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(Above) The organ headed for the Kings Theatre is one of five "Wonder Mortons" built by the Robert Morton Organ Company back in the 1920s. (Left) Workers are in the process of renovating the Flatbush picture palace for its expected opening in late January.

Photo by Steve Solomonson

New York Theater Organ Society

KINGS THEATRE NEEDS ORGAN TRANSPLANT

Flatbush Avenue cinema wants its pipes back, but will they fit?

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

Something big is coming down the pipes for the renovated Loew's Kings Theatre in Flatbush. A group of local organ aficionados

wants to bring back the theater's original pipe organ when the famed movie house reopens early next year—but they may need to pull out all the stops to get the instrument back to Brooklyn.

The nearly century-old console is currently in storage in Oklahoma, and the New York Theater Organ Society needs \$650,000 to schlep the seven-ton instrument back to Flatbush, restore it, and

install it in the theater. Ace Theatrical Group signed a deal with the city's Economic Development Corporation to refurbish and operate the entertainment mecca in 2011, but the company

didn't key the organ into its budget. So the Organ Society is looking for wealthy benefactors to pipe in some cash, and it has its eye on one of the theater project's most vocal boosters.

"I know [former mayor] Mike Bloomberg casually—we eat at the same restaurant here in Manhattan," said the Organ Society's John Valentino. "I know \$650,000 is a lot of money for us, but when you're worth \$30 billion, it's a drop in the bucket."

As mayor, Bloomberg pushed for the \$94 million project to restore the once-glamorous theater, which was built in 1929 and shuttered in 1977.

The organ is one of five "Wonder Mortons" built for the five Loew's Wonder Theaters, Valentino said. The Society obtained the restored console from a private collector in Illinois and moved the \$3-million, Prohibition-era relic to the American Organ Institute at the University of Oklahoma for storage and additional mechanical work.

But the organ's pricey bus fare isn't the only roadblock. The instrument employs massive pipes that would compete for space with the duct work Ace's contractors installed in a portion of the theater's pipe lofts.

"Old organs and old organ spaces don't exist very well with modern theaters, because of things like air conditioning and sound equipment," said Ace president David Anderson.

So like the restored theater itself, the resurrected organ may

find its voice in a mixture of old and new technology, with digital sound filling the gaps where pipes aren't possible. Thanks to past restoration, the console is digital-ready, and any computerized tones would be indistinguishable from the analog version, Valentino said.

"The digital parts are sampled from the same console—the Loew's in New Jersey also has a Wonder Morton," he said. "It would be an exact replication of what had been there. You can't tell the difference."

Organ Society engineers will tour the theater in coming weeks to determine how an installation could proceed, said representatives from Ace and the Society.

Ace expects construction on the picture palace to wrap up before the year's end, Anderson said. The theater will likely hold a month of small events before a grand opening some time in late January, he said.

Even if Ace and the Society can't find a way to install a playable organ, Anderson said he wants to show off the antique.

"To have that organ in place and able to be played would be an asset, but I would at least like to find a way to secure it on display in the theater lobby somewhere," Anderson said. "It's a beautiful piece of history."



Intrepid, intergalactic reporter Matthew Perlman dons a space suit made in the Navy Yard by Final Frontier Designs.

Brooklyn, we have liftoff

Local company tries to get a jump on the new space race

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

It's one small step for The Brooklyn Paper, one giant leap for Brooklyn.

Final Frontier Designs is a Navy Yard manufacturer with an out-of-this-world specialty: space suits. The owners are shooting for a new market they hope will emerge as the budding commercial space-flight industry takes off, but until then they are offering earthlings and local journalists the opportunity to take a walk in an astronaut's shoes.

"Traditionally space suits and most of the space program has been closed to people who aren't astronauts," said Ted Southern, one of the company's founders.

"We think of this as a way to open the experience up to more people."

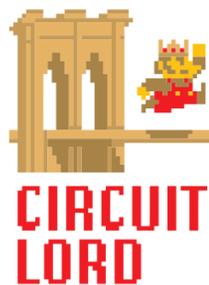
Southern's partner Nikolay Moiseev explains:

"If you wanted to try one on before, you'd have to go to Russia," he said.

Moiseev spent 20 years working on suits for Russian cosmonauts, first seeing the fruits of his labor in orbit in 1988. But his fascination with the stars started much earlier.

"There's one reason I'm interested in space—science fiction," he said. "When I was a boy, I read and watched a lot of science fiction."

Southern comes from a very different background. A graduate of Pratt Institute, he got into the business of mak-



Eye on technology and innovation in Brooklyn

ing extraterrestrial attire by crafting elaborate theater costumes, then designing gloves for space suits. The gloves were a natural extension of his curiosity, he said.

"I've always just been really interested in hands," he said. "They're what makes us human."

Southern met Moiseev at a design competition run by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. They teamed up in 2009 and received a research contract with the nation's space program (though, unfortunately for them, the contract for making the feds' space suits has been locked down by the David Clark Company since 1941).

Final Frontier now makes a full space suit that it sells for a whopping \$65,000. But everyday Brooklynites can try one on for a cool \$495.

The Navy Yard-made suits consist of three layers—an

undergarment, a bladder that keeps the suit pressurized in zero gravity, and a fireproof shell that protects astronauts in case of catastrophe. The undergarment is basically a spandex suit. The second layer is made of nylon-coated urethane that is cut with a laser. The outermost layer is made from a flame-retardant material called Nomex, and is stitched together using a sewing machine Southern's mom bought in 1972.

The whole setup, including a glass visor, weighs about 18 pounds. It took this reporter some gymnastics and a helping hand to get the thing on, but Southern said a more experienced skywalker could suit up solo.

See **SPACE** on page 12



Fêted fashion garb adorns fetid canal

Gowanus blooms in Ralph Lauren

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

There is something blooming on the Gowanus Canal, and, no, it is not toxic algae.

A local artist installed a pair of fabric rose-bushes on the banks of the miasmal waterway on Oct. 16, using discarded Ralph Lauren shirts to create a burst of color he said was inspired by the detritus left in the neighborhood by illegal dumpers.

"When you look at the industrial appliances and clothing and stuff littering the ground, if you squint it can look like a garden," said Carlton Scott Sturgill, a Windsor Terrace textile artist who works out of a studio in Gow-

anus. "I wanted to turn detritus into actual flowers."

The project was a collaboration between Sturgill, local arts organization Arts Gowanus, and the Department of Transportation, which funded the installation and allowed Sturgill to put the fabric flowers on Department property.

Sturgill has been working on the installation since about July, and spent the last few months combing thrift shops—and occasionally Ebay—for the once-high-end shirts in the colors he needed. He said each bush, on either side of the Union Street bridge, took about 20 shirts, which became the petals of 150 to 175 roses.



Gowanus artist Carlton Sturgill turned 40 once-expensive shirts into two pieces of faux flora alongside the foul inlet.

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Hate crime vs. hate crime

Accusations fly over Israel-Palestine Barclays fracas

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

It's he-said, she-said, and everybody is saying "hate crime."

The scuffle that Kings Bay Y director Leonard Petlakh says left him with a broken nose took place at an Oct. 7 exhibition basketball game between the Nets and Maccabi Tel Aviv, an Israeli team.

In the police telling, the confrontation kicked off inside the arena toward the game's end, when Palestinian-rights protesters unfurled political banners in the stands and someone sitting behind one of them snatched a Palestinian flag away.

The pro-Palestinian activist version is that Nerdeen Kiswani, a Muslim Hunter College student, was holding the folded flag and that Petlakh and his friends snuck up behind her, someone punched her in the stomach, and they wrenched the flag out of her hands. A video of the incident shows Kiswani standing next to someone who resembles Petlakh's suspected assailant, Shawn Schraeder, and whose home-made Nets T-shirt matches a police description. The video shows a man snatch the flag and Kiswani say, "He punched me in the stomach." But no punch is apparent in the video.

Kiswani pointed out that she was wearing a hijab at the time and said that the treatment constitutes a hate crime.

"I was in shock," she said. "Being the only visibly Muslim woman in the arena with a scarf, apparently warranted assault, harassment, and snatching the flag of my origin from my hand."

In the video, someone near the videographer calls for an usher, and Kiswani calls for one more loudly.

The footage then shows an usher questioning the man who took the flag.

"It's theirs?" he asks. "Why you took it, sir?"

"Because I didn't wanna have a political statement, I told you before," the man seems to say.

The clip, shot at chest level amid a crowd, ends with the usher saying, "Come with me," though it is unclear whom he is addressing.

Petlakh touted the video as proof that he was not in-



Palestinian-rights activist Nerdeen Kiswani says a group of Israeli nationalists assaulted her and stole her flag during an exhibition basketball game at Barclays Center on Oct. 7.

involved in the flag-snatching and that the supposed assault on Kiswani didn't happen.

