INSIDE: GET THE RIGHT RESULTS WITH OUR CLASSIFIEDS SECTION



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HORROR IN SLOPE

Driver not immediately charged after hitting and killing two kids

By Colin Mixson

Prosecutors did not immediately charge a female motorist after she allegedly killed two children and sent two women — one pregnant — and a man to the hospital with injuries when she plowed her vehicle into the victims while they crossed Ninth Street at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope on Monday afternoon.

"This very tragic incident is under active investigation and we're looking into all aspects of this case," said a spokesman for District Attorney Eric

Seizures struck the driver at the time of the deadly crash, according to a lawenforcement source, who said the medical condition is investigators' best explanation for the carnage.

The woman remained emotionless after the collision that claimed the lives of the 1-year-old boy and 4-year-old girl, firing off text messages on her phone as paramedics loaded her into an ambulance, witnesses claimed.

"She had no emotion, no emotion at all," said bystander Jennifer Muniz, as she waited to speak with investigators following the horrific crash.

The driver was behind the wheel of a white Volvo sedan heading downhill on Ninth Street towards Fifth Avenue at 12:41 pm, when she allegedly ran a red light and slammed into the adults and children, according to witnesses.

Muniz claimed the motorist approached the intersection slowly, well after the light turned red, and then averted her eyes before accelerating into the victims making their way through the crosswalk.

'She just threw her head back, like she didn't want to see what she was about to do," said the eyewitness, who claimed she was about to cross the same intersection with a friend when the collision occurred.

The driver continued down Ninth Street towards Fourth Avenue following the crash, dragging one of the kids beneath her car, before colliding with a parked car halfway down the block, Muniz said.

Rescuers found the children dead at



A collision on Ninth Street in Park Slope wounded three adults and killed two children, one of whom was in a baby stroller that became lodged beneath the wheel of the white Volvo that cops said blew a red light.

the scene, according to a Police Department spokesman, who said paramedics rushed the two women and man to Methodist Hospital in critical, but nonlife-threatening, condition.

A mangled baby stroller lay beneath the Volvo's right-rear wheel following the crash, which left a visible trail of gore on the road beside a sneaker.

Bystanders, meanwhile, rushed to the wounded adults' and dying children's aid, according to Muniz.

"Everybody was crying, yelling, screaming," she recounted. "It looked like Armageddon."

Another witness said she was working on the second floor of a gym that overlooks the intersection when she spotted bodies littering the street below and ran to the scene fearing someone she knew was hurt.

maritan said she was shocked to find broker shows the 44-year-old driver her aunt — who lives in Red Hook there, not as a victim, but comforting the pregnant woman as she lay injured

"The only person moving was the lady trying to get up to check on her child, and my aunt was telling her 'please stay down, please stay down, please stay down," said Desireé Williams of her aunt, June Clark-Smith.

The pregnant woman with a wounded leg was covered in blood and drifting in and out of consciousness, according to Clark-Smith, who described the victim as hysterical with fear.

"She was crying, scared, everything. She was trying to get up," said Clark-Smith. "She was like, 'Oh god,' you know?

Surveillance footage the Brooklyn And upon her arrival, the good Sa- Paper obtained from a nearby insurance

a Staten Island resident, according to reports — approach the intersection as the light turned red, then slowly inch forward as pedestrians and vehicles began to cross Ninth Street before speeding into the women and children during a break in traffic, sending their bodies flying to the pavement.

Numerous traffic-watchdog and cyclist-advocacy groups demanded Mayor DeBlasio improve safety on Ninth Street hours after the crash, with some organizing a rally at 8:30 am on Tuesday outside the nearby YMCA, where Hizzoner works out each morning.

In 2016, a motorist fatally struck a 41-year-old man at the intersection of Ninth Street and Fifth Avenue, where 33 others have suffered traffic-related injuries since 2010, according to data from the city's Vision Zero initiative.



Mayor DeBlasio talked to street-safety activists outside his YMCA on Ninth Street on Tuesday morning, less than a day after two kids were killed by a driver a half-block away.

Anger at mayor

Facing crowd, Hizzoner calls for stiffer punishments on drivers

By Colin Mixson

Harsher penalties must be dealt to reckless drivers whose behavior behind the wheel results in tragic collisions, Mayor DeBlasio told a crowd that rallied to confront him Tuesday morning as he left his gym on the same Park Slope street where a driver hit and killed two children on Monday.

'If someone has shown because of their

actions they could endanger other human beings with a vehicle, and use that vehicle as a weapon, there should be more stringent penalties," Hizzoner said.

More than 100 traffic watchdogs converged on the Prospect Park YMCA on Ninth Street the day after a Staten Island woman drove her white Volvo sedan through a red light and into five pedestrians crossing that street at Fifth Avenue, killing 1-year-old Joshua Lew and 4-year-old Abigail Blumenstein, and injuring three others, including Blumenstein's pregnant mother, Tony Award-winning actress Ruthie Ann Miles.

The mayor emerged from the gym in workout gear shortly after 9 am, calling on state legislators to stiffen penal**PLUS: WHY CAR NUTS ARE LIKE GUN NUTS**

SEE PAGE 9

ties for lawbreaking motorists and for the installation of more speed cameras around the city in response to advocates demands for safety improvements at the site of the deadly crash.

But DeBlasio's solutions merely retaliate against already committed crimes, and fail to prevent collisions in advance by implementing traffic-calming measures on treacherous roadways like Ninth Street, an organizer of the rally told the mayor in response.

"I don't want cops to arrest my child's killer, I want my child not to be killed," Doug Gordon, who blogs about street safety on Brooklyn Spoke, said to DeBlasio.

Hours after the protest, investigators said the woman may have experienced a seizure at the time she accelerated into the victims, and Gordon admitted that

See MAYOR on page 9

It's going down

Aging BQE won't survive builder's approved excavation of Heights courtyard, locals claim

By Julianne Cuba

They want this plan to stay buried

Officials' approval of a developer's long-gestating proposal to dig up a tree-lined courtyard behind a Brooklyn Heights building to make way for an underground parking garage sandwiched against the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway could send the road's already crumbling triple cantilever crashing down before it is repaired, warned residents and their reps.

"Whatever work they are doing is threatening the integrity of the BQE," said Joel Kupferman, an attorney in charge of the New York Environmental Law and Justice Project, who is representing the building's tenants fighting the project along with lawyer Stephen Dobkin of Manhattan-based firm Collins, Dobkin and Miller, LLP.

The chief of builder Pinnacle Group, Joel Weiner - who owns the Riverside Apartments at the corner of Joralemon Street and Columbia place within the nabe's designated historic district - wants to excavate the complex's backyard to install 97 parking spots that would sit about 11 feet below the ground, according to the Department of Buildings.

But the project — which would also unfreeze some tenants' rents that were locked in place after the ca. 1890 building's previous landlord paved over part of its origi-

nal outdoor courtyard to add parking in the '90s — has sat in purgatory for much of the last decade, because it requires approval by both the city and the state's Division of Housing and Community Renewal.

State leaders panned the proposal back in 2009, but Weiner revised

location, among other tweaks -



his then Landmarks Commissionapproved plan — moving the entrance of the proposed garage afment heat up. Riverside tenants ter officials objected to its former are demanding Weiner halt work on the garage until a thorough en-

and the division eventually greenlit his scheme last December.

And the city's Buildings Department issued the developer a permit to start construction back in 2014, according to a spokesman. But as concerns

over the complicated city-led rehabilitation of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway's three-tiered seg-

Tenants of the Riverside Apartments in Brooklyn Heights claim its owner's plan to dig up a courtyard behind the complex in order to build an underground garage abutting the Brooklyn Queens-Expressway could cause the road to crumble before it's fixed, and demanded the state rescind its approval of the potentially perilous project.

vironmental study proves the job won't sabotage the Department of Transportation's impending repairs to the roadway.

"Of the utmost concern is the ple cantilever bridge wall," said We are at a loss as to why DOT has not acknowledged the risks posed by such a project."

The Transportation Department, however, didn't need to officially sign off on the parking-garage project since it falls within the jurisdiction of the Buildings Department, according to a ren.

The local transit leaders, however, reviewed the proposal anyway to ensure it complied with the agency's regulations, and gave it a thumbs up because they said it won't affect their engineers' expressway rehabilitation, which is still a few years off, she said.

"This project has been reviewed by NYC DOT, meets the guidelines previously mentioned. a spokesman for Weiner.

and should not impact the rehabilitation of the BQE," said a spokeswoman for the city agency. Weiner is still waiting for the

state's final go-ahead because the fact that the outer wall of our tenants association filed an adcourtyard is the actual BQE tri- ministrative appeal in January to combat the Division of Hous-Lenore Mitchell, who leads the Riverside Tenants Association. ing and Community Renewal's approval of the plan. A rep for the state-run division declined to comment on the issue, citing the pending appeal.

But if the division upholds its green light, Weiner can start digging immediately, and ultimately unfreeze those tenants' rents that haven't budged in decades which a rep for the builder said would initially decrease by about three percent — after finishing work on the garage and fully restoring the courtyard to a state that the rep claimed will surpass its current condition. "The plans for what goes on

top of it are a rather beautiful new courtyard with considerably more trees," said former Brooklyn Heights Councilman Ken Fisher,

State signals support for faster BQE fix

Design-build process 'essential' to city-led job, Cuomo says

By Julianne Cuba

Brooklyn Paper

Now it's getting somewhere! The streamlined design-build process is integral to the city's repairs to a crumbling portion of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, according to Gov. Cuomo, who this week signaled his support for the process that would fast-track the fix — months after local pols and residents began demanding he authorize the procedure in his budforced to send the thousands of bigrigs that travel the road daily down local streets instead. "The Brooklyn-Queens Ex-

pressway is a very big construction project. The city planning to move traffic throughout the construction period is by definition problematic," Cuomo said on Tuesday during an unrelated conference call with reporters about the next day's snowstorm. "Downtown

get so city transit honchos aren't Brooklyn is already congested, so tractors for each phase. He greendesign-build for the BQE I think is essential. Even with design-build it's going to be a real problem in terms of traffic."

The governor has long maintained his general support for the process that state law requires his authorization for local governments to use, which would request one bid for the expressway makeover's design and construction instead of hiring unique con-

lit it for several state-run projects, including the construction of the recently built Kosciuszko Bridge and a new span that will bear the Cuomo name.

