



BROOKLYN Nightlife

Choose from
56 venues —
More than
180 events!

Where to GO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Hundreds
of options
for the week
ahead!

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 11, 2004

The Bay Ridge Paper

Including The Bensonhurst Paper

A Brooklyn
Publication
Brooklyn's REAL newspapers

Published every Saturday — online all the time — by Brooklyn Paper Publications Inc., 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn NY 11201. Phone 718-834-9350 • www.BrooklynPapers.com • © 2004 Brooklyn Paper Publications • 18 pages • Vol. 27, No. 48 BRZ • Saturday, December 11, 2004 • FREE

HORROR HIGH BRAWL

Hundreds of students swarm on police

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

A melee outside Lafayette High School involved as many as two dozen girls and left five police officers injured, according to authorities.

The Dec. 2 brawl was sparked by at least three students who were at the troubled high school to attend an alternative program while they await suspension hearings, a spokesman for the Department of Education confirmed this week.

The fray, which drew more than 200 students to the corner of 43rd Street and Stillwell Avenue, escalated to include dozens of injuries before police broke it up around 3 p.m. Before then, however, five officers from the 60th Precinct were injured and treated at Lutheran Medical Center.

One cop was stampeded by as many as 100 students, according to a criminal complaint.

Fourteen girls were taken into police custody, including two who were arrested and charged with assault, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Keith Kalb, a spokesman for the Department of Education, confirmed that at least three of the students involved were troubled students attending an alternative program called New Beginnings at Lafayette.

The program has recently raised the ire of parents whose children attend Most Precious Blood Catholic School, on 27th Avenue at Harway Avenue where, the parents charge, their children have been harassed by the transitional students.

According to the Department of Education, the New Beginnings program includes 60 students who were segregated from the general high school population for a variety of disciplinary infractions. They are taught in a basement classroom from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Kalb said, however, that the fight did not happen on school grounds and is therefore neither the responsibility of Lafayette officials nor the Department of Education.

"This was off school grounds," said Kalb. "These kids did not fight on school grounds and school safety officers were not involved. It just so happens that it was kids from Lafayette."

The 65-year-old school, the alma mater of Dodgers great Sandy Koufax, has been criticized by parents, former teachers, students and even the U.S. Department of Justice for what many say are

See **HORROR** on page 5

All's quiet at CB10

Board's gone from 'Meltdown' to mannerly

Board's gone from 'Meltdown' to mannerly



Craig Eaton

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

On the brink of bringing about one of Brooklyn's largest rezoning efforts to date, Community Board 10 members unanimously chose to reinstate all of the board's current officers for another year.

The stamp of approval, most notably to Chairman Craig Eaton, suggests that the

once legendary contentious board is experiencing an easing of tensions.

Eaton, Vice Chair Dean Rasinya, Secretary Eleanor Schiano and Treasurer Peggy Pierce were all re-nominated at the Nov. 15 board meeting. It is widely believed that the group love stems from CB10 members' preoccupation with a rezoning plan for Bay Ridge, which the Department of City Planning certified in October.

"It's been quiet, hasn't it?" said board member Judie Grimaldi, who last December went head to head against Eaton in a somewhat vicious race that illustrated a long-held rift in how members envisioned the board's future. In that election, Eaton pulled out a 27-19 victory.

But even Grimaldi acknowledges that under Eaton the board has been less abrasive

See **CB10** on page 5

Museum may host Tut exhibit



Associated Press

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Tutankhamun, the Egyptian boy-king who sparked a cultural firestorm in New York and at museums throughout the nation in the late 1970s, could be visiting the Brooklyn Museum as part of a North American tour that starts this summer.

Sally Williams, a spokeswoman for the Prospect Heights museum, said officials there are debating whether to host "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" when the exhibit embarks on its U.S. tour in June. The decision will hinge on whether museum officials believe they can charge as much as \$30 for admission, an inevitability cemented by the Egyptian government's hope of drawing \$10 million in each city.

"We've been having conversations with the people organizing it," said Williams. "That's about all I can say right now, but we are talking."

The Metropolitan Museum of Art in Manhattan has already decided to take a pass on the exhibit because of the high admission price.

The prices are being set by Los Angeles-based exhibition backers Anschutz Entertainment Group, which developed the Staples Center in that city's downtown. Williams said Brooklyn Museum officials would make their decision known to AEG

by the end of December or early January. "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" will include about 130 of the 5,000 Egyptian artifacts found in King Tut's tomb and belonging to his contemporaries. The last time a similar exhibit toured the country, in 1976-1979, 55 items were displayed.