"Needless to say that I was nowhere the flag or near the woman at the time of that flag being snatched/given to the ushers, but don't let any facts stand on the way," he wrote in a statement, suggesting that the surge of publicity from the Palestinian side is meant to deflect attention from Schraeder's Oct. 14 arrest.

Ultimately, security kicked both groups out, and the face-off continued outside, according to police.

That is when cops say Schraeder hauled off and socked Petlakh, breaking his nose and giving him a cut that required eight stitches to close, according to the Y. Officers nabbed Schraeder, an Occupy Wall Street media activist, in Saint Louis, Missouri, where a Twitter account registered in what appears to be his alias and using his image says he was protesting the police killing of black teens. Officers now say the assault was not motivated by anti-Semitism, as Petlakh and Sheepshead Bay cops charged.

Kiswani's lawyer, who is also representing Schraeder, said that Petlakh and his allies have been trumpeting claims of bias to distract from their role in starting the altercation.

"My client Nerdeen Kiswani, was the true victim,

of not only Mr. Petlakh, but also his gang of thugs," Lamis Deek said. "Mr. Petlakh felt that he could and would get away with claiming he was the victim when he was the aggressor. What he and his friends displayed that night was anti-Muslim, anti-Palestinian hatred against Ms. Kiswani."

Both Deek and Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz (D-Sheepshead Bay) faulted Barclays Center management for not quelling the dispute, but that is about all they agree on.

The Barclays Center's spokesman, Barry Baum declined to provide its security protocol for handling fights, but said that arena management anticipated "a strong reaction" and beefed up security accordingly. There was nothing wrong with security's handling of Kiswani's complaint, he added.

"By no means did security ignore her call for help," Baum said. "In fact, security intervened immediately by separating the two groups. And the flag was returned to her."

Cymbrowitz is demanding that District Attorney Ken Thompson bring hate-crime charges against Schraeder, claiming that political slogans by the pro-Palestinian activists amount to hate speech.

"The attack [on Petlakh] took place amid a barrage

of anti-Semitic slurs such as 'You are child murderers,' and 'Free Palestine,'" Cymbrowitz said in a statement. "As one of our city's most prominent Jewish leaders, Mr. Petlakh wants the perpetrator who attacked him charged not just for assault but for the anti-Semitic hatred that both precipitated it and accompanied it."

Amin Husain of the group NYC Solidarity with Palestine said he was at the game and echoed Kiswani's account. He said that opposing how the nation of Israel treats Palestinians is a far cry from hating Jews, but that the Zionist ideology prevalent in Israel can carry its own form of racism.

"The charge of anti-Semitism is always leveled because we're critical of the state of Israel and the ethnic cleansing that is happening daily in Palestine," Husain said. "There is no room for anti-Semitism, but there is also no room for racist Zionism."

A judge arraigned Schraeder on charges of assault and harassment and released him on Oct. 18 without bail, according to the District Attorney's Office. Deek declined to comment on whether Schraeder was involved in the altercation or if he was with Kiswani, but said that he plans to plead not guilty. His next court date is set for Jan. 27.

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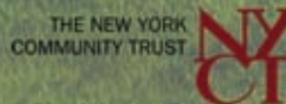


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Hoodlums rob man at knife-point Downtown

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights–
DUMBO–Boerum Hill–
Downtown

A group of knife-toting lowlives robbed a man in McLaughlin Park on Oct. 6, making off with his shirt and wallet, cops said.

The 19-year-old victim said he was waiting for his sister at 1:05 am in the park near the corner of Jay and Tillary streets when four goons approached him, two carrying kitchen knives.

One of the goons grabbed the teenager by his shirt and asked if he was a “mook” before taking his stuff, according to a police report. Then the whole treacherous team took off, the report says.

Ending fences

A thief stole a bunch of stainless-steel fence wire from Brooklyn Bridge Park on Oct. 9, the authorities reported.

A 27-year-old employee reported that the fence thief struck Pier 6 sometime between 1 and 6 am. The bandit absconded with 120 feet of the wire from metal barriers, according to a police report.

A security guard at a nearby construction site did not see anything suspicious, law enforcement officials said. The wire is worth \$3,500, cops said.

Rude awakening

An intruder crept into a Saint Marks Place apartment on Oct. 9 and woke a sleeping woman, police said.

The 36-year-old resident of the apartment between Third and Fourth avenues told cops she was sleeping at 3:50 pm with her front door unlocked when she heard footsteps and woke up.

She saw the trespasser staring at her from across the room and started screaming, cops said. The creep fled on foot, heading towards Fourth Avenue on Saint Marks Place, per police.

Wigging out

Police arrested a woman who they say took someone's wallet inside a Fulton Street wig store on Oct. 6.

The 34-year-old victim said she was shopping in the beauty supply store between Hanover Place and Flatbush Avenue at noon. A security camera captured the 52-year-old suspect removing the wallet from the woman's bag, which was hanging from her shoulder, according to a police report. The purple wallet contained debit and credit cards, cops said.

Stop-lifters

Cops cuffed three women for allegedly trying to steal a bunch of clothing from a Fulton Mall department store on Oct. 6, according to a report.

Employees at the store between Gallatin Place and Hoyt Street said they saw the suspects come in at 8:15 pm. The women, who are 24, 25, and 26, started shoving merchandise into their bags and tried to leave separately, but employees stopped them and officers arrested them, of-

ficers recounted. Officers found \$3,513.89 worth of merchandise on the accused, police said.

Lifting shoppers

The authorities arrested two young men who they say stole a bunch of clothing from a Smith Street department store on Oct. 11.

A 24-year-old employee at the store said the two suspects came into the store between Bergen and Wyckoff streets at 2:20 pm, took clothes, threatened the worker, and ran out, according to a police report.

They jumped in a black Nissan Pathfinder with vanity plates reading “SEXYB63,” the report says. Cops cuffed the 17- and 20-year-old suspects shortly thereafter, it says.

Dumbo drop

A couple of tough guys robbed a man in Dumbo on Oct. 11, stealing a backpack full of clothes and other goods, cops said.

The 24-year-old victim said he was walking near the corner of Main and Plymouth streets at 9 pm when one of the no-goodniks asked him for a cigarette.

The victim refused and kept walking, but the predatory pair followed, according to the NYPD.

They then snatched his bag off of his back and took off running, law enforcement officials said. The victim told cops the bag contained a camera, sunglasses, clothes, an electronic music player, and a tripod.

POLICE BLOTTER



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BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene–Clinton Hill

Bad date

A woman stole a man's Rolex and credit card after he invited her into his DeKalb Avenue apartment on Oct. 16 and fell asleep after a few drinks, police said.

The 37-year-old victim said he met the woman for the first time and they went to his apartment between Hudson Avenue and Rockwell Place at 3 am.

The man tossed back a few libations, and when he awoke at noon the next day, his watch, his credit card, and the woman were all gone, cops said.

Run the jewels

Cops cuffed a teen who they said was part of a group that attacked two men on Flatbush Avenue Extension on Oct. 14 and jacked their jewelry.

The 50-year-old victim said he and a friend were standing between Wiloughby and Fleet streets at 3:04 pm when a group of five or six men approached them.

The suspects allegedly attacked the friends, punching and kicking them in their heads and torsos, then snatched the gold chain and

medallion from the 50-year-old's neck and pulled out his stud earrings, according to a police report.

The man's dentures were also shattered during the attack, the report says. Officers arrived at the scene and slapped cuffs on the 17-year-old.

Light haul

A gunman robbed a teen of \$11 near the corner of Adelphi Street and DeKalb Avenue on the morning of Oct. 16, police said.

The 16-year-old victim said he was standing near the intersection at 8:25 am when two fiends approached him, one brandishing a black pistol. He forked over the cash and the bandits took off running on DeKalb towards Clermont Avenue, cops said.

Neighbor stab

Officers arrested a woman for allegedly stabbing her neighbor with a knife three times during a dispute in the lobby of a Carlton Avenue building on Oct. 18, officials reported.

The 29-year-old victim said he was in the lobby of his building between Atlantic Avenue and Fulton Street at 1 am, when his neighbor came in and started arguing with him.

During the fight, the 47-year-old suspect supposedly pulled two knives out of her purse and plunged one into his right shoulder and the side of his face, according to a police report.

Emergency personnel drove the man to Brooklyn Hospital Center and he was treated and released, officers said. Cops found the suspect at 4 pm the same day, they wrote.

Sofa king wrong

A burglar stole a couch, coffee table, suitcase, and cash from a N. Oxford Walk building while the owner was at work on Oct. 14, police reported.

The 21-year-old resident of the apartment between Park and Myrtle avenues said he left for work at 11 am and did not return until 2 the following morning. When he did arrive, he found his front window smashed and his furniture missing, along with \$500, cops said.

— Matthew Perlman

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

Think fast

A thief swiped a laptop and other goods from a man's parked car on Fifth Avenue on Oct. 11, but the amateur sleuth tracked down his belongings and got the computer back, a report states.

The victim left his computer in his 2009 Toyota Corolla overnight near the corner of Carroll Street, cops said.