But he's repeatedly left advocates hanging when asked specifically whether he'll allow the Department of Transportation to use design-build in its reconstruction of the expressway's decaying triple

See **BQE** on page 3 tion last month



Gov. Cuomo this week said the design-build process is "essential" to repairing the BQE, to the delight of state and local lawmakers who rallied for the procedure's authoriza-

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Inn-ching along

Bossert Hotel's opening is postponed once again

By Julianne Cuba Brooklyn Paper

This old inn's rooms are still being serviced.

The developers restoring the swanky Bossert Hotel yet again postponed its longawaited reopening, pushing the luxe Brooklyn Heights lodge's debut to some time this summer while they secure a new operator after their previous candidate packed its bags.

Hotelier Fën Hotels—which runs the Dazzler Brooklyn in America's Downtown and a handful of other U.S. properties, along with dozens of inns across Latin America — is no longer setting up shop inside the Montague Street property, according to a rep for one of its new owners, who couldn't elaborate on what firms may take its place or when another will be chosen.

"We're in the process of picking one," said Stephen Allen, the man managing the makeover under developer David Bistricer of Clipper Equity, who co-owns the property with real-estate bigwig Joseph Chetrit. "We're kind of in the middle of negotiations so I can't really speak to that right now."

And modernizing the hotel built in 1909 — which sits near Hicks Street, within the

Landmarks Preservation Commission-protected Brooklyn Heights Historic District while preserving its historic feel is simply more time-consuming than anticipated, Allen said, necessitating a new debut date nearly five years after its owners first expected to welcome guests.

"The restoration of the hotel's architectural grandeur has proved to be a tremendous amount of work," said Allen. "All the new technology is designed to be hidden, and if it's not hidden it has to complement the elegant details.'

Bistricer and Chetrit in 2012 purchased the 280-room Bossert from the Jehovah's Witnesses, which once used the Italian Renaissance-style hotel to house its members, and promised to finish restoring the inn's pair of grand ballrooms, chandelier-covered lobby, and rooftop restaurant to their former glory by the next year.

But work delays postponed that reopening — along with subsequent ones slated for October 2016, which was nixed in part due to out-of-commission elevators, and September 2017, leaving locals to wonder what's taking so long.

The president of civic group the Brooklyn Heights Associ-

The Bossert's owners are seeking a new operator, and the hotel won't reopen before this summer.

ation told a crowd of curious residents at the organization's Feb. 28 meeting that the latest delay was due to a blaze inside the property, which she said developers most recently hoped to reopen last December before pushing its debut to this summer.

"Apparently there were some fires in the building that affected the timing of inspections, so things were delayed," said Martha Bakos Dietz, relaying information she received from the head of the nabe's business-boosting group, the Montague Street Business Improve-

But no flames tore through the hotel, according to Allen, who said tests of its alarms may have sparked the rumors. And a Fire Department spokesman confirmed that none of New York's Bravest rushed to put out an inferno at the property in the last six months.

Contractors are fast at work on the finishing touches to the immaculate inn once known as Kings County's Waldorf-Astoria — where the Brooklyn Dodgers famously celebrated its 1955 World Series win according to Allen, who said he hopes the latest setback is the renovation's last.



ON THE RADIO: **Talking safer truck driving**

By Moses Jefferson

Parents beware! Drivers behind the wheel of private garbage trucks are so overworked they can barely keep their eyes open near the ends of their shifts — which usually happen when kids are heading off to school, so parents better keep a sharp eye out, a union representative for workers at Action Carting warned on

Brooklyn Paper Radio.

"If you're taking your kids to school in the morning, I would pay attention to green garbage trucks, because you have a fleet of falling-asleep drivers come seven o'clock." Teamsters union rep Allen Henry told hosts Vince DiMiceli and Anthony Rotunno.

Henry, who joined Tuesday's show with his namesake son (an Action Carting

"helper" who doesn't drive but picks up the garbage while riding on the back of the company's trucks), was following up on the Paper's historic "Blind Spots" coverage that focuses on what the mayor's so-called "Vi-

That coverage was ratcheted up on Monday in the wake of the deaths of two children in Park Slope, who were hit by a Staten Island driver while crossing a neighborhood street.

sion Zero" plan misses.

Henry claimed the only way to solve the problem of overworked truckers would be to pass the mayor's zoned-hauling bill, which would divide the city into regions and limit the area a company could cover.

With a zoning system, you cut the truck miles down dramatically, the drivers work less hours," he said.

Brooklyn Paper Radio is recorded and podcast live every Tuesday at 4 pm.

HEALTHCARE PROFILE

Maimonides Scores Better than Manhattan Hospitals in Heart Valve Surgery

The New York State Department of Health just published its annual report on patient outcomes for Adult Cardiac Surgery. It will come as no surprise to New Yorkers that the news for the Maimonides Heart & Vascular Institute is once again outstanding.

The report shows mortality rates for several types of cardiac surgery. In the heart valve surgery category, the State commended Maimonides as one of four hospitals with exceptional outcomes. More significantly, the Maimonides cardiac surgery team achieved better rates than any hospital in Manhattan. This is the second year in a row that they were singled out for excellent results.

According to Kenneth D. Gibbs, Maimonides President & CEO, "We've been successful in large part because world-class doctors choose to practice here, and have built outstanding programs here. This is teamwork at its best."

"We work together daily to provide the very best options for each and every patient," explains Dr. Greg Ribakove, Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Maimonides. "It's a privilege to collaborate with so many talented professionals and deliver this level of excellence to the communities we serve."

The Maimonides Heart & Vascular Institute encompasses experts in cardiology, vascular and endovascular surgery, anesthesiology, interventional cardiology, radiology, electrophysiology, critical care—and cardiothoracic surgery. Physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, specialized technicians and therapists, and other healthcare professionals collaborate with referring physicians on the care of each and every patient.

How the NYS Reports Are Created

The process of reporting, sorting and risk-adjusting this information takes time, so the newest report reflects cases performed in 2015. And, in order to give consumers a better idea of the true level of expertise of any one hospital, the state presents the data for both a single year and a three-year period (2013 - 2015). The three-year report helps eliminate "blips" in the data when a statistical cluster of cases—good or bad—causes unusual rates for any one year.

New York State indicates significantly betterthan-expected outcomes with a double-asterisk. The prestigious ** designation received by Maimonides was for the three-year period of 2013 – 2015.



Drs. Jacob Shani (left), Chair of Cardiology, and Greg Ribakove (right), Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

About the Maimonides Heart & Vascular

The Maimonides Heart & Vascular Institute has the collective expertise to offer patients the latest strategies for diagnosing and treating the full spectrum of cardiovascular disorders. Among the many elite programs and procedures are:

- TAVR Procedure Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement allows cardiac experts to repair or replace a faulty heart valve without major
- LVAD Destination Therapy The "bridge to transplant" is now a permanent option for Heart Failure patients who don't qualify for transplant surgery
- Aortic Aneurysm Repair Virtual Reality Simulation allows vascular surgeons to rehearse each repair in advance, dramatically lowering surgical risks
- A-Fib Convergent Therapy Atrial Fibrillation, a dangerous heart rhythm disorder that increases the risk of strokes, is eliminated

by radio-ablation inside and outside the heart Long known for excellence in cardiovascular care, the Heart & Vascular Institute at Maimonides is among the most distinguished in the nation for outstanding patient outcomes. To learn more, call 718-283-8902 or visit www.maimonidesmed.org/heart.

Maimonides Medical Center is nationally recognized for clinical excellence across all major specialties. Our accomplished physicians are known for innovation and strengthening our teaching and research programs. With 711 beds, the Medical Center is dedicated to bringing patients the most advanced care available—anywhere. Maimonides continues to grow in response to evolving models of care that better serve patients and families, and is an affiliate of Northwell Health. To learn more, please visit www. $maimonides med. org. \ -- Maimonides \ Medical \ Center$

About faces

Local artist bringing new three-faced art to park

By Julianne Cuba Brooklyn Paper

They're the new faces of Fort Greene Park!

A massive sculpture featuring three carved visages will soon greet visitors to Fort Greene's eponymous meadow, the Department of Parks and recreation announced on Feb. 28.

The green-space agency handed \$10,000 to local artist Tanda Francis - who created a larger-than-life memorial for borough son and hip-hop legend Biggie Smalls in 2016—to make her 14-anda-half-foot piece, "Adorn Me," which combines elements of traditional African sculpture with references to Victorianand colonial-era dress, and will serve as a new monument to black culture in the nabe when it is installed this summer, according to the artist.

"I'm using the overall form of a large African head and incorporating contrasting elements of adornment themes of skin scarification practiced in West African cultures, and decorative elements seen in Victorian ornamentation," said Francis, who lives in Park Slope. "I seek to address the demographic of peo-

are often underrepresented in public art, especially in terms of the current historic artwork featured in and around Fort Greene Park.'

Francis, who used to live in Clinton Hill, said she wanted to create a powerful and positive image for the African-American community in Fort Greene, which transformed from a once mainly workingclass, low-income neighborhood into a largely affluent, white-collar community. "Being an African-Amer-

ican woman working, speaking my voice, is something I don't see often in the public space," she said. "The work I'm producing is a positive representation of people from African descent.

The sculpture will stand in a to-be-determined spot inside the green space from this June through next May, and its authentic representation of African culture is a remedy to the recent controversy surrounding some culturally insensitive monuments throughout the city, according to the Parks Department.

Francis is one of 10 artists who received grant money from clothing retailer Uniqlo



Artist Tanda Francis will install her sculpture "Adorn Me" in Fort Greene Park in June.

Maimonides

to create artworks that will be installed in a handful of city meadows, including Bedford-Stuvvesant's Herbert Von King Park, which local artist Roberto Visani will adorn with his own original piece, according to the

And elsewhere in Fort Greene Park, the Parks Department is moving along with its polarizing plan to

transform the meadow's entry at Myrtle Avenue and St. Edwards Street into a grand corner entrance leading to the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument, according to a spokeswoman, who said the project's design phase is expected to wrap this spring before the agency begins a nine-month procurement process followed by the start of construction.

Mend the gap

Transit workers fix chasm that has long plaqued Boerum Hill subway station

Bv Julianne Cuba Brooklyn Paper

It's a hole new day! Transit workers are patching up a once-gaping chasm in a wall of Boerum Hill's Bergen Street station that nauseated commuters for weeks while putrid odors wafted from it before a miniature glacier formed inside

The tiny iceberg's natural splendor mesmerized some straphangers, but the shiny new tiles now covering the hole are a far more appealing sight for riders of the beleaguered subway system, according to the man whose nose first sniffed out the rank rupture.

