him to get it out of committee," said Bay Ridge Mallory McMahon, an organizer with Fight Back Bay Ridge who attended the demonstration. "We just want it to have a chance."

If passed, the act would replace the state's current system in which individuals, businesses, and government institutions pay public and private insurers for healthcare.

A system dubbed the "New York Health Plan" by legislators would foot the bill for medically necessary care, including doctor visits, hospitalization, prescription drugs, and a slew of other treatments. It would be financed by a progressive increase in payroll taxes and new taxes on capital gains and dividends.

The act was originally proposed by Assemblyman Richard Gottfried (D-Manhattan) in 1992 and has passed in the Assembly for the third consecutive year, yet it never manages to make it to a vote in the state Senate. But this year, support for the bill is gaining steam — partly because of the uproar over the house's passage of the American Health Care Act, which would leave millions uninsured and skyrocket insurance costs for those with pre-existing conditions.

It's an issue that hits home for many Southern Brooklynites who would lose access to vital care if the Affordable Care Act is dismantled, said the lead organizer behind the rally.

"What we're facing, and what mil-



SUPER SENATOR: Peter Morrison and other locals called on Golden to be their "healthcare hero" by backing the New York Health Act.

Photo by Mike Beitchman

lions of Americans are facing, is that our whole world is turning upside down," said Bath Beach resident Sarah Zorn, whose husband has a chronic bowel disease that crippled his life for nearly 13 years until he was able to afford insurance. "I'm almost more afraid than before, because

I know what our life could be when he's healthy and I'm so scared of losing that."

Zorn's husband requires a \$58,000 monthly infusion, for which the couple pay a \$15 copay through the Affordable Care Act, but if a lapse in coverage caused him to miss a dose, the drug would lose its potency in his system and he would have to go back to the daily struggle of managing his symptoms, according to Zorn.

But the New York Health Act could be a lifeline for the Zorns and other New Yorkers faced with life-altering ultimatums, she said.

"This act would be a tremendous salve from what we're facing in Washington, and I think if New York State has the chance to take the lead on this it should," said Zorn. "I'm a food writer, this is all new to me, but I've kind of made it my mission to educate people that this bill exists. That was

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Patriot Howie Dunn honored

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

It's a Dunn deal!

The corner of Third Avenue and 78th Street was officially co-named "Howard Dunn Way" on June 3 to commemorate the World War II vet and civic titan. Dunn, known as Howie to friends, was a Southern Brooklyn native with an unmatched devotion to the borough, said one community leader.

"I think Howie Dunn is probably the leading example of dedication to a community,"

said Josephine Beckmann, district manager of Community Board 10. "I mean, he was active in Bay Ridge in so many ways, whether it was advocating for a veterans in need of city service, working with the Boy Scouts on numerous clean up projects, taking Brooklyn youth to hospitals to meet veterans. I mean he was so active."

Dunn served in the Navy during World War II before returning to the borough to marry his high school sweet-

heart. The couple settled on 78th Street in 1959 where they remained until Dunn passed away on Sept. 25, 2015 at 88-years-old, just weeks after serving as the Grand Marshal for the Kings County Memorial Day Parade. His wife of 68 years, Mae, and their daughter remain on the block.

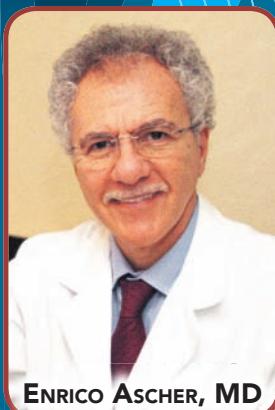
The neighborhood do-gooder raised nearly \$30,000 for the Wounded Warrior Project and regularly worked with hospitals to organize clothing drives for veterans. But

he was best known for his patriotic planting of more than 1,000 American flags along Bay Ridge thoroughfares.

And he was such a neighborhood force that his daugh-

ter, Geraldine Martinez, and Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Bay Ridge) successfully lobbied the city to expedite the street naming to ensure

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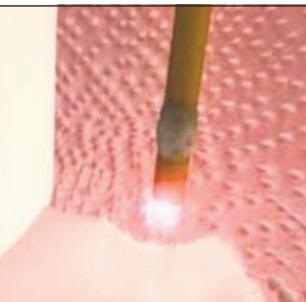
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63RD PRECINCT

MARINE PARK-MILL BASIN-FLATLANDS-BERGEN BEACH

Teens robbed

A dastardly trio threatened and robbed two young teens on Avenue U on June 2.

The 14-year-old teens told police that they were riding on the B100 bus to Mill Avenue around 12:30 pm when three nogoodniks demanded their money and cellphones.

When they got off the bus, the men followed them and approached them again, ordering them, "If you give us money we won't beat you guys up," said police.

The frightened teens handed over \$57 in total, and told cops the punks fled down Mill Avenue and Avenue T, according to police.

Gang attack

A group of fiends brutally attacked a young woman on Avenue H on June 2.

The 19 year-old victim told police that she was near E. 55th Street at around 10 pm when a woman approached her and demanded, "Run your pockets," and then socked the teen in the left side of her face.

Several men surrounded the teen, and one of them repeatedly punched her in the face, according to the report.

The brutes fled towards E. 55th Street and the teen was able to walk away, according to cops.

Car invasion

A scoundrel assaulted and robbed a teen sitting in his parked car on Avenue J on June 4.

The victim told cops that he was sitting in the driver's seat of his ride near E. 32nd Street around 3:35 am when someone hopped in the passenger side seat and said to him, "Give me everything or I will shoot you."

The goon smacked the teen in the left side of his face and removed a pricey wrist watch from one of the car's compartments and fled towards E. 32nd Street, according to cops.

—Alexandra Simon

68TH PRECINCT

BAY RIDGE-DYKER HEIGHTS

Cinematic chase

Four brutes threatened a woman sitting in her car on 10th Avenue on May 28 — and when she drove off, the ruffians sped after her and shot at the car.

The victim told police she was in her vehicle near 63rd Street at 10 pm when she was approached by two men and two women. The nogoodniks struck up a conversation with the woman, which soon turned into an argument. Things turned violent



POLICE BLOTER

when one of the goons pulled out a knife and threatened the victim, said police.

The woman instinctively grabbed the blade, slicing her hand open, and the cad punched her in the face, officials said. She floored it and sped down 63rd Street toward Ninth Avenue, as the baddies hopped in their gold Ford Sedan and drove after her, said authorities. After driving around the block, the woman jumped out of her car and ran into an apartment building on 10th Avenue between 63rd and 64th streets. But the man who threatened her with the blade caught up to her and dragged her out onto the street, throwing her back into her car, according to a police report.

A witness told police he watched the man pull out a hand gun and fired a round into the woman's car.

Police recovered a shell casing on the scene.

Knife to meet you

Two toughs robbed a man on Colonial Road on May 31.

The victim told police that he was near 83rd Street at 3 pm when he approached by two baddies. One of the goons pulled out a blade and demanded the victim hand over his phone, said police.

The other man stood as lookout while the victim gave the goons his iPhone 7, authorities said.

Ambushed

Three goons surrounded a man and demanded jewelry on the corner of 75th Street and 10th Avenue on May 30.

The victim told police that he just got off the B4 bus at 2:30 pm when three men in hoodies surrounded him. One brandished a knife and said, "We can do this the easy way or the hard way," according to a police report.

The thieves ripped off the man's gold chain and fled toward Fort Hamilton Parkway, said police.

62ND PRECINCT

BENSONHURST-BATH BEACH

Box-cutter baddie

A man threatened a woman with a box-cutter while she was shopping with her baby on Kings Highway on May 30.

The woman told police she was shopping in a bodega near Dahill Road at 11 am when the man ap-

proached her and brandished the blade, demanding cash, police said. But she manged to push past the robber as do-gooders approached and scared him off, authorities said.

Chopped liver

Police arrested a man for stabbing a stranger on 25th Avenue on June 2.

The victim told police that he was near 86th Street at 8:30 pm when the man lunged at him, stabbing him in the lower abdomen. The blow pierced the man's liver and caused substantial bleeding.

Emergency responders transported the man to Lutheran Medical Center while police on the scene arrested the suspect, officials said.

Tossed the place

A cad throttled a woman and launched a barrage of kitchenware at her in her 81st Street home on May 21.

The woman, who knows the man, told police that she tussled with the goon inside her apartment between 16th and 17th avenues at 9 pm. The argument turned physical when he grabbed her neck, but she broke free and punched the ruffian.

Further enraged, the brute grabbed flower pots, glassware, and anything else he could get his hands on, and launched them at the woman. She suffered cuts and scrapes to her legs and fingers

60TH PRECINCT

CONEY ISLAND-BRIGHTON BEACH-SEAGATE

Cheaters never win

Eight brutes attacked a man on Surf Avenue on June 1 for cheating on his girlfriend.

The victim was near W. 23rd Street on his way home at 9 pm when the men jumped out at him, knocked him to the ground, and began punching and kicking the living daylights out of him, said police.

The fiends bashed the man to a pulp, knocking out his two front incisor teeth before he lost consciousness, according to a police report. The man was able identify one of the bruisers as someone who confronted him about cheating on his girlfriend, said authorities.

Hucksters

A trio of toughs lured a man and

his friend to Surf Avenue on May 31 and proceeded to rob them.

The victim told police that he and a friend were hired to shoot a video near W. 22nd Street at 5:30 pm, but were instead jumped by three men. One of the ruffians placed the victim in a headlock and shouted, "Yo, this is Brownsville. No p--- s---," according to a police report.

The other two men grabbed the victim's camera gear and his friend's phone and fled. The victim told police he is receiving texts from his friend's phone number telling him to come to Brownsville with \$450 to get his stuff back.

Bottle bash

Police arrested two men who they say smashed a bottle over a guy's head at Bowery Street concert on May 29.

The victim told police he was dancing and having a good time at a show near W. 15th Street at 9:30 pm when a man suddenly bashed him over the head with a bottle. The blow caused a lump and a bruise above the victim's left eye, but just as he got his bearings, another man slugged him in the face so hard that he was knocked to the ground, officials said.

—Caroline Spivack

61ST PRECINCT

SHEEPSHEAD BAY-HOMECREST-MANHATTAN BEACH-GRAVESEND

Stomped

A good-for-nothing stomped on a woman's face and stole her cellphone as she was getting off the subway near E. 27th Street on May 29, police said.

The woman told police she stepped off the train near Avenue W at about 10:50 pm when the lout shoved her to the ground, and then stomped on her face, causing swelling and cuts, according to authorities. The woman got up and realized the criminal had swiped her iPhone, officials said.

Fresh out the oven

Two goons attacked a pizza delivery guy and stole the food he was carrying on Haring Street on May 30, police said.

The 20-year-old delivery man was dropping off the food near Voorhies Avenue at about 1 am when one of the punks asked if he had change for a \$20, and when he said no, the malefactor grabbed him by the collar while the other nogoodnik punched him in the face, according to authorities.

They then threw the delivery guy on the ground and grabbed his wallet, which contained about \$175, along with the pizza pies, soda bottles, and chicken wings, officials said. The baddies fled toward Shore Parkway, police said.

—Julianne Cuba

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We take the waterborne way to work

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

Call it a ferry-tale commute.

The Southern Brooklyn ferry route launched from Bay Ridge on June 1, and I was among the smattering of commuters who boarded a vessel and cruised to work in style.

Travelers can now voyage from Bay Ridge to Sunset Park, Red Hook (with a weekend detour to Governors Island), Brooklyn Heights, and Dumbo all in a mere 42 minutes, before shoving off to the distant isle of Manhattan.

Billed as a way to better connect the boroughs, the ferry service is meant to shave time off of New Yorkers' commutes. And though a voyage on the vessels is not necessarily faster for most Brooklynites sailing from one nabe to the next, it is certainly more pleasurable than a scuzzy subway ride or rush hour traffic on the Gowanus Expressway.

In fact, the boats have carried more than 243,000 riders so far — crushing initial ridership projections by nearly 93,000 passengers, according to city data. And I am defi-



WHAT A VIEW: Voyagers flocked to the upper deck for stunning views of the city on the new Southern Brooklyn ferry. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

nately ecstatic to have another option besides the notoriously unreliable R train.

On a good day, I can make it to Downtown via the R in 40 minutes. On a bad day, when service is stalled because of increasingly common track and signal problems, it can take an hour and a half or longer.

Off the bat, the trip to the American Veterans Memorial Pier off Shore Road and Bay Ridge Avenue tacks an extra

20 minutes onto my travels — I live steps from a subway stop — and will add a bit of time for most unless you happen to live near the pier.

Nevertheless, the landing was peppered with travelers eager to earn their sea legs for a mere \$2.75.

Lunchbox, named by second-graders from Bay Ridge's PS 170, pulled up to the dock at 9 am on the nose. People filed into the cabin and rushed to

the window seats and the upper deck for panoramic views of the boroughs.

Sadly, bucolic Staten Island was shrouded in fog that morning, but as we zoomed up the harbor, sprawling views of Brooklyn and Manhattan emerged. And before I knew it, we were already pulling into Sunset Park to pick up another batch of riders — some carrying bikes that they secured at the bow of the ship for an extra \$1.

An on-board snack bar offered various treats for the trip, including canned coffee (on-tap cold brew still to come), chips, and chocolate.

You can even turn your commute into a booze cruise with local brews including Brooklyn Brewery Pilsner, 2015 Gotham Project Riesling, and 2016 Empire Builder Rosé. A 12-ounce pour of beer will run you \$6 while a 6-ounce glass of wine will cost \$8.

The shop was also stocked with plenty of unexpected items for sale, including birthday cards, miniature party hats, and my personal favor-

ite, bright purple unicorn-horn headbands — which can be yours for a steep \$20.

But the views were enough to make it feel like an out-of-this-world experience. One rider was even racing back and forth, desperately trying to snap as many panoramas as possible to remember his maiden voyage.

I would have been happy to spend all day cruising up and down New York Harbor on that ferry, but we pulled in only a few minutes behind schedule. And even though I was left with 20-minute hike to my office, it was such a breath of fresh air compared to my daily subway grind that I really didn't mind.

Is it practical for me to take the ferry every day? No. Will I take it from time to time? Definitely. I actually think I'll wind up using the ferry less for my daily commute and more for weekend getaways to Governors Island.

But as a Southern Brooklynite, more options are always welcome, and it beats taking the R any day of the week.

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IN THE DARK: Residents of 83rd Street between Third and Fourth avenues have been in the dark for more than two months as the city and Con Edison work to repair busted streetlights.

Community News Group / Caroline Spivack

DARK

Continued from cover

cals in the dark about what's going on, said another resident, with no word from the city or Con Edison.

"All I want to know is when the lights will be fixed," said Pat Koob, who has lived on the block for more than a decade. "I called 311 and Con Edison about it and no one can tell me. They just say, 'Soon.' It's frustrating. This isn't some cosmetic thing, people can't see — we need the light."

Con Edison is in the process of "expediting repairs" with the city's Department of Transportation, but would not offer a date for completion, according to a spokesman for the company. And that's because repairing the

fixtures is no simple task, said a Department of Transportation spokeswoman.

"Given the nature of how the infrastructure is arranged, an in-depth repair process has started this week and is working closely with Con Ed to restore lighting at this location as soon as possible," said Alana Morales, who also would not offer a time line for the repairs.

Once the city finishes making foundational repairs, according to Beckmann, workers will pass the baton to Con Edison who will rewire the lamps.

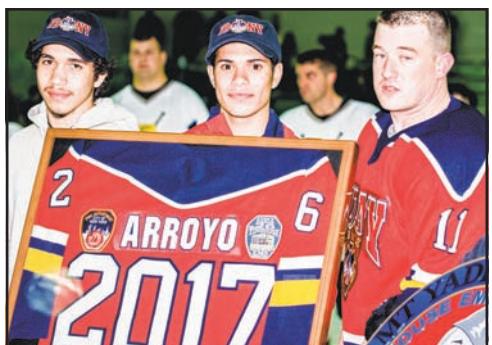
"We are waiting for them to complete some work," said Con Ed spokesman Robert McGee. "When that's done, we'll assign a crew to finish the reconnection."

HOCKEY

Continued from cover
ond," said Long Islander Adam Stern.

Neither Stern nor Funaro knew Arroyo personally, but when a member of your team falls, everyone is there to help pick up the pieces, said Stern.

"It doesn't matter what branch you are in — a first responder, police officer, EMS — this brings everyone together," he said.



FAMILY SUPPORT: Yadira Arroyo's sons accept the framed jersey for their slain mother.

Photo by Sean Murphy

HERO

Continued from cover

what was outside that door, he didn't know. He just knew he needed help."

Law enforcement officers armed to the teeth shouted for Kindschuh to get back inside. Seconds after the bartender pulled him back in and locked the door, one of the terrorists crashed up against the glass and bullets began flying, described Dr. Kindschuh.

"What separated my son from tragedy and heroism, I don't know," said his father. "It's a blessing. We're so very, very proud."

Shortly after, emergency responders were able to rush the injured man to the hospital.

The selfless teen joined the Army less than two months ago, and will be a Second Lieutenant when he graduates and begins four years of active duty. Afterwards, he has his sights set on Law School, according to his father.



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GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY: Golden's constituents called on him help the New York Health Act finally get a vote in the state Senate.

Photo by Mike Beitchman

HEALTH ACT

Continued from page 4

kind of the thrust of the rally."

