

INSIDE: 16 PAGES OF COUPONS TO SAVE YOU CASH

# The Brooklyn Paper

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INCLUDING DUMBO, CARROLL GARDENS, COBLE HILL AND BOERUM HILL

AWP/14 pages • Vol. 33, No. 39 • September 24-30, 2010 • FREE

## TORNADO HITS BORO

### National Weather Service confirms that last week's storm was a twister



**By Stephen Brown**  
The Brooklyn Paper  
It was a twister.  
The National Weather Service confirmed late last week what many rattled Brooklynites had suspected all along: that an actual tornado tore through Park Slope last Thursday afternoon uproot-



ing trees, damaging cars, peeling roofs from houses, sending at least one man to the hospital, and destroying, possibly forever, the myth that no one is safe from the wrath of Mother Nature.  
Federal officials visited Brooklyn and Queens, a neighboring borough, on Wednesday to determine whether to

deem the areas worthy of federal aid. Queens has long been a disaster area as far as most Brooklynites are concerned — but local witnesses to the storm will no doubt testify that our borough was sufficiently pummeled to warrant federal aid.  
The greenish-grey whirlwind touched down at around 5:30 pm, just minutes after an overcast, but benign,



sky suddenly veered into "Wizard of Oz" territory.  
"S— is out of control in my neighborhood. I had to outrun the tornado!" Prospect Heights resident John Dertan

told us via terrified e-mail. "I noticed the wind was picking up, it started to rain a lot harder, lightning was flashing all around, and the clouds looked green."  
See **STORM** on page 6

## FLAT TIRE!

### 'Bikes in Buildings' law proves a bust

**By Stephen Brown**  
The Brooklyn Paper  
A much-ballyhooed law that is supposed to allow bicycle commuters to bring their wheels into their offices has gone flat in Brooklyn.  
Nine months after the "Bikes in Buildings" law went into effect, only 12 applications have been submitted. Brooklyn workers who want to bring their rides into offices — and only four landlords have fully complied with the request, according to the Department of Transportation.



Len Kamdang is an attorney who can bring his bike to work inside 300 Cadman Plaza West in Downtown, one of the few buildings that allow the practice.  
The applicants that failed in their efforts to bring bicycles into the workplace generally faced one problem: a resistant landlord.  
Under the much-misunderstood program, cyclists must initiate the process in their workplaces by first formally approaching their boss and requesting to bring a bicycle into the building.  
See **BIKES** on page 6

## Van plan scam?

### 'Dollar' vans on former B71 route can go anywhere

**By Gary Buiso**  
The Brooklyn Paper  
A city proposal to provide shuttle service on bus lines killed by the MTA could flood area streets with dollar vans.  
Under the controversial Taxi and Limousine Commission initiative to bring private mini-buses to defunct MTA routes, the vans will have marked pick-up points but are under no obligation to stick to the marked route and will in fact be permitted to roam free throughout the service area.  
"There is no fixed route," read the small type on a map of the supposed pick-up stops along the former B71 route, whose van service is scheduled to begin on Monday.  
The lack of a "fixed route" is worrying critics, who fear that the so-called dollar van drivers will go anywhere to find fares.  
"They stop everywhere and



they stop short," charged Monique Verret, a member of Community Board 6's Transportation Committee, which hosted taxi commissioner David Yassky last week.  
On Sept. 27, the vans will make their debut in Brownstone Brooklyn along the former B71 bus route

that traveled from Columbia Street in Carroll Gardens through Park Slope to Crown Heights.  
Brownstone Brooklyn will be virgin territory for the vans, which typically operate along major thoroughfares such as Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. Some vans have a reputation for operating recklessly.  
Yassky has said that the vans will stop at designated spots along the killed bus routes, adding a transportation alternative that has been lacking since the MTA cuts earlier this year — but whether the vans will do as their told is another story entirely.  
After all, the MTA made its cuts based on the agency's contention that ridership was too low to justify a dedicated bus line. Van drivers may come to that conclusion quickly, too.  
Indeed, on Monday afternoon, See **VANS** on page 6

## BUMP IN THE TRUNK

### Many of the faithful took caffeine suppositories

**By Andy Campbell**  
The Brooklyn Paper  
Not so fast!  
Jews throughout Williamsburg snapped up caffeine suppositories last Friday, hours before the start of the Yom Kippur fast that would deprive them of the joy — and hunger suppression — that coffee typically provides.  
The day-long fast is the centerpiece of the holiest day on the Jewish calendar — but some religious Jews saw a Talmudic loophole that allows them to ingest their daily dose of caffeine, albeit through a different orifice.  
"It helps — you know, it's hard to concentrate when you're fasting and also addicted to caffeine," said Baruch Herzfeld, an Orthodox Jew

who owns a bike store in Williamsburg. "Some take it before sundown, but most take it throughout their fasting. These guys love a good loophole."  
These huge, rectally inserted pills are popular. Pharmacists at Rafieh — one of many distributors in south Williamsburg on Lee Avenue — sold nearly 150 suppositories last Friday.  
"We have caffeine suppositories!" the store's handwritten sign heralded. "Be ready!"  
But is it kosher?  
There's some controversy over whether Jews observing the Biblical fast should be taking an easy out or, more accurately, in.)  
Some Jewish leaders said that consuming anything — through the body's tra-

ditional entrance or its exit — is against the spirit of the ritualistic fast.  
"We're supposed to do the old-fashioned way — I wouldn't advise [suppositories]," said Rabbi Simcha Weinstein, an Orthodox leader. "We wanna keep Jews in the synagogue and not in the bathroom."  
Back-door caffeine consumption is a gray area, even in the Torah — which, of course, was written before stimulants like caffeine were discovered. Yom Kippur is supposed to be about self-sacrifice — so curbing one's hunger would seem like cheating.  
"That's one way to look at it," Herzfeld said. "But on the other hand, it's all about introspection. If you have a headache because of caffeine addic-



Many religious Jews in Williamsburg inserted caffeine suppositories to skirt Yom Kippur restrictions on the intake of food. Here, Baruch Herzfeld shows off his supply.

### GOOSEWATCH 2010

# 137

### GEESSE IN PROSPECT PARK

(As of Tuesday, Sept. 21)

Two months after authorities slaughtered geese in Prospect Park, 137 of the waterfowl have returned to the lake, according to Anne-Katrin Titzke. Keep an eye out for Goose-Watch 2010 — our weekly update.

## BIG MAN IN THE NEWS: VITO LOPEZ

### 'I have cancer'

#### Party leader quietly reveals health scare to supporters

**By Aaron Short**  
The Brooklyn Paper  
Assemblyman Vito Lopez, the most powerful politician in Brooklyn, has had his share of battles with political opponents throughout his career, but he is facing an even more formidable foe — cancer.  
A source confirmed that Lopez has been telling political allies this week that he believes his esophageal cancer has returned after being in remission for sev-



'VITO VITO': Just before Assemblyman Vito Lopez was overwhelmingly re-elected as chairman of the Brooklyn Democratic Party operator Monday night, insurgent party members, including Lincoln Restler, rallied against him. See story, page 5.

### Vito's charity shakeup

#### City finds fraud — and orders the broom

**By Aaron Short**  
The Brooklyn Paper  
A Bushwick-based nonprofit long linked to its founder Assemblyman Vito Lopez has agreed to a massive internal shake up as a result of a widening government investigation that charged that workers were taking city funds for programs that never actually existed.  
Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council agreed to sweeping reforms that include bringing in an independent auditor and an outside general counsel to im-

prove oversight in the wake of alleged fraud charges.  
"[Board members will be interviewed by the mayor's office] to ascertain their strengths, loyalty and commitment [to the nonprofit]," according to an agreement signed by Ridgewood Bushwick's Executive Director Christina Fisher, who is also Lopez's campaign treasurer.  
The move comes on the heels of a 10-page report released on Thursday by the Department of Investigation, which alleges  
See **CHARITY** on page 5

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# EYE OF THE STORM

THE WORLD'S BEST CYCLONES COVERAGE

## And the Clonie goes to... Here they are folks — our annual year-end awards

**T**here are the Academy Awards, the Grammys, the Emmys and even the ESPYs, but they all pale in comparison to the Clonies, the most prestigious award issued by anyone ever in the entire world. This year, you could make the argument that no one on the Cyclones deserves any honor at all after the team capped a record-setting season by being swept by the barely average Tri-City Valley Cats.

But why look back in anger? After all, the Clonies offer an opportunity to remember the good times and commend a team that led the league in so many offensive categories—and barely ever lost at home.

Consider the highlights: Skipper Wally Backman was one of the most exciting people to ever don a Cyclones uniform (though we still need to hear from you about what should happen to him); there were at least five stars—Darrell Ceciliani, Rylan Sandoval, Jeff Flagg, Cory Vaughn, and Ryan Fraser—who we just might see in the big leagues; and Vaughn even broke the team's all-time home run record.

So here they are, folks, your 2010 Clonies. Drum roll please...

**The Joe Thiesmann "Ugly Season-Ending Injury" Award:** Rylan Sandoval. The Cyclones lead-off man was set to go the All Star game and play shortstop when he was hit by a pitch that fractured his



**BARNSTORMIN' with Stephen Brown**

wrist and ended his season. The loss of Sandoval, who was hitting .330 with nine homers, was critical, as he had become as dominant as the Clonies' other marquee players, Darrell Ceciliani and Cory Vaughn.

**The Ike Davis "Most Likely to Make it to the Show" Award:** Darrell Ceciliani and Cory Vaughn.

The Clonies' centerfielder and rightfielder, respectively, both have the tools to make it in the Major Leagues. Ceciliani had arguably the best season ever for a Cyclone,



**The Lou Piniella "Best baseball aphorism" Award:** Wally Backman.

Backman—an old-school baseball guy—always had words of wisdom to describe his young and error-prone players. In one game early in the season, Darrell Ceciliani attempted to stretch a single into a double—something he'd done with great success many other times—but was thrown out at second. Was the skipper angry with the Cyclones' over-aggressive centerfielder? Backman replied, "No, I'd rather he be too aggressive. You can rein in a wild horse, but you can't beat a dead one." A truer motto has never been spoken (outside of our newsroom, of course).

You would never have known it from reading my coverage this year, but both Vaughn and Sandoval are diabetic, and frequently had to give themselves insulin injections during the game. But neither player—who both had excellent seasons—let the disease serve as an excuse for a bad game. The two players were an inspiration to all young sluggers with diabetes who dream of making it in the big leagues.

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Darrell Ceciliani (shown after hitting his record ninth triple of the year) was a sensation.

**The Jack Maloof "Hitting Guru" Award:** Benny DiStefano.

The Clonies' hitting coach had a way with his young sluggers, and the results showed. By mid-season, the team had secured its spot at the top of most statistical categories, and were reciting DiStefano's mantras about aggression in the batter's box. DiStefano instructed his players to swing at everything over the plate, espe-

cially fastballs. But perhaps the best example of the positive effects of DiStefano's council can be seen in the Clonies' catcher Juan Centeno. Last year for the Cyclones, Centeno batted .164. This year, he hit .371.

**The Kirk Gibson "Playing through Pain" Award:** Jeff Flagg.

The Clonies' first baseman pulled his hamstring in the semi-

final playoff series against the Jamestown Jammers chugging down the first base line—a huge loss for the offense. Still, Flagg sucked it up and valiantly played in the final game of the postseason. Despite the courageous effort, it was Flagg who hit into the double play that ended the team's march to championship glory, but he was gutting it out the whole way up the first-base line.

