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# FULL SPEED AHEAD

# MTA rolls out 'select bus service' on borough's busiest line

#### BY JULIANNE CUBA

Brooklyn's busiest bus route may have gotten a little quicker.

The Metropolitan Transit Authority rolled out B46 Select Bus Service on July 3, promising a speedier commute for 44,000 riders along its Marine Park-to-Bushwick route. The line skips more stops than the B46 Limited it is replacing, and straphangers can now pay before they get on — two features that should expedite trips, officials say. Riders are still getting used to the changes, but anything beats waiting to board a bus while people fumble to swipe their MetroCards, one local leader said.

"To be quite honest, with any tran-



**NO COMPLAINTS HERE:** Coney Islander Naakoshe Manwaring is happy with the new B46 Select Bus Service.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

sition, there's always a stir. It's getting used to it," said Community Board 18 district manager Dottie Turano. "It's hard waiting in line, and with today's demands and schedules, it's hard to wait in line."

Kiosks at stops along the route let commuters swipe their cards in exchange for a printed ticket used to gain admission to people-movers.

The new system is definitely quicker, but not as intuitive as the old-school way, according to one Flatbush rider who caught a B46 outside of Kings Plaza Mall on July 11.

"It's faster for the bus to move, but I think that I'm more used to using Continued on page 10



# Levant, elevated

The Freedom Dabke Troupe performs traditional Levantine line dance for the crowd during the 10th annual Arab American Association Bazaar and Eid Celebration on July 10. For more, **see page 3.**Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

# Fruits of his labor



At 92, he runs Marine Park's oldest, beloved produce shop

#### BY JULIANNE CUBA

He's ripe with stories.

A 92-year-old Brooklyn native has seen it all from his family's fruit shop on Flatbush Avenue. Veteran produceseller John Cortese began working at

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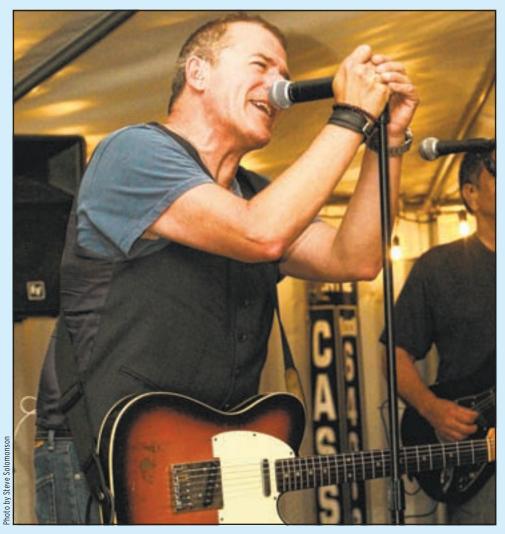
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# A pretty 'Boss' performance

Revelers packed the dance floor at Aviator Sports and Events Center in Marine Park and rocked out to the B Street Band – a Bruce Springsteen tribute band – on July 8 as part of the venue's first summer concert series.

The next band up is U2 tribute band Unforgettable Fire, which will take the stage on July 15 and again on Sept. 9. The group is excited to come together to play for Brooklynites, said drummer George Levesanos.

"We haven't been in Brooklyn in a long, long time and it looks like a really great venue," he said. "And we have two shows there, so we're totally psyched about it."

"Aviator Summer Music Series" at Aviator Sports and Events Center [3159 Flatbush Ave. in Floyd Bennett Field in Marine Park, (718) 758-7500, www.aviatorsports.com]. May 20 to Sept. 16. \$10-\$25.

– Julianne Cuba

# Track work

# Brownstone Brooklynites start petition against express F train

BY LAUREN GILL

Slow your roll!

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority must scrap its planned express F-train service and work with straphangers to come up with a new scheme that also boosts service at local stops, thousands of residents are demanding in a new petition.

"We refuse to accept the MTA's current proposal as a done deal," reads the petition, which was first started by Carroll Gardens resident Erin Lippincott, then adopted by Councilman Brad Lander (D-Park Slope). It has amassed 2,700 signatures in just a few days.

"We urge the MTA to not implement F express service until a new plan to improve service on the F line for all riders, at local and express stops, has been thoroughly vetted by the community," it continues.

Brownstone Brooklynites were incensed when the transit agency released a report in May recommending half of rush-hour trains speed past six stations between Downtown and Kensington during rush hour—blowing past Bergen Street, Carroll Street,



NO F'IN WAY: Carroll Gardens resident Erin Lippincott is leading a campaign against the F express. Under the plan, trains would steam by Carroll Street Station during rush hours.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

Smith–Ninth, Fourth Avenue, 15th Street, and Fort Hamilton Parkway stops — in order to make commutes faster for Southern-Brooklyn straphangers.

But Lippincott says

residents' rage seems to have faded since the scheme was announced — and many locals she's spoken to weren't even aware of it at all. So she launched the petition

Continued on page 6



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**HEADLINER:** Syrian-American rapper and spoken-word artist Omar Offendum holds the audience's attention on stage.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

# FAST FRIENDS

# Thousands turn up to Bay Ridge's Ramadan bazaar

#### BY DENNIS LYNCH

It was a bazaar sight!

More than 3,000 revelers filled Shore Road Park to celebrate the Arab American Association of New York's annual Bazaar and Eid Celebration on July 10, marking the end of Ramadan a few days before. It was the Bay Ridgebased association's 10th annual party, and folks celebrated the end of the fasting-filled month in a big way, one first-time attendee said.

"It was our first time, but everything was good, we had rice, some falafel, and chicken, it was so nice," said Dyker Heights resident Mo Ragab, whose 10-year-old son Mo got his face painted with an American flag and the acronym "USA." "We liked all the music too."

The Ragabs joined the crowd at the stage for performances by the traditional Palestinian line-dancing group the Freedom Dabke Troupe and politically conscious Syrian-American spoken-word artist Omar Offendum. The hiphop pioneer performed from his own canon, which younger members of the crowd knew, and recited some classic Arabic poetry for the older folks in the crowd.

One community leader was encouraged to see people from around the Arab and Muslim world — and other community members from other backgrounds — come together, he said.

"It's always really magnificent to see all these people from different countries who are proud of their traditions and culture and come out to celebrate it," said Rev. Khader El-Yateem of the Salaam Arab Church on 80th Street.

El-Yateem, who is treasurer for the association, said representatives helped register people to vote at the festival to get people more civically engaged.

Vendors included the Fifth Avenue sweets





YOUNG AND OLD: (Top) Mo Ragab shows some patriotism at the festival. (Above) Locals Abeer Assad, Verena Otey, Reverend Khader El-Yateem, and Arab American Association Vice President Habib Joudeh enjoy a treat from Bay Ridge's Nablus Sweets.

Photos by Georgine Benvenuto

shop Nablus Sweets, some traditional foods, and classic New York halal food. Other vendors sold jewelry and wares from the Arab world. Local up-and-coming demure clothing designer Sherihan Moustafa set up shop as well.

# Kensington rings in Eid

#### BY JULIANNE CUBA

They celebrated until the moon went down and the sun came up!

Thousands of people packed the streets of Kensington to mark the end of the holy Muslim month of Ramadan and herald the festival breaking their month-long fast — Eid al-Fitr — during the eighth annual Chand Raat Bazaar on July 5. Families from the community — sometimes called "Little Pakistan" for its high population of folks from the Islamic republic gathered on Coney Island Avenue, and enjoyed traditional sweet dishes, singing, dancing, and gazing up at the new moon, which signals the start of the three-day Eid festival, an organizer said.



**DRESSED FOR THE OCCASION:** Aisha Amjad got her hand decorated with henna – a tradition during Chand Raat.

Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

"All night long we were there, I came home this morning around 6 am. It was packed," said Bazah Continued on page 22

# Cover-up girls

# Ridgite's clothes for demure Muslims

#### BY DENNIS LYNCH

Call it a modest success.

A Bay Ridge woman has turned frustration into inspiration, starting a body-covering clothing line for Muslim women after struggling to find fashionable threads that still leave a little to the imagination.

The Egyptian-born, Bensonhurst-raised founder of Urban Modesty said she got the idea because her only other options were donning stuffy traditional garb or cobbling together a hodge-podge of Western clothes.

"Finding an outfit for any occasion is always a nightmare — my peers, friends, young women, older women, they all had the same problem," said Sherihan Moustafa. "You either dress very traditionally, or you try to put something together by layering clothes from five different stores."

Moustafa, a 29-year-old



**DREAM COME TRUE:** Bay Ridgite Sherihan Moustafa wants to give Muslim women fashionable, convenient, and modest clothing options.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

City College economics grad and self-described fashionista, stitched together Urban Modesty in 2013 after she took an entrepreneurial business class. She has no formal fashion training, but designs the pieces herself before sending patterns to China for production, she said. Moustafa hit the mar-

Continued on page 22





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**FRESH OUT THE KITCHEN:** Roll-N-Roaster added hot dogs, roast beef panini, and lemon ices to its menu at a stand outside the eatery.

Community News Group / Julianne Cuba

# 'ROASTER' ON A ROLL!

Roll-N-Roaster opens new curbside sandwich hut for summertime

#### BY JULIANNE CUBA

Now, they've got even more things to put Cheez on!

Iconic Sheepshead Bay eatery Roll-N-Roaster has debuted a curb-side stand selling hot dogs and roast beef panini. The Emmons Avenue joint has been serving Brooklynites its classic roast beef sandwiches for 45 years, but the money-maker decision to flatten the famous sandwich was pure serendipity, said manager Eric Rodriguez.

"We tried one time putting roast beef in the panini and, oh, it was very good," he said. "It came out delicious, and we decide to put it over there on the menu."

In addition to the hot dogs and roast beef, food-lovers can also beat the heat with fresh-squeezed lemonade, iced tea, and shakes from the hut outside — meant to be a quick and easy alternative from the inside sit-down restaurant, said Rodriguez.

"We always wanted to do hot dogs for people to walk by, grab something quick, make it easy for them," he said. "It's been fantastic with a lot of people coming by, bringing more food traffic to the area."

Roll-N-Roaster's newest offering — 8-inch franks that are a buck cheaper than Nathan's — may even give the century-old wiener slingers a run for their money, said Jay Achrak, who



**EXTRA SAUERKRAUT, PLEASE:** Jay Achrak from Sheepshead Bay says the new hot dog stand outside Roll-N-Roaster is the best new addition. Community News Group / Julianne Cuba

has been ordering at the eatery for 30 years.

"Amazing, better than Nathan's, I'm not exaggerating," he said. "One hundred times better. It's fast, it's nice and big, it's humongous, it's long, tasty."

Roll-N-Roaster [2901 Emmons Ave. between Nostrand Avenue at E. 29th Street in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 769– 6000, www.rollnroaster.com].

# Hit the green with the Sandtrappers golf team

They say they've been around "since the beginning of time."

In reality, it's about 60 vears.

Still a lifetime, says Phil Ribraudo, one of the oldest members of the Sandtrappers, a group of golf players that meet every Wednesday morning at the Dyker Beach Golf Club in Dyker Heights for golf and shenanigans.

The golf is great, and the shenanigans keep them young and on their toes.

"We do a lot of laughing and fooling around," says Ribraudo.

But their passion for golf is what brings them together. It doesn't matter if you're a beginner or an expert, everyone is welcome. held once a year, at the There are about 120 members, and the club is seek- in November. This year's ing new recruits.

Interestingly, there has never been a female mem-



Members of the Sandtrappers golf team celebrated at an annual brunch. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

ply, so ladies, get ready to shatter the sand, and head class is determined by the for tee time.

An awards dinner is end of the season, usually event was held at Sirico's Catering Hall on 13th Avenue. Among the awards ber, but Ribraudo says are trophies for best indi-

women are welcome to ap- vidual golfer in each class — Classes A, B, and C. The handicap each golfer gets. Don't ask for the specifics, but Ribraudo does remember that an A Class means a handicap from 0 to 17.

> Ribraudo's most memorable score was an 82.

"I shot my age," he says. "But that was four years

Back in 1985, which Ribraudo says is around the time he joined the Sandtrappers, it wasn't easy to become a member of the organization. The club had many participants. Ribraudo was also still working, so early morning golf games weren't fea-

"A friend told me to pay the dues anyway, and to start coming to the awards dinners, so that's what I did," he says.

By the time he was ready to retire, he was already a familiar face among the crowd. As a dues-paying supporter, he was able to start golfing immediately. He advises that others who anticipate the joys of golf in retirement, but are still gainfully employed at the moment, consider doing the same as he did.

"It's a great way to get in and meet everyone."

Over the years, a num-

ber of members have moved to green pastures. Sometimes, much greener ones. But there are still many "old-timers" like Ribraudo, who get to sleep past 9 am — only on days when they aren't playing golf.

"One guy comes from Manhattan at 6 am ev-Wednesday," says Ribraudo. "I pick him up at the train station on Fourth Avenue and 86th Street in Bay Ridge. We play golf, have lunch, and I take him back to the station."

Others — the ones who left Brooklyn for Staten Island — still drive back to the borough to join the

If you're up for the teeing and teasing, contact Joe Pesoriero, president of the Sandtrappers, for an application.

The Sandtrappers of Dyker Beach Golf Club [1030 86th St. and Seventh Avenue in Dyker Heights, (917) 640-

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# **Total throwback**

Cyclones celebrate stickball ahead of game



**SWINGING FOR THE FENCES:** Stickball enthusiasts from Brooklyn squared off in a short exhibition match against Harlem players at MCU Park on July 10. Photo by Angel Zayas

#### BY DENNIS LYNCH

It was a hit!

Stickballers from Brooklyn and beyond showed off their skills during an "Old Timers Day" exhibition match before the Cyclones beat Hudson Valley on July 10. The Clones also screened parts of "When Broomsticks Were King" — a documentary about the beloved urban pastime — on MCU Park's big screen, an honor for Brooklyn-born filmmaker Jason Cusato.

"It was an absolute blast," the Park Sloper said.

"To get stickball out there so everyone can know what it is and how much passion these players have, and to get the film screened on the jumbotron, it was just good all in all."

Cusato's award-winning flick traces

the history of the game that dominated Brooklyn's streets last century. Young baseball fans substituted broomsticks for bats, rubber Spaldeen balls for baseballs, and bases for sewer grates to play their own version of the national pastime on the streets of Kings County.

And members of the "Stickball Hall of Fame" went head-to-head in a three-inning, Brooklyn-versus-Manhattan throw down (which Brooklyn lost). The game was a preview for an upcoming match in front of the Wonder Wheel at Deno's Wonder Wheel Park on Aug. 13.

Brooklyn old timers will look to reverse their fortunes and best the Harlem team in a best-of-five series, Cusato said.

## **F EXPRESS**

Continued from page 2

and a dedicated website last week, and has already scored the support of every Council member and state rep from screwed-over stops.

"There was a flurry of activity in mid-to late-May and then it seemed to go radio silent," she said. "I started asking around and no one knew that this was a proposed cut that the MTA was recommending. This is a really big deal."

Many pols and riders had supported the idea of an F express in the past—essentially resurrecting a service that ran from 1969 to 1987—but only if it came with additional local trains so those at skipped stops don't suffer.

The proposed plan, however, would simply halve service at the local platforms — "inconveniencing" 51 percent of riders on the line and creating bottlenecks at Bergen and Carroll stations, according to the agency's own study.

Lander claims transit honchos have

refused to schedule a meeting with his constituents or even him to discuss the plan — despite saying they would during a Council hearing in May.

"Despite committing to do so in sworn testimony before the City Council, the MTA is now refusing to even schedule a meeting with the public about the proposal ... or even with those elected to represent them," he said.

A spokeswoman for the state-run transit body said it is still open to hearing what people have to say about the F express, and will hold yet-to-be announced meetings before giving the proposal its blessing.

"We have not made a decision," said Amanda Kwan. "We are committed to discussions with residents, elected officials, and the community boards of areas affected."

But the cash-strapped agency's options to appease riders at local stops may be limited — it would need to add more trains, but the study claimed there are none to spare and the line only has room for one or two more an hour, anyway.



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#### **69RD PRECINCT**

**CANARSIE** 

## Breaking down walls

A trio of toughs busted their way into a Rockaway Parkway cellphone store but lost the loot as they tried to escape on June 10.

The threesome stole a sledgehammer from the shed of a Conklin Avenue home near the store around 3 am, according to police. Then they used the tool to smash the wall of an electronics store near Flatlands Avenue, removing a stash of laptops, phones and chargers, police said.

The ne'er-do-wells fled across neighboring buildings' roofs before hopping into a van on E. 96th Street, according to police. Investigators conducted a search of the area and recovered the stolen items, officials

#### Grandma attacked

A brute robbed a 73 year-old woman on Rockaway Parkway on June 9.

The goon punched the granny in the head from behind near Glenwood Road and Conklin Avenue at 6:20 pm, knocking her down, police said.

While she was on the ground, the lout called her a b---- and took her bag, which contained her Social Security card, debit card, and \$150.

#### Safe for now

Cops arrested a man who allegedly tried to rob a Rockaway Parkway fast-food joint of its safe on June 10.

An employee told cops the suspect entered the restaurant near Avenue L around 1 pm, whipping out a knife and ordering them to "get the safe," according to police.

The employee subdued the guy and took him outside, where cops arrested him an hour later, according to a police report.

### Cold-hearted

A creep robbed an autistic man of his reduced-fare MetroCard on Avenue N on June 19.

The man told police he got off a bus near Rockaway Avenue around 3 am and noticed two men following him on Avenue N. The pair asked the victim for money, but then they threatened to shoot him, according to police report.

Fearing for his safety, he handed over the subway pass, police said.

## Violent invaders

Brigands ambushed a 60-yearold man in his Paerdegat Street home on June 19.



The man was waiting for friends to come to his house near E. 80th Street, when the bell rang and two men he did not know pointed a gun in his face and pushed their way into his home, police said. The curs clocked him with the gun and escaped with a laptop, credit card, and a debit card, officials said.

## Scamp on the barbie

Someone climbed a barbecue grill to break into a Avenue L home for gadgets and jewels on June 16.

The man told police that a burglar entered his home near Remsen Avenue through an unlocked bedroom window sometime between 7 am and 6 pm.

Police found a barbecue positioned under a window that the sneak may have climbed to get in. officials said. The suspect got away with a laptop, a tablet, and a gold wristband, according to police.

- Alexandra Simon

#### **62ND PRECINCT**

BENSONHURST-BATH BEACH

#### Thrashin'

A group of totally bogus bandits decked a guy with a skateboard and robbed him on New Utrecht Avenue on July 6.

The victim was near 77th Street around 10:30 pm when — out of nowhere — a robber hit him over the head four times from behind with the board, said police.

One grabbed his stunned victim's cellphone and went for his money, but the he fought back, which prompted the attacker's four buddies to jump in and beat the guy before fleeing with his phone, according to a police report.

