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# The Brooklyn Paper

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BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN EDITION  
INCLUDING DUMBO

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## This wife is 'Bad'

### Shop owner risks Slope ire with cheeky store name

By Joe Anuta  
The Brooklyn Paper

Relax, everyone — he's only kidding!

A beloved Park Slope bodega owner has renamed his Seventh Avenue store The Bad Wife — but he insists that his spouse is anything but.

"She's my best friend," said Jim Lee, owner of the store between 11th and 12th streets. "It's a joke."

Lee said the name comes from a long-running gag, where he teases his wife, Sungki, for being a great wife and mother.

"It has a positive meaning," he said. "Customers tell me that they like it."

And how does the Mrs. feel?

"She loved it," Lee said, adding that if his wife didn't like the name, they wouldn't have used it. "She's the queen. Park Slope women are strong."

Strong enough to know that they don't like references to wives being "bad." "It's unpleasant," said one of the Lees' devoted shoppers, who didn't



Jim Lee, a fruit-selling fixture of Park Slope, stands in front of The Bad Wife, his newly named and soon-to-reopen shop on Seventh Avenue. The name, apparently, is a family joke.

wish to be named. "I'm worried that people won't shop there because they think it's sexist."

Others said that if you don't know

the Lees, you'd be left thinking that the store is owned by a man who doesn't respect his wife — a problem in a neighborhood that judges male-female re-

lations by such benchmarks as love, honor, and an exact division of household responsibilities.

"I have mixed feelings," said one neighbor. "I wish I was the Bad Wife's husband, but unfortunately that's not the traditional humor."

Of course, some customers love the sign.

"It's funny," said Jean Becks. "It wouldn't bother me if I were the wife."

Most customers know Lee and his wife as the ultimate example of an affable Mom and Pop. They opened the tiny fruit and vegetable store as J Market almost 25 years ago, and have been a neighborhood institution ever since.

Now it's time to expand, and when he opens next month, he'll use the extra space for flowers, plants, and oriental groceries.

And, of course, for paying an odd tribute to his wife.

The Bad Wife (378 Seventh Ave. between 11th and 12th streets in Park Slope, (718) 499-7513).



## Pumpkin patch

Little Max Cowie gets his first taste of Halloween fun at last week's harvest festival at Brooklyn Bridge Park. But this weekend is when the real scary fun begins — all of it covered in our frightfully exciting GO Brooklyn section, starting on page 9.

## Markowitz goes mute

### Marty recovers from throat surgery

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

The voice of Brooklyn is back.

A week of weird silence at Borough Hall is over, now that Borough President Markowitz is back on the job after undergoing a throat operation.

"I have to use my voice sparingly," said Markowitz, who was still speaking softly. "It's been difficult in terms of not being able to use the full voice



that I have."

The Beep revealed that the operation last week removed nodules from his vocal cords — a common problem among public speakers and singers.

Decidedly non-borough-president-candidate stars such as Robert Plant and Justin Timberlake have had the procedure.

It was the second time that a doc had removed nodules from Markowitz's pipes.

"I have a habit of speaking

without the use of a microphone," said Markowitz. "If I'm talking to a group of people, I'd rather get in the middle and speak [without amplification] — I'll have to limit that now."

For much of last week, the Beep's booming version of the King's English was conspicuously absent from the daily media frenzy.

The procedure even left

See MARTY on page 8

## COFFEE SQUAWK

### Gorilla Coffee sues the Times over labor story

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

The owners of Gorilla Coffee — where male employees walked out en masse in April — are suing the New York Times for destroying their lives by covering the debacle.

Darleen Scherer and Carol McLaughlin, co-owners of the Fifth Avenue java joint, say they were subjected to "shame, emotional distress, embarrassment and ... contempt and ridicule" after the letter, which was "unair-d gripped that Scherer and



The owners of Fifth Avenue's Gorilla Coffee say the New York Times has ruined their lives.

McLaughlin had "a perpetually malicious, hostile, and demeaning work environment" that was "unair-d gripped that Scherer and

See GORILLA on page 8

## Boro Hall slip-and-fall

### Lady to sue city after tumble on cracked pavement

By Andy Campbell  
The Brooklyn Paper

The long-neglected plaza around Borough Hall has taken its first victim — a woman will sue the city after tripping and fracturing her hip on the cracked slate.

Joan Bassin, a 71-year-old Fort Greene resident, was traversing the broken-up blue-stone plaza surrounding the government building near Adams Street last month, and her last step

landed her in the hospital.

"My toe caught the sidewalk and just went down," she said. "I knew something was wrong right away."

Bassin hadn't read our coverage in January of Borough Hall's deteriorating front door step — which even now is littered with broken cement and potholes that stem from wintertime use of ice-melting chemicals.

After our initial story ("A salt on Borough Hall"), the Parks Department claimed responsibility and said that a repair would be completed "as soon as possible." But it never was, though the plaza was patched slightly in some places.

The horrendous trip and fall debauched Bassin's hip, leaving her unable to work for a month. She underwent two surgeries to swap her bone for a steel rod and her hip joint with a metal ball.

"It's my first bionic part," Bassin said. "I had never been to the hospital before. Now I've gone through over



Joan Bassin, 71, got more than a little boo boo when she tripped on the broken blue-stone in front of Borough Hall. She shattered her hip and required surgery and 16 staples.

three weeks of physical therapy, a week in the hospital and surgeries."

Luckily, she's recovering quickly. But she and her lawyer plan to sue the



And this is the problem in front of Borough Hall.

See GORILLA on page 8

**GOOSEWATCH 2010**

163

**GEESE IN PROSPECT PARK**  
(As of Tuesday, Oct. 26)

Four months after authorities slaughtered geese in Prospect Park, 163 of the waterfowl have returned to the lake, according to Anne-Katrin Titze. Keep an eye out for GooseWatch 2010 — our weekly update.

## Looking up!

### Boro to get Skyscraper District

By Andy Campbell  
The Brooklyn Paper

A new historic district would protect the borough's tallest architectural wonders in Downtown, the city announced this week.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission this week proposed the "Borough Hall Skyscraper Historic District," which encompasses 20 buildings — including Borough Hall and the Municipal Building — along Court Street from Montague Street to Livingston Street, extending half a block west into Brooklyn Heights and east into Downtown.

The plan would effectively protect the face of this handsome handful of early-1900s Romanesque Revival and Beaux-Arts buildings — and preserve the architectural history in the district, which is characterized mostly by tall

commercial structures.

"The district contains many of the borough's most architecturally distinguished business buildings," the city noted in its proposal, whose timeline is not yet clear. "Designed in a range of styles, the structures in the study area represent the work of an impressive group of architects."

The district, which sits directly adjacent to the swank and ancient Brooklyn Heights Historic District of brownstones, stakes its claim as the heart of commercial growth in Downtown.

Shortly after the business booms surrounding Brooklyn Heights in the late 1800s, buildings in the district such as the cloud-reaching Romanesque Chamber of Commerce Building at Livingston and Court streets and the Temple Bar Building on Court and Joralemon Streets began cropping up.



Brooklyn's tallest office tower, at 16 Court St., would be covered in the new "Skyscraper Historic District."

## City: Van plan failed

### Yassky takes the fall for former bus route debacle

By Gary Buiso  
The Brooklyn Paper

The city's plan to add "dollar vans" to bus routes abandoned by the MTA is all but dead — and the head of the city agency that spawned the ill-fated initiative admitted that it was partly his fault.

Two out of the three Brooklyn routes in the controversial pilot program have already been abandoned — just one month after the city announced the plan — and Taxi and Limousine Commissioner David Yassky admitted that he didn't crunch the numbers well enough before pushing for private vans to take over the slashed MTA service.

"I go to this," Yassky told Community Board 14, where he was a guest speaker on Monday night.

There simply has not been enough customers to justify service on the former

B23 and the B39 lines. But Yassky admitted that he didn't look close enough at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's own ridership data, which revealed that only 1,580 weekday riders took the B23, which connected Kensington and Borough Park, and 1,180 used

See VANs on page 8

INSIDE!

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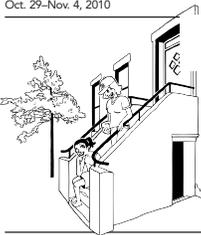
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# THE STOOO

## NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

### WILLIAMSBURG



Charlie Boutzins, of the mailing store 11211 on Bedford Avenue, shows that his ATM is within three feet of his building, though the city ticketed him last week.

## Crack down City blitzes shops for ATM violations

By Michael Pantelidis  
for The Brooklyn Paper

For nearly a dozen Williamsburg business owners this week, cash machines stopped dispensing money and started swiping it.

Last Wednesday morning, store owners on Bedford Avenue between N. Fifth and N. Eighth streets were stunned to receive \$100 tickets from the Department of Sanitation because their sidewalk ATMs were allegedly more than three feet from the building.

"I've had these ATMs for six years," said Mike Kurani, manager of Bedford Magazine and Smoke. "The city never bothered me about them before."

He and others disputed the Sanitation inspector's measurements, saying that the ATMs were within the three-foot limit and were not blocking the sidewalk.

"How can they say it was three feet if it wasn't?" asked Samir Yousef, who owns 13 cash machines outside stores between N. Fourth and N. Eighth streets—nine of which received tickets. "They came for the tickets, not the laws."

Yousef plans to fight the charges, though he added that he and the store owners, who get a percentage of the ATM fees, will likely split the fine if the fight is unsuccessful.

Not everyone will fight the tickets, which require a hearing before the city-run Environmental Control Board, not an independent judge.

"If we have to go to board, we lose a day of work," said Charlie Bourmis, who owns Office 11211 between N. Sixth and N. Seventh streets. "If you have a small business, it's impossible to leave it unattended to go to court all day."

"The city," he added, "should stop using us as their ATMs."

### SHEEPSHEAD BAY

## Mosque is back on City re-approves building plan

By Thomas Tracy  
for The Brooklyn Paper

The Sheepshead Bay mosque is no longer living on a prayer.

A week after the city pulled its approval for the proposed Voorhies Avenue Islamic cultural and prayer center, the Department of Buildings re-approved construction designs last Friday following a meeting with property holder Alloway Ahmed and the architect for the building slated to go up between East 28th and East 29th streets.

"They came in to address our questions and the hold has been lifted," agency spokeswoman Cary Sullivan said.