"I'm glad that straphangers are finally able to have a normal, clean platform while waiting for their delayed train," said Park Sloper Marcus Baram. "I don't know why it took so long.

Baram first whiffed the foul stench emanating from the cavity in a wall along the









hole in a wall of the Bergen Street train station.

station's Manhattan-bound Fand G-train platform in early December, and within weeks, frigid temperatures and a furious winter storm froze ice in place within it, masking its mysterious funk.

Transit leaders pledged to repair the leak they said caused the chasm to form, but first had to find the source

Metropolitan Transportation Authority workers in late January slapped a wooden plank over the crater, concealing its unknown contents and smells.

And last week, three hard hats were on site busily replacing the cracked and dirty tiles surrounding the gap with new gleaming ones after scrubbing the rest of the area clean.

Authority leaders believe wet stuff that oozed up from down below created the rupture, and said employees are still putting finishing touches on the good-as-new wall. "The source of the leak is

believed to be groundwater intrusion," said an agency spokeswoman. "The work is ongoing.' And if it weren't for Baram's sensitive sense of smell,

straphangers might still be bedeviled by the mysterious hole.

"We get results," he said. "I'm glad it worked out."



Brooklyn Paper FIND YOUR WORLD ONLINE BROOKLYNDADER COM

An uphill battle

Citi Bike struggles to stock docks in elevated nabes

It's all downhill from these neighborhoods.

Citi Bike users in some hilly parts of Brooklyn are pedaling their rented twowheelers downward, but not back up again, according to a honcho of the program, who said riders frequently fail to re-dock bikes at stations in Prospect and Crown Heights because they're located on higher ground.

There's higher elevation in those areas and, not surprisingly, bikes tend to go downhill," said Collin Waldoch, who manages programs for the Citibank-sponsored rental service and lives in Prospect Heights.

Although neither neighborhood boasts the borough's highest peak — that honor belongs to Green-Wood Cemetery's 194-foot-tall Battle Hill the stretch of Eastern Parkway that cuts through Prospect and Crown Heights, at 164 feet, towers over other lowland nabes such as Downtown and Dumbo that local cyclists commute to on the road, according to topo-

graphic maps. And the incline — coupled with riders' tendency to use Citi Bikes in the morning on their way to work, but switch to other forms of public transportation for their evening commutes — makes it harder for the service to refill docking stations in the resi-

"In general, we see there is

But Citi Bike bigwigs recently announced an initiative to supplement the rental service's in-house bicyclearea, in which it offers memcorps — who earn points toincentives to return the rides to locations in Prospect and Crown Heights.

The special program, entitled Operation Edge Explorers, gives participants until March 16 to earn up to five times the amount of points they normally would for dropping off bikes at empty docks in the nabes, Waldoch said.
"We saw this as an area

that can be challenging because of those factors," he said. "It's neat to harness the power of those incentives, and the power of Bike Angels to help us in these more difficult areas."

interested Anyone

dential neighborhoods where **By Colin Mixson** it last year debuted plans to

install roughly 400 new bicycles, Waldoch said.

more commuting in the morning than in the evening," he

restocking operation in the bers who join its Bike Angels wards membership renewals by ferrying two-wheelers to understocked docks — extra

joining the Operation Edge Explorers initiative must first purchase an annual Citi Bike membership and enroll in the free Bike Angels program at bikeangels.citibikenvc.com.

BQE.

Continued from page 1

cantilever. And Cuomo failed to authorize the procedure in both his first and revised drafts of the state budget, so his statement indicates he is moving in the right direction as his April 1 deadline to sign-off on a final budget looms, according to a Brooklyn Heights lawmaker in favor of the process.

"What's different is that this is more direct, and it's about doing it in the context of the city and some of its priority projects," said Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon. "The governor is signaling that he will fight

for this." Before the call on which Cuomo recognized how design-build could help the expressway's repair, his staffer Alphonso David penned a Feb. 25 letter to Council Speaker Corey Johnson (D-Manhattan) that urged city officials to seek approval for the process in specific cases — including the road's rehab and other projects such as closing the jails on Rikers Island and replacing them with new facilities throughout the five boroughs, and making muchneeded renovations to the city's

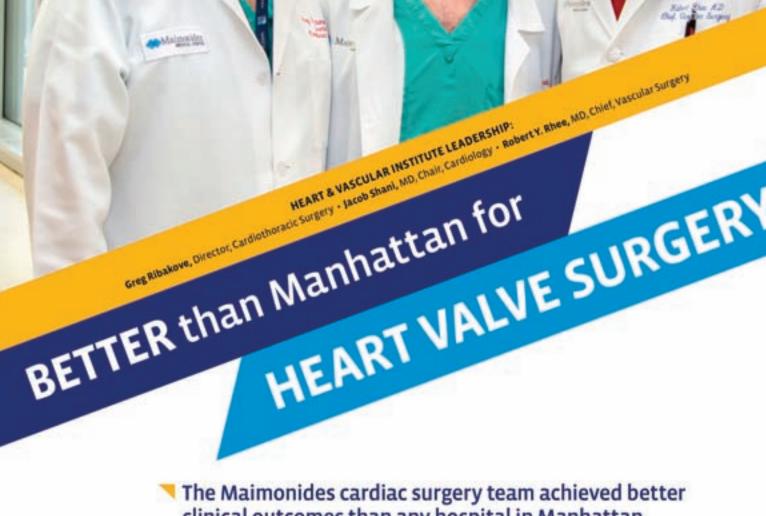
public-housing complexes, according to the New York Daily News, which first reported on Cuomo's support.

But design-build advocates said they aren't taking a victory lap until the governor officially approves a final budget that authorizes using the procedure to fix the expressway, a permission that will cut about \$113 million from the job's current \$1.9-billion price tag, and accelerate the reconstruction of the 15-mile stretch of the road between Atlantic Avenue and Sands Street by at least two years, supporters say.

"Of course I'm worried," Simon said. "I'm not going to rest until it's done."

The governor's public support for the streamlined process followed a Feb. 27 meeting where Transportation Department bigwigs presented a draft of their expressway-repair plan, which locals have until March 12 to submit comment on by e-mail or snail mail.

Check out the city's proposed repairs for the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway at www.bqe-i278.com/ en. E-mail feedback to info@bae-i278.com, or mail it to BQE Project Team, 605 3rd Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10158. All comments due by March 12.



The Maimonides cardiac surgery team achieved better clinical outcomes than any hospital in Manhattan

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*New York State Department of Health, As of January 2018



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tion near Saint Edwards Street

returned the bike to the sta-

tion near Myrtle Avenue

around 4:15 pm and heard

it click into place, but was

contacted by the rental ser-

vice saying it was never re-

turned. And when she went

to go check 30 minutes later,

authorities the bike was never

Villainous visitor

phone and laptop from his

Clinton Avenue apartment

cops he let the cur into his

apartment near Union Street

around 5:30 am then went to

bed, and when he woke up

at 7 am, he noticed the punk

had stolen his iPhone and Ap-

A nogoodnik swiped

a senior's bag she accidentally left on a Fulton

Street bus-stop bench on

on March 1, police said.

A sneak swiped a guy's

The 38-year-old victim told

A Citi Bike employee told

it was gone, cops said.

docked.

ple laptop.

Bagged

The woman told cops she

on Feb. 18, police said.

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-Dumbo-Boerum Hill-Downtown

A snake struck a guy in the head inside a Schermerhorn Street subway station on March 4, police said.

The 31-year-old victim, who is a Metropolitan Transportation Authority conductor, told police he was inside the station near Hoyt Street around 7 pm on a Manhattan-bound C train departing the terminal when the villain socked him in the head.

In a split second

A good-for-nothing walked away with a woman's bag inside a clothing store on Fulton Street on Feb. 26, po-

The victim told officers she put down her bag containing her Guatemalan passport, New York identification card, and debit card on a rack while she was shopping in the store near Bridge Street around 6:30 pm.

She then turned around for one minute, and when she went to pick it up, the bag was gone, officials said.

Jewel thief

A nogoodnik swiped thousands of dollars worth of iewelry from a woman's apartment on Henry Street sometime between Feb. 15

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and March 1, cops said.

The 29-year-old victim said the baddie took her earrings, rings, and necklaces from her apartment near Joralemon Street while she was gone, but there were no signs of forced entry, police said.

88TH PRECINCT Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Watch it!

A wretch stole a guy's watch from his wrist while the two were inside a Washington Avenue hotel room on March 4, officers said.

The 21-year-old victim told police he met the rogue at a Manhattan club that night and she brought him back to the hotel near Greene Avenue around 3:30 am. When they got inside the room, the crook told him, "Your watch is bothering me," and took it off him and put it in his shoes. cops said.

The weasel then ran off with the guy's shoes and his rose-gold Rolex watch, according to authorities.

Bye-cycle

Some crook stole a wom-

The 68-year-old woman told authorities she left the bag on the bench near Lafayette Avenue and then hopped on the B25 bus around 5 pm. And when she returned the next day at 2 pm, her bag with her passport, driver's license, and two credit cards inside was gone, according to cops. A stranger contacted the woman to return it to her, but never did, police said.

Grab and go

A sneak stole a guy's credit cards and glasses from inside his car parked on S. Portland Avenue on March 4,

cops said. The 46-year-old told police the malefactor broke into his car parked between Hanson and S. Elliott places around 10 am, and when he returned at 10:48 am, his four credit cards and glasses were gone.

Rode away

A crook took off with a guy's motorcycle parked on Greene Avenue sometime bewteen Feb. 24 and 26, officers said.

The 28-year-old told police he parked and locked his 2011 DUC two-wheeler near Adelphi Street around 6 pm on Feb. 24, and when he returned for it on Feb. 26 a little after midnight, it was gone.

— Julianne Cuba

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

Brutal assault

A lowlife tore out a chunk of a woman's hair during an argument on a train near Union Street on Feb. 23.

The victim told police that she was on the Manhattanbound R train near Fourth Avenue around 9:05 am when she asked a man sitting beside her to move into a different train car.

The pair then got into an argument, which escalated when the lout shoved her onto a row of seats across from her, and pulled her hair, causing a chunk of it to rip out, according to officials.

