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Aug. 11-17, 2017

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STEAMY READERS

Library users fuming after hours cut due to busted air conditioning

BY COLIN MIXSON

Call them burned bookworms.

Visitors to the Brooklyn Public Library's Flatbush branch were heated after a broken air conditioning system forced the book lender to cut its hours for the rest of the season on July 24, flaring up those who use the facility as a cool escape from the summer sun.

"I thought, 'What am I doing here? Why did I come?'" said patron Jesenia Sealy. "I thought it was supposed to be somewhere cool and it's the opposite!"

Library officials are working with the city's Department of Design and Construction on a \$1.5-million project to replace the location's heating and cooling systems, but there is no

set date for repairs to begin, a spokeswoman said.

The shortened schedule is intended to protect visitors and staff from extreme heat, according to the book lender's rep, and massive fans were installed in lieu of air conditioners to help curb the branch's temperature.

The new operating hours, from 8 am to 1 pm on weekdays and from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturdays, will remain in effect through Oct. 2.

A learning center attached to the library at 22 Linden Blvd. adopted a similar schedule as a result of the busted air conditioning, except for on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when it is open

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FIRED UP: Flatbush library patrons Mysterie Sylla, left, and Ray Alexander are among the locals burned by the reduction in its operating hours. Photo by Jason Speakman



Fun police on duty

Members of New York's Finest partied with Brooklynites on Aug. 1 as part of National Night Out Against Crime, a nationwide event that brought residents together with women and men in blue, including this officer from the 78th Precinct who spun tunes at a bash in Grand Army Plaza. For more from National Night Out Against Crime, **see page 3.**

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Jury convicts Brooklyn's 'Pharma Bro'

BY JULIANNE CUBA

Sheepshead Bay's least-favorite son — "Pharma Bro" Martin Shkreli — was convicted of fraud on Aug. 4, but the "Most Hated Man in America" still left the Brooklyn federal courthouse smirking, since the 12-person jury threw out most of the eight charges, including the most damning.

"This was a witch hunt of epic proportions, and maybe they found one or two broomsticks, but at the end of the day, we've been acquitted of the most important charges in this case and I'm delighted to report that," Shkreli said outside the Cadman Plaza courthouse after the verdict was delivered.

The former hedge-fund manager gained infamy, and several of his nicknames, when he jacked up the price of a drug for AIDS patients from \$13.50 to \$750 per pill overnight in 2015, trolled a journalist and the popular hip-hop

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THE 'MAYOR,' UNMASKED

Man who portrayed DeBlasio at C'Heights town hall speaks



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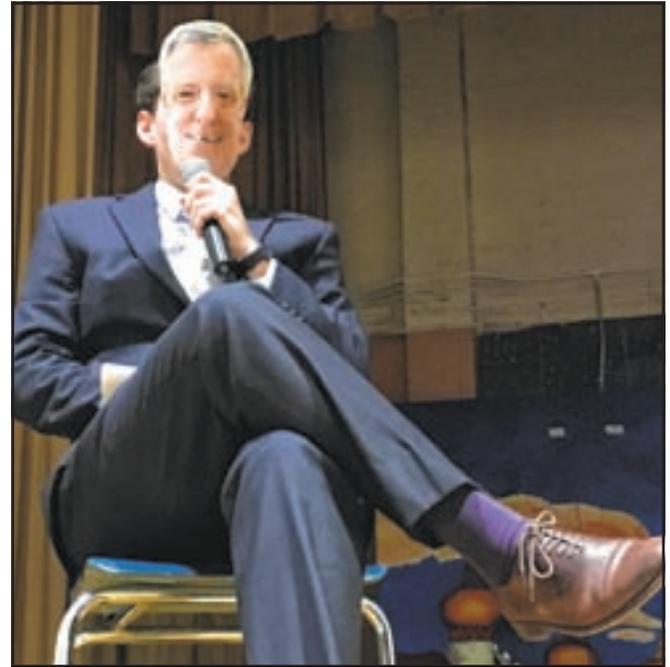
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Crown Heights residents invited Mayor DeBlasio to a town hall at Dr. Gladstone H. Atwell Middle School on Aug. 2, where they hoped to question Hizzoner about his controversial scheme to fork over their nabe's publicly owned Bedford-Union Armory to a private developer. But the mayor chose to attend a separate event on the distant island of Manhattan instead. His absence did not stop the local activists from hosting their meeting, however, at which a neighborhood resident stood in for the missing pol. The unknown actor in a cheap DeBlasio mask brought the house down with his impression, according to an event organizer. "He was hilarious the way he answered questions," said Vaughn Armour, a leader of anti-development group Our Armory. DeBlasio's doppelgänger, Stephen Lurie, spoke to the Park Slope Courier after the event about his portrayal of the 6-foot-5-inch pol.



MEET THE "MAYOR": Crown Heights resident Stephen Lurie impersonated Mayor DeBlasio at an Aug. 2 meeting on the Bedford-Union Armory that Hizzoner didn't attend. Community News Group / Colin Mixson

Colin Mixson: Are you an actor? Activist? Horribly disfigured? Tell me, who is behind the mask?

Stephen Lurie: I'm a researcher at a criminal justice organization, and am involved in the movement against the armory deal through the Democratic Socialists of America. I've lived in Crown Heights for two years, and I'm a normal looking guy. I think...

CM: Everyone is raving about your performance last night. How did an unknown actor with virtually no experience get this job?

SL: I have a lot of friends who are performers in New York and I thought I'd be able to find a tall man to do it. I talked to some people, but ultimately the meeting didn't work with their schedules. So I was conscripted to fill in.

CM: How tall are you? Did you ever feel you weren't fit for the role, physically speaking?

SL: I'm 6-foot-1-inch, so the mayor has four inches on me. I wouldn't say I felt too short for the part, partially because we were sitting, but if there was a podium I might have needed a box to stand on.

CM: What did you do to prepare?

SL: I watched speeches on YouTube and listened to comments the mayor has made about the armory. I tried to find his speech pattern — he's got a nasally thing going on, and he pauses sometimes.

CM: What did you hope to achieve with your answers?

SL: I wanted to make it apparent that I was not the mayor, but that I was, to a certain extent, portraying the way he has approached the issue. He has prioritized devel-

opers and the wealthy in private, which contrasts with his public persona as an advocate for the progressive policies that people voted for and the fair housing policy that his residents need.

CM: Will you be taking your act on the road?

SL: I promised my friends that this would be the only time they'd see me doing a DeBlasio impersonation. I'd like to keep that promise, but who knows? If the moment calls for it, maybe the "mayor" will come back.

— Colin Mixson

Oh baby! Local pol births son

BY LAUREN GILL

Talk about a little prince!

Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo (D–Clinton Hill) gave birth to a baby boy on Aug. 4 at age 42, she announced on her Facebook page on Aug. 7.

"He is a healthy, beautiful, baby boy and I am in LOVE!!! I'M A MOM at 42!!!" she wrote.

The pol named her son Prince Noah Oluwafemi, and is recovering at her Clinton Hill home after 24 hours of labor.



NEW MOM: Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo and her new baby boy, Prince. Laurie Cumbo

The councilwoman — who is running for re-election in the 35th District — campaigned until she went into labor on Aug. 3 and hopes to get back on the trail as soon as possible, but first plans on spending time with her son and family, said a rep.

Cumbo is not the only pol to receive a bundle of joy this year. Her colleague, Councilman Steve Levin (D–Brooklyn Heights), and his wife Ann had a baby girl in February.



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Photo by Caleb Caldwell



CELEBRATING COPS: (Clockwise, from top left) Youngster Erika Rivera shows off her new face paint at the 76th Precinct's shindig in Coffey Park. Joanna Rios, center, and daughters Kaylin and Julianna were all smiles at the 84th Precinct's party in Brooklyn Bridge Park. Keisha Mayers hugs her daughter Kemarae Mayers at the 63rd Precinct's bash, where they performed a dance routine. Aaron Elliston had a good time in Fort Greene Park. Ella Russell rides a horse from Kensington Stables at the 76th Precinct's event.



Photo by Caleb Caldwell



Photo by Caleb Caldwell

BROOKLYNITES JOIN POLICE ON PARTY PATROL

BY LAUREN GILL

Talk about the fun police!

New York's Finest hosted block parties across Brooklyn on Aug. 1 as part of the National Night Out Against Crime, a day that brought officers and community members together for some good clean fun, according to attendees.

"It was amazing, it was my first time being there and we had a really good time," said Canarsie resident Keisha Mayers, who performed a dance with her daughter Kemarae at the 63rd Precinct's extravaganza outside St. Columbia Church on Avenue V.

Kids played in bouncy houses, watched performances, and ate tons of free pizza and hot dogs, according to Mayers, who even got a chance to chat with Mayor

DeBlasio when he made an appearance at the event.

And over in Red Hook's Coffey Park, cops from the 76th Precinct gave rides on ponies from Kensington Stables as tykes got their faces painted — an experience one youngster who got her mug decorated with a butterfly won't soon forget, according to her mother.

"She loves that stuff," said Red Hook resident Shanima Fleming, who brought her daughter Erika Rivera. "She had a ball."

Other highlights from Kings County's celebrations included an officer from the 78th Precinct spinning on turntables at Grand Army Plaza and a happy husky that represented the police department in Bay Ridge.

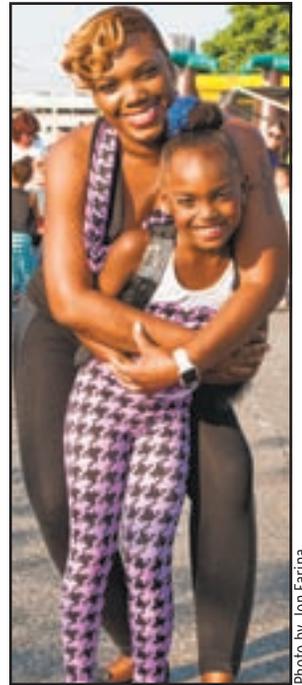


Photo by Jon Farina



Photo by Caleb Caldwell



Have a party to remember at Sirico's

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

When you've got 90 years of experience, you know how to throw awesome parties.

Their grandparents may have started Sirico's Catering, but two cousins, Hercules and Jim Sirico, are the ones that keep these parties going every night.

Weddings

A bit overwhelmed with all to be done? Your life just got easier because everything you need is coordinated by Sirico's in-house wedding planner who directs the process.

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Pictures: Photos and videos will be treasured for a lifetime, so Sirico's works with proven photographers and videographers who make sure special moments are captured. The beautiful gardens and active fireplace in the lobby make perfect backdrops.

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sky. Sirico's has it all covered with chair draperies and sashes, too.

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Food: A buffet loaded with fun food, customize designed to taste. Among the offerings: taco stations, a mashed potato bar, and sliders. For dessert, there's an ice cream sundae bar, candy tables, and Sirico's famous chocolate fountain.

Decorations: Select from in-house designs and decorations, tailored to teens. Balloon center pieces are always a hit.

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Bombshell report!

Experts: Bklyn Heights weapon dates to Revolution

BY LAUREN GILL

It's a blast from the past!

Workers found a cannonball outside a home in the Brooklyn Heights historic district last month that's likely a relic from the American Revolution, according to local history buffs.

"There's really no way of knowing exactly where it came from or how it got there, but I'm sure it does date back to the Revolutionary War," said borough historian Ron Schweiger.

Someone found the softball-sized cast-iron orb while digging a trench in the backyard of the house on Middagh Street at least two years ago during its initial demolition, and workers discovered it sitting on a table at the job site when they started new construction late last month, according to the project manager, who did not want his name used because his client hadn't authorized him to speak.

And while historians said they couldn't pinpoint the ammunition's exact origins, they offered a few educated guesses based on a major battle that occurred nearby.

There was no combat in the Heights during the war, but the nabe was home to the Americans' main defense during the Battle of Brooklyn, the first major fight after the United States declared independence in 1776.

The bulky dark gray shell could have belonged to either army — it's hard to say because the Americans used many of the same weapons as the British — and may have landed there

after it was shot from afar or accidentally discarded by passing troops, Schweiger said.

"It could've just been a leftover piece that may not have been fired," he said. "There's no way of knowing if it's something that was fired and missed its target or dropped there accidentally during retreat or advancement."

The ball — which has a hole on top that may have been packed with gunpowder so the weapon would

explode — looks like ammo used during the Revolutionary War, according to another expert, who said it probably would have been fired from a small cannon.

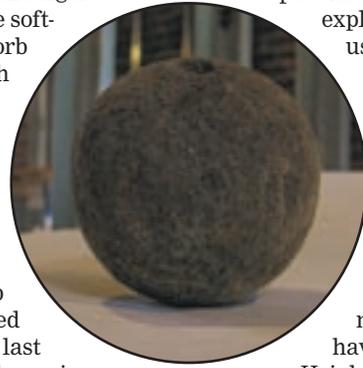
Its discovery is particularly noteworthy because not many cannonballs have been found in the Heights, where many plots

have not been dug up due to their homes' historic significance, she said.