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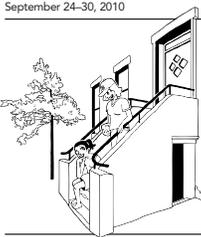
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# THE STOOP

## NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

### DOWNTOWN



If they lived in Downtown, they wouldn't get a dog run.

## Dog gone!

**Board bucks BID's bark**  
By Andy Campbell  
The Brooklyn Paper

Downtown is going to have to wait to get a dog run. Community Board 2 on Monday all but shot down a proposal to build a pooch pen somewhere in the booming residential neighborhood—in part because the area already has a few open spaces, but also because all those new Downtown residents need to wait their turn.

"Boerum Hill has been waiting for a dog run for more than 20 years," said Parks Committee member Mary Goodman. "Why do we have to cater to all the new people and their dogs coming out?"

The Metrotech Business Improvement District had proposed four sites for the dog run, arguing that the influx of new residents and residential towers is already translating into more dogs. Michael Weiss, the BID's executive director, said that the number of families within its 20-block district has grown from about 10 to 1,500 in just three years.

Plus, most of the luxury condo towers popping up in the area—the Brooklynier, Avalon Bay, and Toren among them, each with more than 250 units—don't have quarters to let a dog roam. Some of those condos, like the Bellfelli Lofts on Bridge Street, already have more than 40 dogs living alongside their human pets.

"We feel a responsibility for the residents coming to this area—they're looking for services," Weiss said. "This area doesn't have a lot of open space."

But board members didn't want the new dogs encroaching on old parks, all of which are highly sought after for their space and development potential. One of the proposed spots, in McLaughlin Park at Jay and Tillary streets, has space that's "already spoken for" by other groups, one board member said.

The board didn't vote on the proposal—the meeting was an "ideas session"—but members had few good things to say about the BID's suggestions. Then again, members didn't reject a tiny triangular patch of land at Myrtle and Flatbush avenues. But Weiss said that dog walkers are already calling that site too small.

The board also argued that there are already off-leash hours and dog runs in and around Downtown, like the cordoned-off section of Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 6 at the foot of Atlantic Avenue, Hillside Dog Park on Columbia Heights in Brooklyn Heights, and the off-leash hours at Cadman Plaza Park. All three of those areas, however, are far from the new Downtown Gold Coast along Flatbush Avenue Extension.

## Faulty tower

**Toren supermarket plan back to square one**  
By Andy Campbell  
The Brooklyn Paper

A hyped-up, high-end grocery store won't be serving the community after all.

Downtown officials have long been touting the supermarket—which was supposed to occupy the spacious bottom floor of the 240-unit Toren skyscraper on Flatbush Avenue Extension in the booming area between the Manhattan Bridge and DeKalb Avenue—but the lease has fallen through.

Toren developers blame the store's would-be founder, Mark Goris, who said earlier this year that he was excited to set up shop on the highly-trafficked strip.

The lease was subject to certain conditions being met by the tenant within a fixed time frame," said Donald Capoccia, founder of Toren's development firm, BFC Partners. "Those conditions were not met."

Now Capoccia's back is against his own building's beautifully Modernist wall—he's hired a new brokerage team to sell the space, which has been on the market since Toren started leasing condos in 2008. The future of the site is yet unclear, but the new brokers said that they'll take another whack at a grocery store.

Still, the squabble that ended the lease agreement is a substantial hurdle for BFC Partners, which rallied with Downtown officials in April and called it "the very first supermarket of its kind to open along the Flatbush Avenue corridor."

Goris has not returned calls since The Real Deal reported the lease failure last week.

### PARK SLOPE

## Man loses leg in 8th Avenue crash

By Thomas Tracy  
The Brooklyn Paper

A wayward livery cab driver sparked a bloody car accident on Saturday that left three people hospitalized—one with a mangled leg—at the corner of Eighth Avenue and 11th Street.

Witnesses to the 11 am horror show said the livery sedan was zipping up Eighth Avenue when the driver apparently lost control of the wheel.

The cab clipped 75-year-old Fred Gutierrez as he crossed the street—leaving him with a grazed wound, and then



A speeding livery cab jumped the sidewalk and crashed into a parked Volkswagen and also hit three people hanging out in front of a deli on Eighth Avenue and Park Slope on Saturday.

slammed into a Volkswagen Beetle parked at the corner.

The impact sent both the livery cab and the celebrated German people's car onto the sidewalk, where they struck three more men sitting in front of Junior's Deli before coming to a full stop.

An FDNY spokesman said that the three men were sent to Bellevue Hospital, Lutheran Medical Center and Kings County Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Yet according to accounts at the scene, at least one of the victims lost his leg when he was briefly pinned between the two colliding vehicles.

"I could see the bone coming out his leg," Gutierrez told reporters. "He was just screaming in a pool of blood until help came."

The livery cab driver remained at the scene and wasn't facing any criminal charges by late Monday.

### DITMAS PARK

## Vox Pop gets carried away

By Joe Anuta  
The Brooklyn Paper

Everything was up for grabs at Vox Pop this week as the state taxman auctioned off pieces of the Cortelyou Road coffeehouse—former customers bought statues, shelves, and books while benevolent tasterators carried away refrigerators, coffee makers, and even the kitchen sink.

That's not a cute metaphor—someone really did buy the sink as part of a fire sale that marked the end of the troubled, collectively owned coffeehouse utopia, which was shuttered after numerous lawsuits with that most capitalistic of concepts: tax paying.

"Vox Pop is over," said Glenn Wolin, who helped run the store. "There are no assets left."

The final day of the shop came as a surprise to many who had been following the ups and downs of the business, but never expected it to close for good.

"Instead of coming to breakfast, I ended up coming to an auction," said John Barret, who showed up for a cup of coffee, but left with a quality espresso grinder.

Debi Ryan, the shop's chief officer, had to give everything up after failing to pay more



John Barret woke up and smelled the coffee maker.

than \$66,000 in back taxes to the state, the majority of which were incurred by the shop's previous owner, Sander Hicks. And the fire sale didn't appear to help as much as expected.

"It's a shame because the auction isn't bringing in that much money," said Rick Menello. "They're not getting as much as they thought they would."

Part of the reason Ryan didn't pay the state is because she paid debts to small busi-

nesses and employees first.

"We paid back the old debt, and that's important," she said.

To most, it seemed like Ryan simply took over a business that had sunk far too deep into debt, but some customers disagreed.

"It was unique, and will be missed in the neighborhood. This is like seeing my baby in the hospital," said Shawn Leon Thomas III, who helped build the store. "Blood, sweat, and tears have gone into this shop over the years."

Others reflected on how the coffeehouse functioned as a meeting place for the community and hosted live music and art exhibits.

"It was unique, and will be missed in the neighborhood," said a man who would only identify himself as DJ Buzz. "It was like Cheers without the hard alcohol."

### BORO-WIDE

## The unkindest cut

Library branches closed weekends

By Joe Anuta  
The Brooklyn Paper

Who's the bookworm now?

The Brooklyn Public Library quietly cut branch hours by an unprecedented amount last week and 26 locations—nearly half of the system's 60 locations—will now be closed for both weekend days, an unhappy ending for book lovers who go to school or work for a living. Another eight branches will be closed two days per week, though not both weekend days.

Library officials said that a \$34-million decline in revenue forced the nation's fifth-biggest lending system to choose between laying off employees or cutting Saturday service.

"We sustained cuts," said spokesperson Malika Granville. "We were able to save jobs, [but had] to look at hours of service."

Granville added that circulation and attendance figures led the library to pick weekend cuts rather than cutting



Uniqua and Stanley Johnson are visibly upset that their library will be closed both weekend days.

service on weekdays, which is popular with schoolkids.

This isn't the first time hours were cut to save employees' jobs. Last year, the institution eliminated all Sunday hours as a cost-saving measure because

unionized employees made time-and-a-half on that day.

In Greenpoint, customers of the Leonard Branch were ready to burn their library cards after hearing about the Saturday closure, which will now leave the Devoe Street branch closed for both weekend days.

"Those are the days that the kids are off from school," said Uniqua Johnson, who has two sons. "The Brooklyn Library should be open."

Families weren't the only ones affected. Working stiffs also used the branch on Saturdays.

"I used to come here because on most weekdays, the library closes at 6 pm, and I don't get off work until 5:30 pm," said Kat Ryan.

The branch cuts come with one good plot twist: Three larger branches—the Central Branch in Park Slope, the Kings Highway branch in Midwood, and the McKinley Park branch in Dyker Heights—will now be open seven days a week.

"Those are our highest circulating branches," Granville said.

But these branches in our area will now be closed on both weekend days: Coney Island, Dyker, Flatbush, Kensington, Leonard, Marcy, Red Hook, Walt Whitman and Williamsburg.

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# Fort Greene Park is a robber's paradise

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 Park-roaming perps—in one case, a gang of 12—mugged two people in Fort Greene Park on Sept. 14.

In the first incident, a group of thugs beat a man and stole his phone and wallet near Myrtle Avenue. The battered victim told cops that he was between St. Edwards Street and N. Portland Avenue at 5:45 pm when he received a beat-down from a band of 12 thieves. The perps punched and kicked the victim before making off with the loot.

Just three hours later, a victim told cops that a man swiped his bag from a bench near Dekalb Avenue. Witnesses saw the thief snatch the bag and walk away, and alerted the victim, who ran after the perp. He managed to swipe back a few items before the bag burglar indicated he had a gun.

**Basket case**  
 Some jerk snatched a rider's purse out of her bike basket on Vanderbilt Avenue on Sept. 19.

The victim told cops that she stopped at a red light on the corner of Vanderbilt and Lafayette avenues at about midnight when the perp ran up and made off with the purse containing an iPhone and cash.

**Wallet woe**  
 A group of thugs stole a man's wallet on Myrtle Avenue on Sept. 18.

The victim told cops he was in front of a liquor store near Carlton Avenue at about 11:30 pm when four creeps approached him.

"Give me your money," one said before punching him in the head and taking the wallet out of the man's front pocket.

**Boozed up burg**  
 Some creep stole a woman's purse inside a Lafayette Avenue bar on Sept. 17.

The victim told cops she was inside Target, which is the Bruce Ratner-owned Atlantic Terminal Mall near the corner of Flatbush and Atlantic avenues, at 3:30 pm when the thief took her wallet.

## POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at [BrooklynPaper.com/iblotter](http://BrooklynPaper.com/iblotter)

**Rim job**  
 A pack of perps stole a set of rims off of a 2010 Acura parked on Washington Avenue overnight on Sept. 17.

The victim said he left the car at 11:30 pm. When he returned at 7 am the next morning, his wheels were missing the \$1,800 set of rims.

**Target takeaway**  
 Some jerk stole a wallet out of a woman's purse at the crime-ridden Target department store and then went on a shopping spree on Sept. 18.

The victim told cops she was inside Target, which is the Bruce Ratner-owned Atlantic Terminal Mall near the corner of Flatbush and Atlantic avenues, at 3:30 pm when the thief took her wallet.

Instead of fleeing, though, the perp went on a shopping spree at Target and at the PC Richards across the street.

**Quick grab**  
 A lightning-quick perp stole a phone right out of a woman's hands in a subway station on Atlantic Avenue.

The victim said that she entered a Manhattan-bound Q train at the Atlantic Avenue station at about 11:30 pm and took out her BlackBerry.

The thief, who was standing on the platform, waited until the train was just about to leave and quickly snatched the phone through the closing doors before the helpless woman was whisked off to the next stop.