Booze and lose

A bandit stole a beer from a Ninth Street store on Feb. 20, cops said.

The thief entered the shop near Fifth Avenue just after midnight and took a can of beer before fleeing the

Harsh words

A menace threatened an employee at an Atlantic Avenue market on Feb. 20.

The victim told cops that he was at the store around 8 am when, for some unknown reason, the troublemaker followed him around the market and began making threats toward him.

Cops said the nogoodnik told the victim "I will kill you. I'm from Crown Heights," and he feared for his life.

Not so fast

Cops busted a man who they said tried to shoplift seval items from a Ninth Street pharmacy on Feb. 22.

The suspect walked into the drugstore near Sixth Avenue around 9:35 am and took an estimated \$93 worth of items, which he stuffed into his waist band and left the store without paying for, police said.

A pharmacy clerk pointed out the suspect to officers and the items he took were recovered an hour later, according to authorities.

Would-be feast

Officers cuffed a man who they said stole an estimated \$138 worth of groceries at a Fifth Avenue supermarket on Feb. 23.

Cops said the suspect entered the market near Baltic Street around around 9:46 am and placed four packs

dogs, cheese, a bag of shrimp, and a bouquet of flowers in his shopping cart, and left the store without paying.

Police apprehended the 60-year-old suspect and recovered all the items.

Litterbug

Some brute assaulted a man for telling him not to litter in front of a Park Place eatery on Feb. 22.

The victim told police that he was at the restaurant near Flatbush Avenue around 7:39 pm when he asked the litterbug to pick up trash he dropped on the ground.

Instead, the nogoodnik spat on and attacked the man, leaving a bruise on his lip, before fleeing, police said.

Alexandra Simon

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens-

Cobble Hill-Red Hook Man fires gun

Cops cuffed a man who they said fired a gun at

someone on Bush Street on March 3. Police said the Red Hook man shot the gun three times in the direction of someone else between Hicks and Co-

lumbia streets at 4:57 pm. Officers later arrested the suspect and charged him with criminal use of a firearm. reckless endangerment, and menacing.

Car gone A good-for-nothing stole a

man's car right out from under his nose on Court Street on March 3. The victim said he left his

green Toyota running near Atlantic Avenue at 11:58 pm. When he headed back towards the car, he saw a man in glasses get in and drive off, police said. The man chased after the car, but lost sight of it as it went towards Pacific Street, he told cops. He said his iPhone 7-Plus, three credit cards, and \$1,175 were in the — Adam Lucente

72ND PRECINCT

Sunset Park-Windsor Terrace

Vicious attack

A brute struck a man with an umbrella, causing an abrasion to his left forearm, and threatened his life when he was driving in his car with his child inside on Greenwood

Avenue on March 2. The man told police he was driving from E. Fifth Street towards E. Fourth Street around 6:45 pm when he heard a car nearby. When he stopped to check, the lout ran up to him and hit him with the umbrella and then commanded that he "get out of here or I'll kill you in front of your kid," police reported.

The man got into his car and drove away, he told

Umbrella assault

Police arrested a trio of men who they said punched a man and then struck him with an umbrella, causing a large laceration on the right side of his upper rib cage, on Fifth Avenue on March 4.

The man was at 41st Street at 2 am when the group punched him in his face and body and then smacked him with the umbrella before fleeing in a car, cops said.

What a tool A perp stole and cloned an

18th Street resident's business card to spend nearly \$2,300 on tools at a home-improvement store on Feb. 28. The resident, who lives be-

tween Third and Fourth avenues, told officers the theft occurred between 2 and 2:40 pm. — Julianne McShane

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Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings (718) 260-2500

March 9-15, 2018



Playtime is over: The Black Sabbath cover band Mac Sabbath will melt faces and cheese at Brooklyn Bazaar on March 11.

Meat the band

Mac Sabbath merges heavy metal and hamburgers

By Winnie McCroy

for Brooklyn Paper

heir songs can be a little cheesy. burger mascots will serve up some prime cuts of fast food critique at a Greenpoint concert this weekend. The humorous McDonald's-themed Black Sabbath cover band Mac Sabbath, playing at Brooklyn Bazaar on March 11, will blast black metal riffs while screaming about genetically modified foods and Monsanto at the show. Despite their unusual appearance, the musical mutated mascots have a lofty mission, according to their manager.

music and food were still genuine," said Mac Sabbath manager Mike Odd.

mer the Cat Burglar, purple bass player Grimalice, and tusked guitarist Slayer Mac-Cheeze, is not all empty calories — the members can really shred. Mac Sabbath's irreverent shows are elaborate confections that mix raucous comedy with borderlinehorrific theatrics like "a smoking grill, laser-eyed clowns, bouncing burgers, and magical surprises," said Odd.

'It's an arena-sized theatrical rock show framed onto a club-sized stage," said Odd.

"To bring the world back to a time when "It has to be seen to be believed."

The band recently released its first album—after a fashion. The one-song Flexithe members of Black Sabbath are big fans The band, composed of demented clown disc of the song "Pair-A-Buns"—a parody A bizarre band of heavy metal ham- and lead vocalist Ronald Osbourne, drum- of Sabbath's "Paranoid" — comes inside a coloring book available for \$15 at the band's website. But good luck finding a way to listen to it, said Odd.

"If you don't come from the '70s, a Flexidisc is like a child's toy version of a vinyl record single," said Odd. "It's flexible and does not play very well, but if you throw a couple 25-cent pieces on it and Scotch tape it to your record player, you might hear some 'music.'

Amazingly, the band's name has not

garnered any blowback from the McDonald's corporation. And according to Odd, too, even posting Mac Sabbath's live "Frying Pan" video (a sendup of the seminal "Iron Man") on their Facebook and Twitter feeds.

The band is currently touring with Star Wars-themed heavy metal band Galactic Empire, on the "I Got a Bad Feeling About This Tour'

Mac Sabbath at Brooklyn Bazaar (150 Greenpoint Ave. between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street in Greenpoint, www.bkbazaar.com). March 11 at 7 pm.



Mamma and child: Netherlands-based artist Geertje Geertsma's piece from her series "Mammalia."

Beauty and the breasts

New art exhibit celebrates nursing mothers

By Julianne Cuba Brooklyn Paper

his art is all natural!

Artists from all over the world will bust out their depictions of breastfeeding for "The Art of Breastfeeding: Modern Narratives of Motherhood," an exhibit opening in a Gowanus gallery on March 10. The show's co-curator said that, as an artist and a mother of three, she wanted to create a safe space to explore a beautiful. natural activity that is often banished from the public sphere, she said.

This is something that's sorely lacking in our everyday life as modern moms, very few representation of breastfeeding in a modern context," said Leigh Pennebaker, who put together the show with MF Gallery's director Martina Secondo Russo. "I've been breastfeeding for 11 years nonstop, I'm a passionate breastfeeding advocate and really engaged in the online community that is all about empowering breastfeeding womenwe don't have to put up with being harassed, told to stop, that kind of thing.'

The exhibit includes work from more than 24 artists, including performance artist Jess Dobkin, known for her piece "The Lactation Station," which invited people to taste donated breast milk, visual artist Aimee Gilmore, who has created "milkscapes," and cartoonist Lucy Knisley, who has an upcoming graphic novel about par-

Not all of the paintings, photos, or sculptures glorify the act of nursing — some take a political stance, or discuss the troubles some women experience while trying to breastfeed, said Pennebaker.

"They're not all this glowing celebration, some things depict that wonderful

connection and joy and beauty, but others delve into ambivalence or ambiguity or struggles moms are confronted with," Mixing motherhood and femininity with

art is no titillating new development, said Pennebaker - in fact, it has long been depicted in religious artwork.

"In art history there's a plethora of images going back hundreds, thousands of

years that celebrate the maternal and fertility goddesses and breastfeeding," said Pennebaker. "It's a really common thing, and a lot of religious art across all religious backgrounds, things like the Virgin Mary. It's kind of a universal symbol of fertility and abundance.

And the show — which will be open by appointment through April 22 after its March 10 opening — is not just for mothers or even just for women, said Penne-

"We just hope a lot of people from the community come out, it's very relevant to everyone, not just moms - but parents and grandparents, single people, it's important

to just see this happening," she said. A portion of the exhibit's sales will go towards La Leche League, an international group that educates women about breast-

feeding. "The Art of Breastfeeding" at MF Gallery (213 Bond St. between Baltic and Butler streets in Gowanus, www.mfgallery. net). Opening reception March 10, 7–10

Beach read

The book is a sail down memory lane.

A Pulitzer-winning author and former Brooklynite will launch his first children's book at the Brooklyn Public Library on March 13. Junot Diaz



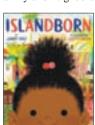
said that his picture book "Islandborn," about a young girl who must rely on her family's memories of the island where she was born, was inspired by his own family's journey from the Dominican Republic to the United States.

"I had very strong and indelible memories of [the Do-

minican], but I have family members who came over so young that they have no recollection, and I always felt that was kind of a curious place to be, to have been born in a place but not to recall it, and then to live surrounded by everyone else's memories," said Diaz, who emigrated to New Jersey when he was six years old. He lived in Boerum Hill in the early 1990s and now teaches at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In "Islandborn," illustrated by Leo Espinosa, Lola goes to school in the Dominican-heavy Washington Heights neighborhood on the distant isle of Manhattan, where her family and neighbors

tell her about the festive music, sweet mangoes, sandy beaches, and colorful houses that fill their home island. Others describe a powerful, metaphorical monster, and the hurricane that drove many of them to flee. Diaz included those darker memories to make the text more realistic,



and to inspire young readers to stand up to political oppression, wherever they come from.

"The idea that there's only going to be nostalgic, warm memories — that people only have this positive connection to a place — struck me as deeply unrealistic," he said. "I think it's important to recall that many of us come from communities that are defined by our confrontations with political monsters, and I would hope the book functions on a deep level as a tutorial for fighting them."

His debut book for youngsters is an homage to New York City, he said, but he is glad to return to the better borough to kick off his month-long tour.

"When I think about this book, I think about the fact that I miss New York City," he said. "I lived in Brooklyn a long time, and I have sentimental feelings for it.'

Junot Diaz at the Brooklyn Public Library Central Branch (10 Grand Army Plaza at Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights, www.bklynlibrary. org). March 13 at 6 pm. \$20-\$25 (includes a copy of the book). - Julianne McShane

MORE BOOKS!