"It's not super common because the houses in Brooklyn Heights and brownstone areas are older, and they haven't been deeply excavated the way the high-rises have," said Julie Golia of the Brooklyn Historical Society.

The houses on Middagh Street are the oldest in the Heights, Schweiger said, and the residence where the cannonball was unearthed is believed to have been built between the 1820s and '30s, the project manager said.

Artifacts discovered on private land are allowed to be kept by property owners, but anyone who finds an explosive device is urged to call 911, a Department of Buildings rep said.



Hit-and-run driver at large despite employer's cooperation with cops

BY LAUREN GILL

The city still hasn't identified the garbage truck operator who hit and killed a cyclist in Greenpoint on July 22, even though a rep for the business that employs the driver said records can trace workers to its trucks on that night.

"Action Environmental Services continues to cooperate fully," said rep Ken Frydman. "We have records of our employees, the NYPD is conducting the investigation."

The driver was traveling on Franklin Street when he or she turned onto Noble Street at 12:30 am, striking and killing 27-year-old Neftaly Ramirez, who was pedaling home from work at Paulie Gee's pizzeria.

Police on July 25 told the website DNA Info the truck belongs to Action Carting, a New Jersey-based service

that collects garbage from more than 16,400 private businesses across the city, a fact that was confirmed to the Park Slope Courier by police after Frydman called other reports of his company's involvement "speculative."

But Frydman wouldn't explain why no arrests have been made even though he said Action has records of where and when its employees were driving trucks in the city that night.

He also bashed journalists for expecting cops to identify the driver within weeks of the collision.

"I know you guys are in a frenzy to convict someone in the court of public opinion," he said.

A police spokesman did not answer questions on why it is taking so long to identify the driver, citing the ongoing investigation.

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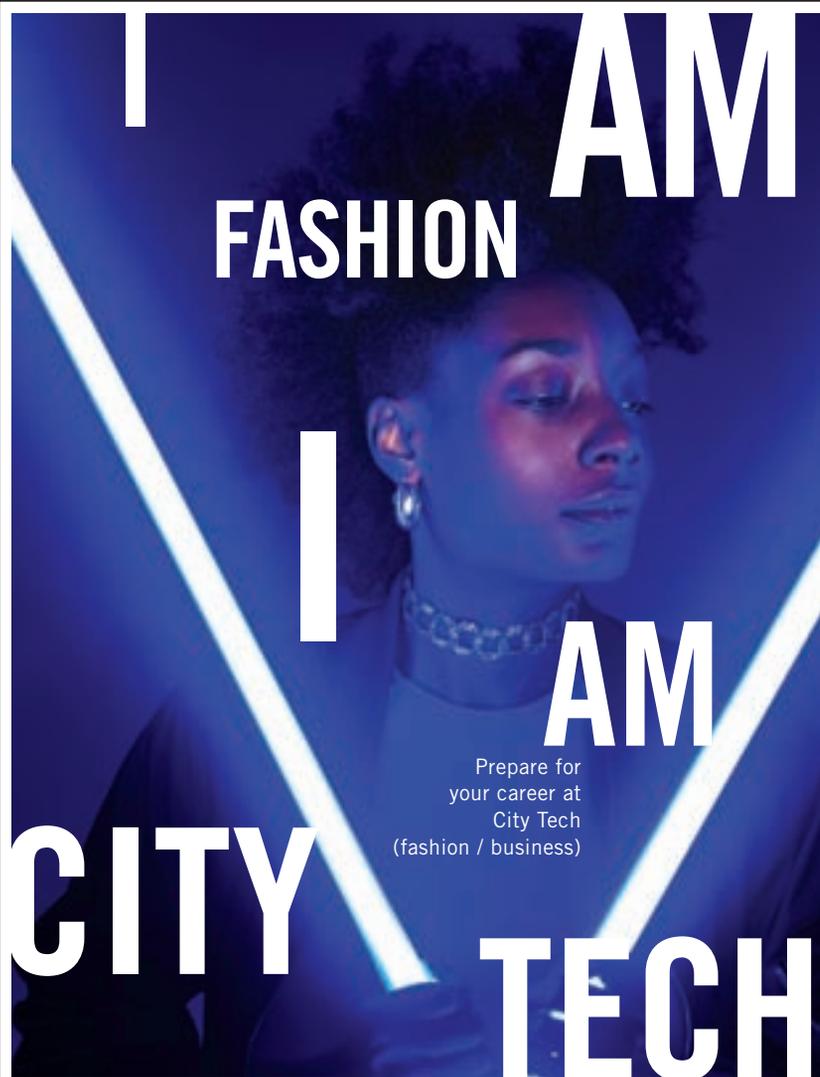
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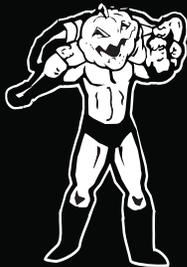
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GOING UP?: The fate of two towers proposed for Pier 6 in Brooklyn Bridge Park remains uncertain after the judge originally presiding over the case ruled on Aug. 4 that a new justice will take it over.
ODA / RAL Development Services / Oliver's Realty Group

VERDICT UP IN THE AIR

New judge put on Pier 6 case as building proceeds

BY LAUREN GILL

Talk about a deep bench.

The court case over two towers planned for Pier 6 in Brooklyn Bridge Park is being assigned to a new justice after four months of arguments that were supposed to conclude this month, and construction on the high-rises can proceed in the meantime, the judge originally presiding over the case ruled on Aug. 4.

Justice Lucy Billings began hearing the Brooklyn Heights Association's arguments against the development at the foot of Atlantic Avenue in April, but was instructed to give up the legal battle after being recently assigned to oversee asbestos litigation, she said.

The new judge, Justice Carmen Victoria St. George, will now decide whether to accept or reject the civic group's claim that building the towers at Pier 6 violates the terms of a 2006 agreement that mandates park honchos only erect as much housing in the green space as is needed to maintain it.

But construction on the high-rises, which got underway last month, will be allowed to continue as long as nothing is built that can't be undone, the outgoing judge said in response to the Heights Association's demand for an injunction halting work until the court rules.

The civic group's injunction request followed its attempt to get Billings to stop construction in an emergency hearing last month, which she denied because she did not find the activity to be unlawful. But the judge guaranteed the Heights Association that the final ruling would not be influenced by how much work is complete, telling lawyers for the park, "I can't see anything that can't be undone."

More than 400 steel beams are now being driven into the ground as part of the project's first phase, which will be followed by concrete pouring. Developers RAL Development Services and Oliver's Realty Group need to decide whether it is worth going ahead with additional construction given they may need to pay to undo it, but a rep for the green space said the builders will move forward without delay.

"Today's outcome does not affect our progress and construction will proceed as planned," said spokeswoman Sarah Krauss.

Now that the case has been reassigned, its transcripts and filings will be passed onto St. George, who will read them and decide whether she can make a ruling or needs to call the litigants back into court.

The documents will include the Heights Associations' argument as to why at least one of the towers should be blocked, which reasons that because the high-rise will contain below-market-rate housing, it does not uphold the 2006 agreement's terms that development parcels within the park must be used to make money.

The neighborhood group's attorney said he was happy with the proceedings.

"We're pleased with the outcome of the ruling, which demonstrates the court has taken the BHA's claims very seriously," said Richard Ziegler. "The preliminary injunction ensures when the case is finally decided the fact that construction will proceed in the meantime won't affect the final ruling."

St. George was appointed to the state Supreme Court bench in June after working as an associate for Weitz & Luxenberg, a firm known to fight for plaintiffs or "the little guy."

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Meet the judge

Supreme Court Justice Noach Dear chats with us

Noach Dear, whose political work began in the early 1980s, never dreamed he'd rise to be a Kings County Supreme Court justice back when he was an unknown Democratic district leader in Flatbush. But, as it turned out, district leader was just the starting point for Dear, who served as a community board district manager, a city councilman, New York City's Taxi and Limousine commissioner, and a criminal court and civil court judge before he began presiding over Courtroom 756 in Kings County Supreme Court. Justice Dear invited the Park Slope Courier to his chambers, where we asked him about his road to 360 Adams St.



Photo by Caleb Cadwell

ON THE BENCH: Kings County Supreme Court Justice Noach Dear presides over a session of the court's Foreclosure Part.

James Harney: You've come far since your days as a young councilman representing Flatbush and Borough Park. How was that journey?

Noach Dear: Part of [being a district leader] is to help judges go through the elective process, and I was involved in that. My colleagues and others around me were attorneys. And when I would do constituent work, the question "Are you an attorney?" would always come up. I realized that knowing the law is one thing, but practicing it would be an interesting addition to my position. So I went to Brooklyn Law School at night and dur-

ing the summer while serving on the City Council.

JH: How did becoming an attorney change your career?

ND: I eventually left City Council and became Taxi and Limousine Commissioner for a couple of years. That allowed me to use my legal skills, because the agency is like an appellate court in that after a driver's license is revoked, he has the right to appeal to the commission. Then an opportunity to run for civil court judge came, and I was encouraged to by a lot of different people who felt I could make a difference on the bench. So I ran and got elected.

JH: How did you gain your reputation as a backlog-buster who moves a lot of cases?

ND: When I was on the Brooklyn Civil Court bench, I did some backup work in Brooklyn Criminal Court and Staten Island Criminal Court. There was a tremendous backlog. I saw the problem: We had multiple agencies — the police department, the DA's office, the correction department — [involved], on top of the court system itself. So I zeroed in on that — if there was a lull I would find out why.

JH: It's been more than a year since you overtook the Supreme Court's foreclosure

cases. How has that gone?

ND: There were doubters, but I said, "Give it a chance." In January 2016, the number [of backlogged cases] was between 11,000 and 12,000. Since then, my court alone has handled 7,000 or 8,000, and received dispositions in about 4,000. So we're close to 50 percent. But it's not a numbers game, we're here to make sure justice is served.

JH: Can you tell me a little about your family life?

ND: I have four daughters who are all married to very successful men. I've got grandchildren, too, and my girls are all successful themselves.

They're full-time moms, and one is very active in her community's schools. She takes after her dad. I could see her or some of her sisters running for office if they were inclined.

JH: What does the future hold for Noach Dear?

ND: I've been here for almost 10 years. If you would have asked me 10-and-a-half years ago what I would be doing now, I never would have said being a judge. I'm happy doing what I'm doing. I always tell everyone, "I don't want to be known as good, I want to be known as fair. A judge known for doing the right thing."

— James Harney

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COURIER LIFE, AUG. 11-17, 2017

7

78TH PRECINCT

PARK SLOPE

Sluggo

Some brute slugged a man on Sixth Avenue on July 22.

The victim told police he was near 11th Street at 11:15 pm, when the fiend waltzed up and nailed with him with a sucker punch.

No arrests have been made in the case, which has been closed, cops said.

So-long-o

A thief rode off with a man's Solano-brand bicycle he chained up on Hanson Place on July 23.

The victim told police he locked his bike near St. Felix Street before ducking into a nearby chain store at 7:20 pm, and returned about 20 minutes later to find his bike stolen.

Suede boot blues

A man was arrested for stealing a pair of suede boots from a Sixth Avenue home on July 24.

The victim complained to police that the suspect took the boots from his home between Park and Sterling places at 3:40 pm, and patrolmen spotted him later that day on Fifth Avenue near Prospect Place, cops said.

As officers moved in to cuff the suspect, the man flailed his arms and tried to escape, according to police, who nonetheless managed to bust the alleged thief.

Wrong tool

Some jerk smashed up a man's car on Seventh Avenue on July 25.

The victim told police he had just parked his 2001 GM sedan between Fourth and Fifth streets at 2 pm, when the crook waltzed up with a tool he used to bust up the man's car to the tune of \$517 in damages.

Bad fare

Cops busted a man after he allegedly went ballistic on a cab driver on Fourth Avenue on July 26.

The victim told police he had picked the suspect up in Manhattan and dropped him off near Sixth Street at 6 am, when the man refused to fork over the \$24 he owed for fare.

A dispute broke out between the cabbie and his passenger, who suddenly punched the driver in the back of his head, before leaping out of the cab and attempting to drag the hapless chauffeur from his vehicle, cops said.

The suspect attempted to flee the area following his alleged assault, but was stopped by police before he could escape, cops said.

— Colin Mixson



POLICE BLOTTER

Police talk down man from Verrazano Bridge

BY JULIANNE CUBA

Police saved a man from jumping nearly 700 feet off the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge into the waters below on Aug. 2.

A passerby called 911 after watching the 28-year-old get out of his car and climb over the railing on the Bay Ridge-to-Staten Island span at about 8:30 am, according to authorities.

Police choppers and boats circled above and waited in the harbor below while emergency responders talked with the emotionally disturbed man for nearly six hours as he hung from the railing on the bridge's ledge, officials said.

The man eventually agreed to step onto the roadway and emergency responders transported him to Richmond University Medical Center for evaluation, according to authorities. Police took him into custody but did not arrest him, officials said.



GETTING HELP: Police talked down a 28-year-old man from jumping off the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge on Aug. 2.