When he returned the next morning he found a robber had made off with his laptop, an iPad, a backpack, and the car's license plates, according to law enforcement officials.

Taking the case into his own hands, the man used the Find my iPad app on his phone to locate the device and drove around the neighborhood until he came across a man in his 20s holding his Lenovo laptop, police said. When the man asked the bandit where he had gotten the computer, the guy chuckled the laptop at him and dashed off, according to the authorities.

The computer survived the toss, but the guy didn't get back any of his other property, worth about \$600, police said.

Special delivery

A rapsallion made off with a wad of cash after breaking the lock on a delivery-truck door in Park Slope on Oct. 9, police said.

The truck's driver parked the vehicle on Fourth Avenue between President and Carroll streets at 1:10 pm, and in the 10 minutes he was away from the truck, the robber busted the driver's-side door open and snagged \$8,000 in cash.

A bad idea

Police arrested a teen who they say lifted a bunch of old iPhones from a waste management business on President Street on Oct. 10.

The 19-year-old allegedly snuck in the front door of the business between Nevins Street and Third Avenue and stuffed five older-model iPhones and an iPod into his jacket pocket, then scrambled, cops said.

Notified of the theft, police canvassed the area and found the suspect near the corner of Fourth Avenue and President Street, where a search turned up the stolen goods, a report says.

The man pleaded his case with cops, allegedly telling them, “I thought they were old phones.”

Unswayed, cops collared the man and charged him with burglary.

MacBook go

A cold-hearted computer thief exploited a man's goodwill to swipe a laptop from a Seventh Avenue store on Oct. 9, cops said.

An employee of a computer support store between President and Carroll streets went into the basement to find an item a customer said he was looking for, and when he came back upstairs, the scalawag had swiped his \$2,000 MacBook Pro, a report says.

The victim reviewed store security footage that showed him doing the deed and fleeing up Seventh Avenue toward President Street, police said.

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens–
Cobble Hill–Red Hook

Take two

A cold-hearted computer thief exploited a man's goodwill to swipe a laptop from a Seventh Avenue store on Oct. 9, cops said.

An employee of a computer support store between President and Carroll streets went into the basement to find an item a customer said he was looking for, and when he came back upstairs, the scalawag had swiped the employee's \$2,000 MacBook Pro, a report said.

The victim reviewed store security footage that showed him doing the deed and fleeing up Seventh Avenue toward President Street, police said.

Wheel-a-steal

A bicycle thief stole a two-wheeler parked on Second Place sometime overnight on Oct. 15, cops said.

The owner locked up his bike in front of his home between Smith and Court streets at 11 pm, and when he left his house at 7 am on Oct. 16, the bike had vanished, according to a report.

Frien-emy

An acquaintance of a Columbia Waterfront District woman went on a spending spree using the woman's credit cards between Oct. 16 and Oct. 20, police said.

The victim reported a shifty character she knows swiped three credit cards and a food-stamp card from her, and managed to rack up \$2,079 in purchases, according to a report.

The 27-year-old woman gave cops the name of the 33-year-old suspect, a report states. — Noah Hurowitz

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights

Fill 'er up

A masked robber stole \$700 from a gas station on 64th Street in Dyker Heights on Oct. 16, police said.

The gunman entered the store near Eighth Avenue at 8:43 pm, pointed a black handgun at the clerk and said, “give me the money,” a report states.

The clerk complied, and the desperado fled down Eighth Avenue toward 65th Street, officers stated.

Transit crook

Someone is robbing strap-hangers as they leave the D train station at Bay Ridge Avenue in Bensonhurst during late-night hours, according to official reports.

A mugger put a knife to a man's neck and stole cash and a bag from him at the station near New Utrecht Avenue on Oct. 14, cops said.

The victim was walking home at 2 am when a galoot came up from behind him and held a blade against his throat, police said. The aggressor took his victim's bag and slipped some cash from his jacket pocket before fleeing down 13th Avenue, a report states.

The next night, a tough who said he had a gun tried to rob another person at the same corner, but the would-be victim bolted.

The victim was walking from the D train to his girlfriend's house at 1:35 am when the brute came up to him, claimed he possessed a piece, and demanded the victim's bag, police said.

But lover boy took off, and the robber took off in the opposite direction, law enforcement officials said.

Police reports state the cases are similar and both describe the assailants as a male in his mid-20s or -30s standing 5-foot-11 and weighing 170 pounds.

Casement caper

A burglar stole \$100 from a residence at the corner of 11th Avenue and 72nd Street in Dyker Heights on Oct. 15, police reported.

The victim left his home at 10:35 am and returned at 11:05 am to find that someone had entered the house through a window and stolen the cash, police said.

— Max Jaeger

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint–Northside

Take three

Cops arrested a trio who they say attacked and robbed a man in McCarren Park on Oct. 13.

The 33-year-old victim said he was walking through the park at 12:45 am when he noticed he was being followed by a group.

The suspects came up behind him and one of them punched him in the face while the other two tried to grab his belongings, according to the police report.

Arresting officers said they spotted the attack and cuffed the three men, charging them with robbery.

Sleep tight

A brazen burglar stole a laptop off a N. Fifth Street woman's bed while she was sleeping in it on Oct. 14, officers stated.

The 35-year-old victim said that she was watching a movie on her laptop and fell asleep at 1 am, and when she woke up a few minutes later, her laptop was gone along with her purse.

Police came to the house and found that the window latch in her apartment broken, according to a report.

Pole position

Two cars full of gun-toting goons chased down a driver, damaged his car, and stole his property on Frost Street on Oct. 15, cops said.

The 48-year-old victim said he was driving between Debevoise and Morgan avenues at 1:40 am when two other cars suddenly boxed him in.

Three toughs jumped out of the cars, and one of them put a gun in his face while another one smashed all of his car windows with a baseball bat, police reported.

The three got away with the man's cash and assorted jewelry, according to the authorities.

— Danielle Furfaro

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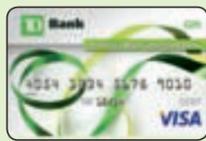
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'Kung-fu judge' kin gets day in court

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

The trial in the lawsuit alleging medical malpractice in the old-folks-home death of civil court Judge John Phillips began on Wednesday.

The trial comes four years after the judge's nephew, Samuel Boykin, first sued over Phillips's 2008 demise at the embattled Prospect Park Residence, which Boykin says was a sham facility staffed by unlicensed nurses. The jurist and self-made millionaire suffered severe neglect in the days leading up to his death at 83, and his family's day in court could prevent a similar fate from befalling other seniors, Boykin said.

"I'm looking forward to expressing the issues and hopefully bringing attention to others still stranded in similar circumstances," said Boykin, who lives in Akron, Ohio and is the executor of Phillips's estate. "I can't bring my uncle back,



The late John Phillips.

but maybe we can stop the death toll."

Boykin is seeking \$40 million in damages from the tony Prospect Park Residence, where Phillips was confined for eight months leading up to his death. The facility failed to accommodate Phillips with a diabetic-friendly meal plan, prevented friends, family, and attorneys from visiting, and even housed him in an unheated room in the middle of the winter, according to Boykin and his lawyer, in statements and court documents. And management was doing it all

without the required licensing, said John O'Hara, a long-time friend of Phillips's and Boykin's lawyer.

"Can you imagine operating cranes without a permit?" O'Hara said. "You can call yourself an FBI agent, but it's a crime."

Operating an assisted living facility in the state of New York without a license is a misdemeanor offense and is punishable by a civil fine of up to \$1,000 per day the facility continues to operate. A 2012 inspection of Prospect Park Residence found the facility was providing services to dependent and memory-impaired patients without the proper license to do so.

Despite its prime address on Grand Army Plaza at 1 Prospect Park West, Prospect Park Residence at the time was like a prisoner-of-war camp inside, O'Hara said.

"This was a Confederate prison operating in plain sight," he said. "It was like something out of Dickens."

A politically independent

and ambitious man, Phillips was elected civil court judge without the support of the traditional political machine. He was a well-known figure in Bedford-Stuyvesant and was known as the "kung-fu judge" because of his martial-arts prowess.

Phillips made a fortune buying up real estate in Bedford-Stuyvesant in the 1980s, a time when many in the city — even Phillips, by his own admission — were scared to walk around the neighborhood. His most notable property was the Slave Theater on Fulton Street, which he turned into a hotbed of civil-rights activity during the 1980s.

O'Hara painted a grim picture of the final years of Phillips's life, accusing former District Attorney Charles Hynes of strong-arming Phillips into involuntary commitment when the judge attempted to unseat Hynes in 2001.

Phillips's death was the end of a long saga that saw the former judge locked away in a series of old folks homes as court-appointed guardians looted his sizeable estate and failed to pay property taxes on the buildings he still owned. Boykin is seeking \$40 million based on what he says Phillips's properties would be worth today.

New Excelsior Slope gay bar back on 5th

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

Ever upward, Excelsior will rise again.