The approval is a stark turnaround. Last Friday, the city blocked the proposal for the as-of-right project after approving it just two days earlier. At the time, the agency told Ahmed that the project may have to undergo another exhaustive review that could take five months.

Ahmed was not alone in thinking that the city's sudden flip-flop was spearheaded by the widespread opposition to the mosque, which has been the subject of at least three protests.

The city denied such claims. "Additional reviews by the department are common and can be critical to ensuring submitted documents comply with all applicable laws," Sullivan said.

The main opposition group, Bay People, has said that it objects to the mosque because it will bring too much traffic to Voorhies Avenue. But the tenor of the rallies has been frequently anti-Islamic rather than anti-congestion, with signs reading "Is-



Protests have been vehement, but the city has approved plans for a mosque on Voorhies Road in Sheepshead Bay.

lam not welcome here," "New York is not Islamabad" and "Do not forget 9-11" carried by protesters. One resident even claimed he was going to "blow up the mosque" if it was built.

Through it all, there has been repeated assertions that the Muslim American Society, which is backing the mosque, is link to terrorism, though no direct link has been shown.

The city denied an initial set of designs for the mosque late last year. In the new set of plans, which were filed in June, Ahmed shrunk the project from four floors to three. The mosque will be on the first two floors with the third reserved for classroom space. No on-site parking is proposed.

Once built, the mosque will be able to accommodate up to 120 worshippers, but less than 20 will be coming to worship on a daily basis, Ahmed said.

News that this latest hurdle's been cleared, Ahmed said plans to go ahead with the project "as soon as possible."

At the same time, members of Bay People have vowed to continue their fight to stop the project, even if it means taking Ahmed and other mosque proponents to court.

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### PARK SLOPE

## Relief in site! Grand Army public toilet

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

The new public bathroom in Grand Army Plaza will be a welcome relief.

The city's third hi-tech john—across the street from the Brooklyn Public Library's main branch—will be completed later this fall and is expected to fill an urgent need for facilities outside of Prospect Park.

"We're thrilled," said Tupper Thomas, the administrator of Prospect Park. "It's quite fabulous—it's a fancy kind of bathroom."

The new lavatory will cost 25 cents to use, and automatically cleanses itself after each visit.

Money Dean, a spokesman for the Department of Transportation—the agency

installing the fancy facility—detailed some of the amenities.

"Each automatic public toilet is climate-controlled and includes a toilet, a wash basin with running water, and a mirror," said Dean.

"An automated system controls the door and prevents unauthorized entrance."

Once each user has had 12 minutes to finish his or her business, an alarm and red flashing lights go off for three minutes and then the door opens, setting the stage for a potentially embarrassing moment before the throngs of parkgoers at Grand Army Plaza.

Thomas said that the restroom would cater to the hordes who shop at the farmers market on Saturday, along with the thousands of other visitors to the park.

"That is an area of the park that has no facility," said Thomas. "Unless the library is open there is practically nothing!"

Thomas added that the restroom would encourage parkgoers to venture beyond Prospect Park.

"It's all part of our plan to make people use Grand Army Plaza more—to make more part of the park," she said.



Alice Pagan pays tribute to her friend Gilbert, a neighborhood homeless man, outside the Carroll Street station in Carroll Gardens, where Gilbert typically panhandled. He died earlier this month.

### CARROLL GARDENS

## Requiem for a panhandler Gilbert Medina, vet and 'greeter' at Carroll St, is dead

By Joe Anuta  
The Brooklyn Paper

A well-known panhandler who plied his trade outside a Carroll Gardens subway station died earlier this month.

A memorial was set up on the steps leading into the Carroll Street station for Gilberto Medina, a wheelchair-bound, homeless veteran.

A single candle burned near bouquets of flowers and dark photos of Medina. Notes from friends hung from the subway handrail, and curiously, someone had placed a plate of sandwiches on the sidewalk.

The shrine sat mere feet from where Medina had greeted work-bound strap-hangers for two decades.

"He was the greeter," said resident Taylor Sanchez. "There was something great about descending the stairs to the subway station each morning and being acknowledged."

Medina's sudden absence highlights the love-hate relationship often associated with local panhandlers. Many can be a nuisance, but over time they grow inseparable from the corners they haunt—which is why residents are often touched when someone such as Medina is gone.

"This is so sad. We all liked him," said resident Victory Stewart, seeing the memorial for the first time instead of hearing Medina's voice. "People expect to see him."

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# Mugged twice in the same night!

## 90TH PRECINCT

### Southside–Bushwick

A thug robbed his unlucky victim twice in the same night on Oct. 24, but was apprehended after the second mugging on Grand Street.

The perp approached his victim on 12:45 am near Grand Avenue and demanded cash—a few hours after robbing him of \$200 while brandishing a knife on Bushwick Avenue near Meserole Street at 10:20 pm earlier that night.

The victim obliged and gave \$100, but police caught up with the ubiquitous thief two hours later.

### Wburg choke

Two perps choked and robbed a man on the Williamsburg Bridge walkway on Oct. 22, stealing his phone.

The perps approached the man as he was walking towards Williamsburg at 10 pm when one wrapped his arm around his neck and the other said, “Give me your phone—you know what’s right,” in Spanish.

The victims surrendered his phone, and one perp said, “Do not follow us” as both ran down Bedford Avenue.

### Lorimer robbery

Four thugs stole a man’s cash and his date’s phone at gunpoint on Oct. 22 as they headed to a Lorimer Street restaurant—but the posse was later nabbed.

The gang approached the couple at 9 pm near Meserole Street demanding property. One member of the group waved a silver firearm, and the victims gave up \$120 and an iPhone.

## POLICE BLOTTER

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

The victims told cops that he was near Humboldt Street at 1:45 am when he got into a fight with his future assailant. At some point, the dispute became violent, and the thug pulled out a blade and cut his victim above his eye and on the right side of his nose.

The perp fled and the victim was taken to Wyckoff Hospital and treated.

### TV taken

A perp broke into a Metropolitan Avenue apartment and stole a flat-screen TV while his victim was on vacation.

The tenant left his apartment on Oct. 14 and returned Oct. 19 to find his TV gone.

### Scholes assault

A thug slashed his victim’s eye on Scholes Street on Oct. 19.

### Art robbery

A perp broke into a Grand Street art studio on Oct. 22 and stole \$6,000 worth of cameras and lenses.

The tenant left his studio near Morgan Avenue at 10 pm to go home, but when he returned 13 hours later, he found all his equipment missing.

### 78TH PRECINCT

#### Park Slope

### Karmic justice

A thief stole credit cards out of a double-parked car on Seventh Street on Oct. 23.

The victim told police she illegally parked near Sixth Avenue at 6:15 pm and left it un-locked. Five minutes later, the cards were missing. The lesson here: nobody likes a double-parked car.

### Didn’t go quietly

Cops arrested a slow thief who stole a woman’s iPhone on Fourth Avenue on Oct. 22.

The victim told police that she was near Eighth Street at 5:15 pm when the perp approached and snatched the phone right out of her hand.

When cops caught up with the jerk, he started to punch and kick them, then ran around flailing his arms to avoid the NYPD’s mauling. It didn’t work.

### Bold move

A brazen thief stole a BlackBerry Bold right out of a woman’s hand on Seventh Avenue on Oct. 24.

The victim told police that she was getting into her car parked near President Street at 6:15 am when the creep ran past and swiped the phone.

### Paint job

Some paint-spliffing perp stole a piggy bank and more than \$2,500 worth of electronics out of a 12th Street home on Oct. 18.

The victim told cops that she was painting a room in her Sixth Avenue apartment on Oct. 19.

### LICH clip

Someone stole a woman’s property from Long Island College Hospital’s pediatric facility on Amity Street on Oct. 19.

The 37-year-old victim said she placed her bag on a table inside the medical center near Henry Street at around 4:54 pm. Minutes later, the bag was gone, along with an assortment of credit and bank cards.

### Coat napper

Someone stole a man’s jacket from atop his car on Baltic Street on Oct. 23.

The 33-year-old victim told cops he put his jacket on the car’s hood as he gassed up his ride at around 4:25 pm between Smith and Court streets. Moments later, his \$300 Steven Alan jacket, along with a \$699 iPhone, house keys, credit and bank cards, were missing.

### Open door

Some thug stole more than \$2,000 worth of construction equipment from a Third Street home on Oct. 19.

The victim told cops that he left the tools lying by the open front door of the house, which is located near Sixth Avenue, at 10 am. When he returned two hours later, his equipment was missing.

### Mac miscreants

Someone stole a bundle of electronics out of a 12th Street home on Oct. 22.

The victim told cops that he left for work at 6:30 am without locking the back door. At 5 pm, he returned to his home, which located between Fifth and Sixth avenues, and found his MacBook, speakers, and television missing.

### 76TH PRECINCT

#### Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook

### Flirt jerk

Two louts stole a teen’s cellphone on Smith Street on Oct. 18 after hitting her up for a date, but they didn’t get far (with the girl or the phone).

The 16-year-old victim told cops she was entering the Carroll Street subway station near President street at around 4:50 pm when one of the thugs skilled up to her

and queried, “Do you have a boyfriend?”

Before the girl could rebut the advance, the jerk reached into her pocket and stole her phone.

The pair ran off, but Officer Alan Yip caught up with them, arresting a 20-year-old and 21-year-old for grand larceny and criminal possession of stolen property.

### Fed infraction

A thief became a contender for the FBI’s Most Wanted list on Oct. 15 after he broke into a car on Bergen Street belonging to the federal agency.

The agent responsible for the 2005 Dodge Suburban left the vehicle between Vanderbilt and Underhill avenues at 5 pm that Friday. He returned two days later to learn someone had broken a door lock and taken a navigation system, pair of binoculars and a magazine for a FBI-issued handgun, cops said.

### Grab and go

A quick-moving thief jumped a 21-year-old woman as she walked down Prospect Place on Oct. 13, taking her

### Wallet rob

Two muggers pulled a gun on a 46-year-old man on Oct. 15 during a furious confrontation at Sterling Place and Underhill Avenue.

The pair ran off, but Officer Alan Yip caught up with them, arresting a 20-year-old and 21-year-old for grand larceny and criminal possession of stolen property.

### Pocketbook

A thief made off with a 26-year-old woman’s handbag on Oct. 16 as she dined at Tom’s Restaurant on Washington Avenue.