Photo by Paul Martinka

If someone you know exhibits warning signs of suicide, do not leave the person alone; remove any firearms, alcohol, drugs, or sharp objects that could be used in a suicide attempt; call the U.S. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255; and take the person to an emergency room or seek help from a medical or mental health professional.

84TH PRECINCT

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DUMBO-BOERUM HILL-DOWNTOWN

Subway gang

Cops are searching for a crew of bruisers who beat up their former gang member and stole his phone on a Manhattan-bound R train as it was leaving the station near Pacific Street on Aug. 3.

The victim told police he was on the train by Fourth Avenue at 7:45 pm when he noticed approximately 10 guys use the end train car doors to enter. He recognized one of the punks from when he used to be part of the Crips gang and did prison time with him, authorities said.

An argument then ensued over past issues of loyalty to the gang, followed by the assailants punching and kicking him.

He was left with cuts, and scrapes to the right side of his face, a left sprained wrist, and right sprained thumb, police reported. During the fight, one of the baddies snatched his Samsung phone, police said.

The creeps finally fled, and the victim boarded a Manhattan-bound

6 train, which he took to the Bronx, where was taken to the hospital, cops said.

Vending vengeance

An illegal water vendor punched a hot dog vendor in the face and stole \$500 from his cart on Prospect Street on Aug. 1.

The vendors got into a dispute near Cadman Plaza East at 3:15 pm.

The thief then socked the victim, snatched the cash, and fled, according to a report.

Shopping nightmare

Some sneak stole an Australian woman's wallet while she was shopping on Montague Street on Aug. 4.

The tourist had her wallet inside a shop by Henry Street at 1:30 pm and visited more stores in the area before discovering she didn't have it anymore, police said. She returned to all of the places she went and didn't find it, according to a report.

The victim then went to cancel all of her credit cards and realized a weasel had used them several times at different places, cops said. The \$150 red eel-skin Foldon wallet also contained \$650, authorities said.

Broken pitcher

Cops cuffed a guy who they say bashed a woman with a glass pitcher inside a Livingston Street store on Aug. 1.

The suspect hit her with the vessel in the shop by Bond Street at 1:05 pm, cutting her nose and hurting her hand, she told police.

88TH PRECINCT

FORT GREENE-CLINTON HILL

Teamed up

A crew of four baddies bashed a woman and stole her pocketbook after they got into an argument with her on DeKalb Avenue on Aug. 6.

The victim told police she got into a verbal dispute with three women and one man near Vanderbilt Avenue at 2:05 am. The brusiers got upset and began to strike her while the man encouraged them, cops reported.

During the fight, the women snatched the victim's pocketbook containing her iPhone, cash, and credit cards, then fled, police said.

Shot

Police are hunting for the gunmen who shot a guy twice on St. Edwards Street on Aug. 3.

The jerks pumped bullets into his upper left back and through his lower right knee by Park Avenue at 10:55 pm, then fled, cops said.

Rogue rider

A thief broke into a Grand Avenue apartment building and stole several bicycles on July 31.

The person who reported the crime told cops the snake forced the door of the residence by Greene Avenue open at 4:41 am, then forced the basement door open, and removed the unspecified number of rides.

Vacation surprise

A burglar stole a woman's television and air conditioners while she was on vacation from her Fleet Walk home between July 26 and Aug. 2.

The lady returned home to her building by Tillary Street on Aug. 2 at 9:04 am and noticed that her door had been unlocked.

She then discovered her 55-inch television and ventilation units missing, cops said.

Cycling cad

Cops are hunting for the nogoodnik who lifted a man's bicycle from the hallway of his Fulton Street apartment building sometime between Aug. 1 and Aug. 2.

The man had parked his Cannondale two-wheeler in the hallway of the residence near Waverly Avenue at noon on Aug. 1 and returned the next day at 6 pm to find it gone, cops said.

— Lauren Gill

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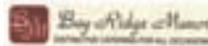
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ALL A DREAM: Officials, friends, and family cut the ribbon for the Christopher "Biggie" Wallace basketball courts in Crispus Attucks playground on Aug. 2. Photo by Jason Speakman

Life after death for hip hop star

City names courts after 'Notorious' rapper

BY LAUREN GILL

It just loves his flashy ways!

The city named the Clinton Hill basketball courts where late rapper Christopher "Biggie" Wallace used to shoot hoops in his honor on Aug. 2, commemorating the Brooklyn native as an inspiration for local youngsters just four years after the community blocked an attempt to memorialize him with a street co-naming.

"We started with a divided community and watched it quickly galvanize around the idea that young people need someone they can look up to, to show there's a way out of any circumstance," said Councilman Robert Cornegy (D-Bedford-Stuyvesant), who proposed the tribute to the nabe's community board earlier this summer.

The pol grew up with Wallace and promised the hip hop icon's mother that he would continue to honor his legacy after the street co-naming bid fizzled. Community Board 2's Executive Committee voted unanimously in June to greenlight Cornegy's idea to name the hoops at Crispus Attucks Playground on Fulton Street and Clason Avenue after the rapper, who was shot and killed at 24.

The latest proposal, like the 2013 street naming attempt, drew criticism from some locals who argued the artist's misogynistic and violent lyrics should disqualify him from receiving the tribute, but members of the advisory panel said it was time to move on and embrace the local legend.

A huge crowd descended upon the courts to celebrate the occasion, with kids shooting hoops as a disc jockey spun tunes including the rapper's hit "Juicy," which Cornegy requested to



HONOR: The basketball courts' new sign.

Photo by Jason Speakman

hype up people sitting in the sweltering sun.

Attendees included Wallace's daughter, T'yanna, his cousin Lil' Cease, local DJ and television host Uncle Ralph McDaniels — who produced the music video for "Juicy" — and radio personality Mister Cee, who said the musician wouldn't believe that city blacktop bears his name.

"If you told him a basketball court was named after him he'd probably still say 'Who me?'" he said.

Fans thought differently, though, with one devotee calling it a much-deserved day for his favorite hip-hop star.

"This was a monumental day for Brooklyn," said Flatbush resident Fritz Valerus. "Christopher Wallace contributed so much to Brooklyn and his legacy still lives on, so we've got to come and support it to show his words were monumental for so many."

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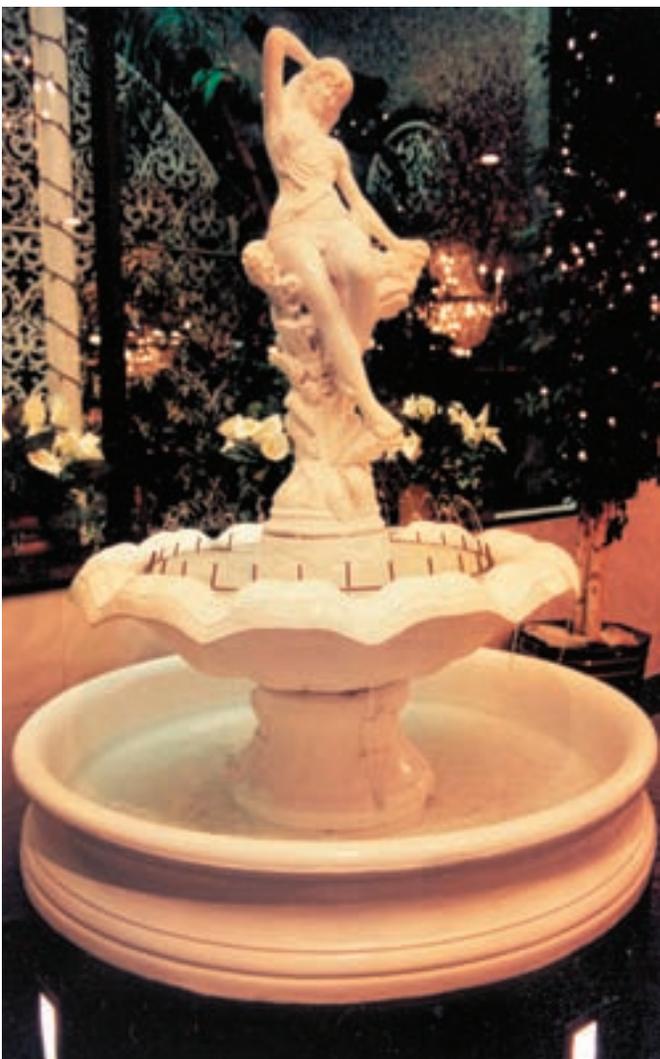
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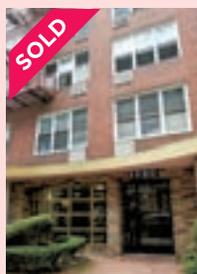
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SPINNING: Kids in the music production program show off the new records they got on a recent trip in Red Hook. Photo by Jason Speakman

A RECORD TIME FOR YOUNGSTERS

Red Hook kids taught music making by local DJ

BY LAUREN GILL

They laid down tracks to success!

Red Hook kids learned to become mini music moguls in summer lessons taught by a DJ and producer who said the program gave the youngsters a chance to develop skills they otherwise might not be able to.

"In a lot of ways production and deejaying are expensive, inaccessible hobbies," said Izzy Ocampo, who performs as Stud1nt and is a member of Discwoman, a Brooklyn-based electronic music collective of female-identifying and genderqueer artists. "It's about making something accessible, and empowering young people to be creative."

The twice-a-week sessions for middle- and high-schoolers were organized by youth services group Red Hook Initiative and took place at Pioneer Works, a venue that hosts workshops, shows, and artist residencies.

Classes included lessons on the nuts and bolts of making electronic music — including tutorials on production software Ableton, which is used by pros and can cost as much as \$749 — watching videos from genres such as jersey club and hip-hop, talking about musical likes and dislikes, and breaking into groups to write and edit.

Last month, the kids visited a record store on Van Brunt Street, where they browsed the selection and picked out a favorite album to take home.

And sometimes the teacher even became the student, according to Oc-

ampo, who said their pupils educated them about the local music scene.

"They showed me music that was made in Red Hook by their friends," they said. "They know so much, and I feel like I've learned as much as they have."

The program concluded this month with a party where the kids played their creations for friends and family. And now that school is out, the moguls-in-training can continue to perfect their skills on the computers at Pioneer Works, which are outfitted with the software Ocampo taught them how to use.

Students gave the class glowing reviews, with one teen saying she had a blast learning how to make music.

"It's been fun and amazing," said 14-year-old Odalys Perez. "The more music I learn, the more I know."

The Columbia Street resident likes to sing and eventually wants to make tunes using her own vocals and beats. She praised the opportunity to spend the summer learning from an established artist.

"It feels good to learn from Izzy because they are a DJ and it's cool to learn from someone who deejays," Perez said.

Teaching the class has been equally rewarding, according to Ocampo, who said watching kids make music that pumps them up was invigorating.

"It's really rewarding to see young people make cool s--- and be excited about a beat," they said.



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SHKRELI

Continued from cover

group Wu Tang Clan on social media, and made plenty of other crude comments across social media — none of which he was on trial for.

Prosecutors charged Shkreli with eight counts of fraud for a Ponzi-like scheme, and the case kicked off at the end of June.

The seven-woman and five-man jury began deliberating on July 31, and after asking the judge for just a few clarifications on the law on Aug. 1, they were relatively quiet until reaching the verdict.

The federal jury, kept anonymous, convicted the Sheepshead Bay-born-and-bred 34-year-old on three of the eight fraud counts — he was free to walk on \$5 million bond, and faces up to 20 years in prison, but no sentencing date has been set yet, and he's suspected to walk away with a much lighter sentence.

Shkreli took to his live YouTube channel just about an hour after leaving court — with a cold bottle of IPA in hand — talking out his case with viewers.

He's delighted, he told them, but still hopes he doesn't



BACKPFEIFENGESICHT: Martin Shkreli was still smirking after his Aug. 4 conviction, because he was acquitted of the most serious charges.

Community News Group / Julianne Cuba

have to spend much time in the slammer.

"No jail time would be definitely ideal," said Shkreli, who also said he's still extremely wealthy but doesn't think he wants to manage a hedge fund again.

And Shkreli isn't buying his title as the "Most Hated Man in America" — as he told one of the viewers who asked him if he believed he still fits the name.

"I don't think it's me, if it was me I'd think I have a few black eyes," said Shkreli, who famously auctioned off a chance to punch him in the face to raise money for the family of a recently deceased friend.

The government is still pleased with the jury's verdict.

"Justice has been served," said Acting United States Attorney Bridget Rohde.

LIBRARY

Continued from cover

from 12:45 to 8 pm.

But the fans and reduced hours are not enough to stop locals who rely on the branch from sweating bullets when they visit, according to a regular.

"It's definitely not opti-

mal," said Ellee de Baun, a Prospect-Lefferts Gardens resident who uses the library to study. "It's disappointing, because it's really hot."

Readers who seek a more comfortable experience should visit nearby locations, including the Windsor Terrace, Crown Heights, and Cortelyou branches, the spokeswoman said.