## Hit and gun

A brigand behind the wheel drove into a pedestrian and robbed him at gunpoint on New Utrecht Avenue on July 6.

The victim was walking to the gym near the corner of 78th Street around 6:30 pm when the maniac drove his silver sedan into him, badly bruising his leg, according to a police report. He got out and whipped out a pistol from his waist-

BR

В

band, took the guy's phone, and jetted, police said.

## Hallway holdup

Pistol-waving punks robbed a man in the hallway of a Bay 16th Street apartment building on July 6.

The guy was coming home from work to the building between 85th and 86th streets around 11:15 pm when the pair of galoots stopped in the hallway, one flashed the piece. and they demanded he hand over his necklace and cash, police said.

The guy complied, and the robbers fled with his stuff, according to law enforcement sources.

## Off the rails

Someone tried to steal a utility truck parked on the N train tracks near the New Utrecht Avenue station on July 1.

The operator parked his ride at the under-construction station around 2 pm and returned sometime later to find someone had removed a block holding the truck on the rails

The would-be thief also disconnected the truck from a trailer and ripped out the ignition in the truck cab presumably to hot-wire it — but failed, police said.

## No trip too quick

A car thief made an easy grab at a grocery store parking lot on 18th Avenue on July 8.

A driver parked her car in the parking lot near Bath Avenue just before 6 pm with the keys in the ignition and "ran into the store," police said.

When she returned, her car was nowhere to be found.

— Dennis Lynch

#### 61ST PRECINCT

SHFFPSHFAD BAY-HOMFCRFST-MANHATTAN BEACH-GRAVESEND

## Bad holiday

A pillager punched a woman in the head and swiped her purse as she was walking home on Avenue S on July 4, police said. The woman told police she was near E. 12th Street at 11:30 pm when the cur socked her in the back of the head

and then grabbed her black purse containing her iPhone 6S, a black umbrella, and driver's license in-

The knave fled down E. 12th Street toward Avenue T, cops said.

## In front of a baby

A knife-wielding man threatened a woman holding a baby and stole her wallet while she was standing outside a store on Kings Highway on July 5.

The woman told police she was outside the store at E. 16th Street at 5:32 pm when the malefactor came up to her with a blade and demanded her wallet while grabbing her arm.

The 6-foot-tall cad then took off with her wallet containing cash, a debit card, credit card, Social Security card, and identification card inside, police said.

#### Vicious villains

Marauders beat and robbed a woman as she left her E. 24th Street home to go to work on July 8.

The victim told police the punks came up to her on Avenue U at 4:20 pm, pushed her to the ground and then kicked and punched her, causing cuts on her ribs.

One of the jerks velled "Give me your bag or I'll f----- kill you!" and then grabbed her purse containing cash, credit cards, medication, and identification cards. The robbers took off down E. 24th Street towards Gravesend Neck Road, said cops.

#### Smoke alarm

A jerk walked into a woman's house and stole an ashtray while she was in her backyard on E. 28th Street on July 6, officials said.

The home invader entered her house on Avenue P at noon and swiped the ashtray, according to authorities.

The woman told police she's not sure if she had left her front door open, and saw a suspicious blue van near her house that may have been involved.

## Walked right in

Police cuffed a 17-year-old guy for allegedly taking cash, a credit card, and a flashlight from a Gerritsen Avenue home on July 8.

The man told police the suspect entered his house near Seba Avenue while he was working in the backyard at 11 pm and swiped the items along with \$174 in cash. There were no signs of forced entry, and the guy's basement door may have been left unlocked, according to cops.

The suspect charged about \$300 to the man's credit card, police said.

- Julianne Cuba

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BACK IN TIME: Owner John Cortese's father opened up the market in 1939 - and it still pretty much looks the same. Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

## **PRODUCE**

Continued from cover

Golden Gate Fancy Fruits and Vegetables when the Dodgers still played at Ebbets Field and Floyd Bennett Field was still a municipal airport. But by 2016, not much has changed in the shop, which sold its first peach before the outbreak of World War II, the owner said.

"You just walked into 1939," he told a reporter.

An analog scale waits for loads of apples and bananas, songs from the American song book issue from a turntable, and a rotary-style phone still rings when customers call (Esplanade-7-2581, according to the store's marquee).

Cortese's parents opened the shop, and the apple did not fall far from the tree — at 14, he started bringing produce to patrons' homes for his father.

"I was delivering orders here for him after school — with a pushcart," he said. "You'd put all your orders going down Avenue M and put them in the box and start walking."

Cortese helped out until he graduated from high school in 1942, when he received a diploma in one hand and his deployment card from Uncle Sam in the other. But after serving his country for three years, Cortese returned home and picked up right where he left off — helping out his dad with orders

and deliveries, he said.

He took over manning the store in 1960, and now works every day except for Sunday and Monday (doctor's orders after three heart attacks), he said. Cortese opens up around 7:30 am, putting Frank Sinatra, Billy Eckstine, and Tony Bennett on his record player to get into the groove.

The nonagenarian is still totally hands-on, he said.

"I make up the orders, some people call up, I examine all the vegetables make sure they are up to par," Cortese said. "If something isn't good it goes in the garbage, but if something's still salvageable, I put it on the side and some people come along they look at it — most of the time they say, 'How much?' and I say, 'Nah, take it. take it."

The fruit mogul has lost shoppers to chain supermarkets, but he doesn't give a fig - Cortese, a widower, just enjoys his days in the market with family, friends, and customers, he said.

"And today I'm just passing time now," he said. "I lost my wife about a year ago, and if I stay home I go crazy, so whether I do business here or not, I just want to be here, that's all, just to pass the time."

In some ways, the store is a museum and a repository of local memory, according to one of Cortese's sons who helps run the shop.

# **B46 BUS**

Continued from cover

the [old way]," said Jehsse Samuel.

Transit authority workers and members of Transport Workers Union Local 100 have been manning each stop for the last two weeks to teach riders about the new ticket system and ease the transition, said union member Rocky Beltri.

"We're here to assist people with the new service, show them how the machines work, how the system works, any other questions they have for us," he said.

The services runs along Utica Avenue and Malcolm X Boulevard to ferry people from Kings Plaza in Marine Park to Broadway on the border of Bedford-Stuyvesant and Bushwick. From there, riders can take a local to get to the route's terminus at the Williamsburg Bridge Plaza Bus Terminal.

Select buses also get their own dedicated lanes, a notion that has riled drivers in car-heavy Southern Brooklyn, but the Department of Transportation worked closely with locals to lessen onerous roadway changes and even make some safety improvements, according to Turano.

"DOT has been very amenable. Whatever we have asked for, they have done," she said. "We have to wait and see and just keep tweaking it."



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# THAT TRUMPS IT! FRICTION OVER 'THE DONALD' IN BROOKLYN

# Drove them up a wall!

Witness: Teens scaled fence, removed Trump banner

#### **BY MAX JAEGER**

Call them politically active.

A pair of teens scaled a baseball diamond backstop in Dyker Heights to tear down a pro-Donald Trump banner someone hanged there on July 11, because they thought the posting was racist, a witness said. An apparent fan of the divisive presidential hopeful posted the campaign paraphernalia in view of Dyker Beach Park's soccer pitch, and the kids thought that was a dig at the people of color who frequent the field, so they pulled the political pennant and stomped on it for good measure, an onlooker told this paper.

"Two kids climbed up the whole fence and tore it all down and stepped on it," said resident Mario Caggiano, who happened upon the scene. "They were defending the Mexicans that were there — the kids specifically mentioned the Mexican soccer play-

Critics have blasted Trump, who has campaigned on building a wall separating Mexico and the United States, for a litany of remarks perceived as racist toward La-

The teens appeared to be Arabic — a primarily Islamic pan-ethnicity that Trump Continued on page 16



HAD ENOUGH: One of the teens descends the backstop after he climbed up to tear down the banner targeting Mexican soccer players. Mario Caggiano



FED UP: Gowanus resident Joshua Ramos proudly displayed his pro-Trump signs outside his home until a vandal threw a rock through his Photo by Stefano Giovannini

# Trumpeter's home is targeted by vandals

BY LAUREN GILL

Someone hurled a rock through a Gowanus family's door after it put signs up supporting presidential candidate Donald Trump, leaving the household patriarch steaming about the struggles of supporting the conservative cause in a largely liberal neighborhood.

"I was angry, that's for This is not how you rock the sure," said Joshua Ramos, who lives on 11th Street between Third and Fourth avenues with his two young kids. "It's not fair, you can't put anything up for Trump."

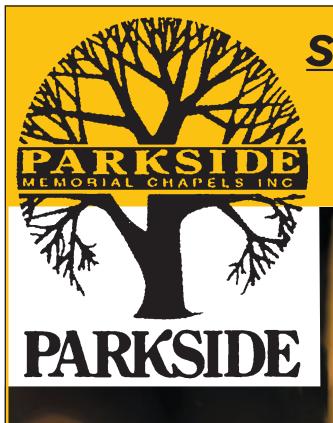
Ramos said the vandal pitched the projectile through the glass of his front door while he and his family were

Continued on page 16



Disclaimer: This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This program is an equal opportunity employer/program and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.





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# Harris cutting ties to her non-profit

ssemblywoman Pam Harris (D-Coney Island) will stop letting a non-profit she founded operate out of her home - to distance herself from an apparent conflict of interest, she told this paper. The freshman assemblywoman raised eyebrows among government watchdogs after a New York Post article suggesting she had a too-cozy relationship with Coney Island Generation Gap, a largely government-funded youth organization she founded before winning office in November and which still operates out of her Coney Island home.

Harris told this paper she has not collected any rent from the group since her election and said it will move offices in September.

"While CIGG has its office in the basement of my house, I receive no rent or compensation of any kind and have not received any since being elected," she said. "This September, CIGG will move out of my house and locate its office elsewhere. I care deeply about the children we've helped,



and while I terminated my active involvement in the group, CIGG needed time to re-locate to ensure a successful transition to a new location in order to not jeopardize their work."

Harris told us she has totally severed ties with the organization and is even refusing political donations from the non-profit's employees.

But records show the group's new executive director **Rocco Brescia** gave \$100 to Harris's re-election fund in January 2016.

the donation to her attention.

"I apologize for overlooking this and did not mean to misguide anyone in any way. I am committed to remaining completely transparent and open and will thus be refunding the contribution in full," she said.

The non-profit has played a more visible role in her reelection bid, too — photos shared with this paper show supporters collecting signatures for Harris's reelection in the middle of a block party that Coney Island Generation Gap hosted in front of Harris's house over the July 4 weekend.

The Internal Revenue Service prohibits tax-exempt organizations such as the Coney Island Generation Gap "from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign."

Harris goes up against challenger Kate Cucco in the Democratic primary on Sept. 13.

Brooklyn Democratic Harris pledged to return party boss Frank Seddio the money after we brought will face a challenger for

district leader in the 59th Assembly District, according to a party e-mail shared with this paper.

Rumor has it pastor Nicholson Pierre will throw his hat in the ring against Seddio, but he could not be reached to comment, and Seddio declined.

Our tipster tells us that Canarsie community leader Mercedes Narcisse, who is challenging state Sen. Roxanne Persaud (D-Canarsie), is encouraging her friend Pierre to run against the party boss. Narcisse herself is challenging Seddio's female counterpart, Roberta Sherman, for the unpaid, low-level position of district leader in the 59th.

Narcisse challenged one of Seddio's buddies, Councilman Alan Maisel (D-Marine Park), for his seat in 2013, and some see her bid against Persaud as part of a larger power struggle over the soul of the county machine.

But Narcisse denied there is a coup brewing, saying she "cannot run someone against" Sedido, with whom she gets along.

"I don't have anything against Frank Seddio, I've know him for a long time," Narcisse said.

Pierre is reportedly also challenging newly minted Assemblywoman Jaime Williams (D-Canarsie) — another friend of the county machine.

A Brooklyn judge has yet to decide the next Kings County Republican Party chairman — two factions vying for control of the party took one another to court over last year's fraught election — but hopeful Ted Ghorra is already calling the contest for himself.

When this paper reached out to state Sen. Martin Golden (R-Bay Ridge) for a comment on an unrelated story, Ghorra responded as a spokesman for Golden and declared himself "the presumptive Kings County chairman."

Last year, Ghorra and rival Arnaldo Ferraro called separate meetings of the county committee — each claiming to be the head of the Republican machine.



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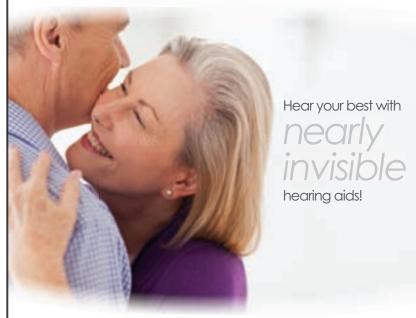
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## **ATTACK**

Continued from page 12

asleep on the night of June 24, then tore one of his three Trump signs in half.

The registered Republican claims he will have to dish out \$2,400 to repair the door, but is mostly peeved that the rock-thrower put his tots in danger.

"There's people who don't even realize there's two children in the house," he said. "How could they even do something like this? It's disgraceful."

He won't be displaying any more banners for the Donald out of fear for his youngsters' safety, he said.

Ramos says he reported the vandalism to the police, but they haven't had any luck tracking down the perpetrator so far. The cops are also not investigating the attack as a hate crime, despite Ramos's best efforts to convince them otherwise.

He doesn't think any of the people who live on his street are responsible — they're all friendly, he says — but rather that it was a drunk radical from elsewhere in the neighborhood.

"You know there's lots of liberal people around here — they got drunk and did what they had to do," he said. "I've got my [U.S.] flag up — I'm surprised they didn't tear it down or burn it."

Ramos says he has been following Trump since the 1980s and has backed the businessman's presidential bid from day one — he is worried about terrorist attacks, and likes Trump's immigration policies and the fact that



ROCK THE VOTE: Ramos shows the rock that went through his door - and the flag that he is surprised went untouched.

he is not a career politician.

"I can't even take my kids anywhere, I'm constantly looking around," he said. "It's just like living in a different world, there's no jobs, it's corrupt. I think we need to get someone in there who isn't a politician that can't be bought."

But even with his steadfast support, Ramos said it is difficult to discuss his political views openly in the left-leaning neighborhood — in his three-block electoral district alone, 204 people voted in this year's Democratic primary, while just eight cast a ballot in the Republican race.

# **BANNER**

Continued from page 12

has also riled by proposing a ban on all Muslims entering the United States — but they seemed unconcerned with their own identity politics and only told Caggiano they were standing up for neighborhood Latinos, said Caggiano, a Hillary Clinton supporter and administrator at IS 303.

The educator was glad to see kids getting involved in politics, he said.

"It was inspiring to see children doing that — taking a stance because they felt that Trump was very divisive," he said. "I felt pride in these children doing this. I don't want our neighborhood to be cast in that light — that we're close-minded. I don't want any of that divisiveness."

The Parks Department bars people from posting signs in city greenswards without a permit, and the department did not sign off on the Trump banner, a spokeswoman said.



HE'S A SHOE-IN!: The kids stomp on the Trump banner after removing it from a baseball diamond backstop in Dyker Beach Park. Mario Caggiano

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# Annabelle's offers a taste of Italy in Dyker Heights

#### BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Now that's Italian!

The pasta, ravioli, and fillings are all personally prepared by the owner. Sauces and desserts are made in-house, and just about every entrée on the menu is under \$20.

Welcome to Annabelle's Pastaria, a lovely restaurant in Dyker Heights that opened in March.

From the food to the décor, everything about it pleases. Owner Nick Di Leo, proprietor of Bella Luna for 16 years before opening this establishment, knows what customers like. They crave comfort, yet they like variety. Annabelle's - named after his mom — offers the best of both worlds.

His handmade pasta offers that light touch so many customers prefer.

"People tell me they love eating it because it doesn't leave them bloated," Di Leo

No doubt his delicious pesto sauce also keeps them coming back, as does the Bucatini Amatriciana — a spicy tomato sauce with pancetta.

And while there are plenty of traditional dishes such as spaghetti and meatballs, frutti di mare, lasagna, eggplant and chicken parmigiana, chicken marsala, and shrimp Francese, Di Leo also wanted "to kick it up a notch," by serving some familiar foods, offered in unique ways.

Like the pear ravioli. Who could have imagined that fresh pear, mascarpone, and Romano cheese would make for awesome ravioli? Di Leo did - another refreshing, light pasta dish that's full of flavor and dressed with a reduced butter sauce.

Likewise, the assorted bruschetta appetizer offers something unusual, yet recognizable - Italian bread with toppings such as kale, beans, and asparagus. Even the calamari is a bit different — served in a hot and sweet sauce.

The spinach and ricotta rice balls are fabulous, as are the imported cheeses, adorned on a long cutting board, accompanied by nuts and grapes.

Annabelle's specializes in grandma-style pizza, so crusts are always tasty-thin. Order it topped with just about anything you can think of — Portobello mushrooms, sundried tomatoes, arugula, roasted











(Clockwise from top) The restaurant offers delicious Italian fare. Alberto Avila serves up the grandma pie. The dining room. The ravioli is flavorful but light. The pasta in all dishes – including this pesto dish – is personally prepared by the owner. Photos by Georgine Benvenuto

peppers, onions, anchovies, artichokes, black olives, chicken meatballs, eggplant, prosciutto, and Sopressata — you name it.

Yes, you can get a Caesar salad, but you can also have a strawberry salad — plenty of greens, fresh strawberries and goat cheese, tossed in a balsamic dressing.

offered as a special — is wrapped in foil and baked with carrot chunks, olives, potatoes, asparagus, and sliced tomato.

Di Leo is confident that his homemade cheesecake is, "the best vou've ever tasted."

His talents, and those of co-owner John Di Leo, extend beyond the kitchen. The res-The oh-so-tender branzini taurant has simple, modern

appeal with its wood floors and flat-screen televisions. Yet, it offers a brick wall with fun-toview photographs of decadesold 86th Street. There's a map of Italy on the opposite wall.

It has often been said that a restaurant's bathroom tells its own tale. Well, don't miss taking a peek at these ultramodern bathrooms, with retro

touches that include a black tile wall, white pedestal sink. and long mirror. It is simply stunning.

Annabelle's Pastaria [717 86th St. off Seventh Avenue in Dyker Heights, (718) 836-9444, www.annabellespastaria.com]. Open weekdays, noon-10 pm; Fridays and Saturdays, noon -11 pm; Sundays, 1-10 pm.

