

A SINKING FEELING

Whole Foods’s esplanade along Gowanus puckers due to cleanup

By Julianne Cuba
Brooklyn Paper

The Gowanus Canal is swallowing this food whole!

The ground beneath a seating area outside Gowanus’s Whole Foods started sinking towards the toxic waterway it abuts after equipment workers used in the Superfund site’s scrub shook the land around the store, forcing employees to rope the space off indefinitely, according to the Feds leading the canal’s cleanse.

“As we were experimenting, a couple things happened, and some of the soft material that you see here settled,” Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Pete Lopez said outside the Third Street grocer on Monday. “I wouldn’t say it’s dangerous, but I don’t want people walking there.”

The dirt underneath the tables and chairs on the brick promenade along the canal’s Fourth Street Turning Basin shifted amid a pilot dredging-and-capping program in the basin, which stalled last year after workers realized the massive machines they used to install new bulkheads along that section of the channel struck its banks too powerfully, creating fissures in nearby buildings and land — including beneath the al fresco hangout.

But those vibrations did not affect the Whole Foods building itself, which Lopez assured is safe from collapse.

“The main structure, as we understand it, is solid,” he said. “We will keep a close eye on it because of course we don’t want anyone to be hurt, or any damage.”

The polluters who contaminated



Staff at Whole Foods in Gowanus shuttered the store’s outdoor pedestrian promenade after it started sinking towards the canal it abuts.

Brooklyn’s Nautical Purgatory and are required to foot the bill for its cleanup, including utility company National Grid, will now also be charged with the cost to repair the grocer’s waterfront esplanade, according to Lopez, who said the Amazon-owned supermarket won’t have to spend a dime to fix the pedestrian space it paid to create.

“We don’t expect Whole Foods to pay. I think they like us, we promised to fix their property,” he said.

But the grocery store’s patrons won’t be able to munch on its produce along the putrid canal until the slow-going pilot program wraps, because Lopez’s

colleague said the Feds must finish that work before turning their attention to the plummeting promenade, where Whole Foods staff posted signs advising “caution, watch your step” and that it will be “closed until further notice due to ongoing cleanup efforts” in the meantime.

“The next step is to finish off this pilot project, and when the work is done this is all going to get repaired,” said Environmental Protection Agency bigwig Walter Muggdan.

And although the initial dredging-and-capping program is progressing, Lopez said it’s still moving more slowly than expected, and likely won’t end un-



til the fall at the earliest — roughly six months later than planned.

“We think it will continue into the fall. We’re going to be here for some time doing the project,” he said.

But the officials — who gathered near the Fourth Street Turning Basin to celebrate the one-year anniversary of a task force set up to streamline the federal agency’s Superfund program by its now-disgraced former head Scott Pruitt — said their old boss’s departure won’t muck up the canal’s already in-motion cleanse.

“We’re full steam ahead,” said Lopez.

Still, another Environmental Protection Agency staffer would not even attempt to guess when the entire purge will wrap — noting that years of work remain despite the 2022 end date officials first gave the project — or how much its current \$506-million price tag may balloon due to hiccups, such as the sinking esplanade, that arise along the way.

“It’s going to be a number of years before we’re actually back here and doing dredging, and then there are three to four years’ worth of field work for us to actually implement it,” said John Prince. “It’s going to take longer than we could estimate a few years ago. That’s as close as we’re going to get.”



Who’s a good boy?

Jen Ondrejicka’s dog Folsom donned a Hawaiian shirt for a fashion show at Freddy’s Bar in Park Slope, where more than 40 dapper pups dressed in the latest canine couture turned out for the July 21 contest, which kicked off the first of the neighborhood’s Fifth Avenue Summer Stroll events, a series that draws locals to the commercial strip for four Saturdays of good old-fashioned frolicking.



The city and its chosen developer for the long-awaited Willoughby Square Park and parking garage beneath it said the years-in-the-making project is moving forward despite earlier reports it teetered on collapse.

‘Moving in the right direction’

City: Willoughby Square Park project progressing with original developer

By Julianne Cuba
Brooklyn Paper

This underground garage is not sunk yet!

A long-awaited project to build a vending-machine-style parking facility beneath a promised park on Willoughby Street Downtown is not on the rocks despite previous reports, according to its developer, who said his firm secured the cash it needs to break ground and may do so as early as this fall.

“I’m confident the financing is available and that we are able to do the project,” said Perry Finkelman, who runs the Long Island-based American Development Group.

“Realistically, we’re looking at probably November.”

In March, news circulated that bigwigs at the city’s Economic Development Corporation — which is overseeing the creation of Willoughby Square Park, a green space officials promised to locals when they controversially upzoned much of the neighborhood in 2004 — doubted Finkelman’s firm’s ability to raise the funds needed for the project, roughly five years after the agency tapped the developer for it in 2013.

But the city corporation’s leaders are sticking with their chosen builder after it took positive steps

forward that included expanding its construction team, bringing on a general contractor, and securing financing for the scheme, according to an agency spokesman.

“We see this as moving in the right direction,” the rep said on July 12. “We are continuing to work with the developer to close on the project, and are committed to delivering it as soon as possible.”

The developer scaled back the scope of its underground garage to lock in bank financing for the project, however, reducing the facility’s original 700 spots to 467, and shrinking it from three to two

levels — changes that slashed the scheme’s budget from roughly \$97 million to \$82 million, \$6 million of which is money from the city and other entities for the park itself, according to Finkelman, who said he still is waiting on officials to sign off on the revised plan.

“The bank’s been informed, and is happy to continue the process,” he said. “All we’re doing is cutting off a level, but we had to go back and make adjustments, and now we’re waiting for city approval. It takes a couple of months apparently.”

The builder blamed the slow-going project on bureaucratic red-

tape, claiming he could have designed and built the park and garage in half the time if it were just up to him.

“With a public-works project, you’re getting approvals every step of the way, committees are looking over everything, it just takes its time,” Finkelman said. “If this was totally in the private sector, you’re probably looking at 18 months to two years of pre-development. But it has taken an awfully long time.”

Work on the park bounded by Fulton Mall and Willoughby, Duffield, and Gold streets — which

See **PARK** on page 9

Fighting for the full package

Anti-circumcision group brings crusade to Atlantic Terminal

By Ben Verde
for Brooklyn Paper

They want to stop the snip!

Costumed protestors in all-white getups with red-stained crochets took to the streets outside Atlantic Terminal on Monday, where they preached to passersby what they claimed are the dangers of circumcising baby boys, slamming the medical procedure as unnecessary, painful, and a form of child abuse.

“It’s a basic human-rights issue that everyone has a right to their own body,” said Harry Guiremand, an anti-circumcision advo-

cate with the Bloodstained Men, a group that stages demonstrations against the practice nationwide. “It’s a crime against humanity when you think about it, a mass genital mutilation.”

Guiremand joined roughly 10 other men and one woman at the corner of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues to decry the surgical procedure that removes skin from the tip of a male child’s genitals — a custom referenced in the Bible’s Old Testament that is required in the Jewish faith, and commonly practiced by Muslims and other parents in the United States, whether to

follow tradition or for what some professionals say are health benefits including a decreased risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases.

But Americans are in the minority when it comes performing the procedure on newborns, according to the group, which pointed out how several foreign nations moved away from the practice despite a 2012 statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics that claimed its benefits outweighed its risks, which can include prolonged infection.

“The Australians stopped doing


it, the New Zealanders stopped doing it, the British stopped doing it,” Guiremand said. “It’s way past due that Americans stop doing this.”

Of course, not all who encountered the demonstrators — who also wore white cowboy hats, which Guiremand said nodded to the classic American image of manhood — agreed with their cutting critique, with one woman pointing out how the procedure was no skin off the teeth of some of her circumcised acquaintances.

“I know some men are happy it was done, they’re having a good sex life,” said Joan Gobrene.




Members of the Bloodstained Men took over a swath of sidewalk outside Atlantic Terminal to protest circumcision.



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Safety fur-st!

Locals practice animal CPR

By Ben Verde
for Brooklyn Paper

They learned how to save a life — or nine.

More than a dozen animal lovers learned how to give vital mouth-to-snout resuscitation to their furry friends at a Brooklyn Heights rescue's first-aid seminar on on July 18.

The class, led by an expert in dog and cat cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR, taught attendees how to spring into action if Fido's heart, or those of his feline nemeses, ever suddenly stop beating.

"It's good knowledge to have, being a cat lover and a pet owner," said Judy Stachow, who works as a pet-sitter.

Instructor Adam Pernice — a former medic at Long Island College Hospital before the Cobble Hill medical center closed and was bought by a developer — schooled roughly 20 participants in the technique during the three-hour lesson at Atlantic Avenue's Brooklyn Cat Cafe between Henry and Clinton streets.

Pernice, with aid from a rubber pooch, demonstrated how to perform the procedure on pups, which requires covering a mutt's mouth, delivering a breath of air into its nostrils, and checking for a pulse by feeling one of two arteries near where its legs meets its groin. If no pulse is found, you perform around 30 chest compressions before repeating the cycle, the instructor said.