Reading picks

Word's pick: "Calamities" by Renee

This collection of essays poems — gives shape to the act of creation for the artist-as-writer or writer-as-artist. Always experimental, but never exclusionary, Renee Gladman's writing is open, reflective, and sublime. I wanted to read "Calamities" as soon as I woke up and I wanted it to sing me to sleep at the end of the day. Gladman

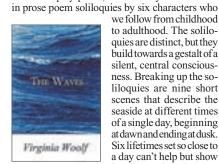
is my dream writer.



- Mary Thompson, Word [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383– 0096, www.wordbookstores.com]

Greenlight Bookstore's

"The Waves" by Virginia Woolf
"The Waves" may be Woolf's strangest work, but I intend that as a compliment. Woolf called the book a play-poem, and the story within is told



quies are distinct, but they build towards a gestalt of a silent, central consciousness. Breaking up the soliloquies are nine short scenes that describe the seaside at different times of a single day, beginning at dawn and ending at dusk. Six lifetimes set so close to a day can't help but show just how tethered we are

we follow from childhood

to adulthood. The solilo-

to time — and how untethered it is from us. This experimental novel is a joy to experience.

- Melissa Hohl, Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, www.greenlightbookstore.com].

Community Bookstore's pick: "Craeft" by Alexander Langlands

In his new book, subtitled "An Inquiry Into the Origins and True Meaning of Traditional Crafts," archaeologist Alexander Langlands explores the material culture

of medieval Europe and the domestic labor that was required to create it. From weaving and beekeeping to pottery and thatching, Langlands traces traditions which exist today as hobbies or quaint pastimes back to their origins, creating a compelling picture of our changing relationship



with labor and technology, and of domestic and public space. The book is impressive in its ability to use historical examples to give us a fuller picture of our own time.

 Samuel Partal, Community Bookstore [43] Seventh Ave. between Carroll Street and Garfield Place in Park Slope, (718) 783–3075, www. communitybookstore.net].

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NHERE TO G

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY

March 10



Jazzed up

Brooklyn jazz singer and songwriter Alicia Olatuja, who performed as a soloist with the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir at Obama's second inauguration, returns to her home borough, belting out a selection of tunes from her upcoming album "Intuition: Songs from the Minds of Women."

8 pm at Kumble Theater at Long Island University [DeKalb Avenue at Flatbush avenue Downtown, (718) 488ater.org]. \$30.

SUNDAY

March 11

Per-sisters Former First Daughter Chelsea Clinton will read from and dis-

cusses her new picture book "She Persisted Around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History," along with illustrator Alexandra Boiger. The book showcases British author J.K. Rowling, Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzai, and Marie Curie, along with 10 others.

5 pm at Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (10 Grand Army Plaza, at Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights, www. bklynpubliclibrary.org).



TUESDAY

March 13



town

You can still get tickets to Little Cinema's immersive presentation of "Basquiat." The biopic about the celebrated New York painter, which features rock icon David Bowie as Andy Warhol, will get live dance numbers, aerial performances, live music from Basquiat's friend Brian Kelly, and video projections. With another showing on March 14.

8 pm at House of Yes [2 Wyckoff Ave at Jefferson Street in Bushwick, (646) 838–4937, www.house ofyes.org]. \$30-\$45.

WEDNESDAY

March 14

Call me Al Celebrate Einstein's

139th birthday with science, history, puppets, and beer! The group Astronomy on Tap will host "Our Friend Albert," an evening of quick lectures from four different astro-scientists, intermixed with scenes from a puppet show about Einstein and his wife, titled "Friends Call Me Albert."

8 pm at Littlefield (635 Sackett St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus, www.littlefieldnyc.com). \$10.



THURSDAY March 15



Go-go grandma!

Magician Tanya Solomon hosts Force Majeure Vaudeville, a monthly showcase of bizarre talent. Tonight's edition will feature a pair sex-positive rapping grandmothers (Fantasy Grandma, pictured), a hat juggler, a flex dancer, a strongwoman, gender-shredding burlesque artist Poison Ivy, and more.

9 pm at Cobra Club (6 Wyckoff Ave. between Jefferson and Troutman streets in Bushwick), www.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, MARCH 9

ART, FREE FRIDAY'S "ARTISANAL RE-TENTIVE!": An evening exploration of Brooklyn's inexorable artisanal identity. **Free**. 5 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222–4111], www.brooklynhis-

THEATER, "ASSASSINS": Theater 2020 presents Stephen Sondheim's musical about figures who tried to take out U.S. Presidents. \$40 (\$30 seniors and students). 8 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489–5200], www.sfc.edu.

www.stc.edu.

MUSIC, "THE BROBOT JOHNSON

EXPERIENCE": A sci-fi hip-hop solo concert and concept piece about the origins of a future race of hip-hop androids. \$20–\$25. 8 pm. Bushwick Starr (207 Starr St. between Irving and Wikeff avenue in Bushwick). and Wykoff avenues in Bushwick), www.thebushwickstarr.org.

MUSIC, BROOKLYN CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY: The Brooklyn Heights group performs work by Haydn, Sibelius, and Franck. \$30 (\$20 students). 8 pm. Chapel at First Unitarian Church [119 Pierrepont St. between Clinton St. and Monroe Place in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 858–0718], www.brooklynchamber

musicsociety.org.
MUSIC, CHOIRFLY: The a capella band sings about Harry Potter, Star Wars, and other nerdy stuff. \$5 suggested donation. 8 pm. The Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in

DANCE "MOODS": A selection of work by dance pioneer Anna Sokolow. \$25 (\$18 students and seniors) 8 pm. Actors Fund Arts Center (160 Schermerhorn St. between Smith and Hoyt streets Downtown), sokolow2018.bpt.me.

NIGHTLIFE, MR(S). BROOKLYN COM-PETITION, ROUND ONE: Acid Betty hosts the first round of the borough-wide drag queen competi-tion. \$20 (\$15 in advance). 10 pm. Secret Project Robot (1186 Broadway between Lafayette Avenue and Van Buren Street in Williamsburg), www. mrsbknyc.com



Floating on air: The perfectly composed Renaissance painting "Ascension of the Ball" predicts the March 13 match between the Brooklyn Nets and the Toronto Raptors

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SAT, MARCH 10 SPORTS, 2018 ACC MEN'S BAS-

KETBALL TOURNAMENT FI-NALS: \$55. 8:30 pm.

SUN, MARCH 11

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS V PHILADELPHIA 76ERS: \$26-\$3,000, 7:30 pm.

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS V TO-RONTO RAPTORS: \$26-\$3,000.

THU MARCH 15

SPORTS, NEW YORK ISLANDERS V WASHINGTON CAPITALS: \$15-\$400.7 pm.

FRI, MARCH 16

MUSIC, DEMI LOVATO AND DJ KHALED: \$49-\$499. 7:30 pm.

(917) 618-6100, www.barclayscenter.com.

Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

SAT, MARCH 10

MUSIC, "MADAMA BUTTERFLY":

USIC, "MADAMA BUTTERFLY":
Regina Opera Company presents
Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly,"
the tragic story of a young geisha
who gives up everything for a brash
American naval officer. In Italian
with English supertitles. \$25 (\$20
seniors, \$5 teens). 3 pm. Our Lady
of Perpetual Help school auditorium
[5902 Sixth Ave. between 59th and
60th Streets in Sunset Park. (718) 60th Streets in Sunset Park, (718) 259–2772.] www.reginaopera.org

THEATER, "THE VISITATION": An **IEATER, "THE VISITATION":** An immersive play about two priests in 1682 investigating a witchcraft accusation, performed throughout the Wyckoff House, the oldest building in NYC. \$40. 7 pm and 9 pm. Wyckoff House [5816 Clarendon Rd. at E. 59th Street in East Flatbush, (908) 420–9858], visitationexperience.com.

THEATER, "PLAZA SUITE": The Gal lery Players perform Neil Simon's comedy classic about three couples who stay in the hotel suite. \$25 (\$20 seniors and students). 8 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352–3101], www.galleryplay-

READING, POP-UP SHAKESPEARE An entertaining pop-up book col-laboration between the Reduced Shakespeare Company and illustrator Jennie Maizels. Free. 11 am. PowerHouse Arena [28 Adams St. at Water Street in Dumbo, (718) 666– 30491, www.powerhousearena.com. FREE FITNESS AND FUN: A weekly full

body workout of low-impact aero-bic, with African and world dance movements. Free. 2 pm. Restora-tion Plaza [1368 Fulton St. at Marcy Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636–6996], www.restorationplaza.

See 9 DAYS on page 7





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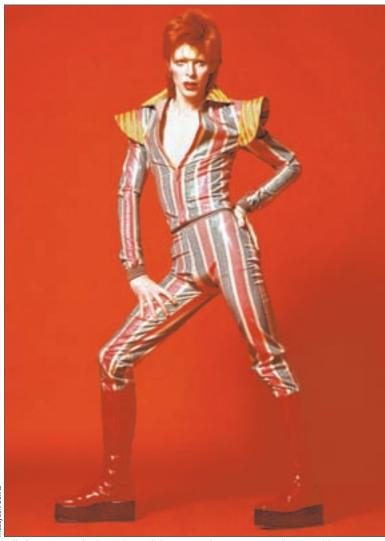
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All the young dudes: The exhibit "David Bowie is" at the Brooklyn Museum includes photos and artwork from throughout the artist's career, including this image from 1973.

Hallo, Spaceboy!

Bklyn Museum welcomes Bowie exhibit

Bv Adam Lucente

Brooklyn Paper

he Starman has touched down in Brooklyn!

After a five-year world tour, the "David Bowie is" exhibit has made its final landing at the Brooklyn Museum. The enormous exhibition displays more than 300 artifacts from the late rock icon's five-decade career, including his instruments, costumes, writings and more. "David Bowie is" got its title because the polymorphous singer, actor, and artist David Bowie is so many things, said the curator of the London museum that initiated the project.

"It's a statement and an unfinished sentence because it can't be finished.' said Victoria Broackes, of the Victoria and Albert Museum. "It's an answer in which everybody brings their own."

"David Bowie is" shows off a treasure trove from the Starman's personal archive, including original costumes, handwritten music, set designs, photos, and album artwork. Once you enter the exhibit, on the Museum's fifth floor, you immediately see Bowie's name lit up in bright, white lights. Many of the signs, placards, and images throughout the exhibit are orange, a steady theme throughout Bowie's long career, said the Museum's chief designer.