The woman put her bag on a chair next to her as she ate inside the beloved eatery between Sterling and St. Johns places at 2 pm. When she went to pay an hour later, her bag was gone, cops were told.

### 88TH PRECINCT

#### Fort Greene–Clinton Hill

### Dog gone it!

Two thugs jumped a 21-year-old woman as she walked her dog on Cumberland Street on Oct. 18.

The victim was guiding her pet between Lafayette and Greene avenues at 11 pm when the thieves grabbed her.

See **BLOTTER** on page 15

**FRIDAY NOV. 5TH**

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**77TH PRECINCT**  
Prospect Heights

### Sandman sneak

A burglar crept into an Eastern Parkway apartment on Oct. 16 as two women slept inside.

The victim and her roommate went to bed inside their apartment between Plaza Street East and Underhill Avenue at 1:30 am, and within a few hours, the thief had entered, taking \$1,500, some credit cards and a laptop computer.

It was unclear how the victiming inside, although the tenant admitted to police that her “door doesn’t always close.”

**iPhone snag**

A thief on a bicycle snatched an iPhone from a 27-year-old woman on Oct. 20 during a roll-by robbery on Flatbush Avenue.

The victim was between Prospect and Park places at 2 pm when the thief sped by on a 10-speed, plucking the phone from the woman’s hand as he passed.

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- 3) **If You Make A Mistake** — Just return your ballot to a poll worker, it will be voided and you will receive a new one. Voters are allowed up to three ballots total.
- 4) **Your Privacy Matters** — Mark your ballot in the privacy booth and carry your ballot to the scanner in the privacy sleeve. Remember, to keep your vote private, only **you** should insert your ballot into the scanner. Poll workers are available to assist you, but only if you request their assistance.
- 5) **Scan Your Paper Ballot** — Insert your marked ballot into the scanner to cast your vote.
- 6) **Accidentally Overvote?** — After scanning your ballot, you may see a message "Over Voted Ballot." This means you have voted for more candidates than allowed in a specific contest(s). You have two options. The scanner can return your ballot so you can get a new one from a poll worker and correct your mistake. Or you can "Cast" your ballot as is, and your vote in that specific contest will not be counted.

To learn more about the New Way to Vote in Tuesday's election, visit [vote.nyc.ny.us](http://vote.nyc.ny.us) or call **866-VOTE-NYC (866-868-3692) TTY 212-487-5496**.

— The Commissioners of the Board of Elections in the City of New York



# 'Dust' for the win!

Ridge park to keep name, despite vote

By Gary Bulso  
The Brooklyn Paper

City officials tossed aside the results of their own renaming contest for the renovated "Dust Bowl" inside Leif Ericson Park — making the winning name share billing with prior moniker of the once-denuded field.

The new name will be "Quaker Parrot Park at the Dust Bowl" — which takes the old name and adds a nod to the colorful birds that have taken up residence in the park at Eighth Avenue and 66th Street.



**DUST BOWL NO MORE:** Councilman Vince Gentile unveiled the new name for the formerly famously denuded portion of Leif Ericson Park in Bay Ridge — and it honors the parrots who call the place home.

A Brooklyn parrot (you can tell by the accent).

The overwhelming majority of voters cast their ballots for Quaker Parrot Park or the other parrot-centric name, The Parrot Bowl — but a dedicated constituency of Dust Bowl supporters chirped loudly enough to ruffle some feathers, even though the name has become obsolete since a \$2.8-million renovation added a lush carpet of synthetic turf.

Officials said that 800 people voted in the contest, with 519 casting ballots for Quaker Parrot Park or The Parrot Bowl, yet only 298 voting for The Dust Bowl. Though democracy is the clear loser, no one at Sunday's renaming ceremony seemed to have a problem. "I praise the decision — the Quaker parrots still have top billing," said parrot expert Stephen Baldwin, an ad man and keeper of the website, brooklynparrots.org. "Everyone was happy."

Old-timers were equally pleased. "It's a good compromise," said Victoria Hofmo, president of the Scandinavian East Coast Museum. "Longtime residents would have kept calling it 'The Dust Bowl' any way."

Gentile defended the abrogation of basic ballot rules. "As people cast their votes, it became clear that while residents love the improved field and wanted to celebrate the fact that parrots nest in the field lights, they also have a soft spot for the role the Dust Bowl played in their lives," said Gentile, who organized the contest with the Parks Department.

"No matter how dirty and dusty they got playing ball at 'the Dust Bowl,' they loved it all the same. In the field's new name, we found a way to pay tribute to its past and future."

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# These guys stand tall

## Two EMTs chase down thief on Flatbush Avenue

By Michael Pantelidis  
The Brooklyn Paper

Two Brooklyn EMTs were lifesavers of a different kind last week when they leapt to a Fort Greene woman's aide, risking their own safety to chase down a mugger. The dramatic Oct. 18 incident began at around 8:40 a.m. when a thief grabbed a cellphone out of the hands of 26-year-old Evelynia Lusk near the entrance to the DeKalb Avenue subway station.

She screamed, and gave chase — and that's when paramedics Delano Williams and Rheinhold Danglelde stepped in. Concerned that Lusk may be hit by a car on busy Flatbush Avenue Extension, the EMTs popped their ambulance into drive, hit the sirens and chased the perp. "There was no communication," said Williams about the immediate action by himself and his partner of three years. "It was like we could read each

other's minds." Construction on Flatbush Avenue near Fulton Street prevented the emergency workers from continuing in the ambulance, so they hopped out and began a running chase of the thief. The suspect eventually saw the paramedics chasing him, and threw the phone on the ground and surrendered. Delano and Williams restrained him until police arrived. Lusk hailed her dynamic duo.

"They definitely should be honored by the borough," she said. "They are heroes in my eyes. It was the greatest luck ever to have them there." In the manner of generations of heroes before him, Williams denied that the term applies to him and his partner. "It was just a human reaction to seeing someone getting robbed," said Williams, an EMT for 15 years. "I saw my sister, or family member, in that situation."



FDNY paramedics Rheinhold Danglelde (left) and Delano Williams, who are based out of Fort Greene, helped a woman who was being robbed.

Lusk, who complained of chest pains, was examined by another EMT unit on site. "After the cops arrested the guy, I went to the ambulance to check on her," said Danglelde, who has been an EMT for 11 years. "She thanked me, and that's all I needed. That was good enough for me." Such dedication by Brooklyn EMTs is welcomed news, considering the tragedy of Eutisha Renna, an East Flatbush resident who succumbed to death last Dec. 9 after an asthma attack in the Du Bon Pain in the Metrotech Center in Downtown. Two EMTs were in the cafe at the time, but they did not assist in the eight-months-pregnant Renna. By the time an ambulance arrived, Renna could not be saved. Her child died two days later.

# 'Brownstone of the future' gets rejected

By Joe Anuta  
The Brooklyn Paper

Architects want to build the brownstone of the future in Red Hook, but the city is stuck in the past. The Department of Buildings killed plans for a local business-  
man's zero-energy building last week, citing zoning regulations. "They could have just as easily ruled the other way," said Jay Amato, who owns the Conover Street lot where he hoped to build the energy-efficient structure as a model for the future. "There was nothing in the regulations."

Amato hired Garrison Architects to design the building, called Red Hook Green, more than a year ago. It generated such a buzz that it was named "The Brownstone of the Future" in our yearly forward-looking magazine, "Brooklyn Tomorrow," which is included in this week's newspaper. But now it may not be built at all. The problem is that the brownstone-sized lot is zoned for manufacturing — so Amato can't simply build a house on it unless the city allowed him to invoke a zoning rule that allows for a small residence, called a caretaker's residence, inside a manufacturing building.

Such residences can't exceed 15 percent of the total square footage. Amato said the residential portion of his structure comprises only 12 percent. Yet the city still denied



Here's the "Brownstone of the Future" — a sleek, "zero-energy" building that was featured in the latest issue of "Brooklyn Tomorrow" (inset). Yet last week, the city rejected it.

the permit. "[The department] felt the building was too small to support the customary size of a caretaker's residence," said Jim Garrison, the lead architect of the project. "But this is something that has been granted in the past." Garrison saw his defeat as part of an ongoing conflict in Red Hook between residential and manufacturing. "It's been a battleground," Garrison said because industrial businesses do not want Red Hook to become residential. So Garrison's lot remains zoned for manufacturing, even though it is actually too small to be used for anything except residential. "Common sense is not prevailing here," Garrison said. Now, Amato said he has three options: switch the design to an office building, find another lot, or file for a variance, which is a gamble that could cost \$50,000 and a year of paperwork. It looks like Red Hook isn't going green any time soon.



Here's the "Brownstone of the Future" — a sleek, "zero-energy" building that was featured in the latest issue of "Brooklyn Tomorrow" (inset). Yet last week, the city rejected it.

# 'History' in the making

## Locals want to preserve Bushwick's heritage

By Aaron Short  
The Brooklyn Paper

Community leaders are scrambling to landmark the historic stretch of Bushwick known as "Brewers Row" before the buildings are sold and further altered. High school teacher Adam Schwartz has partnered with Councilwoman Diana Reyna (D-Bushwick) to landmark several iconic buildings on Bushwick Avenue and create a historic district around the blocks near Linden Street, Gates Avenue and Bushwick Avenue. "Identifying buildings and blocks could ... preserve Bushwick's history and culture as well as encourage neighborhood pride," said Reyna. The street was once home to beer makers, doctors, a former mayor and even a famous explorer of the North Pole — but the buildings have deteriorated or been altered.



The Reformed Church of South Bushwick needs to repair its steeple.

With the help of his 11th and 12th graders at the Academy of Urban Planning, Schwartz has been identifying and documenting buildings for landmark consideration. The William Ulmer Mansion on the corner of Bush-

wick Avenue and Myrtle Avenue is perhaps the most beautiful building in Bushwick. Ulmer's brewery has already been landmarked by the city earlier this spring, but his brick Romanesque revival-style house remains unlisted. Built in 1885, the three-story building became better known as the home of polar explorer Frederick Cook who was one of the first adventurers to reach the North Pole. In the latter half of the 20th century, the building was subdivided. A few blocks away, a thin brick building in a set of row houses between Menahan and Bleecker Streets was the home of Mayor John Hylan in those pre-Gracie Mansion days. "When parades were going up Bushwick Avenue, Hylan would stand outside and salute them," Schwartz

# Gate crashers

## Thieves stealing brownstone gates

By Joe Anuta  
The Brooklyn Paper

Call them heavy metal punks. Cops say that thieves stole seven wrought-iron gates from the front of brownstones on President Street and Lincoln Place last week, leaving residents stunned at their gap-toothed front yards. "I've never heard of [stealing] gates," said victim Lisa Horfman. "It's very odd."