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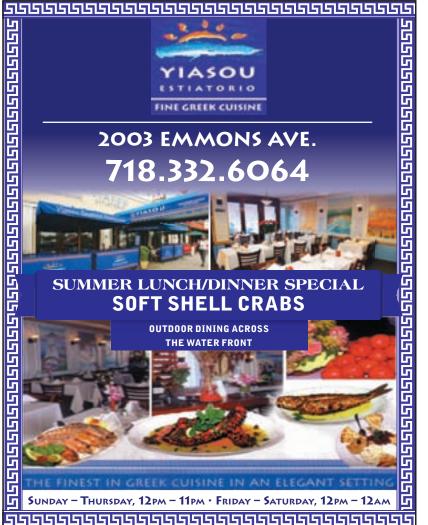
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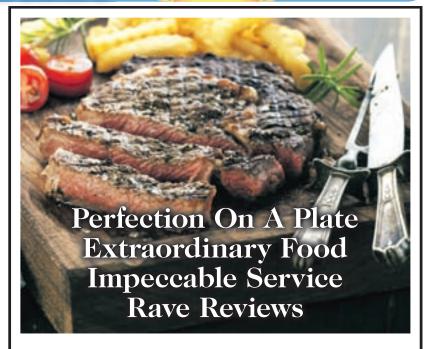


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**EID MUBARAK!:** Anmad Ali, Abdula Usman, and Umar Manzoor show of their balloon decorations during the festival.

Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

## **EID**

Continued from page 3
Roohi, founder of the
American Council
for Minority Women,
which hosts the festival. "We celebrate the
eve like Christmas
Eve with friends and
family. It's the biggest
celebration — it's a
great time."

Muslim women showed off their best moves for a dance competition, donned their most stylish dresses for a fashion show, and belted their loudest for a singing competition, said Roohi.

And local shops lined the streets with racks of colorful dresses and shoes for last-minute shoppers looking to score gifts — an important tradition — for friends and family.

Eve with friends and family. It's the biggest celebration — it's a great time."

Muslim women showed off their best moves for a dance com-

"It was a lot of people and I enjoyed it," said Anjum Quaid. "It was a very successful event."

# CLOTHING

Continued from page 3

ket with eight designs, but now offers more than 70 tops, bottoms, dresses, gowns, and cover-ups — in addition to kids' digs and jewelry. Most pieces sell for \$25–\$70, but formal gowns can go for up to \$230.

The store is a godsend, according to one shopper who picked up some threads at the Arab American Bazaar in Bay Ridge last weekend.

"I saw those long dresses that I do not see in stores, I always felt I should have a piece like that in my closet, but I did not know how to get it," said Bay Ridgite Abeer Assad.

Moustafa relied on word-of-mouth among friends and family in Bay Ridge to spread her brand early on. New Yorkers are still the biggest buyers, but frequent trips to Islamic conventions outside the city have helped spread the word nationally.

She recently made progress in the Great

White North during a showcase in Toronto, she said.

"We walked in with six laundry bags full of clothes and walked out with one half-full," she said.

Moustafa has carved out a niche in a growing industry — Muslims spent roughly \$230 billion on clothing worldwide in 2014, and that figure could grow to \$327 billion by the end of the decade, according to Dinar Standard's Global Islamic Economy Report. Not all of that is on modest fashion, but the top brands Dinar Standard highlights in the report make demure duds.

Next, she's taking on the major retailers, and hoping to expand her reach outside of the Muslim community, she said.

"We have cover-ups that you can throw over jeans or whatever you want, so [non-Muslims] have bought those too," she said. "It's cute and trendy and now if you look, Forever 21 sells a maxi dress cover-up as well, that's who we are competing with."



**GIRLS GONE MILD:** Moustafa says her designs fashion-forward but still demure.

Armando Espinoza



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multiply the good

# RIDGEWOOD SAVINGS BANK APPOINTS LEONARD STEKOL PRESIDENT

Ridgewood Savings Bank's Board of Trustees approved the promotion of Leonard Stekol to President and Chief Operating Officer effective July 1, 2016. Leonard was also elected Trustee to the Board of Ridgewood Savings Bank.

Leonard Stekol has been with the bank for over 23 years and has previously served as Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer as well as Chief Financial Officer prior to that. On his promotion, Leonard Stekol commented, "Ridgewood Savings Bank has always put customers first, and I am pleased to continue this tradition".

The Board approved the following officer promotions:

- Matthew Schettino, Vice President and Marketing Director
- Barbara Giglio, Assistant Vice President and Assistant Risk Officer
- Joyce Groza, Assistant Vice President and Accounting Officer
- Evelyn Faya, Hector Nieves, Frank Guevara, Judy Williams -Assistant Vice President
- Leonardo Genna, Anthonie L. Marshall, Sabrina Urso, Merari Heyman, Shahadoth Kazi, Frederick Shivrattan - Branch Banking Officers
- Danielle Fuschetto, Assistant Risk Officer ERM
- Douglas Coleman, Information Security Officer

Peter M. Boger, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of Ridgewood Savings Bank said, "On



**Leonard Stekol** 

behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend my gratitude to Leonard Stekol for his 23 years of dedicated service. I am confident that Leonard will ensure Ridgewood Savings Bank remains focused on the ideals that the Bank was founded on in 1921, and will continue to implement the forward thinking vision needed for the Bank to remain strong. Additionally, I also recognize the contributions made by all, and appreciate their continued support and dedication to the success of Ridgewood Savings Bank".

# About Ridgewood Savings Bank

Founded in 1921, Ridgewood Savings Bank is the largest mutual savings bank in New York State, with over \$5 billion in assets. With 34 branches in the New York area, Ridgewood Savings Bank continues to serve its community as it did in 1921, with their continued focus always on their customers.

Facebook: RidgewoodBank | Linkedin: ridgewood-savings-bank YouTube: RidgewoodBank

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SHOULDERING THE BURDEN: Some burly men hoist the giant giglio tower.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

# It's strength in numbers!

# W'burgers old and new celebrate Giglio

#### BY RUTH BROWN

It is the one high-rise in Williamsburg that doesn't divide newcomers and old-timers.

Thousands of Brooklynites gathered outside Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on N. Eighth Street on Sunday to watch 125 burly men carry a 80-foot tall, 4-ton tower on their shoulders as part of the annual Giglio Italian Feast. It is a 113-year-old tradition for Italian-American families in the neighborhood, but participants say plenty of new residents stopped by to check it out — and they were welcomed with open arms.

"A lot of first-timers show up, they always ask a lot of questions," said Domenic Varuzza, a native Williamsburger and one of eight "lieutenants" who lead the 125-person team of lifters. "It's great people want to share this."

The 11-day festival honors Saint Paulinus — or San Paolino to Italians — a fourth-century bishop from the town of Nola, near Naples, who is said to have stopped pirates enslaving the townsfolk by offering himself up instead.

Sunday's celebration was the first of three iconic "lifts" at the celebration, wherein the many totem-toters carry the spire — and a 12-piece brass band — on their shoulders.

Longtime attendees say it wasn't just curious passersby dropping in to catch a look — the feast acts as something of a neighborhood reunion for former residents.

"We look forward to it all year, the *com*]. whole community comes out," said *Free*.



**TOWER OF POWER:** The giglio towers above N. Eighth Street in Williamsburg on July 10.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Carmela Muzio, who grew up right next to the church. "People come back even if they're moved out, all of us who've grown up with it."

The next big event will be "old-timers" day on Sunday, where retired lifters get to raise the pillar of strength once again.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Feast and Festival of the Giglio [275 N. Eighth St. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-0223, www.olmcfeast. com]. old-timers lift on July 17 at 2 pm. Free.



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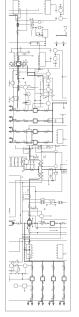




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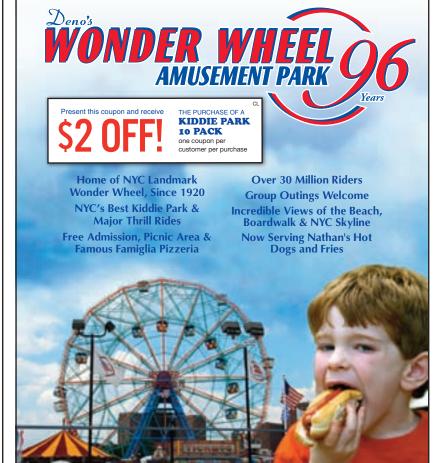






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THEY DON'T BUILD THEM LIKE THIS ANYMORE!

# Today the Mohbat, tomorrow, Pulitzer

**CROWN HEIGHTS** 

Congratulations to Keithat-Clemon Duhaney, a graduate of Benjamin Banneker Academy for Community Development in Clinton Hill, and this year's winner of the 2016 Joseph E. Mohbat Prize for Writing in Memory of Verdery Knight.



The award is presented to a highschool senior who has demonstrated a gift of self-expression through the written word.

Nancy Schuh, Joseph Mohbat's widow, established the award in 2011 to encourage and nurture good writing skills in college-bound high-school seniors in honor of her husband, a journalist, lawyer, and long-time Brooklyn resident who died in August 2011.

Applicants were required to submit a composition on "What is special to me about Brooklyn?" along with a writing sample from an existing portfolio. Keithat's poem received the most

The budding Maya Angelou received a check for \$1,500 as part of her \$2,500 award, in addition to a writing internship through the NYC High School Journalism Collaborative, and ongoing mentoring from the Harnisch Journalism Project at Baruch College.

Standing O congratulates Keithat, who will attend Pennsylvania State University in the fall, and runner-up Nahian Chowdhury, a 2016 graduate of Midwood High School.

**MILL BASIN** 

## The giving kids

Let's put our hands together for generous PS 236 students who raised more than \$11,662 for the St. Jude Children's Hospital with their fantastic fundraising skills.

Since the goal was exceeded, Assistant Principal Joni Southard put her money where her hair is, and dyed her locks blue and gold — the school's col-

Not to be outdone, Principal Sal Paingankar entered the dunk tank and received one heck of a soaking.

Standing O sends a big shout-out to PS 236's sensational students and facultv.



SNIP, SNIP, HOORAY!: From left, Captain Neteis Gilbert of the New York City Police Department, Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein, Assemblyman William Colton, Dr. Ram Raju, and staff cheer on as Councilman Chaim Deutsch cuts the red ribbon to the new Critical Care Room at Coney Island Hospital on July 6.

# Critical care makeover, stat!

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Stop the presses, New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation and Coney Island Hospital, opened up a new critical care unit on July 6.

Councilman Chaim Deutsch, (D-Coney Island) held the golden shears that snipped the ribbon on the brand-new, state-of-the-art, enhanced-care room as Dr. Ram Raju, president and chief executive officer of New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, Councilman Mark Trevger (D-Sheepshead Bay), Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein, (D-Sheepshead Bay), Assemblyman William

Colton, (D-Gravesend), Captain Neteis Gilbert, commanding officer of PSA1, Roseanne Degenarro, of the Community Advisory Board, and staff cheered him on.

Patients with life-threatening injuries can now receive quality care in private rooms designed to treat up to two patients simultaneously with the most up-to-date technology available.

The current emergency room treated upwards of 90,000 emergency room visits last year. Holy sutures!

Conev Island Hospital [2601 Ocean Parkway at Shore Parkway in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 616-

PS 236 [6302 Avenue U at E. 63rd Street in Mill Basin, (718) 444-6969].

**BOERUM HILL** 

#### Save the date

Roc Nation is bringing back the Summer Classic Charity Basketball game on July 21 at Barclays Center, with Angie Martinez as master of ceremonies and Jay Williams as guest

The inaugural game in 2014 raised more than a million bucks, which benefitted Robinson Cano's RC22 Dream School in the Dominican Republic and CC Sabathia's PitCCH In Foundation to renovate Claremont Baseball Field in the Bronx.

Funds raised this year will also benefit Nick Jonas's Beyond Type program.

1, and Miguel Cotto's Fundacion El Angel.

Roc Nation on July 21, at 7 pm; tickets range from \$10.50 to \$150. Special packages, including VIP experiences and exclusive access to future Roc Nation events, begin at \$250.

Barclays Center (620 Atlantic Ave. in Boreum Hill, www.Ticketmaster.

WILLIAMSBURG

#### Primary goals

Three cheers to Donna Catapano, a teacher at Automotive High School in Williamsburg, for being chosen to participate in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary **Sources Summer Teacher Institute** 



**EAST NEW YORK** 

#### A tree for all time

Super-centenarian Susanna "Miss Susie" Mushatt Jones a Standing O favorite, and the world's oldest person until she passed away on May 12 at the ripe, old age of 116 years and 311 days will live on joyously as one with Mother Nature, after her community planted a commemorative "tree for all seasons" outside her East New York nursing home.

Residents and staff at the Vandalia Avenue Houses, where Miss Susie lived for 30 years, joined relatives and area officials for the touching tribute, including Two Trees New York executive director Nelson Villarubia, who donated the forest pansy, New York Housing Authority chairwoman Shola Olatoye, Assemblyman Charles Barron (D-East New York), Councilwoman Inez Barron, (D-East Flatbush), and state Sen. Roxanne Persaud, (D-East New York).

The tree was planted on July 6. on what would have been Miss Susie's 117th birthday, immortalizing her spirit, said Olatoye.

"Miss Susie was a tenacious and admirable woman who sought to improve others' lives with love and positive energy,' she said. "She was an inspiration, beloved by all and this tree will stand for years to come, in tribute to Miss Susie's commitment to strengthening her community for over more than a century."

Standing O can't think of a better honor for a special lady.

Vandalia Senior Center [47 Vandalia Ave. at Louisiana Avenue in East New York, (718) 272-3905].

Each year the Library of Congress provides an opportunity to an educator to attend one of its five teacher institutes in Washington, D.C.

During the five-day program, participants work with library education specialists and subject-matter experts to learn effective practices for using primary sources in the classroom, while exploring some of the millions of digitized historical artifacts and documents available on the library's website.

Way to go, Donna!

#### **FEATURED** LISTINGS

# A beautiful brick duplex in M'Park Now's your chance to own a home in this classic neighborhood



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ur House of the Week presents a great opportunity for buyers and investors looking to put down roots in a spacious, cozy corner of the big city.

Situated in Marine Park a tranquil, residential neighborhood perched on the lip of Jamaica Bay in southeast Brooklyn — our attached brick duplex is superbly appointed with enough fabulous features to warrant a closer look:

- ·Three bedrooms.
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- Front porch.
- ·Large rear yard.
- ·Full basement.
- · Garage.
- · Private driveway.

Our featured dwelling is close to shopping and public transport — the B2, B3, and B100 bus lines bring Marine Park residents to the Q-B sub-



A garage and private driveway are among some fabulous appointments making our House of the Week a great property to check out.

REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

way — and there are several schools in the verdant neighborhood with a storied past.

Marine Park is an awesome archive for eco-buffs and historians. Its salt marshes are home to at least 230 different species of birds throughout the year, and the Hendrik I. Lott Dutch farmhouse — built in 1800 — endures as an imposing reminder of a vanished era and a pivotal player in the area's evolution.

Nearby Floyd Bennett Field is a recreational and educational reminder of its heyday as a bustling World War II airfield, delivering around 46,000 planes from jet giants including Grumman and General Motors to transport soldiers to battles in the Pacific. It was also the runway for record-breaking flights, including Wiley Post's 1933 pioneer air cruise around the world.

Our House of the Week is prized real estate situated in a historic neighborhood, and a must-see for insightful buyers looking to experience the good life in Brooklyn.

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BERGEN BEACH: 4 Rms, 2 BR, Parking:\$1,700
<b>MIDWOOD:</b> 4 Rms, 2 BR, Modern: \$1,850
MARINE PARK: 4 Rms, 2 BR, Close to All:\$1,650
<b>DYKER HEIGHTS:</b> 6 Rms, 3 BR, 1.5 Bath Condo Rental: . \$2,900
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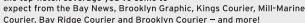
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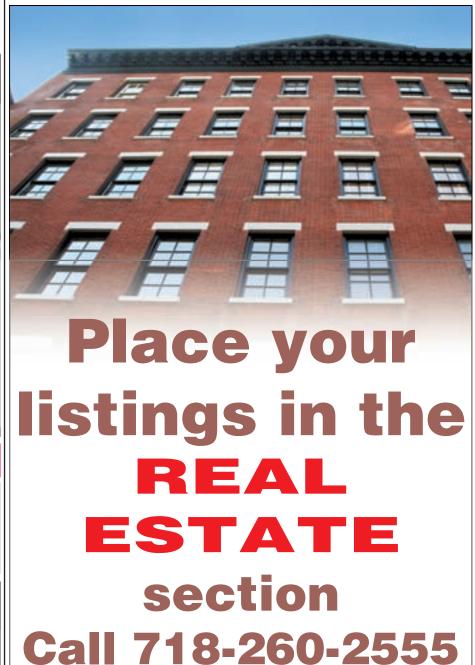
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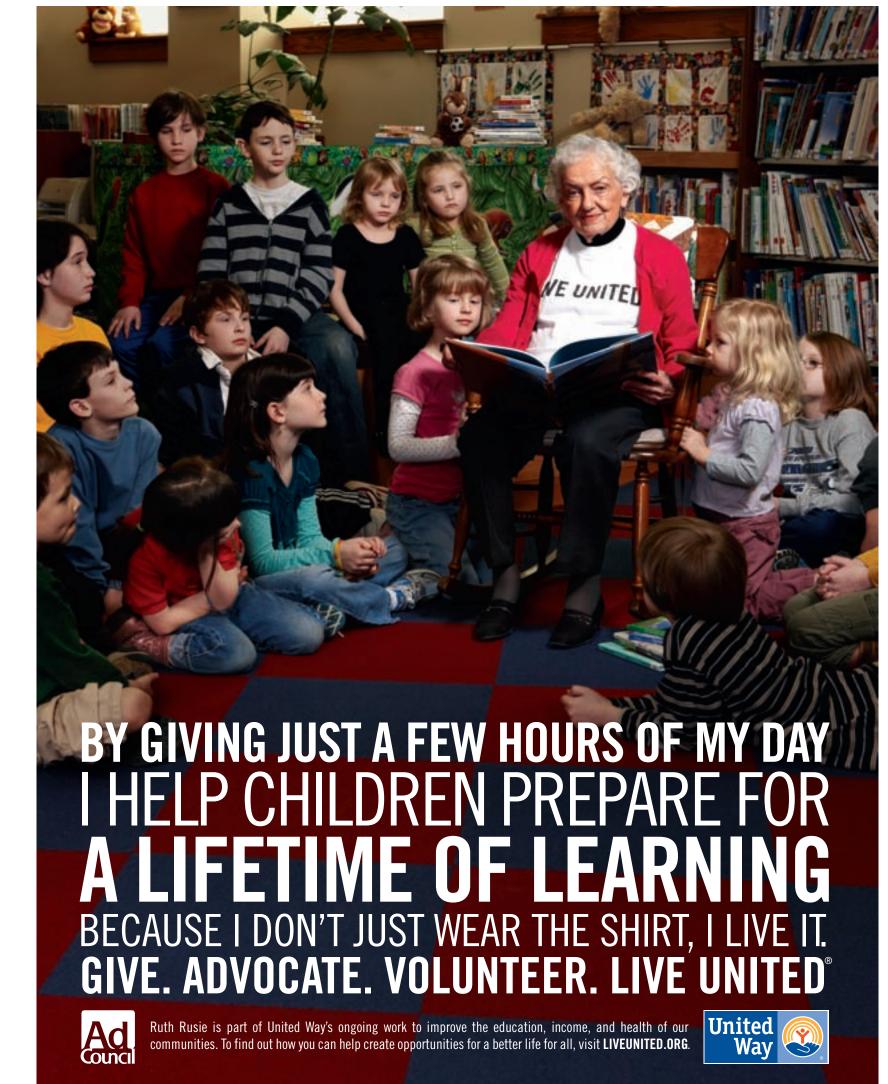
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# Horsing around Flatbush

#### BY ALEXANDRA SIMON

Talk about horse play!