The procedure is more or less the same for cats, except you breathe into its mouth and close off its nose — not unlike human CPR.

No live animals participated in the session, although some of the Cafe's adoptable cats looked on as students practiced the technique.

The pro also taught attendees what to do if furballs choke on their favorite treat — large dogs receive a version of the Heimlich maneuver, in which a you get behind the beasts and deliver abdominal thrusts; small dogs and cats are held in your hands facing downward, and you pat their backs to expel whatever is lodged in their

Photo by Jason Speakman

A human practiced mouth-to-snout resuscitation on a rubber pooch during a dog and cat cardiopulmonary resuscitation course at the Brooklyn Cat Cafe in Brooklyn Heights.

throats — as well as how to treat pets for hypothermia, hyperthermia, allergic reactions, seizures, drownings, and car-accident wounds.

Attendees left the course certified in animal CPR, but Pernice reminded them that their newfound skill should not replace treatment from an expert in the event of a serious incident.

"Just because we do it, does

not mean we're going to have a good outcome," he said.

And the instructor encouraged his pupils to keep an eye out for little things at home that could lead to big problems if ingested by pets, including exposed electrical outlets and poisonous houseplants.

"You have to pet-proof your home," Pernice said. "Our pets are like kids, constantly putting things in their mouth."

Got lost in the dot matrix

Spot debate consumes meeting on park below B'Bridge

By Colin Mixson
Brooklyn Paper

It's a dot-button issue.

A July 17 meeting to discuss plans for some of Brooklyn Bridge Park's last undeveloped land beneath its namesake span quickly devolved into back-and-forth bickering about dots, leading an exasperated member of the green space's community-advisory group to question why some of her colleagues even bothered to show up.

"I wonder, to make this conversation more productive, is it really the dots we want to talk about?" said Nancy Webster, who holds a seat on the privately run park's Community Advisory Council, a body that solicits locals' input on projects within it, and runs the Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, its fund-raising and programming arm. "We have a presentation that has content in it, why don't we talk about that?"

The dot debate broke out while professors and students from Clinton Hill's Pratt Institute presented findings from a survey they conducted earlier this year about how residents want meadow keepers to use the empty space directly underneath the bridge between Water Street and the East River, which is the only chunk of the 85-acre park that lacks a final plan, now that work to transform the hilly land near Pier 2 into a sloped lawn with seating and a giant water feature is set to kick off this fall.

The university team recommended the space be designed to accommodate events and activities in the spring, fall, and winter — such as small concerts, festivals, and an ice-skating rink — but left open enough to simply serve as a pedestrian hangout in the summer months, when massive crowds pack the area.

It would feature amenities including bathrooms, food vendors, and signage, as well as seasonal elements such as ice sculptures and fire pits in the colder months, according to the Pratt group's presentation, which also suggested converting the current Luke's Lobster shack just off Water Street into a visitors' center, and planting a new garden adjacent to that center, along with a second patch along the East River in honor of Emily Warren Roebling, the woman who shepherded the iconic infrastructure to completion.

The advisory council, whose input guides decisions made by green-space bigwigs at the Brooklyn Bridge Park Corporation, contracted the university team to host its initial workshop on the space in May, after the group passed a resolution last year that called for such a session in order to rethink the bridge-covered parcel's purpose, be-

File photo by Ruth Brown

Members of Brooklyn Bridge Park's Community Advisory Council fell into a debate about dots during a meeting to discuss the results of a survey about the undeveloped parkland beneath the bridge.

cause some members weren't sold on park leaders' plan to turn it into a grand public plaza.

At the May workshop, participants toured the area beneath the span, then broke out into groups to brainstorm ideas for the space, which hosts recorded on a white board that attendees were then asked to mark with dot stickers that indicated what recommendations excited them the most.

But some on the advisory council took issue with the exercise, claiming certain people used all their dots on one item, while others spread theirs out amongst a selection

of their favorite pitches.

"A lot of people took their dots and put it on one thing," group member Katrin Adams said at the recent meeting at Brooklyn Bridge Park Corporation's Furman Street headquarters.

Others members complained that a security guard abruptly ended the previous workshop by forcing attendees to leave at 9 pm — before they got a chance to return to the white board for a second round of dot sticking.

"Everybody got to do their five or six dots, but nobody did their secondary dots, because nobody had time," said Doreen Gallo.

A Pratt presenter urged the advisory group to focus less on the dots, arguing its real problems were with specific recommendations themselves, such as the ice-skating rink, which drew criticism from some members at the recent session and past meetings about plans for the space.

"If the results mirrored the sentiments of the people in this room, there would be no question about the methodology," said John Shapiro, the chairman of Pratt Institute's Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment.

And not all advisory-council members despised the dots. The group's chairman commended the Pratt team's novel data-gathering technique, given its limited resources.

"Given the time we had, it was probably as good as any other method," Peter LaBonte said following the meeting.

Shapiro and his university colleagues — who are set to present a final version of their findings to the advisory council sometime next month — will not actually design any of the parkland beneath the bridge, however, but may simply inform stewards' plan for the area with their suggestions, according to a meadow spokeswoman.

"We will review it and take all recommendations into account as we transition into the design process," said Sarah Krauss.



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Justice is delivered

Judge stops deportation of pizza delivery man, demands release from jail

By Julianne McShane
Brooklyn Paper

A judge stayed the deportation of undocumented immigrant Pablo Villavicencio-Calderon and demanded he be immediately released from detention on July 24, nearly two months after Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents detained the pizza delivery man at Fort Hamilton Army Base on June 1.

U.S. District Judge Paul Crotty wrote that even though Pablo Villavicencio-Calderon was in the country illegally, he had always abided by the law and consequently deserved to be reunited with his family.

“Although he stayed in the United States unlawfully and is currently subject to a final order of removal, he has otherwise been a model citizen,” Crotty wrote. “He has no criminal history. He has paid his taxes. And he has worked diligently to provide for his family.”

Crotty also noted that Villavicencio-Calderon’s freedom will allow him the chance to resume the paperwork process he began in February to regularize his immigration status. And the decision stipulates that the only way Villavicencio-Calderon can be deported in the future is if the Citizenship and Immigration Services agency denies any of his three applications, or if Villavicencio-Calderon commits a crime after his papers are approved.

Democratic pols reacted to the news with delight. Gov. Cuomo called Villavicencio-Calderon’s release “a victory for basic human rights,” but said that the delivery man should have never been detained in the first place.

“There was absolutely no legitimate reason to lock up Mr. Villavicencio,” Cuomo said in a statement.

Earlier that day, lawyers representing the federal government and Villavicencio-Calderon sparred at a hearing before

Crotty in Manhattan Federal Court over whether or not he should remain detained at Hudson County Correctional Facility in New Jersey.

The chief of the U.S. Attorney’s Office Immigration Unit, Joe Cordaro, argued that Villavicencio-Calderon should remain detained since he overstayed a 2010 voluntary deportation order and consequently had an active arrest warrant on file.

But Villavicencio-Calderon’s lawyers from the Legal Aid Society, Gregory Copeland and Sarah Gillman, insisted that he be released from detention so that he can be with his family and resume his immigration application, adding that they had just received word that the government had scheduled the delivery man’s first interview in the immigration process for Aug. 21 after his wife, a U.S. citizen, filed initial paperwork back in February.

But most of the courtroom’s back-and-forth occurred between Crotty and Cordaro, as the judge slammed him with questions about the legal basis of Villavicencio-Calderon’s detention, asking how the Feds justified keeping the delivery man locked up and away from his family when he had no criminal record.

“Why is he being detained?” Crotty asked. “What is the danger to the community?”

Cordaro replied that the federal government didn’t take Villavicencio-Calderon’s lack of a criminal past into account when they detained him.

“That’s not really the analysis that the Department of Homeland Security uses,” Cordaro said.

Crotty demanded a better answer.

“What do they use?” he asked.

Cordaro said he could not answer that question on behalf of the Department of Homeland Security.



Photo by Trey Pentecost

Activists rallied at Manhattan Federal Court hours before a judge stayed the deportation of undocumented delivery man Pablo Villavicencio-Calderon.

Later, the judge asked the lawyer if the Feds were handling Villavicencio-Calderon’s case with justice in mind.

“What difference does this make in terms of the larger issues facing the country?” Crotty asked.

Cordaro replied by reminding Crotty that Villavicencio-Calderon overstayed a voluntary deportation order, but Crotty quipped that that infraction amounted to human error — and one that didn’t justify ripping the delivery man away from his family forever.

“He made a mistake,” the judge said.

But then Crotty pushed the delivery man’s defense team to explain why he had remained undocumented for so long.

“He was here for almost 10 years before he started the immigration process,” the judge said.

Villavicencio-Calderon’s lawyers replied that he had to “overcome hurdles” with the logistics of filing the lengthy paperwork, and may have been worried about the “danger” involved with revealing his undocumented status.