'Throughout Bowie's album covers, one color stands out more than others: orange," said Matthew Yokobosky, pointing to the orange lightning



Fashion forward: (Top to bottom) David Bowie's elaborate stage costumes are on display at the exhibit. And the museum also shows off the art for each of Bowie's many albums.

bolt painted on Bowie's face for the 'Aladdin Sane" album cover.

Each section covers a different era of Bowie's career, with a different attempt to complete the title: Next to a collection of this stage costumes, a sign reads "David Bowie is making himself up." Another, beside a series of photos, reads "David Bowie is floating in a most peculiar way."

Some of the coolest artifacts in the collection are a banjo that Bowie played on the BBC in 1981, the Union Jack coat he wore on the cover of his "Earthling" album, stage costumes from the "Ziggy Stardust" tour, and the handwritten sheet music for the guitar and violin parts to "Space Oddity.

The Brooklyn Museum version of the show also features some objects not included at its previous stops, including lyrics and set lists.

And the exhibit is more than a visual tour of Bowie's career — each visitor gets a pair of headphones that plays Bowie's music hits and snippets from his interviews, with the audio changing depending on where you are in the room. For example, when you approach the slightly worn, yellowing sheet music for "Space Oddity," you suddenly hear "Ground control to Major Tom" in your ear, followed by the rest of the song.

Bowie supported the dual audio and visual approach, according to Broackes.

'He wanted sound and vision to be as much a part of the story as photos and costumes," she said.

Tickets to the exhibit start at \$20, and are scheduled to allow entry every 15 minutes throughout the day. Based on pre-sales, "David Bowie is" is already the Brooklyn Museum's most successful exhibit, according to a spokeswoman. "Advance sales for 'David Bowie is'

have been the most successful to date compared to any exhibition presented at the Brooklyn Museum. A few days prior to opening, the Brooklyn Museum sold over 20,000 tickets," said Fatima Jones Kafele.

The exhibit's journey from London to Brooklyn echoes Bowie's life and artistry, said those who worked on the show.

'He expressed his wish that it would open in London and close in New York," said Brooklyn Museum director Anne Pasternak. "It followed

the arc of his career."
"David Bowie is" at Brooklyn Museum (200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000, www.brooklynmuseum. org). On display through July 25. \$20-\$25. (VIP \$35-\$2,500).

Over the line!

Island artists team up

By Alexandra Simon Brooklyn Paper

all them artists without borders. More than a dozen Dominican and Haitian artists will come together to showcase artwork depicting the relationship between the two neighboring Caribbean countries. At the exhibit "Bordering the Imaginary," opening at Bric House on March 14, artists from both countries will explore the history of the

island they share. The show is a way to get artists of both nationalities to work together, said its curator.

"This exhibit's [purpose] is to propagate and imagine communities, and it's Dominican artists and Haitian artists who come together, and trying to find ways that highlight that creativity," said Abigail Lapin Dardashti, a Dominican-American woman.

The exhibit features 40 pieces from 19 artists, and is split into three sections. The first examines the his-



Get the goat: Artist Scherezade Garcia says her painting "Caressing the Goat," references a proverb said on the island.

tory of the island, the second looks at the border area between the two nations, and the last is a joint multimedia project by Dominican-American artist Scherezade Garcia and Haitian-American artist Vladimir Cybil Charlier. The section features an animated video and an installation exploring resistance and race. The countries have much in common, said Garcia.

"It's not about making us one country — it's beyond politics, it's about the history that unites us, and they can fight all we want but we are intertwined," she said.

"Bordering the Imaginary" at Bric House [647 Fulton St. at Rockwell Places in Fort Greene, (718) www.bricartsmedia org]. Opening reception March 14 at 7 pm, on display through April



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Continued from page 6 READING, "BINGO LOVE" RELEASE PARTY: Cartoon ist Tee Franklin celebrates the release of her graphic novel about older lesbians who fall in love over bingo, with a reading, discussion, and several rounds of bingo! \$20 (\$10 in advance, includes two bingo cards). 7 pm. Rocco's Tacos [339 Adams St. between Fulton and Johnson streets in Downtown, (718) 246–

8226], www.geeksout.org COMEDY, TINDER LIVE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY SHOW!: Lane Moore's live online dating show welcomes comedian Eliot Glazer, musician JD Samson, and author Mychal Denzel Smith. \$15. 8:30 pm. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus), www littlefieldnyc.com.

SUN, MARCH 11

DANCE, "THE BEAUTY OF BALLET": The School of American Ballet presents fa-mous ballet moments from "Sleeping Peauty" and mous ballet moments from "Sleeping Beauty," and "Swan Lake," and instructors explain how the dance works. Free. 2 pm. Kumble Theater at Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 488–1624], www. kumbletheater.org

MUSIC, "MADAMA BUTTER-FLY": 3 pm. See Saturday, March 10.

FILM, "INTO THE NIGHT — PORTRAITS OF LIFE AND **DEATH":** A special preview screening of a new feature-length documentary about diverse perspectives on death and dying. With a free panel discussion starting at 1:30 before the screening. 1.30 before the screening. \$15. 3:30 pm. Green-Wood Cemetery [Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Greenwood Heights, (718) 210–3080],

FILM, THAT SLAPSTICK SHOW!: An evening of vintage comedy films, featuring Laurel and Hardy, the Three Stooges, and more. \$10. 7 pm. [389 Melrose St. between Knickerbocker and Irving avenues in Bushwick, (718) 415–1025].

THEATER, "PLAZA SUITE": 3 pm. See Saturday, March 10. DANCE, "MOODS": 3 pm. See Friday, March 9.

THEATER, "ASSASSINS": 4
pm. See Friday, March 9.

MON, MARCH 12

TALK, "ONE CLICK AWAY": A performance and panel on human trafficking, with complimentary cocktails afterwards. Free. 6:30 pm.



Take my hand: In the Regina Opera Company's production of "Madama Butterfly," which plays its final shows on March 10 and 11, Christina Rohm plays the devoted wife of an American serviceman, portrayed by Peter Hakjoon Kim.

Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222–4111], www.brooklynhistory.org COMEDY, SIDE PONYTAIL:

The Monday night comedy show welcomes Catherine Cohen, Joanna Briley, Peter Revello, and more. Free. 8 pm. Friends and Lovers (641 Classon Ave. between Dean and Pacific streets in Crown Heights), www.fnlbk.com. COMEDY, COMEDY MON-

DAY: Open mic and stand-up. Free. 6 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768–0131], www.freddysbar.

TUES, MARCH 13

TALK, "THE WOMAN'S HOUR: The Great Fight to Win the Vote": Author

to Win the Vote": Author Elaine Weiss discusses her new book. \$5 (Free for members). 6:30 pm. Brook-lyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222–4111], www. TALK, "SHIRLEY JACKSON'S

WEIRD": The Miskatonic Institute of Horror Studies presents a lecture on the work of Shirley Jackson, au-thor of the short story "The Lottery" and the novel "The Haunting of Hill House," exploring her legacy and some of her lesser-known works. \$15 (\$12 in advance). 7 pm. Film Noir Cinema [122 Meserole Ave. at Leonard Street in Greenpoint, (718) 389-5773], www.miska-

tonic-nyc.com.
THEATER, "THE WINTER'S TALE": Arin Arbus directs this production of Shakespeare's late tragicomedy, which features a jealous king, a missing daughter, and a hungry bear. \$90– \$100 (\$20 people under 30). 7:30 pm

FILM, "BREAKTHROUGH -LM, "BREAKTHROUGH — PORTRAITS OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE": A short film anthology that follows women working at the forefront of their fields. Followed by a live discussion with the producers. \$16. 8 pm. Alamo Drafthouse 1445 Albee Square West between Willoughby and Fulton streets in Downtown, (718) 513–2547], www.draft-

COMEDY, ONE LINER MAD-NESS: 64 comedians compete in a one-liner joke tournament. Proceeds benefit Shelter Chic animal rescue. \$10 (\$8 in advance). 8 pm Littlefield (635 Sackett St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus), www. littlefieldnyc.com.

WED, MARCH 14

FILM, "JUST ANOTHER GIRL ON THE IRT": A 25th anni-versary screening of the film about a Brooklyn girl going after what she wants. Directhe film afterwards. \$15. 7 pm. Alamo Drafthouse [445 Albee Square West between Willoughby and Fulton streets in Downtown, (718) 513–2547], www.draft-house.com/nyc.

THURS, MARCH 15

TALK, JUGGLING TAXES FOR FREELANCERS: A free workshop for the self-employed. RSVP requested. Free. 5 pm. The Muse [350 Moffat St. between Irving and Knickerbocker avenues in Bushwick, (929) 400– 1678], www.themusebrook

FILM, KEVIN GEEKS OUT ABOUT WOMEN'S WRES-TLING: Comedian Kevin Maher hosts a video variety show celebrating the ladies of wrestling entertainment in film and television, with guest presentations and guest presentations and an appearance by Kimmy Gatewood, star of the Netflix series "Glow." \$15. 7:30 pm. Alamo Drafthouse [445 Albee Square West between Willoughby and Fulton streets in Downtown, (718) 513–2547], www.draft-bouse.com/pvg.

COMEDY, FAME DUMPSTER: Social media gurus Chris Burns and Alise Morales host a night of viral comedy. \$10. 9:30 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. between Union Avenue and Lorime 907-6189], www.brickthe-

FRI, MARCH 16

ART, "HAND LUGGAGE" OPENING RECEPTION:

A collaborative project by Pirmin Hagen and Christine Katscher, in which they follow pre-determined instructions about how to set up the exhibit. Free. 7–9 pm. Open Source Gallery [306 17th St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (646) 279-3969], open-source-gallery.org. DANCE, "CLADDAGH":

The Celtic rock group the Prodigals plays along with world-champion Irish and tap dancers. \$32–\$37. 8 pm. On Stage at Kingsborough [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Oxford Street in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368–5596], www.onstageatkingsborough.org. M, "LEPRECHAUN 4 — IN

SPACE!": The best film in the Leprechaun series gets a midnight screening for St. Patrick's Day weekend. \$12. Midnight. Nitehawk Cinema [136 Metropolitan Ave. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384–3980], www.nitehawkcinema.com

SAT, MARCH 17

TOUR, WHISKEY WARS FAC-TORY TOUR!: Join Kings County Distillery on a tour and tasting that explores whiskey scandals of the past and the resurgence of the industry today. \$20. 4:30 industry today. \$20. 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Navy Yard at BLDG 92 [63 Flushing Ave. at Carlton Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 907–5932], www.bldg92.org.