Thousands of East Flatbush families galloped to the Flatbush Avenue street fair on July 9, which promised shopping, games, food, and live entertainment with a Caribbean edge. But it was the prospect of free pony rides that really had local kids champing at the bit, organizers said.

"We had two ponies this year," said Lauren Elvers Collins of local business group the Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District, which puts on the annual Street Fair with Caribbean Flair between

Parkside Avenue and Cortelvou Road. "I would say it was one of most popular."

But although you can lead a horse to water, you can't make it drink, and at least one neigh-saying tot required a little convincing before making hay with the equestrian entertainment, according to his

"When he first got on the pony, at first he didn't want to stay," said local Candace Edwards, who came with her 2-year-old son Francisco Diaz, Jr. "But when they helped him ride on, he liked it and staved."

The fete was no one-trick

pony, though — there was also a rock-climbing wall, bouncy houses, and slides, and a dunk tank that really made a splash in the summer heat, according to Elvers Collins.

"That was a huge hit," she said.

Edwards says she attends every year and wild horses couldn't drag her away from returning in 2017, though she has one wish for next year's fair - more activities for really young kids.

"I definitely will come next year, but I want more kids activities for smaller kids," she



FAIR FUN: (Above) Francisco Diaz, Jr. got to ride a pony at the fair. (Center) Francisco and his mom Candace Edwards enjoyed their time at the fair, especially the activities for kids. (Left) A boy climbs a rock structure outside the Kings Theatre, on Flatbush Avenue near Beverley Road.

Photos by Jordan Rathkopf



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COURIER LIFE, JULY 15-21, 2016

# Activists pitch and moan

# Williamsburgers camp out to demand land-sale for park

#### BY RUTH BROWN

Possession is nine-tenths of the law, but these activists are hoping to score land with around nine tents and some

Local green-space lovers and a couple of pols camped out next to Bushwick Inlet Park in Williamsburg on Saturday, staging an overnight protest to demand the owner of a neighboring warehouse accept Mayor DeBlasio's recent \$100-million offer to buy the property turn it into more parkland.

Around 20 locals braved summer showers to join Borough President Adams and Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Greenpoint) at the so-called "sleep in" next to the for-sale CitiStorage complex — and organizers believe it showed they will do just about anything to get the land in city hands so it can make good on a long-standing promise to finish building out the park.

"Staying out late and staying in the rain, it really highlighted the importance of the



**DOUBLE ACT:** Campers Borough President Adams and Rep. Carolyn Maloney address the gathering. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

issue and how strongly people in the community feel — they want this park completed," said Steve Chesler of activist group Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park.

Some 50 residents gathered at the site in the early evening to enjoy live music, a dance performance, and some edudedicated attendees pitched their tents on the asphalt and settled in for the night, Chesler said.

accommodations proved "comfortable enough," he reported.

Both Adams and Maloney stayed all night—the Beep had to leave at the crack of dawn, but the Congresswoman hung around for coffee and doughnuts, Chesler said.

The city has been promising to buy the 11-acre site and use it to extend Bushwick Inlet Park out to 28 acres since 2005 — when it upzoned much of the area for luxury housing high-rises — but had until recently claimed it couldn't afford the sticker price.

DeBlasio finally made an offer to land-owner Norm Brodsky last month, and Saturday marked the halfway point to a 60-day deadline he has to accept it — a period the pols and activists have been tracking on a big countdown sign outside the park.

But it isn't looking prom-



BLANKET OF NIGHT: Raquel and Helder Rendon watch the sleep-in entertainment with daughter Sayen. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

for the land.

The real-estate tycoon was giving other potential buyers until July 10 to make a bid on the land, which he pitched via a "Koyaanisqatsi"-esque advertisement.

But Chesler says his group cational talks, before the most ising — Brodsky already re- is holding out hope that Brodjected the offer on day one, sky — a long-time neighbor-

claiming he can get far more hood resident who last year described himself as "very charitable" — will accept the mayor's \$100-million offer for the good of the community.

> "We're appealing to Norm Brodsky, who has been a member of the community for many years, to listen to his fellow neighbors to do the right



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Driving when tired can be a fatal mistake. Just as alcohol or drugs can slow down reaction time, impair judgment and increase the risk of accident, so, too, can being tired behind the wheel. Drowsy driving is reportedly what caused the fatal crash in June 2014 between a limousine and a Walmart truck that ended the life of seriously injured fellow comedian Tracy Morgan. The driver, Kevin Roper, was going 20 miles over the speed limit and was almost at his drive time limit, according to preliminary reports by the National Transportation Safety Board.

According to the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, about 100,000 car crashes in the United States each year occur as the result of an overly tired driver. Various studies demonstrate that drivers who have remained awake for 18 hours prior to driving mimic the driving performance of intoxicated motorists. In fact, drowsy driving can be confused with driving with a high blood alcohol content.

Sleepiness can arise relatively quickly, and according to Thomas Balkin, PhD, director of the behavioral biology program at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and a leading expert on sleep and fatigue, it's difficult for drivers to assess just how sleepy they are.

'Sleepiness affects the part of the brain responsible for judgment and self-awareness," he says.

"When you've reached the stage where you are fighting sleep, the effect of any method of reviving yourself can be very short-lived."

Furthermore, people do not have to be in a deep sleep to actually be asleep behind the wheel. Micro-sleeps occur when certain brain cells temporarily shut down for a few seconds. A person is not completely asleep but in a sort of fog as if they are asleep.

When sleepiness sets in, the best course of action is to pull off the road. Opening the window, turning on the radio or blasting cold air is,

at best, only a temporary solution. If driving with passengers and feelings of sleepiness appear, hand the keys over to a passenger and have them take over driving, if possible. Otherwise, a short nap and a cup of coffee can be used in combination to increase alertness

It's also a good idea to avoid beginning a long road trip in mid-afternoon around the hours of two or three o'clock. While alertness generally dips in the evening hours, due to the circadian rhythm, alertness also dips in the late afternoon, prompting

by the American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety found that as many drivers reported falling asleep at the wheel in the afternoon hours as reported falling asleep late at night. Driving in a warm, quiet car also may spur drowsiness, as would driving after a heavy meal.

Driving tired is just as dangerous as other impaired driving. Slow reaction times and unawareness of surroundings can contribute to accidents that are otherwise avoidable.

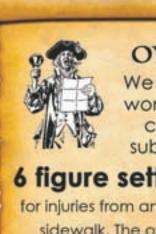
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## Reader summit! Rob invites Jerry to chew fat

I want to thank everyone at your editorial desk for printing not only letters from the readers, but rebuttals, too. What makes your newspaper and our country great is the hard-fought freedom to express views without fear of armed troopers storming your abode.

I have my opinions formed after 64 years in his city, so does Jerome Frank who frequently takes the opposite tack ("Rob 'n' Jerome," Sound off to the Editor, July 8).

There is a great diner in Coney Island on Stillwell Avenue, just off the Belt Parkway, and I invite Jerome to have a friendly sit down with me over a pot o' coffee. Hell, I'll even buy him lunch — how liberal of this conservative!

I am sure we'll share a friendly handshake, enjoy an animated discussion, and maybe, just maybe, I can turn his views into my direction or I may concede to his. Whatever the outcome, I believe that I'll be making a new friend.

> Robert W. Lobenstein Marine Park

To the editor,

Jerome Frank expresses a mindset characteristic of anti-Trump. anti-Conservative, anti-capitalistic partisans. Focusing on negative perspectives, they conveniently omit all the negatives of the presumptive Democrat nominee. Wise voting for the lesser of two evils requires one to weigh the evils of the two major party candidates likely to be nominated, not just one!

If Frank were frank and fair, instead of closing his letter with "is this the kind of person we want as our president?" he might have ended with "which candidate has the greater likelihood of perpetuating the blatantly outrageous assault upon truth, justice, the Constitution, and American values and sovereignty?"

Hopefully an overwhelming majority of eligible living voters will answer that question correctly this James J. Lauria November.

**Sheepshead Bay** 

#### LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Submit letters to: Vince DiMiceli, Editor, Community Newspaper Group, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, NY 11201, or e-mail to editorial@cnglocal. com. Please include your address and telephone number so we can confirm vou sent the letter. We reserve the right to edit all correspondence, which becomes the property of Courier Life Publications.

## **SOUND OFF TO THE EDITOR**

**LETTERS AND COMMENTS FROM OUR READERS** 

#### **Grandma's wisdom**

To the editor,

I was raised by my grandmother. One of the earliest lessons she taught me was that you can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar. If only some of these southwestern Brooklyn pols had been taught the same lesson!

Because I don't want to risk diluting the point I am trying to make, I will leave anonymous the names of the current office holders I am condemning. If only because I don't want people to think I am only writing because I have an ax to grind with someone. To make my point, however, I must mention a former pol no longer in office: Domenic M. Recchia,

Recchia represented Coney Island with dignity in the City Council, first as chairman of the cultural affairs committee and later as chairman of the powerful council finance committee, back when Mike Bloomberg was mayor and Chris Quinn was the council speaker.

Did Recchia agree with Mayor Bloomberg and Speaker Quinn on every single issue? Most certainly not, but he was a smart politician and he knew it was more important to put the interests and welfare of his taxpaying constituents before his own self-interest and selfrighteousness. It meant he had to hold his nose here and there, but it also meant he was able to build a great working relationship with the mayor and speaker.

Thanks to that strategic relationship, Coney Island prospered for many years. In fact, many of the large projects coming to bloom now are thanks to Recchia and his partnerships with Mayor Bloomberg and others.

Far too often our distinguished elected officials forget who put them into office in the first place. The power goes straight to their heads, and suddenly it's all about them and their own moral compass and political ambitions. Being a competent elected official means knowing when to subdue your own self-righteousness in favor of the people who pay your salary to represent their best interests. It calls for some humility and magnanimity. Sometimes you've gotta be humble. You can't always throw a temper-tantrum. You need to act like an adult.

When elephants fight, the grass suffers. When politicians fight, the constituents suffer. I am afraid the people of Coney Island are being done a grave disservice by our current crop of elected officials. The cavalcade of Coney Island pols who locked arms to bash Hizzoner for coming here on Memorial Day to have a Nathan's hot dog and not stopping by for a tour of city housing was impulsive

We may not all love Mayor De-Blasio, but he is the mayor, and in order to get big things done like Recchia did, you'll need to have a good, working relationship with the chief of City Hall.

It seems our current elected officials feel they can score more points poking the mayor in the eye than they can by working with him, when they should remember what grandma said: You can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.

Michael Owens **Coney Island** 

#### Hil-liar-v

To the editor,

It's official: Hillary Clinton is a crook. The public knew as much, but now FBI Director James Comey confirmed that fact. Clinton exposed U.S. secrets in a vulnerable area of the world using four private e-mail servers, and lied about it.

Comey's legal interpretation of the law is puzzling, since he stated that if an FBI agent had exposed classified data, the agent would be fired. So why didn't he recommend prosecution? Let a jury find her innocent. Would matters have been different had Clinton been Republican?

Of course, one of the usual Obama puppets, Attorney General Loretta Lynch, will follow Comey's recommendation and not indict the crook.

Why would a respectable public official like Comey buckle? As we have seen throughout "Don" Obama's presidency, Obama tends to make offers honest people can't refuse. Remember that another respectable public official, Chief Justice John Roberts, buckled on Obam-

Clinton said in sworn testimony before Congress that she did not send or receive classified material through her private servers, and that she turned over all of her e-mails. Comey said that 110 top secret e-mails were "left vulnerable" and that she did not turn over all of her e-mails. Clinton should be indicted for perjury, but Don Obama won't allow it. After all, he is campaigning for her.

Why did Clinton use private servers? Convenience? Nonsense! Experts suspect that as secretary of state, she solicited money in exchange for favors should she be elected president. The money was paid via speaking fees to Bill and Hill (after she finished her secretary of state gig, of course). What did Hill and Bill say in their speeches that are worth \$250,000 per speech? We don't know; the transcripts are kept private, but knowing the Clintons, we can imagine.

Why did Clinton order her staffers to destroy e-mails? What information was on those e-mails? It must have been something damaging. like soliciting money while she was secretary of state. Huma Abedin, Clinton's top staffer, admitted that destroying e-mails was a regular part of her job.

Will Hillary Clinton lose her security clearance privileges? Individuals before her who have exposed classified material, intentionally or negligently, have had their security clearance privileges revoked. Wouldn't it be Hill-arious to have a president who is not allowed to view classified material?

Additionally, Bryan Pagliano, Clinton's former staffer who handled her private e-mail server, pleaded the Fifth Amendment. In laymen terms: "Guilty, guilty, guilty as not charged."

In a crooked Obama government, Clinton got free rides on both Benghazi and her e-mail scandals, with former Attorney General Eric Holder and Lynch riding shotgun. John Adams said that "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." In other words: The Constitution does not apply to the Obama administration and to the Clintons.

Because James Comey is a Republican, some experts interpret his recommendation not to indict as a gift to Republicans, leaving Clinton vulnerable in the November election. What the experts do not realize is that voters are morons — they put Obama in office twice, didn't they?

> Elio Valenti **Brooklyn**

## Gen Z! Kids born in 1995 already labeled

ou can tell a person's age by his teeth.

No, not by whether they're missing or yellowed (or, if they're really old, wooden!). They key is what the teeth are sinking into. "Generation Z" — the folks born after 1995 — have already established different eating patterns from the rest of us.

At least, so said an article I was reading in Nation's Restaurant News. (Yes, I love reading trade magazines!) Fascinated, I called up the editor to ask, first of all, what new food trends are coming down the pike? And second of all, ye gads — does the generation born after 1995 really have a name already?

The answer to the second question is apparently yes. And the answer to the first, according to editor Sarah E. Lockyer, is that Gen Z is even more Millennial than the Millennials.

"We always believed that Millennials were the first digthey really weren't. They weren't born with a phone in their hand. They got them at taurants are responding.



**RHYMES WITH CRAZY** 

Lenore Skenazy

10 or 12."

That makes them practically pterodactyls compared to the Zs. The newest kids on the block want to eat what they see on social media, and they want to put on social media whatever they eat.

That isn't news. Food porn ital natives," she says. "But is possibly more popular than good old-fashioned porn porn. What is news is how the resTake, for instance, Taco Bell.

"Taco Bell used to be food that you ate at 2 am," says Lockyer. "You really didn't think about it. And while that still happens today, now you can go on the Taco Bell app and you can add guacamole and take off sour cream and add extra cheese. It's very mobile friendly. You order on your phone, you pay on your phone, you go pick it up."

Restaurants that are completely interactive are the ones that are going to win, she

So are the ones that allow you to, in the words of an ancient Burger King jingle, "Have it your way." Even Mc-Donald's is jumping on that trend. My husband went to the tricked-out Mickey D's near Bloomingdale's and ordered from a kiosk rather than a human at the counter. He was served a giant, juicy burger slathered in chipotle mayo that made the Big Mac look like the meat equivalent of a flip phone.

Maybe even a landline.

Burgers themselves are still cool, but Gen Z is not eat-

ing as many of them as their elders. The Zs prefer chicken. pizza, and food that is ostensibly "clean" — a word that is both holy and amorphous. Ask me, it roughly translates to "\$1 extra."

YPulse, a New York market research firm specializing in young people, calls this trend the "healthifying" of fast food. Young folks aren't rejecting milk shakes or cheeseburgers, they just want them organic, or locally sourced, or something more "pure" (i.e., labor intensive) like that.

So "clean food," light-colored, ostentatiously healthful restaurants are winning out, as are places that feel communal: You walk in and sit at a big table with people you don't know. Maybe you don't actually strike up a conversation, but at least you feel like you aren't alone. (Except if everyone else is having a great time and you're poking at your oatmeal.)

Communal tables are popular with older folks, too, parto forgo a couple of car payments to afford a cup of soup Free-Range Kids.

at Le Pain Quotidien. But for young people, communal eating is not a new concept, it is just the way they expect to eat: in groups and sharing food.

And then comes the sharing of the experience of the sharing of the food. Everything is documented to the point where showing friends what you ate is almost like showing them your closet or (I'm dating myself again) your bookshelf.

So if you wonder who the Gen Z kids are and what are they bringing to the table (as it were), it is: organic ingredients, hyper-customized entrees, lots of sharing each other's food without getting (visibly) annoyed about it, and phones busy every step of the way, from finding the restaurant to videoing the very last drop of Sriracha dipping sauce.

This generation may still be too young to earn a living. But the way they're going, they better start soon.

Lenore Skenazy is a keyticularly those folks willing note speaker and author and founder of the book and blog

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ost of us don't realize how many chemicals there are in the foods we consume. Many serve as preservatives. Here are just a few from products on the shelves and in the refrigerator in my home:

Ken's Steakhouse Ranch Dressing contains potassium sorbate and calcium disodium EDTA. That same Potassium sorbate is also used in the manufacturing of Yoplait Light Yogurt.

Aunt Jemima Butter Rich Syrup contains no butter, but it does have preservatives sodium benzoate and sorbic acid.

Hellman's Real Mayonnaise contains calcium disodium EDTA to protect quality.

Kraft Miracle Whip Dressing contains potassium sorbate as a preservative. So does Fox's U-bet Chocolate Flavor Syrup.

In your home you are probably still using Heinz Ketchup. We don't. I buy the Hunt's Brand for two reasons:

·Ever since I heard Mrs. Heinz's foul mouth during the Kerry campaign, I stay away from her products

•In bold print, right there on the label, Hunt's advertises "no preservatives."

Campbell's Condensed Tomato Soup contains the food additive, monopotassium phosphate.

Bush's Best Pinto Beans contain calcium disodium EDTA to promote color retention.

L'oven Fresh Hearth Baked Pita Bread contains calcium propanoate as a preservative. Yes — another preservative.

Pringles are baked with maltodextrin and mono- and diglycerides. Read the very tiny print on the container.

Diet Coke is manufactured with phosphoric acid and potassium benzoate while A&W Diet Root Beer is made with sodium benzoate and phenylalanine.