**Thali take-out**  
 Some creep took a woman's purse, mid-meal, at a Thai restaurant on Sept. 18.

The victim told cops she was eating at National Thai near Lafayette Avenue at about 6 pm when the meal-time marauder slid the purse off the back of her chair.

**Keyless entry**  
 Some perp pinched a purse and wallet out of a car parked on S. Oxford Street on Sept. 16.

The victim told cops that she had left the car unlocked between Lafayette and Greene avenues at about 10 pm. When she returned 25 minutes later, the loot was gone.

**76TH PRECINCT**  
 Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill-Red Hook

**Slap unhappy**  
 A man robbed a woman of her iPhone on Smith Street on Sept. 13.

The victim said she was texting on her phone near Degraw Street at 11:55 pm when she was struck in the back, forcing her to drop the phone. The menace quickly snatched the 29-year-old victim's Apple and ran off.

**Cold Coffey**  
 Two thugs robbed two women of their iPhones in Coffey Park on Sept. 13.

The victims told cops that they were inside the green space, at Verona and Dwight streets, at around 3:15 pm when a man brandished a handgun, and demanded

money. At that point, his partner in crime chimed in, "Give up your phone."

The perps took the loot—two cell phones, \$50 and credit cards—and quickly fled.

**No fair way**  
 Someone plucked a woman's wallet from her Fairway shopping cart on Sept. 2.

The victim said she noticed the wallet was gone when she was attempting to get her items at around 10 am inside the store, at Van Brunt and Reed streets.

The thief made off with 14 credit and bank cards.

**Fashion crime**  
 Cops nabbed a man who thought his gold knife was a fashion accessory on Sept. 14.

The man was near Baltic and Bond streets at around 10:35 pm, wearing a gravity knife clipped to his belt. The "fashion" police officer said the knife and swifty charged the 30-year-old with criminal possession of a weapon.

**Where's beef?**  
 Three men stole a bag of money from a meat delivery truck on Smith Street on Sept. 16.

Cops said the T-bone trio reached into the 46-year-old victim's passenger-side window between 9:12 am and 9:20 am, snatching a bag containing \$3,000. The suspects were caught on video filming from the scene, at Sackett Street, so it is only a matter of time before they are chopped liver.

**87TH PRECINCT**  
 Park Slope

**Job jack**  
 Some jerk stole electronics and cash out of an unlocked moving van on Seventh Avenue on Sept. 15.

The driver told cops that he had parked the vehicle between Garfield Place and First Street at 5:30 pm and left to move some boxes. When he returned at 7:15 pm, his navigation device, iPod, and \$400 were missing.

**Rapid rob**  
 Four punks entered a Fourth Avenue apartment and quickly made off with more \$5,000 worth of electronics on Sept. 17.

The victim told cops that she was inside her apartment, which is between 11th and 12th streets, when the creeps came in through the unlocked front door at 10 am. A mere five minutes later, they fled taking a laptop, iPod, camera, cash, and credit cards.

**Car thefts**  
 It was bad week for cars and their owners.

A thief stole a 2008 Audi van from Third Street overnight on Sept. 15. The victim told police that she parked the car between Seventh and Eighth avenues at 7 pm and returned at 8 am the next morning.

Another ancient Honda Civic was stolen, this time from Fifth Avenue overnight on Sept. 16. The victim told cops that he left his 13-year-old car between 13th and 14th streets at 11:20 am and it was gone 12 hours later.

Some Honda-hungry loser stole a 2006 CRV parked on Third Street overnight on Sept. 16. The victim said that she left the car between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 4 pm, but it was gone by 8 am the next morning.

**84TH PRECINCT**  
 Brooklyn Heights—DUMBO—Boerum Hill—Downtown

**Poor doggie**  
 A reprehensible dude kicked a woman's dog—then stole her doggie bag!—on York Street on Sept. 15.

The woman told cops that she was walking the pup near Washington Street at about 12:15 pm when the man approached and kicked the pooch, apparently at random. When the woman went to pick up the poor puppy, the man grabbed his carrying case—which also contained her wallet, \$100, and something called "cosmetic lip color" and fled.

**Taken by storm!**  
 Dude, the tornado took my motorcycle, bro!

A motorcycle went missing from a spot at Jay and Tillary streets—and the owner told cops that he thinks it disappeared during the vicious storm on Sept. 16.

The owner went looking for it after the tornado blew through, but couldn't find it—because it was likely stolen—in the tornado's aftermath.

**Drive by**  
 A cruising caper stopped his car to swipe a man's cell phone on Atlantic Avenue on Sept. 16.

The victim said he was near Fourth Avenue at about 11:45 pm when the jerk stopped

his car, got out, wrenched the victim's cell phone from his hands, and drove away.

**Cell swipe**  
 A quick-handed thug took a woman's BlackBerry as she got on the Q train at Pacific Street on Sept. 16.

The woman said the doors were closing on the train, which was near Fourth Avenue, at about 11:20 pm when a man ran up and snatched her expensive phone and fled.

**Gershed again**  
 Crooked thieves cut chains and stole two bikes from their Gold Street stalls on Sept. 17.

The victim told cops that he had no idea how the crooks cut his expensive chains, which were located near Flatbush Avenue—that he does know is that when he went to ride one of them at 5 pm, both had been gershed.

**No salvation**  
 Some jerk took a woman's wallet while she was trying on clothes at Salvatore Army on Atlantic Avenue on Sept. 18.

The victim told cops that she was in the dressing room of Bond and Nevins streets, at about 7 pm. It's just too bad that she left her purse outside the dressing room—when she came out, her wallet and \$200 were missing.

**Handypian**  
 A villain burglarized a State Street apartment on Sept. 18—and the tenants blame their handymen!

The victims told cops that they found a mess when they went home, which is between Bond and Nevins streets, at about 12:55 am. They said that the guy who works on their home was the only other person with house keys—so he must have been the one who stole a wallet, cash, and even a \$45 Red Sox watch (but really, who wears a Red Sox watch?)

**Banana thief**  
 A dastardly crook snatched a purse from a woman while she was shopping at the Banana Republic on Atlantic Avenue on Sept. 19.

The woman told cops that she only looked away for a second while browsing the shop, which is near Henry Street, at about 2:50 pm. But when she turned around, the bag and \$80 were gone.

**68TH PRECINCT**  
 Bay Ridge—Dyker Heights

**Casanova scam**  
 A thug robbed a 16-year-old girl of her cellphone on Fourth Avenue on Sept. 13 after his teenage victim wouldn't give her her phone number.

The victim said she was near 5th Street at 12:45 pm when the thief walked over and began chatting her up. After a few minutes, the thief asked her for her digits, but she refused, sparking the robbery, police were told.

**Evil eye**  
 Four punks pounded on a 41-year-old on Sept. 13 following a few unwelcome glances on Colonial Road.

The victim was between 74th Street and Bay Ridge Parkway at 12:30 am when he looked over at the four young toughs, sparking an argument.

"What the f— are you looking at?" one of the thugs asked before all four lashed out at the victim, hitting him in the head with a bottle.

**Unit empties**  
 A thief removed over \$4,000 in jewelry from a Fort Hamilton Parkway apartment between Sept. 11 and 12.

The 32-year-old tenant told cops that he had left his home, which is between 90th and 92nd streets, during the day on Sept. 11, and returned the next day at 5:45 pm to find that five bracelets, four rings and two necklaces had been taken.

The thief had apparently entered through an unlocked window leading to a fire escape.

**Leif ransacked**  
 A burglar tore up a Fourth Avenue apartment on Sept. 13 in a thorough search for jewelry and electronics.

The thief forced open the front door to the home between 68th and Senator streets sometime after 1 pm, taking two laptop computers, a Tiffany bracelet, 35 DVDs and a Movado watch.

**Car swiped**  
 A 2001 Ford Taurus was parked inside a 66th Street lot on Sept. 14.

The 59-year-old owner left the car between 11th and 12th avenues at 8:30 pm and returned an hour later to find it gone.

**94TH PRECINCT**  
 Greenpoint—Northside Gold Rush

**Cops nabbed a gold-dig-**

ging delinquent after the took a woman's jewelry on Bedford Avenue on Sept. 14.

The victim told cops that she was near N. 12th Street at 2:40 pm when the creep ripped a gold necklace off her neck and then punched her in the back of the head. The goon fled, but police soon found him wearing some shiny bracelets of his own.

**Delinquents**  
 Two thugs robbed a man on Jackson Street on Sept. 18.

The victim told cops that he was near Woodpoint Road at about 11 pm when one of the perps approached, simulating having a gun, and asked, "Do you want to get shot tonight?"

There's really no good answer to that question, but before the victim could say anything, the other perp sneaked up from behind and began choking the victim, who threw his wallet on the ground.

**Bumbersold**  
 Some umbrellas-wielding jerk attacked a man at the Meserole Avenue YMCA on Sept. 18.

The victim told police that a perp broke into a Morgan Avenue apartment on Sept. 15 and stole \$2,200 worth of electronics.

The thief entered the building near McKibben Street after its tenant left at 1:30 pm, helping himself to two computers, two iPads, a phone and an external hard drive.

**Keap cleaner**  
 The tenants returned at 8 pm to discover the crime.

**Kent computer**  
 A thief stole \$34,000 worth of jewelry from a Kent Avenue loft on Sept. 16.

The perp broke into the building near Division Avenue after its tenant left at 10 am, helping himself to two computers, watches, earrings, and a diamond engagement ring.

When the tenant returned at 7 pm on Thursday, he found the property was missing.

**Keap sake**  
 A thief stole a Hyundai that its owner parked on S. Fifth Street on Sept. 15.

The owner told cops that he parked the car near Keap Street at 11 am, but when he returned 22 hours later, the car was gone.

**Deil slice**  
 A violent thief sliced a Mauer Street deli store's arm with a box cutter on Sept. 17 because he wouldn't take the perp's food stamps day before.

The owner of the Wesam Eat Out Deli, which is near Graham Avenue, told cops that he had gotten into an argument with his eventual assailant at 4 am when he decided to cash his food subsidy check.

Four hours later, the would-be eater returned, pulled the knife and slashed the proprietor's forearm.

**Broadway rob**  
 Two perps robbed a man on Hewes Street on Sept. 18, taking \$300.

The perps approached the man from behind at 12:30 am, and took his wallet out of his pocket before fleeing down Broadway.

—Joe Anuta

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### New features coming to N. Flatbush Avenue

The streetscape along North Flatbush Avenue will be changing for the better. The North Flatbush Business Improvement District has secured close to \$3 million in funding for a streetscape design project partnering with Department of Transportation.

The conceptual drawings for Flatbush Avenue from Atlantic Avenue to Grand Army Plaza will be unveiled to Community Boards 6 and 8 on Tuesday, Sept. 28.

Pedestrian countdown signals will be installed at all Flatbush Avenue intersections from Atlantic Avenue to Grand Army Plaza, beginning in six to nine months. The Flatbush Avenue corridor has also seen the installation of new crosswalks and other pedestrian improvements at the Carlton Avenue Triangle, the prohibition of left turns from Flatbush to reduce congestion and improve safety, and just last month the alteration of signal timing to slow off-peak traffic and increase pedestrian crossing time.

For info, call the North Flatbush Avenue BID at (718) 783-1685 or visit [www.nfbid.com](http://www.nfbid.com).

### Bureau of Community Service is now BCS

As of Sept. 16, Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service is officially the Brooklyn Community Services (BCS). Find out more about this organization at a program called BCS 360 on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 8:45-10 am (with a light breakfast) and Thursday, Sept. 30 from 6:30-8 pm (with wine and cheese) at BCS Headquarters in Downtown.