Beloved Park Slope gay bar Excelsior Lounge has found a new home just two and a half months after vacating the storefront it had occupied for 15 years. The new location is nine blocks down Fifth Avenue from the old one, and boasts two floors and a back patio. The extra legroom is just what the bar needed, according to its owners.

"I have a feeling this space is what we needed to grow into," said Mark Nayden, who has run the watering hole with his now-husband Richard Kennedy for more than 15 years. "In a way, everything that happened has been a blessing in disguise."

Nayden inked papers this week to operate out of the new space at 563 Fifth Ave. between 15th and 16th streets. The space, a former dry cleaner, needs some work,

but Nayden said they hope to have the booze flowing again in about three months.

Excelsior was forced to leave its longtime location on Fifth Avenue between Sixth and Seventh streets when the landlord put the building on the market for \$2.2 million, a price Nayden and Kennedy couldn't match, they said. The bar closed on Aug. 3, just days after Nayden and Kennedy tied the knot.

The loss of their longtime home base was a blow, but Nayden said closing up shop for good was never an option.

"When we found out we were losing our lease we started looking for a new space almost immediately," he said. "We've got a lot of work ahead of us, and now it's time to get dirty."

The additional space will allow the saloon keepers to fulfill a longtime dream of converting part of Excelsior into a performance space, Nayden said.



Mark Nayden and Richard Kennedy will spend the next few months turning this empty space into the new home of popular Park Slope gay bar Excelsior Lounge.



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Fancy food court headed to Fulton

City Point to feature eating area inspired by Chelsea Market

By **Matthew Perlman**
The Brooklyn Paper

Fulton Mall is getting a Manhattan-esque food court.

The second phase of the massive retail and residential development City Point has topped out on the former site of Albee Square Mall and, a developer has revealed, it will include a “Chelsea-Market-style” bazaar and food court, imitating the high-end Manhattan food hall that is a tourist attraction and showcase for vendors. The Downtown version is set to feature 40 sellers and a bevy of Brook-



City Point is set to bring a swanky food market to Downtown inside a retail building capped with two apartment towers.

lyn restaurants.

“There’s great food in every neighborhood,” said Paul Travis, an executive with Washington Square Partners, one of the developers behind the project. “We see an opportunity to bring it all under one roof.”

Most, but not all of the vendors will be native to Kings County, Travis said.

City Point isn’t the only major development that is boasting plans of a food court inspired by the upscale gourmand complex across the East River. Raymond Chan, the developer behind the so-called “Eighth Avenue Center” in Sunset Park, said last month he is anchoring the four-tower project with a three-story “Chelsea-Market-style” retail space, as this paper exclusively reported.

City Point’s food court is just one planned component of the two-thirds-erected, block-long mega-project looming over Fulton and Wiloughby streets. The complex is also set to include a mall and 700 apartments.

The developers expect to attract shoppers who already frequent the Fulton shopping strip, but hope to also draw customers from afar. City Point’s position along Flatbush Avenue Extension, the feeder road of

which Travis called Brooklyn’s Main Street, should help, he said.

“Other places have highways. We have Flatbush Avenue,” he said.

Travis said he and his partners hope to cash in on their more immediate neighbors too, a population that will grow exponentially as 7,800 apartments planned in the area go on the market. But the group hardly considered the prospect of having so many customers so close to home when they first cooked up the City Point plan, he said.

“We didn’t think there’d be such a large residential market right here in Downtown,” he said.

A key piece of the project, Travis explained, is a pedestrian walkway called the Prince Street Passage that will connect Fulton Mall to Flatbush Avenue Extension.

Travis said the two main drags used to be worlds apart.

“Foot-traffic on Fulton and Flatbush were like two ships passing in the night,” he said. “We’re going to link the two.”

The mall’s main tenants are set to include locations of the clothing store Century 21 and the movie theater Alamo Draft House.

Armed robbery at new Chipotle

By **Matthew Perlman**
The Brooklyn Paper

A gunman robbed a Downtown Chipotle early on a recent Saturday morning, police said.

The armed robber struck the supposedly Mexican chain restaurant on Oct. 11, forcing employees to open a safe and making off with \$12,000 in cash, cops said.

A 19-year-old worker at the restaurant on the Myrtle Avenue Promenade between Lawrence and Jay streets told officers the bandit barged in at 7:22 am, leveled the piece at her, and barked, “Walk with me.”

The two went to a back room where a 26-year-old-

employee was working, and the desperado turned his weapon on the man and forced him to open the safe, according to a police report.

The crook took the cash and ordered the two workers to crawl under the desk, the report says. A third employee, 20, saw what was happening as he was entering the restaurant and ran out to find help, the authorities reported. By the time he returned with a police officer, the culprit was gone, cops said.

The Chipotle occupies a space that previously housed a Chinese restaurant referred to by employees of this paper as “worst-case scenario.”

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The Boo-klyn Paper's Fright Night Bureau

Oct. 24-30, 2014



Threepenny shock-ra: British Brechtian punk cabaret trio the Tiger Lillies is playing a three-night gig at St. Ann's Warehouse, Oct. 30 - Nov. 1.

PARTY

Monster bash



The zombies were having fun, the party had just begun!

The annual Zombie Prom Halloween bash is lurching into Gowanus on Oct. 31, and an organizer of the event is predicting hordes of brain-eaters in bow-ties.

"We get some really great zombies," said Nick Cotz, artistic director for Personal Space Theatrics, the theater company putting on the party. "There is a really great zombie culture in New York."

Personal Space has been throwing the zombie bash as its main yearly fund-raiser for about six years. It was originally held in Manhattan, but last year the corpse-themed celebration shuffled to Williamsburg, which was a graveyard smash. Now the hordes of walking dead couples will stumble their way to Littlefield in Gowanus for a "toxic zombie"-themed event inspired by the neighborhood's infamous canal.

People can show up in standard zombie costumes, but Cotz said many attendees come in regular costumes that have been "zombified." "You get some really weird stuff," said Cotz, who plans to dress up as an undead version of the Park Slope dad he is. "We've seen a zombie Cookie Monster, a pair of dodo birds that were decaying and falling apart. We once had a zombie Big Lebowski."

The event will also feature standard prom provisions such as a photo-booth, live music from bands including the Hollows and Sylvana Joyce and the Moment, and the corpses in the best costumes will be crowned prom king and queen.

Zombie Prom at Littlefield (622 Degraw St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus, www.littlefieldnyc.com). Oct. 31 at 8:30 pm. \$15-\$20. — Noah Hurowitz

BOOKS

Write back

These memories leave a hell of a paper trail.

California author Joseph Di Prisco is returning to his home 'hood of Greenpoint to explain why he left 53 years ago.

The writer will take the subway back to Word bookstore on Oct. 29 to discuss his recent memoir "The Subway to California," which recounts his bizarre 1960s childhood during which Di Prisco's family fled Brooklyn to escape federal agents tracking his father for reasons the authors said are still murky.

"My father is a small-time bookmaker, a guy working for a local crew there, clearly in the wrong place — or the right place," said Di Prisco. "His story always was that he knew too much about police corruption."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation trailed Di Prisco's father for years, which Di Prisco said sent the family spiraling into a life of hideouts and heartache. His father hid behind the mob mentality of old-school Brooklyn, he said.

"You didn't know if he was lying," said Di Prisco. "You know, the Brooklyn thing — 'I don't know nothin' what are you talkin' about?'"

Di Prisco, who was a Catholic altar boy in his youth, said that as he got older, he found himself toeing the line between saint and sinner — just like his father.

"I spent a lot of time in church and I was a good little boy. That wasn't enough. I wanted everything — I wanted both sides of the equation," he said. "When I was in my 20s and broke, someone said, 'We're starting this black-jack team.'"

Di Prisco's tumultuous childhood evolved into a tempestuous adulthood. Soon, he was betting \$10,000 per blackjack hand and was eventually barred from every casino he entered.

"At one point, I was the prime suspect in a racketeering investigation," he said. "The thing you never want to have happen to you is have the FBI investigate you — they can do whatever they want."

Di Prisco said writing the memoir was cathartic.

"When you write a memoir, you're doing therapy on yourself," he said. "I wanted to send myself a bill every day at the end of writing."

Joseph Di Prisco at Word (126 Franklin St. between Nobel and Milton streets (718) 383-0096, www.wordbookstores.com). Oct. 29 at 7 pm. Free. — Vanessa Ogle



Pumpkin-palooza!

The definitive list of 2014 Brooklyn Halloween events

The Boo-klyn Paper Fright Night Bureau

The Brooklyn Paper

Get ready, Spook-ly!

Halloween is a week away, but the celebrations are already haunting the borough. Frightened by all the choice? No need to get spooked — our crack team of All Hallow's Eve experts have hand-picked the most hair-raising happenings in the 'hoods from now until the big day.

Woooo-f

Dressing dogs in clothes is an everyday event in Brooklyn, but at the Annual Great Pupkin Dog Costume Contest, your fancy-dressed canine can also win prizes.