The lawyers also fought about where the case should

be litigated, with Cordaro arguing that proceedings should be held in New Jersey, and that it has jurisdiction over the case since that is where Villavicencio-Calderon is detained. But Copeland and Gillman insisted that it would be more convenient for Villavicencio-Calderon’s family and everyone involved — including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, whose officers are across the street from the courthouse — for the proceedings to take place in Manhattan.

Again, Crotty sided with Villavicencio-Calderon, ruling that the case would be heard in New York.

Villavicencio-Calderon’s wife Sandra Chica sat in the front row of the courtroom with the couple’s two young daughters. After the hearing and before Crotty released his decision, Chica told this paper she was not surprised that the judge’s questions seemed to point towards his ruling to reunite Villavicencio-Calderon with his family.

“I wasn’t surprised, I think he asked the right questions and hopefully he makes a good decision,” Chica said.

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Thirsty thief steals soda, hits store worker

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights–Dumbo–Boerum Hill–Downtown

A scoundrel stole a bottle of soda from a Fulton Street drugstore on July 19 and injured an employee, police said.

The 36-year-old baddie tried to leave the store near DeKalb Avenue with the \$2 soda around 2:45 pm, and a security worker tried to stop him, but the baddie used an unknown object to hurt the employee, officers said.

Needless to say

Cops cuffed a woman for stabbing another woman with a needle inside a Pierrepont Street playground on July 16, police said.

The victim told police the 66-year-old suspect poked her with a needle, causing a small puncture wound, inside the greenspace near Henry Street around 4:15 pm.

Stick it to him

Police arrested a woman for hitting a guy in face with a walking stick inside a park on Schermerhorn

Street on July 20.

The 43-year-old man told cops the suspect threatened him with a knife inside the meadow near Nevins Street around 4:50 pm, and then hit him in the face with the stick, cutting him.

Copper copped

Some punk stole a bunch of copper wire from a Jay Street building’s basement sometime between July 12 and 18, police said.

The victim told cops the crook broke into the basement near Concord Street and ran off with thousands of dollars’ worth of copper wire from a switch gear. The thief must have been familiar with the equipment, the victim told officers.

Ring reprobate

A worm stole a guy’s ring from a Water Street building on July 4, police said.

The 33-year-old victim told authorities on July 19 that he left his expensive Tiffany’s ring on a table inside the building near Dock Street at around 2 pm the day of the theft, and when he returned 20 minutes later, it was gone.

88TH PRECINCT
Fort Greene–Clinton Hill

Subway rat

A villain stole a teen’s backpack and hit him in the

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head with a bottle inside a subway station on Lafayette Avenue on July 18, police said.

The 14-year-old told cops he swiped into the G-train station on Clinton Avenue a little before 1 pm, when the snake came up behind him and struck him in the head twice with a glass bottle. The goon grabbed the victim’s red North Face backpack — with pens, a notebook, and an umbrella inside it — and fled, cops said. Paramedics transported the teen to Methodist Hospital for cuts on his head, police said.

Bad apples

There were two reported thefts on a St. James Place university campus on July 20, police said. Here are the details:

- A thief swiped a guy’s camera from a studio near Clifton Place around 3 pm, cops reported.

The guy told officers he placed his pricey Nikon camera with a zoom lens and hard drive on a table inside the studio, then left with the door open, and when he returned

at 10 pm, it was gone.

- A baddie ran off with a woman’s computer from another studio on the campus sometime overnight, police said.

The 26-year-old left her Dell Precision laptop on top of her desk inside the architectural studio near Clifton Place to go for an interview around 1 pm, and when she came back the next day at 2:30 pm, it was gone, cops said.

Un-fare

A sneak stole a taxi driver’s wallet from his cab after he picked her up on Myrtle Avenue on July 18, police said.

The 37-year-old victim told cops the good-for-nothing got in his cab near Nostrand Avenue around 9:10 pm, and after he dropped her off on Hanson Place about 10 minutes later, he noticed that she had swiped his wallet — with credit cards and cash inside — from the car’s center console.

Rotten

A punk stole a woman’s bag from behind a counter inside a Lafayette Avenue supermar-

ket on July 19, cops said.

The victim told police she was behind the counter of the fruit-juice section inside the store near Fort Greene Place and stepped away to grab more fruit around 3 pm, when the jerk hopped behind the counter and took her bag containing credit cards and her driver’s license from a small shelf.

— **Julianne Cuba**

78TH PRECINCT
Park Slope

Off the chain

A thief took off with a woman’s bike parked on Union Street on July 5.

The victim told cops that she chained her two-wheeler to scaffolding near Eighth Avenue around 8:24 pm and returned later to find it gone. Officers said a good Samaritan snapped a photo of the bandit in action as he fled, and left a photo of it at the site of the theft.

Bad boy!

Some nogoodnik grabbed a wallet at a Flatbush Avenue animal facility on July 5.

Cops said the victim was at the location near Prospect Park around 2:10 pm, put his wallet down at 3:15 pm, and minutes later, the crook ran off with it — and the victim’s several identification cards inside.

Road ragin’

Two separate road-rage attacks led to physical assault and property damage:

- A motorcyclist punched a rental van’s side-view mirror on Flatbush Avenue on July 9.

The victim told police he was driving the van near Pacific Street at 3:26 pm when the punk hit it.

- Police arrested a woman who they said assaulted a pedestrian on Third Street on July 14.

Officers said the victim was near Seventh Avenue when the suspect got out of her car, called her a “b----,” and threw a glass bottle at her head, leaving her with swelling on the right side of her face.

Scalped

Cops busted a woman who they said brutally assaulted another woman at a temporary-housing building on Eighth Avenue on July 10.

Police said the suspect was at the location near 14th Street around 7:55 pm, when she repeatedly punched another woman’s face and ripped her hair from her scalp.

The victim sustained swelling and other injuries, and the suspect was arrested minutes after the attack, according to a report.

Bogus bounty

Police arrested a man for stealing groceries at a Third Street market on July 9.

Cops said the 48-year-old suspect entered the store near Third Avenue around 7:55 am and placed dozens of items in a bag before attempting to leave. A store employee alerted authorities, and police recovered refrigerated and frozen packages of steak, fish, and ribs, according to a report.

— **Alexandra Simon**

76TH PRECINCT
Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook

Punch and run

Some lout assaulted his co-worker on Hoyt Street on July 24, cops said.

The brute punched the woman in the face near Third Street at 9:40 am before fleeing on foot, police said.

Snatched

A sneak snatched a woman’s purse after she put it down on Smith Street on July 21, police said.

The victim told officers she put her bag down near W. Ninth Street at 10:30 am, when the jerk swiped it. The bag contained four cellphones, several medications, a pricey watch, and the victim’s birth certificate, according to authorities.

Package theft

Some jerk stole a package from a Van Brunt Street apartment building on July 16, cops said.

The package was left in the lobby of the building near Visitation Place around 6:15 pm, before the thief nabbed it, officers reported.

Five on one

Some lout stole a cab driver’s camera on Atlantic Avenue on July 21, authorities said.

The thief entered the cab with five other guys near Hicks Street around 12:45 pm, and swiped the driver’s dashboard camera, police said.

Without a map

Some brute robbed a car on Second Place sometime between July 11 and 19, cops said.

The victim told officers the lout broke the window of his car parked near Court Street and swiped his navigation system.

— **Ben Verde**

68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights

Bruiser

Authorities arrested a man who they say punched another man in the face and struck his arm, causing minor bruising and lacerations, on Third Avenue on July 22.

The victim told police he was near Bay Ridge Parkway around 3 am when the suspect attacked him after a verbal dispute. Cops then cuffed the suspect, who they said also possessed a small amount of marijuana.

Riding dirty

Police busted a man who they said stole a woman’s car parked on 77th Street on July 17.

A witness told cops that she saw the suspect pulling on door handles of cars parked on the street between Ridge Boulevard and Third Avenue around 8:50 am, when he opened the door of the white Nissan Altima and drove off. Cops arrested the man the next day.

Gate out!

A bozo trespassed on a woman’s Narrows Avenue home by sneaking through its driveway’s gate at on July 19.

The victim told police she went to close the gate outside the property at 82nd Street around 10:45 pm, when she spotted the intruder on her property.

Fast and furious

Cops cuffed a man who they said struck another man in the face during a Bay Ridge Avenue brawl on July 20.

The victim told police that he first got in a car accident with the suspect between Sixth and Seventh avenues around 9:50 pm, which quickly escalated to the physical altercation that left him with bruising, redness, and lacerations.

Paramedics transported the victim to NYU Langone Hospital–Brooklyn, officers said.

Jack gas

A thief broke into an 80th Street home on July 21 and stole three gas meters, police said.

The victim said the perp broke into the home between Fifth and Sixth avenues through either the basement or roof sometime before noon.

— **Bobby Kirschenbaum**

72ND PRECINCT
Sunset Park–Windsor Terrace

Swam then stole

Police arrested a pair of women who they said stole designer accessories, electronics, and cash from a locker at a Seventh Avenue pool on July 16.