Potassium sorbate plus sodium benzoate are used in the manufacture of Blue Bonnet margarine. How many times have you heard the jingle "Everything's better with Blue Bonnet on it."

Sodium benzoate is also used to preserve Kikkoman Soy Sauce. Think I am kidding? Start reading labels.

I'm convinced I've been eating so many preservatives that I may never decompose when I die.

Bill Clinton recently became a grandfather for the second time (that we know of). If we were to engage in an im-

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## IT'S ONLY **OPINION**

Stanley P. Gershbein

airplane, grandchildren would absolutely be the topic we would talk mostly about. After all, as grandpa of eight — yes, I said eight — of the most wonderful, beautiful, intelligent, loving, handsome grandchildren on the planet, I would be happy to offer him some advice. Every part of my life, no matter how wonderful, has a down side.

First they told me, "Wait until you graduate from college." Now you have to get a job.

Then they told me, "Wait until you get married." Now you have to share a toilet.

And, "Wait until you buy your own house." Now you have to fix the roof yourself.

But, wait until you become a grandpa! You hold the brandnew teensy, tiny little one, you love it, you cuddle it, you sing to it... Then you look at your watch, and it's almost 5 o'clock. "Here's your baby back, sweetheart. I'm heading home."

Who said, "Hillary will say anything but change nothing."

If you answered Barack Obama, you can take what's behind door No. 2 or come back next week to try again for a better prize. The *best* prize America can get is a different presidential candidate. A.B.C. - anybody but Clinton.

She claims she is worried about Trump being near the nuclear button. Sure! She's the one that has the violent, explosive temper as described in book after book. The majority of Secret Service and White House employees tell stories about her screaming foul language driven by her intense rage.

Iam StanGershbein@Bellsouth.net warning that we should be more worried about promptu meeting in a private her near the nuclear button.

## Stan's cure for aging | Photog: Tycoon Trump was a typhoon teen

resumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump tornadic campaign whipped hearts and butts into a frenzy of adoration and rage.



But the blustery billionaire was a whirlwind even as a lad, says legendary photographer and former Courier Life shutterbug Jim Romano, 87, who caught the adolescent Trump in action on Staten Island one summer in the late 1950s.

Romano was a busy New York Daily News cameraman — a born schmoozer who talked like Jimmy Cagney and looked like a movie star in high demand for his gritty, spot-news images taken with a hefty Speed Graphic. He was also a popular paparazzo whose evocative, Life Maga-



zine-esque black-and-whites immortalized the super-famous, including Marilyin Monroe, Frank Sinatra, and President John F. Kennedy, whom he once informed: "You, sir, are a leader of men and a follower of women."

Romano found average Joes equally compelling, and now as he parked his black '39 Pontiac on Arlo Road in Grymes Hill and strolled to meet his date, he stopped to say "hiya" to a group of landscapers toiling in front of an apartment complex, riveting his attention on a young teen propelling a hand-held lawn mower like a jumbo jet.

"I told him, 'Boy, you must have taken vour B12 vitamin today!' and asked him who he was," says Romano. "He presented himself very nicely and respectfully, and said, 'I'm Donald Trump, my father owns this building.'

The surname, now world famous, took the worldly pressman by surprise.

"I thought it was an odd name, I had never heard it before," says Romano, whom Fred Trump later hired as his photographer on the Rock.

The youth's other characteristic — destined to become his hallmark—also struck the newshound as extraordinary.

"He had a shock of thick, yellow hair slicked into an Elvis-style pompadour," he says. "It was unusually outstanding."

Half a century later, the Democratic county committeeman — who hasn't seen The Donald since Arlo Road - isn't wigging out over the typhoonteen-turned-tycoon-pol's hairraising political success. He even has some friendly advice to offer: "Keep punching like Jake LaMotta, knock 'em dead like Jack Dempsey, and make America great again!"

## Jo wants a uniter, not a divider

et again, another mass shooting — this time against white police officers. And yet again, our president makes an lame statement about the violence in our country.

It's funny, when black men the same. And that hurts."

That's right Mr. President, go ahead, keep on fanning the flames of an inflamed situation. That is just what we Americans need more division.

It's true that statistics our country, and the all ubiq-

were targeted by police, our president discussed race relations. With statistics in hand, President Obama blared, "Black drivers are more likely to be pulled over for traffic stops. After being pulled over, blacks and Hispanics are three times more likely to be searched. Last year, African-Americans were shot by police at more than twice the rate of whites. These are facts. And when incidents like this occur, there's a big chunk of our fellow citizenry that feels as if, because of the color of their skin, they're not being treated

rial Day Weekend in Chicago. The President didn't address that one at all. No presidential speeches that day. When the police officers were gunned down like sitting ducks in a pond because they were white police officers, our president chose to

enlighten us about violence in

**NOT FOR** 

**NUTHIN'** 

Joanna DelBuono

don't lie, but there is also the

issue of black-on-black crime

- just look at this past Memo-

uitous "we don't know yet" routine. Nary a word was uttered that it might have been racially motivated.

"We still don't know all the facts," he said.

No Mr. President, we did know. Here's the New York Times account: "The heavily armed sniper who gunned down police officers in downtown Dallas, leaving five of them dead, specifically set out to kill as many white officers as he could, officials said."

Why does this president have such an aversion to speaking the plain truth. This attack in Dallas was racially motivated. We all knew it — why didn't he? Meadow muffins.

In the president's two terms, this country has seen more division than during the Civil War.

Not for Nuthin™ Mr. President, when you get up there and speechify, try to unite this country instead of dividing it further.

All lives matter Mr. President — it really is time for the race rhetoric to end. We are all One America.

# Harbor Watch



**STOPPING THE THREAT:** A researcher examines Vero cells for Zika vaccine testing at the Institute in Silver Spring, Md.

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

# Zika virus vaccine is in the making

#### HARBOR WATCH

Doctors at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research who have developed a Zika vaccine that they've successfully tested on mice are now testing it on monkeys and hope to begin testing on humans later this year.

Their study, published on June 28 in the journal Nature, demonstrated how mice developed immunity to the Zika virus after injection with a purified inactivated virus vaccine, called ZPIV.

The study also involved a second type of vaccine developed by research collaborators at Harvard Medical School.

Findings indicated that single shots of either vaccine protected mice against Zika, but Col. Stephen Thomas said Walter Reed researchers are focusing on ZPIV because it builds on a type of vaccine that has already been licensed.

"Walter Reed has been working on flavivirus vaccines for more than a century," said Thomas, an infectious disease physician who is the Walter Reed Research's lead for the Zika vaccine. The flavivirus family of diseases includes West Nile virus, dengue, and yellow fever — and

Maj. Walter Reed's research in the 1890s eventually helped eradicate yellow fever.

"We started to conceptualize the development of the Zika vaccine actually a couple of years ago," Thomas said. He explained that Walter Reed researchers had spotted outbreaks of the disease that resembled dengue in Southeast Asia and French Polynesia.

This past fall, however, they realized there could be a serious need for a Zika vaccine here in America.

While their published research focuses on mice, Walter Reed "almost in parallel" began experimenting on primates, Thomas said. They believed rhesus monkeys could have reactions to the vaccine that might more closely correspond to human reactions.

But when will the vaccine be approved for distribution?

"That's the 60-million-dollar question," Thomas said, adding that it usually takes a number of years to license a vaccine. "I don't think we're looking at the normal timeline of almost up to a decade. Hopefully that's not going to be the case here, because we're in the middle of an epidemic and an outbreak that's taking a significant toll."

## **Show off those guns**

## Military takes back restrictions on rolled-up sleeves

#### HARBOR WATCH

Effective immediately, commanders may authorize soldiers to roll up the sleeves on Army combat uniforms, according to a memorandum signed by Lt. Gen. James C. McConville, deputy chief of staff, G-1 on June 28.

The new policy pertains to the universal camouflage pattern, operational camouflage pattern, and Operation Enduring Freedom camouflagepattern ACUs.

"We're going sleeves up, camo out," said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey.

The sleeves will be rolled above the elbow, right-side out with the camouflage pattern showing. They should be rolled no more than three inches above the elbow, according to the memo, and this method will be used primarily in garrison.

In addition, during field training exercises or operations, upon approval of the commander, sleeves may be opened and cuffed inward above the wrist on the forearm.

"It's often referred to as a Delta roll or SF roll," Dailey said.

This second method of staying cool is specifically for soldiers in a field or deployed environment, he emphasized.

Soldiers have to remember, though, that these authorizations are only good when not precluded by safety, Dailey said.

"When you're in a combat vehicle, the sleeves have to go down."

There will be no time restrictions on the new policy, Dailey said.

"For instance, company commanders in Hawaii can make the decision to go sleeves up any time of year."

The ultimate decision to roll sleeves any time rests with unit commanders, he said, but added that the Armywide policy has changed due to input from soldiers.



**ROLL 'EM UP!:** A soldier demonstrates how the sleeves may be properly rolled up, with camouflage out.

Gary Sheftick

"The overwhelming support from soldiers around the Army was a big factor in coming to this decision," he said.

Soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas, were given permission earlier this month to begin rolling up their sleeves for a 10-day period, when visited by Dailey and Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley.

At the time that permission was given mid-month, the sleeve-rolling was considered an experiment for a possible Army-wide policy, according to a G-1 spokesman.

That spokesman, Lt. Col. Jerry Pionk, said "Feedback from soldiers resulted in us wanting to do a trial over the next 10 days to see the feasibility of updating AR 670-1 and incorporating in the future for the force to give commanders flexibility in wear based upon

their unit's mission."

Soldier feedback on the issue has been populating social media sites for the past two weeks.

For instance, in a June 21 post on the Army Facebook page, the question was asked: "Let your voice be heard!! If your'e a #USArmy Soldier, the #15th SMA wants to know what you want: Camo in or Camo out?"

One commented: "Go back to the good ole days! It was an art to roll those sleeves!" She was referring to 2006, before the Battle Dress Uniform was phased out. At the time the camouflage pattern remained on the outside.

Most, but not all of the sentiment appeared to be "camo out." Some didn't agree at all with rolling them up, but that appeared to be a small minority.

BR B G COURIER LIFE, JULY 15-21, 2016 **41** 



THAT'S THE SPIRIT: Master Sqt. Berle Sigman completes a high-intensity tactical training exercise with coach Master Gunnery Sgt. Amber Hecht. on June 27 at Quantico, Va.

## A Marine for life

## Wounded warrior is back to military service

#### HARBOR WATCH

"This seemed like a good way to give back to the Marine Corps and thank them for letting me stick around after I got wounded," said Master Sgt. Berle Sigman, a student in the Faculty Advisor Course at the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer Academy aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico.

Sigman, who graduated from the three-week course on June 29, was wounded in combat in October of 2004 in Ramadi, Iraq. He had been in the Marine Corps for 11 years at that point and was platoon sergeant for Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. The injury resulted in the loss of his leg.

"He could have easily been medically retired from the Marine Corps," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Amber Hecht, Enlisted Professional Military Education operations chief and Staff Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Faculty Development Course. "But not only did he choose to continue to serve, he still wants to be a leader and give back to the institution and to the Marines. To watch this Marine fall down at [physical training] doing [High Intensity Tactical Training and get back up with his prosthetic leg twisted backwards and hear him joke, 'Well, guess I betthe warrior spirit."

Sigman said he never considered leaving the Marine Corps. "Being a Marine is just one of those things that you love," he said.

He received his first prosthetic leg in December of 2004, only two months after the iniurv. He was walking on his own by February of 2005 and was "pretty much done" with physical therapy by early April of that year. Exactly one year after his injury, he went back to work at Systems Command aboard Marine base Quantico.

He attributes his speedy recovery to having a sense of humor, to the physical therapists at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and to his familv. friends, and fellow Marines.

"I had visits from it felt like everybody," he said. "The commandant [Gen. Michael Hagee] and assistant commandant [Gen. William Nyland] visited every week. Marines take care of each other."

Now, Sigman wants to help Marines achieve their full potential as a faculty advisor for the academies.

"I hope I can open the door to other seriously injured guys," he said. "I want to help them understand that any kind of adversity can be overcome - it doesn't have to be quite as obvious as my injury."

"I think he has credibility," ter straighten myself out' is Hecht said, indicating Sigamazing. He has so much of man's prosthetic leg.

As an advisor, his sphere of influence will be huge. Hecht said that 1,000 students pass through the Academy's Sergeants Courses annually—and that's just one of three courses the academy offers. The others are Career Course for staff sergeants and Advanced Course for gunnery sergeants.

MARADMIN 521/14, signed in October 2014, made Professional Military Education courses mandatory for enlisted Marines hoping for promotion. Besides Quantico, there are academies at the installations in Hawaii. Okinawa, Twentynine Palms, Camp Pendelton, and Camp Lejeune. However, there are not enough advisors to effectively instruct all the Marines needing further education.

"Some of the academies are sitting at only 67 percent manning," Hecht said. "We are always looking for faculty advi-

There are 11 students in Sigman's advisor course; the capacity is 15. Hecht said the faculty advisor courses. which are offered four times a year, have not been filled to capacity in a year. She thinks Marines eligible to serve as faculty advisor do not consider the duty assignment because they are uncomfortable venturing outside their military occupational specialty to teach courses they might not be familiar with.

## Team saves woman trapped in eddy

#### HARBOR WATCH

"'Help!' That scream was even more chilling than the water I and my friend were in," said Senior Airman Colton Lien, a 19th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordinance disposal technician.

It was June 25, a normal Saturday of kayaking at the Ouachita River Whitewater Park in Malvern, Ark., for Lien and his friends when they witnessed a woman fall out her inner tube into the middle of the river.

"She was with a group of people in approximately 10 tubes," he said. "All the tubes were tied together, so the river continued to carry them down stream after she

Lien, who is also a certified canoe instructor, knew that something needed to be done immediately. The woman fell into a suck hole, which is like a whirlpool in the river. Once a swimmer becomes stuck in a suck hole. it is extremely dangerous to be in and difficult to swim out. He and his friends paddled their kayaks toward the woman as they alerted others they passed to get help.

Once they reached her, they noticed that she was spinning. She would go underwater for five- to 20-second intervals. Lien, his friends, and another paddler who came to help, tried for minutes to grab her with a rope, catch her with their paddles, and reach for her from the kayaks, but nothing worked.

Eventually, the woman became unconscious.

"I was nervous, but I didn't want to panic," Lien said. "Plans A, B, nor C worked. We were about to attempt plan D with hopes that we didn't have to attempt plan E, which was jumping in there myself and getting her."

Lien surfed closer to the woman and finally, he bumped her body out of the whirlpool with his kayak. He grabbed her and pulled her body beside a large canoe that one of the paddlers was in. Though there was a small sigh of relief, she was still unconscious.

After moments of deliberation, Lien paddled the woman to shore as one person held her body and two



**HERO:** Senior Airman Colton Lien and friends saved a woman from drowning on June 25 at the Ouachita River Whitewater Park in Lalvern, Ark. Regina Edwards

others gave her breaths.

"It felt like forever getting back to the bank, but I think it was actually 10 minutes," Lien said. "Reaching the bank was the easy part. When we got there, I checked for a pulse; there was none. Other people came to help with giving the woman chest compressions. Within about 15 seconds, she regained consciousness and her pulse."

Lien stayed with the woman for an additional 15 minutes as she recovered. When the paramedics arrived, they took the woman and continued care. Lien said he walked away from the crowd for a few minutes to take in what just happened.

"I don't feel like a hero," he said. "We did what needed to be done. It was definitely a team effort. We didn't have time to panic because she didn't have time for us to panic. We had to move and move fast."

Lien credited his training as an EOD technician to his fast reaction to the emergency situation. EOD members focus on the protection of personnel and property, with emphasis on personnel first. He leaned on his water safety knowledge and training to quickly assess the situation and lead the others to making the right decisions that ultimately saved a woman's life

"Even if you are a good swimmer, wear a life jacket in deep water, and don't paddle alone. Those tips could be the difference between life and death," he said.

One fact is simple: poor planning or no planning will hurt your loved ones.