BCS is one of Brooklyn's oldest and largest social service organizations, yet far too many New Yorkers have no idea what it do! So come to BCS 360 and see in a very real way how BCS helps children and youth to reach their full potential, strengthens families, and fosters self-sufficiency for adults.

Brooklyn Community Service (285 Shermerhorn St. between Hoyt and Nevins streets in Boerum Hill (718) 210-5623). For info, visit [www.bcs.org](http://www.bcs.org). To RSVP contact [Adelle.Saleem@bcsoffice.org](mailto:Adelle.Saleem@bcsoffice.org).

# Democrats circle the wagons for McMahon

By Thomas Tracy

The Brooklyn Paper  
Democratic Party officials are so concerned about the Republican Marine gunning for Rep. Mike McMahon's Bay Ridge seat that they've put the freshman lawmaker in their "candidate protection program."  
Newly minted Republican nominee Michael Grimm is preparing his six-week assault against McMahon — but the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has placed McMahon in the group's "frontline pro-

gram" — a listing of 42 at-risk seats nationwide that get extra cash and manpower because incumbents are facing "tougher challenges than normal," according to committee spokesman.  
Since 2009, the national organization has been working to "lay the groundwork ... so that [McMahon] is in the strongest position possible," the DCCC spokesman added.  
Grimm currently has about \$370,000 of it came from political action committees and other special interest groups with names like "Democrats Win Seats" and "Victory Now." He's also received \$15,000 from fellow Reps. Anthony Weiner (D-Sheepshead Bay) and Jerry Nadler (D-Red Hook) as well as Councilman Dominic Recchia (D-Coney Island).  
McMahon has just under \$1.1 million on hand to protect his seat, according to campaign filings. About

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GOP hopeful Mike Grimm (center) was all smiles after his primary win last week.

bill that would have extended coverage to millions. Also, McMahon has staked out right-of-center territory by voting against taxing some

Mahon has hurt Bay Ridge residents by voting for a \$800-billion "stimulus package" that was pushed by President Obama to jumpstart the national economy. McMahon also voted for the so-called "cap and trade" pollution-control approach which sets national caps on certain emissions and allows companies that remain beneath the cap to sell their excess credits. Like many Republicans, Grimm claims that such an approach "unduly burden small businesses and households" because polluters are likely to pass along to customers the higher costs of adhering to the law.  
Grimm has called the construction of the so-called Ground Zero mosque an "affront to decency," has called for extending all of the Bush tax cuts, including those for

the wealthiest two percent of wage-earners, and closing our borders to everyone except a select group of nations that "stand above others as our closest allies."  
McMahon has called those positions out of touch with "mainstream" America.  
McMahon took the Bay Ridge district from Republican hands in 2008 after it was revealed that former Rep. Vito Fossella (R-Bay Ridge) had a secret second family in Virginia.  
Grimm has been endorsed by a few big name Republicans, including former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Sarah Palin and John McCain, though it is unclear whether that support will continue in any tangible way. McCain's promised fundraiser has yet to be scheduled.

# Vito power

## Lopez wins another term

By Aaron Short

The Brooklyn Paper  
Meet the new Boss — same as the old Boss.  
Brooklyn Democratic Party leaders re-elected embattled Assemblyman Vito Lopez to another two-year term as party's chairman by an overwhelming 47-3-2 victory over reform challenger and state committeeman Chris Owens.  
"I'm very happy," said Lopez. "I'll be here three more years. I have broad support throughout the county and I'm happy."  
The vote was cast late Monday night in Brooklyn Heights after a

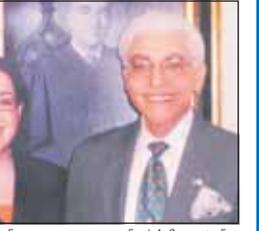
boisterous county committee meeting where members of the insurgent New Kings Democrats demanded Lopez's resignation and tried to change the party's bylaws by eliminating mandatory voting and demanding quarterly meetings.  
"Lopez does all he can to operate our local Democratic Party in the least democratic way possible," said Matt Cowherd, founder of the New Kings Democrats. "He sends our paper notices encouraging county disapproval, tries to skip the biennial meeting, and whenever possible, he packs the state committee with human proxies."

Cowherd was referring to 11 at-large members appointed by Lopez himself, including six new members announced before the vote.  
But Assemblyman Dov Hikind (D-Midwood) dismissed the notion of Lopez's resignation and the nonproft he founded and the competence of its board members.  
Lopez declined to comment about his health and the investigation into the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council, only saying it is "one of the best nonprofit providers in the city."  
But scores of political reformers disagreed, leading a protest march two hours before the county meeting, chanting "Veto Vito!" from Borough Hall down Remsen Street to

St. Francis College, where the vote and the county's biennial meeting would take place.  
"Three of Brooklyn's past four Democratic Party bosses have been indicted on charges of corruption and the recent news about current party boss Vito Lopez is any indication, he is likely to meet the same fate," said Lincoln Restler, a state committee candidate whose election was too close to call.  
Inside the meeting, an aide to Democratic Party fought over every motion, bylaw change, and points of order — but nearly every motion went in Lopez's favor.  
Owens, acknowledging that he didn't expect to win the county position or many votes in the county committee, nevertheless declared the evening meeting a success.  
"We brought people together, we made some inroads," said Owens. "We're not going to be quiet and roll over like we did before."

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# CANCER...

Continued from page 1  
"I understand he was in the hospital recently."  
Lopez has fought with cancer before — and won.  
He was first diagnosed with leukemia in 1993, riding himself of the disease three years later after doctors from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan saved his life.  
His cancer reappeared in 1997, and he has been receiving periodic testing and treatments ever since — publicly urging his constituents to get tested themselves.  
Speculation regarding Lopez's health surfaced several

weeks ago, when he appeared at his annual senior picnic in Long Island on Aug. 19, and at the funeral of a longtime political ally on Aug. 22 wearing a gauze bandage below his collar and looking exhausted.  
But Lopez still made public appearances leading up to the primary, visiting seniors in nearly every senior center run by the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council, the nonprofit that he founded 30 years ago.  
The news about Lopez's health has started even his political opponents, including Marty Needelman, an

attorney at Brooklyn Legal Services and a one-time friend.  
"I visited him at Sloan Kettering with him a long time ago, it must have been early 2000," said Needelman. "He had a rare form of leukemia. It's come back, that's horrible."  
Lopez, the county's party chairman for the past six years, defeated Esteban Duran in his state committee race last Tuesday by a 70-to-29 percent margin, but he has become embroiled in a widening fraud investigation that has ensnared the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council and its top executives.  
A Department of Investigation report, which became public two days after the elec-

tion, found that Ridgewood Bushwick employees allegedly defrauded the city out of almost \$340,000 through falsifying attendance sheets and attempting to bill the city for programs that did not provide to Bushwick residents, without the knowledge of the city's less executives and its placid board members.  
Earlier this week, several newspapers reported the nonprofit's top executives, Christina Fisher and Angela Battaglia, Lopez's campaign treasurer and longtime girlfriend, received exorbitant salary increases of 182 percent and 73 percent, respectively.  
On Friday, Ridgewood Bushwick agreed to follow the city's recommendations

to bring in an independent auditor and add new board members after an investigation.  
Lopez was not the subject of the city's investigation, and, so far, has not publicly responded to questions. But in a New York Post article, he justified the inflated salaries of its executives as well deserved.  
"The salaries were raised to provide a financial cushion for both Fisher and Battaglia — two of Lopez's most loyal allies — in case something happened," Lopez said.  
Lopez and his allies have also repeatedly declined to comment about questions regarding his health.

# CHARITY...

Continued from page 1  
that Ridgewood Bushwick employees defrauded several city agencies of almost \$340,000 in taxpayer money.  
The report also charges that Fisher failed to monitor the alleged criminal activity of her employees, who falsified attendance sheets and did not keep records of where the money went.  
"There was insufficient fiscal or management oversight," said the report.  
Ridgewood Bushwick's Hope Gardens Multi-Service Center was one of the subcontractors that received

\$80,000 in funds, but the city found that the center never held any anti-gang youth programs.  
Investigators found that Anna Gonzalez, director of Hope Gardens and long-time former chairwoman of Community Board 4, falsely sought reimbursement from the city for "anger management" workshops that were never provided, double-billed two city agencies for expenses incurred in the phantom anti-gang program, and opened her own sham nonprofit which she managed out of Hope Gardens without filing proper tax forms.

Gonzalez died in 2009 while the investigation was underway.  
Fisher said she was not aware that the anti-gang program was being conducted at Hope Gardens or any other phony billing schemes, adding that she has no "crystal ball" and is not a "mind reader."  
She initially insisted that Ridgewood Bushwick has proper "internal controls" and that the nonprofit did not need to be improved — though she has now apparently signed off on the city's recommendations that there must be more verification and accountability when the city's tax dollars are being used.  
Fisher made headlines this week for stunning reports

that she earned \$659,591 last year working just 17.5 hours per week — a salary increase of 182 percent from the previous year that put her earnings at roughly five times the amount of her peer directors at other Brooklyn nonprofits.  
The investigation was spurred by a prior inquiry into how councilmembers' discretionary funds from a \$2 million anti-violence grant made in 2007 were misused by an unrelated nonprofit connected to former Councilman Kendall Stewart.  
On July 14, Ridgewood Bushwick responded to the agency's audit in a letter acknowledging it could not produce paperwork for its events, explaining, "All of the expenses claimed for the Youth Center programming," but "part of this funding was also allocated to provide support or various community organizations and events that our Council people wanted to support."  
But his board members were certainly criticized by the report, which found that top officials at Ridgewood Bushwick lacked basic knowledge about the group's annual budget, financial reports, or even who its executive director was but always voted "yes" whenever a vote was taken.  
The nonprofit has long been linked to political activity that has helped with election-related mobilization efforts on behalf of Lopez for decades.  
On primary day this week, hundreds of Ridgewood Bushwick employees took the day off from work and volunteered at the polls to help Lopez win reelection for his state committee race — which he did, taking in about 73 percent of the vote.  
Lopez, while he maintains close ties to the nonprofit, including giving more than \$330,000 in member items to Ridgewood Bushwick programs last year, was not the subject of any aspect of the city's investigation.  
Mayor Bloomberg, who has attended Ridgewood Bushwick-sponsored senior picnics and Christmas dinner events for the past three years, confirmed this yesterday to the New York Post.  
"I've known Vito since I came into public life," said Bloomberg. "I'm not sure the investigation had anything to do with him."



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A one-day pass entitles the holder to use one YMCA of Greater New York Branch free of charge for one day from September 7, 2010 through October 11, 2010. Limit one pass per guest. Participants must be 18 years of age or older and must present a valid, government-issued photo ID. May not be combined with any other offer, other restrictions may apply.

## Wyckoff Gardens Child Health Clinic & Williamsburg Dental Clinic Will Close on October 15<sup>th</sup>

The **Wyckoff Gardens Child Health Clinic**, located at 266 Wyckoff Street in Brooklyn, is closing. Dr. Quilly Lee will be moving to the Fort Greene Child Health Clinic, located at 295 Flatbush Ave Extension. If you would like information about how to continue receiving services from Dr. Lee, or one of the many highly qualified pediatricians who work at Woodhull Hospital, or one of our other health centers, please call us at 718-260-7500. Your child's health is very important to us and we look forward to continuing to serve your family.

If you choose to go to another pediatrician, please call us at 718-260-7500 to obtain your child's medical records.