Photo by Jason Speakman

HOT HOUSE: The Brooklyn Public Library's Flatbush branch cut its hours on July 24 in order to protect customers and staff from extreme heat after the facility's air conditioning went haywire.

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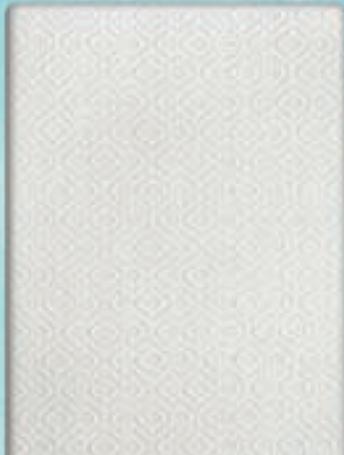
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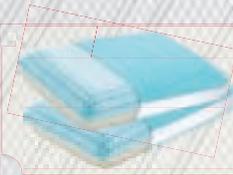
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Why 'Kidnap' deserves to be abducted

"Marco!" Halle Berry calls to her insanely adorable son in the new movie, "Kidnap."

"Polo!" the 6-year-old gleefully calls back.

"Marco!" Halle calls again as they play in a sun-dappled park.

"Polo!"

If you've seen the poster for this movie — or heck, noticed its name — it will come as no surprise that a few minutes later, when Halle is distracted by a phone call from her lawyer telling her that her ex wants full custody of the kid (hiss!), her child disappears. He has been "Taken."

Oh, wait. Sorry. That's the Liam Neeson franchise. But anyway, yes, her child has disappeared in the blink of an eye — no one saw him snatched, he didn't protest or scream — and a few frantic scenes later Halle spies him being loaded into a car even older than my own. Incredible. How is it that child-snatching is presented as such a lucrative business (according to the movie, kids go for \$100,000 each) and yet the snatchers drive clunkers?



RHYMES WITH CRAZY

Lenore Skenazy

It must be because they drive the most amazing clunkers in all creation, capable of careening through 90 minutes of Hollywood car chases. For that is what "Kidnap" quickly becomes: Halle on the heels of the creeps, gunning down the highway (setting off other car wrecks on the way, all treated as meh, because she is a Mom on a Mission), interspersed with car interior shots of Halle talking to herself — "I'm coming baby!" — and ... that's

it. Plus, in one scene, there's a shovel to someone's head. Now you don't have to buy a ticket.

But a trite script and only moderately tense car chase are not what's criminal about this movie. What's criminal is that it is supposed to be a heroic tale of Halle dealing with every mom's worst nightmare: A stranger kidnapping her kid. But instead of empowering moms, the plot reinforces the idea that this particular crime is, if not common, at least something that normal parents should consider when taking their kids on an outing.

Thinking that way is not only terrifying, it is changing the way we parent, and the way our kids grow up.

Strangers kidnapping young children to sell is such a vanishingly rare crime that David Finkelhor, head of the Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire, said he'd file the "Kidnap" movie under "science fiction." In fact, if for some reason you *wanted* your child to be kidnapped by a stranger, do you know how long would you have to

leave him or her outside, unattended, for this to be statistically *likely* to happen?

A day? An hour? Two minutes while you talk on the phone to your divorce lawyer?

The answer is 750,000 years. It's like how many lottery tickets would you have to buy to make it statistically likely you'd win. You'd have to leave your kid outside for 750,000 years before you could be pretty sure he'd be kidnapped, according to numbers crunched for me by Warwick Cairns, author of "How to Live Dangerously."

And yet, around the country, parents wait with their kids at the bus stop every morning now, or drive them door to door. A Mayo Clinic study found that three out of four parents are afraid their children will be abducted. This fear translates into kids being constantly supervised outdoors, or simply stashed indoors, for fear of predators.

A single movie doesn't move the needle, but what we have today is a culture so obsessed by kiddie kidnapping you'll of-

ten find a booth at street fairs where parents are encouraged to fingerprint their kids, save a bit of their hair, and sometimes even have the kids take a dental impression, all to be prepared if "the unthinkable" (that we can't stop thinking about) occurs.

What is the harm of being prepared? It's that in our focus on kidnapping, we have changed childhood. Fewer kids run around outside or even know how to organize a game. We think we're keeping them "safe" but in reality, we are exposing them to far more likely dangers. Obesity and childhood depression are both up. My gosh, "adult onset" diabetes soared 30 percent from 2000 to 2009 — in kids.

We are making our kids more emotionally and physically vulnerable by not letting them do things on their own. Until we give them back some unstructured, unsupervised time outside, consider them kidnapped ... by us.

Lenore Skenazy is founder of Free-Range Kids, a contributor to Reason.com, and author of "Has the World Gone Skenazy?"



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Sweltering library steams patrons

Visitors to the Brooklyn Public Library's Flatbush branch were heated after a broken air conditioning system forced the book lender to cut its hours for the rest of the season on July 24, firing up those who use the facility as a cool escape from the summer sun ("Steamy readers! Flatbush library patrons fuming after busted air conditioning prompts reduced hours," by Colin Mixson, online Aug. 7).

Library officials are working with the city on a \$1.5-million project to replace the location's heating and cooling systems, but no date has been set for repairs to begin, a spokeswoman said. The shortened schedule is intended to protect visitors and staff from extreme heat, according to the library's rep, and massive fans were installed in lieu of air conditioners. The new operating hours, from 8 am to 1 pm on weekdays and from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturdays, will remain in effect through Oct. 2. Some of our readers just couldn't keep their cool after reading about the midsummer air conditioning failures:

- Cue budget woes.
- Followed by announcement of "affordable" housing.
- Followed by giveaway to developer.
- Followed by announcement of temporary crappy alternate location.
- Followed by smaller library, probably in basement.

Real estate values for Brooklyn Public Library's Flatbush branch are not as valuable as those for the Brooklyn Heights branch in Cadman Plaza. That is why fixing the heating and cooling system is only going for \$1.5 million in the Brooklyn Public Library's Flatbush branch instead of \$9 million to replace the equipment at the Brooklyn Public Library in Cadman Plaza. Don't worry, your library is safe from the real estate moguls. Can you picture the top one percent of the wealthy living in the heart of Flatbush? Ha-ha! **Justine Swartz from Brooklyn Heights**

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

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

SOUND OFF TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS AND COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS

A/C problems are a chronic issue in BPL branches. A couple of years back, they did a major renovation at the Gerritsen branch. The first summer after it reopened, they constantly had to close by mid-day because the new A/C couldn't handle the heat.

They just recently reopened the Ulmer Park branch, with a new A/C system. For some reason, there remains no A/C in the meeting and events room. Inquiries about when it will be fixed go unanswered, and patrons swelter during events and programs.

Does Brooklyn Public Library share its board of directors and budget with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority?

Sean F from Bensonhurst

Instead of fixing the air conditioner, they can do as the other commenters suggest and give the library building to a developer. Not only would this save the money a new air conditioner would cost, but it could bring in some beautiful high-end apartments to the area. A lot of the locals are a bit down-market, a new development could really bring some class and style to the area.

Misty Humplington from Flatbush

\$1.5 million for a heating and air conditioning system? Wow, that could be done a heck of a lot cheaper.

Ian from Williamsburg

So all anyone can talk about is the air conditioning, but what about the parking situation?! There's meters everywhere. Before anything else, I think they need to look into installing a parking lot for patrons.

Helena Gonzales from Fairport

Another intentionally distressed library branch set to go on the developer auction block.

Sunny from Fort Greene

Organizers of the Labor Day parade J'Ouvert are moving the pre-dawn festival to daylight hours this year in the hope that sunlight will halt the deadly violence that has plagued the event in the past ("Out of the darkness: J'Ouvert parade pushed to daylight hours to mitigate violence," by Nelson A. King, online July 31).

The Sept. 4 procession from Grand Army Plaza to Prospect-Lefferts Gardens will kick off at 6 am, four hours after its previous

2 am start time. It will be the first time that J'Ouvert, which means "daybreak" and precedes the annual West Indian Day parade, is not cloaked in darkness. An aide to Gov. Cuomo was killed at the parade in 2015 and two people were fatally shot at last year's celebration despite increased police presence and 250 new floodlights, sparking a heated debate over whether this year's event should be canceled. Some readers were eager to join that conversation:

I have attended for years, never seen violence. The violence scare is totally blown out of proportion. Its a fun event. Beginning it at 6 am will compress the parade into a rushed event. Its just another gentrification move. **Reveler from Ft. Greene**

At the age of 83, I have been a part of J'Ouvert from the beginning, along with its founders, Brain, Juju, Jerry, and others. Lets look at how many years we have had J'Ouvert without any incidents. I agree moving up the time is a good idea and takes nothing away from the fete. To even think of canceling it would amount to a slap in the face of all West Indians. Real talk!!! Aka: Tahzann.

Carlton E. Munroe aka Curly from Flatbush

The people who've been killed — stabbed, shot, run over — aren't victims of violence? Do you mean only a few people get killed so no big deal because most people are having a grand time doing drugs and alcohol?

Jocelle from Crown Heights

Crown Heights activists accused Mayor DeBlasio of using a Manhattan town hall as an excuse to avoid a meeting they invited him to about his redevelopment plan for their nabe's armory, but said they would not let his absence stop them from airing their grievances ("Acting out: Locals accuse mayor of skipping armory meeting, say they will cast stand-in at event," by Colin Mixson, online Aug. 2).

DeBlasio supports handing over the publicly owned Bedford-Union Armory to private developer BFC partners, which has promised to build below-market-rate housing and a non-for-profit recreation center at the historic military structure on Bedford Avenue between President

and Union streets in return. But community members continue to rail against the scheme.

Organizers were outraged after learning that DeBlasio scheduled a meeting in Manhattan at the same time as theirs, a move they saw as a thinly veiled escape from what could be an overtly hostile gathering. The local activists chose not to travel across the river to confront him, however. And neither did some readers, who weighed in on the divisive project:

As someone who actually lives in the neighborhood, let me give you a synopsis of what is happening. We have made literally dozens of alternative proposals:

1. Turn it into a free community parking lot
2. Mini storage facility
3. Vibrant music center full of free instruments provided by the city
4. Hang-out space

And many others. The mayor has willingly ignored our demands! But two can play at this game, and from now on we will ignore his demands!

He wants it? Well too bad, we didn't hear that! I don't think he'll like that, but that's what's gonna happen.

Lulu from Crown Heights

How about next time you invite other mayoral candidates and have them talk about what they would do as opposed to this joker!

Nick from Gowanus

Yes , of course DeBlasio s----. He doesn't care about any of the residents in Brooklyn... pushing his agenda. This is just another one of the many reasons why he should be HISTORY in January.

I read 50 percent approval rating ?????? You vote for him and you get what you deserve, suckers.

Ralph from Bed Stuy

Of course the people who already have housing don't care if any more gets built. No skin off their backs.

Mike from Williamsburg

I am not surprised at DeBlasio, he is in the pockets of developers and financial institutions.

The tale of two cities he ran on was complete —. It's gentrification of the whole city. Sad, no more culture, just Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts everywhere.

Steven from Bay Ridge

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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120 Dikeman Street LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/21/17. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Joseph Ruggiero, 490 Clinton St., Brooklyn, NY 11231. General Purpose. Latest date to dissolve: 6/20/2047.

LEGAL NOTICE

122 Dikeman Street LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/21/17. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Joseph Ruggiero, 490 Clinton St., Brooklyn, NY 11231. General Purpose. Latest date to dissolve: 6/20/2047.

LEGAL NOTICE

158 SEVENTH AVENUE BROOKLYN LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/27/2017. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 10823 68th Drive, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

54 1st Place LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/18/17. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process Rachel Hines, 17 Shermerhorn St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. General Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Agence Lavoie, LLC Arts. of Org. filed w/ SSNY 6/19/17. Off. in Kings Co. SSNY desig. as agt. of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Ste 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The reg. agt. is United States Corporation Agents, Inc. at same address. Purpose: any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Benjamin Properties Management LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of

LEGAL NOTICE

State of NY (SSNY) 6/15/2017. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 167 McKinley Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11208. General Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

B.J.L Productions LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Sec of State (SS-NY) on May 15 th 2017. Office Location: Kings County, SSNY desig for service of process. SSNY shall mail copies of process to: 58 Dahill Road 5B Brooklyn, NY 11218. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

LEGAL NOTICE

By The Bottle LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/28/17. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process Laura Naylor, 535 Dean St., Apt. 615, Brooklyn, NY 11217. General Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

FCME, LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/5/17. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 22 North 6th St., #21GH, Brooklyn, NY 11249. General Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Grand Beagle Brooklyn, LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/14/17. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 132 Carroll St., #1, Brooklyn, NY 11231. General Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Lucky 888 Group LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/08/17. Off. Loc.: Kings Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 1637 W 2nd St. Brooklyn, NY 11223. General Purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

Ninth Street Creative LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 5/10/2017. Cty: Kings. SSNY desig. as

LEGAL NOTICE

agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 566 9th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215. General Purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of 727 Ocean, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/23/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to: 67 Amherst Street, Brooklyn, NY 11235. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of AWESOME BROOKLYN LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/12/17. Office location: Kings County. Princ. office of LLC: c/o Vanessa Raptopoulos, 5 Parkside Ct., Unit #1, Brooklyn, NY 11226. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: JORDYN ROLLING, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/03/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH SVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: BLACK CAT PROPERTIES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/28/2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: E.