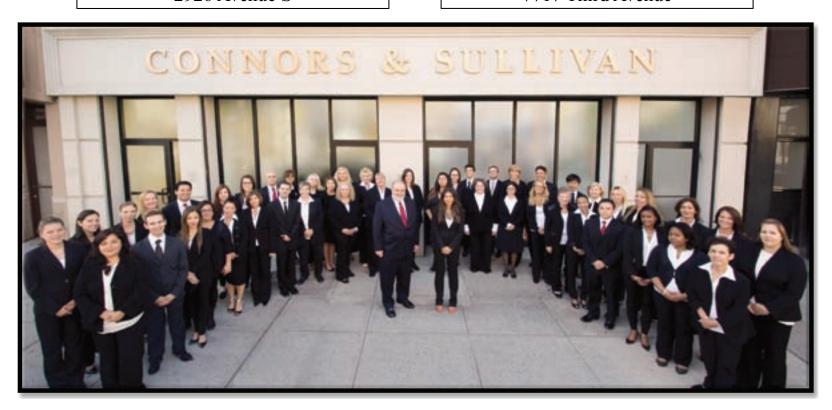
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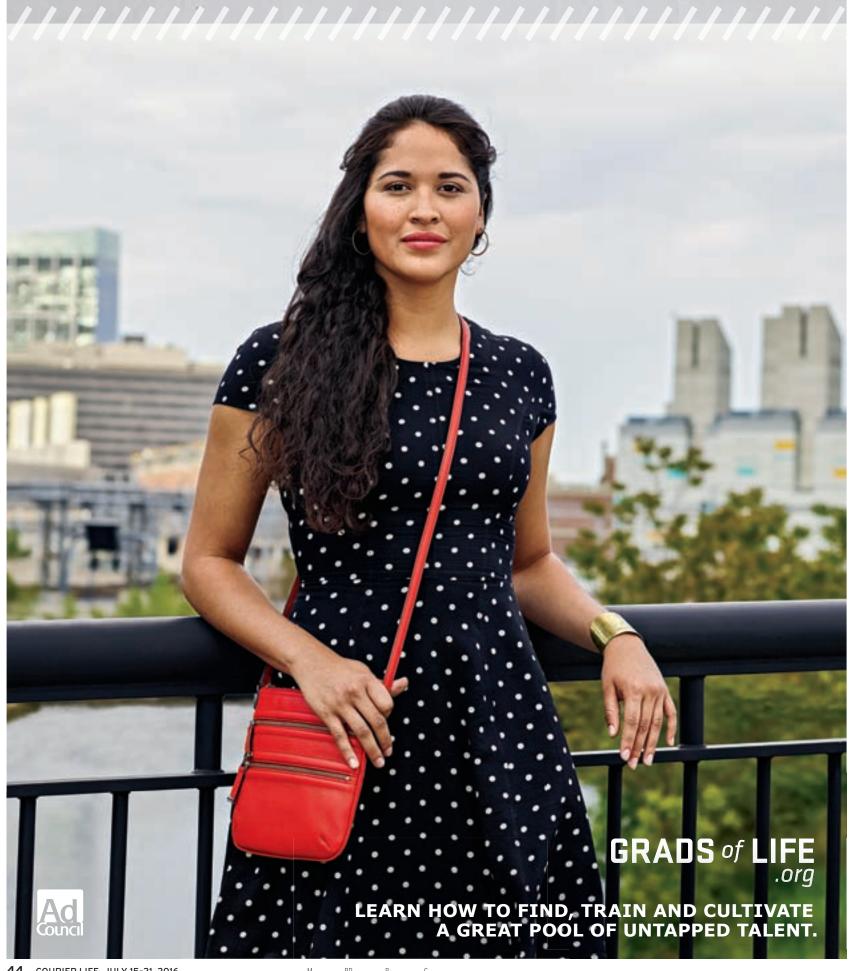
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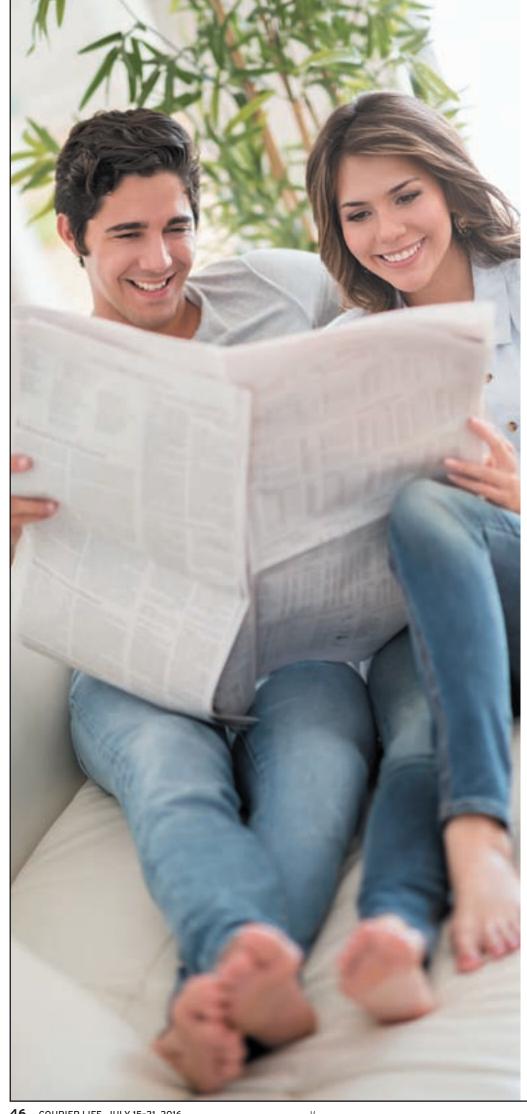
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## The color of money

## Bushwick artist is changing the face of currency

By Alexandra Simon

reenbacks are getting more colorful!

A Bushwick artist who paints pop culture figures on dollar bills will display her money masterpieces at a Boerum Hill art show opening on July 15. She says

that inserting black and Latino figures on her cash is a way to represent people of color in a place previously reserved for white men.

"It felt almost empowering to put some-

one of color on a bill and bring so much attention to that person. It becomes something different," said Danielle DeJesus. "It's empowering — it feels like you're taking away the power from something

that kind of controls the world."

DeJesus started her project after seeing the Broadway musical "Hamilton," which casts people of color as the country's founding fathers. Smitten by the show, she painted its writer and lead actor, Lin-Manuel Miranda, over Alexander Hamilton's face on the \$10 bill. She continued by painting some of her favorite pop culture figures onto other bills, including painter Frida Kahlo, Brooklyn rapper Biggie Smalls, and undead prankster Beetlejuice, among many others.

Using cash as a canvas gives the images an allure that other formats cannot match, she said.

"I really like the idea of the shock

factor — the fact that I'm painting on something that people cherish so much," said DeJesus.

The Bushwick native is no stranger to unusual canvases — last year she created Etch-A-Sketch portraits of her home neighborhood, and she painted a mural on the wall of the 83rd Precinct police station. But working on money has given her work extra currency. The images have gone viral on social media, and several celebrities have shared her paintings, including actress Laverne Cox, who posted DeJesus's rainbow-hued painting of her last month.

"Spike Lee posted my work, which was pretty cool," said DeJesus. "The fact that people like my work, is something special.

They like my work and want to share it with world – it's really exciting."

DeJesus hopes that the virtual crowds will turn into real viewers at her opening.

"I'm hoping I get a good crowd. I have a bunch of people who follow me on Instagram — people who I never met that are responding really well to my work," said DeJesus. "When you have a following that doesn't know you personally but loves your work and comes out, that's special."

"Danielle DeJesus Solo Art Show" at Grumpy Bert [82 Bond St. between State Street and Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill, (347) 855–4849, www.grumpybert.com]. Opening reception July 15, 7–9 pm. Exhibit open through Aug. 14. Free.

### **24 SEVEN**

## ART OF THE WHEEL

### Artists hijack Trump's campaign bus for exhibit

By Dennis Lynch

his exhibit is gonna be huge!
One of Donald Trump's former presidential campaign buses is heading for Dumbo's Smack Mellon gallery on July 30, but the two people behind the wheel are not supporters of the billionaire Republican — they have turned the bus into the country's biggest, classiest rolling art installation against the candidate. Artists Mary Mihelic and David Gleeson are circling the country on a mission to foster dialogue with Trump supporters and Trump opponents, and both camps are giving the contentious project plenty of attention.

"Every time we stop we get people that come up and talk to us — both for and against Trump," Gleeson said. "Yesterday we were walking back to the bus at a gas station in Tuscon and this bearded hippy motorcycle-looking guy came up and got really close and in my face and said 'So this is an anti-Trump bus? Well then f--- you!"

Gleeson and Mihelic, who use the artistic name "t.Rutt," have painted a period between the "T" and "R" of Trump's name on the side of the bus and changed the painted slogan into "Let's Make Fruit Punch Great Again," but many people still mistake the bus for the original thing. Anti-Trump drivers frequently give the pair strong middle fingers while on the highway, and vandals have attacked the bus with eggs, ketchup, and spray paint so many times that they now camouflage the sides of the bus overnight.

But it also acts as a magnet for supporters of the New York billionaire who



Partisan artisans: Mary Mihelic (pictured) and David Gleeson have turned one of Donald Trump's former campaign buses into a rolling anti-Trump art installation, which will park in Dumbo on July 30.

believe they are finding fellow Trumpers, they said.

"If we said we hate Trump we'd never talk to any Trump people," Mihelic said. "The emotional flip that people have when they realize it's anti-Trump, that moment when they change, you realize you can change people's thinking through art."

Mihelic and Gleeson purchased the bus for \$14,000 on Craigslist. The Donald's campaign bought the former bachelor party bus — with the stripper pole still installed — when the candidate was stumping across Iowa before the Feb. 1 caucuses, then returned it to its previous owners, who sold it on.

The artistic pair have driven the bus 3 pm. Free.

to primary election states across the country, performing provocative pieces at each stop, including waterboarding the bus in response to Trump's claim that he will reinstate the practice if he makes it to the Oval Office.

The pair hope to meet a welcoming crowd at Smack Mellon at the end of the month. The appearance will be just nine days after the bus rolls away from the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio — assuming the bus makes it out in one piece.

"T.rump Bus" at Smack Mellon [92 Plymouth St. at Washington Street in Dumbo, (718) 834–8761, www.smack-mellon.org]. July 30 at noon, July 31 at 3 pm. Free.

## Politics for the people

By Dennis Lynch

Tired of the Donald and Clinton campaigns? Maybe you can do better!

A Dumbo art installation encourages everyday Americans to run for President of the United States. "Campaign Office," happening every weekend in July at the Smack Mellon gallery as part of its election-themed "Of the People" exhibit, lets participants record a computer-generated campaign speech declaring their candidacy. The creator of the piece says that getting behind the podium gives people a glimpse of life on the campaign trail.

"Most people say it's really challenging, and talk about being carried away by the language. It's a powerful and impressive thing," said artist Jeremy Olson. "There's a sense of comfort and excitement and for a moment you really are up there, speaking to a huge crowd about America."

Prospective candidates fill out a questionnaire about their political

beliefs, receive a semi-random speech from a computer loaded with declaration speeches from 18 real presidential aspirants, and deliver their historic address in front of a green screen. Olson said he is most interested in how people respond to the speeches.

"You can see them change when the topic is something very meaningful to them and how some words take on a different meaning spoken by one person than by the candidate who originally spoke them," he said. "In other cases it's quite clear they are saying something completely against what they believe in."

Olson, who became a notary public for this project, then helps the Presidential hopefuls file paperwork to become a write-in candidate in the state of New York. Olson also posts the speeches to the site www.campaignoffice.org.

Olson is one of 19 artists in the "Of the People" exhibit, chosen from more than 200 submissions. Other exhibits include Isabella Cruz-Chong's sound installa-



And a Charizard in every pot!: Young candidate Bailey Eckert—Chu tells voters why he is the right choice for President at the "Campaign Office" installation in Dumbo, while his father and campaign manager Joshua Eckert—Chu looks on.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

tion "Line of Breath," a giant metal wall outfitted with speakers, symbolizing the barrier some want between the United States and Mexico, and Esteban Del Valle's massive mixed-media mural of a podium weighing down a bull's boat — a comment on the relationship between financial markets and political speech.

"Of the People" at Smack Mellon [92 Plymouth St. at Washington Street in Dumbo, (718) 834–8761, www. smackmellon.org]. Open through July 31, Wed–Sun, noon–6 pm. "Campaign Office" open Sat–Sun. Free.



Kuti shot: Femi Kuti, the son of famed Afrobeat pioneer Fela Kuti, will play two shows in Brooklyn this month. Remi Adetiba

## **Catch Kuti**

## Two chances to see the Afrobeat star in B'klyn

By Giaco Furino

he 'beat goes on!

The son of pioneering Nigerian musician
Fela Kuti will headline two shows in Brooklyn
this month, rocking the Bric Celebrate Brooklyn!
Festival on July 23 and taking the Brooklyn Bowl
stage on July 27. But Femi Kuti says that even though
he works in the genre that his famous father created,
their music is not note-for-note.

"There are huge differences, and there are huge similarities," said Femi Kuti. "I love my father very much, I played with him, I grew up with his music. This music is the backbone of my development, but I think I was able to find my voice, and that's why my fan base really developed over the years."

Femi Kuti has updated his father's famous style with faster tempos and high-energy performances, and has carved out a substantial career of his own. But his music got boost of publicity after the 2008 Broadway musical "Fela!" based on his father's life, he said.

"It definitely has created a huge awareness," Kuti said. "But I was already doing very well, I had a very big song, 'Beng Beng Beng,' so my name had already been quite established, but you never say no to press."

People attending his shows will "see Africa through the music, and they'll love it," he said. "They'll leave the concert hall wanting to come back again."

Kuti, who lives in Nigeria, last played in Brooklyn in 2015, but says that fans who come out this year will get a very different show.

"This time around I'll be playing songs from my forthcoming album, and even maybe a song that won't be on the album — something that's very, very new," he said.

Femi Kuti at Bric Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival [Prospect Park Bandshell, enter at Ninth Street and Prospect Park West in Park Slope, (718) 683–5600, www.bricartsmedia.org/cb]. July 23 at 7:30 pm. Free.

Femi Kuti at Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963–3369, www.brooklynbowl.com]. July 27 at 8 pm. \$25.

#### FRI, JULY 15

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CY-**CLONES VS. LOWELL** SPINNERS: 16th annual FDNY Appreciation Night. Starting at \$10. 6 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Conev Island. (718) 449-8497], www. brooklyncyclones.com.

MUSIC, JUICE HIP-HOP **EXHIBITION:** A gathering of the next wave of dancers, deejays, beat makers, sneakerheads, and graffiti artists. \$15. 7-11 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [45 Water St. at New Dock Street in Dumbo, (718) 834-8794], www. stannswarehouse.org.

**BABELAND CUSTOMER AP-**PRECIATION DAY: The adult toy store hooks up with Raaka Chocolate to offer a chocolate tasting, cocktails, and sex tips. Free. 7 pm. Babeland [462 Bergen St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-3820], www.babeland.com

READING, CHERYL LU-LIEN TAN: The author reads from her novel "Sarong Party Girls," about a young woman's rise in glitzy Singapore. Free. 7 pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], www.bookcourt.org.

THEATER, "RICHARD III": Shakespeare's classic play about the villainous Duke of Gloucester, \$18 (\$15 seniors and students), 7:30 pm. Gallery Players [199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (212) 352-3101], www.galleryplayers.com.

THEATER, "NOTHIN'S GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD": An episodic play about the search for home, experienced via news reports, anonymous letters, blogs, and the Occupy Movement. 7:30 pm. Waterfront Museum Barge [290 Conover St. near Reed Street in Red Hook, (718) 624-4719], www.waterfrontmuseum.org.

MUSIC, HAKIM, KRAR COL-LECTIVE: A night of music from Egyptian and Ethiopian musicians, as part of BRIC's 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.

COMEDY, COMEDY QUAR-TERLY — SUMMER EDI-TION: Come see comedians do their best sets in front of a camera! \$5.8 pm. Bluebird [504 Flatbush Ave. at Lefferts Avenue in Prospect Lefferts Garden, (978) 204-1039], bit.ly/ comedyart.

**BURLESQUE AT THE BEACH** THE PERSISTENCE OF NUDITY: A burlesque tribute to Salvador Dali. \$15. 10 pm. Sideshows by the Seashore [1208 Surf Ave. between W. 12th Street and Stillwell Avenue in Conev Island. (718) 372-5159], www.coneyisland. com.



## **EVENTS**



Feeling Fab: Rapper and Bedford-Stuyvesant native Fabolous will take the stage of the Brooklyn Hip-Hop Festival Finale in Brooklyn Bridge Park on July 16, along with Nas, Talib Kweli, and — if the show is anything like previous years — some secret special guests. Associated Press / Jeff Lombardo

#### SAT, JULY 16

ART, "THE FENCE": This outdoor photography exhibition features artists from around the world. Free. Brooklyn Bridge Park's Granite Prospect [Old Fulton Street at Furman Street in Dumbo, (718) 222-9939], www.brooklynbridgepark. ora.

DOGGIE SHENANIGANS PAW-GEANT: Dogs of all ages and breeds compete in a dog pageant, which is combined with a pet adoption event. Free. 1-4 pm. Owl's Head Park (68th Street and Shore Road in Bay Ridge), https://www. facebook.com/owlsheadvolunteers.

SOUTH SUMMER STROLLS: Fifth Avenue in south Park Slope shuts down for a climbing wall, jugglers, hula hoopers, bands, face painting, and more for outdoor fun. Free. 5–9 pm. (Fifth Avenue between 12th to 18th streets in Park Slope).

FREDDY'S DOGGY FASH-ION SHOW: The beloved bar hosts a canine fashion show in the street. Free. 6 pm. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131], www.freddysbar.com.

MUSIC, BROOKLYN HIP HOP FESTIVAL FINALE **CONCERT:** Rapper Nas headlines this year's music extravaganza, with Fabolous and other bigname talents. \$55. 1–8 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park (Water Street between Old Fulton and Dock streets in Dumbo), www.bkhiphopfestival.com.

MUSIC, THE WOOD BROTHERS, AQIFE O'DONOVAN, HISS GOLDEN MESSENGER: Free. 7 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell [Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-89001. www.bricartsmedia. org/cb.

MUSIC. TAMMY MCCANN AND THE SHARP RAD-WAY BIG BAND: Free. 8 pm. On Stage at Kingsborough [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Oxford Street in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368-55961, www.onstageatkingsborough.org.

THEATER, "PSYCHO BEACH PARTY": Piper Theatre Company performs Charles Busch's parody of 1960s beach films. Free. 8 pm. The Old Stone House 336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], theoldstonehouse. org.

MUSIC, AURICAL, MAR SALA, EMPIRE BEATS: \$5 suggested donation. 8 pm. The Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (718) 627-4949], www.waystationbk.com.

SPORTS, GOTHAM GIRLS ROLLER DERBY DOUBLE-**HEADER:** The Brooklyn Bombshells vs. the Queens of Pain, and Manhattan Mayhem vs. Bronx Gridlock. \$25 (\$20 in advance). 4–10 pm. Abe Stark Arena (1902 W. 19th St. between Surf Avenue and Boardwalk in Coney Island), www.gothamgirlsrollerderby.com.

NIGHTLIFE, PARTY LIKE IT'S 1865: Green-Wood Cemetery transforms into a 19th-century pleasure garden and theater, with fire eaters, contortionists, historic games, and more. \$37. 7–10 pm. Green Wood Cemetery [Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Greenwood Heights, (718) 210-3080], www.greenwood.com

**BROOKLYN BAVARIAN BIERGARTEN BIRTHDAY** BASH!: The beer garden at Grand Prospect Hall celebrates its one year anniversary. Free. 8 pm. Brooklyn Bavarian Biergarten [265 Prospect Ave. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 788-0400], brooklynbavarianbiergarten.com.

COMEDY, "VERY FOREIGN AFFAIRS!": Sketch troupe American Candy examines the personal and political. With a pre-show complimentary wine reception. \$25. 8 pm. Actors Fund Arts Center (160 Schermerhorn St. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Downtown), www.acforeignaffairs.eventbrite.com.

#### SUN, JULY 17

FREE YOGA IN PROSPECT PARK: Free summer yoga on Sunday mornings in July from Yogasole. Bring your own mat. Free. 10 am. Prospect Park [Enter at Bartel Pritchard Square in Park Slope, (718) 541-1382], www.yogasole.com/ eventskarma/outdoorfreeyoga.html.

MUSIC, MARTIN MCQUADE SINGS SONGS OF THE TROPICS: With Pete Sokolow on piano. Free 3-6 pm. Gulf Coast [6901 Third Ave. at Bay Ridge Avenue in Bay Ridge, (347) 662-6644], www.gulfcoastbrooklyn.com.

COMEDY, COMEDY NIGHT AT THE MIRAGE DINER: Dinner, followed by comedy from Les Degen, Gary Keshner, and Robyn Schall. \$45. 6 pm. Mirage Diner [717 Kings Highway betwee E. Seventh and E. Eighth streets in Midwood, (718) 998–3750], miragediner.com/index.html.

READING, REBECCA MOCK: Illustrator Rebecca Mock celebrates the release of "Compass South," a graphic novel written by Hope Larsen. Free. 7 pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], www.bookcourt.org.