More than 150 Southern Brooklynites gathered near Golden's office waving signs that stated "Patients Before Politics" and chanting "We need a hero, Marty Golden. It could be you." Demonstrators donned spandex and capes as "healthcare heroes" to encourage the state senator to step up to the challenge.

But Golden did not make an appearance — despite a trio of activists meeting with him on May 25 and inviting the lawmaker to discuss the bill with his constituents — because he believes it is not the state's responsibility to take lead on the issue.

"Healthcare, universal healthcare, is something that is a national issue, not a state issue," said Golden, whose biggest critique of the bill is how to

deal with those who work in New York but live in another state. "You cannot have a state go out and do national healthcare. I'm sorry, single-payer healthcare system, it doesn't work."

Yet New York isn't alone in trying to establish a statewide program. Last week in California, the state Senate approved the measure to establish a universal healthcare system, which is now moving on to its Assembly.

And Southern Brooklynites remain cautiously optimistic about the New York Health Act's chances, feeling it could be a catalyst for healthcare on a national level.

"If New York and California take the lead, my instinct is other states will follow, and eventually we will end up with a federal-payer system," said Mallory McMahon. "For me it's not enough that I'm covered, and that my friends and family are covered, if we don't have everybody in this country covered, we have a huge problem."

DUNN

Continued from page 6

Dunn's nearly 90-year-old widow would be able to see the honor.

"It was very surreal to see it happen," said Martinez. "When I saw Vinny Gentile at my father's wake I approached him right then. I really pushed for it, I just wanted her to be alive to just rejoice in this."

Dozens of neighbors and local pols came out to pay their respects to Dunn

and celebrate his life with stories. Beckmann recalled a time when she spent the entire day with Dunn working on a Boy Scout project and then saw him on the street just a few hours later with a coffee can asking for donations for veterans.

"He just gave himself to the community over and over again," said Beckmann.

"He was an energizer — always out there trying to do good and help others. The street renaming was an honor well deserved."

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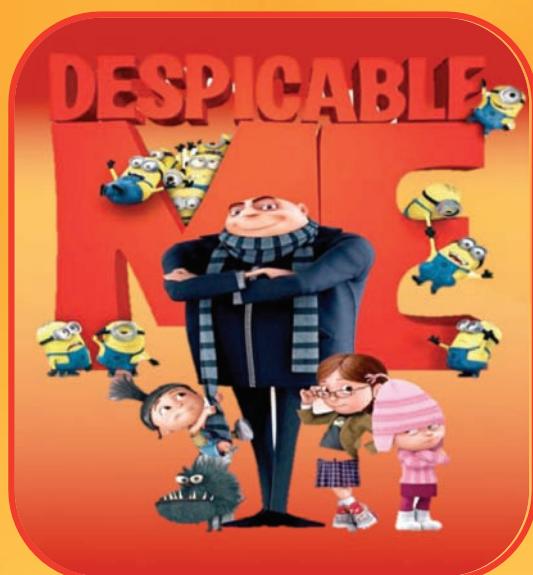
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Mellet Playground

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SUNDAY

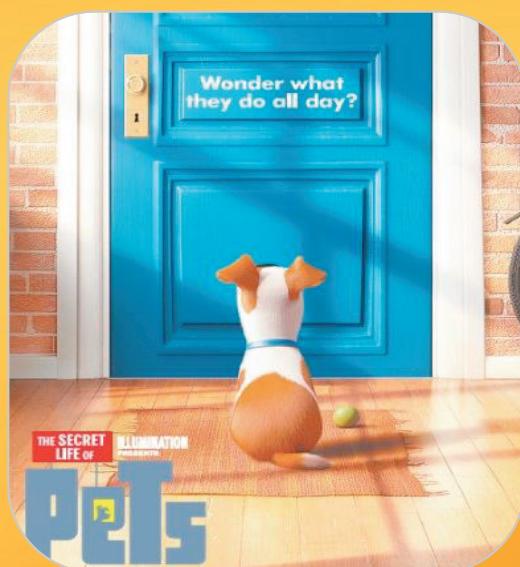
June 11th at 8pm

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Homecrest Playground

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SUNDAY

June 18th at 8pm

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Sheepshead Playground

(Nostrand Avenue/Avenue Z)

Runtime: 1 hour, 35 min



NYC Parks

Out of this world

Reporter tries out Luna Park's new virtual reality ride

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

It's virtually the next level!

Thrill seekers can take one of Luna Park's high flying rides to the next level with virtual reality headsets. The WindstarZ already lets riders soar above the Boardwalk as if they were hang gliding above the People's Playground, but the newfangled tech puts adrenaline junkies at the helm of their virtual adventure, said a rep for Luna Park.

"You're able to create your own experience," said brand manager Angie Mooris. "It's interactive, so depending on how you push the lever in front of you, you can fly up and down and it will help you navigate this new world."

It's a cutting-edge thrill that could be the future of amusement park rides. In fact, last summer neighboring Deno's Wonder Wheel Amusement Park jumped on the futuristic bandwagon with similar gear in the XD Dark Ride, which puts park-goers in the



READY TO GO: Reporter Caroline Spivack went to new heights and realities on the WindstarZ.

Photo by Erica Price

thick of a post-apocalyptic battle between zombies and raiders.

The WindstarZ makes a more lighthearted use of the graphics and lets riders steer their way through a whimsical town, caverns, and waterfalls all while shooting for coins in a vaguely "Super Mario World"-esque reality.

This reporter had a vague

idea of what to expect from trying out 3D zombies shooters. But I quickly learned that flying through the air with a virtual reality headset strapped to your head is a whole new ball game — you are peering into another world while your body becomes a whirling dervish. It's a surreal sensation.

And if you're a pro at multitasking this ride is for you. Pilots must steer through the virtual sky with a lever that affects how high or low you go in the real world, too, while tapping the side of your headset to shoot rainbow balls at coins — and you aim with the subtle shifts of your noggin.

It was a bit disorienting at first, and all the moving parts made me feel like I was soaring in a high-flying contraption out of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." But once I got the hang of it, it was quite a spectacle, though the roar of the wind drowned out most of the sound effects.



NEW HEIGHTS: Luna Park's has upgraded its hang-glider ride with virtual reality headsets that let park-goers feel like they're soaring through another world.

Photo by Erica Price

Call me old fashioned, but I'm partial to watching the world spin by rather than entering a new one in the air. But if you're looking for a new twist on an old classic, this might be up your alley.

At the moment, WindstarZ has six of its 24 seats equipped with Samsung headsets that sync to each two-seat hang glider.

The park plans to roll

out the remaining headgear throughout the summer and has its sights set on incorporating engrossing graphics into other rides like the heart thumping Thunderbolt roller coaster.

"WindstarZ" at Luna Park [1000 Surf Ave near Surf Avenue in Coney Island, lunaparknyc.com, (718) 373-5862] Times vary. \$5. Must be at least 12-year-old.

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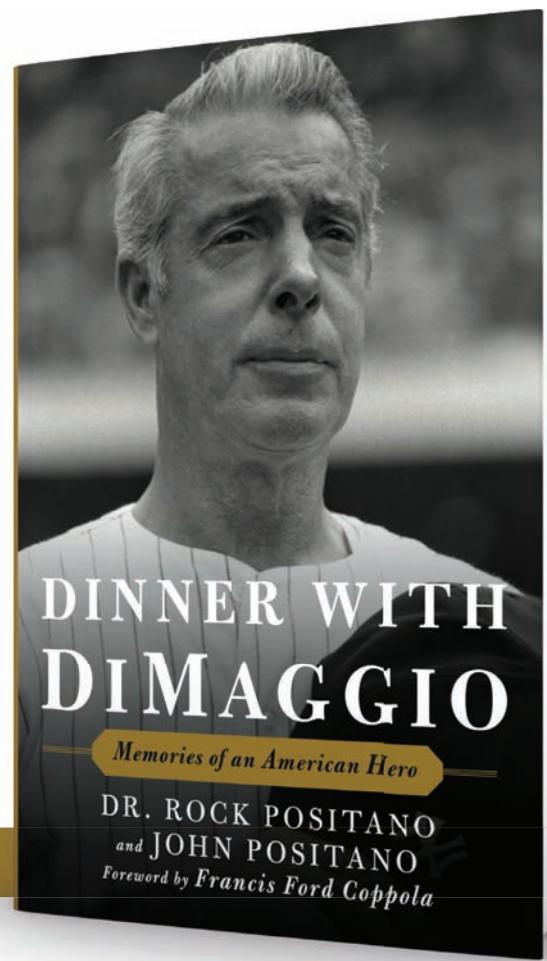
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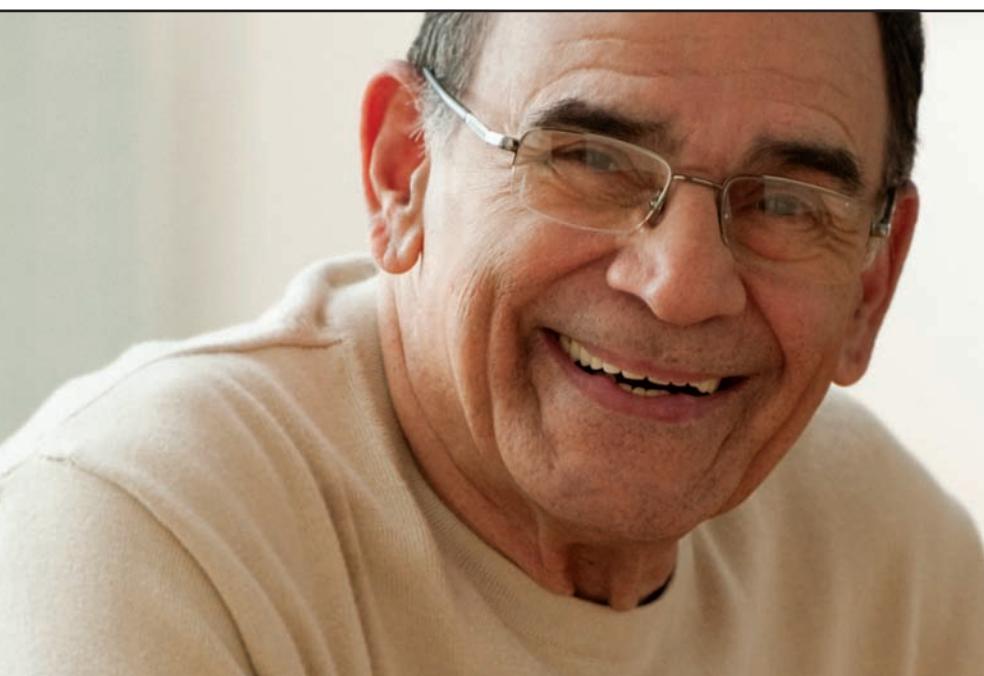
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SUNDAY FUNDAY: (Clockwise from above) Tykes rolled through Fifth Avenue in a miniature train. Amanda and Devon Oliver sipped on a "Dancing Piña Colada" as they strolled through the street fair. Amber Urban served up bratwurst to locals like Melissa Hermann outside of her German restaurant Schnitzel Haus.

Photos by Georgine Benvenuto



Ridgites flock to 5th Ave. Fest

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

You could say they like piña coladas and getting caught in the rain.

Bay Ridgites braved the misty weather and flocked to Fifth Avenue's annual festival where locals mingled over sausage subs and crafty cocktails on June 4. It was more than just a good time — it showcased the hood's tight-knit community, said one festival-goer.

"It shows the sense of community in Bay Ridge which

I feel doesn't exist in a lot of neighborhoods these days," said Bay Ridgite Melissa Herrann, who has sauntered through the fair for the last three years. "It's a nice way to reconnect with the vendors, get some food, have a piña colada. It's a fun day."

Locals sunk their teeth into street fair staples such as kebabs, cheese steaks, and zeppole, and sipped on massive piña coladas mixed in pineapples and coconuts.

Tykes bounced around on

slides, in inflatable castles, and zipped up and down the avenue in a miniature train. It was a total fun-fest, said one parent who journeyed from Bensonhurst with her tot for the good time.

"It was a blast," said Rosa Payne, who came out with her 4-year-old son. "He loved the face painting and corn dogs. I'm always looking for kid-friendly things to do with him, and it was great. We'll absolutely be back next year."



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Bay Ridge tykes paint hydrants for Memorial Day

BY CAROLINE SPIVACK

They painted the town red — white and blue!

Sixth-graders at the Holy Angels Catholic Academy spruced up dingy Bay Ridge fire hydrants with a patriotic coat of paint for Memorial Day. The effort was spearheaded by 11-year-old Nolan Keegan, who wanted to combine his passion for community service with supporting the troops, said the little patriot's mother.

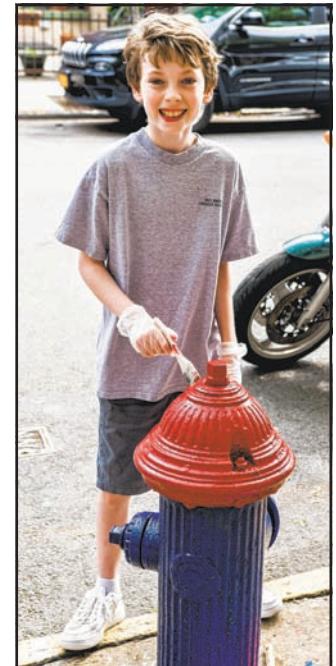
"Nolan has always been very active in community service and he really respects the military," said Bay Ridgite Erin Keegan. "So for Memorial Day he said, 'I have to do something, and the fire hydrants are very dirty, so I'll clean up the community and paint them red, white, and blue.'"

Nolan, his 8-year-old brother Brayden, and a handful of sixth-graders took to the streets over the holiday weekend, armed with paint brushes and buckets of the patriotic colors — which Nolan paid for out of his own pocket. The kids brightened up four hydrants near the



PINT-SIZED PATRIOTS: Sixth-grader Nolan Keegan (right) organized his fellow students at Holy Angels Catholic Academy (above) to spend their Memorial Day holiday painting local fire hydrants in patriotic colors.

Photos by Sean Murphy



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Golden gaffe: State senator insults Dem Council candidate

State Sen. Marty Golden (R-Bay Ridge) endorsed his long-time staffer John Quaglione to replace term-limited Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Bay Ridge) on June 1, but before he called Gentile's own staffer, Justin Brannan, who is also a Democratic candidate for the same seat, "fat boy" when he couldn't remember his name.

Quaglione's campaign invited local reporters for a "press-only sit down" with State Senator Marty Golden and John Quaglione" at the Bridgeview Diner on June 1. I sat down right across the table from Golde, with my notebook out, and when he jokingly referred to Brannan by size rather than name, I jotted it down.

Golden notice and said, "You look like a reporter."

He then turned to the campaign manager and told him he wished he had been informed he was sitting with reporters — despite the fact the event was billed as a "press-only sit down" — and then warned me not to publish his gaffe, claiming if I did so that I'd never have a sit down with



him again.

Brannan has not been shy about his efforts to lose weight, and has a sense of humor about it, imploring people to smack bagels out of his hand in his New Year's resolution — but was not a fan of Golden's joke, he said.

"It's unfortunate to see our state senator throw around petty insults. It just shows you that my Republican opponents can't compete on the issues, so they resort to schoolyard tactics. I'm proud to be the one candidate in this Council race with the track record of fighting for our community," said Brannan in

an e-mailed statement. "Our campaign is resonating with families because they want to see elected officials accountable to their needs. Simply put, results win elections, not fat jokes."

...

Councilman David Greenfield (D-Borough Park) — who chairs the Council's influential Land Use Committee and who has recently raised eyebrows for having a stash of \$308,641 in real estate money in a state campaign account called GreenfieldNY — may be facing a primary challenger for his seat.

David Mandel registered as a candidate for the 44th Council race on May 24, and has not filed any campaign disclosures as of June 7, city records show.

Mandel's potential candidacy comes at an interesting time, when sources say that Greenfield is angling for his pal, local politico **Kalman Yeger**, to unseat Councilman **Chaim Deutsch** (D-Sheepshead Bay) in a power play to expand his influence in the borough's heavily Orthodox Jewish communities.

Mandel could make hay out

of Greenfield's state-registered cash stash, which campaign finance experts say is a legal but hardly ethical way to collect contributions from real estate and other special interests barred from donating to his Council campaign coffers, thereby skirting the city's strong campaign finance laws.

"Greenfield has legally — but unethically — created a mechanism for him to receive political contributions from entities that are otherwise prohibited under the city," said Citizens Union head **Dick Dadey**. "He's making a mockery of it."

Greenfield opened the account in 2013 when he was considering running for a state seat, his office said — one year before getting named chairman of the Land Use Committee, and the same year he was re-elected to his first full term after winning a special election in 2010.

The state campaign account has received thousands in cash from real estate companies right up until this past January, when Greenfield decided to forgo a shot at the state level and run for re-election to

Council instead. But his office refused to say for which state office he was considering.

Greenfield won't raise money for his state account while seeking Council re-election, his office said, and the last contribution to his account is from Jan. 11, 2017, according to the state records. The last expenditure reported is to Compliance NY — which Yeger owns — for routine maintenance of the account.

Mandel did not respond to requests for comment.

...