But the thieves may be smarter than residents think. Scrap iron only sells for six to 10 cents per pound. But many of the brownstones in the area are more than a cen-



Homes on President Street and Lincoln Place had wrought-iron gates stolen last week.

tury old, which makes the ornate iron fences valuable antiques. "These gates have been

here since the houses were built," said Rosa Zimmerman, another victim. "It's hard to find new ones. You

mark status. "The Masonic Lodge is a reflection of the heritage of the neighborhood," Schwartz said. Two buildings on Bushwick Avenue have already been landmarked by the city: the Andrew Carnegie-style DeKalb Library, which opened in 1905, and the Dutch colonial-style

don't want to get another style." Zimmerman and her husband have been searching antique shops since the theft, and have been quoted prices of \$800 for similar designs. Detectives from the 78th Precinct have visited several scrap yards and antique dealers in the area to see if anyone had brought in any suspicious material. But the case is tougher than pig iron. "We don't know why they're taking them," a spokesman said. Police recommend welding washers or brackets to the top of a gate's hinges so burglars can't simply lift them up and throw them into a truck. The series of burglaries is the worst perimeter-related crime since the ur-holy synagogues robbery of 2008, when an entire \$15,000 fence was taken in Bensonhurst.

South Bushwick Reformed Church, built in 1853. Schwartz believed that landmarking individual buildings nearby would draw attention to the street as a historic area — which could lead to more funds for preservation. "I want to make sure they're still standing a hundred years from now," said Schwartz.

# GORILLA SUIT...

Continued from page 1 healthy" and "unworkable." Two weeks after the entire staff quit, the business reopened with new workers. In the latter half of the 20th century, the building was subdivided. A few blocks away, a thin brick building in a set of row houses between Menahan and Bleecker Streets was the home of Mayor John Hylan in those pre-Gracie Mansion days. "When parades were going up Bushwick Avenue, Hylan would stand outside and salute them," Schwartz

said that "a fair amount have said they're not going to portend" the shop since the Times article came out. It is unclear how much business, if any, has

been lost to the media coverage of the mass walkout. The lawsuit was first reported by the blog, F — in Portland.

# MARTY...

Continued from page 1 Slowly but surely, the Beep added, he will begin speaking in public (currently he stands to the side while one of his aides speaks for him). Letting out a chuckle, Markowitz said he was happy to be back. "Of course, those that don't love my opinions weren't shedding a tear for me, but that's OK."

Markowitz on mute the day of dueling rallies over the controversial Prospect Park West bike lane — one of his signature issues. Now, Markowitz is happy to be back in action. "I love being involved for Brooklyn as much as I can be," he said. "It was very difficult [being unable to speak]."

"Prior to the ... defamatory publication, Gorilla Coffee, Scherer and McLaughlin had built up among the general public ... a certain goodwill as merchants ... and possessed a reputation for fair dealing, courtesy and accommodation," the court documents continue. The two-week-long saga began last April when the all the employees at the cafe on Fifth Avenue on Park Place abruptly quit and detailed their beef with Scherer and McLaughlin in the open letter printed by the Times and The Brooklyn Paper, which has not been used. A spokeswoman for the New York Times, Diane McNulty, said, "We have not been served with the complaint. If we are served, we plan to defend the case vigorously."

McLaughlin and Scherer could not be reached, but their lawyer, Stephen Finkelstein,

# VANS...

Continued from page 1 the B39, which ferried Williamsburg riders into Manhattan. "We did it," he said, "without looking behind the numbers."

For example, the agency never determined how many of the bus trips were students using a bus pass, or other customers who might not want to spend \$2 for a van with no free transfer to a subway or bus. Things got off to a burpy start on the first day of the initiative along the B23, as this newspaper waited for two hours in vain for a van.

A similar fate awaited a reporter in Williamsburg, who went looking for a van for two days and failed to find even one. "Yassky would not pronounce the program fully dead, as service survives — barely — along the former B71, which connected Carroll Gardens to Crown Heights. But Sulaiman Haq, the van operator along the route, is bleeding money, and has wondered if he will be able to sustain his effort. Two other routes survive in Queens, but Yassky said none are making money for the operators.

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

Oct. 29–Nov. 4, 2010

# Agnoulish guide

This weekend's Halloween fun, all at your fingertips

By Adam Warner  
The Brooklyn Paper

**C**all it Boo-lynn. This weekend, you're not at a loss for Halloween festivities. From Greenpoint to Coney Island, you can find parties to do the Monster Mash, parades to show off your costume, and spooky, creepy productions that just wouldn't feel right any other time of the year.

We scoured the borough's plentiful offerings to present you the best of the best, from activities perfect for the whole family to those strictly for grownups. The only common denominator being, wear a costume!

## Friday, Oct. 29

**Coney Island Creepshow at the Freakshow:** Coney Island becomes a zombie-infused crime scene this Halloween thanks to "The Ride Inspector's Nightmare," which has visitors—or, more appropriately, victims—tour a variety of rooms in the Coney Island by the Seashore building normally not accessible to the public, like hidden stairwells and the basement. Start by evening by stopping by a grave sight featuring a collapsed roller coaster, incinerated ride supervisors, zombies, and decapitated cadavers—you can guess what happened there. The show wraps up with an interactive courtroom trial of the negligent inspector.

**Creepshow at the Freakshow at Coney Island USA** (1208 Surf Ave. at W. 12 Street, (718) 372-5159), now through Oct. 31. Tickets \$10. For info, visit [www.coneyisland.com](http://www.coneyisland.com).

**"Dance Macabre":** Join Hungry March Band and One World Symphony to celebrate the Halloween season and support St. Ann's Roof Restoration Fund at the Brooklyn Heights Church's annual Halloween party. Some of the uncanny events scheduled include a Victorian-era "Fest," in which a jaded intellectual makes a deal with the devil to gain infinite knowledge, and the deadly skeletal boogie "Dance Macabre." Also featured is the world premiere of musician Jason Candler's "Boneyard," and the organ-heavy number "Tocatta" from "Suite Gotique." A ghoulish parade for the whole family will march down Montague Street before the show.



## Coney slashers

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

**T**he haunted trail at Luna Park is flat out amazing.

This weekend, Luna Park will be overrun with demented scarecrows, zombie-farmers and creepy ghouls stalking a haunted maze that winds through an assortment of surprisingly menacing rides.

The designer of the new attraction, Timothy Haskell—who also runs a popular

haunted house in Manhattan—did a good job capturing the eeriness of an abandoned amusement park, as courageous visitors will find themselves wondering what is lurking behind the spinning tea cups ride, or around the corner from a bale of hay.

The maze—part of the "Nights of Horror" at Luna Park this month—is appropriate for teenagers, and isn't as elaborate or as intense as many popular, and more expensive, haunted houses in Manhattan.

But that doesn't mean there aren't plenty

of heart-skipping moments: one scarecrow menaces you with an ear of corn after you pass through a thick haze of smoke. Another offers up a nasty pig's head no matter how many times you say, "No, thank you."

One ghoul, who wouldn't be out of place in one of Rob Zombie's horror movie classics, lunges at you with a pair of bloody cleavers.

It takes 10 minutes to wander through the maze—a relatively short spook-fest.

But that doesn't mean the \$25 admission price is too steep, as the ticket also includes access to all the rides at Luna Park.

Not a bad way to spend Halloween

"Nights of Horror" at Luna Park (100 Surf Avenue between W. 10th and 12th streets in Coney Island, (718) 373-3862) runs Oct. 29–31. \$25. Visit [www.lunaparkny.com](http://www.lunaparkny.com) for info.

**Dance Macabre** at St. Ann Episcopal Church (157 Montague St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 875-6960), Oct. 29 at 8 pm. Tickets \$30 for general admission, \$20 for students and seniors. For info, visit [www.saintannandtheholym Trinity.org](http://www.saintannandtheholym Trinity.org).

**"The Halloween Plays":** Brave New World Repertory Theatre and Company XIV collaborate for a frightening collection of one-act world premieres. "Denouement" is a Neo-Baroque murder mystery. "Too Much Candy" is a fairy tale that merges Freud and sweets. "Salsa," a psycho-noir

comedy, will take on the hell fiery world of hot sauce. Yes, hot sauce.

"The Halloween Plays" at 303 Bond Theatre (303 Bond St. between Union Street and Sackett Street in Carroll Gardens, (212) 868-4444), Thursday through Saturday at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm and 7 pm, now through Oct. 31. Tickets \$18. For info, visit [www.companynyc.com](http://www.companynyc.com).

**The haunted "Gravesend Inn":** City Tech presents a high-tech haunted hotel that's sure to make you jump with fright at every turn. The theme-park-quality Halloween attraction has been thrilling children and adults alike for 10 years.

**Gravesend Inn** at City Tech's Voorhees Theater (186 Jay St. near Tillary Street in Downtown, (718) 260-5588), now through Oct. 31. Tickets \$6, \$4 for students. Not advisable for pre-school aged children. For info, visit [www.GravesendInn.org](http://www.GravesendInn.org).

**"Horror Show":** Aerial acrobatics, classical dance, a marching band, and magic are all ingredients in this troubling tale about a love triangle in early 20th century New Orleans being staged by House of Yes. The eccentric show will be visually spectacular, pornographic, and 98 percent accurate. Get ready for a night of theatrical feats, whiskey, and horrors.

**"Can I Really Date A Guy Who Wears A Yarmulke?"** at the Knitting Factory (361 West 4th Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6696), Mondays in November at 7:30 pm. Tickets \$18. For info, visit [www.knittingfactory.com](http://www.knittingfactory.com). —Meredith Deliso

## SHOPPING

### General good

Who says you can't go shopping in your Halloween costume?

In fact, the Kings County General Store downright demands it. This Oct. 31, stay as Lady Gaga or Justin Bieber as you peruse this monthly market, home to such vendors as Millin Jewelry and its (of course) vintage accessories, Chloe Chapman's lovely bird-inspired greeting cards, and Omnia Wears's worn (in a good way) leather satchels and driving gloves, which make you wish you actually drove.