LEGAL NOTICE

DAVID JONES 1239 DEKALB AVE BROOKLYN, NY 11221. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: DONG & CHEN 332 LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/19/2017 Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 332 39TH ST BROOKLYN, NY 11232. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: MENNUTO LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/08/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: CHRISTOPHER MENNUTO 7 RIDGEWOOD PLACE APT 2R BROOKLYN, NY 11237. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: AKEIBRAND, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/12/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: BROOKLYN PLACENTA SERVICES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/06/2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom

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process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: JENNIFER MAYER 428 PARK PL #2B BROOKLYN, NY 11238. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: TIU INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSAL LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/24/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: ERIC TIU 28 PARK ST. #1 BROOKLYN, NY 11206. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: FINISHLINE DESIGNS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/03/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SANDBOX (BKLYN), LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/24/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: SVETLANA PARILOVA 11 TERRACE PLACE, APT. 3A BROOKLYN, NY 11218. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: BODEGA BOX LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of

LEGAL NOTICE

State of New York (SSNY) on 03/24/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: TIFFANI JOSEPH 837 LINCOLN PLACE BROOKLYN, NY 11216. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: ADVENTURES IN STORYLAND, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/28/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: INTIEARTH, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/23/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 26 BUTLER STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11231. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: THREE CROWN STUDIO, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/25/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: ROSE & IVY MEDIA LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/28/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: ALISON ENGSTORM 145 LUQUER STREET NO.3 BROOKLYN, NY 11231. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: POSH GURL BRAND, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/10/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 387 LEWIS AVE BROOKLYN, NY 11233. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: BLUE GULF LEARNING LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/31/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: CHARLIE LEUNG 2952 AVENUE S BROOKLYN, NY 11229. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: ELLA SAWTELL LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/10/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: ELLA STEPHANIE DENHOLM SAWTELL 3841 18TH AVE #6C BROOKLYN, NY 11218. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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

Awfully sexy



A bloody shame:
Burlesque performer
Fancy Feast will host
the “Maim that Tune”
show celebrating
terrible music on
Aug. 12. *James Ridley*

Strippers dance to world’s worst music

By Bill Roundy

This is going to be terrible. At the “Maim that Tune” burlesque show on Saturday night, strippers will dance to the worst music they can imagine, including commercial jingles, inept ballads, and Toby Keith songs. The nauseating numbers chosen by the nearly-naked performers at the Sideshows by the Seashore theater in Coney Island on Aug. 12 will lead to an evening like no other, said the show’s producer.

“People are screaming and saying ‘No!’ and clutching their heads — and that’s not the typical reaction to a burlesque show,” said host and performer Fancy Feast, who reigned as Miss Coney Island 2016. “It subverts the idea of what

is a sexy night out.”

This is Williamsburg performer’s third year producing the night of miserable music — which sold out both of its previous incarnations. There is something cathartic about expressing your feeling about terrible tunes along with a crowd, said Fancy.

“People think they’re alone in their hatred [of certain songs], but here they can get their ya-yas out,” she said. “It appeals to both sadists and masochists, so it’s a little something for everyone.”

In previous years, dancers have stripped to the Mr. Softee jingle, a mash-up of Smashmouth’s “All Star” and John Lennon’s “Imagine,” and Billy Ray Cyrus’s “Achy Breaky Heart.” But the “objective

badness” of a song is less important to Fancy than the pain that each of the 13 performers go through while practicing their routines to music that they hate. Working through their revulsion can lead to a creative breakthrough, said Fancy.

“I’m always amazed to see what happens in a performer’s head when they are stuck with a song that they hate for a long period of time. It creates some pretty twisted striptease,” she said. “There have been several acts that have come out of this that have gone into regular rotation in people’s acts.”

Fancy would not reveal any of this year’s line-up, because the anticipation of waiting for the next song is part of the fun.

“People are really waiting for the next track, to see if they really hate it or not,” she said. “There have been some moments of debate.”

But she did reveal that two performers at this year’s show have chosen the same awful tune — which she would normally not allow.

“As a producer, on any other night, I would make them get a new selection,” said Fancy. “But for this show, some things are better heard twice, so people can really meditate on why the songs are so odious.”

“Maim that Tune” at Sideshows by the Seashore [1208 Surf Ave. between W. 12th Street and Stillwell Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 372-5159, www.coneyisland.com/, Aug. 12 at 10 pm. \$15.

EASY BEING GREEN

Sail to Greenpoint for great booze and food

By Carlo Bosticco

This New York City ferry tale is coming to a close.

This week, we arrive at the northernmost Brooklyn location on our ferry kingdom ride. Did we save the best for last? Greenpoint certainly puts up a fight for the crown.

The pier surroundings are quite industrial, but a quick walk down India Street brings you to the trendy **Moonlight Mile** (200 Franklin St. at India Street), named after a Rolling Stones song. It offers a dozen craft beers on tap, almost 200 options of American bourbon, whiskey, and rye, and a well-stocked, completely free jukebox. The venue also takes on a retro flair on Thursdays, with its cheeky Vinyl Nights.

If you need food before your booze, keep walking down India to Manhattan Avenue and turn left. Here you'll find **Jungle Café** (996 Manhattan Ave. at Huron Street), a homey and hearty vegan eatery, utterly delicious for all palates and very kid-friendly. Try the mac and cheese with Southern greens and fakin' bacon, then grab one of their fresh juices for the road — it's time for a short walk.

Stroll south along the neighborhood's vibrant high street, Manhattan Avenue, then turn onto Bedford Avenue to discover the giant stretch of greenery that is **McCarren Park**, which offers an Olympic-sized public pool and courts and fields for all manners of sports, including softball, kickball, and bocce ball. Also very popular is the Saturday



Jungle boogie: At the colorful Jungle Cafe in Greenpoint, Amira Abdalla holds guacamole and chips and a Jungle Burrito.

Photo by Jason Speakman

green market, offering produce from orchards, farms, and bakeries across New York and New Jersey.

If your exertions have left you gasping for some alcoholic refreshment, on the outskirts of the park you will find **Spritzenhaus 33** (33 Nassau Ave. at Gurensy Street), a truly massive fairy light-lit and wooden-tabled German beer hall. During the summer the walls roll up into the ceiling, giving a open-air, breezy feel to the proceedings, and its wood-burning ovens turn out a German-centric menu of

sausages and pretzels.

Finally, lovers of punk music should check out the nearby **Warsaw** (261 Driggs Ave., between Leonard and Eckford streets), an old Polish music hall turned contemporary concert venue — and yes, they still serve kielbasa. The venue is closed for August, but starts up with a juicy selection of global artists in September.

New York City Ferry at Greenpoint (10 India St. at the waterfront in Greenpoint, www.ferry.nyc). \$2.75 per trip.

Pilot life

By Lauren Gill

It is about time!

A floating restaurant aboard a historic schooner lowered its gangplank to visitors on Thursday night, just off Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 6. The much-anticipated opening of Pilot gives Kings County residents a new waterfront spot to drop anchor and chow down.

The floating eatery serves a seafood-focused menu that includes oysters, lobster rolls, and a soft-shell crab po' boy. It also boasts two bars serving \$15 craft cocktails and several sit-down tables.

Pilot is owned by Alex and Miles Pincus, the team behind the popular Manhattan restaurant-on-a-boat Grand Banks.

The schooner was only recently decked out for an upscale dining experience — the 1924-built vessel enjoyed a previous life as the "Highlander Sea," which guided visiting ships safely into Boston Harbor, and later sailed around



Setting sail: Pilot owners Miles and Alex Pincus enjoy their new floating restaurant.

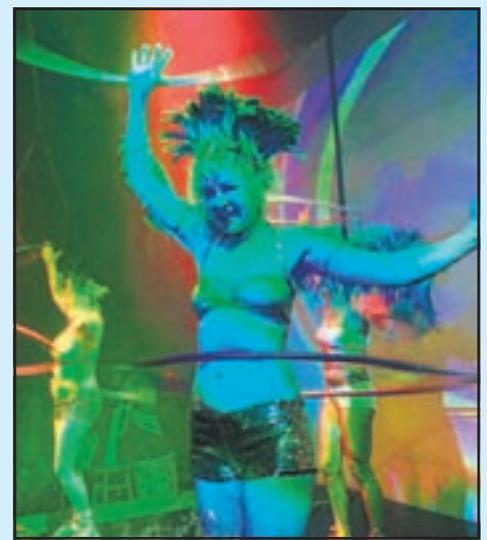
Photo by Jason Speakman

the world as a research vessel.

After being acquired by the Pincus brothers, it was re-purposed at Gowanus Bay Terminal in Red Hook, where damaged planks from the hull were removed and replaced to accommodate the bar, kitchens, and freezers.

It will remain docked on the north side of Pier 6 until October.

Pilot at Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 6 (Atlantic Avenue and Furman Street in Brooklyn Heights, www.pilotbrooklyn.com). Mon–Fri, 3 pm–midnight; Sat, Sun, 11 am–midnight.



Spin zone: Big Sky Works troupe Heavenly Bodies will put on space-themed hula hoop show "Starship Hoopers" in the Dumbo Archway on Aug. 17.

Tanya Gagne

Hoop dream

Cosmic hula-hoopers get spacey in Dumbo

By Lauren Gill

These dancers are spin doctors!

A troupe of cosmic hula hoopers will roll out their space-themed performance "Starship Hoopers" at the Manhattan Bridge Archway on Aug. 17, as part of the Live at the Archway event series. The show's creator hopes the audience will get involved and move their hips — which is ironically a good way to stay grounded when faced with the world's lunacy, she says.

"I feel like the world is in a pretty crazy state of chaos these days and there's an overall feeling like we're in outer space," said Tanya Gagne, who owns Big Sky Works, an arts and circus space in Williamsburg. "It's hard to figure out how to navigate our lives on this planet — hula-hooping is an amazing way to be in your body and have fun."

Gagne chose an August date for her show to coincide with two major astronomical events — the lunar eclipse on Aug. 7 and the solar eclipse on Aug. 21. To celebrate, eight hula hoopers in glitzed out costumes will create a living planetary out of 70 glowing hoops, all spinning to spaced-out songs from artists including David Bowie, the Beatles, and Modest Mouse.

After the performance, the Heavenly Bodies troupe will teach the audience their techniques for hooping it up, a skill that can be picked up surprisingly quickly, Gagnes said.

"I want people to get into it and learn a few things," she said. "Some people think they can't hula-hoop, and within 15 minutes they're doing it."

"Starship Hoopers" has no storyline, so people can drop in to gaze at one starry number, or stay for the whole 90-minute hoop-de-doo. Gagnes hopes that those who come by will discover the circular logic of hooping their worries away.

"I'm just trying to spread the love of people being in their bodies and having something that brings them joy that they can do anywhere," she said.

"Starship Hoopers" at Dumbo Archway (Water St. between Adams Street and Anchorage Place in Dumbo, www.dumbo.is/live-at-the-archway). Aug. 17 at 6 pm. Free.

WHERE TO GO WHAT TO DO SEVEN EVENTS

THEATER, NAKED "HAM-LET": An all-male group of actors wearing only their birthday suits will perform a nude version of Shakespeare's "Hamlet." Free. 5:30 pm. Prospect Park's Music Pagoda (Enter at Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Road in Prospect Lefferts Gardens), www.torn-outtheater.org.

MUSIC, WHITNEY, MOSES SUMNEY, WEYES BLOOD, DR. ASHLEY JACKSON: Part of the annual outdoor Celebrate Brooklyn! festival. Free. 7 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell [Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-8900], www.bricartsmedia.org/cb.

MUSIC, JAZZY JAZZ FESTIVAL 2017: A weekly jazz tribute to the music of Lena Horne. Free. 7pm-10pm. Medgar Evers College [1638 Bedford Ave. at Crown Street in Crown Heights, (718) 270-5140].

FILM, "ROGUE ONE": A free outdoor screening of the latest Star Wars flick in Owl's Head Park, presented by Councilman Gentile. Free. 7 pm. Owl's Head Park Playground [Colonial Road at 67th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 748-5300].

MUSIC, ACOUSTIC ABSTRACTIONS: Musician Seann Cantatore of Flounder Warehouse performs songs based on artwork by Maddie Moller, which will be on display during the show. \$10. 7 pm. Nu Hotel Brooklyn [85 Smith St. at Atlantic Avenue in Downtown, (718) 852-8585], www.nuhotelbrooklyn.com.

MUSIC, CRUEL SUMMER: A two-room takeover of '80s anthems performed by 10-piece cover band the Engagements and '90s hits spun by DJ Steve Reynolds. \$10. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebell-house.com.