The New York State Reform Party, headed by Guardian Angels founder **Curtis Sliwa**, endorsed Republican candidate **Bob Capano** for the 43rd-District Council race in which Capano is also vying for the Republican nomination against **Liam McCabe** and Quaglione.

Councilman Gentile endorsed Brannan to succeed him, along with the Working Families Party, and New York City musicians union, Local 802 AFM.

The New York City chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America endorsed Khader El-Yateem for the same seat.

PUBLIC NOTICE URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION AREA PROJECT

Pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter, notice is hereby given that the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has sold the following City-owned property in the Borough of Brooklyn:

Addresses	Block/Lots
1900 Park Place	1468/56 (Formerly p/o Lot 56, Lots 58 and 60)
416 Thomas S. Boyland Street	1468/63 (Formerly p/o Lot 56, Lots 63 and 64)

Under the New Infill Homeownership Opportunities Program (NIHOP), HPD promotes the new construction of one- to three-family homes and small buildings with condominium and cooperative units to foster mixed-income communities by providing affordable homeownership opportunities targeted to New York City's workforce community.

Under NIHOP, housing development fund company sponsors purchase City-owned land for one dollar per tax lot and construct one- to three-family homes or buildings containing condominium or cooperative units. The sponsor also delivers a note and mortgage for the difference between the appraised value of the land and the purchase price ("Land Debt"). Construction financing may be provided through loans from the City ("City Subsidy"), the New York State Affordable Housing Corporation, private lenders and developer equity. The City provides a tax exemption for the homes.

This submission is a proposed amendment ("Amended Project") to a project previously approved by the Council on December 21, 2009 (Resolution No. 2315) and by the Mayor on December 21, 2016 (Cal. No. 16) ("Original Project"). Under the Original Project, the City sold the Disposition Area to Habitat for Humanity Latent Thomas Boyland Street Housing Development Fund Corporation ("Sponsor") on February 10, 2017 to construct up to three (3) buildings containing a total of 25 condominium units for sale to low-income purchasers.

Under the Amended Project, the type of housing would change from condominium units to cooperative units, but it is otherwise the same as the Original Project. Under the Amended Project, Sponsor will construct up to three (3) buildings containing a total of up to 25 cooperative units for sale to a low-income cooperative. Shareholders must agree to occupy their units as a primary residence. The Land Debt and City Subsidy will be allocated to each cooperative unit and will evaporate with respect to such units over twenty (20) years of owner-occupancy in accordance with a formula determined by HPD. Purchasers will repay the Land Debt and City Subsidy attributable to their units by delivering cash and/or notes and appropriate security instruments to the City.

The appraisal and the proposed Amended Land Disposition Agreement and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 5-A4, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on June 21, 2017 at 1 Centre Street, Manhattan, Mezzanine at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached on the calendar, at which time and place those wishing to be heard will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed sale of the Disposition Area pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter.

Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, Public Hearings Unit, 253 Broadway, Room 915, New York, New York 10007, (212) 788-7490, no later than seven (7) business days prior to the public hearing. TDD users should call Verizon relay services.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Article 15 of the General Municipal Law ("GML") and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter, notice is hereby given that the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has proposed the sale of certain real property in the Brooklyn Center Urban Renewal Area ("Area") to the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the sponsor designated by HPD ("Sponsor"), for redevelopment in accordance with the Fifth Amended Urban Renewal Plan ("Plan") for the redevelopment of the area.

The property to be sold is located in the Borough of Brooklyn, City and State of New York, and known as:

Addresses	Block/Lots
418 Albee Square	146/42
416 Albee Square	146/ p/o 41

on the tax map of the City ("Disposition Area").

This submission is a proposed amendment ("Amended Project") to a project previously approved by the Mayor on September 14, 2016 (Cal. No. 16) ("Original Project"). The Amended Project changes the use of the project to include community facility space, changes the sale price of the Disposition Area from one dollar per tax lot to one dollar for the entirety of the Disposition Area, increases the transferable floor area development rights from 140,000 square feet to 150,000 square feet, and changes the proposed building's total floor area from approximately 431,775 gross square feet to a range of approximately 380,000 gross square feet to approximately 458,000 gross square feet, but is otherwise the same as the Original Project.

Under the Amended Project, the City will sell the Disposition Area consisting of approximately 3,146 square feet to the New York City Economic Development Corporation ("Sponsor") for the nominal price of one dollar. Sponsor will then convey the Disposition Area to JEMB Albee Square LLC ("Developer") for the price of Four Hundred Fifty Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy Seven Dollars (\$456,177). The conveyance of the Disposition Area to the Developer will be made pursuant to the terms and conditions of a contract of sale between Sponsor and the Developer ("Contract of Sale"). The Developer will then construct on the Disposition Area and the adjacent private lots (Block 146, Lots 11, 12, 43, 46 and 47, or "Private Lots") a building containing a range of approximately 380,000 gross square feet to approximately 458,000 gross square feet of combined office, retail and community facility space ("Proposed Development"). The community facility space will accommodate a school (the "School") to be built subject to the terms of a lease between the Developer and the New York City School Construction Authority ("SCA").

In connection with the Proposed Development, the City, pursuant to a Zoning Lot Development Agreement and Declaration of Zoning Lot Restrictions, will also transfer 150,000 square feet of floor area development rights from the adjacent City-owned property on Block 146, Lots 16, 17, 18, 23, 29, 34, 35, 36, 37 and p/o 41 to the Disposition Area and Private Lots for the negotiated price of Eighteen Million Two Hundred Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Three Dollars (\$18,293,823), of which up to Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000.00) may be reimbursable to the Developer for construction costs associated with construction of the School, provided that the School meets the approval of SCA.

In addition, the City will grant a Light and Air Easement and an Access Easement on the adjacent City-owned lot on Block 146 Lot 37 and p/o Lot 41 that benefits the Disposition Area. The Access Easement will allow entrance and exit from the ground floor retail within the Proposed Development and emergency access directly across a planned public open space plaza ("Willoughby Square") that will be developed adjacent to the Disposition Area. The Light and Air Easement will allow windows on the north façade of the Proposed Development that will face onto Willoughby Square.

The appraisal and the proposed Land Disposition Agreement are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 5-I, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on June 21, 2017 at 20th Floor North Elevator Conference Room D, 1 Centre Street, Manhattan at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached on the calendar, at which time and place those wishing to be heard will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed sale of the Disposition Area pursuant to Section 507(2)(d) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter.

Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact the Mayor's Office Of Contract Services, Public Hearings Unit, 253 Broadway, Room 915, New York, New York 10007, (212) 788-7490, no later than five (5) business days prior to the public hearing. TDD users should call Verizon relay services.



ON THE SCENE: Police are investigating and interviewing several suspects who allegedly dragged nine-year veteran police officer Dalsh Veve by a car through East Flatbush on June 3.

Photo by Paul Martinka

Police officer in critical after dragged by car

BY JULIANNE CUBA

A 15-year-old suspect allegedly dragged police officer Dalsh Veve behind a stolen car for two blocks in East Flatbush late Saturday night, before the officer fell off and onto the street and was rushed to Kings County Hospital, where he remains in critical condition, police said.

Six plainclothes officers from the 67th precinct — including Veve, a nine-year police veteran who is married and has a 2-year-old daughter — responded to three 911 calls reporting shots fired at a party near Tilden Avenue and E. 53rd Street on June 3 a little before midnight, officials said.

The officers determined the suspected gun shots were actually just fireworks, and as three of them continued to talk to people at the party, Veve went across the street to speak to several young men in a black Honda sedan that was blocking a fire hydrant, police said.

The 15-year-old suspected driver of the sedan hit the gas and sped off on Tilden Avenue towards Utica Avenue and continued along for two-and-a-half blocks with Veve being dragged along the pavement until he fell off and his fellow officers transported

him to the hospital, police said.

The driver crashed near E. 53rd Street between Snyder and Church avenues, and the occupants abandoned the car, according to authorities.

Veve was able to fire two shots as he was getting dragged along, allegedly hitting the 15-year-old suspect, who later walked into Brookdale Hospital with a gunshot wound in serious condition, police said.

The car had recently been stolen on Long Island, police said.

Police are interviewing several suspects and the investigation is ongoing, according to authorities.

Mayor DeBlasio visited Veve in the hospital with his wife, and is asking everyone to keep the family in their prayers.

"We have the finest police force in the world, ready to address any situation, and Officer Veve is an example of the caliber of those men and women, and their commitment to us," the mayor said. "And, right now, he is fighting to survive. Our hearts, our prayers have to be with Officer Veve, and his family, including his young child. Keep them close in your hearts."

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Milken Scholars shining brightly

BOROUGH WIDE

Double congrats to seniors **Michael Williams** and **David Mardakhayev**. The scholarly seniors are this year's recipients of the **2017 Milken Scholarship Award**.

The boys will each receive \$10,000 along with a lifelong mentor system that includes career-related counseling, assistance in securing internships, and opportunities for community service.

David has moved over his tassel and graduated from **Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School** in Bensonhurst.

An aspiring engineer, he is a true Renaissance man. He is a Cloud Peak Project Fellow, New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence recipient, and National Honor Society member, vice president of Roosevelt's robotics club,

a section editor for Roosevelt's school paper, a Roosevelt student ambassador, and a volunteer at New York Methodist Hospital.

David will study electrical engineering at New York University in the fall.

Michael is a graduate of **Millennium Brooklyn High School** in Park Slope who hopes to change the world through storytelling. On his website, TruFreedomBlog.com, he has explored the Rastafari religion of his mother's native Jamaica. He is a youth advisory board member for Cyphers for Justice, has worked with BRIC Arts Media in planning and facilitating Concrete Stories, and spent last summer studying film production at Stanford University and journalism at Princeton University.

Michael has served as class president, is a member of the National Honor Society, and is on his school's High Honor Roll. He also serves as an admissions ambassador and student board of directors representative for The Opportunity Network and has volunteered with the Brooklyn Community Pride Center.

Michael plans on attending the University of Pennsylvania in the fall, where he'll study journalism and law.



THE WINNERS ARE!: From left, Mei Ozawa of PS 29, Spiros Painesis and Hope Andros of A. Fantis Parochial School, Aaliyah Yates of PS 38, and William Bradly of PS 58, took home awards at the Cobble Hill Health Center for their winning essays.

Photo by Caleb Caldwell

Young scribes honor seniors

COBBLE HILL

Three cheers to the budding essayists who paid tribute to senior citizens in the **Cobble Hill Health Center**-sponsored contest, "Older Person in Your Life Who is Special and Why," in which local fourth and fifth graders were charged to write about that special senior.

"A mark of a society is how they treat their seniors," said **Tony Lewis**, chief executive officer at Cobble Hill. "I applaud this group of young people who are acknowledging the older people in their lives."

This is the second year that the center hosted the contest.

This year's winners — **Hope Andros** and **Spiros Painesis** from the A. Fantis Parochial School of Sts. Constantine and Helen Cath-

dral in Brooklyn Heights, **Aaliyah Yates** of PS 38 in Boerum Hill, **William Bradly** of PS 58 in Carroll Gardens, and **Mei Ozawa** of PS 29 in Cobble Hill — were honored at a ceremony, with their parents, staff, and board member Assemblywoman **Joan Millman** (D-Carroll Gardens) in attendance. Millman spoke about the importance of intergenerational community partnerships.

The winners received a four pack of tickets to **Cobble Hill Cinema** with snacks and drinks from the concession stand.

Standing O sends out three cheers and a bucket of popcorn to the winners.

Cobble Hill Health Center [380 Henry St. and Warren Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 855-6789].

The Milken Scholars is a joint initiative of the Milken Institute and the Milken Family Foundation. Winners are selected after a rigorous nomination, application, and interview process and based on academic performance, community service, and leadership.

The scholars will attend a three-day summit this summer in Los Angeles with more than 100 fellow scholars, including new recipients.

BENSONHURST

Brooklyn's Finest

WellCare of New York, a subsidiary of WellCare Health Plans, Inc., honored 34 officers of the **New York Police Department**, four of which hailed from our fair borough. The of-

ficers regularly find ways to support the communities they serve. Each day, officers perform the duties one would expect, such as public safety, law enforcement, and traffic management. However, in addition to preserving the peace, police officers are working in partnership with organizations in the community to enhance the quality of life in New York City through smaller, more personal ways.

Our Finest included **Lt. Acu Rhodes** of Park Slope's 78th Precinct, **Detective Walter Brant** of Cypress Hills, as well as **Detective Felicia Richards** and **Capt. Terrell Anderson**.

"We are grateful that WellCare has taken the time to recognize the impact our officers have on the lives of people in the community," said **Chief James A. Secreto** of NYPD Housing Bureau.



BOROUGH WIDE

Golden arches award

Take your mortar boards off for borough teen and senior at **Stuyvesant High School**, **Nancy Cao**. She has been named a recipient of the **2017 Ronald McDonald House Charities - ASIA Scholarship Program**.

Nancy received "Best Inequality Hack" at the **Social Hacks Hackathon** with her all-female team for their website, which strips gendered language and racial biases from job applications to promote diversity in the workplace. The award was created in 2001 and is the largest scholarship for Asian students in the New York Tri-State Area. The \$16,000 scholarships are awarded to students in financial need who have demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, and community involvement.

"The RMHC-ASIA Scholarship program was designed to address the reality that many Asian-American students face significant financial barriers to higher education," said **Christopher Perry**, executive director or Ronald McDonald House Charities-Asia.

McDonald's franchisee **Michael Anderer**, president of the RMHC-NYTSB Board of Trustees and a member of this year's scholarship selection committee, said, "We are committed to and are always happy to lend a helping hand to outstanding students in the community."

Standing O is committed to giving out Os to outstanding students and wishes Nancy good luck in her college career as she majors in computer science at Harvey Mudd College in the fall.

"Many police departments around the country are waiting for this kind of sign of appreciation. WellCare gets it. Thank you, WellCare."

Standing O says thank you to the men and women who serve our city every day.

WellCare Health Plans, Inc. [765 61st St. at Eighth Avenue in Bensonhurst, (718) 439-2220].

FEATURED LISTINGS



East Flatbush

Det. 1 fam, 3 BR duplex over fin basement. Good mother/daughter house. Det garage & new roof. Asking \$639,000

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Canarsie

2 fam. brk. First Time on Market. 4 BR dup. over 2 BR ranch over 1BR. Att. gar, pvt drv, new roof, gutters, leaders. Asking \$869,000

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Nicely restored, with lots to offer

Duplex in East Flatbush is charming outside, fresh inside

KINGS VIEW REALTY

East Flatbush, like its next-door neighborhood Flatbush, has a place in history among the earliest of American settlements. The area was part of one of the original six towns of Brooklyn, and Dutch pioneers grew abundant crops in its fertile woodlands, building homes with crescent-shaped openings to admit light, and tin spouts poking out to catch the rainfall. The local real estate landscape has improved considerably since then, with area properties such as our House of the Week shaping the attractive landscape.

This week's dwelling — located in a solid working-class neighborhood — is a great opportunity for a discerning home buyer who will consider the following features a bargain at \$639,000:

• Detached one family duplex



New and improved: (Left) Our featured House of the Week is this fully renovated one-family duplex in resurgent East Flatbush. (Right) This redone kitchen is one of several attractive features offered in our House of the Week in East Flatbush.

- Three bedrooms
- Updated kitchen and bath
- Hardwood floors
- Finished basement
- Detached garage

- New roof
- Backyard
- Early farmers called Flatbush Vlackebos, Dutch for "wooden plain." They culti-

vated barley for the malt liquors that were a regional staple, and supplied wheat, rye, and other grains to the City of New York, hauling their goods several miles to the Town of Brooklyn before ferrying them across the East River. These days the neighborhood where NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill, former Mayor Giuliani, and pro basketball legend Michael Jordan were born is a flourishing district of long-standing families and young urbanites who seem to know the skyrocketing value of Brooklyn's amazing property horizon.

Our House of the Week is conveniently located near shopping and public transportation, several medical and child care facilities, and a smorgasbord of restaurants and stores. Opportunity could be a phone call away.

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OLD MILL BASIN

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MARINE PARK: New to Market!! 3 BR Att. Brk Dup., Lg LR, Full Kit., Full Fin. Bsmt. Close to all! PL1689...\$749K

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MARINE PARK: Beaut. Det. 3 BR Duplex, Lg LR, FDR, Kit., Hdwd Flrs thruout, full fin bsmt, lg rear yd, pool, 2 car gar, shared driv. PL1608 \$749K

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Fin 729023 Asking \$445K
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WebID#707007 \$189K FILLMORE REAL ESTATE 718-998-8820

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Doing a slow Bern after pol's speech

To the editor:

Brooklyn College couldn't find a smarter individual than Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders to address its graduates? ("Bernie Sanders attacks Trump, celebrates diversity at Brooklyn College commencement" by Julianne Cuba, online May 31).

His claim to fame is that he lost a rigged election. How many people had heard of Sanders before the Hillary fiasco? Had Sanders been elected president, he would have placed immeasurable strain on the American economy, would have gutted our military and would have floundered in the foreign policy arena. His personal life has been dedicated to promoting "unearned equality" and protesting something or other.

With the exception of some odds-and-ends jobs, Sanders has lived his whole life loitering on the government dole promoting his warped ideology. In fact, as mayor of Burlington, he wanted to change the city's name to "The People's Republic of Burlington" emulating "The People's Republic of China." How warped is that?