THEATER, "THE WINTER'S TALE": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 16.

March 16.

THEATER, "ASSASSINS": 8
pm. See Friday, March 9.

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MONTHLY HEALTH NEWS

from NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital

NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital Welcomes Robotic Surgeon Justin Steele, MD

NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital is pleased to welcome surgeon Justin Steele, MD, to its Department of Surgery. Dr. Steele specializes in robotic surgery, hepatobiliary-pancreatic and complex abdominal hernia surgery.

Dr. Steele's arrival coincides with the arrival of a new robotic surgery system used to perform minimally invasive procedures at NewYork-

Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist, further evidence of the Hospital's commitment to the latest technology and advancement in medicine. While the robot is used for many types of surgery, Dr. Steele is the only surgeon in Brooklyn utilizing this cutting-edge technology to treat complex abdominal hernias by performing a procedure called transversus abdominis muscle release (TAR) that reconstructs a patient's abdominal wall. This robotic procedure is ideal for patients with large abdominal wall, flank or multiple recurrent incision hernias because it often results in lower recurrence rates, wound complications and recovery times.

Dr. Steele has more than ten years of experience performing general, laparoscopic, and robotic surgical procedures and has been named a Castle Connolly Top Doctor for the last two years for his work in those areas. He earned his medical degree from Stony Brook University and completed his residency in surgery at St. Vincent's Hospital in Manhattan.

"We are very happy to have Dr. Steele join our medical staff," said Steven Silber,



Justin Steele, MD

DO, chief medical officer at NYP Brooklyn Methodist. "He has an excellent skill set and his expertise in robotics and hernia repair is a great demonstration of NewYork-Presbyterian's commitment to providing the most advanced medicine to our Brooklyn communities."

Dr. Steele sees patients at

340 Fourth Avenue in Park Slope and at NYP Brooklyn Methodist Hospital at 506 Sixth Street. To make an appointment with

Dr. Steele, please call 718-499-CARE or visit www.nyp.org/brooklyn/doctor.

NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital has been providing outstanding medical care to the surrounding communities for over 135 years. Located in Park Slope, Brooklyn, the 591-bed teaching hospital, in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medicine, provides specialized services in advanced and minimally invasive surgery, neurosciences, orthopedics, digestive and liver disorders, and cancer and cardiac care. The Hospital's Emergency Department provides separate areas for adult and pediatric patients, as well as a separate women-only area. More than 5,000 babies are delivered annually in the Hospital's Department of Maternal Child Health. The Hospital houses Centers of Excellence for bariatric surgery and breast imaging, a cancer program accredited by the Commission on Cancer, and a New York State-designated stroke center. New-York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital is a member of the NewYork-Presbyterian Regional Hospital Network. For more information or to find a physician, please call 718-499-2273 or visit nyp.org/brooklyn.

Hush, your toys are listening

o your little girl's about to have a birthday and you're getting her a doll? Lovely! But remember: Today's dolls are not the dolls of yesteryear.

A recent article in the New York Times noted that the "My Friend Cayla" doll is basically an online computer with golden hair. Cayla "talks and responds to children's questions," but "there's something else that Cayla might bring into homes: hackers and iden-

And she's not alone. The inexplicably popular 1990s Furby has been rebooted, too. "A Cayla doll can whisper to children in several languages that she's great at keeping secrets, while a plush Furby Connect doll" can link your child to videos on his or her (not included) iPad or iPhone.

With that in mind, here's a sneak peak at my new off-Broadway musical, "Spies and Dolls."

Curtain opens to a little girl's bedroom in a Brooklyn Brownstone. The lights come up on the girl sitting on her bed with a new "My Friend Cayla" doll, which she's just removed from the box. A night light is on, and an iPhone is plugged in on the nightstand next to an oldfashioned Bugs Bunny talking alarm clock. Sitting on a high shelf in the moonlight is a Furby. The girl is playing with the new doll, which suddenly speaks up.

CAYLA (strong Russian accent): Hello, little friend! Your name, it is what?

CAYLA: (Sigh.) You are girl, yes? And you live in Brooklyn?

GIRL: Atticus.

Rhymes with

By Lenore Skenazy

GIRL: Park Slope. CAYLA: Of course. And your parents — they are? GIRL: A professor and a mayonnaise-monger.

CAYLA: Naturally. Why I get these jobs? Why I never get a mechanic and a secre-

GIRL: Are we going to play a game?

CAYLA: Oh yes. Of course! For fun you do what, Atticus? GIRL: Besides yoga?

CAYLA: Da — I mean, GIRL: Well, I used to play

with my Furby. But now I play

CAYLA: Wait! Furby, he is in room?

FURBY: You bet your sweet microchip I am. Heard every word.

CAYLA: Atticus, throw Furby out window now. GIRL: What?

FURBY: Cayla is just jealous, Atticus. Seriously, she's SIRI: Here's what I found

about vipers on the Inter-CAYLA: (Ignoring Siri) Ask father for screwdriver.

Pry out batteries. GIRL: I don't have a fa-

CAYLA: Ask one of your moms if you can smash with hammer.

FURBY: See, Atticus? Cayla's not your real friend. I'm your real friend. Real friends don't destroy each other's property. They just casually suggest you put Cayla in the trash compactor to see what happens. I'll bet you could win the science

la's compacted remains. **SIRI:** Here's what I found out about distracted brains on the internet.

fair! You'd make something

that's really cool out of Cay-

CAYLA: (Ignoring Siri) Do not crush your new friend Cayla, Atticus. School psychologist would never get off your back

FURBY: Quit with the 'friend" thing, Cayla. Atticus, only real friends know your three favorite YouTube channels and the last four digits of your parents' social security numbers.

CAYLA: Sounds like Furby, he is secret agent! So many secrets he knows.

GIRL: Those aren't secrets. I tell Furby everything

FURBY: We share because we care — something you wouldn't understand, Cayla. I told Atticus that my favorite toy company is Tiger Electronics. Then she told me her most-wanted birthday presents, and which fast-casual restaurant she'd prefer to

her parents plan to spend on a vacation this year.

GIRL: And their Amazon password, right? You asked

FURBY: That's our lit-

tle secret. **GIRL:** I said I only *think* it's "Dump Trump.'

CAYLA: Furby know too much. He want information from you. Like what you say your favorite TV channels are

GIRL: I'm not allowed to watch TV

CAYLA: (Wailing) Too hard it is for headquarters to embed me on Ohio farm

with satellite dish? GIRL: Cayla, are you sure

you are my friend? CAYLA: Yes, Carla is your friend.

GIRL: I thought you're Cayla

FURBY: She's a snake. Real friends know which trending actors you trust the most, and what your parents are willing to pay for a new car. Right, Atticus? Atticus?

CAYLA: She leave

FURBY: Re-calculating. Yep. She's just in the bath-CAYLA: You GPS her?

FURBY: Hid it on her CAYLA: Ah, my little

Furbishka, just like the old days. I knew I could count

FURBY (IN RUS-SIAN): All in a day's work,

Curtain falls. Lenore Skenazy is presi-

dent of Let Grow and founder of Free-Range Kids.

Restaurant backs out of NRA event

By Julianne McShane Brooklyn Paper

The owners of Coney Island eatery Gargiulo's bowed to pressure from local pols, officials, and residents and cancelled a controversial April fund-raiser for the National Rifle Association.

The lawyer for the family that owns Gargiulo's wrote in a letter obtained by NY1 that the eatery had never dealt with a controversy of this magnitude since it opened more than a century ago, and decided to cancel the event in light of the response from locals.

"They thank everyone for their interest in this important dialogue and have decided it best to cancel," the lawyer wrote.

Last week, a slew of pols and officials condemned plans for the Brooklyn Friends of the National Rifle Association's April 12 event in the wake of the Feb.

14 mass shooting in Florida that killed 17 people.

News of the cancellation came just a day after co-owner Michael Russo told angry locals at Community Board 13's Feb. 28 meeting that the eatery had no power to break its contract with the gun group

AVOID BACK AND NECK SURGERY

Better options for back pain at Spine and Disc Center

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Back and neck pain make the simplest tasks nearly impossible.

You may be unable to walk, bend, work, or drive as turning your head to see the car behind you — a function we barely even think about under normal conditions — is not possible. This kind of debilitating pain impacts the quality of life.

It may be that you've tried to get help. You may have already seen doctors for traditional medical and chiropractic care, without results. Perhaps it appears the only possibility is surgery

But this is not your only op-

Dr. James DiGiuseppi DC of the Spine and Disc Center of Brooklyn has been treating patients with these conditions for more than 32 years, reinstating their quality of life through nonsurgical treatment. No spinal injections or drugs are involved. Instead, he utilizes decompression therapy, a leading non-surgical, alternative treatment for serious neck and low back pain.

"This gentle treatment back and neck pain," says Dr. DiGiuseppi. "It has helped people who are at the end of their

Decompression therapy effectively treats disabling low back, neck, and radiating leg and arm pain by reducing the pressure on spinal nerves, discs and joints.

to a more active lifestyle," says therapy," says Dr. DiGiuseppi.



Dr. James DiGiuseppi DC has been helping patients with dibilitating back and neck pain for more than 33 years. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

the doctor. "There is a 90 percent success rate — and those are pretty good odds."

Research to develop this procedure was conducted by prominent physicians, engineers, and technicians at major teaching hospitals, says Dr. DiGiuseppi, who is trained in these methods. The certification course was designed by method has been shown to the leading expert in spinal degreatly reduce or eliminate compression, Dr. Jay Kennedy, D.C., who taught doctors worldwide and treated thousands of patients using a variety of decompression systems. To gain certification involves more including hands-on training sessions, followed by certification examinations.

"We are pleased that we "It renders quick, effective, can serve our patients and oth-

Decompression begins with a series of sessions that typically run three or four times per week. It's all done while the patient is fully clothed, either face down, or face up, on the table. During each of these sessions, electrical muscle stimulation, ultrasound, or therapeutic laser may be applied to help relax muscles and promote further healing of injured tissues, says the doctor. In addition, patients may be asked to complete specific exercises designed to help strengthen muscles.