COMEDY, APARNA NANCHERLA: The comedian launches her new album with a stand-up show, \$10, 8 pm, Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallny.com

#### MON, JULY 18

GARDENING WORKSHOP: Learn how soil impacts plant growth, Free, 2 pm. E. 43rd St. Block Assoc Community Garden (1087 E. 43rd Street in Flatlands), www.nycgovparks.org.

FILM, FLICKS ON THE BEACH — "STAR WARS: The Force Awakens": Free. 7:30 pm. Coney Island Beach (Near the Boardwalk at W. 10th Street in Coney Island), www.coneyislandfunauide.com.

TALK, MASTERS OF SOCIAL GASTRONOMY — GET BARBECUED: A history and science lesson about slow-cooking meat. With beer, wine, and food available. \$5 suggested donation. 8 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], theoldstonehouse.org.

Continued on page 51

24-7

Home of the Braven: The owners of Bushwick's Braven Brewing Company will serve up their white ale and pilsner brews at the Tapped craft beer festival at Barclays Center on July 23.

Photo by Jason Speakman

#### **COMING SOON TO** BARCLAYS CENTER

#### THU, JULY 21

SPORTS, ROC NATION SUMMER CLASSIC CHARITY BASKETBALL GAME: \$16-\$155. 8 pm.

#### SAT, JULY 22

MUSIC, ONE AFRICA MUSIC FEST: With Wizkid, Davido, Diamond Platnumz, Stonebwoy Flavour, and more. \$65-\$155. 7:30 pm.

#### SAT, JULY 23

EVENT, TAPPED - THE **ULTIMATE CRAFT** BEER FESTIVAL: \$42. 12:30 pm and 5 pm.

#### TUE, JULY 26

MUSIC, G-EAZY AND LOGIC: \$40-\$125.7

#### THU, JULY 28

MUSIC, LAURA PAUSINI: \$75-\$150.8 pm.

#### THU, JULY 30

SPORTS, SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOX-ING: Leo Santa Cruz vs. Carl Frampton. \$45-\$399. 5 pm.

#### WED, AUG 3

**EVENT, HILLSONG CON-**FERENCE 2016: A conference of Christian churches. \$209. Times

#### THU, AUG 4

EVENT, HILLSONG CON-FERENCE 2016: A conference of Christian churches. \$209. Times TBA

#### FRI, AUG 5

**EVENT, HILLSONG CON-**FERENCE 2016: A conference of Christian churches. \$209. Times

#### TUE, AUG 9

TALK, BEYOND SPORT UNITED 2016: A conversation about making sports more inclusive. \$495, 8 am.

#### THU, AUG 11

MUSIC. BARBRA STRE-ISAND: \$105-\$615. 8

#### SAT, AUG 13

MUSIC, BARBRA STRE-ISAND: \$105-\$615. 8

#### WED, AUG 17

MUSIC, BLINK-182: \$40-\$75.7 pm.

#### SAT, AUG 20

SPORTS, WWE NXT TAKEOVER — BACK TO BROOKLYN: \$25-\$130. 7:30 pm.

#### SUN, AUG 21

SPORTS. WWE SUMMER-**SLAM:** \$30-\$555. 6 pm.

#### MON, AUG 22

SPORTS, WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW: \$25-\$130. 7:30 pm.

#### **SAT, AUG 27**

MUSIC, PROPHETS OF RAGE: \$30-\$70.7 pm.

#### SAT, SEPT 3

MUSIC, ASAP NEW YORK: A showcase of Filipino music talent. \$55-\$155.5 pm.

#### THU, SEPT 8

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL -TUROK, THE FIRST FLIGHT: \$42-\$125. 7:30 pm.

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

## **24 SEVEN**

## THAR THEY BLOW!

#### Waterfront band blends sea shanties and jazz

By Julianne Cuba

This band can really whale! A group of musical mariners will perform songs of the sea atop a historical shipping barge anchored in the waters off Red Hook on July 23. The Brooklyn Blowhards is a local band that combines jazz with sea shanties — the songs that 19th century whalers belted out to coordinate work on their giant vessels, said the group's founder.

"It's functional work songs that were used by laborers on maritime vessels," said Jeff Lederer. "The ones I like are ones that were sung on whaling ships, literally used to coordinate the timing of the pulling of ropes that were essential in setting the sails on large sailing vessels and a lot of other jobs - join that with a so-called free jazz background."

The combination is, he admits, "a very unlikely pairing."

The July 23 performance at the Waterfront Barge Museum is also a tribute to Lederer's musical icon Albert Ayler — an American avantgarde jazz saxophonist, singer, and composer — who drowned in the waters off Red Hook.

"For 20 years I've been exploring his music and combining it with different things. He actually, in a very horrible and untimely death, drowned in New York Harbor very close to the barge," said Lederer. "This is my love song to Albert, intertwined with the tragedy in his death in the sea."

The Windsor Terrace sax player has never hoisted a harpoon on a



Song of the sea: Saxaphonist Jeff Lederer founded sea shanty group the Brooklyn

whaling ship himself, but Lederer fell in love with the songs that came off whaling vessels, and he found a similar rhythm in Ayler's music,

"In listening to his music for a long time, I heard the sound of the sea in his music, heard the churning sound of the sea, and I decided to explore that in this weird post-modern pairing of shanties and jazz," said Lederer.

The Brooklyn Blowhards — a group of nine soulful seafarers is unlike most other shanty bands, which tend to perform a capella. This group gets its folk sound from four horns, two saxophones, an accordion, and two percussionists, said Lederer, who also sings with his wife and fellow band member, Mary LaRose.

"The sounds are pretty different than traditional jazz music, maybe related in a way to authentic traditional sea shanty," he said. "My wife sings, and I sing a little bit, but it's more instrumental."

The group is excited to play on Brooklyn's waterfront, said Lederer.

"It's really a magical place and has a tremendous history - it's an incredible magical maritime history," he said. "And our group fits in very well with that."

The Brooklyn Blowhards at the Waterfront Barge Museum [290 Conover St. between Reed Street and the waterfront in Red Hook, www.waterfrontmuseum.org, (718) 624-4719]. July 23 at 8 pm. \$15.

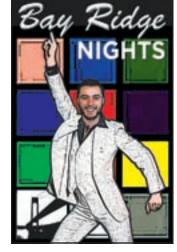
## Bay Ridge Nights is getting out!

**By Dennis Lynch** 

The summer is heating up and so is Bay Ridge! We have plenty of events this week that will keep you outdoors, enjoying that beautiful sunshine during the day and entertained all night.

Start your weekend at the Summer Stroll (Third Avenue between 69th and 80th streets), Friday evening from 6 pm to 10 pm. That span gives you plenty of time to stroll the avenue, sample great food, browse the vendors, and catch a performance from the Narrows Community Theater.

It's a true dog day of summer on Saturday, and canine lovers should make tracks to the Bliss Overlook at Owl's Head Park (enter at 68th Street and Shore Road) for the Doggie Shenanigans Paw-geant and adoption event from 1 pm to 4 pm. Judges will grade the pooches in a number of categories, including best behaved, best trick, and - our favorite - best costume. It costs \$10 to enter your friends by flapping over to Three disco, and swing.



pretty pup, and all money goes to the Itty Bitty Kitty cat rescue group and the Second Chance animal shelter, which will collect food, blankets, and other pet-menities.

Then keep up with your animal

Jolly Pigeons (6802 Third Ave. at 68th Street). The hardworking duo Full Disclosure will be on stage with drummer Vincent LaRussa and have a setlist of hard-rockin' classics from bands including Guns N' Roses, Led Zeppelin, and Joan Jett.

On Sunday at 3 pm head to Gulf Coast (6901 Third Ave. between Bay Ridge and Ovington avenues), which will feel like a tropical beach when crooner Martin McQuade and pianist Pete Sokolow bring their chilled-out session of tropical classics such as "Bali Hai" and "Papa Loves Mambo." They play until 6 pm.

And on Tuesday night, enjoy the breezes in Shore Road Park (enter at 79th Street and Shore Road) while you listen to the Brooklyn Keys play at 7 pm, as part of State Sen. Marty Golden's (R-Bay Ridge) free Concerts in the Park series. The classy seven-piece band has a wide repertoire that includes doo-wop,



Say hello to my little friend: Kevin Barnett, left, and Josh Rabinowitz host the "Cicadas" comedy show on the garden stage at House of Yes in

## House of yuks

### Show named for gross bugs draws crowds with comedy

By Adam Ullian

his show has some buzz!

A comedy night named for noisy nocturnal insects has been drawing audiences to the front terrace of the House of Yes. "Cicadas: Bushwick's Free Comedy Night," which takes place every other Wednesday, is hosted by members of the TruTV sketch comedy series "Friends of The People" Josh Rabinowitz, Jermaine Fowler, and Kevin Barnett.

Over the last four months. the show's energetic combination of music, storytelling, and stand-up has made it a focal point of the Brooklyn comedy scene, with big names like Judah Friedlander of "30 Rock" and Sasheer Zamata from "Saturday Night Live" performing alongside emerging talent.

We spoke with Rabinowitz about the cicada theme and the appeal of mixing music and comedy.

#### How did the show start?

House of Yes is a newer venue and wanted to do a comedy show. We've all been buddies from stand-up and just thought it'd be fun to cohost together.

#### Cicadas are terrifying insects. Why name the show after them?

We did a cicadas-related sketch on "Friends of the People." The show at House of Yes doesn't involve cicada jokes or any cicada-related material. We just liked the name. "Cicadas" is also a pretty fun word to say.

#### What is your favorite part about doing the

It's just fun to hang every couple weeks and have really funny comics come by. We've also had a couple rappers, Khary and Soul Khan, who are awesome, and we hope to have other musical guests.

#### Why did you want to bring rappers onto the

We had all liked the idea of having music involved. It just adds another layer to the show, to get to bring in rising musicians as well as comedians. There are some who are involved in comedy, but it was more to add another aspect to the show.

#### How is it working with a new space?

House of Yes has been a perfect venue. The owners, Anya, Justin, Jacqui, Kae, Leo, have been great to us. The venue is pretty new and has a great following, so it's been an excellent fit. So far we've done it in the bar room and then in the outdoor space. We'll likely bounce back and forth between those depending on the weather and other events going on. We're lucky that the venue has a lot of different great spaces for a

"Cicadas: Bushwick's Free Night of Comedy" at House of Yes (2 Wyckoff Ave. at Jefferson Street in Bushwick, www.houseofyes.org). Next show July 20 at 8 pm. Free.



## **EVENTS**

Continued from page 49

#### TUES, JULY 19

#### MUSIC, BROOKLYN KEYS: Senator Marty Golden

Senator Marty Golden hosts an outdoor concert. Free. 7 pm. [79th Street at Shore Road in Bay Ridge, (718) 238–6044].

FILM, "PURPLE RAIN": This
Tuesday night film series
on the Red Hook waterfront has views of the
harbor and the Statue of
Liberty as a backdrop.
Free. 8:30 pm. Valentino
Pier (Coffey Street at Ferris
Street in Red Hook), www.
redhookflicks.com.

#### WED, JULY 20

#### MUSIC, ROLIE POLIE GUA-CAMOLE: The kid's band kicks off the summer playground season with their

kicks off the summer playground season with their family-friendly hits. Free. 5:30 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768–3195], theoldstonehouse.org.

#### TALK, GETTING MONEY FOR YOUR GREEN

SPACE: A workshop where you can meet experts, network with other park group leaders, and walk away with new energy and ideas. Free. 6:30 pm.

South Oxford Space (138 South Oxford St. between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue in Fort Greene).

## Avenue in Fort Greene). MUSIC, BRIDGE GROOVES — PITCHBLAK BRASS

BAND: Free. 7-10 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park's Granite Prospect [Old Fulton Street at Furman Street in Dumbo, (718) 222–9939], www.brooklynbridgepark.

## COMEDY, FOUR MILLION DOLLAR BASEMENT COMEDY SHOW: Hosts

David Piccolomini and Jacob Galang present a fantastic and very valuable comedy show. Free. 8:30 pm. Halyards [406 Third Ave. at Sixth Street in Gowanus, (718) 532–8787], www.barhalyards.com.

#### THURS, JULY 21

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CY-CLONES VS. ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS: Starting at \$10. 7 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449–

8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com. DANCE, THE OMNI EN-

SEMBLE BENEFIT PARTY: A night of live music, dancing, food, and drinks to benefit the dance troupe's 2016–2017 season. \$40 (\$70 per couple). 7 pm. (755 Rugby Rd. between Wellington and Waldorf courts in Ditmas Park), www.theomniensemble. org.

FILM, "T-REX": Documentary about Claressa "T-Rex" Shields, the first U.S. woman to win a boxing gold medal at the Olympics. Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638–5000], www. brooklynmuseum.org.

## DANCE, "BLACK GIRL" — LINGUISTIC PLAY," BRANDEE YOUNGER:

Choreographer Camille
A. Brown showcases her
evening-length piece that
explores black female
identity. 7:30 pm. Prospect
Park Band Shell [Prospect
Park West and Ninth Street
in Park Slope, (718) 965–
8900], www.bricartsmedia.
org/cb.

#### **DRINK AND DRAWBOTS:**

Drink and create machines that draw and paint. All supplies provided, and an open bar. \$20. 7:30 pm. Open Source Gallery [306 17th St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (646) 279–3969], www.open-sourcegallery.org.

#### MUSIC, "THE RAKE'S

PROGRESS": The String Orchestra of Brooklyn presents Igor Stravinsky's neoclassical opera about young man led astray by the devil. \$10–\$30. 8 pm. Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (917) 267–0363], www.roulette.org.

#### A DRINKING GAME NYC PRESENTS "THE GOO-

NIES": A live staged reading of the kids' film, with the audience drinking for key phrases and characters. \$10 (\$8 in advance). 8 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855–3388], www. littlefieldnyc.com.

#### FRI, JULY 22

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CY-CLONES VS. ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS: Starting at \$10. 7 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449– 8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

DANCE, "SWEAT AND TEARS": A devised physical theatre piece in which performers fight as men and cry as women. \$15. 8 pm. Jack (505 Waverly Ave. between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue in Clinton Hill), www.jackny.org.

BURLESQUE AT THE BEACH
— SWITCH 'N' PLAY: A

— SWITCH 'N' PLAY: A drag collective presents gender-bent bulesque. \$15. 10 pm. Sideshows by the Seashore [1208 Surf Ave. between W. 12th Street and Stillwell Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 372–5159], www.coneyisland.com.

#### SAT, JULY 23

MUSIC, CONEY ISLAND TALENT SHOW: Kids, teens, and adults show off their talents in song, dance, and variety acts. Hosted by the World Famous Bob. Free. 4–8 pm. (Boardwalk between W. 10th Street and Jones Walk in Coney Island), www.coneyislandtalentshow.com.

MUSIC, JON BATISTE AND STAY HUMAN AND FRIENDS: The Late Show band and special quests.

band and special guests. Free. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Band Shell [Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965– 8900], www.bricartsmedia. org/cb.

#### MUSIC, SVETLANA AND THE DELANCEY SIX:

Free. 8 pm. On Stage at Kingsborough [2001 Oriental Blvd. at Oxford Street in Manhattan Beach, (718) 368–5596], www.onstageatkingsborough.org.



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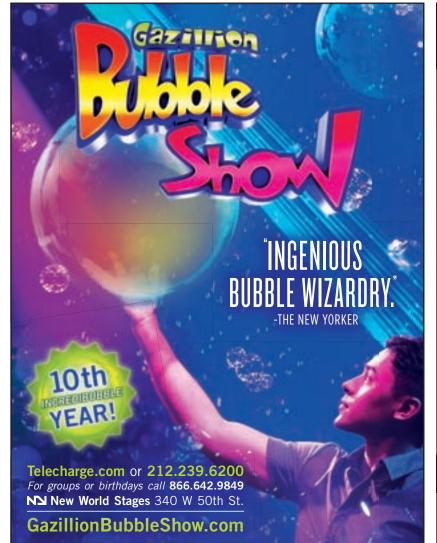
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## Get a taste of the sweet life at Dolce Vita

#### BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Whether you say it in English or Italian, it translates to the same concept — and sharing meals with family and friends defines many of those moments.

That's because food is more than nutrition for the body. It's nourishment for the soul. We remember special meals because the cuisine is outstanding, and so are the people with whom we share that experience.

It all comes together — a taste of this sweet life — when you dine at Dolce Vita Restaurant, the Mill Basin establishment that stands where Pinocchio Restaurant used to be.

Dolce Vita opened in January, in space that has been transformed into sophisticated, modern appeal. The dining room's black and white theme extends to the walls and to the tabletops where black linen cloths peak beneath the white linens that cover them. Adjacent to the fabulous bar is an abstract sculpture that holds bottles of wine. Elegant crystal chandelier lighting reflects off mirrored walls. The atmosphere is lively, bustling with conversation, the celebratory clinking of wine glasses, and authentic Italian food. Salute!

On Thursday and Friday nights, there's live music from 7 to 11 pm, taking the entire night's festivities to another level.

Start a gourmet journey here with appetizers like stuffed portobello mush-



rooms — huge round saucers that are stuffed with spinach, fontina cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, then dabbled with pesto. Or, wild mushroom risotto croquettes — lovingly prepared with prosciutto, English peas, and white truffle. Crispy calamari, beef short rib sliders, steamed mussels, and grilled baby octopus are other possibilities.

The roasted beet and endive salad is a must for its sensation of flavors — a finely chopped combination of radicchio, Gorgonzola, candied walnuts, strawberries, and balsamic vinaigrette.

Entrees include a tasty lemon shrimp sautéed in an herb broth, curled around

spinach risotto; charbroiled New York strip steaks with escarole and polenta fries; and pan-seared veal cutlets with broccoli rabe and hot cherry tomatoes.

The succulent lobster Fra Diavolo is served on a bed of pasta, adorned with mussels and clams. The dish usually packs some heat, as the name means "brother devil" in Italian. But Dolce Vita, always accommodating, will prepare the dish mild or spicy.

Executive chef Peter Curcio is seasoned enough to know what people like, and offers dishes that appeal to everyone.

The wait staff is knowledgeable and attentive, happy



(Left) Executive chef Peter Curcio offers dishes that appeal to everyone. (Above) Eggplant, mozzarella, and tomatos are stacked and dripping with pesto balsamic glaze. Photos by Georgine Benvenuto

to make wine recommendations that complement the meal. Or, perhaps a martini, served in a long-stemmed glass.

When it comes to macaroni, guests rave about the seafood lasagna, filled with crab, shrimp, lobster, and mozzarella. Then there's the cavatelli with sweet sausage, tomato, and ricotta.

The sweet life surely includes desserts like Snicker's pie drizzled with chocolate sauce — a candy bar on a plate. The flourless chocolate cake is super fudgy and delicious, topped with a scoop of ice cream, and decorated with a purple flower. Cappuccino is piled high with thick foam.