Get a clue, Senator, socialism does not work. Socialist countries cannot protect their people because they don't have a sufficient defense budget. Cases in point: Germany and Sweden cannot control the Syrian refugees they have accepted into their respective countries. Their economies have suffered and they lack sufficient law enforcement personnel to keep the refugees in check.

The senator stated: "We must never allow demagogues to divide us by race, by religion, by national origin, or by sexual orientation. Black, White, Latino, Asian American, Native American, Christian, Jew, Muslim, and every religion, straight or gay, male or female, we must stand together. This country belongs to all of us." Not true, Senator. This country belongs to those who pay for it, who fight for it and who work to improve it. The major division is between those who support America and those who do not. The senator's attack on President Trump is an attack on the United States of

SOUND OFF TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS AND COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS

America and his description of a "demagogue" describes Obama (not Trump) to a tee.

I conducted a little research on Vermont and here are some interesting stats: 94.8 percent of the people are white, 1.6 percent are Asian, 1.5 percent are Hispanic, 1.3 percent are black. Let's look at the people's religious affiliations, where only 33.7 percent consider themselves religious as compared with 49.4 percent for the rest of the country: 20.6 percent are Catholic, 0.4 percent are Jewish and 0 percent are Muslim. One would think that the senator's priority would be to invite some of the diverse cultures he cited in his speech to live in Vermont.

The bottom line is that Sen. Sanders lives in a lily-white state unencumbered by terrorist threats and violent crimes, but has the audacity to lecture President Trump and, by definition, the United States of America.

As I write this opinion, a prim-and-proper, politically-correct England is recovering from yet another terrorist attack; this one on the London Bridge. The front-page headline of the New York Post read "AGAIN." Why "AGAIN?" Because there is a pattern to the carnage — a pattern that Bernie Sanders does not see. I can lead him through it at another time, but first he should try to figure it out himself.

Elio Valenti
Brooklyn

Coney left out

To the editor:

I thought after many years the residents of Coney Island would be part of the city. To my surprise I'm so wrong. The [previous] city council person never did anything to help the residents to improve their lives. Not until Mark Treyger became the councilman for Coney Island [is there someone] who's out for the sake of the community.

The mayor wanted ferry boats for residents of the Rockaways [going] into the city [to make] stops at Pier 69 and I do believe Red Hook. Once again, Coney Island is the stepchild of the city. Anyone on the west end of Coney Island would love to have ferry boats [traveling] into the city. Not only that, those ferries could bring tourists to the amusement area as well.

Jerry Sattler
Brighton Beach

Think of others

To the editor:

Have you ever walked in the

street and wound up with dog crap on your shoes? Often taking into your home? Well, to the pigs who don't pick up [their dog's poop], shame on you. I wonder if someone did the same to you how happy would you feel. So as I remember the fine for not picking up after your dog was \$25. I would propose the fine should be \$1000. That would send a message that we deserve a clean environment for all.

John Snow
Brighton Beach

Instill good behavior

To the editor,

Dear Ms. Kirsch:

Since you feel that you are an expert on what is wrong with the NYC school system, I suggest that you file papers at 55 Water St. and become a classroom teacher. I also suggest that you asked to be placed in a SURR school. SURR refers to Schools Under Registration Review. Then and only then would you get to see first hand what is going on in New York City schools. The general public is being lied to regarding the discipline mess. There are far too many principals out there who hide incidents as they fear for their jobs. It is so much easier to blame the teacher for poor student behavior. Unfortunately, teaching has taken on a new meaning. You are not judged by the ability to impart knowledge. Instead, a good teacher is the one who can control renegade students.

I never in my 33 years ever met a teacher who came to school unprepared and ready to goof off. I did meet dedicated people who were idealistic such as yourself. They entered the profession feeling that they could make a difference, only to become disillusioned quickly and become part of the 70 percent who leave within the first five years on the job.

Since my retirement in 2001, conditions have even become worse as we have more and more principals out there who never taught, but became principals by attending the so-called Leadership Academy. These people are taught to promote hostile conditions in the school and to drive the experienced teacher to [take early] retirement or just plain quit.

We are tired of supervisors who wear shades when it comes to student behavior. These are the same people who harp on bright shiny bulletin boards, and noting paper in desk pockets or on the floor. These are the same people who call for alternate assessments so that the recalcitrant

student is pushed through or into cooperative learning, which will justify noise in the classroom. These are the same people who harp on the fact that the lesson is teacher-led and call for the student to engage themselves. Excuse me, but we need factual information to be taught; otherwise, the student comes out totally ignorant of the subject discipline.

It is true that during my lengthy classroom experience I had some very excellent students. These children were self-motivated and came to school to learn. There was no nonsense. I am sure that when Ms. Kirsch attended school, there was no such thing as marauding through the halls, fighting and screaming out in the room and cursing the teachers.

Ms. Kirsch, you should see some of the parents that you have to meet. Many were discipline problems themselves when they attended school. How would you like to deal with a parent whose child was undergoing cancer treatment and yet she refused to sign a home contact card [showing] where she could be reached in an emergency? She claimed it was the school's responsibility to do something if an emergency occurred. Translated, this meant that she couldn't wait to file a lawsuit against the system. My favorite parent was Mrs. G of the 1970s. Her son sat in back of the room and cursed me out repeatedly. When I taught this unruly bunch of youngsters, he would say b--- s--- no matter what I said. During a meeting with her on open school night, she said "Buster, I'm not through with you yet," and claimed that her child was terrified of me. The following year I had the daughter. J was exceedingly bright and well behaved. When I gave an excellent report to the parent that night, she said nothing to me but proceeded to slam the door when she left the room. She just wanted another confrontation.

Teachers are not psychiatrists, psychologists or social workers. Guidance counselors do try but their hands are tied and remember — they deal with one child at a time, not the classroom teacher who may have several unruly students in the room.

No matter how much money is pumped into the school system, the results will remain dreadful until students learn there are consequences for unruly behavior.

Ed Greenspan
Sheepshead Bay

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Submit letters to: Vince DiMiceli, Editor, Community Newspaper Group, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, NY 11201, or e-mail to editorial@cnglocal.com. Please include your address and telephone number 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.

TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

Using mobile phones

Leading the list of the top distractions behind the wheel are mobile phones. Phones now do more than just place calls, and drivers often cannot pull away from their phones, even when driving. According to the California Department of Motor Vehicles, studies have shown that driving performance is lowered and the level of distraction is higher for drivers who are heavily engaged in cell

phone conversations. The use of a hands-free device does not lower distraction levels. The percentage of vehicle crashes and near-crashes attributed to dialing is nearly identical to the number associated with talking or listening.

Daydreaming

Many people will admit to daydreaming behind the wheel or looking at a person or object outside of the car for too long. Per-

haps they're checking out a house in a new neighborhood or thought they saw someone they knew on the street corner. It can be easy to veer into the direction your eyes are focused, causing an accident. In addition to trying to stay focused on the road, some drivers prefer the help of lane departure warning systems.

Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

chewing gum at the same time may want to avoid eating while driving. The majority of foods require a person's hands to be taken off of the wheel and their eyes to be diverted from the road. Reaching in the back seat to share some French fries with the kids is also distracting.

Try to eat meals before getting in the car. For those who must snack while en route, take a moment to pull over at

a rest area and spend 10 minutes snacking there before resuming the trip.

Reading

Glancing at an advertisement, updating a Facebook status or reading a book are all activities that should be avoided when driving. Even pouring over a traffic map or consulting the digital display of a GPS system can be distracting.

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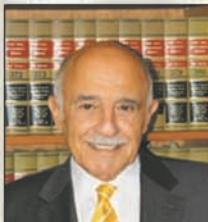


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OPINION

An 'Evil Loser' is as an 'Evil Loser' does

Long ago, when I first started to write a column, my fellow columnist, pagemate, and friend Shavana Abruzzo gave me one bit of advice.

She said, "No matter what a reader comments on your column, let them — do not engage — everyone has a right to their opinion."

Through the many years, and many columns, and many comments, both negative and positive, I have heeded that advice. All have a right to their opinion and the comment page is their forum to shine.

Sometimes the comments are so inflammatory that I find myself almost unable to control my instincts to write back and quote Dan Aykroyd to Jane Curtin in their classic Saturday Night Live schtick: "Jane, you ignorant slut."

But I gnash my teeth, keep my lip zipped, and go on my merry way to write my next column.



NOT FOR NUTHIN'

Joanna DelBuono

But this time, I feel I must address "Anonymous from Park Slope," because he/she is not only nasty, but incorrect as well. Here is the comment on my June 2, column about "Evil Losers."

"You ignorant piece of trash! You are piling all Mus-

lims in one hateful pile as we are not like other people or even human. Why don't you use what little brains God gave you and understand the difference between a terrorist and a Muslim? The fact is that a person who claims they are Muslim and commits an act of terrorism, well, that person is no longer Muslim because they've murdered innocents.

"I know this is hard for you to understand because you and people like you are not intelligent enough to know the difference, but maybe, just maybe you will not be satisfied till a Muslim woman or child gets killed because someone read and believed your ignorant excuse of a column. Pathetic!!"

I am answering this person in light of yet another attack in London, by the hands of another bunch of Evil Losers.

Yes, "Anonymous," I know the difference between Muslims and Islamic extremists

— I have never believed that

all Muslims are terrorists, nor do I believe that when twisted individuals bastardize a religion they speak for all followers. And the last nail in your comment is this — I find no joy in anyone's death, Muslim women and children included.

So, "Anonymous in Park Slope," may I suggest that you remember innocent women and children have been killed by Evil Losers for a very long time:

• Thirty years ago, the Lockerbie bombing, innocent teens returning from Germany at Christmastime. The *cause célèbre*: Popular Front for the The Liberation of Palestine, General Command, PFLP-G.

• Fifteen years ago, the innocent mother and child flying to Disney World for a wonderful vacation; the World Trade Center, Shanksville, Pa., and the Pentagon. The *cause célèbre*: Al Qaeda.

• More recently, Fort Hood,

San Bernadino, the Boston Marathon, the Bataclan, Orlando Dance Club. The *cause célèbre*: ISIS.

Different names, all Evil Losers.

The faces of those innocents whose lives were cut short because of these Evil Losers still haunt my daymares, each and every time another bunch of twisted, Evil Losers lets loose their twisted, hateful ideology on the innocents, I see their faces.

Three weeks ago, a concert in Manchester. One week ago, London Bridge.

Still ,the faces haunt me. Still, the list grows longer.

Not for Nuthin™, "Anonymous in Park Slope," here in America we are free to voice our opinions, and I applaud your right to voice yours. However, don't think that I will not also say mine — "Evil Loser" is as "Evil Loser" does. Thanks for reading.

Follow me on Twitter @ JDelBuono.

Depressing? The Times' obituaries are fascinating!

It is one of the best-read parts of The New York Times each day, but few admit they read it.

It sounds depressing but it is actually the most uplifting and inspirational parts of the newspaper.

The weddings section? Nope. It's the obituaries, the place where the entire lives of important people — some as long as 95 years — are summed up in 800 words or less.

Each morning a team of editors and reporters at the Times decides which three to five people who died in the last 24 hours merits the obituary treatment. It must be someone who had an "impact" in their lives — from the obvious pop music star like Michael Jackson to the inventor of the Slingshot to the television image consultant who helped JFK defeat Richard Nixon in 1960.

The new documentary movie, "Obit," playing in some small movie theaters around the city, is the fascinating tale of the incredibly thoughtful and talented people who make up the Times obit team.



POLITICAL SPIN CYCLE

Tom Allon

But the film is even more than a well-told tale of a unique journalism operation — it is a meditation on what constitutes a worthwhile life and the criteria we should all consider when we measure the impending shadow of our ultimate demise.

What is an "impactful" life? How can we measure who is worthy of a graceful write-

up of 500 words or even a front-page obit of more than 1,400 words?

The movie, a must see, points out that Pope John Paul had a 14,000 word obituary and rock stars Michael Jackson and David Bowie had their obits splashed across the front page. Then there is the obit just a notch below the front-page ones: the "referees," important people who don't quite merit top billing on Page 1, but are "referred" to in the bottom of the front page "teasers."

There are many quiet stars of this obituary documentary, but two stood out in my mind: the gentleman who runs the Times "morgue" (a library of all the old printed clippings and photographs stretching back to the early 20th century), an idiosyncratic and animated man who knows where all old files are buried in a vast room full of overstuffed file cabinets. In a paperless age of gigabytes and cloud storage, he seems like a quaint vestige of an anachronistic era that has ended. But ask any Times re-

porter and they'll tell you that he is one of their most valuable colleagues because he can access information that cannot be found on Google or any internet database because it happened before the age of Information went up on the worldwide web.

The other subtle Star of "Obit" is Bruce Weber, a soft-spoken reporter whose observations and work is the centerpiece of the movie. We watch and hear his graceful phone calls with the relatives of the recently deceased and he hits just the right note of sympathy while he goes about the task of cataloging vital information about the potential obituary subject. He fills out a form to start — where was the person born, what was the cause of death, what were their parents' professions and so on until a clear picture begins to emerge of a life that no longer exists but left an indelible imprint in our society.

We watch Weber as he agonizes over how to report and write an 800-word obituary of the man who helped elect a

president in 1960, Mr. Wilson, who was John F. Kennedy's television image consultant, a very new career in the early days of mass media. Rather than run a dry opening paragraph that sums up the man's life and includes his age at death and the cause, Weber decides to do an "anecdotal lead," an opening that talks about the Kennedy-Nixon debate and its importance in the history of our country. Weber's prose draws the reader in while also making a larger point about the dramatic change of how we elected presidents in 1960 based on looks and telegenic appeal.

It is such a rare treat to leave a movie theater better informed and inspired by the people in the documentary and their clear explication of why their work truly matters. Run, don't walk, to see "Obit" this weekend — you'll look at your life very differently afterwards.

Tom Allon is the president of City & State, NY. He can be reached at tallon@cityandstateny.com.



New York Harbor Watch



JUST LIKE MOM: Air Force Staff Sgt. Nichole Jordan, left, with her mom Air Force Master Sgt. Peggy Schmidt, pose in front of a 1947 F-84 Thunderjet aircraft static display at Goldwater Air National Guard Base, Ariz. on May 12.

Tinashe Machona

It's stronger than the military bond

HARBOR WATCH

Although set on different paths for military service, Air Force Master Sgt. Peggy Schmidt and Staff Sgt. Nichole Jordan of the Arizona Air National Guard's 161st Air Refueling Wing have experienced a journey few airmen can claim — one characterized by dedication, tradition, and ultimately, love.

Although assigned to different units here since 2011, the mother-daughter duo serves side-by-side at the 161st Air Refueling Wing.

"It is beneficial to work with my mother, because she sets the bar for me to exceed," said Jordan, who works as an aerospace medical technician with the wing's medical group. She added that her mother sets a good example of airmanship and challenges her to always exceed expectations.

Jordan said she joined the Arizona Air National Guard for education benefits, but that gradually her desire for continued service was fueled

by a specific Air Force core value: service before self. "I can make a difference in this Air Force of ours, and being a 'one-percenter,' like many of my brothers and sisters in arms, is something to be proud of," she said.

Both airmen serve full-time.

"I like the whole generation-effect thing that I share with my mother on this base," Jordan said. "At times I feel like a protege of my mom's, but that just motivates me to continue improving myself in my own way."

Schmidt, a supply supervisor for the wing's logistics readiness squadron, said she's proud to serve in uniform with her daughter.

"It's a pleasure for me to work with Nichole, because it puts a smile on my face knowing that my daughter is right across the street and she is always there when I need her," she said.

In addition to her supervisory duties, Schmidt is the squadron's health monitor.

Answering God's call

Army Chaplain offers prayers on the field



AMEN: Army Chaplain (Capt.) Steven De Haan hands out prayer sheets at Fort Irwin on April 30.

Spc. Tawny Schmit

HARBOR WATCH

Army Chaplain (Capt.) Steven De Haan, with the Iowa Army National Guard's 1034th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, was driving to drill at Camp Dodge early one Saturday morning when he received a call that would lead him to one of the toughest moments of his career.

The phone call informed him of the death of a soldier's spouse and De Haan was asked to be there when the soldier was notified.

Over the years, he's learned to handle those tough situations with silence.

"As a chaplain, most of the time, I let soldiers cry," he said. "I give them space to grieve. Most of the time, words, when you're grieving like that, aren't very helpful."

De Haan joined the Army in 2001 as a mechanic, and spent 11 years in maintenance. However, he said God had a different plan for him, which revealed itself when people

started telling him he acted more like a chaplain than a sergeant.

In October 2012, De Haan finished the required training and was appointed as an Army chaplain.

"I like turning wrenches, but as you get higher in rank, you get to push papers, not wrenches," he said. "So instead of fixing trucks, I'm pointing toward the one who can fix souls."

The experiences and skills De Haan developed in the military have a unique fit in the civilian community as well.

In 2016, he became a civilian pastor at Hope Reform Church in George, Iowa, where many of his followers have long family histories of military service.

"That kind of patriotism followed generation after generation," De Haan said, referring to the members of his church.

Due in part to that patriotism, his followers have been very supportive of his Army

duty, he said. His Army commitment requires him to be gone for one weekend each month for drill and a few weeks each year for annual training.

"A lot of them really care about soldiers because they were once soldiers themselves, or they had family who were service members," De Haan said. "They see it as me helping soldiers, and that's worth it for them."