The theft occurred at the pool inside Sunset Park on 44th Street at some point between 12:45 and 2:50 pm, according to a report. The victims told officers they used a phone application to discover their stolen property on 51st Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues, and police arrested the women the same day.


Wallet woes

A sneak stole a woman’s wallet from inside her purse as she was entering the 36th Street subway station on July 16.

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¹ New York State Department of Health, 2018 Reports on Outcomes for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI), Heart Valve Surgery, and Acute Myocardial Infaction (AMI)



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Graphic violence

Famed comic book writer pens supernatural ‘Brooklyn Blood’

By Alexandra Simon
Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn is in his blood! A Brooklyn native who has worked with high-flying heroes Superman, Batman, and the futuristic Legion of Superheroes comes down to earth with his latest comic book, a supernatural police procedural set in the County of Kings. Paul Levitz, who was the publisher of DC Comics from 1989 to 2009, will celebrate the release of “Brooklyn Blood” at Anyone Comics in Crown Heights on July 27. The comic book writer, editor, and publisher grew up in East Flatbush, and says that after years dealing with aliens and alternative universes, he was ready to write a story about his hometown.

“I wanted to do a police procedural — a form I love reading — and Brooklyn was a natural setting as someplace I knew well and that was now officially cool,” said Levitz. “The time is contemporary, maybe a couple of years ago when I started it.”

The comic follows Detective Billy O’Connor, a Brooklyn cop who has recently returned from Afghanistan and suffers from traumatic memories and hallucinations. After he begins investigating a series of occult murders, he finds it difficult to tell the difference between his visions and the bizarre reality he comes across.

Levitz wove enough stories of deadly events from Brooklyn’s past into his tale to make readers’ blood run cold, he said.

“The history of Brooklyn and its recent changes are a big part of the texture of the story,” he said. “If you’re interested in the worst moments in Brooklyn his-

tory, this book has some goodies for you.”

The book’s illustrator, Fort Greene artist Tim Hamilton, drew plenty of familiar landmarks for Brooklyn readers, alongside the supernatural creatures the story called for. He also researched the Battle of Brooklyn and old maps for the book, but says that he especially enjoyed capturing modern-day Brooklyn on the page.

“I got to draw the subway and as someone who enjoys the subway, I feel that if an artist can enjoy something they draw, they will make it interesting for anyone looking at it,” said Hamilton. “If you’re bored to draw something, other people



Homegrown tale: Former president of DC Comics and Brooklyn native Paul Levitz returns to comics with “Brooklyn Blood,” a graphic novel about a Brooklyn detective solving occult murders. Illustrator Tim Hamilton says one of favorite pages in the comic was this sequence set in the subway.

COMICS

Paul Levitz and **Tim Hamilton** at Anyone Comics [1216 Union St. between Nostrand and Rogers avenues in Crown Heights, (347) 350-8422, www.anyonecomics.com]. July 27 at 7 pm. Free.

will be bored looking at it, and I enjoy drawing what I’m working on.”

Levitz hopes that fans of detective genre

will enjoy solving the case along with his protagonist, and says that future projects may take him even further from his superhero roots.

“I hope people who enjoy reading mysteries will find this a fun read, and I think it’s got some added satisfaction to offer as a layer cake with a surprising ingredient or two,” he said. “After almost 500 superhero tales, I think my next few comics projects will all be a bit more unorthodox.”



Sip sisters: The Beers With(out) Beards Festival will celebrate women in craft beer, said organizer Grace Weitz.

‘We can brew it!’

Beer festival focuses on female makers

By Bill Roudy
Brooklyn Paper

Call them ladies who lager! A week-long celebration of women in craft beer will belly up to Brooklyn next month. The Beers Without Beards Festival, happening on Aug. 7–12, aims to show that female brewers have a place in the industry — and they always have, said the festival’s organizer.

“What many people might not know is that women were the O.G. brewers,” said Grace Weitz. “With the Egyptians and Sumerians, women were historically the ones brewing in those communities. It’s when brewing moved out of the private sphere, out of the home, that men took over.”

There have been no comprehensive studies of women in craft beer, but most estimate show that women are about 30 percent of the audience and creators of craft beer, said the Crown Heights organizer, which she attributes to historic marketing trends.

“I like to say that men have 150-year head start in terms of marketing,” she said. “Beer, like Budweiser

DRINKING

Beers Without Beards Tasting Festival at the Well [272 Meserole St. between Waterbury Street and Bushwick Avenue in Bushwick, (347) 338-3612, www.hopculture.com]. \$50 (\$75 VIP). Noon–4 pm.

Beer Tasting Workshop with Anne Becerra at St. Gambrinus [533 Atlantic Ave. between Third and Fourth avenues in Boerum Hill, (347) 763-2261, www.stgambrinusbeer.com]. Aug. 12 at 1 pm. \$20.

and Miller, has been solely marketed to men — often with kind of demoralizing ads, featuring women in not many clothes. That’s been a barrier to women.”

But the best way to break down those barriers is with a friendly session over a beer, said Weitz — hence the festival.

“The whole point is for men and women to come together in the same space,” she said. “We want to share a beer with someone and talk about how to highlight the role of women in the industry.”

Events that week include dinners

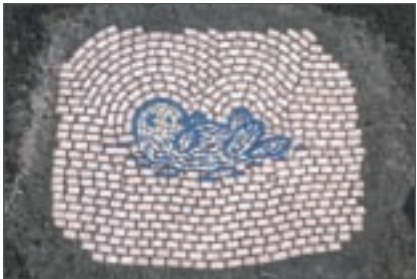
and panel discussions in Manhattan and Queens, along with a trivia session with the Bearded Ladies in Clinton Hill on Aug. 8, a Beer and Yoga event in Sunset Park on Aug. 12, and a guided beer tasting session in Boerum Hill the same day, led by beer expert Anne Becerra.

The highlight of the week will be a women-focused beer tasting festival on Aug. 11 in Bushwick. The event will feature 23 breweries, 14 of them owned or co-owned by women, and the others with women in prominent roles. The day will be a party, said Weitz, with a female dee-jay, food from the woman-owned Stuf’d sandwich truck, and a chance to pose with cut-outs of the Beers Without Beards mascot, an as-yet unnamed redheaded woman toting two kegs at once.

The mascot was inspired by a trend, said Weitz — while male brewers are notable for their beards, female beer makers stand out for their muscles.

“To me, what’s stood out about every female brewer that I’ve seen has been their strength,” she said. “It’s a physically demanding job — you’re carrying 50-pound bags of grain, or you’re picking up kegs.”

ART



Street art

His art has faced some bumps in the road!

A Chicago artist patched five Brooklyn pot-holes last week, replacing the street hazards with elaborate glass and marble mosaics showing whimsical animals — some living and some roadkill. But the city’s Department of Transportation struck back against the unauthorized street repairs within days, digging up two of the pieces and pouring fresh concrete. The tile artist said that he was taken aback by the agency’s response.

“I’m stunned. I can’t believe it,” said Jim Bachor. “I’ve put in 67 of these things around the country, and I’ve never run into this kind of blowback.”

The paved-over images were part of the “Vermin of New York” series, showing a dead rat and a dead pigeon in Fort Greene and Prospect Heights, respectively. Bachor completed the five-part series in Manhattan, with images of a cockroach, Donald Trump’s face, and a bouquet of flowers. He suspects that the content of the series may have provoked the ire of the transportation board, but says that he did not intend the art as a slight on Gotham.

“It’s not a statement on New York,” said Bachor. His mistake, he said, was in revealing the exact locations of the mosaics in an interview with the New York Post. A spokeswoman for the agency told the New York Post that it would cover the mosaics because “drivers might be distracted by the art.”

However, three of his project depicting woodland creatures still remain on Brooklyn streets. Those three, showing a fox, an otter, and an owl, were created in collaboration with the camping rental site Tentrr.com, which is hosting a social media scavenger hunt for the critters.

Those who want to see the remaining art should look for the fox in Bushwick, the otter in Dumbo, and the owl near Prospect Park, according to the contest website.

But you should look for them soon, said Bachor — they might not last

“I think they’re probably okay,” he said. “As far as I know they’re still safe. Hopefully they last a little longer.” — **Bill Roudy**

BOOKS

Reading picks

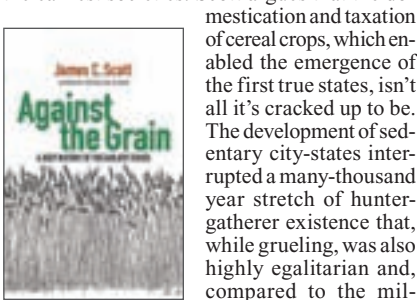
Word’s picks: “America Is Not the Heart,” by Elaine Castillo

Elaine Castillo’s novel follows a cast of characters from the Philippines to America. It subverts what we’ve come to expect from the “immigrant novel” — it is not about coming to America, surviving in America as an immigrant, or making a way for the next generation through self-sacrifice and hard work. This book is about the Philippines, and it explores the country’s cultural hybridity and history through the characters that streak across its pages. Amid this fascinating mosaic of Filipino history is a love story and an equally fascinating portrait of a woman building a new life in California.