A separate party room is spacious and delightful, with its large windows that offer a garden view. There are catering menus for every budget, starting with the Amalfi, at a reasonable \$37 per person. Guests enjoy a cold antipasto, pasta, salad, family-style entrees, two desserts, coffee, tea, and soda.

The Sorrento package, at \$45 per person, offers hot antipasto, fried calamari, pasta, salad, family-style entrees, and two desserts. Wine and beer are available for another \$10 per person on both plans; an open bar for \$20 per person.

For a feast, there's the Toscana at \$65 per person — an array of appetizers, pasta, and entrees, with three family-style desserts included.

How sweet it is.

Dolce Vita [5811 Avenue N between E. 58th and E. 59th Streets in Mill Basin, (718) 444–3537]. Open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 3–9:30 pm; Sundays, 3–9 pm. The bar is open until late night.



The restaurant's decor is sophisticated and modern.

Photos by Georgine Benvenuto





## 'I'm going to ... give **100-percent effort every** game, every play."

- New Cyclones first baseman Peter Alonso's plan for playing in Brooklyn.

## One of these days I think we're going to have a normal game.'

- Manager Tom Gamboa on the Clones' historic first triple play.

## Paulie's back! Boxer returns to Barclays

BY LAURA AMATO

Brooklyn boxing fans are in for a treat — Bensonhurst native and boxing champ Paulie Malignaggi was added to Showtime Championship Boxing's July 30 card at Barclays Center. Malignaggi — a former International Boxing Federation junior welterweight and World Boxing Association welterweight champion — wasn't originally slated to fight at the big-name event later this month, and his inclusion caught plenty of fans by surprise.

His last bout at Barclays in August 2015 resulted in a ninth-round technical knockout defeat to Danny Garcia and was supposed to signify the end of his storied boxing career. He was supposed to hang up the gloves, walk away, and settle into life as a network analyst.

Malignaggi didn't listen to any of that. He wanted to fight again and he did. He won his last two bouts after the defeat



BROOKLYN IN THE RING: Bensonhurst native Paulie Malignaggi was a recent addition to Showtime Championship Boxing's July 30 card at Barclays Center. Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

to Garcia and, now, is ready to return to the Barclays ring.

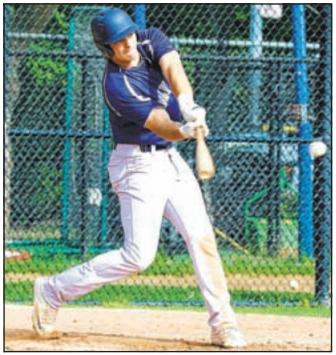
He's ready to come home and, he hopes, the fans are ready to see him.

"It never gets old," Malignaggi said. "It's one of those things where it's my home away from home. I'm a Brooklyn product, so being able to fight inside an arena that they built in Brooklyn specifically for Brooklyn fighters, it's a privilege and an honor."

Malignaggi (35-7, seven knockouts) will fight 35-yearold Gabriel Bracero (24-2, five knockouts), another Brooklyn native. The fight will be broadcast on Showtime Extra prior to the rest of the card.

It's not the main event that would be undefeated Irish star Carl Frampton taking on World Boxing Association featherweight world champion Leo "El Terremoto" Santa Cruz — but it's a fight, and Malignaggi doesn't take any fight lightly.

Continued on page 55



BUILDING A REP: Poly Prep senior Nick Storz is emerging as a power hitter this summer, particularly after an appearance in the Junior Home Run Derby finals at Petco Park in San Diego on July 11.

File photo by Steven Schnibbe

## Poly Prep senior hits them out of the park at Petco

on that first swing, Storz set-

tled into his usual approach

tional spotlight this summer.

ing getting into the box, I'm

not going to lie," Storz said.

"It was crazy to see 45,000 fans

up there in the stands. We had

the all-stars hitting 27 home

runs in the round before us,

but I was just trying to stick

with what I've been doing all

The derby was held in be-

one that has him in the na-

"It was a little intimidat-

BY LAURA AMATO

Poly Prep baseball standout Nick Storz rarely gets ner-

He's a dominant presence at the plate, striking an imposing figure at 6-foot-6, and he hasn't battled nerves in quite some time. But that changed on July 11 when he stepped into the batters box at Petco Park in San Diego, Calif., one of two finalists in the Junior Home Run Derby.

Storz came up just short in the final — falling 4-3 to first baseman Nick Brueser of Chandler, Ariz. He didn't walk away a champion, but the Blue Devils senior wasn't upset

with his performance.

tween the first and second round of Major League Baseball's counterpart slug-athon, and Storz shared the field with some of his big-He had been nervous, but league idols while waiting for

summer."

as soon as he followed through his turn at the plate.

Storz did his best to soak up every moment, another memory in a summer that is shaping up to be his best yet.

"I would say awesome is an understatement," Storz said of the last few weeks. "It's been a fantastic summer so far, and there's still a lot more things to go. I just have to keep my head down and keep going. I've been enjoying myself so much and it's been a real honor to be invited to the things I've been invited to so far."

Storz competed in the Perfect Game National Showcase in Fort Myers, Fla., and the USA Baseball Tournament of Stars in Cary, North Caro-

Continued on page 55

COURIER LIFE, JULY 15-21, 2016 53



## CYCLONES CONFID

## How I spent my summer vacation

## Clones get first day off in nearly a month

**BY LAURA AMATO** 

They needed a day off.

The Cyclones opened the 2016 season with 20 games in 20 days. Eleven of the first 17 games of the summer went to extra innings, including a 20-inning marathon to open the season. The entire squad was desperate for a day off, and that day finally came on July 7.

For the first time since the season started - and for many of the players since the college season started — the Cyclones had an afternoon away from the ball park.

It would have been easy for the team to sleep away the 24-hour baseball shore leave, but the Clones didn't want to waste the day — instead, the squad used the opportunity to explore the city that is its summer home.

"I went over to Coney Island and checked it out," third baseman Blake Tiberi said. "I came over to the Boardwalk and kicked it for a little bit with some of the guys. I just wanted to relax and try and recover a little bit."

Tiberi didn't get on any



MAKING THEIR WAY DOWNTOWN: Cyclones players Nabil Crismatt, Ali Sanchez, Hengelbert Rojas, and Joel Huertas took in the sights during their day off on July 7, including a stop at the National September 11 Memorial. **Brooklyn Cyclones** 

rides — he wants to wait for a perfectly sunny day before he braves a ride on the Thunderbolt — but he relished the chance to just get away from the field, even if it was only a 10-minute stroll down the Boardwalk.

A handful of other players took the subway into Manhattan, braving the nearly hourlong ride on the F train to check out the sights.

"I tried to see the city where we are. It's the first time I've been able to go out." pitcher Nabil Crismatt said. "Guys here are always talking about the city and it's so nice and I wanted to get to see. It was crazy."

It was a memorable day for Crismatt, who grew up in Colombia and never expected to find himself in the United

Continued on page 55

## Brooklyn battle ups and downs

#### **Hudson Valley 2** Cyclones O

July 8 at MCU Park

Brooklyn was held to one hit and only got two runners into scoring position in a 2-0 loss to Hudson Valley at MCU

Gabriel Llanes was the tough-luck loser, giving up one unearned run in six innings and falling to 0-3 on the mound this season.

"Sometimes you're just the pitcher on a staff that, it seems like when your number comes up, the team doesn't score Llanes has thrown," manager Tom Gamboa said.

The Renegades got on the board in the second inning. With two outs, Angel Perez reached on a throwing error by third baseman Blake Tiberi, which would have ended the inning. Perez then stole second — one of six steals for the Renegades — and scored on Danny De La Calle's single to

Renegades starter Brock Burke pitched six innings of shutout ball, striking out runs, and that's certainly seven. He gave up just one

been the case each time that hit, a fourth inning single to Zanon.

#### **Hudson Valley 5** Cyclones 2

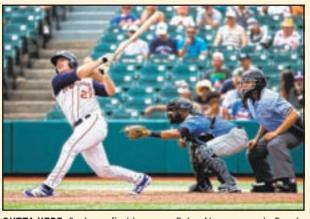
July 9 at MCU Park

The Renegades scored four times in the eighth inning as the Cyclones fell 5-2 last Saturday at MCU Park.

"Another rough one for us," Gamboa said. "I thought we were going to turn one around tonight. We almost did."

Hudson Valley wasted no time scoring, jumping out to a one-run lead as Ryan Boldt

Continued on page 55



OUTTA HERE: Cyclones first baseman Peter Alonso came to Brooklyn with a reputation as a home run hitter following a dominant career with the Florida Gators.

## Storming in: Cyclones new infielder anxious

#### BY DAVID RUSSELL

The Mets selected former Florida Gators infielder Peter Alonso with the 64th pick in the Major League Baseball draft. The University of Florida standout loved his time at the college level, but he admits that playing professionally has its advantages.

'It's kinda cool getting paid for playing a game,' Alonso said.

The Cyclones first baseman — who joined the Brooklyn roster last week — collected his first career hit on July 9 at MCU Park. In his first three games as a pro, Alonso connected on three hits, including a pair of doubles. He also drove in

"It was just really exciting to get my first pro hit," said Alonso, who kept the ball after he notched the

Alonso came in to the New York-Penn League season later than his teammates, busy playing in the College World Series, but his on-field reputation loomed large in Brooklyn before he took the field.

The lefty-hitting, rightyfielding Alonso made a name for himself playing for the Gators, consistently connecting on big-time hits in his three seasons in sunny Florida. He hit 12 home runs and drove in 55

runs in just 53 games this

Alonso suffered a fractured hand after being hit by a 95-mile-per-hour fastball from Vanderbilt ace Jordan Sheffield on May 13 — which kept him out for three weeks — but he thrived when he returned to the game. Alonso hit .520 with four home runs, four doubles, and drove in 11 of the Gators' 37 runs during the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament — the first six games after he returned.

"He's a gamer," Cyclones manager Tom Gamboa said. "We saw that (on July 8) just in his practice habits. Sometimes you pre-judge, people will look at him, as big as he is, and assume, 'Oh, this is a designated hitter or ditch him at first base,' but you could see his athleticism today in his first pro game."

Gamboa was impressed by the 3-6-1 double play Alonso started on July 10, as well as his double to deep left the same night.

Alonso had an edge before he even put on a Clones jersey, however, thanks to former Gator and 2015 Cyclone pitcher Johnny Magliozzi. The two talked about playing under Gamboa and what the long-time skipper expected of Alonso.

'(Magliozi) said that I'll Continued on page 55

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#### **CYCLONES**

Continued from page 54

led off the game with a single and scored on Nathaniel Lowe's two-out hit.

The Renegades started hot, but missed several chances to extend the lead. With runners on the corners and one out in the third, Cyclones starter Harol Gonzalez got Lowe to ground into a 3-6-1 double play. In the sixth, Hudson Valley loaded the bases with one out, but Bill Pujols struck out and Daniel De La Calle grounded out on a ball to third. Then, in the seventh, Ali Sanchez threw out Boldt attempting to steal third for the second out of the stanza.

It took a few innings for Brooklyn's offense to hit its stride.

The Cyclones finally broke through against reliever Porter Clayton in the seventh. Peter Alonso — making his Cyclones debut — doubled to left and scored on Blake Tiberi's triple to deep right. Ali Sanchez put the Cyclones ahead with a single to right through the drawn-in infield.

#### Cyclones 4 **Hudson Valley 3**

July 10 at MCU Park

The Cardiac Clones pulled off a crucial triple play in the eighth inning, leading to a 4-3 victory over Hudson Valley last Sunday.

It was the first triple play in team history.

"One of these days I think we're going to have a normal game," Gamboa said. "It hasn't happened yet through 23 games.'

Colby Woodmansee's solo home run gave the Cyclones an early lead, but Hudson Valley answered back with three runs in the second. Nathaniel Lowe led off with a double and scored on Jose Rojas's double. Rojas moved to third when Miles Mastrobuoni followed with a single.

Gamboa was particularly unhappy with Rojas's hit.

"[Merandy Gonzalezl threw a fastball right by the guy. The guy was so far late that we would've been nervous in the dugout had the guy made contact," Gamboa said. "And instead of throwing two more fastballs by him, he hung a breaking ball which speeded up the guys bat. You almost thought it was a relative of his and I want to make sure you get a hit in the game today. It was such a cripple pitch and the only one the guy could hit."

Brooklyn tied the game in the fifth. Gene Cone led off with a walk and scored on Alonso's sharp single past third baseman Jim Haley.

The Renegades tried to rally in the eighth as Brooklyn reliever Justin Dunn hit Ryan Boldt and walked Jake Fraley to begin the inning.

That, however, was when the Cyclones made history.

Haley attempted a bunt, but the ball was off the ground high enough for catcher Dan Rizzie to catch in the air. Rizzie then threw to Woodmansee, who was covering second, to double off Boldt. Then Woodmansee fired a strike to Alonso at first to complete the triple play.

#### Cyclones 6 Aberdeen 5

July 11 at Aberdeen

The Clones tied the game with a two-run, two-out homer in the ninth and won 6-5 in 11 innings at Aberdeen last Monday night.

The Cyclones fell behind quickly in the opening game of the series. Cole Billingsley led off with a homer off Brooklyn starter Nabil Crismatt. Chris



TOUGH LUCK: Gabriel Llanes gave up one unearned run in six innings in 2-0 loss to Hudson Valley on July 8.

Clare drew a walk and scored on Ryan McKenna's single. McKenna then stole second, moved to third on Jaylen Ferguson's single and scored on a Jason Heinrich sacrifice fly to make it 3-0.

Crismatt kept Brooklyn in the game — despite the rough start — pitching four shutout innings after the three-run first. Crismatt gave up three hits in five innings and struck out eight while walking one.

Aberdeen catcher Stuart Levy scored in the next inning when Ronarsy Ledesma followed with a triple to right. Ledesma scored on a Kirvin Moesquit sacrifice fly to make it 5-3.

That's how it staved until the top of the ninth. Brosher came to the plate with one on and two outs and again stunned Aberdeen with a game-tying home run off Garrett Cortright.

Huertas settled down and shut out Aberdeen in the eighth, ninth, and 10th.

Jacob Zanon led off the 11th with a walk against Daniel Ayers, in his second inning of work. Jabs singled to left, putting runners on the corners with nobody out. Brosher walked to load the bases. With one out, Gene Cone drew a walk, giving Brooklyn a 6-5 lead.

#### DAY OFF and then go to this part and Continued from page 54

States, let alone New York City.

He and teammates Ali Sanchez, Joel Huertas and Hengelbert Rojas saw everything they could while walking from Times Square to Battery Park. The quartet took in the sights and sounds of the city, wandering from block to block and, they'll admit, getting a bit lost.

'We had to stop and ask for directions a couple of was all like 'Take the train off to good use. Manager

when you get there, go to this street.' We were definitely lost."

Catcher Dan Rizzie also spent the day in Manhattan — joined by several of his high-school friends from Chicago — and the group enjoyed the chance to play tourist for a day.

"It was the first time I've been to Ground Zero," he said. "I've been to a couple of those other places before, but not in the last few years, so it was cool to see it all again."

The players weren't the times," Crismatt said. "It only ones who put their day

Tom Gamboa spent the day with his daughter in Central Park and, later, took in the Broadway show "Waitress."

The Cyclones needed the break, but the squad was anxious to get back to the field. The day off was nice, but as soon as those 24 hours were up, it was time to get back to work.

"You're spending a lot of time thinking about baseball, and it's tough — even on your day off - not to," Crismatt said. "I love this game, so sometimes even during the day off you start thinking about baseball and how you can be better."

#### **PAULIE**

Continued from page 53

"It's up to me to do my job and do it well and take it from there," Malignaggi said. "I know (Bracero) well, and I know he's no slouch. He's got a similar style to me in that he looks to box and pick his spots and counter-punch. So I felt like it was a good clash of styles."

Malignaggi is determined to put his best foot — or right hook as the case may be - forward in the upcoming fight, looking to chase away memories of the last time he fought at Barclays.

He's well aware of where his career is at right now, and the former champ knows he's not challenging for world titles anymore.

That doesn't mean, however, that he isn't looking for a different prize — a European championship.

"I'm an Italian citizen, so winning the European championship was always one of

my goals," Malignaggi said. "I always felt I'd win it before I won the world championship, but the way things wound up, I ended up getting a shot at the world championships and ended up winning them. You don't really go backwards at that point."

A European championship would be icing on the cake for Malignaggi's career.

"I'm probably not going to be in a position to challenge for world championships," he said. "If I could maybe capture that European championship on my way though, I'd like to do that."

Before he tries to secure another title, Malignaggi is determined to give his hometown fans a good show on July 30. If he happens to prove some of those naysayers from last year wrong — even better.

"I want to close out my career at Barclays Center on a positive note and give the fans what they want," Malignaggi said. "I want to leave the arena with that feeling of a victory."

## **STORZ**

Continued from page 53

lina earlier this summer and is slated to play at the East Coast Pro Showcase in Florida next month.

There isn't much downtime. In fact, Storz was on a flight to another showcase the day after competing in the Junior Home Run Derby, but he wouldn't have it any other way. He's having the time of his life.

"This summer by far is the best summer I've ever been a part of," Storz said. "There are just so many events and I've been treated so well. I can't say anything except that it's been an absolutely amazing summer."

Storz's on-field reputation has skyrocketed over the last few weeks, but it's only recently that he's been viewed as a power hitter.

The Louisiana State Univer-

sity commit was seen as more of a pitcher by scouts and actually didn't bat at all at the Perfect Game National Showcase.

That might change going forward.

Storz recorded eight home runs in the first two rounds of the Junior Home Run Derby and his longest hit measured at 432 feet by StatCast.

This summer has been a dream come true for Storz, and he isn't taking anything for granted. He was nervous earlier this week, but he welcomed the emotion, knowing it was simply a sign of just how special that moment was. He won't ever forget it, even without the championship trophy.

"I'm definitely not disappointed," Storz said. "Just to be invited to this event was fantastic. It was an incredibly cool experience to be on the field with all these all-stars. I couldn't have asked for anything better."

#### **ALONSO**

Continued from page 54

love him," Alonso said. "Just play hard and I guess he'll like me. I'm going to do that, give 100-percent effort every game, every play, every pitch. That's just my style, that's just how I play."

Alonso is also enjoying playing at MCU Park, a stadium unlike any other in the New York-

Penn League. So far, being a professional baseball player is more fun than Alonso ever expected.

"They had in-game fireworks, which is pretty unique with the park over there, and the smoke blowing on the field," Alonso said. "I thought that was definitely unique. I had never seen that before. That was pretty fun. It's a great atmosphere, and I'm extremely happy to be here.

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Classified ads are intended to help people by facilitating communication and ing communication and advertising available ser-vices; however, some of the hotlines & service num-bers in classifieds actually ser-e of hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. Any number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee bevond a local call. In some instances, ads initially advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all information & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party."

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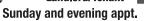
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