The **Williamsburg Dental Clinic**, located at 214 Graham Avenue in Brooklyn, is closing. If you would like information about continuing your dental care at Woodhull Hospital, please call us at 718-388-5889. Your health is important to us and we look forward to continuing to serve you.

If you want to obtain your dental records, please call 718-388-5889. We would be happy to give them to you or your new dentist.

## Woodhull North Brooklyn Health Network



**DOWN FOR THE COUNT:** The Whole Foods site on Third Avenue had its fence blown down in the Sept. 9 storm. (At left) National Weather Service official Gary Conte surveyed damaged trees in Prospect Park on Friday before declaring that yes, indeed, a tornado had touched down.

# STORM...

*Continued from page 1*  
Then this girl ran past me yelling, "A tornado is coming!" I turned around and saw this wall of water barreling down the street!"

Only five minutes later, Derian emerged from his St. Johns Place apartment to a scene of shocking devastation, including a fallen steeple off the top of the Grace United Methodist Church that smashed into a car.

"Trees were uprooted [and had] torn apart the concrete. Cars were smashed from fallen branches and trees. Hundreds of people were snapping photos. It was a pretty wild scene."

The local representative for the National Weather Service, Gary Conte, said that weather conditions were ideal for a tornado, as two

systems with different temperatures and wind directions converged.

"We did see signs of rotation on the ground in Park Slope," said Conte, adding that he observed "damage in a well-defined path" stretching two miles from Prospect Park heading northeast through the neighborhood.

An analysis by the National Weather Service estimated maximum wind speeds of 80 miles per hour, and that the tornado was roughly 75 yards wide.

A massive tree on Seventh Avenue between 11th and 12th streets was uprooted in the torrent and slammed into a car, sending its occupant, a local senes, to the hospital.

Another tree in Prospect Park that was adored by at least one regular visitor, Gary

Robbins, was also severely wounded by the twister.

"This tree really meant something to me," wrote Robbins in an ode to the elm. "When I got to my tree I saw that two huge limbs had been ripped off. ... I looked up and saw the said area from where it had been torn. A huge discolored section of this magnificent American Elm was now vacant."

Robbins added that life would go on in the wake of the catastrophe, but that the trauma of seeing his favorite tree felled would stay with him.

"My life is really much more than this tree — much more grand and diverse and human-oriented. But my tree certainly does mean something to me and if the park service looks at it and declares that it cannot survive ... then I will be strongly damaged as well."

It is unclear whether Robbins' tree is among the 100

trees in Prospect Park that fell or were so damaged by the storm that they must be cut down.

The last tornado to roar through the borough was in 2007. Conte said that twisters are touching down in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions with increasing frequency, leading local meteorologists to reconsider the notion that the devastating

so-called "acts of God" are uncommon in urban areas.

"They're occurring with a fair enough frequency that we can't call them 'rare' anymore," said Conte.

He added that he had an idea what the possible reason might be for the uptick in twisters.

"Climate change must definitely be considered a factor," Conte said.

# BIKES...

*Continued from page 1*

In some cases, that is where the process ended, as many bosses are wary of challenging a landlord.

But if dialogue between the cyclist, his or her boss, and the landlord proceeds, a formal application for bicycle access is filed with the city, which then sends inspectors to approve a plan that specifies how the bikes will be brought in and where they will be stored.

It's a complicated process, as Clare Mifflin, an architect at the firm Kiss and Calhoun in Downtown, discovered.

In her case, the sticking point with her landlord was whether a freight elevator — which is critical for "bikes in buildings" plan — could accommodate bikes.

"There are only four small elevators in our building, one of which is used for freight — but it's used by tenants like any other elevator so the landlord argued it wasn't actually a freight elevator (and therefore couldn't accommodate bikes)," said Mifflin.

Her frustrating experience echoed the criticism expressed when the law first went into effect: that it depended on a landlord's magnanimity — a trait not generally associated with building owners.

Alexandra Farkas, who works for Erikson Translations on Court Street, tried her luck with the bikes in building law, but it did not go well for her, either.

"We succeeded in getting the building to allow us to bring bikes in, but we don't have room in our offices to park them, and the landlord hasn't made space available," said Farkas.

"My coworker put a lot of work into it, but it was kind of a dead end," Farkas added.

Of course, for a few lucky applicants in Brooklyn, the process was relatively pain-

less.

"It went extremely well! The building's management was really cooperative," said Gail Kovach, who works for the Social Science Research Council, which has offices at 1 Pierrepont Plaza. "We filed the request, two weeks later the manager filed the necessary plan and a week later it was approved. It was really quick!"

After some planning, cyclists and the building management were able to make room for bikes in the office, so now roughly 10 two-wheelers are up against the walls and cubicles of the offices of the Social Science Research Council.

"It's kind of funny seeing the bikes around the office," said Kovach, "but no one objects and we feel we're making a small dent in all the pollution of the environment."

The building is owned by Bruce Ratner, who has also been quick to allow bikes in one of his Metrotech office buildings in Downtown. But the developer has not allowed bikes in his Metrotech Center building.

Department of Transportation spokesman Marty Dean recommended that cyclists who are having trouble convincing their landlord to consider a "bikes in buildings" proposal should contact the agency through its website.

Dean agreed that participation is low in Brooklyn, but the agency expected that to be the case.

"Most of the requests have come from Manhattan due to the density of large commercial buildings there," Dean said.

All told, the agency has received 324 "bike access plans" citywide, covering up to 2,500 bikes. Not all of those "access plans" have been implemented.

# VANS...

*Continued from page 1*

when the van service began along the former B23 bus line in Kensington, we waited two hours in vain for a van at a designated stop at Corteyou Road and Flatbush Avenue. It is unclear whether the van was not working the route or if the driver chose to make undesignated stops elsewhere in the neighborhood.

Yassky said the agency would carefully monitor the unsubsidized program and evaluate it in about six months, potentially making it permanent.

But one van operator said he wouldn't need so much time to figure out if it will work for him.

Sulaiman Haqq, co-owner of the Brooklyn Van Lines, has been given the city contract for the former B71 route — and he predicts a rough road to solvency.

"This route has been abandoned for some time now, and people have grown accustomed to taking other forms of transportation," he said.

Haqq said he is already hearing grumbling from group van operators in Queens, where the service began two weeks ago.

"They are pretty much complaining already that they can't get any ridership to sustain their efforts," he said, claiming he would "kick it out" in Brownstone Brooklyn for a few months.

"I'm prepared to put in some time. But time equates to money."

The 20-passenger vans will cost \$2 a ride, and in theory operate from 6 am to 10 pm. They are supposed to make pickups every 15 minutes during peak hours.

But don't expect city-bus-type amenities.

There will be no transfers, and none of the vans will be handicapped accessible. Signs will be posted along the old route, alerting passengers where to hop a ride.

Yassky said the new program would be a "flirt" experiment, but conceded the road to selecting a route operator was bumpy.

The Transit Workers Union quietly withdrew its ballyhooed plan to operate a private van service along the B71 route, leaving the city scrambling to find a replacement in time for the start of its pilot program.

"I was very disappointed that they backed out," said Yassky. "Transit workers are highly professional and qualified, and I was eager to see them involved."

He said the union — which initially blasted as "illegal" the plan to use private vans on eliminated bus lines, but then created a not-for-profit enterprise so that it could participate in the program — gave no explanation for putting the brakes on its own bid.

Union officials did not return a call for comment, but the Chief, a union newspaper, said that start-up costs were the culprit.

Van service on the other two borough routes included in the plan — Williamsburg's former B39 line, which journeyed into Manhattan over the Williamsburg Bridge, and the B23, which once connected Kensington to Borough Park, began on Sept. 20. Route information is available here.

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings September 24-30, 2010

## T.S. I love you

Prospect Heights church hosts Eliot's murderous play

**The Butcher of Flatbush Ave. Extension**

Spotter alert! "Murder in the Cathedral" is about a brutal killing in church—but don't worry, we didn't just rain the play for you.

The famous story of the assassination of Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1170 is front and center here—a story so full of drama, power dynamics and internal struggle that T.S. Eliot—yes, that T.S. Eliot—couldn't resist writing a play about it.

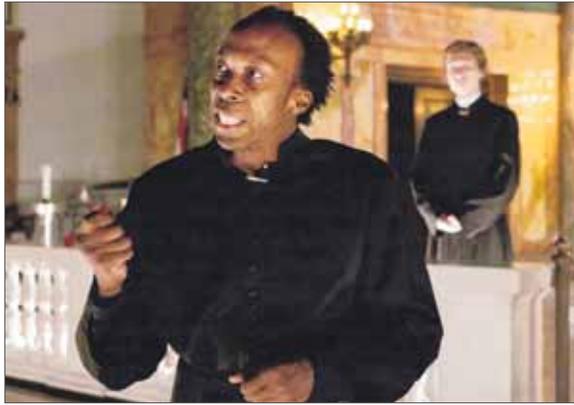
Eliot focused his drama, which is running now through Oct. 2, at the Church of St. Joseph in Prospect Heights, on the last month of Becket's life. He's back in Canterbury after seeking refuge in France for seven years for clashing with King Henry II over his allegiance to a high power other than the throne. Though welcomed back in his homeland, Becket still faced certain death if he continued to rock the boat.

Becket's struggle is symbolized by four characters who appear in the play, tempting him with physical safety by "leaving well alone", with riches by serving the king; with power by resisting the king and forming a coalition with like-minded barons; and, lastly—and what Becket contemplated the most—with the glory of martyrdom.

Becket demurs all four tempters, but he cannot escape his fate, as, less than a month after he steps foot in Canterbury Cathedral, he's murdered by the king's knights over suspected treason.

The setting itself provides a large part of the appeal in Brooklyn Arts HQ's production of the classic. Director Alec Durfy makes full use of the majestic Church of St. Joseph, with the altar, pulpit, pews, vestibule and even confessional used by the actors. When the knights come knocking for Becket's head, they are literally locked out of the church, their urgent banging immediately placing you in the scene.

The performances are equally effective, most notably Godfrey Simmons, Jr.,



Men in black: Julian Rozzell, Jr. (left) and Alexis McGuinness play priests in "Murder in the Cathedral," a T.S. Eliot drama running now in Prospect Heights at, fittingly, a church. (Inset) Christopher Burris impales Godfrey Simmons, Jr., playing the ill-fated Archbishop Thomas Becket in the production.

good—at one point following a sermon, several members of the audience responded to the archbishop's "Amen" is if they were attending Sunday mass.

The dynamic between Simmons and this fourth tempter (Jordan Coughtry) is especially compelling as the actors play out the drama by encircling the entire audience.

The church may be an ideal setting for "Murder in the Cathedral," though the acoustics in the Church of St. Joseph, while great for music, result in echoes of the actor's lines that sometimes make it

difficult to follow Eliot's subtle poetic verse. Still, it's a small price to pay for what is ultimately a gripping, memorable performance.

### THEATER

"Murder in the Cathedral" at the Church of St. Joseph (850 Pacific St. between Vanderbilt and Underhill avenues in Prospect Heights, no phone), now through Oct. 2, Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday at 2 pm. Tickets \$10 (suggested), \$5 for groups of four or more. For info, visit [www.murderinthecathedral.com](http://www.murderinthecathedral.com).

### TOURS

## Going 'Yard'

Hop on your fixie and explore one of the most exclusive spaces in Brooklyn this month.

On Sept. 26, Urban Oyster leads a bicycle tour of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, a historic naval shipping yard on the East River—an enticing, yet off-limits, paradise for cyclists.