De Haan is currently conducting a three-week rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California. Each Sunday, De Haan and Army Pfc. Grant Denham, a chaplain assistant, offer a religious service for soldiers in the field.

Denham said he has only known De Haan for a short time, but has found him to be a humble man who's willing to put others before himself.

"Everybody puts on a giant smile when they see him," Denham said. "Everybody loves him."

Virginia Tech



GO GAMMA!: Elaine Lewis, president of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority at Virginia Tech was commissioned as a Marine Corps Second Lt. on May 13.

Sgt. Caitlin Brink

SORORITY RULES

Honed her leadership skills at Gamma Phi Beta

HARBOR WATCH

From becoming president of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, popularly known as Virginia Tech, to becoming the university's recreational sports facilities supervisor, 22-year-old Elaine Lewis has always had a passion for leadership.

In May 2014, that passion led Lewis into her local Marine Corps Officer Selection Office, and on May 13, 2017, she was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

"I think the idea was always slightly in my head with being part of a Marine family," Lewis said. "In the fourth grade I dressed up as a Marine for career day. I was always inspired and moved by the Marine Corps."

In November of her freshman year of college, Lewis attended a Marine Corps Birthday Ball where they played a motivational birthday message from the commandant of the Marine Corps. At the time she said she remembered not enjoying college much and struggling with being away from home.

"They played the motivational video, and I remember turning to my dad and saying, 'I think this is what I want to do: I think I want to drop out of school and enlist,'" Lewis said. "Both my dad and a retired female officer at our ta-

ble told me, 'No, you're going to take your time; you're going to get your degree. And if you still want to be a Marine after you graduate, you can go the officer route. You can commission.'"

For the next few months Lewis pondered her father's advice. In July 2014, the beginning of her sophomore year, Lewis still felt called to earn the title Marine and reached out to her neighbor who had just graduated Officer Candidates School at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia.

"He told me everything that he had done so far; what he accomplished and the pride he felt knowing he'd be commissioning in the next year," said Lewis, a native of Stafford, Virginia. "I knew that that was what I wanted to do. That night I sat down, and I remember telling my parents about my decision."

Her father, Marine Corps Lt. Col. Martin Lewis, was reserved at first. He told his daughter to make sure it was what she wanted to do, and he would help her if she asked, but otherwise he let her make all her own decisions.

"I didn't expect him to be so cavalier about it, but he supported me through the whole thing," Lewis said. "I hit a couple bumps in the road with medical disqualifications, and he helped me stay calm and stay focused on becoming an officer

and not giving up that path."

When Lewis finally walked into the recruiting office she said she was nervous, but ready. She said she knew exactly what she wanted, and she was about to meet the person who could help her reach her goals.

"I was extremely intimidated but also not," Lewis said. "It was more like this is the guy who could make or break my Marine Corps career."

Lucky for her, Capt. David Grant, the officer in charge of Marine Corps Officer Selection Team in Roanoke, Virginia, saw her potential and helped her get her journey started.

"Elaine is a natural leader, she's a true leader," Grant said. "She's one of the ones I can really rely on and can go to if I need something done."

Lewis said she began her leadership journey as the president of Gamma Phi Beta sorority. She said she knew if she could lead them, she could do anything.

"To be president of 200-plus women — if I can do that, I can honestly do anything in the Marine Corps," Lewis said. "Dealing with so many girls who want everything and realizing you can't always give them what they want and that your decisions affect more than just you, it was definitely good training for quick decision making in the Marine Corps."

Training the future leaders

HARBOR WATCH

In December 2011, the Army chief of staff directed the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command's Combined Arms Center to look at different options for producing strategic planners and future senior leaders through a doctorate program.

The School of Advanced Military Studies developed the Advanced Strategic Planning and Policy Program, or ASP3, and began enrolling students in a pilot program in August 2012.

Army Col. Oscar Doward Jr., commander of U.S. Army Central's 2503rd Digital Liaison Detachment, is one of 60 officers currently participating in ASP3.

"Applying for the program was an opportunity for me to earn a [doctorate], a desire I've always had," he said. "I also saw it as a great opportunity to have an effect on the strategic policy level."

The program is designed to develop field-grade officers as strategic planners and future senior leaders through a combination of practical experience, professional military education and a doctoral degree from a civilian university in a field of study related to strategy.

Officers will also study history, strategic theory and the practice of strategic planning at the School of Advanced Military Studies, located at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Before arriving at U.S. Army Central, Doward spent the last two years studying at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, completing the requirements for a doctorate except for his disserta-

tion. He is writing his dissertation on African-American officer development and evolution in the Army during the 20th century, focusing on the period between World War I and the Korean War.

Doward has been in command of the 2503rd DLD since October. The first stateside all active-duty detachment of this type, it is composed of functional cells that replicate warfighting functions. Each cell complements an Army battle command system.

Upon completion of his command assignment, Doward said, he will work on his dissertation, submit a draft and defend his thesis to faculty and committee members in the same field who will read the dissertation and make suggestions for revisions and improvements.

"If I receive approval for my dissertation, I plan on having it published into a book," the colonel said.

From start to finish, officers selected to participate in ASP3 can expect to spend as many as six years earning their degree and working in strategy-related developmental jobs. Graduates of the program can expect to serve in key planning positions with the Army, various Defense Department activities, the White House national security staff, the intelligence community, State Department, Congress, the combatant commands, civilian think tanks and military schools.

The program is great for bright officers who are willing to excel to the next level and still have the opportunity to both command and pursue a Ph.D., Doward said.



TRAINING THE BRIGHTEST: Col. Oscar Doward, Jr. gives a lesson to students on African-American soldiers and their participation in World War I at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Staff Sgt. Jared Crain



Travel and learning a new culture can help aid children's development.

Bridging the summer learning gap

The benefits of travel have been written about for centuries, connecting the experience with cultivating awareness and expanding perspectives. The story of travel connotes a journey of self-discovery. The introduction of every new culture is the beginning of a new mindset.

For many, travel is at once a decentering and unifying experience. The encounter of something new leads to being fully present, evaluating preconceptions and rewiring beliefs. The effects of travel on adults is well documented. But how does travel affect children, who rely so much on stability and who, in many ways, already live in the moment, and experience the world with eyes wide open? Does the disruption of place hinder or complement a child's intellectual development?

It's been eight years since the U.S. Department of Educa-

tion took a closer look at the effects of travel on childhood education. In a 2009 study, which analyzed findings from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study of the Kindergarten Class database, family life was assessed, as were summer activities and school experiences. The study collected data from 21,600 children from grades K-5; a subset of 5,047 parents also were asked about their family excursions during the summer. Study results showed improved standardized test scores in reading, math and general knowledge from the children who traveled during the summer with their families.

The study findings are important because they provide an alternative to learning loss in kids during the long summer months away from school. Kids who don't engage in activities during the sum-

mer are at risk of falling more than four months behind their peers. This statistic goes all the way up the ladder to college students. Today, many parents consider the arc of the travel experience - seeing new places, experiencing new cultures, attending concerts and visiting historic sites, monuments and art museums - as an opportunity to not only enhance the emotional depth and patience of their children, but their academic outcomes as well. As a result, some parents are opting to "world school" their children during the summer, with noted benefits of bonding and spending quality time with family, building an interest and respect for other cultures, and making learning interesting and deeply engaging.

Can we simply conclude that vacations make kids smarter? We reached out to travel expert Jim Menge for the answer.

Menge has been to more than 100 countries, and is a believer of the benefits of travel. Menge is also the President of Rovia, an industry-leading travel and lifestyle service provider, headquartered in Plano, Texas. "Not necessarily," Menge says. "But the immersive experience of travel and all the delight and disruption that go along with it can have a real effect on childhood learning. And when kids start early, they broaden their horizons, and develop a real appreciation for the world they live in."

If summer travel can have such a profound influence over the intellectual development of kids in grades K-5, what effect, if any, does it have on college students? In the year 2000, the University System of Georgia, comprising 35 institutions, conducted a 10-year study to see if study abroad contributed to the academic performance

of college students. They found the experience not only resulted in improved academic performance, higher GPAs and graduation rates, but it benefited the performance of at-risk students as well.

Clearly, travel and education can create powerful combinations. If you have children, consider taking a vacation over school breaks and during summer months. It will add to their development and character. And if you have kids in college, study abroad has become an even more compelling option. The shared experience of travel can bring families together, creating bonds and lifelong memories. It's time to consider the data that promotes travel as the ticket to a world of increased engagement and enhanced academic performance. Bon voyage!

Kindergarten is the new first grade

When you think back to your own kindergarten experience, it probably involved a half-day program and plenty of fun activities - finger painting, sand play and nap time. Likely the hardest parts were learning the alphabet and counting to 100.

Fast forward to today. While kindergarten still offers a fun learning environment, it's certainly more focused on academic achievement. Kindergartners often know the alphabet and have solid counting skills prior to the first day of school. If students aren't reading at the beginning of the school year, they're certainly expected to be doing so by the end.

"Kindergarten is the new first grade" isn't just an anecdote, it's a fact. New research from the University of Virginia compares kindergarten and first-grade classrooms between 1998 and 2010, finding that kindergarten classes have become increasingly like first grade, with more time spent on academic instruction and, ultimately, higher educational expectations.

Each year an estimated 4 million children enter kindergarten. To help pre-K kids improve core learning skills and get them excited about school, it's important to find fun, age-appropriate ways to help them learn. Consider these expert ideas for preparing kids ages 3-6 for kindergarten.



While it's important to balance screen time, the right technology can help preschoolers get ready for kindergarten.

Educational apps

Children today have a natural knack for technology. While it's important to monitor and balance screen time, the right technology can help educate kids. Preschool Academy by IntellectoKids is an ideal example. With over 50 educational activities in one app, kids will learn the alphabet and develop important skills like counting, sorting, logic and critical thinking - the foundations for math and reading.

Best yet, the learning is rooted in amusing animated puzzles about musical instruments, fun train adventures or whimsical

letter/number games.

This educational app allows parents to customize for multiple children and select between three levels, increasing in difficulty as they play and learn. Like Preschool Academy, the best learning games are constantly adding fresh new learning activities and are always free of ads or hidden in-app purchases.

Fine motor skills

Fine motor skills, also known as dexterity, involve the coordination and control of muscles to create small move-

ments. This usually requires hand-eye coordination as well. Being prepared for kindergarten means having a basic ability to complete fine motor actions like holding a pencil correctly, tying shoes and sorting small objects.

One of the easiest ways to support your child's fine motor development is by providing lots of opportunities to color and write. Make crayons and paper readily available and let kids' imaginations take off. As they try to draw a bird, write a story or create patterns, they are really preparing themselves for the classroom.

Reading and conversation

Language is a heavy focus throughout the kindergarten curriculum. One way to prepare your child is to make reading a daily activity, including classics like "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom," "Harold & the Purple Crayon" or "Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus." Fostering a love of books can set the stage for learning important reading skills. Visit your local library, stock your bookshelf and download digital books.

Additionally, make time for genuine conversation with your child. Both reading and speaking help children expand their knowledge of the English language. They'll also learn important social skills, and you'll also find yourself developing a deep

bond with your little one.

Preschool

Want kids to be prepared for kindergarten? Enroll in preschool a few days a week. This experience gives children the perfect foundation to prepare them for their educational journey. Preschools provide introductory education in writing and math, but it's a lot of fun, too. Students have plenty of time to play and learn about the world around them.

What's more, kids learn proper social etiquette and how to follow classroom rules. Being able to sit still, listen to the teacher, raise a hand to ask a question and interact respectfully among peers are all important skills that kids will need in order to thrive in an academic environment.

If preschool isn't possible, consider joining a playgroup or visiting the library for story time, and encourage social interaction with new kids at the playground.

Knowing that kindergarten is more challenging than ever, smart parents are taking charge by introducing age-appropriate educational activities now. From smart apps like IntellectoKids Preschool Academy to reading every day, you're helping build the brain power that leads to success in kindergarten and beyond.

BPT

Igniting a passion for STEM in girls

(BPT) - As a young girl, Ava Lonneman wasn't about to let gender stereotypes get in the way of her passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Although told in grade school that "STEM isn't for girls," Lonneman was not only driven to pursue her own STEM dreams, she inspired her peers to follow suit.

That's why the National 4-H Council awarded Lonneman its 2017 Youth In Action STEM Pillar Award, which is sponsored by satellite Internet provider HughesNet. The 17-year-old high school student from Mogadore, Ohio, competed with students across the country to win the award, which is 4-H's top

honor for young people in the STEM field. The award gives Lonneman national recognition for becoming a leading youth advocate for STEM education, reaching more than 1,600 youth with hands-on programming over the past three years.

"Even from an early age I knew that STEM was my passion. My goal is to help other young people - especially other girls - realize that STEM is fun, and that success is within your reach," Lonneman says.

Throughout high school Lonneman has started a mix of clubs, programs and large-scale events designed to spark her peers' interest in STEM fields. Last year she founded

her school's 4-H Makers Club, where students meet up regularly to build and create personal projects ranging from 3D printers and robotics to video games and websites. The club provides both hands-on learning to deepen personal STEM interests as well as a collaborative, supportive environment to help others achieve their STEM goals. Through the STEM club, Lonneman also started a STEM mentoring initiative at her school, which reached more than 600 middle schoolers last year. She plans to expand upon that success this coming year.

Lonneman has ignited STEM interest through her local 4-H club as well, leverag-

ing 4-H curricula such as Junk Drawer Robotics and National Youth Science Day. Lonneman plans to continue exploring STEM fields and setting an example for youth to persevere in their interest areas, no matter the challenges they face.

"4-H and HughesNet are proud to recognize Ava as the 4-H Youth in Action STEM pillar winner for her passion to bring hands-on STEM experiences to the youth in her community," said Peter Gulla, senior vice president of marketing, Hughes Network Systems.

"Like our partnership with 4-H, she is inspiring the next-generation of engineers and scientists who will develop the next break-

through innovations that will make the world a better place."

When Lonneman graduates in 2018, she plans to attend college and pursue a career in a STEM field.

Lonneman will receive a \$5,000 scholarship for higher education, and will serve as an advocate and spokesperson for 4-H STEM programming in 2017. She will be officially recognized as the HughesNet-sponsored 2017 4-H Youth In Action STEM Pillar Winner at the 4-H Legacy Awards in Washington, D.C. in March 2017.

For more information, visit www.HughesNet.com/4H.

BPT



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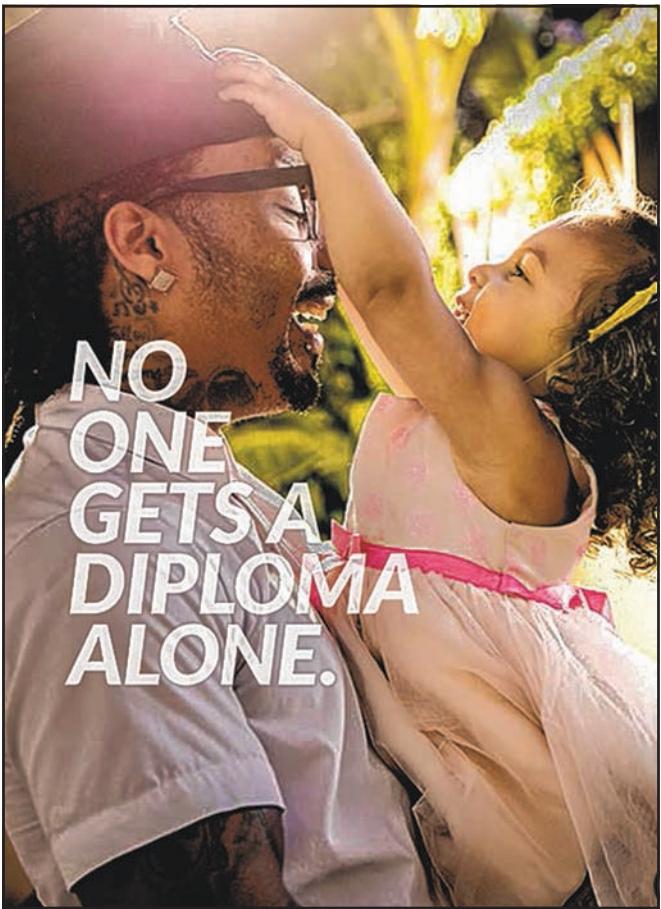
Marissa R. Moran
Valedictorian
attending Fordham University

Edward W. Carr
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honors, and scholarships.

It's never too late to finish high school



There's always time to finish High School, no matter how old you are.

For many adults, passing a high school equivalency test (such as the GED® test) is the first step toward a better job, a college degree and a brighter future.

Last year, adults in the U.S. who had a high school diploma or equivalent earned nearly \$10,000 per year more than those without a high school diploma, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The unemployment rate was also lower for those who had a high school degree.

Finishing high school is important, and free adult education classes are the best place to start. If you or someone you care about is thinking of finishing high school, there is more support than you may realize. You can find free test prep classes near you by entering your zip code at FinishYourDiploma.org.

Free Classes Are Available

Before taking a high school equivalency test, it's best to prepare by taking classes. In most areas, nonprofits and literacy centers offer free classes to help

prepare for the official test. Each adult education center will work with new students to place them in the right classes and create a custom learning plan.

Teachers and tutors in each program help students learn the material and support them as they earn their diploma. Each test also offers at least one retake in case someone doesn't pass the first time.