Fort Greene Park, Prison Ship Martyrs Monument [Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park in Fort Greene, www.nycgov-parks.org]. Oct. 25 at noon. Free.

G-argh-den party

This year's Ghouls and Gourds at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden will include live music and circus performers, bug- and vegetable-themed activities, authors reading (mildly) spooky kids books, and, of course, the annual costume parade.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Cherry Esplanade [Near Washington Avenue and President Street in Prospect Park, (718) 623-7200, www.bbg.org]. Oct. 25 at noon-5:30 pm. \$15 adults, \$10 kids over 12, free for kids under 12.

Beastly!

Kids can watch animals play with pumpkins (do animals actually eat pumpkins? Who cares? It is adorable), go on a spooky scavenger hunt, explore a haunted barn, and do Halloween-themed games and crafts at the annual Boo at the Zoo weekend.

Prospect Park Zoo [450 Flatbush Ave. in Prospect Park, (718) 399-7339, www.prospectparkzoo.com]. Oct. 25-26 at noon-5:30 pm. \$8 adults, \$5 kids.

Ghoul school

There is more to Halloween than candy



Franken-swine: Dress your dog up as an unholy hybrid beast at the Great Pupkin Dog Costume Contest at Fort Greene Park on Oct. 25.

corn and sexy nurse costumes. Get an ed-boo-cation in this history of the holiday with an illustrated lecture titled "Halloween: The Curious Story of America's Most Horrible Holiday" by Halloween scholar Lesley Bannatyne.

Morbid Anatomy Museum [424 A Third Ave. at the corner of Seventh Street

in Gowanus, www.morbidanatomy-museum.org]. Oct. 26 at 8 pm. \$8.

Ghost stories

Bring some covers to hide under for the Halloween edition of Freddy's Bar's "So What Happened Was" storytelling series. Four storytellers and one brave

audience member will share their most terrifying tales.

Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Park Slope, (718) 768-0131, www.freddysbar.com]. Oct. 26 at 7 pm. Free.

Creep-aret

Equal parts haunting and raucous, long-running British punk cabaret trio the Tiger Lillies is a highly appropriate soundtrack for a weekend of tricks and treats.

St. Ann's Warehouse [38 Water St. between Dock and Main streets in Dumbo (718) 834-8794, www.stanswarehouse.org]. Oct. 30-Nov. 1 at 8 pm. \$30-\$55.

#Halloween

Wow. So party. Such theme. Dress up as your favorite internet meme — we predict a lot of "apparently" kids and ice-bucket challenges this year — for the annual HallowMeme Costume Party, and win all of the prizes.

The Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third streets in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510, www.hallowme.me]. Oct. 30 at 8:30 pm. Free, but RSVP required.

Spooky sounds

Videology cranks up the volume and the creepiness on two vintage scary silent films. On Oct. 30, synthesizer player Dorian Wallace will perform a live, original score to 1920's "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," and on Oct. 31, chamber music group Tenth Intervention will provide the score for 1922 German vampire classic "Nosferatu."

Videology [308 Bedford Ave. between South First and South Second streets in Williamsburg, (718) 782-3468, www.videology.info]. Oct. at 10 pm, Oct. 31 at 7 pm. Free.

Boo-grass

Barefoot and Bankside, Dancegrass, Seth Kessel and the Two Cent Band, and the Melody Allegra Band bring the banjo to the Rotten Apple Roots and Bluegrass See **SCARY** on page 10

WHAT IS ROTARY?

Rotary is a group of local business people who get together weekly to network and do charitable work in their community.

The Brooklyn Bridge Rotary Club meets every Thursday in Downtown Brooklyn.

This year we've focused on helping disadvantaged pregnant women to become self reliant, and we also brought a 5 year old Haitian boy to NYC to have open heart surgery.



Join us! For questions or information, contact incoming club president Angelicque Moreno at (718) 802-1616; AMoreno@jkavanzino.com.



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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY
 Oct. 24



Skull and candy

Get extra value out of that skeleton costume by wearing it for Halloween next week and Dia de Los Muertos today. The Morbid Anatomy Museum is celebrating the Mexican holiday south-of-the-border style with tequila, sugar skulls, Mexican food, a death pinata, a calaveras makeup artist, and free beer from Modelo.

8 pm at Morbid Anatomy Museum [424A Third Ave. at Seventh Street in Gowanus, www.morbidanatomy.com]. \$25.

SATURDAY
 Oct. 25

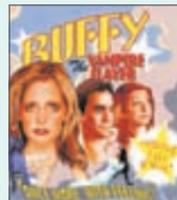
Hands on

This film fest comes with no strings attached! The Brooklyn Academy of Music is celebrating marionettes in movies this weekend with its Puppets on Film series. Flicks today include "Muppets Most Wanted," "Return of the Jedi," and "I Am Big Bird: The Caroll Spinney Story." There will also be a series of kid-appropriate shorts for pint-sized puppet fans.

Various times at BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org]. \$7–\$14.



SUNDAY
 Oct. 26



Voice of an 'Angel'

I think this line's mostly filler. The Way Station's monthly Nerd Cabaret night celebrates both Halloween and Joss Whedon with Hal-Whedon — a performance of "Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog" and that musical episode of "Buffy" (No "The Man They Call Jayne"? We predict a Browncoat mutiny.) Costumes encouraged.

7:30 pm at the Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (347) 627-4949, www.waystationbk.com]. \$5.

WEDNESDAY
 Oct. 29

Last bites

Brooklyn Brainery gets into the grim spirit of the season with a talk on the history of funeral food. Historic gastronomist Sarah Lohman will explain the ties between cremation and mastication, while attendees sample beer from Midas's tomb, funeral cakes, and Mormon funeral potatoes.

8 pm at Brooklyn Brainery [90 Underhill Ave. between Sterling and St. Johns Places in Prospect Heights, (347) 292-7246, www.brooklynbrainery.com]. \$16.



THURSDAY
 Oct. 30



Flame grillers

These guys can set your mouth and fire — and then put it out! The Brooklyn Historical Society is paying tribute to firehouse chefs. Three cooks from Brooklyn firehouses will talk about braising and boiling for New York's Bravest, and then compete in a chili cook-off. There will also be some free fiery cocktails.

6:30 pm at Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierpont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111, www.brooklynhistory.org]. \$10.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, OCT. 24

ART, "THE PAREIDOLIA PROJECT": Artist Megan Karlen presents an interactive show on the phenomenon of seeing recognizable images in random shapes and patterns. **Free.** Noon–6 pm. Sweet Lorraine Gallery [183 Lorraine St., floor 3, between Court and Clinton streets in Red Hook, (917) 670-7366], www.thepareidoliaproject.com.

MUSIC, CADAVER DOGS, THE WANS, TESLA ROSSA, THE GRAYCES, THE GRIZZLED MIGHTY, MENAGE, ISLE OF RHODES, DAN ABRAHAM, BLACK WING HALO: CMJ showcase presented by Rocker Stalker. **Free.** 12:30 pm–3:30 pm. Spike Hill Tavern [184 Bedford Ave. at N. Seventh Street in Williamsburg, (718) 218-9737], www.spikehill.com.

MUSIC, GREG BARRIS' HEART OF DARKNESS: Comedy and music with the Forgiveness, Dave Hill, Mind Warrior, others. \$10. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

THEATER, THE DINNER PARTY — A WHODUNNIT CABARET: A dance, theater, and circus themed murder-mystery show. 20 (\$15). 7 pm. Galapagos Art Space [16 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 222-8500], www.galapagosartspace.com.

SAT, OCT. 25

ART, DRAWING DEMOCRACIES: Day-long event of free drawing activities, including family art activities, live figure model drawing, and a monoprint workshop. **Free.** 11:30 am–4 pm. Pratt Institute [200 Wiloughby Avenue between Classon Avenue and Hall St. in Fort Greene, (718) 636-3600], www.pratt.edu.

MUSIC, DUBL HANDI, CROPDUST: Album release show. \$10. 9 pm. Jalopy Theatre [315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Red Hook, (718) 395-3214], www.jalopy.biz.

MUSIC, THE BUDOS BAND: Record release show. \$22 (\$20 advance). 11 pm. The Wick [260 Meserole St. at Bushwick Place in Bushwick, (347) 799-1049], www.thewicknyc.com.

TOUR, "FLATBUSH OLD/FLATBUSH NEW": Artist Matthew Jensen leads a walking tour of the Flatbush, highlighting parts of the 300 years of the neighborhood's history. \$8. 2–3:30 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

SUN, OCT. 26

MUSIC, WANNABE JALVA, FLEETING SOUND, FIUSHA: \$7. 8 pm. Trash Bar [256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000], www.thetrashbar.com.

READING, DOMINIQUE ANSEL: The crout creator launches his new



Give her heart a break: Demi Lovato plays Barclays Center Oct. 27.