— **Nneoma Amadi-obi**, *Word* [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbookstores.com].

Community Bookstore’s pick: “Against The Grain,” by James C. Scott

This book is a deep dive into the history of civilization and the lessons to be learned from the earliest societies. Scott argues that the domestication and taxation of cereal crops, which enabled the emergence of the first true states, isn’t all it’s cracked up to be. The development of sedentary city-states interrupted a many-thousand year stretch of hunter-gatherer existence that, while grueling, was also highly egalitarian and, compared to the millennia of slavery, war-



fare and tyrannical rule that followed, seems downright utopian.

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

Greenlight Bookstore’s pick: “The River of Consciousness,” by Oliver Sacks

This book, the last that renowned scientist Oliver Sacks completed before his death in 2015, is a crowning achievement for an endlessly curious generalist. He explores matters of evolution, psychology, neurology, memory, creativity, and consciousness with the fluid style and insight of a novelist, incorporating case studies he accumulated over his storied career. The result is a rigorous, compassionate humanism open to change: an antidote to irrational times.

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



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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS’ PICKS

FRIDAY
July 27



Shake it off

Troop over to Fort Greene Park tonight for an outdoor production of Shakespeare’s “All’s Well That Ends Well,” from the Hip to Hip Theater company. The rarely-performed “problem play” features a woman who follows her beloved to war, fakes her own death, disguises herself as a village maiden, and engages in bedroom shenanigans to get her man back.

7:30 pm at Fort Greene Park’s Monument Steps (Washington Park between Myrtle and Dekalb avenues, www.hiptohip.org). Free.

SATURDAY
July 28

Slopey suds

Indulge in an afternoon of day-drinking and Park Slope exploration, at the Brooklyn Brewery’s Total Park Slope Immersion. A \$15 ticket will score you a free beer at local bars McMahon’s Public House, Union Hall, High Dive, and The Gate, a free scoop of ice cream at the Chocolate Room, and discounts at local shops and restaurants from noon until 6 pm.

Noon–6 pm, starting at McMahon’s Public House (39 Fifth Ave. between Dean and Bergen streets in Park Slope, www.brooklynbased.com). \$15–\$25.



SUNDAY
July 29



Jaws-ome!

This is Shark Week on Discovery Channel — but why watch television when you can see the real thing? The Coney Island exhibit “Ocean Wonders: Sharks!” will take you through nine rooms of toothy critters, letting you get up close and personal with 18 species of sharks and rays. The admission price will double after this summer, so don’t delay!

10 am–7 pm at New York Aquarium [602 Surf Ave. at W. 8 Street in Coney Island, (718) 265–3474, www.nyaquarium.com]. \$15 (\$12 kids).

MONDAY
July 30

Skate or die

Prolific tweeter, rapper, and actor Jaden Smith, who has played space travelers and a pink-haired millionaire demon-hunter, comes closer to earth in a role as a skateboarder in the new film “Skate Kitchen,” screening tonight in Greenpoint. And he will give a musical performance after the show!

8:30 pm at House of Vans [25 Franklin St. between Quay Street and Meserole Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 349–2311, www.rooftopfilms.com]. Free with RSVP.



TUESDAY
July 31



Who let the dogs out?

Who? Who? This question has plagued scholars throughout the ages, but now we may finally have an answer. “Who Let the Dogs Out?” expert Ben Sisto will deliver tonight’s lecture about the origin and legacy of the abominable song by the Baha Men that was everywhere in 2000. Proceeds will go to the Brooklyn Animal Resource Coalition.

8 pm at the Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643–6510, www.thebellhouse-ny.com]. \$5–\$10.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, JULY 27

THEATER, “ROMEO AND JULIET”: The New York Classical Theater company’s presents Shakespeare’s classic tragedy under the stars. **Free.** 7 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier One [Old Fulton Street at Furman Street in Dumbo, (718) 222–9939], www.newyorkclassical.org.

NIGHTLIFE, THE SARTORIAL GEEK HARRY POTTER HOUSE PARTY: The magazine for nerdy women hosts a Harry Potter-themed party, with chocolate frogs and a themed cocktail. \$12 (\$10 in advance). 7–9 pm. Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. between Milton and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (718) 383–0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

THEATER, “TWELFTH NIGHT”: The Gallery Players perform Shakespeare’s comedy about twins separated by a shipwreck. \$25 (\$20 seniors and children). 7:30 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352–3101], www.galleryplayers.com.

MUSIC, TINARIWEN: A desert blues group from northern Mali that formed while in exile. With Cheick Hamala Diabate. **Free.** 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell [Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965–8900], www.brickartsmedia.org/cb.

THEATER, “MARIE AND BRUCE”: Wallace Shawn’s 1978 comedy about a divorcing couple get a hilarious new production. \$18. 8 pm. Jack (505 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill), www.jackny.org.

FILM, “THE IRON TRIANGLE”: A free outdoor screening of the documentary about Willets Point, a nexus of small auto repair shops in Queens, and its fight against gentrification. **Free.** 8:45 pm. 61 Franklin Street Garden (61 Franklin St. between Oak and Calyer streets in Greenpoint), 61franklinstreetgarden.com.

COMEDY, “THIS PARTY IS A F----- DISASTER (AND YOU’RE INVITED!)”: An improvised comedy show set at a party where the audience and comedians are all guests. \$10. 9:30 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. between Union Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907–6189], www.bricktheater.com.



Associated Press / Babeto Matthews

Pop eyes: Tattooed pastor Carl Lentz, who is the spiritual adviser to pop star Justin Bieber, will lead the three-day Hillsong Conference at Barclays Center starting on Aug. 1.

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, JULY 27

ESPORTS, OVERWATCH LEAGUE GRAND FINALS: \$60. 7 pm.

SAT, JULY 28

ESPORTS, OVERWATCH LEAGUE GRAND FINALS: \$60. 3 pm.

WED, AUG 1

RELIGION, HILLSONG CONFERENCE: \$200. tba.

THU, AUG 2

RELIGION, HILLSONG CONFERENCE: \$200. tba.

FRI, AUG 3

RELIGION, HILLSONG CONFERENCE: \$200. tba.

SAT, AUG 18

SPORTS, WWE NXT TAKEOVER: \$51–\$156. 7:15 pm.

SUN, AUG 19

SPORTS, WWE SUMMERSLAM: \$550–\$600. 6:30 pm.

MON, AUG 20

SPORTS, WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW: \$26–\$156. 7:30 pm.

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

http://

Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

SAT, JULY 28

GLUTEN FREE FOOD ALLERGY FEST: Sample gluten free foods and learn to cook your own. \$15 (\$5 kids). 11 am–4 pm. Brooklyn Expo Center (72 Noble St. at Franklin Street in Greenpoint).

DINING, FIVE BOROUGHS BREWING ANNIVERSARY PARTY: The Sunset Park brewery celebrates one year with a block party featuring snow cones, hot dogs, cotton candy, and the release of a new IPA called Make Good Decisions. **Free.** Noon–11 pm. Five Boroughs Brewing (215 47th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park), fiveboroughs.com.

DINING, PRIDE 365 PARTY AND CAN RELEASE: A afternoon of drag and giveaways to celebrate the launch of Pride 365, a special IPA brewed in collaboration with the NYC Gay Craft Beer Lovers Meetup Group. **Free.** 1–9 pm. Coney Island Brewery (1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th Street in Coney Island), www.coneyisland-beer.com.

ART, SUMMER SHOW: The Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition hosts five different show for its summer session, including an exhibit of summer-inspired work and a collection by Park Slope artists. **Free.** 1–6 pm. Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition [499 Van Brunt St., near Reed Street in Red Hook, (718) 596–2506], www.bwac.org.

MUSIC, MYRNA AND THE BULL-DOGS: The band plays the opening reception of the Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition’s summer show. With Allergic to B’s at 3 pm. **Free.** 2 pm. Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition [499 Van Brunt St., near Reed Street in Red Hook, (718) 596–2506], www.bwac.org.

MUSIC, SUMMER THUNDER: Live music and drink specials. This week: See **9 DAYS** on page 8

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The walking read

Book explores Bklyn’s past and present

By Julianne McShane
Brooklyn Paper

She makes walks down memory lane. An updated guide to exploring Kings County on foot will take wanderers through the borough’s land-marked locales and hipster hubs alike. The author of “Walking Brooklyn” said that she created some new jaunts that spotlight burgeoning businesses while also paying homage to the area’s enduring history.

“The neighborhoods with the historic districts can only change so much as far as the physical infrastructure, but the whole culinary and culture scene has grown so much,” said Adrienne Onofri, who lives in the distant borough of Queens.