FinishYourDiploma.org provides more information on what to expect.

Finish Your Diploma

The Finish Your Diploma campaign, created by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and the Ad Council, has helped more than 900,000 people find free adult education classes across America since 2010.

The support of family, friends and local centers can help in a big way. New PSAs celebrate hardworking people and families who improved their education, highlighting how no one gets a diploma alone.

"As people consider finishing their diploma, the biggest

challenge can be simply knowing where to go for support and having the courage to take the first step," says Denine Torr of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. "We hope the campaign inspires and empowers people to pursue their dreams through education."

Share Your Story and Support

Finish Your Diploma also launched a new Instagram channel to support and inspire people to get their diplomas.

The #HatsOffToYou promotion asks people to join in celebrating adults graduating across the U.S. through a celebratory toss of any hat representing the iconic graduation hat toss.

People are asked to share a video or photo of themselves tossing a graduation cap, baseball cap or any other hat into the air on social media using the hashtag.

Recent graduates are also encouraged to share their stories to inspire others around the country.

NAPS

Smart ideas for supporting your child's education

The education children receive today will help them throughout their lives. School is the fundamental component of the learning process, but education doesn't stop when kids arrive back home at the end of the day.

"Education and family go hand in hand," says Ellen Marks, curriculum director of Bricks 4 Kidz, an award-winning summer camp and after-school program. "Parents who take an active role by supporting classroom learning will not only see their kids' education blossom, but their relationship with them, too."

The start of the new year is the ideal time to evaluate what you're doing right and where you could improve in regards to supporting your child's education. Marks offers these smart ideas guaranteed to help you keep this resolution in 2017 and beyond:

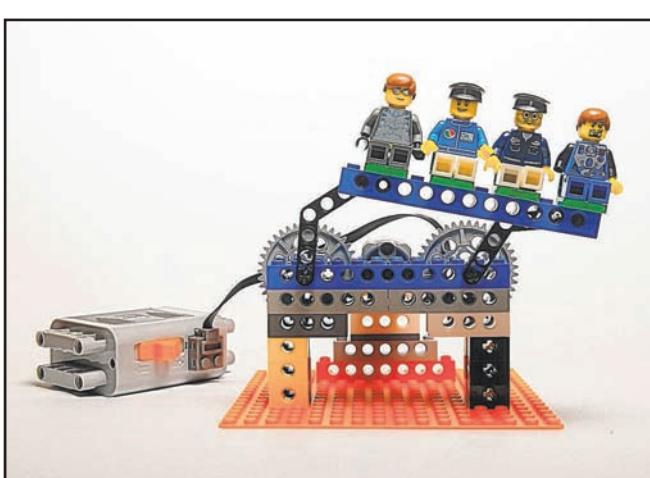
Connections to real life: One of the best ways to help kids understand classroom lessons is to

connect the material to everyday experiences. Practice fractions while cooking. Chat about biology as birds fly by the window. Learning moments are all around, you just have to point them out.

Daily conversations: With a fun, no-pressure approach, go over what your children learned in school. If they don't want to talk right after school, wait until later. During or after dinner may allow enough transition time so you'll find they'll open up more.

Positive attitude: Kids will mirror your attitude toward your work as well as how you view their school, homework and teachers. Stay positive, respectful and model resilience during difficult times; you'll find they'll do the same.

Enriching activities: Select fun after-school activities that emphasize cognitive development while building self-esteem. For example, Bricks 4 Kidz uses relatable tools like LEGO Bricks to teach science, technology,



There are many different ways to support your child's education.

engineering and math (STEM) skills. Learn more at www.bricks4kidz.com and sign up for an After School class.

The parent-teacher relationship: Sending check-in emails, attending conferences and volunteering are ways to build strong relationships with teachers. Be proactive about asking where your child excels and

what areas they may need additional help.

Homework help: Good study habits are essential to excelling at school. Create a comfortable homework space with adequate supplies and few distractions. What's more, be an active partner in your child's homework and assist when needed with gentle guid-

ance and encouragement.

Reading buddies: Reading together can instill a lifelong love of literature. Try reading the same books your child is assigned in school so you can foster a good discussion about characters and storylines. When you both finish the book, rent the film version and plan a movie night.

Active learning opportunities: Reading, writing and solving math problems are passive learning activities. At home, encourage active learning where your child builds models, creates art projects and can ask questions. It's amazing to watch their minds work and see what they create.

Health and wellness: A child must first be well before they can effectively learn. Make sure kids stay fueled with a variety of healthy foods. Next, ensure they get a good night's sleep. Full, well-rested kids are always ready and eager to learn.

BPT

Digital textbooks becoming more prominent

Here's something parents, teachers, students and taxpayers may be glad to learn: An answer to education costs could be in the palm of your hands...if, that is, you get your hands on the latest thing in schoolbooks—digital textbooks, which can provide more and cost less than traditional ones.

They make learning easier and more fun for students through a blend of text and media, by accommodating different reading levels and languages, and by providing a text-to-speech feature.

They save teachers time with model lessons, student activities, assessments, and data dashboards embedded at point of use.

They empower teachers to engage today's tech-savvy students through video, audio, text, and interactives with hands-on activities. The books are platform neutral and can be used in one-to-one or one-to-many configurations.

In fact, some of the country's most respected curriculum leaders and classroom teachers say Discovery Education Techbooks—from the leading provider of digital content and professional development



Digital textbooks can help provide a better learning experience for teachers, students and parents.

for K-12 classrooms—provide standards-based content that's relevant, dynamic and carefully vetted. These Techbooks are available for math, science and social studies.

What's more, they're updated regularly at no additional cost so the school system doesn't have to decide between buying new books or teaching with outdated ones. While the average cost of a traditional

textbook is approximately \$70 per student, these are only \$45 to \$55 per student for a six-year subscription, so schools save money that can be used for other education needs.

These award-winning digital textbooks are currently used by more than 3 million students in all 50 states and several Canadian provinces. Many people in other districts are encouraging their school systems to

adopt digital textbooks for teaching and learning.

What Else You Can Do

In addition to helping make sure kids get good textbooks, there are three steps parents can take at home to help their youngsters succeed in school:

Make it easy to study. Create an area that works for your child. Does he work best at a desk in a quiet area of his room? Or is the dining room table a better place? Does music distract her or help her focus?

Stress goal setting. At the start of every school year, have children write down their goals for that year.

Help kids manage time. Create a family calendar of after-school activities, homework due dates and chores.

For further facts, visit www.discoveryeducation.com.

NAPS

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Ready to roll

Vintage pinball games return to Coney

By Caroline Spivack

The People's Playground is flipping out!

A vintage pinball arcade is rolling into the Coney Island Museum and Freak Bar this weekend! Flipper fanatics can test their skill on 10 of the old-school arcade games — but the machines, each decorated with images of sideshow performers of the past, are works of art that should be admired as well as played, said an organizer of the pinball gallery.

"The point is to be a living museum," said Dick Zigun, sideshow impresario and head of Coney Island USA. "We are dedicated to curating selections based on the art, the theme — we want them to not only be seen as fun and games, but as art."

For the next year, six Coney-themed games will dazzle silver ball players at the Coney Island Museum, while another

four occupy the Freak Bar downstairs. Each of the 1970s and '80s-era gizmos was chosen to complement the Sodom by the Sea setting. For instance, the "Mystic" game is painted with fortune tellers, levitating women, and a shackled Harry Houdini — who used to perform at Coney. Another game celebrates the daredevil motorcycle stuntman Evel Knievel, while the "Old Coney Island" device features a beach bombshell, a Ferris wheel, and plenty of excited visitors to the People's Playground.

The pinball machines all come from the collection of one silver ball aficionado, who got the ball rolling after spotting an "Old Coney Island" machine stationed in the Coney Island Museum.

"I remember playing it and it just brought it all back. I started collecting a few and then it just snowballed," said Mill

Basin resident Dennis Catylfumo, who repairs games at El Dorado Arcade.

Catylfumo began collecting and repairing vintage pinball machines, and partnered with the museum so that the public could appreciate the authentic, old-school devices.

"I asked a co-worker if he liked pinball, and he said, 'Oh yeah, I have a pinball app.' Those are the kind of reasons that make me want to share it with the masses," he said. "It's real — something you can feel. And now there's an interest for it again."

The elevation of pinball as art marks quite a change for the machines, which were once outlawed in New York City. In the early 1940s, pinball was considered a form of gambling, and the machines were regarded as insidious nickel stealers that unfairly gobbled up kids' lunch money. In

1942, mayor Fiorello La Guardia banned the games, raiding candy stores, bars, and theme parks for the contraband devices and destroying them in dramatic fashion — with a sledgehammer.

But pinball made a comeback in the '70s and now supple-wristed ball bashers hunt for the vintage games.

"It's the triumph of youngsters, full of terrible American habits, pursuing their own way," said Zigun.

If the machines strike it big with beachgoers, the museum hopes to spice up the selection with a few more games and to host a tournament for pinball wizards to duke it out.

Play ball at the Coney Island Museum [1208 Surf Ave. at W. 12th Street in Coney Island, (718) 372-5159, www.coneyisland.com]. Open Fri, Sat, noon–6 pm; Sun, 2–6 pm. \$5 (\$3 seniors). \$0.50 per game.

SIGHT OF MUSIC

Synaesthetic artist paints a public piano

By Lauren Gill

Brooklyn is getting all keyed up!

More than a dozen brightly painted pianos popped up across the borough this week, inviting anyone to tickle the keys as part of the Sing for Hope public art project. The artist behind one eye-catching instrument in Sunset Park says that she designed her piece to draw people in so they would fill the air with music.

"I wanted to create something really quirky, something that people will stop and look at, and with all the bright colors, say 'Hey this looks really cool' and just take the time to play it," said Manon Casimir.

The Canarsie artist experiences synesthesia — a condition that lets her see sounds — and her piano painting reflects her visual perception of music. One segment, decorated with purple and black swirls, represents the sine waves that she spots in tunes, and the various colors — purple, yellow, black, pink — represent different frequencies in songs, she said.

Casimir normally paints on linen, canvas, and wood panels, but this is the first time she has applied her brush to a musical instrument. She has been playing the piano for two years, but the experience of painting each section of the device gave her a new appreciation for its complexity.

"It was definitely challenging," she said. "It's so funny, because I



Color the keys: Artist Manon Casimir shows off the piano she painted for the Sing for Hope project, which will sit available for anyone to play it until June 25.

Photo by Jason Speakman

normally play the piano — but I never really knew how many parts there were until I did this."

The Sing for Hope program creates opportunities to play piano for those who might not have access to the pricey instrument. The 14 devices scattered across Brooklyn include several painted with tributes to local scenes, including a homage to the subway on an instrument in Willoughby Square Downtown, and scenes from the People's Playground painted on a piano parked on the Coney Island Boardwalk.

The pianos will be kept in

place until June 25, when they will be transported to public schools across the city.

Casimir, who titled her artistic instrument "Loud, So Hope Can Hear It," wants people to play her piano unabashedly while they have the chance, and to use the music to escape from everyday frustrations.

"I want people just to play the piano loudly, have a great time, and not worry about stress," she said.

Sing for Hope piano by Manon Casimir in Sunset Park (near the flagpole, 41st Street at Sixth Avenue in Sunset Park, www.singforhope.org). Through June 25. Free.

Photo by Jason Speakman

Stars and bars

By Carlo Bosticco

Drink a beer in the park — and do it legally!

When Brooklyn Bridge Park launches its outdoor film series in July, it will feature something new: a beer garden! The sponsors of the annual "Movies With a View" film series saw that people had been making their own party on the lawn, and wanted to offer a better option than hauling brown-bag bottles from a distant bodega, according to one park honcho.

"We realized that our visitors liked coming early before the movie in order to picnic and enjoy each other's company. We wanted to enhance that experience. The beer garden is the natural product of that wish," said Nancy Webster, the executive director of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy.

Before the Thursday night screenings begin at sunset, park visitors will be able to get a beer and check out a variety of Brooklyn food vendors, while deejays spin music starting at 6 pm.

The theme of this year's movie selection is "Resistance," highlighting stories that deal with race, gender, protest, and triumph. The theme seemed appropriate for the current political climate, said Webster.

"Our volunteer film committee members choose a resonant theme each year," she said. "This one is essentially a response to our turbulent times, both in politics and day-to-day life."

The committee tried to include something for everybody on the program, including the immortal classic "Casablanca" (July 20), the family-friendly "Lego



Views and booze: The Movies With a View series is getting a beer garden.

Movie" (July 20) and the action film "Mad Max: Fury Road" (Aug. 17). The final film of the series, on Aug. 24, will be determined by a public vote between three very different films: the 1976 news satire "Network," 1984 dance film "Footloose," or the 2015 racially charged comedy "Dear White People."

Movies With a View at Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier 1 (enter at Furman Street and Old Fulton Street in Dumbo, www.brooklynbridgepark.org). Thursdays, July 6-Aug. 24 at 6 pm. Free.



Shine bright: Colorful queens will flit down Fifth Avenue during the Brooklyn Pride Parade on June 10.

Photo by Paul Martinka

Dragging it out

See the 'girls' of B'klyn Pride

By Alexandra Simon

Queens are taking over the county of Kings!

Brooklyn Pride is this weekend, and gender-bending performers will take center stage — sometimes literally — at a bevy of events around the borough. Here's a brief guide for those who want to have a weekend out with the girls.

Drag-ulous TV

Friday nights belong to legendary drag queen RuPaul, and her reality television show "RuPaul's Drag Race." The ninth season's penultimate episode is this Friday, and Brooklyn queen Sasha Velour seems poised to sashay her way to the finale. Bars all over the borough will tune in to cheer on the hometown gal, but we recommend stopping at Excelsior in Park Slope, where the screening is followed by the amateur lip sync competition "Louvel's Hag Race!"

Excelsior [563 Fifth Ave. between 15th and 16th streets in Park Slope, (718) 788-2710, www.excelsiorbrooklyn.com). June 9 at 8 pm. Free.

A good read

Start the day with a queen telling a fairy tale! The Brooklyn Public Library will host Drag Queen Story Hour on Saturday morning, where Cholula Lemon will read books to kids and bond with little ones who also enjoy dressing up.

Drag Queen Story Hour with Cholula Lemon at Brooklyn Public Library's Park Slope branch [431 Sixth Ave. at Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-1853, www.bklynlibrary.org). June 10 at 11 am. Free.

Fest for a queeen

This year's Brooklyn Pride features a newly bulked-up daytime festival long enough

to satisfy any size queen. The Multicultural Festival on Fifth Avenue stretches from First to Ninth Street, two blocks longer than in previous years, and features a performance stage at each end. Queens from the Sunset Park lounge XStasy will perform on both stages, along with drag performers Eve Black and Shirley U Jest, and two dozen other musicians and artists.

Multicultural Street Festival Fifth Avenue between First and Ninth Streets, www.brooklynpride.org. June 10, Noon-5 pm. Free.

Walk it off

Brooklyn's Twilight Pride Parade celebrates its 21st anniversary on June 10 — it's old enough to drink! The evening parade will step off from Lincoln Place at 7:30 pm and travel down Fifth Avenue to Ninth Street. The walk will be emceed by shape-shifting chanteuse Louvel (host of the "Hag Race" mentioned above), along with Mark Nayden, co-owner of gay bar Excelsior.

Twilight Pride Parade on Fifth Avenue, from Lincoln Place to Ninth Street, www.brooklynpride.org. June 10 at 7:30 pm. Free.

Cute Little show

The Be Cute queer dance party at Littlefield will feature a full flock of queens on Saturday night for its Pride Party. The late-night event, hosted by Horrorchata, will feature performances from Merrie Cherrie, Lady QuesaDilla, and West Dakota, among others, and will keep the beats going until 4 am.

Be Cute Brooklyn Pride at Littlefield, (622 Degraw Str. between Third and Fourth Avenues in Gowanus, www.littlefieldnyc.com). June 10, 11 pm-4 am. \$12-\$15 (\$10 in advance).

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DIRTY DANCING

Dance company to twirl on the Gowanus

By Julianne Cuba

They'll try to stay above water!

A group of dancers will shimmy and shake while standing atop canoes floating on the toxic Gowanus Canal on June 24. The performance, part of international Global Water Dances Day, is designed to raise awareness of the importance of clean water, but the dancers hope to make their point without dipping so much as a toe in the notoriously filthy waterway, said the director of the Artichoke Dance Company.

"The plan is to not capsize — but we've been rehearsing in the canoe so people understand stability," said Lynn Neuman, who lives just a few blocks away from Brooklyn's Nautical Purgatory.

The five boat-based performers will be joined by more dancers standing on the shore, all of them wearing outfits made out of twisted, braided, and otherwise shaped plastic bags. The plastic apparel demonstrates how harmful the bags can be to the environment and to wildlife, said Neuman.

"It's kind of a political statement — we have all these bags, we don't need them, they shouldn't be in our waste stream," she said. "The whole project is to raise awareness about what's going on. Real estate developers are touting this as waterfront living, but really it's a toxic zone, a public living hazard."

Students from nearby schools PS 32 and PS 372 will also perform, with their own choreography that flows with the movement of water.

Anyone who wants to join the performers — dancing safely on the shore,



Plastic people: Members of the Artichoke Dance Company will dress in shopping bags to make a statement about pollution and the importance of clean water, for a show on and along the Gowanus Canal on June 24.