The tour gives you a behind-the-scenes look at the Navy Yard's transition from a prominent shipbuilding facility to a model of sustainable urban industrial parks.

There are also some unique views of the waterfront. The bike tour comes ahead of the Navy Yard's visitors and community center slated to open next fall. At that point, the Yard won't be as frustratingly exclusive, so get in while you still can't.

Brooklyn Navy Yard Bicycle Tour (meet at Sands and Gate streets in Fort Greene, (347) 599-1842), Sept. 26 and Oct. 17 at 1:45 pm. Tickets \$24, \$20 for members of the Brooklyn Historical Society and the Brooklyn Greenway Initiative, advance purchase required, as is a helmet. For info, visit [www.urbanoyster.com](http://www.urbanoyster.com).

—Meredith Deliso

### CINEMA

## Silent Sunday

It's hard to keep quiet about silent film this good.

This fall, the Brooklyn Public Library will continue its popular pre-talkies series, featuring some great films that are so last century: "Grandma's Boy," a slapstick comedy starring Harold Lloyd; "Daddy Long Legs," a comic drama starring the immortal Mary Pickford; and "The Strong Man," another slap-and-tickle fest starring Harry Langdon.

But just because the soundtracks are empty doesn't mean today's audience won't have plenty to listen to. As in past years, Stuart Odeerman will provide the live piano accompaniment (which, in a Harold Lloyd film, means plenty of fast fingers).

"Stuart is our secret weapon," said Ken Gordon, host of the first-Sunday-of-the-month Silent Movie Matinee series. "He is like a jukebox for that era of music. You aren't just in a movie, you are in a concert."

Silent Movie Matinee at Brooklyn Public Library's Central Branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100), Oct. 2, Nov. 7, Dec. 5 at 1:30 pm. Free. For info, visit [www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org](http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org).

—Joe Arata

### THEATER

## Orwell's circus

The circus and communist Russia never had much in common, but House of Yes is looking to change all that.

Starting on Oct. 1, the Bushwick art space will present "Circus of Circus," a burlesque-style adaptation of George Orwell's 1944 classic literary satire of the Russian Revolution, "Animal Farm."

Instead of Orwell's radicalized farm-working beasts, "Circus of Circus" will feature actual circus performers who rebel against their ringmaster. But the actors in the show aren't just pretending to be circus folk—they'll showcase their actual trapeze, fire-breathing, contortion skills.

"The show is very tongue and cheek," said Kac Burke, who co-runs the House of Yes art space and wrote "Circus of Circus." "And all the characters are directly based on the characters from 'Animal Farm.'"

Orwell wrote "Animal Farm" to express his disillusionment with Soviet communism under Stalin. Burke's work, on the other hand, wasn't the least bit politically motivated. "She was just inspired to find that so many characters in the novella reminded her of her friends."

"I've been writing this show in my head for more than three years," said Burke, who also is a circus performer. "The book just had so many characters to explore."

"Circus of Circus" at House of Yes (342 Maerck St. between Morgan Avenue and Waterbury Street in Bushwick, no phone), Oct. 1-2, 7-14. Tickets \$20, \$30 for VIP. For info, visit [www.circusofcircus.com](http://www.circusofcircus.com).

—Alex Rush

## 'Dead' play comes alive

Don't let the name fool you, "Je Suis Dead" is a play very much about the living.

The New York debut of Fool's Proof Theatre's play, opening Sept. 30 at the Rondale Center, teeters the line between the fictional and everyday, borrowing from the real-life experiences of company members—and, no doubt, a touch of Sartre.

The darkly comedic result is a puzzling piece centered around three strangers in the aftermath of a near-fatal train accident—a bit of "No Exit" if we ever heard it. Hell is other people? You betcha.

In this version of the ultimate Existential question, though, each character's unique reaction to the post-trauma world is front and center. The aloof teacher, for example, must get down and dirty; the master-of-the-universe businessman adjusts to being knocked off his perch; and a lonely office worker finally learns to reach out to others.

Along the way, ghosts of the past—including Berlin Dadaist, atom-of-the-century British explorer, and a bosswife from the South—flit in and out.

Tough to understand? But of course. "The play is thought-provoking," said Mary Pearson, one of the stars. "We don't try to make work that is too easily consumed. We're happy if it stays

with viewers for days."

The director of the Rondale Center said she was honored to have the U.K.-based theater company debut its work in little old Fort Greene.

"It's compelling, but it's funny," said Lucy Walters-Maneri. "There are only three actors, so it's highly visual in terms of light and costume. The play is a wonderful self-reflexive piece that reveals certain truths about us all."

"Je Suis Dead" at the Rondale Center (85 S. Oxford St. between Lafayette and Greene avenues in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9223), Sept. 30-Oct. 2 at 8 pm. Tickets \$25. For info, visit [www.rondale.org](http://www.rondale.org).

—Adam Warner



Emily (Mary Pearson) is a bit loopy in "Je Suis Dead" at the Rondale Center starting Sept. 30—but what can you expect, considering that she's dead (well, sort of).

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# HERE TO

## EDITORS' PICKS

<p><b>FRIDAY</b> September 24</p> <p><b>Trashy theater</b> Think watching documentaries makes you an environmentalist? Think again. Get off the couch and actually do something—such as clean up the beach at Coney Island for the annual fall coastal cleanup day. After you've scrubbed the sand, then you can enjoy Artichoke Dance Company's new piece, "Human Mapping Project," guilt-free.</p> <p>1 pm: "Human Mapping Project" on the beach at the New York Aquarium at W. Eighth Street and the Boardwalk in Coney Island. Free. For info, visit <a href="http://www.artichokedance.org">www.artichokedance.org</a></p> <p>All day: DUMBO Arts Festival (centered at 45 Main St. between Water and Plymouth streets in DUMBO, (718) 468-9223). For info, visit <a href="http://www.dumboboardwalkfestival.com">www.dumboboardwalkfestival.com</a></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY</b> September 25</p> <p><b>Dynamic DUMBO</b> The enormous figure projected onto the Manhattan Bridge isn't a sci-fi film gone amok. It's this year's DUMBO Arts Festival. Along with out-sized images and food-themed installations, there will be enough paintings, photography, theater, live music and mind-stimulating activities that you might lose yourself. Seriously—there will be a cardboard maze.</p> <p>10 am-6 pm: Atlantic Antic (Atlantic Avenue between Hicks Street and Fourth Avenue, (718) 875-8993). Free. For info, visit <a href="http://www.atlanticave.org">www.atlanticave.org</a></p>	<p><b>SUNDAY</b> September 26</p> <p><b>Merchant mile</b> Even the pickiest foodie will find something to eat at this year's mile-long Atlantic Antic. But walking this marathon will be no sweat with 600 vendors parked along the way. The real challenge will be choosing among all the food, art, shopping, kid-friendly festivities, and lots of live bands that make this one of the biggest festivals of the year.</p> <p>10 am-6 pm: Atlantic Antic (Atlantic Avenue between Hicks Street and Fourth Avenue, (718) 875-8993). Free. For info, visit <a href="http://www.atlanticave.org">www.atlanticave.org</a></p>	<p><b>MONDAY</b> September 27</p> <p><b>Irregular residents</b> Everybody knows one: an opera-singing plumber, a ribald street vendor, or a doll-collecting doctor. They are the eccentric citizens of Brooklyn—and you're not the only one who appreciates them. Head to Galapagos Art Space and listen as the borough's best songwriters sing about how their favorite local characters keep this city interesting.</p> <p>8 pm: "Brooklyn's Got Character!" at Galapagos Art Space (16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500). Tickets \$15. For info, visit <a href="http://www.galapagosartspace.com">www.galapagosartspace.com</a></p> <p>10 am-6 pm: Chile Pepper Fiesta at Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7223). Tickets \$15. For info, visit <a href="http://www.bbgo.org">www.bbgo.org</a></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY</b> October 2</p> <p><b>Spicy soiree</b> This cosmopolitan plant might be the one thing countries around the world have in common. And that's a reason to celebrate. Come to the annual Chile Pepper Fiesta to experience peppers and recipes from around the globe, a chocolate-chili tasting competition, international music, and even mouth-charring cocktails.</p> <p>10 am-6 pm: Chile Pepper Fiesta at Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7223). Tickets \$15. For info, visit <a href="http://www.bbgo.org">www.bbgo.org</a></p>
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# NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

**FRI, SEPT. 24**

**GREENPOINT FLEA MARKET:** Noon-8 pm. Greenpoint Reformed Church (138 Milton St. between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-5941).

**THEATER: "THE KAPINSKI PRIVATE EYE ACADEMY":** Bull Kapinski trains cadets in the art of urban private investigation in the streets of Williamsburg as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 5:15, 10:30. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com).

**THEATER: "LES MISERABLES — SCHOOL EDITION":** Narrows Community Theater's cleaned-up version of the Broadway classic. \$20. 8 pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium (Fourth Avenue at 97th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 482-3173). [www.narrowscommunitytheater.com](http://www.narrowscommunitytheater.com).

**THEATER: T.S. ELIOTS "MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL":** OBIE award-winner Alec Duffy helms this site-specific production. 7:30 pm. St. Joseph's Church (856 Pacific St. between Vanderbilt and Lindbergh avenues in Prospect Heights). [www.murderinthecathedral.com](http://www.murderinthecathedral.com).

**THEATER: "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW":** The Gallery Players present Joe Orton's comedy. 8 pm. 8 pm. Gallery Players (199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth Avenues in Park Slope, (212) 332-3101). [galleryplayers.com](http://galleryplayers.com).

**THEATER: "HANSEL AND GRETEL":** What happened after "Happy ever after"? 7:35, 8 pm. 7:30 pm. Performance Space (17 Frost St. between Union Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, [www.hauntedandhaunted.com](http://www.hauntedandhaunted.com)).

**DUMBO DANCE FESTIVAL:** Three days of performance. Free. John Ryan Theater (25 Jay St. at John Street in DUMBO, (718) 855-8822). [www.willifest.com](http://www.willifest.com).

**MUSIC: WILLIFEST:** Featuring live music all day long. Free. Noon-6 pm. Washington Plaza (Havenway Street and Broadway in Williamsburg). [www.willifest.com](http://www.willifest.com).

**HEALTH FAIR:** Topics include health insurance, asthma, lead poisoning, and bedbugs. Free. 2-6 pm. Duffield Children's Center (101 Fleet St. between Fair Street and Ashland Place in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 522-5296). [www.duffield.org/locations](http://www.duffield.org/locations).

**THEATER: "THE LAST SHOW YOU'LL EVER SEE":** Trombone-playing teenage grapples with the endless possibilities of ending as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 5:15, 7 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com).

**READING, BOOK SIGNING:** "Chronic City" by Jonathan Lethem. Drinks served. RSVP required. Free. 7-9 pm. PowerHouse Arena (17 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049). [www.powerhousearena.com](http://www.powerhousearena.com).

**COMEDY NIGHT:** Hosted by Nick Turner (College Humor) and Jason Saenz (DC Comedy Festival). Free. 8 pm. Cocob6 (66 Greenpoint Ave. between Franklin and West streets in Greenpoint, (917) 807-6045). [thefunclub.org](http://thefunclub.org).

**THEATER: "PORTRAIT — THE UNBEARABLE BURDEN OF DECIDING WHAT TO DO BEFORE DYING":** A new play by James Holland. 8 pm. Inhabitable Dog (51 Bergen St. between Boice Place and Smith Street in Cobble Hill, (347) 991-4186). [www.inhabitable.org](http://www.inhabitable.org).