This is a club after all, so enjoy drink specials and spooky music by Mikey Palms. The first 50 people in costume also get a free tote bag, so there's some incentive to get there early.

Kings County General Store (125 Fifth Ave. between Butler and Douglass streets in Park Slope, (718) 232-0234), Oct. 31, noon–5 pm. For info, visit [www.kingscountygeneralstore.com](http://www.kingscountygeneralstore.com). —Meredith Deliso

## ART

### Right on base

The Yankees may be out of the postseason, but that doesn't mean you can't still enjoy a little baseball—in a Greenpoint art gallery.

Artist Amelia Mancini will open a new solo show, "Sacrebleu! Napoleon Would Have Made A Fine Shortstop," featuring nostalgic portraits of New York baseball players at Yashar Gallery in the ground floor of her Greenpoint Avenue studio on Nov. 2.

Mancini, born in France, began painting Hall of Famers after attending a Mets game at the old Shea Stadium a few years ago and becoming "actively obsessed" with the sport and its history.

"It's part of the experience of coming to America from a different country," said Mancini, explaining her obsession. "Baseball is so essentially American that it attracts expatriates easily."

Each portrait in her series consists of six smaller canvases assembled into a larger painting that recreates a moment of the player's greatness such as hitting a home run or stealing home plate—in Jackie Robinson's case.

Mancini's Robinson portrait is a standout in the collection, displaying the smiling iconic ballplayer surrounded by a pentagonal-shaped home plate and a sea of Dodger blue with a sharp crimson border—a symbol of Robinson's internal anger.

"Amelie Mancini: Sacrebleu! Napoleon Would Have Made A Fine Shortstop" at Yashar Gallery (276 Greenpoint Ave. at Provoost Street in Greenpoint, (718) 715-5671), Opening night party on Nov. 2, 6–9 pm. —Aaron Short

## THEATER

### Modern love

Amy Holson-Schwartz knew she had a great time on her hands when she had a sold-out run at the Midtown International Theater Festival this past summer with very little advertising.

"Can I Really Date A Guy Who Wears A Yarmulke?" tells of a young, single New York Jew who meets the love of her life.

The bad part? He's, like, really Jewish. Holson-Schwartz, a non-practicing Jew, was inspired to write the play after a trip to Israel dredged up all sorts of feelings about the Holy Land, Judaism and love. But what really did it for her was seeing a cutie on the subway and immediately getting turned off by his yarmulke.

The result is the comic love story of Eleanor, who is set up by her friends with the Orthodox Aaron. Their differences lead to disagreements—over Israel, over the Holocaust, over the roles of women in Jewish society.

The provocative title may get butts in seats, but what's sure to keep them there is the universal truths about relationships the play explores.

"People respond to the story. I've had a lot of mixed couples who would say, 'That's our story,'" said Holson-Schwartz. "It's like real life, only funnier."

"Can I Really Date A Guy Who Wears A Yarmulke?" at the Knitting Factory (361 West 4th Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6696), Mondays in November at 7:30 pm. Tickets \$18. For info, visit [www.knittingfactory.com](http://www.knittingfactory.com). —Meredith Deliso

## Halloween parade roundup

By Meredith Deliso  
The Brooklyn Paper

**Y**ou've got your costume together, now show it off! Here's a roundup of Halloween parades happening in the neighborhood near you, for those on two legs and even four! And don't miss the granddaddy of them all—the Park Slope Civic Council parade on Sunday night.

**Brooklyn Heights Halloween Parade** (Columbia Heights and Pierpont Streets on the Brooklyn Heights Promenade), Oct. 30 at 10 am.

**Brooklyn Howl-o-ween Doggie**

**Costume Parade** (Brooklyn Heights Promenade at Remsen Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 852-6200), Oct. 31 from 1–3 pm. \$25 for entry.

**Carroll Park Halloween Parade** (President and Smith streets in Carroll Gardens), Oct. 31 at 12:30 pm.

**Clinton Hill Children's Halloween Walk and Performance** (Frank-Clinton Hill Community Garden on the corner of Hall Street and DeKalb Avenue in Clinton Hill), Oct. 31 at 5 pm.

**District Dog Halloween Parade and Costume Contest** (McGorrick Park, corner of Driggs Avenue and Rus-

sell Street in Greenpoint, no phone), Oct. 31 at 1 pm.

**Greenpoint Children's Halloween Parade**, Polish and Slavic Center (176 Java St. between Manhattan Avenue and McGuinness Boulevard in Greenpoint), Oct. 31 at 2 pm.

**Park Slope Civic Council Children's Halloween Parade** (Seventh Avenue and 14th Street, (718) 832-8227 in Park Slope), Oct. 31 at 4 pm.

**Williamsburg Witches' Walk Halloween Parade** (N. Sixth Street between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue), Oct. 31 at 4:30 pm.

Grand opening!

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# WELCOME TO

## EDITORS' PICKS

### FRIDAY

October 29

#### One story, many sides

BAM is gearing up for a massive Akira Kurosawa retrospective, so what better way to kick off the weekend than by seeing his classic, "Rashomon"? You know the drill — a samurai is murdered, but the story of the crime plays out four times from the perspective of four witnesses. Which version is true? Does truth even exist? That Kurosawa was a genius!

4:30, 6:50 and 9:15 pm.  
"Rashomon" at BAM  
Rose Cinema 30  
Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129, www.bam.org.

### SUNDAY

October 31

#### No heart!

It may be the most over-hyped kids event since Dan Zanes played Cobble Hill Park, but if you want the ultimate family Halloween event, head to Park Slope for the annual Parade up Seventh Avenue. It's usually led by our editor in "Miss Brooklyn" drag, but this year, he's going as the Tin Man (imagine that, a journalist playing a man without a heart — what a stretch).

6:30 pm. Park Slope Civic Center  
Parade begins at Seventh Avenue and 14th Street.



### TUESDAY

November 2

#### Holy Greil

Lots of people think they understand Bob Dylan, but Greil Marcus has the strongest claim. They're not pals, but Marcus has been covering the elusive Mr. Jones since the early 1960s. Now Marcus is back with his latest collection of scribbles, and he'll read and take your questions at Spoonbill and Sugar-town. Question 1: Why is "Self Portrait" so lame?

8 pm. Greil Marcus reads from "Bad Dylan: Writings 1968-2010" at Spoonbill and Sugar-town [218 Bedford Ave. at N. Fifth Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-7322]. Free.

### WEDNESDAY

November 3

#### Big box, big talk

Worried about the big box "invasion"? Or perhaps you can't wait for the low prices that stores like Target and Walmart offer. Either way, this breakfast talk is for you: Representatives from Ikea and Target will talk about how big box stores are promoting sustainable development. Some will bring tar and feathers, others will bring shopping lists!

8:30am. Brooklyn Public Library's Business Library [280 Cadman Plaza West near Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 623-7000 x4]. www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

### THURSDAY

November 4

#### Do you abide?

Bowling, White Russians and costumes combine at Brooklyn Bowl for Lebowksi Fest, a celebration of the Cohen Brothers' cut comedy and its great anti-hero, The Dude. Come in costume to this fun-filled outfit would be perfect — and get derby with other fans (including Moby, who will be performing).

6:30 pm. Lebowksi Fest at Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-5600]. Tickets \$20. For info, visit www.brooklynbowl.com.

# NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

**FRI, OCT. 29**

**GREENPOINT FLEA MARKET:** noon–8 pm. Greenpoint Reformed Church [138 Milton St. between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street in Greenpoint, (718) 353-5941].

**THEATER "PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE":** Stage version of the Ed Wood "classic." 10 pm. Brick Theater [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (212) 382-3101].

**THEATER "THE RING CYCLE":** It's Wagner on steroids, so this opera gets a rock and roll twist featuring pro wrestlers as gods. \$15. 8 pm. The Bushwick Starr [207 Starr St. between Wyckoff and Irving avenues in Bushwick, www.thebushwickstarr.org].

**THEATER "GIT ALONG LIL DOGGIES":** "Brokeback Mountain" meets "Waked Lunch" in the Laboratory Theater's latest. \$18. 8 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 607-6189]. www.bricktheater.com.

**DANCE "WAVE RISING" SERIES:** Featuring visionary contemporary dancers/makers. \$25. 4 pm and 7:30 pm. White Wave John Ryan Theater [25 Jay St. at John Street in DUMBO, (718) 855-8822, www.whitewave.com].

**THEATER "REEFER MADNESS":** It's the propaganda film turned into a comedy. This one's sure to be a hit. 8 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101]. galleryplayers.com.

**THEATER "PENELOPE":** Based on the final chapter of Homer's "The Odyssey." \$35–\$60. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [58 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779]. www.stannswarehouse.org.

**FILM "RASHOMON":** As part of a retrospective on influential Japanese filmmaker Akira Kurosawa. \$12 (\$8 members). 4:30, 6:50 and 9:15 pm. BAM Rose Cinema 30 [Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129]. www.bam.org.

**THEATER "PERSEPHONE":** With Julia Sides. Part of Next Wave Festival. \$20–\$70. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

**THEATER "EMPTY MOVES":** Choreographed by Argenis Pelaez to the music of John Cage. \$20–\$55. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100]. www.bam.org.

**THEATER "THE TRAGIC STORY OF DOCTOR FRANKENSTEIN":** Rabbit Hole Ensemble presents the world premiere theater production. \$18. 8 pm. Brooklyn Arts Exchange [421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 635-0018]. www.bae.org.

**MUSIC "DANSE MACABRE":** Also featuring performances by Hungry March Band and One World.

**SAT, OCT. 30**

**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**

**HEALTHY BROOKLYN ROAD RUN:** A group of runners for intermediate and advanced runners. 9 am. Barlet-Pritchard Square [15th Street and Prospect Park West in Park Slope, (917) 238-9447]. www.brooklynroadrunners.org.

**"NIGHTS OF HORROR":** Luna Park gets overrun by ghosts. \$25. mid-night. Luna Park [100 Surf Ave. between W. 10th and W. 12th streets in Coney Island, (718) 373-5862]. www.lunaparkcny.com.