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

MON, OCT. 27 MUSIC, DEMI LOVATO: With guests Christina Perri and MKTO. \$35–\$69.50. 7 pm.	WED, NOV. 5 SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES: \$20–\$3,000. 7:30 pm.
THURS, OCT. 30 MUSIC, POWERHOUSE 2014: Featuring J. Cole, Ne-Yo, Young Jeezy, Kid Ink, T.I., Childish Gambino, French Montana, Migos, Tinashe and Bobby Shmurda. \$19.99–\$199. 7 pm.	FRI, NOV. 7 SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. NEW YORK KNICKS: \$79–\$4,000. 7:30 pm.
FRI, OCT. 31 MUSIC, BOO: Halloween dance party featuring Knife Party, DJ Snake, Tommy Trash, Tchami, and Milo and Otis, and Craze. \$29.50–\$85. 7 pm.	SUN, NOV. 9 SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. ORLANDO MAGIC: \$35–\$4,000. 3:30 pm.
MON, NOV. 3 SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER: \$69–\$4,000. 7:30 pm.	TUE, NOV. 11 DISNEY ON ICE PRESENTS FROZEN: \$20–\$205. 7 pm.
WED, NOV. 12 DISNEY ON ICE PRESENTS FROZEN: 7 pm. See Tuesday, Nov. 11.	

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

http://
 Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

cookbook "The Secret Recipes." \$35. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhouse-arena.com.

THE MUPPET VAULT — MONSTERS: Monthly Muppets party celebrates monsters from "The Muppet Show," "Sesame Street," and other Jim Henson productions. \$8. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com.

MON, OCT. 27

MUSIC, SOKO: Free pop-up show. **Free.** 8 pm. American Apparel [104 N. Sixth St. between Wythe and Kent avenues].

MUSIC, THE KICKDRUMS X DUCK-WRTH, FORTE BOWIE, MILOH SMITH: \$10. 8:30 pm. Glasslands [289 Kent Ave. at S. Second Street in Williamsburg], www.glasslands.com.

TUES, OCT. 28

READING, SAM ROBERTS: Discussing his book "A History of New York in 101 Objects." \$5 (free for BHS members). 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierpont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklynhistory.org.

THEATER, TINYRHINO: Six playwrights write new plays, each including the same five dramatic elements. When those elements appear on stage, the audience takes a drink. \$10. 7:30 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

TALK, EBOLA IN THE AGE OF PANDEMIC: Doctors Jon Epstein and Kevin Olival from EcoHealth Alliance will discuss the facts about Ebola and other deadly infectious diseases. Includes unlimited beer. \$20. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Brewery [79 N. 11th St. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (212) 380-4488].

WED, OCT. 29

THEATER, "SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR": Theatre de la Ville company presents Luigi Pirandello's play. \$20. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music, BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

TALK, AWKWARD SEX... AND THE CITY: Storytelling series. \$5. 8 pm. See 9 DAYS on page 10

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Haunted Heights: Author Andrea Janes will lead Halloween walking tours through Brooklyn Heights.

Walking dead!

Spooky street tour comes to B'Heights

By Matthew Perlman
The Brooklyn Paper

This is not your grandmother's walk in the Heights.

A spooky haunted walking tour hits the streets of Brooklyn Heights Oct. 24, just in time for Halloween. The history-centric jaunt will lead walkers to the sites of Kings County apparitions while a guide explains the ghostly tales behind the hair-raising landmarks. The tour's founder said walkers will not have worry about being too scared during the trek, but they might have trouble sleeping later that night.

"It's not terrifying in a way that would make you wet your pants," said Andrea Janes, who has also authored a book of short horror stories titled "Boroughs of the Dead: New York City Ghost Stories." "But sometimes the stories creep up on you."

Janes's "Boroughs of the Dead" tours began last year with routes on the distant island of Manhat-

TOURS

Boroughs of the Dead Haunted Brooklyn Heights walking tour [140 Court St. between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street in Cobble Hill, www.boroughsofthedeath.com]. Oct. 24 at 7 pm and 9 pm, Oct. 25 at 3 pm and 7 pm, Oct. 31 at 7 pm and 9 pm. \$25 (\$20 advance).

tan and in Green-Wood Cemetery. This will be her first foray onto the streets of Brooklyn, and she said the Heights seemed like a perfect place to start.

"Aesthetically, the neighborhood's very pleasing," she said. "Which helps create a good atmosphere."

The tour actually begins in Cobble Hill, near the former site of a Revolutionary War fort. Janes will tell the story of a sailor who was drinking at a nearby tavern and was sent to fetch more booze when the watering hole ran out. He never

came back, and when his friends went searching for him, they found him in front of the abandoned fort, apparently in shock and unable to talk. He died two days later, Janes said.

"Murdered by a ghost? Had a stroke? You decide," she said. Other stops on the creepy crawl include the former home of horror writer H.P. Lovecraft, and the Montague Street entrance to the Promenade, where the ghost of an old sea captain is sometimes supposedly seen.

All the stories have at least some basis in reality, Janes said. She got the idea to start her scary schleps while doing research for her book, which incorporates historical elements. Janes figured she could share the terrifying tales with others, and bone up on her story-telling technique at the same time.

"They were too cool to keep to myself," she said. "Besides, it's fun to tell stories to a live audience. It's great practice for a writer."

Shock and roll high school

F'Greene music teachers create musical haunted house

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

They are raising the dead — and the roof!

A horde of zombie musicians will be on hand to show off their chops on Oct. 26, when the Brooklyn Music School in Fort Greene turns its century-old schoolhouse building into a musical haunted house.

"We wanted to do something that was not a traditional open house, and because of the architecture of the building, people always joke that it is haunted," said Piruz Partow, the school's artistic executive director. "The combination of those things made me think of a way to show off the school in a fun and zesty way."

This is the second year in a row that the school — which caters to both kids and adults — will undergo a spooky musical makeover for Halloween. Petrifying performers



Spoo-keys: Piano teacher Tom Coote will perform live, well, you know, at the Brooklyn Musical School's Musical Haunted House.

will include several of the school's instructors and a handful of older students. The event is not just enter-

tainment, but also a chance to show off what happens at the music and performing arts institution, said an organizer.

"We sat down with the faculty and came up with the funniest things we could think of," said Ross Noyes,

MUSIC

Musical Haunted House at the Brooklyn Music School [126 Saint Felix St. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place in Fort Greene, (718) 638-5660, www.brooklynmusicschool.org]. \$5. Oct. 26 at 2-4 pm.

the school's operations manager.

Characters in the haunted house will include the Headless Chordsmen, Zom-Beethoven, Hellvis, and a jazz band made up of Civil War-era musicians. But that doesn't mean every spooky suggestion made the final cut.

"We threw around an idea about a haunted guitar solo, it did not sound like all that much fun," said Noyes.

Visitors will tour the building and find a different adventure in each room. Partow is calling them "schticks or treats."

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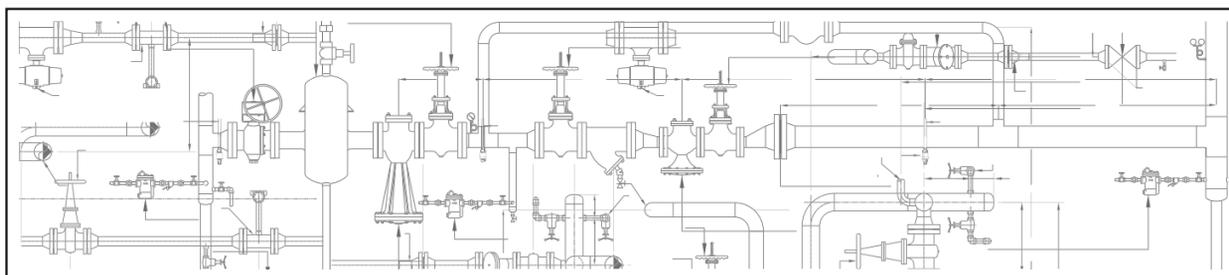
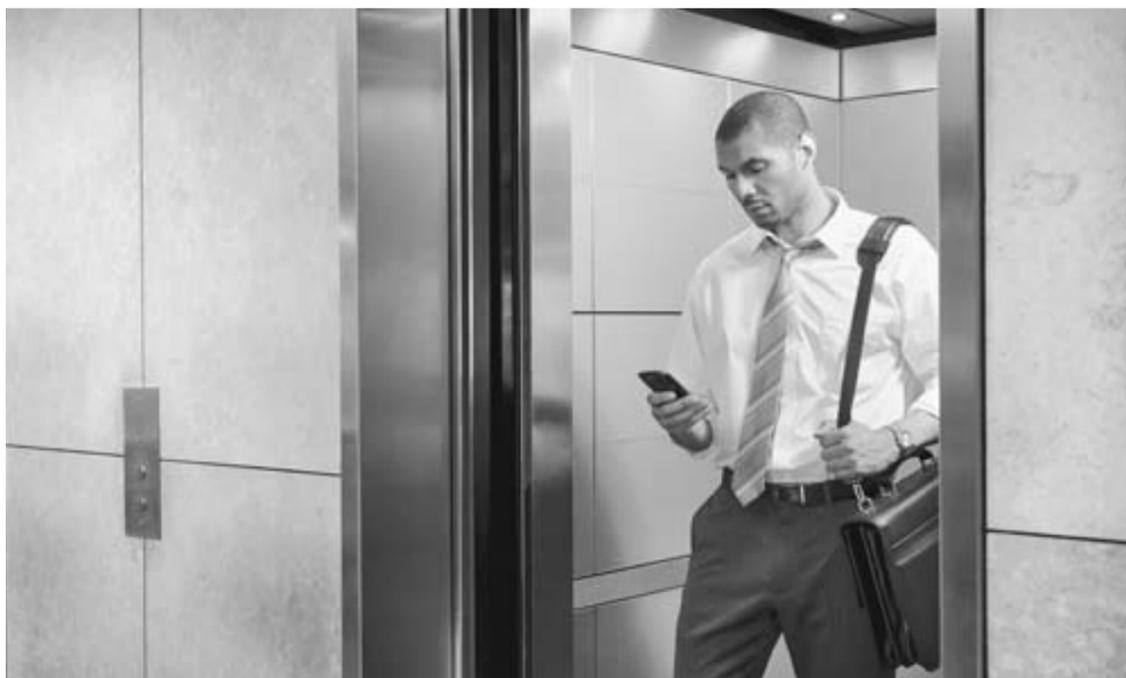
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Raising the roof!