**MUSIC: CLASSICAL CONCERT:** "Here and Now." Series. 5:35 (S30 senior \$15 students) 8 pm. Barge-music (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083). [www.bargemusic.org](http://www.bargemusic.org).

**THEATER: "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST":** The Heights Players perform the stage adaptation of Ken Kesey's book. 5:15, 8 pm. Heights Players (26 Willow Pl. between Loraleim and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 237-2752). [www.heightsplayers.org](http://www.heightsplayers.org).

**MUSIC: HELL'S KITCHEN COUNTRY:** A band all about swingy three-part bluegrass harmony. \$10 adults, \$6 kids. 8 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-9772). [www.bsec.org](http://www.bsec.org).

**THEATER: "LEGS AND ALL":** Man in attic meets woman in box in hilarious love story allegory as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. 5:15, 11 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com).

**MUSIC: TRUE LOVE ALWAYS:** 11 pm. Pete's Candy Store (709 Lorimer St. at Richards Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3770). [www.petescandystore.com](http://www.petescandystore.com).

**http://**  
Find lots more listings online at [BrooklynPaper.com/Events](http://BrooklynPaper.com/Events)

**THE NEW YORK CLOWN THEATRE FESTIVAL:** 5:15, 11 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com).

**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**

**COASTAL CLEAN-UP:** Join nature lovers around the world to clean up the shorelines. Free. 10 am-2 pm. Rustic Shelter by the Lake (East Prospect Park at Ocean and Parkside avenues).

**TOUR: HISTORIC AIRPLANES:** Visit restored crafts. Free. 10 am-4 pm. Boyd Bennett Field Hangar (Flatbush Avenue and Aviation Road in Marine Park, (718) 338-5984). [www.sepiaweb.com/people/dh/museum](http://www.sepiaweb.com/people/dh/museum).

**VOLUNTEER DAY:** Keep the park clean. RSVP required for large groups. Free. 11 am. Fort Greene Park Visitor Center (Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park in Fort Greene, (718) 723-3218).

**PERFORMANCE**

**THEATER: "LES MISERABLES — SCHOOL EDITION":** 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

**THEATER: T.S. ELIOTS "MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL":** 7:30 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

**THEATER: "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW":** 7:30 pm and 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

**THEATER: "HANSEL AND GRETEL":** 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

**DUMBO DANCE FESTIVAL:** See Friday, Sept. 24.

**MUSIC: "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST":** 5:15, 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

**DANCE: "HUMAN MAPPING PROJECT":** Dance troupe takes to the sand to promote beach cleanup. Free. 1 pm. New York Aquarium beach (W. Eighth Street and the Boardwalk in Coney Island). [www.artichokedance.org](http://www.artichokedance.org).

**THEATER: "CONEY ISLAND CHRIS":** Tween-friendly freak keeps age-old traditions of sidewalk alive at the New York Clown Theatre Festival. For kids, 12 and older. \$10. 3 pm. The Brick (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com).

**MUSIC: SECOND ANNUAL NEW MUSIC BAKE SALE:** Performances by The Respect Sisti. Kathleen Ryan. 7 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

## CIVIC CALENDAR

**MON, SEPT. 27**  
**Community Board 1 Public Safety and Human Services committee.** Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Municipal National House (261 Driggs Ave. between Eckford and Leonard streets in Greenpoint, (718) 389-0009). [www.c1b1brooklyn.org](http://www.c1b1brooklyn.org).

**TUES, SEPT. 28**  
**Community Board 1 Land Use committee.** Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm. Community Board 1 office (433 Graham Ave. between Frost and Richardson streets in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009). **Community Board 6 Transportation committee.** Joint meeting with Community Board 8. On the agenda: North Flatbush Avenue streetscape improvements. 7 pm. Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation (727 Classon Ave. at Park Place in Crown Heights, (718) 643-3027). [www.brooklynjob.org](http://www.brooklynjob.org).

**Candidates night.** Meet and question candidates in November election. 7:30 pm. Xaverian HS (1700 Shore Rd. at 71st Street in Bay Ridge, (917) 318-5963).

**WED, SEPT. 29**  
**Dyker Heights/Bensonhurst Town Hall.** Representatives from city agencies. Free. 7 pm. Our Lady of Guadalupe (1518 3rd St. between 15th and 16th avenues in Bensonhurst, (718) 238-6044). [goldenrynsenate.gov](http://goldenrynsenate.gov).

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail [calendar@cnglocal.com](mailto:calendar@cnglocal.com)

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Published weekly at  
1 Metrotech Center North, Suite 1001, Brooklyn NY 11201 (718) 260-2500

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# Get juiced!

## Juice truck serves delicious blends at Grand Army Plaza

By Alex Rush  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Deborah Smith is the quintessential hippie health nut: she teaches yoga, is a graduate of a nutrition program, moonlights as a healthy-eating consultant, and is the juice guru behind the Green Pirate Juice Truck.

Every weekend through October, you can find her mobile vending operation parked at the Grand Army Plaza farmers market, hawkling fruit-and-veggie blends.

Smith and former bandmate Lisa Andarolo started the Green Pirate Juice Truck in 2007 in McCarren Park, naming the biodiesel fuel juice truck after their life-long rock band. Unlike rock and roll, their juice cleanses



**Green energy:** You can not only eat, but drink your vegetables, thanks to healthy concoctions by Deborah Smith of the Green Pirate Juice Truck.

the body of toxins. My juices are made from fresh, raw produce," Smith said. "So the body can digest these liquids easily to quickly absorb vitamins and minerals." Her talk may be sweet, but

we needed to know the juicy details about the drinks' flavors. The Hot Pink Limeade, which sounds more like a cocktail than a health beverage ("I give my drinks sexy names to get people to order them," Smith said), is a palate-pleaser made with beets, apple and lime.

The truck's signature Green Pirate Juice is another winner. It's got green apple, spinach, kale, celery and cucumber, so it tastes earthy. The apple and cucumber give it a hint of sweetness.

"I was bored on the truck one day so I just decided to use all the green food that I had to make a drink, and it came out delicious," Smith said.

But it ain't easy being green. Not everything is a success. Skip the Green Goddess, which was like slurping a kale frappe. At \$6 a pop, that's tough to stomach, but higher prices are the result of using all-organic produce and serving it in bio-degradable corn plastic cups.

Green Pirate Juice Truck at the Grand Army Plaza Farmers Market (corner of Prospect Park West and Union street in Park Slope, no phone), Saturdays, 8 am-4 pm, now through Oct. 31. For info, visit [www.green-pirate.com](http://www.green-pirate.com).

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# Crunchy dining news

**Foodie-in-Chief**  
By Kristen V. Brown

The days may be getting darker, but Brooklyn's restaurant scene certainly isn't. Here's the best of the borough's openings, closings, and, of course, our tastiest restaurant gossip.

**• Chipotle-less in Park Slope:** A few weeks back, Brownstone reported that a branch of burrito chain Chipotle might be headed for the old Miracle Grill spot on Seventh Avenue in the Slope. Not so, said Chris Arnold from Chipotle corporate in Denver, adding "but dang, I'd love to see a restaurant in Park Slope."

**• Beer for Bergen:** The one-story building at 61 Bergen St. between Smith Street and Boerum Place has been under construction for quite a while now, but it appears that the space may become an indoor beer garden. No confirmation on the suds, but the Department of Buildings' website does confirm that the former print shop will become an eating and drinking establishment.

**• The shutter:** After seven years,



Hostess/bartender Gladys Miró serves it up at Donia Cafe on Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg.

Bushwick's pioneering coffee/video rental spot the Archive Cafe has shuttered. Word has it a new cafe is set to take its place within the month.

**• Openings:** Lilla Cafe recently opened on Union Street in the Columbia Street Waterfront District, sporting a seriously pared-down (seven item) seasonal menu. For now the eatery is BYOB. Meanwhile, on the other side of Brooklyn, Donia Cafe opened shop on Driggs Avenue in Greenpoint, boasting cozy environs and Mediterranean-American fare.

**• Name game:** The new gastropub coming to Greenpoint from the man behind Manhattan's Baby and Spitzer's Corner is no longer nameless — Robert Shamlian's 200-seat Nassau Avenue spot will be called Spritzhaus. With some luck, it just might be open by Oktoberfest.

**• Get baked (again):** This reporter's favorite bakery, Baked, is finally coming out with a follow-up to its uber-successful 2008 cookbook, "Baked: New Frontiers in Baking." "Baked Explorations" is due out early next month — meaning you can eat those brownies without trucking to Red Hook when it's blizzarding in January.

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# Film freak out

## Coney Island Film Festival to include Darren Aronofsky honor

By Thomas Tracy  
The Brooklyn Paper

### The big one

It's been widely said that if you give a man a fish, he eats for a day. But if you teach a man to fish in the East River, he could win the Brooklyn Fishing Derby.

The so-called "common man's fishing competition" returns at the stroke of midnight on Oct. 1 and, for the next six weeks, encourages amateur anglers to catch the big one and beam the ones that got away.

Derby founder Ben Sargent has been fishing off nooks and crannies on Greenpoint's dilapidated piers for several years, but created the month-and-a-half-long contest to share the hobby with other fishermen — and convince doubters that you can eat the

fruit of the East River.

"Most people think there aren't any fish or that the fish will kill you," said Sargent. "That's the same fish you catch in Montauk and spend \$15 a pound for sustainable line-caught cod at a farmer's market."

Sargent also advises would-be winners to head to the river at night, dusk, or early morning. Fish don't bite during the day.

Brooklyn Fishing Derby, Oct. 1 to Nov. 21 at various locations on the East River. For information, visit [www.brooklynchowderfestival.com](http://www.brooklynchowderfestival.com). Registration costs about \$100, though cash prizes are \$100,000. Fishing license. — Aaron Short

It's time to get your celluloid freak on!

Celebrating a decade of proud impertinence, the Coney Island Film Festival promises to bring you unconventional flicks to the people's playground beginning on Sept. 24 — then flip everything on its head and feature Hollywood-trended Brooklyn-born auteur Darren Aronofsky.

Yes, it's a contradiction, especially since Aronofsky may helm the big-budget "X-Men Origins: Wolverine 2" next year. But it's still oddly in line with the gritty, "I don't care what you think" pluck that's defined the festival, and Coney Island, for so long.

"It's amazing we've lasted 10 years this way," marveled festival Director Rob Luddy. "We've never been as uptight or as snooty as some festivals. We're more laid

### CINEMA

The Coney Island Film Festival at Sidibeau by the Seashore 11208 Surf Avenue at West 12th Street in Coney Island (718) 372-5191 Sept. 24-26. For a list of films and show times, visit [www.coneyislandfilmfestival.com](http://www.coneyislandfilmfestival.com).

back and embrace the vibe of the whole neighborhood."

As always, Coney Island's famed and faded amusement area will be showcased. There are more than a dozen films dedicated to its unique history, history and controversial revivalist (or Disneyfication, according to some). Offerings include documentaries: "Last Summer in Coney Island," about the neighborhood's current transformation and "Last Night in Astroland with Jimmy Prince" which examines how the famed amusement park's closure



Island dream: Pasty perfume Dirty Martini is a sultry vision in pink in the documentary, "Dirty Martini and the New Burlesque." Catch the titillating flick at the Coney Island Film Festival on Sept. 24.