THEATER, "LITTLE MURDERS": This site-specific play is set in a decayed and bullet-ridden New York City, where the Newquist clan will stop at nothing to maintain their performance of the perfect American family. \$25 (\$20 in advance). 8 pm. Burger on Smith (209 Smith St. between Baltic and Butler streets in Cobble Hill), www.littlemurders.eventbrite.com.

CONEY ISLAND FIREWORKS: Watch the fireworks illuminate the sky at Coney Island Beach and Boardwalk. Free. 9:30 pm. Coney Island Boardwalk (between W. 10th and W. 15th streets in Coney Island), www.nycgovparks.org.

NIGHTLIFE, ¡ESCANDALO! A BURLESQUE TELENOVELA: A scripted burlesque show that follows young ingenue Chuleta as she comes of age. \$15. 10 pm. Coney Island USA (1208 Surf Ave. at W. 12th Street in Coney Island), www.coneyisland.com.



Part of their world: Young actors portray Sebastian the crab, Princess Ariel, Scuttle the seagull, and Prince Eric in the Narrows Community Theater's production of "The Little Mermaid," opening on Aug. 18. Jennifer Specht

SAT, AUG. 12

MUSIC, CONEY ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL: Bands, solo artists, and disc jockeys will play at the three stages, while vendors serve up tasty food and drinks. Free. 2-9 pm. [Stillwell Avenue at Surf Avenue in Coney Island, (347) 476-3384], www.cimusic-festival.com.

THEATER, A TASTE OF SHAKESPEARE: Three zany, short Shakespeare plays in one hour — "Tiny Tempest," "One-Twelfth Night," and "Midsummer: Tedious and Brief." Voluntary donation. 3 pm and 6 pm. Prospect Park's Concert Grove (153 E. Drive between Lincoln Road and Parkside Avenue in Prospect Park), www.hedgepigensemble.org.

THEATER, NAKED "HAM-LET": 5:30 pm. See Friday, Aug. 11.

MUSIC, YOUSOU N'DOUR, YACOUBA SISSOKO: Part of the annual outdoor Celebrate Brooklyn! festival. Free. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell [Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-8900], www.bricartsmedia.org/cb.

THEATER, "LITTLE MURDERS": 8 pm. See Friday, Aug. 11.

FAD MARKET: Browse and shop unique handcrafted art, jewelry, apparel, bath and body care, tableware, and home furnishings. Free. 11 am-6 pm. The Invisible Dog Art Center [51 Bergen St. between Boerum Place and Dean Street in Boerum Hill, (347) 560-3641], www.theinvisibledog.org.

KAYAKING: Paddle in the East River. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult guardian. Free. 10 am to 3 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse

(End of Pineapple St. and Furman Street in Brooklyn Heights), www.bbboat-house.org.

DINING, TAP AND CORK FEST: Bedford-Stuyvesant's beer and wine fest takes over Restoration Plaza for a day-long celebration, with live performances DJ CEO. \$25 (\$60 VIP). 2-8 pm. Restoration Plaza [1368 Fulton St. at Marcy Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636-6996], www.restorationplaza.org.

COMEDY, BOOK CLUB COMEDY SHOW: At Book Club, comedians read books so you don't have to! This month they discuss "The Handmaid's Tale." With hosts Colin Stokes and Blythe Roberson, Jaboukie Young-White, Monica Heisey, and more. \$8 (\$6 in advance). 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallnyc.com.

SUN, AUG. 13

DOWN TO EARTH FARMER'S MARKET: The annual farmer's market returns! Browse the wares of local vendors, including seasonal fruits and veggies, speciality foods, prepared foods, beverages, eggs, honey, milk, baked goods, and more. Free. 10 am-4 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], theoldstonehouse.org.

TOUR, GREENWOOD TROLLEY TOUR: Visit the cemetery's notable "permanent residents" on one of three trolley tours. \$20. 10 am and 1 pm. Greenwood Cemetery [Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Greenwood Heights, (718) 210-3080], www.greenwood.com.

TOUR, BIKE BROWNSTONE BROOKLYN: Take a bike tour through Brooklyn's most idyllic neighborhoods, with a trip from Park Slope to Red Hook and back. \$20. 10 am. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], www.bike.nyc.

MUSIC, SUNSET TANKER-TIME: Enjoy a Mediterranean-themed music jam while you relax onboard the Mary A. Whalen boat. Free. 5 pm-midnight. Mary A. Whalen, Pier 11, Atlantic Basin [190 Pioneer St. at ferry landing in Red Hook, (917) 414-0565], portside-newyork.org/summer-2017.

THEATER, "LITTLE MURDERS": 8 pm. See Friday, Aug. 11.

KAYAK POLO: These games are open to the public and totally free! Your level of experience doesn't matter, and nothing will improve your kayaking skills as quickly as playing this game. Free with admission to the museum. 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse (End of Pineapple St. and Furman Street in Brooklyn Heights), www.bbboat-house.org.

FAMILY, MIDWOOD MOVIE HISTORY: A night of movies, family and fun, with face painters, a balloon clown, a giant slide, a screening of "Back to the Future," flick, and the Midwood Movie History Pop-up Museum. Free. 6-10 pm. Avenue M between E. 13th and E. 17th streets in Midwood.

COMEDY, NOT DEAD YET: A comedy variety show featuring experimental, original, and definitely alive performers. Featuring performances from Dylan Marron, Shalewa Sharpe, and Myq Kaplan, a reading from poet Ana Boži evi, short videos, and music from Maybird. \$7 (\$5 in advance). 8:30 pm. C'mon Everybody (325 Franklin Ave. between Clifton Place and Greene Avenue in Crown Heights), www.cmoneverybody.com.

MON, AUG. 14

FILM, "THE LEGO BATMAN MOVIE": A screening of the film as part of "Coney Island Flicks on the Beach." Come enjoy flicks with sand between your toes! Free. 7 pm. (West 12th Street and Riegelmann Boardwalk in Coney Island), www.coneyisland-funguide.com.

READING, BOOKS BE-NEATH THE BRIDGE: Jenny Zhang reads from her first story collection, "Sour Heart," and Alissa Nutting reads from her novel "Made for Love," about sex dolls and technology. Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park's Granite Prospect [Old Fulton Street at Furman Street in Dumbo, (718) 222-9939], www.brooklynbridgepark.org.

COMEDY, NIGHT TRAIN WITH WYATT CENAC: Hosted by Brooklyn-based comedy favorite Wyatt

Continued on page 31



He knows how to accessorize: Brock Lesner will wear this stylish belt while he appears at the World Wrestling Entertainment Summerslam event at Barclays Center on Aug. 20.

Associated Press / Phelan M. Ebenhack

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, AUG 11

MUSIC, UNITED PRAISE NYC: With Jeremy Camp, Fred Hammond, Jaci Velasquez, and more. \$36-\$220. 7:30 pm.

WED, AUG 14

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

FRI, AUG 18

SPORTS, WWE MEET AND GREET: \$tba. Time tba.

SAT, AUG 19

SPORTS, WWE NXT TAKEOVER: \$25-\$220. 7:15 pm.

SUN, AUG 20

SPORTS, WWE SUMMERSLAM: \$600. 6:30 pm.

MON, AUG 21

SPORTS, WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW: \$45-\$240. 7:30 pm.

TUE, AUG 22

SPORTS, WWE SMACKDOWN LIVE: \$25-\$160. 7:45 pm.

MON, SEPT 11

MUSIC, ROGER WATERS: \$55-\$605. 8 pm.

TUE, SEPT 12

MUSIC, ROGER WATERS: \$55-\$605. 8 pm.

SAT, SEPT 16

SPORTS, ELECTRONIC SPORTS LEAGUE ONE NEW YORK: \$45. 10 am.

SUN, SEPT 17

SPORTS, ELECTRONIC SPORTS LEAGUE ONE NEW YORK: \$45. 10 am.

TUE, SEPT 19

MUSIC, PAUL MCCARTNEY: \$175-\$350. 8 pm.

WED, SEPT 20

SPORTS, NEW YORK ISLANDERS V PHILADELPHIA FLYERS PRE-SEASON: \$22-\$105. 7 pm.

THU, SEPT 21

MUSIC, PAUL MCCARTNEY: \$42-\$350. 8 pm.

MON, SEPT 25

SPORTS, NEW YORK ISLANDERS V NEW JERSEY DEVILS PRE-SEASON: \$22-\$105. 7 pm.

FRI, SEPT 29

MUSIC, ED SHEERAN: Sold out. 7:30 pm.

SAT, SEPT 30

MUSIC, ED SHEERAN: Sold out. 7:30 pm.

SUN, OCT 1

MUSIC, ED SHEERAN: Sold out. 7:30 pm.

WED, OCT 4

MUSIC, BRUNO MARS: \$160-\$1,200. 8 pm.

THU, OCT 5

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS V MIAMI HEAT PRE-SEASON: \$tba. 7:30 pm.

SAT, OCT 7

SPORTS, NEW YORK ISLANDERS V BUFFALO SABRES: \$tba. 7 pm.

SUN, OCT 8

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS V NEW YORK KNICKS PRE-SEASON: \$tba. 7:30 pm.

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

DRAWING FIRE

Artist brings fantasy comics to FlameCon

By Julianne Cuba

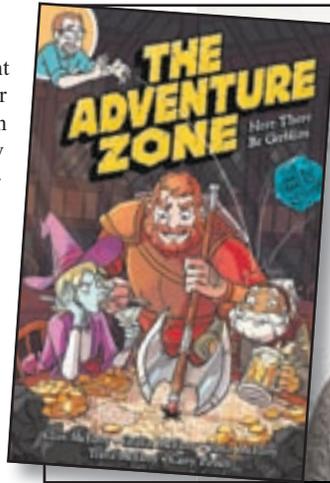
She's in the Zone! A Bedford-Stuyvesant cartoonist will showcase her fantastical comics about lesbian witches, lost dragons, and goofy adventurers at the queer comics festival FlameCon, happening at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott on Aug. 19 and 20. Carey Pietsch says that adapting the popular Dungeons & Dragons podcast "The Adventure Zone," in a comic coming out next year has pushed her out of her artistic comfort zone.

"I'm pretty lazy and would never want to write like, a herd of horses into a comic I'm making for myself, and if unchecked, those tendencies would end up limiting me," said Pietsch. "Working with another writer gets me to learn to draw things I wouldn't on my own — and it usually ends up being a really fun challenge!"

"The Adventure Zone" follows a trio of "lovable dummies" as they journey through a fantasy world, and Pietsch enjoys the chance to take their adventures out of the headphones and onto the page, she said.

"I'm really, really excited about the ways that translating it into a sequential, visual medium is going to allow us to continue to develop these characters and the world," she said. "I love how much personality shows through in the voice acting the team does already, and I'm really looking forward to building on that with characters' body language and acting on the page."

At FlameCon, Carey will show off some of her original art, a zine of



Party of three: Brooklyn artist Carey Pietsch has adapted the Dungeons & Dragons podcast "The Adventure Zone" into a graphic novel, coming out in 2018. Check out some of the art from the book at FlameCon, on Aug. 15–16 Downtown.

theadventurezonecomic.com

queer fancomics set in the "Legend of Zelda" universe titled "Legend of Gay Zelda," and many of her own mini-comic stories.

When writing and drawing her own books, Pietsch said that she focuses on creating a world that will showcase character relationships.

"I write a lot of fantasy, too. I'm a big fan of the way that kind of setting can be used to present novelty or encourage a feeling of discovery, but even more than that, I'm interested in using it as a tool to explore interpersonal relationships in new settings," said Pietsch. "So my new comics generally come from me spending a lot of time thinking about the combination of those ideas, and tossing out a lot of less-than-stellar false starts."

FlameCon will feature two days of

panel discussions on queer nerd topics, games, and more than 200 exhibitors showing off their work. Pietsch said that she is thrilled to be able to bring her personal stories to a convention filled with like-minded fans.

"Getting to exhibit at FlameCon means the world to me! I'm so, so excited to get to be a part of a convention that's all about queer comics and queer creators," she said. "It's really special to me that we get to have an entire show that's all about celebrating and bringing together our community."

Carey Pietsch at FlameCon at Brooklyn Bridge Marriott (333 Adams St. at Metrotech Walk Downtown, www.flamecon.org) Aug. 19; noon–7:30 pm, Aug. 20; noon–5:30 pm. \$20–\$79.



Bone up on film: Little Cinema creates immersive screenings of cult films, such as this scene from their show for "Donnie Darko."

The 'Big' show Immersive Little Cinema group takes on the Dude

By Alexandra Simon

The show abides.

A high-flying film series in Bushwick will celebrate the cult classic "The Big Lebowski" at two immersive screenings filled with music, eye-popping visuals, and aerial performances. Little Cinema's "The Dude," at the House of Yes on Aug. 15 and 16, will be the company's final show of the season, and the popular stoner film is the perfect choice to take it home, said the founder of the screening series.

"We love this movie, and this summer edition is our last show before we take a small break and we wanted something fun and happy and also thought-provoking," said Jay Rinsky, who lives in Williamsburg.