Onofri—who also wrote “Walking Queens” and edited “Walking Manhattan”—first penned the guidebook in 2007 by researching local history and wandering the borough’s streets. She updated the book with new walks in areas that had changed dramatically over the past decade, including Downtown, Dumbo, Gowanus, Red Hook, Coney Island, and Bushwick.

She said she was most surprised by Bushwick’s transformation from



Walking woman: Adrienne Onofri highlights Kings County’s main streets, side streets, and historical highlights in the new edition of “Walking Brooklyn.”

a crime-ridden industrial district to its current status as a bastion of hipsters fueled by overpriced coffee and microbreweries.

“Ten years ago, people were starting to talk about Bushwick as the place where people were going to go when they were priced out of Williamsburg,” she said. “To people who are old enough and have been in New York long enough, that still seemed a little far fetched, because Bushwick has unfortunately been a troubled neighborhood, so it was just amazing the way that turned around.”

Onofri expanded her Bushwick route—which originally focused on the 19th century brewers’ mansions on Bushwick Avenue in the first edition of the book—to include stops at a “hipster mini-mall,” an organic chocolate shop, and an artists’ collective.

The book includes more than 30 Brooklyn neighborhoods, but some of her favorite walks are located in Dumbo and around Prospect Park, she said. Those saunters combine historical context with modern allure, which she hopes will entice visitors and locals alike to take the routes less traveled by.

“I like walks that have a real combination of things: history, nature—whether it’s a park or a waterway—and places where you can see very contemporary culture and art,” said Onofri. “The idea was to write it for people living here and for tourists. I certainly hope that it encourages people to explore some new neighborhoods.”

“Walking Brooklyn” by Adrienne Onofri. Available in bookstores now. \$16.95.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Taking the book out for a stroll

By Julianne McShane
Brooklyn Paper

This guidebook gave me a run for my money!

As a runner, I delight in routine, and I’ve circled Prospect Park so many times that I could probably run it with my eyes closed. But this week, with Adrienne Onofri’s book “Walking Brooklyn” in hand, I set out—with eyes wide open—to follow her Park Slope tour and to discover parts of the neighborhood I’ve run right past.

I began at **Grand Army Plaza** and strolled down Lincoln Place, where I encountered the stately **Montauk Club** (25 Eighth Ave. at Lincoln Place) commanding the corner

in its Venetian Gothic glory. Somehow, my daily runs never brought me by the nearly 130-year-old social club, and I was amazed to discover both its architecture and its history as one of the first social clubs to allow women to enter.

I continued on to Sixth Avenue, and encountered another unexpected burst of Slope splendor. The stained glass windows of **St. Augustine Church** (116 Sixth Ave. at Sterling Place) glimmered in the summer’s early evening light, and its spires, towers, and stonework made me feel like I was in a 19th century European city.

On Seventh Avenue, I sauntered past the **Brooklyn Conservatory of Music** (58 Seventh Ave. at Lincoln

Place), where youngsters hung out on the stoop while their pals inside practiced piano, putting a skip in my steps through the Slope.

Onofri mentions the **Park Slope Food Coop** (782 Union St. between Sixth and Seventh avenues) in passing, and I also had to pass it by—only members allowed! But after being barred from the artisanal grocery, I got a dose of free serenity by stumbling upon **Polhemus Place** (between Carroll Street and Garfield Place), a quiet side street that I instantly decided would become part of my regular running route.

Just a few blocks later, I ended my walk where my runs often begin: inside of Prospect Park—this time at **Litchfield Villa** (95 Prospect Park



File photo by Gregory P. Mango

The stately Montauk Club in Park Slope.

West between Fourth and Fifth streets), a 19th century mansion whose history I had always pondered while jogging by.

But the most surprising discovery I made on my stroll was the delight I found in breaking my routine, slowing to a walk, and taking in the Slope with fresh eyes.



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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

Mamadou Kelly. **Free.** 2 pm. Union Pool (484 Union Ave. at Meeker Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 609–0484), www.union-pool.com.

THEATER, “THE WINTER’S TALE”: Shakespeare’s tragi-

comedy about a jealous king, a shipwreck, and a lost child will premiere as part of the Fifth Avenue Fair, playing in the street in front of South Bar. **Free.** 6:30 pm. South Bar (Fifth Avenue between 17th and 18th streets in Park Slope), www.south-brooklynshakespeare.com.

MUSIC, NATTI VOGEL: The pop pianist reveals some new music in a show that combines cabaret, rock,

jazz, and comedy. \$20. 7 pm. National Sawdust [80 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (646) 779–8455], www.national-sawdust.org.

FILM, “NAUSICAÄ OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND”: Hayao Miyazaki’s animated film about a warrior princess fighting to save a jungle from an ancient weapon will screen after a performance from Greenpoint guitarist

Kaki King. Part of the Bric Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival. **Free.** 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell [Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965–8900], www.bricartsmedia.org/cb.

THEATER, “MARIE AND BRUCE”: 8 pm. See Friday, July 27.

COMEDY, SIDE PONYTAIL COMEDY: A special Sat-

urday comedy show with Dan Licata, Matt Koff, Ariel Leaty, and George Civeris. **Free.** 8 pm. Friends and Lovers (641 Classon Ave. between Dean and Pacific streets in Crown Heights), www.flnbk.com.

FILM, “INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT”: A documentary about the rise and fall of punk label Wax Trax Records. Free with RSVP. 8:30 pm. House of Vans (25 Franklin St. at Meserole Street in Greenpoint), www.rooftopfilms.com.

NIGHTLIFE, MASSIVE STADIUM SILENT DISCO: Dance the bases at MCU Park at this “silent disco” party. You’ll get a headset streaming your choice of three DJs, glow in the dark gear, and a ticket to a future Cyclones game. \$25–\$30. 10 pm–2 am. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449–8497], www.quietevents.com.



Libbow Brzhanik

The high line: The painting “Woman in Balance” is part of the Brooklyn Waterfront Arts Coalition summer show, opening July 28 at a warehouse in Red Hook.

SUN, JULY 29

SPORTS, YOGASOLE’S FREE YOGA IN PROSPECT PARK: Free yoga classes for all levels. Bring your own mat. **Free.** 10 am. Propect Park 15th Street Entrance [West Drive at Loop Road in Windsor Terrace, (718) 541–1382], yogasole.com.

GLUTEN FREE FOOD ALLERGY FEST: 11 am–4 pm. See Saturday, July 28.

MUSIC, THE LOX: With Young M.A and Special Guest DJ Funk Flex, hosted by Torae. **Free.** 6 pm. Ford Amphitheater (3052 W 21st St. at the Boardwalk in Coney Island), fordamphitheaterconeyisland.com.

ART, SUMMER SHOW: 1–6 pm. See Saturday, July 28.

MON, JULY 30

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CYCLONES VS. TRI-CITY VALLEY CATS: \$12–\$19 (\$10–\$17 in advance). 7 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449–8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

READING, BOOKS BENEATH THE BRIDGE: Comic essayists Sloane Crosley and Francesca Ramsey

read from their work, with the Manhattan skyline as a backdrop. **Free.** 7 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park’s Granite Prospect [Old Fulton Street at Furman Street in Dumbo, (718) 222–9939], brooklynbridgepark.org.

COMEDY, SIDE PONYTAIL COMEDY: The Monday night comedy show welcomes Joe Pera, Xazmin Garza, Mike Drucker, and more. **Free.** 8 pm. Friends and Lovers (641 Classon Ave. between Dean and Pacific streets in Crown Heights), www.flnbk.com.

FILM, “LABYRINTH”: A free outdoor screening of the classic fantasy film starring David Bowie as the Goblin King. **Free.** 8:30 pm. Parklife (636 Degraw St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus), parklifebk.com.

COMEDY, ED SULLIVAN ON ACID: A long-running, free stand-up comedy show hosted by Calvin S. Cato. **Free.** 9 pm. Freddy’s Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768–0131], freddysbar.com.

TUES, JULY 31

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CYCLONES VS. TRI-CITY VALLEY CATS: \$12–\$19 (\$10–\$17 in advance). 11:30 am. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449–8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

READING, “BEHEMOTH”: History professor Joshua B. Freeman discusses his book about the effect heavy industry has had on modern society. \$5. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222–4111], www.brooklynhistory.org.

COMEDY, GRANDBABY COMEDY: Join Mary Cella, Cara Weinberger and Brian Bahe on Tuesdays for their weekly comedy showcase. **Free.** 8 pm. Baby Grand Brooklyn [55 McGuinness Blvd. South at Newton Street in Greenpoint, (347) 463–9106], www.facebook.com/GrandbabyComedy.

COMEDY, “HARRY THE FIRST”: Drunk Restoration Comedy performs a Shakespeare-ified version of the first Harry Potter book, in a combination of staged reading, improvised comedy, and drinking contest. \$10 (\$8 in advance). 8 pm. Littlefield (635 Sackett St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus), www.littlefieldnyc.com.