Artists hold concert to save church ceiling

Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

Call it a blue-grass-roots effort.

A cohort of the city's best bluegrass musicians will pull some strings to raise money for a historic Park Slope church at the third annual Brooklyn Bluegrass Bash at the Bell House on Oct. 26. The organizer—himself a picker and parishioner at the borough's oldest church—said he wanted to give voice to the county's bluegrass bona fides while doing some good.

"Brooklyn is the hottest spot outside of Nashville for bluegrass musicians, and I wanted to showcase scene, but I felt a deep responsibility to do what could to help with restoration effort," said Michael Daves, who lives near Green-Wood Cemetery.

The Old First Reformed Church, located on Carroll Street at Seventh Avenue, traces its roots to the 1600s and Dutch settler Peter Stuyvesant. In 2011, part of the ceiling collapsed, and church number-crunchers estimate they need between \$700,000 and \$1.5 million to restore it.

Parishioners have raised about \$250,000, and the band



Ceiling fans: From left, Pastor Daniel Meeter, musician Michael Daves, and actor Peter Sarsgaard inside the Old First Reformed Church.

of bluegrass bards raised about one-fifth of that total through bashes in 2012 and 2013. Daves said.

There are two acts to look out for at this year's concert—aside from Daves' own genre-bending supertrio, he said. First, is the so-called "father of Americana," Da-

vid Bromberg.

"A lot of people in Brooklyn aren't familiar with him but he's a huge treasure, and we can't believe that he's performing," Daves said. "It's going to be a revelation, especially for younger audiences."

And keep your ears open

MUSIC

Brooklyn Bluegrass Bash at the Bell House [149 Seventh Street between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, www.thebellhouse.com, (718) 643-6510]. Oct. 26 at 3 pm. \$50 advance, \$60 at door, \$35 kids 12 and under.

for upstart fiddler Britany Haas, who incorporates her classical and jazz background into tradition-steeped tunes.

"They represent these two generations of bluegrass," Daves said of Bromberg and Haas.

Actor Peter Sarsgaard will emcee the event. Daves and Sarsgaard met when the musician was hired to give the actor mandolin lessons for a never-filmed biopic about bluegrass inventor Bill Monroe, Daves said. The "Garden State" alum lives in Park Slope and occasionally sings at the church with his wife Maggie Gyllenhaal and their kids, Daves said.

"He loves music, and his family very musical so he stayed on ever since, taking lessons and supporting the restoration campaign," he said. "They're great friends of the church."

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

MUSIC, WEYES BLOOD, TONSTARTSSBANDHT, DJ JOSH Y: \$10. 8:30 pm. Glaslands [289 Kent Ave. at S. Second Street in Williamsburg], www.glaslands.com.

THURS, OCT. 30

HAUNTED HOUSE: With scary decorations, costumes, music, lights, and kid-friendly candy. **Free.** 6–8:30 pm. Brownsville Recreation Center [1555 Linden Blvd. at Hegeman Avenue in Brownsville, (718) 485-4633], www.nycgov-parks.org.

READING, SHELLY ORIA: Launching her new book "New York 1, Tel Aviv 0." \$35. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

MUSIC, THE FREAKS COME OUT .01: Featuring DJs Cevin Fisher and Cliff Saint-Cyr. \$10, free with costume before 11 pm. 10 pm. TBA Brooklyn [395 Wythe Ave. at S. Sixth Street in Williamsburg, (917) 885-4498], www.tbabrooklyn.com.

FRI, OCT. 31

PARK SLOPE HALLOWEEN PARADE: The parade winds its way up 14th Street and ends at the Old Stone House and Washington Park, where there will be dancing and entertainment. **Free.** 5:30 pm. Kick off [14th St. and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope], www.parkslopecivicouncil.org.



Cake boss: Cronut creator Dominique Ansel launches his new cookbook "The Secret Recipes" at PowerHouse Arena on Oct. 26.

READING, CHUCK PALAHNIUK: "Beautiful You" book launch and Halloween party. **Free.** 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in Dumbo,

(718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

MUSIC, DIA DE LOS TERIBLES: Terrible Records Halloween party, with performances by Dev Hynes

(Blood Orange) and other Terrible Records artists, and a one-hour open tequila bar. \$20. 8 pm–2 am. Wythe Hotel [8 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 460-8000], www.wythehotel.com.

SAT, NOV. 1

THEATER, "TAMBURLAINE, PARTS I AND II": Christopher Marlowe play about a Scythian shepherd who rises to power to become king of half the world. \$55–\$100. 7 pm. Theatre for a New Audience, Polonsky Shakespeare Center [262 Ashland Pl. between Fulton Street and Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (212) 229-2819], www.tfnano.org.

MUSIC, BOBBY MCFERRIN: \$36–\$60. 8 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd., between Amersfort Place and Kenilworth Place in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roudy



At the Bushwick bar Miles you'll find good drinks, a mellow atmosphere, and a bunch of portraits of dogs in suits.

There's also one cat!

The bar has a well-chosen list of draft beers (\$6-7) and a cheese-centric food menu that includes a cheese + charcuterie plate and various grilled cheese sandwiches (\$7-9).



The signature cocktails are worth a try, like the sweet applejack drink "Jack & Diane" (\$10).

And the dogs are very cute.

Look! They've got a pug!

Also free mac & cheese at happy hour on Mondays.

Miles [101 Wilson Ave. between Troutman and Starr streets in Bushwick, (718) 483-9172, www.milesonwilson.com]. Open daily, 6 pm–2 am.

SCARY...

Continued from page 7

Halloween concert.

Union Hall [702 Union St. near Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallnyc.com]. Oct. 31 at 8 pm. \$12.

Argh-clays!

If the concession prices at Barclays Center aren't scary enough, the Boo! dance party—featuring Knife Party, DJ Snake, Tommy Trash, Ichami, Milo and Otis, and Craze—should do the trick.

Barclays Center [620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights, (917) 618-6100, www.barclayscenter.com]. Oct. 31 at 7 pm. \$29.50–\$85.

Scary movies

Nitehawk Cinema gets into the spirit of things with a full

day of horror films with its "A Nite to Dismember" celebration. Catch "Evil Dead II," "The Bride of Frankenstein," "Friday the 13th Part 2," "Return of the Living Dead," and more, plus giveaways, trivia, and a costume contest.

Nitehawk Cinema [136 Metropolitan Ave. near Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-3980, www.nitehawkcinema.com]. Oct. 31 at noon. \$50.

S-Carrie

These are goddess times. Get your red dress on ("It's pink, Mama!") and head to Mary's Bar, which will be decked out like the prom theme from "Carrie" for Halloween. The costume contest winners will drink free all night.

Mary's Bar [708 Fifth Ave. at 22nd Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2175, www.facebook.com/marysbarbrooklyn]. Oct. 31 at 9 pm. **Free.**



Hot Cheetos and Takis: Dress as your favorite internet meme of 2014 at the Halloween Costume Party at the Bell House on Oct. 30.

Horr-oar

Canoeing in the dark—what could possibly go wrong? Find out by taking

one of the North Brooklyn Boat Club's nighttime Haunted Canoe Tours from Greenpoint to Dutch Kills. **Broadway Stages Boat-**

yard [437 McGuinness Blvd. between Ash Street and Newtown Creek in Greenpoint, www.facebook.com/northbrooklynboatclub]. Oct. 31 at 8–11:45 pm. \$25 adults, \$15 kids 6–12.