The movie is a timeless piece of work, and filled with imagery that Rinsky has long wanted to use in the show.

"Beyond fundamentals and pop culture, the film has a lot of really creative visual components," said Rinsky. "'The Big Lebowski' is a political film with a lot of fun in it and it's one of my personal favorite films, and something we wanted to do for a long time.

Over the last few years, the Little Cinema series has created immersive shows for 33 different movies, including cult classics "The Fifth Element," "Donnie Darko," and "Labyrinth." Each show immerses the audience in the world of the film, with actors dressed as the characters interacting with the audience, re-mixed visuals and music,

and dance numbers inspired by the action on screen.

For "The Big Lebowski," the entertainment will involve 20 performers, with dancers dressed as nihilist Germans, flamenco music, and drink specials on White Russian cocktails. There will also be a drinking game for guests who can spot a flying rug, which really ties the room together, said Rinsky.

"It's a fusion of a live music, live circus dance, and immersive effects and a whole lot of crazy while film plays," he said.

It may seem over-the-top, but that's just, like, your opinion, man.

"Through live music and video, we are going to recut our own visuals, and costumed and aerial dancers will be flying above people's heads while other things happen around them," said Rinsky. "Expect one surprise after another, and expect beautiful and psychedelic and skillfully impressive aerial dancers, and the Dude flying above your head in a dream sequence."

The performers often interact with the audience, but socially anxious viewers who, like Donny, find themselves out of their element can choose to sit in a "safe space zone," where they can watch the show without getting involved, said Rinsky.

"Little Cinema: The Dude" at House of Yes [2 Wyckoff Avenue between Jefferson and Troutman streets in Bushwick, (347) 469-9882, www.houseofyes.org]. Aug 15–16 at 7 pm. \$30–\$45.

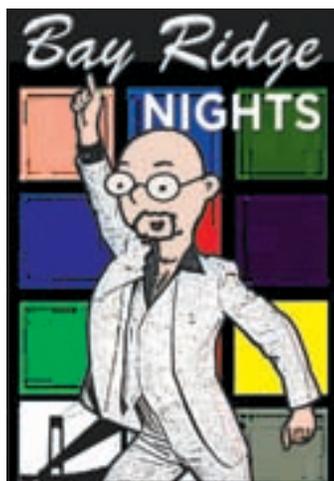
Bay Ridge puts it in park

By Bill Roundy

Bay Ridge is ditching the cars and heading outside for artsy activities this weekend.

Get out on Friday night for the summer's final **SummerStroll on Third** (Third Avenue between 68th to 80th streets). The thoroughfare will be closed to cars from 6 pm to 10 pm, so you can do some al fresco dining in the street, do some shopping, and cross the street without looking both ways. Start your night outside the **Pour House of Bay Ridge** (7901 Third Avenue at 79th Street), where Nordic rockers Lords of the Fjords will be playing.

Once you've walked the length of Third Avenue, blast off towards a green space not too far, far away. **Owl's Head Park** (enter at Colonial Road and 67th Street) will be screening "Star Wars: Rogue One" at sun-



down (around 8 pm).

Pop back to Owl's Head Park the next day for the **Brooklyn Shakespeare Fest**, which will present a stripped-down, high-energy ver-

sion of "Measure for Measure," with six actors taking on all the parts. The show must go on at noon, 3 pm, and 6 pm on both Saturday and Sunday, rain or shine. Between performances, different musical acts will take to the grassy stage, and the Brooklyn Streetcar Artists Group will show off its work in a pop-up exhibit. You can also make an intermission visit to the Bay Ridge Rocks! Group, which will be painting pebbles with colorful messages and hiding them around the park for people to find.

Six showings of Shakespeare not enough theater for you? You can also catch the young performers of "Into the Woods, Jr." belting out some Sondheim songs at **Bay Ridge Prep** (8101 Ridge Blvd. at 81st Street) this weekend, with showings at 7:30 pm on Friday, 2 pm and 7 pm on Saturday, and 3 pm on Sunday. Tickets are \$10.

WHERE TO GO **WHAT TO DO** **SEVEN** **EVENTS**

Continued from page 29

CENAC, this weekly show features comedy from the best local and international stand up comedians. \$8 (\$5 in advance). 8 pm. Littlefield (635 Sackett St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus), www.littlefieldnyc.com.

TALK, SECRET SCIENCE CLUB: Buckle your rocket ship's seat belt for an evening of mind-bending lectures, volatile experiments, chemical libations, and star-gazing sounds. Free. 8 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhousesny.com.

COMEDY, SIDE PONYTAIL: The Monday night comedy show welcomes Jacob Williams, Zach Sims, Fumi Abe, and Alvin Irby. Free. 8 pm. Friends and Lovers (641 Classon Ave. between Dean and Pacific streets in Crown Heights).

TUES, AUG. 15

TALK, HONEY WORKSHOP AND TASTING: Enjoy a fun wildflower honey evening awakening your palate comparing honeys from Brooklyn Grange and from western Massachusetts. With cocktails, too. \$35. 7 pm. The Farm on Adderley [1108 Cortelyou Rd. between Stratford and Westminster roads in Ditmas Park, (718) 287-3101], thefarmonadderley.com.

TALK, DEATH AND DHARMA: The Brooklyn Zen Center and Greenwood Cemetery host discussion so death, dying, and the hereafter. \$5-\$20. 7 pm. Greenwood Cemetery [Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Greenwood Heights, (718) 210-3080], www.brooklynzen.org.

WED, AUG. 16

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CYCLONES V. ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS: \$10. 7 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449-8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

BROOKLYN SMUTTY BOOK CLUB: The second session of the Brooklyn Smutty Book Club will discuss "The Average American Male," by Chad Kultgen. With \$5 cock-tale specials. Free. 7 pm. Paddy's of Park Slope [273 13th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 369-0831], www.meetup.com/Smutty-Book-Club.

TALK, GENERATION WOMEN: A cross-generational storytelling night for women with the theme "Nevertheless, I Persisted." \$25. 7 pm. Wythe Hotel [80 Wythe Ave. at N. 11th Street in Williamsburg, (718) 460-8000], www.wythehotel.com.

READING, EMILY CULLITON:

The Brooklyn author reads from her debut novel, "The Misfortune of Marion Palm," about a woman who embezzles from her children's private school and makes a run for it. Free. 7:30 pm. Books Are Magic (225 Smith St. at Butler Street in Cobble Hill).

COMEDY, COMEDIANS YOU SHOULD KNOW: David Drake hosts this weekly Chicago-style stand up showcase. With Megan Gailey, Aaron Weaver, Saurin Choksi, and more. \$5. 9 pm. The Gutter [200 N. 14th St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 387-3585], www.thegutterbrooklyn.com.

THURS, AUG. 17

FILM, "MAD MAX — FURY ROAD": Enjoy a screening of the movie, set to the backdrop of the New York City skyline! Music and food vendors open at 6 pm, and the movie begins at sundown. Free. 6 pm. Harbor View Lawn, Pier 1 (Furman Street at Old Fulton Street in Dumbo), brooklynbridgepark.org.

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CYCLONES V. ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS: Starting at \$12. 7 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449-8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

MUSIC, "ECHO ET NARCISSE": Brooklyn Opera Works presents the rarely heard Baroque opera based on the myth of Echo and Narcissus. \$10-\$25. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Music School Playhouse [126 Saint Felix St. between DeKalb Avenue and Fulton Street in Fort Greene, (646) 765-4773], www.brooklyn-musicschool.org.

OUTDOORS, JOURNEY TO THE STARS: The Amateur Astronomers Association of New York sets up high-powered telescopes for stargazing sessions that are free and open to the public, weather permitting. Free. 8:30-10:30 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier One [Old Fulton Street at Furman Street in Dumbo, (718) 222-9939], www.brooklynbridgepark.org.

MUSIC, NINA DIAZ: \$12 (\$10 in advance). 9 pm. Rough Trade NYC [64 N. Ninth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 388-4111], www.roughtradenyc.com.

FRI, AUG. 18

FACE OF FIFTH AVENUE WEEKEND WALK: Enjoy live music, diverse dining, original artwork, and children's entertainment along Fifth Avenue, which will close to vehicle traffic for the night. Free. 5-10 pm. (Fifth Avenue between 73rd and 84th streets in

Bay Ridge, www.bayridge-bid.com.
ART, MOFAD AT NIGHT: An open house at the Museum of Food and Drink Lab, where you can snack, chat, and check out the "Chow: Making the Chinese American Restaurant" exhibit. \$20. 6 pm. Museum of Food and Drink [62 Bayard St. between Lorimer and Leonard streets in Williamsburg, (718) 387-2845], www.mofad.org.

THEATER, "CHECKS AND BALANCES, OR BOTTOMS UP!": A young New York schoolgirl is galvanized into a community activist and together with key allies, learns to fight back against forces of tyranny, prejudice, and hatred through satire, song and slapstick. Free. 6:30 pm. (Coney Island Boardwalk at W. 10th St. in Coney Island), www.theaterforthenewcity.net.

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CYCLONES V. ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS: Starting at \$12. 6:40 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449-8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

MUSIC, JAZZY JAZZ FESTIVAL 2017: 7pm-10pm. See Friday, Aug. 11.

THEATER, "THE LITTLE MERMAID": The Narrows Community Theater presents its Summer Youth production of Disney's animated movie. ID Required to enter the base. \$25 (\$20 seniors and students; \$15 children 12 and younger). 8 pm. Ft. Hamilton Army Base Theater [101st Street and Ft. Hamilton Parkway in Bay Ridge, (718) 482-3173], www.narrowscommunitytheater.com.

SAT, AUG. 19

TOUR, BIKE TO THE BEACH: Take a bike tour through Prospect Park and then along the Ocean Parkway Bike path — the oldest in America — to Coney Island. \$20. 10 am. Bartel-Pritchard Square (15th Street at Prospect Park West in Park Slope), www.bike.nyc.

THEATER, "CHECKS AND BALANCES, OR BOTTOMS UP!": See Aug. 18. Free. 2 pm. Herbert Von King Park (Marcy and Lafayette avenues), www.theaterforthenewcity.net.

MUSIC, IN THE VALLEY BELOW: With Flagship. \$15. 9 pm. Rough Trade NYC [64 N. Ninth St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 388-4111], www.roughtradenyc.com.

TRAVELING IN THE CITY OF TOMORROW: All ages will enjoy this workshop where transportation alternatives of the future will be explored and then use craft materials to design vehicles for the next century. Free with Museum Admission. 1:30 pm. New York Transit Museum [Boerum Place at Schermerhorn Street in Downtown, (718) 694-1600], www.nytransit-museum.org.

"THE LITTLE MERMAID": 8 pm. See Friday, Aug. 18.

6 PERFORMANCES
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● 'I always wanted to be involved in the Mets organization.'

— Brooklyn Cyclones manager Edgardo Alfonzo on his first season at the helm.

● 'I play as if I had zero schools watching me.'

— South Shore senior guard Earlette Scott on tournament play.

South Shore standout ready for senior year

BY TROY MAURIELLO

There's still more to prove.

The South Shore girls' basketball squad has won three-straight city championships, and its first-ever New York State Federation title, but star guard Earlette Scott and her fellow Lady Vikings don't believe the job is done.

The rising senior has made remarkable strides in three seasons, but this year, Scott and her teammates will be assigned increased roles on and off the court.

But if she feels the pressure, Scott isn't showing it. In fact, she's confident the squad new crop of seniors will continue to be successful in 2017-18.

"Losing seniors affected the team, however it's time for others to step up, grow and mature and fulfill what the seniors left for us," Scott said. "I think I'm going to handle it, just by having other seniors to lean on."

She made it clear, that even after three city titles in three seasons, the Lady Vikings are taking nothing for granted. Scott said she'll be driven by the fact that other squads will seek to block the team's march to another championship. "Motivation is knowing we can lose, that's the motivation," she said.

Expectations for the Lady Vikings to achieve a fourth straight title will be high, but



SUMMERTIME SPARK: Lady Vikings guard Earlette Scott has drawn Division I interest this summer, boosting her confidence as she gets ready for one last high-school season. Community News Group / Laura Amato

Scott is convinced that if the team takes it one day at a time, good things will happen.

"The expectation is just to get better every day," she said. "We can't worry what other people think and say; we can only live by: 'We just gotta make our game better.'"

So far this summer, Scott has certainly lived up to that "get better every day" mantra. She recently played the final game of her AAU career with the Lady Gauchos, a team from the Bronx, and made sure that her final season was a memo-

Continued on page 34



HAPPY AT HOME: Former St. Francis cross country star Chris Mills, left, with returning senior J'Renda Rivera, center, and assistant coach Richard Squire is living his dream entering his second season as head coach. St. Francis Athletics

St. Francis alum sparking cross-country program

BY TROY MAURIELLO

The dream is still coming true.

When St. Francis Brooklyn alum Chris Mills took over the Terriers' cross country and track and field program last year — the same program he had set records for two decades earlier — he could barely believe his good fortune. Now, as he heads into his second season at the helm, not much has changed.