### 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

Suponé, Todd Reynolds, Newspeak, Wet Ink, DITHER, Mantra Percussion, Ensemble de Sade, Matthew Welch, MIVOS guante, Thriftify Duo Sept. 5-11:30 pm, Jondale Center (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233). [www.jondale.org](http://www.jondale.org)

THEATER, "HOW TO LIVE UP YOUR DREAMS BY NOT REALLY TRYING": Clowm Billy leads audiences out of the red zone at the New York Clown Theatre Festival. \$15. 8 pm, The Brick (375 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6199). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com)

MUSIC, EDDIE MONEY: 525-545. 7:30 pm, Floyd Bennett Field (3159 Flatbush

Ave. in Marine Park, (718) 758-7500). [www.aviatorstheater.com](http://www.aviatorstheater.com)

THEATER, "CARMEN THE MOPERA": Gleaming lady sweeps the stage in operatic comedy as part of the New York Clown Theatre Festival. \$15. 8 pm, The Brick (375 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6199). [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com)

THEATER, "PORTRAYED — THE UNBEARABLE BURDEN OF DECIDING WHAT TO DO BEFORE DYING": 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selections from Bach, Schubert, Reger. \$40 (\$35 senior, \$15 students). 8 pm, Grand Army Plaza (Union Street at Flatbush Avenue and Furman Street in Park Slope, (212) 788-7900). [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov)

THEATER, "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST": 8

pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

MUSIC, BROOKLYN COUNTY FAIR: 8 pm-11 am, Jolly (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-2214). [www.jollybc.com](http://www.jollybc.com)

THEATER, "THE LAST SHOW YOU'LL EVER SEE": 10 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

SALES AND MARKETS BROOKLYN FLEA: 10 am-5 pm, Brooklyn Technical HS (176 Lafayette Ave. between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues in Fort Greene). [www.brooklynflea.com](http://www.brooklynflea.com)

PARK SLOPE GREENMARKET: Brooklyn's answer to Union Square. 9 am-4 pm, Grand Army Plaza (Union Street at Flatbush Avenue and Furman Street in Park Slope, (212) 788-7900). [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov)

PS 321 FLEA MARKET: Free. 9 am-5 pm. PS 321 schoolyard Seventh Avenue and

First Street in Park Slope). [www.parkslopeflea.com](http://www.parkslopeflea.com)

GIANT TAG SALE: Free. New and used items. Free. 9 am-5 pm, Cadman Towers (101 Clark St. between Henry Street and Cadman Plaza West in Brooklyn Heights). (718) 625-1177.

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Free. Noon-8 pm, Artists and Fleas (127 N. Sixth St. between Bedford Avenue and Berry Streets in Williamsburg). [www.artistsandfleas.com](http://www.artistsandfleas.com)

OTHER FILM, WILLFEST: 10:30-midnight. See Friday, Sept. 24.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CHURCH BLOCK PARTY: Fun for the whole family. Free. Noon-6 pm, St. Charles Borromeo Church (21 South Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 625-1177). [www.stcharlesborromeo.org](http://www.stcharlesborromeo.org)

BUDDHIST ARTS AND CRAFTS: All-day food and music event to benefit LittleLama.org. Free. Noon-6 pm, Dorji Ling Buddhist Center (88 Gold St. between Front and Front streets in Vinegar Hill, (646) 645-4161). [www.dharmaquest.org](http://dharmaquest.org)

Just desserts: What happened to Hansel and Gretel after the "happily ever after"? Find out at Sparrow Theatre. Theatre Company's production at 17 Frost Performance Space on Sept. 24-25.

Sept. 24

THEATER, "WHAT THE BUTLER SAW": 3 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

DUMBO DANCE FESTIVAL: 10 am-6 pm, Dumbo (180 Grand Street in Dumbo, (718) 625-1177).

MUSIC, WILLFEST: Noon-5 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

MUSIC, WILLFEST: "THE LOST EDITION": Con-densed, modern version of the Shakespearean tragedy. Free. 2 pm, Salt Marsh Nature Center (3302 Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 421-2021).

DANCE, FALL HARVEST CELEBRATION: An afternoon of dance, theater and song including traditional Native American drumming with Roman "Redhawk" Perez. Meet at the back lawn of the Salt Marsh Nature Center. Free. 2 pm, Salt Marsh Nature Center (3302 Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 421-2021).

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selected works by Mendelssohn, Shostakovich. \$40 (\$35 senior, \$15 students). 3 pm, Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 628-0053). [www.bargemusic.org](http://www.bargemusic.org)

THEATER, "PORTRAYED — THE UNBEARABLE BURDEN OF DECIDING WHAT TO DO BEFORE DYING": 8 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

THEATER, "ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST": 2 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

MUSIC, STEPHANE WREMBEL: Meets up the traditional Django repertoire along gypsy swing re-interpretations of standards. 9 pm, Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177). [www.barbesbrooklyn.com](http://www.barbesbrooklyn.com)

11 am, Fort Greene Park Visitor Center (Enter park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park in Fort Greene, (718) 723-3216).

HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR: Free. 11 am-3 pm, Textile Arts Center (320 Second St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 369-0222). [www.theartcenterbrooklyn.com](http://www.theartcenterbrooklyn.com)

PINBALL CHAMPIONSHIP: It's all in the wrist. \$10. 6 pm, Santelec Lounge (143 Boerum Street in Fort Greene, S. First and S. Second streets in Williamsburg). [www.pinballchampionship.com](http://www.pinballchampionship.com)

MON, SEPT. 27

FILM, "INNOCENT BLOOD": As part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. \$5-\$12. 6:50 and 9:15 pm, BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129). [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

READING, MEGAN SNYDER CAMP: Author of "The Forest of Sore Things." 7:30 pm, Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and North Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-4129). [bookstorebrooklyn.blogspot.com](http://bookstorebrooklyn.blogspot.com)

MUSIC, "BROOKLYN'S GOT CHARACTERS": Original theater songs inspired by real Brooklyn people. \$15. 8 pm, Galspagoes Art Space (14 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500). [www.galspagoesartspace.com](http://www.galspagoesartspace.com)

TUES, SEPT. 28

HEALTH, EXERCISE WORKOUT: Beasts-a-metrics is a new fitness class based on the Tabata protocol. \$10 adults, \$6 kids. 8 pm, Method. \$10 per class. 7-7:45 am, McCarter Park (Lorimer Street between Park Street and Bayard Street in Greenpoint). [www.parknyc.com](http://www.parknyc.com)

TOUR, HISTORIC ART PLANS: 10 am-4 pm. See Saturday, Sept. 25.

FILM, "THE VELVET VAMP": Part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. \$5-\$12. 6:50 and 9:15 pm, BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129). [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

MUSIC, JENNY SCHEINMAN: 8 pm, Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177). [www.barbesbrooklyn.com](http://www.barbesbrooklyn.com)

MUSIC, SLAVIC SOUL PARTY: Fly Gypsy brass, soulful Balkan anthems, and hip-grinding American funk. \$10. 9 pm, Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177). [www.barbesbrooklyn.com](http://www.barbesbrooklyn.com)

WED, SEPT. 29

HEALTH, ARTS GROUP: All skill levels in knitting, crocheting, quilting, needlepoint and embroidery. Free. 6 pm, Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastman Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

FILM, "THE ADDICTION": As part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. \$5-\$12. 6:50 and 9:15 pm, BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129). [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

THURS, SEPT. 30

THEATER, T.S. ELIOT'S "MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL": 7:30 pm. See Friday, Sept. 24.

HEALTH, EXERCISE WORKOUT: 7:30 am. See Tuesday, Sept. 24.

FILM, "THE LAST MAN ON EARTH": As part of BAM's "Bela Lugosi's Dead, Vampires Live Forever" series. \$5-\$12. 6:50 and 9:15 pm, BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129). [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

READING, FREDERIC UTECH: Author of "Self Portrait: Fictions." 7:30 pm, Greenlight Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and North Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-4129). [bookstorebrooklyn.blogspot.com](http://bookstorebrooklyn.blogspot.com)

THEATER, "PORTRAYED — THE UNBEARABLE BUR-

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OUR OPINION

Vito's power pays

Brooklyn Democratic Party boss Vito Lopez is under fire this week — and for good reason: The longtime Assemblyman from Williamsburg and Bushwick simply can't keep his pants out of government.

A city investigation found evidence that a Ridgewood Bushwick employee falsely sought reimbursement from the city for "anger management" workshops that were never provided.

quently work on political issues in their off time, making the nonprofit a classic stepping stone to political power.

ALL DRAWN OUT



LETTERS

Believe it. Another letter about the bike lane

To the editor, Bike lanes are great — but problematic ("Bike lane brutality," Sept. 10).

berm, they might come up with a different design than the one being peddled by the Department of Transportation.

selves or bikers, and keeping the urban design of the street intact.

would go to the lake to fish. In those days, we had a large island on the Ocean Parkway side.

new Pier 6 is no joyride," online, June 25).

seen many of the new trolleys in other "cities" such as Portland, these "trolleys" look more like replicas from "Blade Runner" than reliable public transportation.

they fell flat last week. Still, I urge everyone to remember the good times, these are young players who gave all they had.

Send a letter

By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, One Metrotech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

Where else can the bike and buffer lane go? I suggest, the sidewalk near the berm.

Mike Baglivo, neighborhood withheld

Seeing red To the editor, I was thrilled to read your article, "City trolleys back on track" (Sept. 17).

Neighborhood withheld Trolley dodger To the editor, I was thrilled to read your article, "City trolleys back on track" (Sept. 17).

William Wienerman, Kensington Pol position To the editor, I once took an interest in politics, but my father, a stern man if there ever was one, straightened me out: "They're all crooks — even the ones who aren't liars!"

Name withheld

The Brooklyn Paper KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

New parenting columnist is a man!

Scott Sager is a father of two. His column, "The Dad," will alternate with "Fearless Parenting" by Stephanie Thompson.

ken Dad" columns that typically climax with the Dumb Dad moment when the father longest to bring the insurance card to the hospital for the birth of his kid, ends up covered in poop or runs around with a handful of not looking for a tissue.

ent-An Emotional/Active/Creative-Child articles, the Your-Child's-Health/Intelligence/Safety stories, Dads — that's an area of expertise.

The Dad By Scott Sager

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1-3pm  
175 Adams St #15-B  
Spacious 1 BR Co-op Bridge & Water Views \$439K  
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**BROOKLYN OPEN HOUSES**

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## When you have more of the best doctors in Brooklyn, you have the best hospital in Brooklyn.

That's not us bragging. That's the experts at HealthGrades doing their homework.

They recently notified us that we are one of the recipients of the 2010 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence. Of the nearly 5,000 hospitals in the country surveyed, only 269 were considered worthy of this recognition. In fact, Maimonides is one of only two New York City hospitals to receive this coveted award.

And while this bit of good news fills us with a great deal of pride, it by no means comes to us as a complete surprise.

After all, a hospital is only as good as its doctors. And in this important area, Maimonides is a winner as well. In the most recent Castle Connolly *Top Doctors Guide*, Maimonides has more doctors listed than any other hospital in Brooklyn.

In fact, our only quibble is that they didn't list even more of our doctors. You see, we believe that our doctors are at the very top of their respective specialties.

At Maimonides, we've always felt we're the best hospital in Brooklyn. Apparently, a lot of knowledgeable people agree with us.



 **Maimonides**  
Medical Center  
Passionate about medicine.  
Compassionate about people.

Maimonides has more doctors in  
Castle Connolly's *Top Doctors: New York Metro Area*  
guide than any other hospital in Brooklyn.



For more information, visit [www.maimonidesmed.org](http://www.maimonidesmed.org). To find the right doctor for you, call (888) MMC-DOCS (662-3627).