**"NIGHTS OF HORROR":** 5 pm–midnight. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**PERFORMANCE**

**THEATER "PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE":** 10 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**THEATER "THE RING CYCLE":** 8 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**THEATER "HORROR SHOW":** Aerial acrobatics, classical dance, a marching band and music combine for this eccentric Halloween show. \$25–\$35. 9 pm. House of Yes [260 Meserole St. between Bushwick Avenue and Waterbury Street in Bushwick, www.houseofyes.org].

**"NIGHTS OF HORROR":** Luna Park gets overrun by ghosts. \$25. mid-night. Luna Park [100 Surf Ave. between W. 10th and W. 12th streets in Coney Island, (718) 373-5862]. www.lunaparkcny.com.

**CIVIC CALENDAR**

**MON, NOV. 1**

Town Square. Monthly meeting. 7 pm. 1102 Oak St. between Franklin and Gurnsey streets in Greenpoint, (718) 609-1090. www.town-squareinc.com.

**TUES, NOV. 2**

Community Board 2. Public meeting on a district plan. 6 pm. Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 596-5410].

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

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- BAY RIDGE ZONE** Bay Ridge Paper, Bensonhurst Paper.
- CARROLL GARDENS-COBLE HILL ZONE** Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper.

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# Skinny legs & all

W'burg bar serves tequila with extra hop



**Buggin':** When you order a tequila shot (right) at Mesa Coyoacan, you get a glass of spicy tomato juice (right) and a glass of grasshoppers (yum).

By Andy Campbell  
The Brooklyn Paper

Tequila goes great with plenty of dishes — tacos, scallops, skirt steak and Doritos, to name a few — but everyone's favorite south-of-the-border beverage actually goes best with grasshoppers.

Now, we weren't expecting to suck down a handful of insects on our late-night snack and boozehunt to Mesa Coyoacan in Williamsburg, but an off-handed request for "Jose Cuervo, straight up" landed us right where we wanted to be: staring down a three-glass array of liquor: Bloody Mary mix and grilled, succulent grasshoppers — legs, antennae and all.

Luckily, we were ready for the task. After all, our reporters have been way out front of the entomophagy trend — we've eaten mealworms, larvae, crickets, and other creepy crawlies before, and all in the name of informing our beloved readers. So naturally we tried to offer them to the first cute girl we saw instead.

"It was a nice pairing with the tequila — like little pieces of burnt popcorn kernels," said courageous Greenpoint resident Brooke Smith, who was completely unfazed by the undertaking. "You know, the ones at the bottom that are a little popped so they're not too crunchy."

Burnt popcorn, maybe, but the tiny morsels also have a kick. At first taste, the protein-heavy "kernels" are reminiscent of barbecued sunflower seeds. Crunching into them, however, is where the real flavor comes out — for better or worse as slightly sour, tangy and extra spicy. So spicy, in fact, that you're forced to take another sip of tequila, chase that with Bloody Mary mix and repeat. And repeat.

It's the best damn bar snack since the peanut. Mesa Coyoacan (372 Graham Ave. between Skillman Avenue and Conselyea Street in Williamsburg, (718) 782-8171). For info, visit www.mesacoyoacan.com.

## BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roundy



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# 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 10  
show to raise money for wounded soldiers. \$20. 2-10 pm. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (275 N. Eighth St. at Union Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 384-0223), www.foreshing.net.

**CREPSHOW AT THE BREAKSHOW:** 5 pm–midnight. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**FILM, "NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD":** It's a Halloween classic. \$10-\$12. 6 pm. indieScreen (285-289 Kent Ave. between 5. First and 5. Second streets in Williamsburg, (347) 227-8030), indieScreen.us.

**FILM, "FRANKENSTEIN":** It's a Halloween classic. \$10-\$12. 10:30 pm. indieScreen (285-289 Kent Ave. between 5. First and 5. Second streets in Williamsburg, (347) 227-8030), indieScreen.us.

**SUN, OCT. 31**  
Halloween

**HALLOWEEN PARADE:** Free. Noon-3 pm. MCU Parks (1904 Surf Ave. at W. 7th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449-8497), www.brooklyn-cyones.com.

**CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN WALK AND PERFORMANCE:** 5 pm. Pratt-Clinton Hill Community Garden (Hall Street and Deloitte Avenue in Clinton Hill).

**HALLOWEEN PARADE:** The granddaddy of all costume carnivals. 6:30 pm. (Seventh Avenue at 14th Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-8227), www.parkslopeciviccenter.org.

**"NIGHTS OF HORROR":** midnight. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**PERFORMANCE**

**THEATER, "PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE":** See Friday, Oct. 29.

**DANCE, "WAVE RISING" SERIES:** 4 pm and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**THEATER, "REFEER MADNESS":** 3 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

Street between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg).

**HALLOWEEN PARADE:** Free. 5 pm. (Albemarle and Westminister roads in Ditmars Park), www.ditmaspark50.com.

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**THEATER, "REFEER MADNESS":** 3 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**THEATER, "PENELOPE":** 2 pm and 7 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**MUSIC, WORLD/INFERNO FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY:** \$15. 3 pm and 7 pm. Brooklyn Bowl (61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369), www.brooklynbowl.com.

**MUSIC, BROOKLYN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:** First concert of the season. \$15 (suggested). 3 pm. St. Ann's Church (157 Montague St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 707-1417).

**MUSIC, SELECTIONS FROM BACH, BACHMANNOFF AND BEETHOVEN:** Featuring Jesse Mills, violin. \$35 (\$30 senior). \$15 (student). 8 pm. Bergamusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 628-2053), www.bergamusic.org.

**MUSIC, STEPHANE WREMBEL:** Moves up the traditional Django repertoire along gypsy swing rein-



Entourage: The Honey Bros. play the Music Hall of Williamsburg on Nov. 6.

terpretations of standards. 9 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177), www.barbesbrooklyn.com.

**SALES AND MARKETS**

**BROOKLYN FLEA:** About 100 vendors sell their wares at this popular market. Free to enter. 10 am-5 pm. Williamsburg Savings Bank (1 Hanson Pl. at Flatbush Avenue in Downtown), www.brooklynflea.com.

**(MAKERS) MARKET:** Featuring a diversity of artisans united by their use of high-quality materials with an emphasis on design. 11 am-5 pm. Old American Can Factory (232 Third St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 237-4335), www.projects.com/makers.html.

**PS 321 FLEA MARKET:** 9 am-5 pm. See Saturday, Oct. 30.

**FULTON FLEA:** 10:30 am-6 pm. Brooklyn Plaza Medical Center (650 Fulton St. between 5. Elliot and Fort Greene places in Fort Greene, (917) 364-5648), www.fultonflea.com.

**ARTISTS AND FLEAS:** Noon-8 pm. See Saturday, Oct. 30.

**FARMERS MARKET:** Free. 11 am-2 pm. J.J. Byrne Park (Fifth Avenue and Fourth Street in Park Slope).

**FARMER'S MARKET:** Fresh breads, vegetables and fruits. Free. 11 am-4 pm. The Commons (188 Allandale Ave. between Hoyt and Bond streets in Boerum Hill, (917) 216-8754), www.foodieandfarmers.com.

**KINGS COUNTY GENERAL STORE:** Noon-5 pm. Southgaw (125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236), www.spoonbooks.com.

terpretations of standards. 9 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177), www.barbesbrooklyn.com.

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**FARMERS MARKET:** Free. 11 am-2 pm. J.J. Byrne Park (Fifth Avenue and Fourth Street in Park Slope).

**FARMER'S MARKET:** Fresh breads, vegetables and fruits. Free. 11 am-4 pm. The Commons (188 Allandale Ave. between Hoyt and Bond streets in Boerum Hill, (917) 216-8754), www.foodieandfarmers.com.

**KINGS COUNTY GENERAL STORE:** Noon-5 pm. Southgaw (125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236), www.spoonbooks.com.

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inc. and doll-making workshop. Free. 1 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Fremont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111), www.brooklyn-history.org.

**FILM, "SEVEN SAMURAI":** As part of a retrospective on Akira Kurosawa. \$12 (\$8 members). 3 and 7 pm. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129), www.bam.org.

**READING, JANICE SHAPIRO:** Author of "Summer." Free. 7:30 pm. Word (1028 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096), wordbrooklyn.wordpress.com.

**THEATER, "THE TRAGIC STORY OF DOCTOR FRANKENSTEIN":** 8 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**MUSIC, MASJ:** Have a bite and dance off the sugar. Cost of entrance. 6-8:30 pm. Movie Spot (81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 925-9710), themovie-spot.com.

**MON, NOV. 1**

**WORKSHOP, INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW YORK ART WORLD:** Get to know the system. \$295. 9 am-3 pm. 3rd Ward (195 Morgan Ave. at Stoop Street in Bushwick, (718) 715-4961), www.3rdward.org.

**TUES, NOV. 2**

**THEATER, "PENELOPE":** 8 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**TALK, MAIRA KALMAN:** Author of "And The Pursuit of Happiness." Discussion and slide show. 7:30 pm. Greenleaf Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between 5. Elliot Place and 5. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200), absoluteartbrooklyn.blogspot.com.

**READING, GREIL MARCUS:** Author of "Bob Dylan: Writings 1968-2010." Free. 8 pm. Spoonbill (216 Bedford Ave. in Williamsburg, (718) 387-7222), www.spoonbillbooks.com.

**MUSIC, JONATHAN RICHMAN:** \$15. 8 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510), www.thebellhouse.com.

**WED, NOV. 3**

**THEATER, "PENELOPE":** 8 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**TALK, "A NEW IMAGE FOR BIG BOX STORES":** A panel discussion with repre-

sentatives from IKEA and Target. Free. 8:30am-10:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Business Library (280 Cadman Plaza West near Clinton Street in Downtown, (718) 623-7000x4), www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

**READING, BIVANA LOWELL:** "Why Not Say What Happened," a memoir. Free. 7:30 pm. Flowerhouse Arena (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 646-3047), www.powerhousearena.com.

**THURS, NOV. 4**

**DANCE, "WAVE RISING" SERIES:** 4 pm and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**THEATER, "REFEER MADNESS":** 8 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**THEATER, "PENELOPE":** 8 pm. See Friday, Oct. 29.

**FILM, "THROBE OF BLOOD":** 6:30, 6:50 and 9:15 pm. See Wednesday, Nov. 3.

**FILM, "THE PEOPLE SPEAK":** 11:30 pm. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129), www.bam.org.

**READING, JANICE SHAPIRO:** Author of "Summer." Free. 7:30 pm. Word (1028 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096), wordbrooklyn.wordpress.com.