"My first year on the job, I kind of had to pinch myself," Mills said. "You can't believe that you're back coaching at your alma mater. For me it was a very rewarding experience."

Mills didn't just compete at St. Francis, he excelled, winning back-to-back 800-meter titles at the Northeast Conference championships in 1996-97, and setting a conference 800-meter record along the

way. But these days, he's just as proud of the work he's currently doing.

"I wouldn't trade this for anything, this was my dream job to come back to St. Francis," he said. "Division I jobs don't come around often, and how many people can say that you're back home at your school?"

Mills had previous coaching stints at Holy Family University and ASA College, but when he returned to his alma mater he took over a cross country program expected by many to finish near the bottom of the Northeast Conference standings. But the Terriers surged to a sixth place finish in the conference by season's end, and were mere points away from the top five. Senior Luis Porto was the main standout under Mills' tutelage, finishing fifth overall in the North-

Continued on page 34

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Kids cut a rug!

Local tots compete to perform for Brooklyn Nets

BY LAUREN GILL

Call them dancing tweens!

Hundreds of youngsters auditioned for the Brooklyn Nets kids dance team on Aug. 5 at Long Island University's Paramount Theater, busting their best moves for the chance to shake it on the Barclays Center court, according to the mom of a pint-sized performer.

"She would love nothing more than to represent and be on that stage performing for that crowd," said Sabrina Lewis, whose 9-year-old daughter Madison Lucas tried out. "It's a great opportunity for the kids."

Approximately 400 boys and girls aged 6-13 competed and just 16 made the team, which performs during intermissions at the basketball team's home games, according to a Nets spokeswoman.

Hopefuls had just 20 minutes to learn the different



MOVING AND GROOVING: Youngsters auditioned for one of 16 coveted spots on the Brooklyn Nets' kids dance team on Saturday.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

routines they were asked to perform in each round of the audition.

Lewis' daughter advanced to the third stage before getting cut, an improvement on last year when she didn't make it past the first.

And although she won't be hitting the court this season,

she walked away with a new buddy and some winning tips for next year, her mom said.

"Even though she got cut, she now has a new lifetime friend," Lewis said. "She learned a lot about what they need from Nets kids, like a smiling face and good attitude."

MILLS

Continued from page 33

east Conference championships and being named First-Team All-Northeast Conference.

Mills said the pressure that came with returning to a place where he'd had so much personal success didn't faze him, and admitted that he put an equal amount of pressure on his student-athletes throughout his first year back.

"My coaches have always held me to a higher standard, and that's the one thing I implemented in my first year," Mills said. "So I put the pressure on them to perform, because there is something to be said when a school is paying for you academically and athletically. So the pressure is shared by all of us equally."

As a new season begins, Mills faces another challenge: trying to replace some of his top seniors from last season — including Porto.

Mills believes he and his coaching staff have done that by recruiting some of the top track and field talent in the New York City-area. On this year's men's cross country team, all but one runner hails from one of the five boroughs, while eight of 13 runners on the women's side are city kids.

This roster makeup has its advantages, according to Mills, as it provides runners the opportunity to now compete alongside some of their top competition throughout high school.

"They ran against each other, whether it's [public school] kid versus a [public school] kid, or Catholic high

school versus Catholic high school kid," he said. "I spoke to them when I was recruiting them and I said, 'you guys have been competing against each other and beating each other up for four years. Now you have an opportunity to compete together as one.'"

Mills said he hoped the pairing of former rivals will translate into victories, big and small, throughout the season, as well as achieving the squad's main goal: finishing in the top five in the Northeast Conference.

"Track and field is all about small victories and big victories," Mills said. "And if you have a small team like we do, when you have a lot of kids that make the finals or are Northeast Conference champion or school record holder, that holds weight just as much as a team title."

SCOTT

Continued from page 33

rable one. The Lady Gauchos 17U team finished in the top five at the 2017 Adidas Uprising Championships in July, and got a chance to participate in the 2017 Nike Tournament of Champions in Chicago.

The summer experience not only afforded Scott a chance

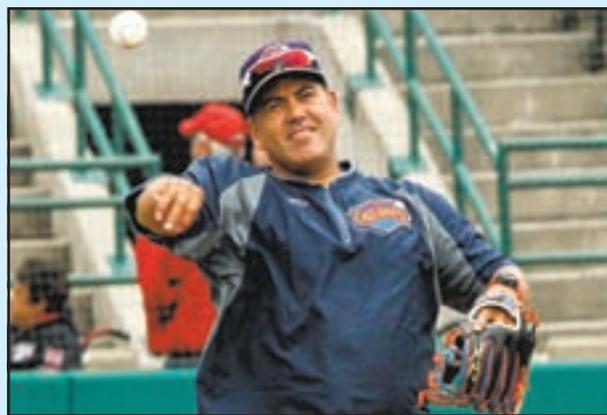
to further gel with some of her South Shore teammates, but it also allowed her to face off with some of the top competition in her age group that the country has to offer. In turn, she was able to impress representatives of some big-name schools that were surely in attendance.

"I got a chance to get a great relationship with my teammates for this upcoming

season," Scott said. "Also, I got a chance to display my talents for Division I schools." Already, she said, she's gotten offers from Providence, Georgetown and Seton Hall.

For now, Scott says she's just taking it all in, and having fun on the court.

"I enjoy it. I play as if I had zero schools watching me," she said. "It elevates my game a lot."



LEARNING CURVE: First-year Cyclones manager Edgardo Alfonzo has faced his fair share of ups and downs this season, but the former Met is taking it all in stride. Photo by Steve Solomonson

Fonzie making most of first season as Clones skipper

BY MATTHEW JOHN

Edgardo "Fonzie" Alfonzo is all too familiar with the New York atmosphere — and he always wanted to come home.

The first-year Brooklyn Cyclones manager left quite the legacy during his playing days with the Mets. In his seven years of pro ball in the Big Apple, Alfonzo earned a Silver Slugger Award, made an all-star appearance, was an integral part of what was considered to be one of the best Mets infielders of all-time with John Olerud, Rey Ordóñez and Robin Ventura, and made crucial contributions to the team's run to the World Series in 2000. His impact on the team made it that much easier for him to get involved with the organization again years later.

"That's where I made my career. I kept my house in New York, so it was a great time to come back," Alfonzo said. "I never left and I always wanted to be involved in the Mets' organization."

Alfonzo was first brought in by the Cyclones in 2014, as an assistant coach under former manager Tom Gamboa, from whom, he says, he learned a great deal.

"Gamboa was a great mentor for me," Alfonzo said. "He showed me what I should do in a situation. That guy has been around baseball a lot so it was good to be guided by him."

Alfonzo was not the first member of his family to manage the Cyclones. His

older brother, Edgar Alfonzo was at the helm in Brooklyn in 2001 — leading the team to a co-championship in its first year — and from 2007-2008. Fonzie says he got some good advice from his sibling when he was promoted as manager this season.

"He told me about this league and about running," Alfonzo said. "[He told me] it's pretty much all about pitching, holding runners and stuff like that."

With half the 2017 season now in the books, Alfonzo concedes that he's learned that and then some; and has gotten an education as manager in a part of the game in which he didn't have much experience.

"The biggest thing for me, and what I'm trying to learn as much as I can, is pitching-wise and how to deal with it," Alfonzo said. "When you have the draft so close to the season, you have to know how you're going to use your pitching, especially with the draft guys. They throw a lot of innings in college, but with the count here, you have to cut it up and work nice and slow with them."

Most importantly, Alfonzo knows he plays a vital role in his players' futures. For most of the players on the roster, playing for the Cyclones is their first real taste of professional baseball, so he knows that his influence can make a big impact on the Mets of tomorrow.



CYCLONES CONFIDENTIAL

A good start, but a poor finish

Cyclones 6 Tri-City 3

Aug. 2 at MCU Park

Cyclones starter Darwin Ramos silenced Tri-City's bats, allowing four hits and no runs while striking out seven in six innings pitched, but the Cyclones baserunners literally stole the show, as Jose Miguel "Funky Cold" Medina, Walter "Rabbi" Rasquin, Quinn "Chief" Brodey, and Edgardo "Felix" Fermin combined for eight stolen bases as the Cyclones beat the ValleyCats.

Our boys took the lead quickly. Rasquin led off the first inning with a single. After Rasquin stole both second and third, Medina singled to score Rasquin. Medina then stole second before Brodey singled to score Medina to make it 2-0.

The Clones boosted their lead to 4-0 in the following inning, but reliever Chris Viall blew the shutout in the eighth. After walking J.J. Matijevec and Jake Adams, catcher Carlos Sanchez caught Matijevec stealing at third while Adams advanced to second. Corey Julks then singled to score Matijevec to make it 4-1.

But Brooklyn struck back and increased its lead to 6-1. The ValleyCats scratched out two more runs, but when Kyle Davis



NOT ENOUGH: Quinn Brodey reached first on a force out in the eighth – but the Clones fell 3-2 to Lowell.

Photo by Jon Farina

grounded out to end the game, the Clones were victorious.

Tri-City 3 Cyclones 1

Aug. 3 at MCU Park

Tri-City pitchers Juan Robles and Kit Scheetz held the Cyclones hitless until the ninth, and even a late-game rally couldn't avert another Brooklyn loss.

The ValleyCats broke out on top with runs in the fourth,

sixth and ninth innings.

Walter "Rabbi" Rasquin saved Brooklyn from being no-hit in the ninth when he tripled to lead off the inning. Quinn Brodey then got an infield hit to score Rasquin, but that was all the Cyclones were going to get.

Tri-City 4 Cyclones 2

Aug. 4 at MCU Park

The ValleyCats gave Cyclones first-round pick David

Peterson a rude welcome to professional baseball with two consecutive singles by Bryan De La Cruz and Jonathan Arauz. A wild pitch, a strikeout and a groundout later, Tri-City had their first run.

Brooklyn manager Edgardo Alfonzo pulled Peterson in the next inning, but the ValleyCats' widened their lead to 2-0. The Cyclones came back to tie the game, but the visitors recaptured the lead for good with

runs in the sixth and seventh. The loss left Brooklyn with a putrid 14-30 record this season, the worst in the club's history.

Lowell 3 Cyclones 2

Aug. 5 at MCU Park

The losses keep mounting. The Cyclones came back from 2-0 deficit, but it all went for naught as the Spinners retook the lead again and Brooklyn lost for the third straight time — their eighth defeat in the last ten games.

The teams were tied at 2 at the end of the fifth, but Lowell plated a run in the top of the sixth, after Juan Barriento doubled and Zach Sterry singled.

Brooklyn was unable to answer, making the final score 3-2.

Lowell 4 Cyclones 2

Aug. 6 at MCU Park

Cyclones starter Luis De Los Santos was rocked for seven hits and four runs, and Brooklyn went down to its fourth straight loss.

Brooklyn's Boys of Summer are now 14-32, their worst-ever record and worst in both the McNamara Division and the New York-Penn League.

Mets first-rounder makes pro debut with Clones

BY LAURA AMATO

He didn't have a plan, he just wanted to throw strikes.

David Peterson, the Mets first-round selection in this year's Major League Baseball draft, made his pro debut with the Cyclones on Aug. 4 and while it wasn't a picture-perfect outing — Brooklyn lost, 4-2 to the Tri-City ValleyCats — the lefty was still happy with his effort.

"It was good to get out there, good to finally pitch in a game. I wish we would have gotten the win, but wins and losses come," Peterson said. "It wasn't our night. But my arm felt good and I felt like my stuff was pretty good tonight."

Peterson threw just one inning — only 17 pitches — and while he gave up two hits and one earned run, he also notched a strikeout and double-digit strikes. It was enough for the former

Oregon star to feel just a bit confident as he walked off the mound.

"I took it as a regular start because usually you don't know how many innings you're going to go unless you have a pitch count or something," he said. "So I tried to make it as normal as possible. I tried to start the game off on the right foot."

Peterson admitted to having some pre-game nerves; after nearly 10 weeks away from the game — while he worked with the Mets pitching staff to used to the organization — he was anxious to suit up and get the ball in his hand.

"I definitely had to be patient," he said. "I had to get my work in. I knew it was part of the territory of the Mets starting slow and kind of working me in there and I think we had a good timeline going. I was ready to throw today."

If there was one major theme to Peterson's first start, it was how quickly he threw it.

"I usually work at a quick tempo," he said. "I don't really like to waste any time. I try and make the hitter as uncomfortable as possible. That's kind of how I work, just fast."

Peterson is slated to get at least one more start for the Cyclones before season's end — although he may not throw more than two innings. It isn't a ton of time on the mound, but enough to allow him to showcase just a bit more of his game.

"He wants to prove a lot, but to see him on the mound, I think it's great. The way he's working right now is great," said Cyclones manager Edgardo Alfonzo. "I think it's good for him that he can get that out of the way, but I'm looking forward to the next start to see what happens."



New Cyclones pitcher and Mets first-round draft pick David Peterson. Brooklyn Cyclones

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