Monsters of rock

At Silent Barn's annual Halloween celebration, it is the bands that come in costume—Dear Leader will come as the Neptunes; Delicate Steve will do the Red Hot Chili Peppers; Heehey will take on Weezer; Banned Books will attempt the Pixies; Max Almario (Celestial Shore), Mike Sheffield (Heaven's Gate), and Kegan Zema (Journalism) will dress as Blink-182; and Advcata will channel Hole.

Silent Barn [603 Bushwick Ave. between Melrose and Jefferson streets in Bushwick, www.silentbarn.org]. Oct. 31 at 9 pm. \$10 with costume, \$12 without.

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###FASTRACK

Plastic surgery

G'point: Factory-condos could poison us

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

A plan to build luxury condos on the toxin-laden site of a former plastics factory in Greenpoint could kick up pollutants and poison kids attending a planned school nearby, neighbors fear.

The developer planning swanky housing on the former Harte and Company factory at 208 Franklin St., a state Superfund site, is supposed to remediate the site before building anything. But local environmental activists

say there is a lot of room for error that would scatter trichloroethylene, an organ- and brain-damaging solvent, and phthalates, a hormone-disrupting plastic additive. One lifelong Greenpointer is so scared of the potential effects that she might pack up and leave.

"For the first time in my life, I am considering moving out of Greenpoint," said Laura Hoffman, who has lived in the neighborhood all of her 56 years. "I am that frightened of this site."

Dupont Street Developers purchased the former polyvinyl chloride plant between Clay and Dupont streets in May for more than \$23 million and announced earlier this month that it plans to build 400 condominium units on the site.

The facility was active from the 1950s until it closed in 2004. During that time, the factory used phthalates, which can cause genital deformities in young boys, and trichloroethylene, which can make people groggy and disrupt



Greenpoint environmental activist Mike Schade is worried that a plan to turn the former Harte and Company plastics factory, background, into condos will stir up the toxins in the soil under it.

their livers, kidneys, and digestive systems.

Another local environmental activist, who works days at the national advocacy group Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, said he is not ready to flee just yet.

"I am definitely concerned, but not concerned to the point where I want to move out of the neighborhood," said Mike Schade, who is making presentations on the dangerous chemicals in Greenpoint to inform neighbors.

To build on the site, the developer will have to dig way down and cart away tanks containing thousands of gallons of phthalates, Schade said. There are also phthalates in the ground just above the water table, and the trichloroethylene is in the soil and has leached into the walls of the

building, Schade said.

A school and the Newtown Barge Park that developers and the city are planning as part of the Greenpoint Landing mega-development are both across the street from the plastics factory and could be in the path of the toxins as they spread underground, Schade said.

Hoffman and several members of her family have experienced a lifetime of various sicknesses, including autoimmune diseases, cancer, and brain diseases, she said. Tests Hoffman did with Brooklyn College's help showed lead, arsenic, and mercury at the site of the recently demolished Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant's sludge tank on Eagle Street.

The state and the developer did not respond to inquiries.

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Shock jocks

Bolts bury Boston — and break Brooklyn records

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

This shouldn't come as a shock.

The Brooklyn Bolts electrified fans at MCU Park on Oct. 15 with a record-shattering victory in the team's first home game of the season.

The biggest crowd in franchise history watched Brooklyn's hometown football team deliver a historic win over its hated rival the Boston Brawlers 27–20 — the highest margin of victory the team has ever seen.

In fact, there wasn't a team record left standing after the undefeated Bolts sent the Brawlers home bawling.

Rushing yards, passing yards, tackles, and interceptions — the Bolts' performance last Wednesday demolished the team's previous high-water marks of 0, 0, 0, and 0, rewriting the re-

cord books for the most accomplished football franchise ever to play at the home of the Cyclones.

The Bolts' unprecedented numbers were even more impressive considering that the game was also the first time the team had ever faced an opponent in foul weather.

One season-ticket holder said neither hell nor high water could stop the victory.

"They played great. It was a great experience. The only problem was the weather," said Bolts superfan Nick Orlando.

The intermittent rain didn't stop 1,393 fans from turning out to cheer on Brooklyn's first football team in 70 years, according to MCU Park.

Even the gods themselves seemed to be rooting for the Bolts, as thunderheads hung low over MCU Park, bestowing a cloudburst blessing on



Bolts running back Mario Fannin high-steps into the end zone for the Bolts' first-ever touchdown.

the Bolts.

"The defense came up with a huge fumble and then it started downpouring," Orlando said.

The Bolts managed to clobber the Brawlers even without star offensive lineman Jordan McCray, who signed with the Green Bay Packers a few days before the game.

And in the hours after the game ended, the team shattered yet another personal best.

"We already have twice as many tickets sold for the next two games," said MCU Park spokesman Billy Harner.

Is there any stopping these gridiron juggernauts? Superfan Orlando says no way.

"I'm ready for another win next week," he said.

Brooklyn's mighty Bolts aim to continue the season-long winning streak tonight at 7:30 by taking down Omaha's lumbering Mammoths.

BP PARENT

Yes, I've got problems

I was talking to my dad on the phone recently, complaining as I often do about the difficulty of relationships and life's disappointments, and he — trying to make me feel better — scoffed at my complaints.

"It's because you don't have any real problems," he said.

I reeled slightly, but immediately agreed with him.

It's true. I don't have financial worries, I have two beautiful children, a husband who, for some reason, still loves me after 20-odd years, an adorable dog, and a Park Slope duplex.

But after we hung up I started to get angry. The sad truth is, everyone has real problems, at least real to them, the things they have to get up every morning to deal with, the things that make them worried or sad.

In a family, it is crucial to be cognizant of this, the reality of each individual, how every person has in their brain their own personal worries and wishes and ways of coping (or not coping, as the case may be at certain difficult times).

Of course, it is easy to look at other people — be it a celebrity in the tabloid or your own child across the table — and imagine that it must be nice to be them, that they have it so easy and good. But the mind is a very bizarre place, and no matter external circumstances, sometimes things can go very awry. Feeling understood is crucial.

I have to remember this when my preteen and teen whine or complain, and I look at them with faux sad eyes and play a wee violin with my fingers, as if they don't have real



Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

reason to be upset.

I need to be careful in those moments to be more understanding rather than sarcastic. After all, little problems that go ignored can often grow into bigger problems if they're not nipped in the bud, and I realize now with great clarity how minimizing other people's problems as not real just serves to shut them down.

It's funny, the same day I was told I had no "real" problems, my 13-year-old flew into a rage about some cookies he made that I had taken to give to friends. I didn't see what the big deal was, but I got very angry when the loud cursing rage began, and I started my own rant about the number of cookies I have made for him, and his friends, and the school, and how ungrateful he was, and on and on. Yelling, anger, and tears ensued, as well as the denial of a delicious fried chicken dinner at a new fave spot. Ugh.

It was not productive.

Justifiably or not, he felt sad about the cookies he made being gone, and I could have calmly said I understood and was sorry, but that I figured they were communal and I hadn't wanted them to go stale over the weekend.

Oh, and I guess I was also feeling angry about the "you have no real problems" comment — and was perfectly hyped up to play the martyr.

Still, I have to be so careful. I think it's easy for kids to ratchet up the "you don't understand" routine if in fact you don't look at things from their perspective — or at least try. And then where are we? On opposite sides, that's where.

In fact, we should be playing for the same team, a team on which grouches and gripes and all of those pathetic-seeming "problems" should be allowed to be aired without fear of being told you're silly.

SPACE...

Continued from page 1

The commercial space-travel industry has yet to lift off, so Final Frontier has not yet found a steady market for its gear. The partners have made five suits so far, one of which is in use by a Navy test pilot who flies a glider at extremely high altitudes, they said. In addition to charging folks looking for a taste of the Jetson life, they are also trying to develop revenue streams by applying elements of the suit technology to more common apparel, such as gloves worn by firefighters and clothing for extreme hikers.

A potential problem, on top of that little issue that nobody's buying the space suits now, is that Virgin Galactic, one of the commercial space-travel companies that seems to be closest to carrying customers into orbit, plans to do so sans space suit. The company's star ships are being designed to not need a full pressurized suit, which Southern thinks is kind of a rip-off, considering the flights will cost \$250,000.

"If you're going to pay all

this money, shouldn't you at least get to wear a space suit and feel like an astronaut?" he said. "To me that's the whole point."

Techno Files

There will be an Ebola hack-athon at New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering on Nov. 1 and 2. Hackers will focus on tools that could help the authorities better respond to an Ebola epidemic in the United States. Organizers are looking to help track contagion and send warnings.

... A Canarsie public school has launched an app to help school administrators communicate with students, staff, and parents. PS 115 developed the app with commercial partner WhizFish. It works on Androids and iPhones, displaying alerts, schedules, contact numbers, and a news feed.

... There will be an open-house tour of tech and creative companies in Dumbo on Nov. 6. Stops will include the Made in New York Media Center, Stinkdigital, and Armchair Studio.

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