Jeremy Amar

to be clear — can learn the flowing choreography at several workshops held in the weeks before the show, and also learn to make an outfit from shopping bags. All together, the different dancers will fill the Gowanus with movement, said Neuman.

"All along that promenade, there will be people on land and on water," she said.

Before the show, at 1 pm, members of the Gowanus Canal Conservancy will offer some brave souls walking tours of the infested canal. The afternoon event will also feature interactive displays and informational tables

where people can learn how to improve their waterways, said Neuman.

"I hope that people walk away with the desire to do something, like 'Oh I'm going to bring my own bag to the grocery store,'" she said. "There are three actionable items you can do today — bring your own bag, reduce water usage when it rains, and drink tap water."

Global Water Dances at the Gowanus Canal (Promenade at Whole Foods, Third Street between Third Avenue and Bond Street in Gowanus, www.artichokedance.org). June 24 at 2 pm. Free.

Bay Ridge is going outside!

By Caroline Spivack

The Ridge is soakin' up the sun! Take advantage of the late-setting sun this weekend with an outdoor beer garden, country fair, and a pair of park-side concerts.

Don your cowboy boots and break out your Western drawl for the **Saint Patrick Parish Country Fair and Flea Market** (9511 Fourth Ave. between 95th and 97th streets). The weekend-long shindig kicks off Friday at 8 pm with some good ol' fashioned beer and barbecue. Chow down on ribs and wings as you sip on a 12-ounce draft at the outdoor beer garden, while eclectic pop-rock-country group Hello Brooklyn sets the mood. And a photo booth will make sure you can take home a tipsy momento. The party will cost you \$5 to get in — and be sure to have your driver's license handy. It is for those 21 and older only.



On Saturday, embrace your inner bargain hunter at the flea market portion of the weekend hootenanny, which lasts from 9 am to 6 pm. Dive into a

selection of Elvis Presley memorabilia, fine china, knickknacks, and vintage threads. And when you are tuckered out from haggling, slow your roll with some calming crafts, or sink your teeth into a burger or pulled pork sandwich. Unlike the first day, admission is free of charge, and the market continues the next day.

On Sunday you can enjoy the nice weather at a pair of outdoor concerts along **Shore Road Park**. Bust out a blanket and picnic basket and settle in near the gazebo at Shore Road and 90th Street at 5 pm for the **Sing For Hope Pianos Concert Series**, featuring pianist Gregory Post and soprano Anna Tsoukala serenading the crowd. After the show, pack up and stroll down the park to 79th Street and Shore Road for the latest in the **Concerts in the Park** series, where classic rockers the Groove will get you twistin' and shoutin' at 7 pm.



Backyard band: Maestro Alan Gilbert will lead the New York Philharmonic — and audience members — in a free performance of Antonín Dvorák's *New World Symphony* on June 16. *Chris Lee*

Phil-ing in!

For one night, join the New York Philharmonic

By Colin Mixson

They'll let anyone into the New York Philharmonic these days!

New York City's premier orchestra is inviting audience members to play along during its free concert in Prospect Park on June 16. The New York Philharmonic will welcome all comers to join in for a short section of Antonín Dvorák's "New World Symphony," an event that will give amateur musicians a chance to dust off their instruments and brag that they have played with the acclaimed orchestra, according to the ensemble's chief historian.

"I would guess there's a fair number of people who would like to say they've performed with the New York Philharmonic, and this is their chance," said Barbara Haws, archivist and historian for the orchestra.

The Philharmonic is providing online sheet music and practice videos for the "Largo" section of the Bohemian composer's magnum opus so that would-be Philharmonic members can bone up on their craft.

And for those amateurs who do not do their homework, conductor Alan Gilbert will provide a brief lesson before leading his audience in the two-minute performance.

Those without instruments can also join in. Singers will be guided

through a rendition of "Goin' Home," a choral piece that accompanies the music.

Inviting the unwashed, untrained masses to perform Dvorák's masterpiece may sound like an insult to the composer, but that could not be further from the truth, according to Haws. The Bohemian immigrant to New York was one of the city's first truly egalitarian composers, and he led a music conservatory that was open to men — and to women — of all races, a rarity during the 1890s, said Haws.

"I think he would actually be thrilled," the historian said.

This is the first time New York Philharmonic has invited audience members to play along for a section of the show, and there is one concern vexing the orchestra's resident historian — that an audience equipped with musical instruments might not be as quiet as they should be.

"If I had one worry, it's that people might continue playing throughout the concert," Haws said.

So put your instruments away as soon as the show starts, please.

Play along with the New York Philharmonic at Prospect Park's Long Meadow Ballfields fenter at 15th Street and Prospect Park Southwest in Park Slope, (718) 965-8951, www.prospectpark.org/. June 16 at 8 pm. Free.

FRI, JUNE 9

THEATER, "RICHARD III": The Smith Street Stage theater company presents Shakespeare's tale of a corrupt king under the stars. Free. 7:30 pm. Carroll Park (Smith Street between President and Carroll streets in Cobble Hill), www.smithstreetstage.org.

COMEDY, "S--- SHOW": A night of parent-themed comedy from hosts Ophira Eisenberg and Emily Flake, with guests Adira Amram, Kat Burdick, Ben Schwartz, and more. \$10 (\$8 in advance). 7:30 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.union-hallny.com.

FLATBUSH FEST KICK-OFF PARTY!: An opening party with a dozen local artists, live music, drinks, and more. Free. 8 pm. BKLYN Commons [495 Flatbush Ave. in Prospect Lefferts Gardens, (718) 989-5700], bklyncommmons.com.

FILM, "BLACK SUNS, AN ASTROPHYSICS ADVENTURE": A documentary about chasing eclipses and science dreams. Part of the Art of Brooklyn Film Festival. \$12. 8 pm. P.S./I.S. 30 Mary White Ovington [7002 4th Ave at Ovington Avenue in Bay Ridge], www.theartofbrooklyn.org.

SAT, JUNE 10

MUSIC, WORLD REFUGEE DAY FESTIVAL AND FUNDRAISER: A night of music and merriment to help refugees seeking music education careers in Brooklyn. With family activities, a pot-luck dinner, and a concert and dance party. Free. 6-11 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln and Saint Johns plae in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300], www.bqcm.org.

BROOKLYN NETS DANCE TEAM AUDITIONS: Try out for the team's cheer-leading squad! Free. 10 am. LIU Brooklyn (1 University Plaza at Dekalb Avenue in Downtown), www.brooklynnettes.com.

TALK, FLATBUSH TALKS!: A Flatbush version of Ted Talks, with local leaders and nonprofit CEOs, followed by networking and Caribbean food. Free. Noon. Haitian-American Community Coalition [380 Church Ave. between E. 38th and E. 39th streets in Prospect Lefferts Gardens, (718) 940-2200], www.hccinc.org.

EXTRA CRISPY BREAKFAST FESTIVAL: An all-day outdoor celebration of breakfast foods, plus a dee-jay, dancing, and games. Free. Noon-8 pm. Industry City Food Hall [274 36th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park], www.extracrispy.com.

"BRING THE COOL" FAMILY FESTIVAL: A free interactive festival for all families, with live music and performance, a gallery scavenger hunt, and art-making activities. Free with \$16 suggested admission. Noon-4 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200

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Sea the art come to life: Thousands will dress up in their fanciest duds to march down Surf Avenue during the Coney Island Mermaid Parade on June 17.

Norman Blake

Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], brooklynmuseum.org.

PET COSTUME DAY: Dress up your doggie — or any other pet, and show them off! Pets in costume ride the Wonder Wheel free! Registration fee is two cans of cat or dog food. 2 pm. Deno's Wonder Wheel (W. 12th Street at the Boardwalk in Coney Island).

OUTDOORS, DISCOVERY WALK: Roam the sandy shores with trained educators and learn about horseshoe crabs. Free. 6:30 pm. Plum Beach Parking Lot (Belt Parkway and East Exit 9B in Canarsie).

FILM, "TRAPPED": A collection of uncanny short films, with music from Tropical Rock and an after-party. \$15. 8 pm. Industry City Courtyard (Second Avenue between 36th and 37th streets in Sunset Park).

SUN, JUNE 11

FUND-RAISER, BADASS BROOKLYN SUMMER FEST 2017: A fun street festival featuring 100+ adoptable dogs, as well as doggie kissing booth, dog agility course, puppy photo booth, beer specials, and more. Free. 1-5 pm. (President Street between Third Avenue and Nevins Street in Gowanus), www.badassbrooklynanimalrescue.com.

MUSIC, FLATBUSH FEST UNITY FESTIVAL!: Enjoy great food, live music and dance performances, an African drum circle workshop, and activities for kids. Free. Noon-5 pm. PS 249 School yard [Rugby Road at Caton Avenue in Flatbush, (718) 282-8828], www.catonschool.com.

MUSIC, GOOD WILL CON-

bisexual, and transgender community to remember those killed in Orlando one year ago. Free. 7:30 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], theoldstonehouse.org.

MON, JUNE 12

READING, FRANKLIN PARK READING SERIES SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER: Hear new lit from stellar authors Victor LaValle, Jason Reynolds, Julia Fierro (The Gypsy Moth Summer), and more. With \$5 drafts and a book raffle. Free. 8 pm. Franklin Park (618 St. Johns Pl. between Classon and Franklin avenues. in Crown Heights), franklinpark-brooklyn.com.

"LITTLE MERMAID" AUDITIONS: Narrows Community Theater is casting kids ages 8 to 18 for a production of "The Little Mermaid." Please bring a recent picture and prepare a song, with sheet music for an accompanist. Free. 6:30-9:30 pm. Shore Hill (9000 Shore Road at 91st Street) in Bay Ridge), www.nyctheaterny.com.

TUES, JUNE 13

TALK, ROXANE GAY: The writer discusses her new book, "Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body." \$25 (\$45 with book). 7 pm. BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

WED, JUNE 14

OUTDOORS, SALTWATER FISHING: Rangers teach catch-and-release fishing. All equipment is provided. Free. 11 am-12:30 pm. American Veterans Memorial Pier [Bay Ridge Avenue and Belt Parkway in Bay Ridge, (718) 421-2021], www.nycgovparks.org.

TALK, BABY SHOWER WORKSHOP: Baby experts will discuss health topics for expecting moms, including breast feeding, baby safety, teeth and mouth care, and more. Free. 5 pm. Harbor Hill Senior Housing (5613 Second Ave. at 57th Street in Sunset Park).

TALK, AN EVENING ON LESBIAN PREGNANCY: A doctor, attorney, and sperm bank representative discuss issues facing gay women who want to have a child. Free. 6:30 pm. MCU Park (1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island), path2parenthood.org.

FILM, "HOW THE BRAIN READS": A movie that teaches you all about reading and dyslexia. Free. 7:30 pm. Kings Bay Y [3495 Nostrand Ave. between Avenues U and V in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 972-0170 x101].

THURS, JUNE 15

FILM, BLACK QUEER BROOKLYN ON FILM: A weekly screening of short films by young, black, members of the gay, lesbian,

Continued on page 48



Marky mark your calendar!: The New Kids on the Block (which has not actually included Mark Wahlberg since 1985) will dance onto the stage of Barclays Center as part of the Total Package Tour on June 27.

Associated Press / Chris Pizzello

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, JUNE 9

MUSIC, SOULFRITO
URBAN LATIN MUSIC FEST: With Meek Mill, Fetty Wap, Young M.A., Uncle Murda, and more. \$65-\$166. 8 pm

THU, JULY 20

MUSIC, KENDRICK LAMAR: \$103-\$652. 7:30 pm.

FRI, JULY 21

MUSIC, IRON MAIDEN: \$69-\$190. 7:30 pm.

SAT, JULY 22

MUSIC, IRON MAIDEN: \$69-\$190. 7:30 pm.

SUN, JULY 23

MUSIC, KENDRICK LAMAR: \$103-\$652. 7:30 pm.

FRI, JULY 28

MUSIC, QUEEN AND ADAM LAMBERT: \$49-\$505. 8 pm.

TUE, AUG 1

MUSIC, J. COLE: \$64-\$500. 8 pm.

WED, AUG 2

MUSIC, J. COLE: \$64-\$500. 8 pm.

WED, AUG 14

MUSIC, SHAWN MENDES: \$29-\$550. 7:30 pm.

SAT, AUG 19

SPORTS, WWE NXT TAKEOVER: Tba. Time tba.

SUN, AUG 20

SPORTS, WWE SUMMER-SLAM: \$tba. 6:30 pm.

SAT, AUG 21

SPORTS, WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW: \$tba. 7:30 pm.

TUE, AUG 22

SPORTS, WWE SMACKDOWN LIVE: \$tba. 7:45 pm.

SAT, JULY 8

DANCE, CIRQUE DU SOLEIL — OVO: \$25-\$170. 4 pm and 7:30 pm.

SUN, JULY 9

DANCE, CIRQUE DU SOLEIL — OVO: \$25-\$170. 1:30 pm and 5 pm.

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queer, female-identified and gender-nonconforming artists and filmmakers working in Brooklyn. Free with museum admission. 11 am, 2 pm, 5 pm, and 8 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

MUSIC, RODES ROLLINS: The Brooklyn singer-songwriter performs at the Live at the Archway music series. With a pop-up art gallery with work from Melanie Hope Greenberg. Free. 6 pm. The Archway Under The Manhattan Bridge [Water Street between Adams Street and Anchorage Place in Dumbo, (718) 237-8700], www.dumbo.is.

FUND-RAISER, 2017 COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARDS AND GALA: The Brooklyn Community Pride Center hosts a gala honoring those who make a difference with a night of cocktails, dinner, music, and dancing! \$175. 6:30 pm. 26Bridge [26 Bridge St. between Plymouth and John streets in Dumbo, (347) 889-7719], lgbt-brooklyn.org.

DANCE, "TENDERIZER":

A mash-up of three new dance pieces by Sally Silvers and Dancers. \$15-\$25. 8 pm. Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (917) 267-0363], www.roulette.org.

FRI, JUNE 16

ART, "NASTY STITCHES" OPENING RECEPTION: A group exhibition of political fabric and embroidery art. Free. 6-9 pm. Victor + Mo [56 Bogart St. between Harrison Place and Grattan Street in Bushwick], www.victorimo.com.

COMEDY, LITERATI: Comedians in character perform hilarious readings of fake novels. With hosts Colin O'Brien and Michael Wolf. \$10 (\$8 in advance). 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

FILM, THE MARIBOR UPRISEINGS: In this interactive film about a political uprising in Slovenia, the audience decides the outcome of the film. Followed a discussion with the directors. Free. 8 pm. Metro Tech Commons (5 MetroTech Center at Bridge Street in Downtown).

MUSIC, LOFTOPERA STA-BAT MATER: A staged performance of Pergolesi's sacred composition, along with arias and chamber works by Vivaldi. \$30. 8:30 pm. The Muse [350 Mofat St. between Irving and Knickerbocker avenues in Bushwick, (929) 400-1678], themusebrooklyn.com.

SAT, JUNE 17

MUSIC, SING-ALONG SHAB-BAT: Experience Shabbat morning as a family with singing, guitar, and musical prayer. Free. 10:45 am. Bay Ridge Jewish Center [8025 Fourth Ave. between 80th and 81st streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-3103], www.brjc.org.

MUSIC, CONEY ISLAND MERMAID PARADE: Join Queen Mermaid Debbie Harry and King Neptune Chris Stein, both of the band Blondie, for the 35th annual parade featuring marching bands, floats, and participants barely dressed as mermaids and sea creatures! Free. 1 pm. (W. 21st Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island), www.coneyisland.com.

COMEDY, "EARTHQUAKE AND FRIENDS FATHER'S DAY COMEDY SHOW": Comedian Earthquake, known for playing Uncle Mike in "Everybody Hates Chris," headlines a night of stand-up comedy. \$54. 8 pm. Kings Theatre (1027 Flatbush Ave. between Beverly Road and Tilden Avenue in Flatbush), www.kingstheatre.com.

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LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE**

Common Pleas Court of Greene County, Ohio, 595 Ledbetter Road, Xenia, Ohio 45385, Case # 2017 DR 0088

Aziza Hotambekova, Plaintiff vs.

Rasulov Ulugbek, Defendant.

Rasulov Ulugbek, whose last known address was 3086 West 4th Street, Apt. R9, Brooklyn, New York 11214 and whose present residence is unknown, will hereby take notice that on the 29th day of March, 2017 Aziza Hotambekova filed her Complaint for Divorce against him.

This Legal Notice will be published once a week for six (6) consecutive weeks.

LEGAL NOTICE**NOTICE OF SALE**

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS DLJ MORTGAGE CAPITAL, INC., Plaintiffs,

Against HAHBEEB HAMMOND A/K/A HABEEB HAMMOND, KEVIN HAMMOND, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered in the Kings County Clerk's Office on 12/11/2014, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on 6/29/2017 at 2:30 pm, premises known as 218 Sumpter St., Brooklyn, NY 11233, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 7873 and Lot 14. Approximate amount of judgment is \$787,438.08 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 4799/12.

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Sports

● 'No one knew we were going to get this far. It was a great season.'

— Telecom senior Justin Garcia on the Yellowjackets' showing in the semifinals.

● 'We know we're going to work hard for next year.'

— Xaverian coach Frank Del George on the Clippers' outlook for next year.