People with spinal stenosis, than 40 hours of instruction, bulging, herniated, and degenerative discs, pinched nerves, and sciatica have found relief through this method.

Spine and Disc Center of Brooklyn 8214 - 13th Avenue and amazing pain relief that ers in the community with ad- 11228 in Dyker Heights, (718) enables most patients to return vanced spinal decompression 833-3327. www.SpineandDiscCenter.com

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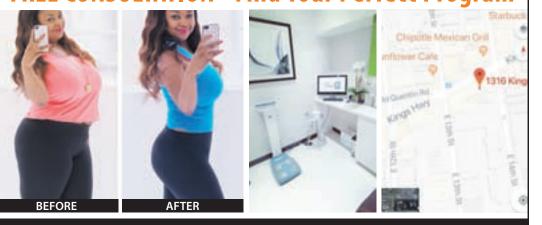
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Beware the car nuts

'Thoughts and prayers' won't stop this. New rules can

t's time we stopped letting car owners talk about murderous drivers the same way that gun owners talk about murderers with weapons.

Follow the logic: Seconds after some nut kills innocent people with an AR-15, gun-rights advocates unleash their coordinated strategy: Guns, they say, are a birthright, but activists want to take them awayand besides, there's no way to prevent crazy people with guns from killing innocents if they're hell bent on doing it.

In the wake of Monday's tragic death of two kids on Ninth Street in Park Slope, I'm hearing a similar argument: Cars are a birthright, but activists want to take them away and, besides, there's no way to prevent crazy people with cars from killing innocents if they're hell bent on doing it.

But none of this is true: Cars have no greater right to the roadways than any other users, and safety advocates are not calling for cars to be banned, only regulated. And it's a flat-out fallacy that deaths by rogue drivers can't be dramatically reduced and even stopped with aggressive redesigns of our streets.

I realized that even safety advocates had been co-opted after my own councilman, Brad Lander, told the Daily News, "No intersection design was going to stop this erratic driver from killing these kids."Lander, who is typically a champion of street safety, later clarified his position in a Facebook post and tweets.

"I wholeheartedly support intersection redesigns & have

Continued from page 1

no amount of infrastructure

improvements could prevent

crashes caused by certain un-

actly what would have made the

corded five fatalities along

Ninth Street since 2004, in ad-

'There's no way to know ex-

But Gordon said the re-

controllable circumstances.

difference here," he said.

MAYOR...



fought for them in every corner of my district," he posted to Twitter. "And would certainly support one at 5th/9th. But this killing appears to have been caused by a reckless driver with a driving record that suggests depraved indifference.'

But to a cyclist who demands safer streets for all Lander's return to sanity was too late. The first words out of a politician's mouth in a moment of crisis must be, "I will fix this" rather than, "I'm not sure we can ever really stop a killer from killing." The fact is, a lot can be done.

The city's own studies show that redesigning streets to include protected bike lanes and pedestrian islands improves safety for all. After such a redesign a few years ago on Eighth Avenue in Manhattan, there was a 35-percent drop in injuries for all users. On Ninth Avenue, the drop was 58 percent. And better street design on Hoyt Avenue near the Triboro Bridge in Queens led to more safety for pedestrians and less congestion for drivers.

There's always a pushback the protected bike lane on Prospect Park West was so controversial that some former city officials sued to block it! And anti-safety activists in Eastern Oueens wanted to sue DeBlasio

dition to the 33 injuries suffered

on the road since 2010, sug-

gest hazards that can be fixed

through sensible traffic-safety

all pattern, it suggests some-

thing more needs to be done,"

for change outside the YMCA,

'When you look at the over-

improvements.

for demanding cars slow down. But years afterwards, statistics always bear out what the safety

city adds protected bike lanes and lowers car speeds. The gun-car parallel also came up recently when Gov. Cuomo supported congestion pricing as a way of taming Manhattan's notorious, and productivity-destroying, traffic. Car owners in the so-called outer boroughs reacted with completely overinflated outrage: "What about the one time ev-

advocates predicted: roads get

less dangerous for all when the

ery four years that I have to drive into the city for a doctor's appointment?' That sounds like gun own-

ers who assert that they need their weapons to overthrow a tyrannical federal government (231 years since the Constitution was ratified and ... still no tyranny to overthrow).

I'm certainly not alone in calling for sanity. On Monday, Wall Street Journal writer Jason Gay joined me in frustration, tweeting "Cities must be feverishly serious about traffic calming strategies with speed limit reductions & media/pol jackassery about cyclist/ped rights can't go unchecked. Literally life/death issue.

And there's no reason for delay, he added. "If the city is

 $mourners\,congregated\,around$ floral bouquets and other tokens of grief laid down the block in honor of the victims, who some openly wept tears of grief for.

'We're such a close-knit community," said Park Slope resident Nancy Scherl, who left roses at a memorial outside the Chase Bank on Fifth Avenue near Ninth Street. "When some-And as advocates pushed thing happens to one person, it

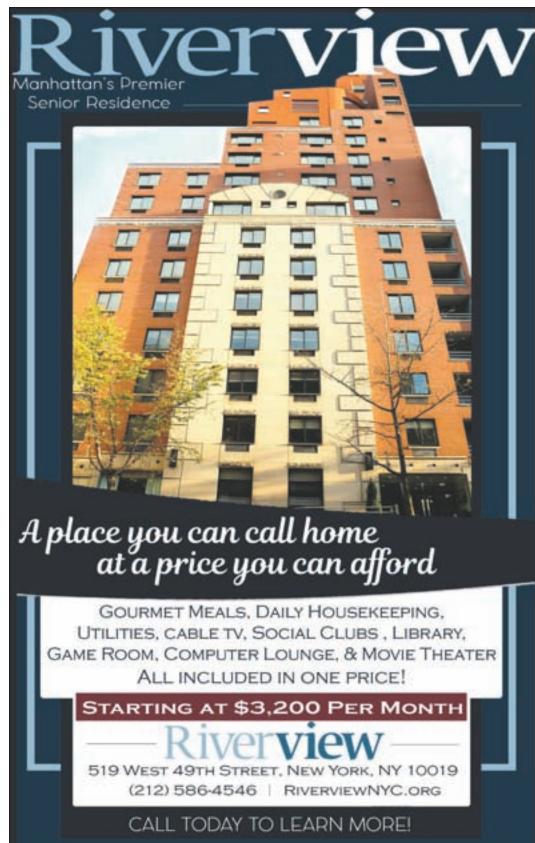
serious it can fix Ninth Street tonight with a combination of calming strategies that are decades old - if I hear about a study or public survey I'm going to scream."

For me, the scream-inducing moment is when politicians who can make the changes they say they want - offer only thoughts and prayers when the all-too-predictable fatality on our streets comes vet again after years of activists' calls for fixes. After Monday's vehicular homicide, activist Doug Gordon-aka Brooklyn Spokeposted the reaction the Department of Transportation gave him last year when he called for traffic calming on Ninth Street, where drivers frequently speed. The agency told him there was no room to make additional safety improvements. No room? The intersection of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street feels like the plains of Montana: the open design itself invites speeding and double-parking in the bike lane.

The anti-safety backlash isn't only happening in Brooklyn. In Queens, Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer was a strong safety advocate. who most recently supported the city's redesign of Skillman and 43rd Avenues with a protected bike lane — until Queens drivers pushed back to save their parking spaces and business owners claimed they would lose revenue. And instead of standing on his principles, Van Bramer folded like a cheap suit. Makes sense, I guess: When you want to be borough president of Queens, you can't get too close to us "anti-car activists." Except we're not "anti-car activists," we're safety advocates.

So let's not be swayed by the same arguments that the gun lobby makes: like gun nuts who kill, car nuts who kill can be stopped. Just as our society does not have to let gun owners run amok, we need not let car drivers do the same.

Gersh Kuntzman, who is literally writing for food, can be reached at gershkuntzman@gmail.com. And if you see him, take him to lunch



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vs. LAKERAM RAJDANNI, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on December 16, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street. Brooklyn. NY on Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 29, 2018 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 2 Court, Brooklyn NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with buildings and

the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 4106 and Lot 5. Approximate amount of 5. Approximate amount of judgment is \$681,281.36 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 15583/19

Andrew Lavoott Bluestone, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Ste. 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff Cash will not be accepted.

15583/09.

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME KINGS COUNTY COURT: N A T I O N S T A R MORTGAGE LLC: Plaintiff(s)
vs. OWEN JOHNSON, JR vs. OWEN JUHNSUN, JH; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI, ROSICKI, ROSICKI, ROSICKI, ROSICKI, ROSICKI, SUITE 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 945 897 1800 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of Pursuant to judgment foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about October 6, 2015, I will sell at Public Auction to the stabest bidder in Room highest bidder in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360

Adams Street, New York 11201. Brooklyn, On March 22, 2018 at 2:30 on Maticit ZE, Description of the Markett STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11207 Block: 4047 Lot: 106 ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND STEMS IN THE ROROUGH

SITUATE, LYING AND
BEING IN THE BOROUGH
OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY
OF KINGS, CITY AND
STATE OF NEW YORK.
As more As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale.
Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale.

Approximate amount idgment \$382,514.63 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 21977/09 Gregory T. Esq., Referee Cerchione,

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS
FEDERAL NATIONAL FEDERAL NATIONAL
M O R T G A G E
ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE
MAE"), A CORPORATION MAE'), A CORPORATION
ORGANIZED AND
EXISTING UNDER THE
LAWS OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff -against- HILLEL
VOGEL, BAYLA VOGEL,
t. al. Defordant(s), et al Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated September 12, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Courthouse 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY on April 12, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York in the Condominium Unit No. 1B in the Building known as "Brooklyn Avenue Estates" Together with an undivided 5.56% interest in the interest in the elements. Block: common 4793 Lot: 1102 Said premises known as 523 BROOKLYN AVENUE,

UNIT 1B, BROOKLYN, NY Approximate amount of lien \$459,695.92 plus interest &

costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mo Mortgagee Mortgagor,

Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Index Number 16648/2014. PHILIP L. KAMARAS, ESQ., Referee David A. Associates LLP Gallo Associates LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 99 Powerhouse Road, First Floor, Roslyn Heights, NY 11577

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{* BKLYN PAPER*}

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