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## On Election Day, Nov 2 TURN IT OVER

**Vote on:**

1. Term Limits
2. Government Reforms

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**Question 1**

**Term Limits:** Reduce from three to two the maximum number of consecutive full terms that can be served by elected city officials; and Make this change in term limits applicable only to those city officials who were first elected at or after the 2010 general election; and Prohibit the City Council from altering the term limits of elected city officials then serving in office.

**Question 2**

**Disclosure of Independent Campaign Spending:** Require public disclosure of expenditures made by entities and individuals independent from candidates to influence the outcome of a city election or referendum;

**Ballot Access:** Generally reduce the number of petition signatures needed by candidates for city elective office to appear on a ballot;

**Voter Assistance and Campaign Finance Board:** Merge voter assistance functions, including a reconstituted Voter Assistance Advisory Committee, into the Campaign Finance Board, and change when Campaign Finance Board member terms begin;

**Conflicts of Interest Law:** Require all public servants to receive conflicts of interest training, raise the maximum fine for a public servant who violates the City's conflicts of interest law, and allow the City to recover any benefits obtained from such violations;

**City Administrative Tribunals:** Authorize the Mayor to direct the merger of administrative tribunals and adjudications into the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings and permit the Department of Consumer Affairs to adjudicate all violations issued by that department;

**City Reporting Requirements and Advisory Bodies:** Create a commission to review requirements for reports and advisory bodies and waive the requirements, subject to City Council review, where the commission finds they are not of continuing value; and

**Map for Facility Siting:** Include in the City's facilities siting map those transportation and waste management facilities operated by or for governmental entities, or by private entities that provide comparable services.

**NYC Charter Revision Commission**

[www.nyc.gov/charter](http://www.nyc.gov/charter)



LETTERS

# A real wildlife plan

To the editor,  
Brooklyn deserves a caring and compassionate response from the newly created Wildlife Management Advisory Committee ("Park officials, We'll save geese this time," online, Oct. 5) to the disturbing events that took place on July 8, not more smoke and mirrors.  
Would the Prospect Park Alliance notice if the entire lake and its wildlife disappeared overnight?

The wildlife management of Prospect Park and its lake was never more evident than on July 8 when the park was turned into a slaughterhouse by federal authorities.

For five days the media as well as park visitors were told contradictory cover-up stories by different sources working in and for the park. When concerned park visitors inquired, "Where are the geese?" or "What happened to them?" there were a number of implausible responses.

One response was, all the geese flew to Jamaica Bay, including the goslings born the previous week. (We were supposed to believe they had grown flight feathers overnight.)

### Send a letter

**By e-mail:**  
newsroom@cnglobal.com  
**By mail:** Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, One Metropolitan Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

Another response was that the geese were still here, hiding from the heat.  
Hiding from the heat? Hiding pretty sleep—all dead and buried in a landfill.

Our air safety was not improved one bit by these killings. In fact, air safety had been enhanced by having resident Canada Geese at Prospect Park Lake. The killings destroyed decades of stability and have done harm to the balance naturally created.

The future protection of the wildlife and their habitat in city parks is at stake here. Wildlife is not an abstract.

The first item on the agenda for the newly created Wildlife Management Advisory Committee should be to correct the years of neglect to the wildlife habitat of Prospect Park.

The lake is being polluted year after year through the dumping of petroleum distillates, such as barbecue coals, and other debris into the watercourse.

The evidence of erosion and disrepair of the lakeside is overwhelming to those who care for the environment. There is no plan to restore and clean the existing lake. The loss of acres of the watercourse due to the unsound ecological practices needs to be addressed.

The overgrowth of phragmites has become pervasive and the failure to remedy this in a timely fashion is a bigger problem than what any wildlife can be blamed for. The infestation of mosquitoes this year lakeside, is in direct proportion to the numerous stagnant pools of filthy water and the drastic culling of the waterfowl.

The Prospect Park Alliance, Audubon Center, Parks Department and the city are using Canada Geese as scapegoats.  
We want wildlife management that

supports the protection of our urban wildlife, as well as the maintenance of their habitats in the parks in New York City.

Without this promise from those in charge, many are dreading the consequences of the continuing widespread abuse and neglect.

**Anne-Katrin Titze, Sunset Park**  
The writer is a finalist for the Brooklyn Community Foundation "Do-Gooder" award and a licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator.

### 'Welcome' back

To the editor,  
What a surprise to read your paper and see a photo of the "Welcome to Brooklyn" sign ("Welcome Back"; Kottler sign found and restored." Oct. 15).

There must be at least two of them around since I have the exact same one (well, the graffiti is a little different). Mine ended up in Pennsylvania after the old Brooklynite, who had it, moved and took it along with him.

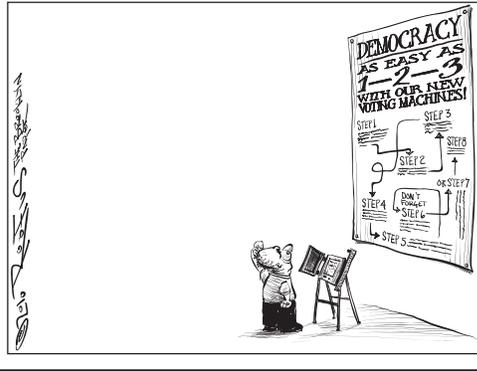
A friend of mine saw it 10 years ago at a yard sale and called me up to see if I was interested. I was. It's quite happy to be back in Brooklyn where it belongs after its banishment to the boonies.

**Brian Wa'a, Carroll Gardens**  
**Nabe 'a disgrace'**

To the editor,  
I moved from Park Slope to Sunset Park because I could not afford the high rents, and now find that I made a big mistake.

I find it a disgrace that people seem to speak only two languages here, Spanish and Chinese, so I communicate with few people due to the language barrier.

## ALL DRAWN OUT



If you want to live in America, it's time to learn our language.

People in Sunset Park are also rude and inconsiderate. They walk on Fifth Avenue with their heads down, not looking where they are going. If I bumped into one of them I guess it would be my fault for me not getting out of their way.

The area is very dirty and litterbugs abound. I never encountered this in Park Slope where people are not sloppy.

Stores here have misspelled signs in their windows. An amusing but not funny one was in a laundromat offering "dorp-off" service. It's a dis-

grace.

Most of the space in the park on 56th Street and Sixth Avenue is taken up by Asians gambling or playing card games. This is obviously illegal, but nothing is done about it. I would say that half of the vendors along Fifth Avenue are illegally selling their wares but rarely is anything done.

More disgrace. Panhandlers rule the sidewalks. I have seen them enter restaurants and use the bathroom. The manager doesn't seem to care that business is being siphoned away by people shamelessly begging in front of their establishments. Ninety-nine percent of shop-

pers in the supermarket present welfare cards, and most women have at least two children. It actually seems overpopulated here.

Maybe I am spoiled because I come from Park Slope where things are different and people don't act like this, or maybe I am wrong and Sunset Park is a great place to live, but I feel very out of place because I speak English. I pay with a debit card. I don't throw garbage on the street and I am not rude. If I could move again, I would be gone in a minute.

It's time for Sunset Park to get its act together.  
**Steve Yanowsky, Sunset Park**

## VOTER SPOTLIGHT

# Election questions? We've got answers!

## Here's a guide to the other side of the ballot

**By Thomas Tracy**  
The Brooklyn Paper

There's more to this year's election than meets the eye.

Once you finish filling out that new paper ballot on Nov. 2, don't go running off to one of those newfangled scanners. Rather, flip the sheet and answer two ballot questions — one of which addresses, yet again, the issue of term limits for city legislators.

Voters ratified term limits

twice, in 1993 and in 1998, deciding to cut off city officials after two, four-year terms — but the Council, with Mayor Bloomberg's blessing, upended that apple cart last year to give lawmakers one more bite.

On Tuesday, voters will be asked if they want to reduce the current three term limit back to two. If the measure is approved, however, the change will only apply to city legislators elected after

2010, so freshmen councilmembers like Brad Lander (D-Park Slope) and Jumaane Williams (D-Flatbush) will still have two more terms to look forward to.

If you think this vote is just like the previous two, it's not. It's a bit more iron-clad. In the future, the Council won't be able to change its own term limits, the proposal promises (really! It actually stipulates that). But term limits is one of two

ballot questions voters will be asked to weigh in on. The second is a whopping seven-part proposal on elections and government administration that calls for:

- Creating a commission that could effectively reduce what little power community boards have taking away — at least in the commission's view — needless responsibilities. The council would have to approve these recommendations.

- Requiring deep-pocketed, politically active independent groups to disclose their campaign expenditures.
- Reducing the number of petition signatures needed by candidates for city office to get on the ballot. If passed, the number of petition signatures needed for mayor, public advocate and comptroller candidates will be reduced from 7,500 to 3,750. Signatures needed by borough president candidates will be reduced from 4,000 to 2,000 and Council candidates would only have

- to collect 450 signatures to get on the ballot instead of 900.
- Making the Campaign Finance Board in charge of all voter assistance functions.
- Making sure all public servants get out of interest training and raise the fines against legislators who violate the city's Conflict of Interest Law.
- Creating an Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings which will adjudicate all violations meted out by the city agencies.
- Adding transportation and

- waste management facilities to a Department of City Planning map that identifies all city-owned properties. By law, the map must be consulted before new city facilities are brought in.

It's a lot to take in, but don't worry about picking or choosing what you like and what you don't. It's an all-or-nothing proposal. So if you like a couple of the proposals, but can't stomach one of them, you've got to either live with it, or reject the entire slate.

Ahh, democracy at its finest!



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Take action. Install one or more ANSI/UL-approved carbon monoxide detectors in your home — preferably near bedrooms. Be sure to have your chimney or heating flues checked annually before each heating season. And pay close attention if you've had major renovations recently.

Signs of carbon monoxide poisoning include:

- ♦ persistent headaches
- ♦ nausea
- ♦ dizziness
- ♦ blurred vision
- ♦ confusion
- ♦ rapid heartbeat

If you suspect the presence of carbon monoxide, **please go outside and call 911 immediately.**

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# The Brooklyn Paper PALETTE

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

## Can we all just stop judging?

What goes on in other people's households is always a mystery, and I don't think it's possible to make assumptions about other people from where we sit. So I try not to judge, but understand that it is almost always challenging, no matter what one's circumstances happen to be.



### Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

I choose often to break through the shroud of mystery with strangers (often to their dismay), and definitely in my house. It is what my husband says he loves about me, why he stands by me and is amazingly supportive (some say too much so).

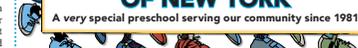
My friend recently told me a story about her daughter, now in college, who said to her one day, "We're second-rate families, aren't we?" She told me about the ensuing conversation, the definition they came up with for "first-rate families," the kind, she said, that are "sporty and skinny, that have plenty of money, the kind whose kids go to the best colleges and that have grandparents who play tennis."

A friend recently told me a story about her daughter, now in college, who said to her one day, "We're second-rate families, aren't we?" She told me about the ensuing conversation, the definition they came up with for "first-rate families," the kind, she said, that are "sporty and skinny, that have plenty of money, the kind whose kids go to the best colleges and that have grandparents who play tennis."

This last part has me doubled over every time I think of tennis. It is somehow a metaphor for success and happiness, I'm not sure why. At our wedding, the judge who knew us very little, from only a brief meeting where he grilled us

on our sports proclivities, defined us as "people who like to play tennis together." I was a parallel universe at the time, but this broke me out. I wanted to turn around and take over the ceremony and help better explain who we were, talkers and readers and arguers and puzzle-dwellers — at the time — at all sports. But he wanted to draw a fast pretty picture by posing us as tennis players, a sure answer to a long, happy marriage.

We do want to paint such pictures. It makes it seem somehow easier. But I would argue that "first-rate families" are not so easily defined. If anything, I'd say they are ones like my friend's, whose daugh-



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- 6:15 pm: Movie night. Movie Spot 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights. (718) 923-9710, themosiespot.com
- 5:47, OCT. 30: "Beauty and the Beast." Classic tale with marionettes. \$8 (kids, \$7). Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope. (718) 965-3391, www.puppetworks.org
- 10 am: Halloween parade. Ghosts and goblins show off their costumes. Free. Prospect Playground (Columbia Heights and Pierrepont streets in Brooklyn Heights). www.hiphopbrooklyn.org
- 10 am-2 pm: Pin the Mustache on Me! Carnival and walk. \$1 suggested donation. Prospect Park Zoo (450 Flatbush Ave. at Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park. (718) 399-3133, www.prospectpark.org
- 10:30 am: Story time for kids. Greenlight Bookstore 6886 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Elliott Street in Fort Greene. (718) 246-0200, bookstoreinbrooklyn.blogspot.com
- 11 am-4 pm: Halloween carnival. Free. PS 372 (512 Carroll Street between Fourth and Third avenues in Park Slope. (718) 788-3703, www.puppetyarts.org
- Noon-2 pm: Halloween Bop! featuring Jeremy Plays Guitar and special guest Owen Erikson. \$5. Lincoln Park Tavern (49 Lincoln Rd. Flatbush between Prospect Lefferts Garden). www.jeremyplaysguitar.com
- 1 pm: "The Wizard of Oz." Live performance. Free. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope. (718) 230-2100)
- 2:30-4:30 pm: Halloween bash for kids. Free. Littlefield (622 Deegan St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus. (718) 855-3388, www.littlefieldny.com
- 6-9 pm: Monster mash. \$5 (\$10 non-members). Brooklyn Museum (115 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights. (718) 753-4400, www.brooklynkids.org

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## BLOTTER...

Continued from page 4

A coverher mouth with a soft mitt with her iPhone before she or her canine companion could offer any assistance.

**Early am burg**  
A burglar broke into the crime-riddled Atlantic Center Mall on Oct. 20, but was arrested before he could take anything.

The 30-year-old was caught on the second floor of the mall on Atlantic Avenue between Fort Greene Place and S. Portland Avenue at 2:32 am, yet it remained unclear how the crook got inside.

**Painless pinch**  
Three teenage footwear fashionistas raided the Payless Shoes inside the Atlantic Terminal Mall on Oct. 19.

Workers said the teens entered the Flatbush Avenue store between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue at 11:55 am and began putting more than a dozen pairs of shoes into a plastic bag they had brought with them.

**Shoe sneak**  
A real heel rifled through a woman's handbag on Oct. 18 as she tried to footwear inside the DSW inside the Atlantic Terminal Mall on Flatbush Avenue.

and Hall Street sometime after 9:30 am.

A thief rifled open the passenger side door to a 1995 Honda led on S. Elliott Place on Oct. 24, taking a laptop computer and navigation system. The car was sitting between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue when it was broken into sometime after 11 am, police said.

**94TH PRECINCT**  
**Greenpoint-NorSide**  
**Frank 'scam'**  
Old folks beware — this scammer is not your grandson!

An apparently convincing villain tricked two elderly men out of \$15,000 in separate incidents on Oct. 20 and 22.

The first victim, 70, told cops that a young man called him at his home — which is near the intersection of Drings and Kingsland avenues — at about 10 pm, claiming to be his grandson and asking for \$10,000 to buy a car that he really, really needed. So the old man did what any good grandpa would do — he went to the bank, pulled out the cash and handed it over to his fraudulent relative.

On Oct. 22, the con artist hit up a 90-year-old man on McGuinness Boulevard near Grand Avenue at about 10 pm, again pretending to be the man's sweet little grandson and asking for \$5,000. The victim wrote out a money order and the man took it to a bank, where he met the jerk outside his home and ran over the money. Cops said that these two crimes are likely related and that the perp probably knew that the elderly men had that much money to throw at non-existent cars.

**84TH PRECINCT**  
**Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO**  
**Boysom Hill-Downtown**

A jogging jerk ran up and wrenched an iPhone out of a woman's hands on Norram Street on Oct. 16.

The woman told cops that she was walking her dog and talking on her phone near Guernsey Street at about 11:05 pm when the perp came from behind and yanked the gadget. The dog is OK.

A thief was arrested after swiping an iPhone out of a woman's hands on N. Fourth Street on Oct. 22.

The victim told cops that she was talking on her phone near Driggs Avenue at about 12:35 pm when the robber ran up and snatched the device. Luckily, cops returned the dumb thing, and collared the small thief.

**Bedroom beat**  
A brutal thug asked to use the bathroom of an 89-year-old living in Sidney Place and then beat down the old man and stole his stuff on Oct. 18.

The victim told cops that he was outside his home between Joralemon and State streets at around 1:10 pm when the jerk approached and asked to use his bathroom.

The victim obliged, and escorted the man into his apartment. Once inside, the assailant pushed the old man onto his bed and began rifling through his belongings. When the victim stood up and the Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims on Oct. 24.

The victim told cops that she'd just finished her weekly worship at around 2 pm at the church on Hicks Street between Cranberry and Orange streets when she went to check on her purse, which she had left in a maintenance room. That's when she realized the bag, containing \$20 and an assortment of IDs, was missing. She noted that another thief was in the workplace with the church.

**Purse swipes**  
Two purses were pilfered from two clothing stores in Downtown last week. Here are the details:

A thief swiped a woman's purse while she shopped at Pumpkin It clothing store on Jay Street on Oct. 21.

The victim said she had set her bag down along with some merchandise in the store at Wilburgh Street at around 12:50 pm. When she returned her attention to it 10 minutes later, it was gone. The thief got \$160, and an assortment of credit cards and IDs.

**Road rage**  
An irate driver flipped out after his car was rear-ended on Oct. 21 and was hauled off to hand cuffs.

The victim said he rear-ended the miscalculation at Tridary Street and Flatbush Avenue at around 3:45 pm. That's when the 25-year-old raga-thic jumped out of his car and began screaming and waving his hands wildly at the victim, who promptly fled 911.

Meanwhile, the fuming wheelman demanded that the man move his car. After the victim resisted, the road warrior moved it himself and then smashed the victim's cellphone. By then, Officer Benito Ocasio had shown up and slapped the cuffs on the kooky driver.

**Pew bandit**  
A thief swiped a woman's purse after services at the Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims on Oct. 24.

The victim told cops that she'd just finished her weekly worship at around 2 pm at the church on Hicks Street between Cranberry and Orange streets when she went to check on her purse, which she had left in a maintenance room. That's when she realized the bag, containing \$20 and an assortment of IDs, was missing. She noted that another thief was in the workplace with the church.

A crafty bandit stole stuff from a woman's purse while she shopped in the Conway's on the Fulton Mall on Oct. 21.

The victim said that she went to pay for some merchandise at the store between Pearl and Jay streets at around 5 pm and noticed that someone had unzipped her purse and taken IDs, credit cards and \$15.

Another thief swiped a woman's purse who was shopping at the Stawberry on the Fulton Mall on Oct. 22.

Surveillance cameras captured the victim setting down her bag in the store between Elm Place and Bond Street at around 2:10 pm while she looked at merchandise. Moments later, a lady swoops in, swipes the bag containing an assortment of credit cards, a Nook e-reader, an iPod and a cellphone.

**Bergen bandit**  
A thief broke into a Bergen Street apartment on Oct. 22.

A resident at the apartment between Hoyt and Bond streets said he left for work at around 6 am when he noticed that his front door was wide open. Upon further investigation, he noticed a black nylon glove on his back porch, and the thief marks an iPod and \$150.

**Lantern lynch**  
A thief broke into the Lantern restaurant on Montague Street and stole the cash register on Oct. 22.

The owner of the Lantern said he received a call from the security company at around 2 am that an alarm had been tripped in his eatery between Hicks and Henry streets. Upon arriving to the eatery, he noticed that the rear door was open and that the register, containing \$600, was gone.

**68TH PRECINCT**  
**Bay Ridge-Dyker Hts**  
**Tech thief**  
A victim game-into a car near the corner of Fort Hamilton Park and 85th Street on Oct. 16, stealing a MacBook and its charger.

The victim told cops that he was away from his car for only an hour. When he returned at 3 pm, he saw that the vehicle was broken and that his stuff had been swiped.

**Parkway pick**  
A burglar snatched through an unlocked window of a Bay Ridge Parkway house on Oct. 19 to steal cash, a laptop, jewelry and prescription meds.

The victim told cops that he was gone from his home, which is between 74th and 75th streets, from 2:30 pm to 7 pm, when he returned to find the stuff gone. — Alex Rugh



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