DANCE, FREE TANGO DANCE LESSONS: Dance Fever Studios offers a free tango lesson. No partner or experience needed. **Free.** 8 pm. Dance Fever Studios [159 20th St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 637–3216], www.dancefeverstudios.com.

WED, AUG. 1

FOOD PANTRY: Open to all in the Sheepshead Bay community. Donations welcomed. 11 am to 1 pm. Beth Aaron Synagogue [2261 Bragg St. between Avenues WJ and V in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 646–9368].

MUSIC, RISE AGAINST: With AFI and Anti-Flag. \$27–\$100. 6 pm. Ford Amphitheater (3052 W 21st St. at the Boardwalk in Coney Island), fordamphitheaterconeyisland.com.

FILM, “HACKERS”: A free screening of the ‘90s film in McCarren Park. **Free.** 6 pm. McCarren Park (Berry St. and N 12th St. in Williamsburg).

THEATER, “THE WINTER’S TALE”: Shakespeare’s tragedy about a jealous king, a shipwreck, and a lost child. **Free.** 8 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768–3195], theoldstonehouse.org.

FILM, “WEST SIDE STORY”: The classic musical take on “Romeo and Juliet” set in 1950s New York. Beginning at 7 pm, Skyline Salsa Band will get the audience on their feet with salsa numbers. **Free.** 8:30 pm. Prospect Park Long Meadow North (Enter at Grand Army Plaza at Eastern Parkway in Prospect Park), www.prospectpark.org.

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Making a splash

NYC Ferry launches first jumbo boat

By Julianne Cuba
Brooklyn Paper

It's ferry-good news!
The first super-sized boat to join the city's fleet of ferries started shuttling commuters across the East River last weekend, allowing even more straphangers to trade trips through crumbling subway stations for travel on the high seas, according to leaders of the service.

"We are thrilled about the arrival of the newest and largest NYC Ferry vessel," said Cameron Clark, a bigwig at ferry operator Hornblower, which oversees the nautical-transit system along with officials at the city's Economic Development Corporation. "We will continue to collaborate with NYCEDC to accommodate the high-ridership numbers and excitement of our riders."

The new 350-seat ferry, which holds 200 more passengers than the boats that set sail when the system debuted last year, started sailing the Rockaway route on July 21, shuttling back and forth between the outer boroughs of Queens and Manhattan with a stop at the Brooklyn Army Terminal in Sunset Park along the way on some trips. One-way passage on the boat costs



(Top) The Ocean Queen Rockstar, the first of six 350-seat boats to join the NYC Ferry system, took its maiden voyage on July 21. (Above) The original ferries have 150 seats.

\$2.75 — the same price as a trip on its smaller sister ships, and on any subway.

The vessel, named Ocean Queen Rockstar by young students at a Queens public school, journeyed more than 2,000 miles from waters off the Gulf Coast to its new home in New York Har-

bor, according to a service spokeswoman, who said the boat, when not carrying passengers, docks at NYC Ferry's in-the-works "home port" at Fort Greene's Brooklyn Navy Yard — which could open to commuters as soon as this fall, once brass at the quasi-municipal Brooklyn Navy Yard



ON THE RADIO: A future for Gage and Tollner?

By Moses Jefferson
Brooklyn Paper

Finally, someone is doing right by Gage and Tollner — and you can hear all about it on Brooklyn Paper Radio.

The venerable Downtown restaurant — which has been closed since 2004 — is being brought back to life, and this week's guest, St. John Frizell, explained to hosts Vince DiMiceli and Anthony Rotunno how he and his team are going to recreate many of the celebrated bistro's signature dishes, including its world-famous turtle soup.

Just don't expect to get any actual turtle in it.

"It's going to be mock turtle meat," said Frizell, whose first name is pronounced "sin-jun." "Because it is difficult to source responsibly."

But you can expect the inside of the latest iteration of the historic restaurant to look just like your grandparents remembered it, because its interior — which included gas-fueled chandeliers — is landmarked, and, according to Frizell, is in pretty good shape despite the space having been used as an Arby's, TGI Friday's, and jewelry store since going out of business.

"The first moment we



Deep in the Paper's archive was this photo from 1997, for which the caption read "Wayne lights the gas lights at 5 pm every day at Gage & Tollner."

walked in, it was like walking into a cathedral," Frizell said. "It was quiet, it was majestic, it was beautiful."

The amply mirrored interior will be spruced up, a tiki-themed cocktail bar will go in upstairs, and two private dining areas on the second floor will be readied for events, according to Frizell. And if all

things go as planned, Gage and Tollner will reopen about a year from now.

But reviving a Brooklyn institution takes a lot of cash.

To get it done, Frizell, who also owns Fort Defiance in Red Hook, is teaming with other Brooklyn restaurateurs, including the owners of the Good Fork on Van

Development Corporation finish construction on the landing, the rep said.

The roughly 97-foot-long and 27-foot-wide Ocean Queen Rockstar features six dedicated spots for bicycles, another half-dozen for wheelchairs, 162 indoor seats on its lower deck, and 182 outdoor seats on its upper deck, where additional benches offer more spots to plop down.

It is the first of six 350-capacity vessels to join the NYC Ferry fleet, two more of which will start floating later this year, with the final three hitting the water sometime in 2019, the spokeswoman said.

The big boat's arrival followed Mayor DeBlasio's May pledge of an additional \$300 million in capital funding for the ferry system, which officials expect will serve some 9 million New Yorkers by 2023, now that all six of its routes are up and running.

But the super-sized ship still pales in comparison to others that regularly cruise New York Harbor, which include such hulking vessels as the 505-seat Seastreak crafts that shuttle passengers from Manhattan to faraway New Jersey; the Staten Island Ferry boats, the largest of which can shuttle some 6,000 passengers from the Rock to Manhattan; and the massive Queen Mary 2 cruise ship, which packs around 3,000 riders on its journeys from Brooklyn across the pond to Southampton, England.

Brunt Street, and anyone that wants to invest in the project — with the promise of a return on their investment. To find out how to become a part of the reborn legend, visit www.gageandtollner.com or www.wefunder.com/gageandtollner for all the details.

Or, you can just take a listen to the show and hear them — along with lots of interesting anecdotes, including how DiMiceli's heart breaks just a little bit every time he walks past the old "G&T" — on BrooklynPaper.com.

Brooklyn Paper Radio is recorded and podcast live every Tuesday at 2:30 pm — for your convenience — from our studio in America's Downtown and can be found, as always, on BrooklynPaper.com, on iTunes, and of course, on Stitcher.

PARK...

Continued from page 1
the city tapped California-based landscape-architecture firm Hargreaves Associates to design back in 2010 — has inched along over the past decade, following the city's use of eminent domain to purchase nearly a dozen once privately owned properties on the site for tens of millions of dollars in order to make way for the new meadow. Workers only finished demolishing the last of those buildings in February, after officials controversially started forcing out residents, some from rent-stabilized units, in 2009.

When finished, the garage will park cars using a system equipped with light sensors, machines, and other technology that automatically moves vehicles from an entry room, where clients drop them off, to one of its below-ground parking bays, according to a New York Times report. Customers will swipe credit cards at kiosks within the facility to identify a ride as their own when stowing it, and use that same card to retrieve their four-wheelers from the garage.

The Economic Development Corporation's chief acknowledged the glacial progress of the park-and-garage project at a July 10 event hosted by the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership — the business-boosting group charged with maintaining the lawn when it's complete — but also suggested the years-in-the-making space is gaining forward momentum.

"It's taken too long," said James Patchett. "It's an essential amenity for the developing Downtown commercial core, and it's something that is needed. I hope to have positive news about it soon."

"My grandkids and I packed Go Bags to take if we have to evacuate."

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Doreen **BROOKLYN**

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Clones win 3, lose 3, in up-and-down week

By Ben Verde
Brooklyn Paper

Cyclones 11
Tri-City 5
July 18 at Tri-City

Jose Miguel Medina’s two home runs and four runs batted in helped the Clones trap the Valley Cats.

Medina’s first bomb came in the fourth when, with Brooklyn up just 4–3,

The Ride

the right fielder and lead-off hitter smashed a one-and-one pitch over the left-center-field wall, driving in Jose Brizuela and Manny Rodriguez.

His second, a solo shot on a three-and-one pitch lead-

ing off the eighth, put the Cyclones up 7–3.

After a shaky first inning in which starting pitcher Christian James gave up three runs before recording an out, the hurler settled down and threw six innings of three-hit ball.

Tri-City 7
Cyclones 3
July 19 at Tri-City

The Cyclones missed an



Photo by Jon Farina

Kyle Wilson gave up a solo homer in the fourth inning on July 20, helping the Lowell Spinners win.

opportunity for a sweep when Mac Lozer gave up four runs to the Valley Cats in the seventh, blowing Brooklyn’s thin 3–2 lead.

The Clones got on top in the second when Carlos Cortes knocked in Chase Chambers, who had singled and advanced to second on a walk.

And after Tri-City scored two runs, Cortes smacked a solo homer off a 2–2 pitch in the fifth, the first of his professional career, to tie it at 2.