FDNY tops NYPD in gridiron matchup

BY KYLE GORMAN

The clock stood at 00:00. The game was over. The crowd was shuffling out. The grass was shredded, some blades sprinkled with the blood and sweat of the players. New York's Bravest and New York's Finest had battled it out, hit and tackled and fought.

The FDNY gridders clinched a 24-21 comeback victory over their NYPD counterparts in the 45th Annual Fun City Bowl at MCU Park on June 3, but even as the chants of "F-D-N-Y!" filled the post-game air, the two teams quietly took to the 50-yard line. They lined up, face to face, and shook their brothers' hands. Both teams then knelt shoulder-to-shoulder, knee-to-knee, and prayed. It was a prayer for men who risk their lives nearly every day, but spent this night playing a game, putting on a show for their families and friends.



BRAVE CATCH: An FDNY player makes a catch during the football game against the NYPD at MCU Park on June 3, when New York's Bravest defeated New York's Finest 24-21.

Photo by Paul Martinka

"It was exciting," said Bob Clark, father of FDNY starting defensive back Thomas Clark. "I'm very proud, very proud."

The two teams played for the right to move on to the National Public Service Football League Championship, but this game was also about pride, and bragging rights.

Down 14 points, with less than a quarter and a half left to play, it seemed that the FDNY would come out on the losing end. But the Bravest squad refused to back down, and with less than 20 minutes on the clock, the team's defense held, and its offense came alive.

Actually, the game had begun on a high note for the FDNY, as the NYPD squad committed the first of many special team miscues.

With just over six minutes remaining in the first period, an NYPD kick returner failed

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STAYING IN COLUMBIA: Tim Tebow will not be joining the Cyclones this summer, staying instead with the Mets' minor league team in Columbia, S.C.

AP / John Bazemore

New Cyclones season, no Tebowmania

BY MATT JOHN

Tim Tebow in a Brooklyn Cyclones uniform, smacking home runs over the right field wall and patrolling the outfield at MCU Park? *Fughedaboudit!*

Fans who were hoping to see the sometimes popular, sometimes polarizing former college football star turned professional baseball player join Brooklyn's beloved Class A, short-season New York-Penn League team this summer should prepare to be disappointed: The Mets organization has announced that Tebow will remain with the Columbia Fireflies in the

Class A South Atlantic League for the remainder of their season.

"It would be more of a demotion rather than a promotion for him to come here," said Cyclones' spokesman Billy Harner. "With his age and the skill level that he showed playing in the extended spring training, playing in the Arizona fall league and the Instructional league, I think (the Mets') hope was to always start him with a full-season club."

Tebow won the Heisman Trophy and a national championship during a standout collegiate career at the Uni-

versity of Florida. But after brief stints with the Denver Broncos and the New York Jets in the NFL, and as a college football analyst with ESPN, Tebow — who in 2005 had been an all-state baseball player as a junior at Allen D. Nease High School in Ponte Vedra, Fla. — expressed interest in playing major league baseball.

The Mets gave Tebow an opportunity, signing him to a minor league contract on Sept. 8, 2016. Tebow was assigned to the Fireflies, to start the season; he homered in his first at-bat

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Telecom can't stage upset, falls in semis

BY LAURA AMATO

Finally, the clock struck midnight.

The No. 14-ranked High School of Telecommunication Arts & Technology baseball team fell 3-2 in eight innings to James Monroe in the Public Schools Athletic League semi-finals on June 3.

The Yellowjackets managed a late rally to tie the game in the bottom of the seventh inning, but the Cinderella squad couldn't muster one more upset. The team was disappointed with the finish, but still proud of an unexpected postseason run it hopes to build on in the future.

"We never knew this was going to happen at the beginning of the year," said senior left fielder Justin Garcia. "The weather was bad, we weren't that good, but as it progressed and the year went on, we got better and better. There was more competition and no one knew we were going to get this far. It was a great season for us."

Telecom got on the board early, taking a one-run lead in the bottom of the second inning, but Monroe tied the game in the fourth — on Miguelange Toribio's run-scoring triple —



LEADING THE TEAM: Telecom starter Frank Campanelli kept the Yellowjackets in the game, striking out nine batters in seven and one-third innings.

Photo by Sean Murphy

and took a 2-1 lead in the fifth. But that was all the Eagles could do, however, against Telecom starter Frank Campanelli. The senior lefthander kept the Yellowjackets in the game, striking out nine batters in seven and one-third innings.

"Frank has been a masterful pitcher for four years in this program," said Telecom

coach Robert Calise. "He came through big in the playoffs as well and this game. I knew he was going to be the one who got the ball. He definitely showed it on the mound today."

In the bottom of the seventh, Telecom took advantage of two Monroe errors to put Alexander Cruzado on third with just

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NOTHING GOING: Xaverian's Xavier Vargas and the Clippers lineup struggled to find a rhythm against McClancy's Charlie Neuweiler on June 5. File photo by William Thomas

who's going to win. McClancy had the upper hand today."

Xaverian (24-10) had chances to score, but they were few and far between. The Clippers worked a first-inning walk, but left the runner stranded on second after McClancy worked a 6-3-5 double play. Pasquale Coretto connected on a leadoff single in the top of the third, but the Crusaders then turned another double play, a 1-6-3 gem, to keep Xaverian off the board. The Clippers didn't connect on another hit for the rest of the game.

"[Neuweiler] is a tremendous pitcher and we knew it," Del George said. "It just seems like we've faced him three times this year and he stuck it to us three times. He's really, really good and our guys have a tough time swinging the bat

Continued on page 53

The Clippers struggled to find any offensive momentum against McClancy ace Charlie Neuweiler. The Long Island University-bound senior kept Xaverian on its heels all game long, striking out seven and giving up just two hits in a complete-game effort.



PICK OF THE LITTER: The Mets have numerous talented players to choose from in the June 12 draft.

File photo by Bess Adler

Mets' draftee could find home in Brooklyn

BY MATT JOHN

It could all start in Brooklyn.

The June 12 Major League Baseball draft is approaching, bringing with it a new season of excitement to MCU Park in Coney Island.

Rookies taken in the draft often get their first exposure with a lower-level minor league affiliate of the team that chooses them. If the Mets are fortunate enough to select the next superstar major leaguer, the Cyclones could be the first team to witness his greatness.

As of June 5, the Mets had a 24-31 record, good enough for third in the National League East, with room to improve. Latest statistics show the Mets ranking 28th in the league in earned run average, with a 4.81 mark, and 20th in the league in overall batting average, a clear indication they could use help on both sides of the field. The big club finished the 2016 season with an 87-75 record, and will have the 20th pick overall in next week's draft. Here are some of the young players they might choose:

Hitters:

Nick Pratto, first baseman, Huntington Beach High School: Many scouts believe the California native is the best hitter in the draft, and his added power has made him stand out, since he's already shown that he has a feel around the plate. Pratto's stock as a player is hurt by his lack of size compared to most major league first basemen, but if he's available at 20, it would be hard for the Mets to pass on him.

Logan Waymouth, shortstop, University of North Carolina: Waymouth is regarded as the top

college prospect in the draft. He's an all-around good player who doesn't necessarily have a skill that stands out, but also doesn't have a noticeable flaw in his game. He's not the best athlete this draft has to provide, but he has great instincts as both a fielder and a hitter.

Jo Adell, center fielder, Ballard High School: The Kentucky native heads into the draft renowned for his speed and glove. His build and abilities have drawn comparisons to previous high major league draft picks Byron Buxton and Melvin Lynch Jr. Though his bat speed is impressive, Ardell's miscues at the plate have been a cause for concern.

Evan White, first baseman, University of Kentucky: White is one of the most athletic first baseman prospects in this draft, but odd in that he bats right-handed but throws left-handed. White has improved his approach at the plate over the past few years and, given his athleticism, could spend some time in the outfield.

Austin Beck, outfielder, North Davidson High School: A very intriguing prospect given his potential. Beck tore his anterior cruciate ligament and meniscus in his left knee last May, forcing him to miss the showcase circuit last summer and fall. This past spring, he displayed the all-around tools that make him a tantalizing prospect.

Pitchers

Nate Pearson, right-handed, Central Florida Junior College: Mets scouts attended his bullpen session, a clear indication he's on the team's radar.

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FOOTBALL

Continued from page 51

to call for a fair catch, muffing a punt and giving the FDNY the ball at the 10-yard line. The Bravest scored just three plays later, jumping out to an early lead.

The NYPD squad responded by moving efficiently down the field after starting at its 38-yard line. But then Detective Chris Feely fumbled just a few yards outside the end zone, and while the FDNY team could not take advantage of the turnover, it was a sign of miscues to come.

The NYPD took over the game in the second period, jumping out to a 21-7 lead on the strength of three touchdown runs by NYPD Officer Enoch Thompson. But that's as much as the Finest would get.

Staring at a two-touchdown deficit, and having thrown a pair of interceptions, FDNY quarterback Ryan Davan guided his team 70 yards down the field, consistently evading near sacks. FDNY running back Mike Seluzitsky capped the drive with a one-yard touchdown dive up the middle with less than five minutes left in the third quarter.

After four drives that went

nowhere, including a third interception for Davan, the FDNY punted again, but for the third time in the evening, the NYPD returner muffed the punt. The Bravest recovered the ball, and Davan threw a 42-yard scoring strike that tied the game.

The Finest went nowhere on its next two drives, and punted back the Bravest with four minutes left in the game. The FDNY milked the clock as it marched toward the end zone. The Finest defense held, but with 1:59 left on the clock, the Bravest connected on a chip-shot field goal for its first lead of the game. With a minute and a half left, the NYPD turned the ball over on downs, and the FDNY knelt away the victory. It was a tough loss for the NYPD, but fans of both sides enjoyed the game.

"It was exciting," said Dawn Siragusa, whose son, Anthony Siragusa, played defensive back for the NYPD.

The Bravest will move on to the championship game — location and time to be announced — but players on both teams moved back to their day jobs: looking out for their fellow New Yorkers. Some played heroes on the field that day; all returned to being real-life heroes the following morning.

XAVERIAN

Continued from page 52

against him."

Shamus Connolly did his best to keep his team in the game, also tossing a complete game and striking out six. The Crusaders, however, only needed a few at-bats to seize control. Eric Luebeck drove in the first run in the bottom of the second, and padded the lead with a run-scoring infield single that barely squeaked through the gap between first and second in the bottom of the sixth.

Xaverian's defense held, but the team had no answers

at the plate.

"We just felt that there was a possibility that we were going to just break out," Vargas said. "We said, 'Just keep on playing defense, that'll help us stay close in the game and we'll have a chance of winning.'"

It's a disappointing finish for a Xaverian squad that clinched the regular-season Brooklyn-Queens title. Then the Clippers were shut out in back-to-back games, falling to Monsignor Farrell on June 4.

"It's just our hitting and our base-running where we've got to get better," Del George said. "Now that we know we're going to work harder for next year."

says the team is still ready to rock as the 2017 season approaches.

"Every year is a fresh start and that's always exciting for us," said Harner. "We have a new manager in Edgardo Alfonzo, we'll have new players on the field, new promotions and giveaways for fans, new between-inning contests. We are looking forward to having another memorable summer at the ballpark and making new memories for everyone who attends a game this season."

TEBOW

Continued from page 51

for the team, and has done enough to impress some in the Firefly organization.

"From a work ethic standpoint, you can see that he's been improving since day one," said Fireflies' president John Katz. "He hits the ball with power. He's fun to watch, and the fans love it."

Even if Tebow's pilgrimage never takes him to Coney Island, the Cyclones brass

Nazareth loses title game

BY MATT JOHN

Good season, bad day.

The Nazareth baseball squad lost 9-3 to LaSalle in the Catholic High School Athletic Association "A" division championship game on June 2, falling short of their championship aspirations. The Kingsmen lost both games in the two-game series.

A terrific season didn't end the way the team hoped it would, but there was no one in particular to blame; Nazareth just didn't have it when it mattered the most.

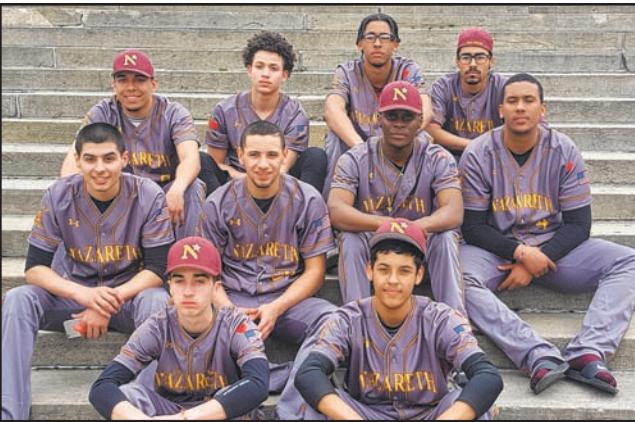
"It just wasn't our day," said Nazareth coach Oggie Quiles. "The last two games weren't our best, but we fought and we had to fight hard."

Early-game fielding mistakes cost Nazareth; the Cardinals didn't get a single hit through the first two innings, but three errors made by Kingsmen infielders in the second inning led to three runs for LaSalle, something Quiles mentioned after the game.

"The defense was a little shabby," the coach said. "You have to play defense to win."

LaSalle scored two more runs on a double and sacrifice fly in the top of the third inning, pushing the score to 5-0.

The Kingsmen's bats woke up in the bottom of the third, when a triple by centerfielder Jordan Serrano knocked in



SILVER LINING: The Nazareth baseball team came up short of repeating as city champs, but the team was still proud of its success this season.

Oggie Quiles

leftfielder Shamariah McCullough to make the score 5-1, but that would be the only run Nazareth would score until the final inning.

In the fifth inning, LaSalle's batters continued to hit, knocking in three more runs to make the score 8-1. In the top of the seventh, Cardinals third baseman Franklin Padilla smashed a triple to score leftfielder Jimmy Muñiz to make the score 9-1.

The Kingsmen didn't go down without a fight. In the bottom of the seventh and with the title in doubt, short-stop-relief pitcher Nicholas Castell hit a triple to knock in catcher Mike Silva. McCullough followed that up with a single to score Castell. But it was too little, too late; First baseman Andre West

brooks struck swinging, and the Kingsmen's season was over.

Nazareth won the title last season with a senior-heavy roster and had lost seven of its starters from last spring. This season ended in heartbreak, but Quiles was more than happy with his team's performance overall, particularly after Nazareth's struggles earlier in the season.

"We struggled out of the gate a little bit and they fought to get here," he said. "We won nine, 10 in a row to get here. I'm really proud of what they've done."

"This group of seniors that we have here, this is their fourth [year] in the championship," Quiles said. "I'm really proud of them for what they have done."

TELECOM

Continued from page 52

one out. Julian Juame drove Cruzado home with a single to left to tie the game, but the Yellowjackets left two runners stranded when Toribio made a diving catch in left field for the final out, forcing extra innings.

"That's what playoff baseball is all about," Calise said. "That's what makes the difference between winning and losing when it comes to this level."

It was a great catch, great play. It looked like it was going to go our way, but it bounced the other way."

Two Telecom errors and a walk forced Campanelli from the mound, and Monroe seized the opportunity. Eagles senior Jason Pineda cracked a sacrifice fly to center field, scoring the go-ahead run and dashing the Yellowjackets' hopes.

"We were here and fought hard, and the outcome wasn't quite what we wanted," Garcia said.

Telecom had a final chance

— Aarron Rodriguez connected on a one-out single — but Pineda then struck out the side and the Yellowjackets could only watch their season come to an end. Even so, said the coach, just getting to the semifinals was a victory, one that signals better days to come.

"I'm happy with the way these kids performed. Every day they worked hard," Calise said. "And we're going to take it to the max next year as well. Every year we'll always be in the hunt."

DRAFT

Continued from page 52

Pearson has had his share of injuries since high school, but he was very durable for Central Florida, and consistently threw 97 mile-per-hour fastballs this spring. His only drawback is that his slider

and his curveball are woefully inconsistent, but when they're on at the same time, Pearson has shown that he can be invincible on the mound.

Griffin Canning, right-handed, UCLA: Canning isn't the hardest throwing pitcher in the draft, but his command of his pitches

makes him a valuable prospect. His fastball, slider, curveball, and changeup are all very consistent and solid. His durability and accuracy throwing strikes make him a good commodity even if his ceiling's not high. He might not be a future ace, scouts believe, but he is a pitcher that can fit into a rotation.

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ZG Clay LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/17/17. City: Kings. SNNY desig. as agent upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to 92 Clay St., Brooklyn, NY 11222. General Purpose.

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Ian Rugg Psychology, PLLC, Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/9/17. City: Kings. SNNY desig. as agent upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to 545 73rd St., Ground Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11209. Purpose: Psychology.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability company (LLC). Name: AQEL & ASSOCIATES, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/10/2017. Office location: Kings County. SNNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SNNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 93-22 3RD AVE STE 110 BROOKLYN, NY 11209. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of limited liability company (LLC). Name: LIFESKILLS PHYSICAL THERAPY PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/27/2017. Office location: Kings County. SNNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SNNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC P.O. BOX 250182 BROOKLYN, NY 11202. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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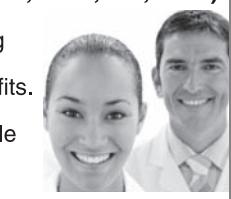
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