But a fourth-inning Tri-City rally secured the lead for the Valley Cats, which scored again in the eighth to seal its win.

Lowell 3
Cyclones 1
July 20 at MCU Park

Brooklyn fell to the Spinners after the Cyclones couldn’t take advantage of a late burst of energy.

Following six innings of one-hit ball, our boys burst to life. Carlos Cortes smacked a triple to right, before Manny Rodriguez doubled to plate Cortes in the seventh. The Clones couldn’t stretch their luck though, and the inning ended with only one run scored.

The New Englanders took the lead early, scoring one in the second, before Kyle Wilson gave up a solo homer in the fourth. Lowell scored again in the fifth to cement the lead.

Cyclones 3
Lowell 2
July 21 at MCU (Game one)

Our boys came from behind to clinch game one in a doubleheader, after a rain delay paused a July 21 game with the Spinners in the lead.

The game resumed in the top of the fourth with the New

Englanders in front 2–1.

Brooklyn tied it up in the fifth, when Nick Meyer singled to knock in Anthony Di-rocie, who had walked and stolen second.

And the Clones took the lead in the next inning, staying in front to win the game.

Cyclones 4
Lowell 0
July 22 at MCU (Game two)

Cyclones hurler Jaison Vilera continued his dominance over New York-Penn League batters in the second game, striking out five and allowing five hits and three walks over five innings.

Tommy Wilson took over for Vilera in the sixth and kept Lowell scoreless in the shortened game, which ended after seven innings.

Mahoning Valley 1
Cyclones 0
July 24 in Mahoning Valley

The Cyclones’ bats were silenced by the Scrappers, and Brooklyn got shutout in a rain-shortened game that lasted five innings.

Mahoning Valley starter Zack Draper struck out five over five innings, giving up two walks and allowing just two hits.

The Ohioans scored the game-winning run in the third, when Jose Fermin singled to knock in Henry Pujols, who had singled and moved to third on a base hit.

Brooklyn pitcher Christian James struck out three and allowed five hits.

Real clean start

Developer reveals rehab of Dumbo rehabilitation center’s historic building

By Julianne Cuba
Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn builder that wants to erect a controversial megadevelopment on the edge of Boerum Hill recently turned its attention to Dumbo, scooping up two neighboring Jay Street buildings in the area’s historic district that its bigwigs hope to transform into a single, live-work space for creative types, they told city preservationists this month.

“Live-work units with commercial use—we imagine a lot of folks in Dumbo have art or photo studios,” said Alloy Development’s AJ Pires during a July 17 presentation to the Landmarks Preservation Commission, which must sign off on the scheme because the properties sit within the landmarked Dumbo Historic District.

Pires and his business partner Jared Della Valle bought the combined lots at 42–50 Jay St. in June for an undisclosed price, according to city records, but a Real Deal report estimated the Alloy leaders doled out more than \$50 million to purchase the connected pair from social-services provider Phoenix House—which just last year opened a swanky rehab facility at the location that closed four months after its debut because it struggled to fill beds, according to a Crain’s report.

The developer of 80 Flatbush in Boerum Hill declined to comment on its new Dumbo project, but records show Alloy plans to shell out \$6,187,020 to transform the old rehab center and its adjoining building—which housed Phoenix



Alloy Development

Alloy Development wants to transform the old rehab center (left) into spaces for creatives (right).

House administrative offices—into a 46-unit residential complex with perks that include a gym, storage, recreation spaces, and other amenities.

The makeover calls for adding two stories atop the eight-floor structure at 42 Jay St., as well as painting its facade, reconfiguring its ground level, and installing windows and mechanical units. And the builders’ proposed similar tweaks to the six-floor building at 50 Jay St., including adding an extra story on top, altering the ground floor, and putting in new windows and mechanical equipment.

The developers also want to create a new entry to their planned complex, which will be renamed 168 Plymouth St., via a courtyard off of that street, where they claimed people used to enter the properties in the late 1800s and early 1900s when they were occupied by the Masury Paint Company.

“One of the things we’re proposing is to move the primary building entrance to Plymouth, and use the courtyard in the back as an entrance for the building,” Pires said.

Other changes include painting over a Plymouth Street gate

attached to one of the buildings, and sticking a bollard outside the new entrance on that street to secure it, Pires said.

Most of the commissioners cheered the proposal, but they did not vote on it at the meeting, instead asking Alloy to return with a slightly revised version that they can weigh in on at a to-be-determined session.

A local preservationist also applauded the proposal, but urged the builder to ensure any construction does not damage Plymouth Street’s ancient Belgian blocks if it ultimately receives the green light.

“This will be a beautiful enhancement of one of the neighborhood’s favorite buildings,” said Doreen Gallo, leader of civic group the Dumbo Neighborhood Alliance. “We ask that Alloy be diligent on this 100-percent Belgian-block street, and that the blocks be carefully numbered and put back in their rightful place.”

The firm’s Jay Street project follows its several already completed developments within the Dumbo Historic District, which include 185 Plymouth St., 1 John St. inside Brooklyn Bridge Park, and 192 Water St.

New reasons to love Mr. Rogers

Mr. Rogers was the host of a half hour of calm for kids from 1968 until 2001. On other kids’ shows you could find flying squirrels, falling pianos, and grouches in garbage cans. But tune in to “Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood” and you found a soft-spoken middle-aged guy, forever changing into his cardigan, who spent his days talking and sometimes singing with a worn-out sock puppet and some equally low-key, kindly neighbors.

To many kids, including (I am now ashamed to say) me, it looked like the most boring place on earth. To others, a new documentary reveals, it was a haven, a hearth, free therapy, the spark of god, and a warm, loving family all rolled into one.

It could be what we need today.

The documentary “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” features footage going back to the show’s beginning, when Mr. Rogers—he does have a first name, it’s Fred—was about to go to divinity school when he happened to see some children’s programming and couldn’t believe it. Explosions? Pie throwing? Companies pushing kids to buy toys? Mr. Rogers was so incensed, he put school on hold to start a new kind of kiddie television. He’d use half an hour to show kids old movies and other educational material.

Except that back then, the films he was screening were so old they kept breaking or burning up. Mid-show there was nothing on the screen. That’s when he grabbed a puppet and started talking to the kids instead, necessity being the puppet of invention.

As he pulled together his new show, Mr. Rogers started studying child development. He learned something he already knew in his heart: that kids are full human beings with a full range of emotions, including the darkness childhood holds. But it is possible all that training wouldn’t have made Mr. Rogers so attuned to kids’ wonder and sorrow had he not experienced it himself.

He was, he says, sick as a kid. Born in 1928, he spent many long days in bed, convalescing. He had to make up stories—characters, songs—to keep himself occupied.

Then, too, before he hit



Rhymes with CRAZY

By Lenore Skenazy

high school and slimmed down, he’d earned the name, “Fat Freddy.” A photo of him shows why. Nobody wants to be bullied, of course, but as one of the interviewees notes in the film: It’s possible that without Fat Freddy, there wouldn’t have been a “Mr. Rogers” either.

The yin and yang of childhood is something Mr. Rogers was not afraid to talk about, making him outrageously radical even while many of us dismissed him as a goody-goody. This is a man who did an entire week of programs about divorce, and another on death—for kids! In an era when many whites were unwilling to swim in the same pool as African-Americans—so hard to imagine today—Mr. Rogers put a little kiddie pool on the set and cooled his feet in it. When the neighborhood “cop” came by, played

by African-American Francois Scarborough Clemmons, Mr. Rogers invited him to cool his feet off too. The camera, as straightforward as a curious child, bends over to look at the two sets of feet—one black, one white—enjoying the water together.

A moment like that, so simple and so powerful, is almost a prayer. But despite the divinity degree Mr. Rogers eventually earned, he knew that preaching is... preachy. So instead he just exemplified the kind of respect and love he wanted everyone to give their neighbors, even the littlest ones.

In one of the movie’s most moving scenes, he welcomes a little boy, Jeffrey Erlanger, who uses a motorized wheelchair. Instead of ignoring the device, Mr. Rogers asks about it. But then instead of focusing on the boy’s disability, they

chat for awhile about highs and lows and sing a song together:

“It’s you I like. It’s not the things you wear. It’s not the way you do your hair. But it’s you I like, the way you are right now, the way down deep inside you. Not the things that hide you. ... It’s you I like.”

Mr. Rogers doesn’t seem to have lectured his little viewers about the evils of bullying, the importance of diversity, or any of the other issues schools are hitting head-on today. That’s because when you see the worthiness in everyone you interact with, there can’t be bullying. Diversity? That’s a given—we’re all people.

Fred Rogers knew the simple key to solving the earth’s problems. “Everyone longs to be loved. And the greatest thing we can do is to let people know that they are loved and capable of loving.”

The key is not to preach or teach, it’s to love.

And for what it’s worth, now I love Mr. Rogers.

Lenore Skenazy is president of Let Grow and founder of Free-Range Kids.

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