The show will begin at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art on June 16. Already, officials there say admission prices will rise from \$9 to \$30 during the five-month engagement. Following that stop, the exhibit will travel to the Field Museum in Chicago and the Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art in Florida.

Some 325,000 people visited the Brooklyn Museum this past year. While that marked an increase of more than 10,000 from the previous year, Williams stressed that the numbers may have been tempered by the \$63 million renovation of its front entrance and surrounding areas.

Tut, meanwhile, would mark the Brooklyn Museum's return to the blockbuster exhibit, a trend begun by the museum's director, Arnold Lehman, in 1998 with "Monet and the Mediterranean," which brought in around 350,000 visitors. While the lines around the block for Monet were similar, the controversy-fueled publicity that "Sensation: Young British Artists from the Saatchi Collection" brought with it the next year has not been matched.

See **TUT** on page 8



Tree cheers!

Four-year-old Michael Morano smiles for the camera during tree-lighting ceremony Tuesday night at 18th Avenue and 71st Street near the Strazullo Law Firm. The 30-foot tree was brought to Bensonhurst from Quebec by the law firm.

Governor vetoes 'Billy's Law'

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Gov. George Pataki on Wednesday vetoed "Billy's Law."

Tabled for five months, the locally inspired legislation, which would have ensured more thorough inspections of out-of-state mental health facilities that care for New Yorkers, was rejected by the governor on Dec. 8 — only four hours before a midnight deadline on outstanding legislation.

A source in the office of state Sen. Marty Golden — one of the bill's sponsors — said, however, that between now and June, when a new draft of the legislation is expected to reach Pataki, the agencies in question are under

notice to tighten their inspections.

Still, the veto so infuriated Vito Albanese, the father of Billy Albanese, for whom the legislation was named, that the Bay Ridge retiree said he would ask that his son's name be removed altogether.

"Tomorrow, I'm going to tell Marty and [the bill's co-sponsor Assemblywoman Joan Millman] to take my son's name off that bill," Albanese said hours after the Dec. 8 veto. "What do I tell my kid tomorrow? That he's worth a piece of crap? This governor, he's a moron."

Billy Albanese was abused and neglected at unlicensed facilities in New Jersey while

See **VETO** on page 5

Jewish Children's Museum named for sniper victim

By Sam Dolnick
Associated Press

More than 10 years after her son was gunned down on the Brooklyn Bridge, Deborah Halberstam celebrated the opening of the Jewish Children's Museum on Tuesday with a dedication to the memory of her slain child.

"What we are inaugurating here today is

the answer to terrorism," Halberstam said. "Our response to those who would destroy civilization as we know it is this museum."

The ribbon-cutting, timed to coincide with the first night of Hanukkah, memorialized Ari Halberstam, a 16-year-old Jew shot and killed in 1994 when a Muslim gunman opened fire on a van of Hasidic students.

One of the museum's goals is to promote peace and understanding among children of

all backgrounds, Halberstam said.

The dedication was attended by Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and other elected officials and community leaders.

"This may be a building named in her son's memory, but the real work honoring him will be the day-to-day contact that this museum provides to all children every-

where," Clinton said.

After the inauguration, about 100 children played in the museum, which includes a 12-foot dreidel, "matzoh balls" the size of volleyballs, and an indoor miniature golf course with lessons on "major Jewish life events."

"It seems more fun than a regular museum," 10-year-old Tafari King of Brooklyn said as he played with a wall of doors meant

See **ARI'S MUSEUM** on page 5

Brooklyn's REAL newspapers for 26 years . . . and Brooklyn's best classifieds!

The Brooklyn
Papers
55 Washington St., Suite 624



Online at www.BrooklynPapers.com • To advertise, please call us at (718) 834-9350

© The Brooklyn Papers. Established 1978. Phone 718-834-9350. Celia Weintraub, Publisher (ext 104) • Neil Sloane, Editor (ext 119) • Lisa J. Curtis, GO Brooklyn Editor (ext 131) • Vince DiMiceli, Senior Editor (ext 125) • Ed Weintraub, President (ext 105)

Loose Dentures?

GO AHEAD....
Eat what you want!

Visit Dr. Tony Farha in the morning, have the "Mini-Implant System" placed in less than two hours, then go out and enjoy your favorite lunch. No more messy adhesive or pastes.

As demonstrated by Dr. Tony on **ABC News**, this is a **one-step**, non-invasive procedure. No sutures, nor the typical months of healing or pain or discomfort. **Competitive prices...**

Call today for your **FREE** consultation and receive **15% OFF** any new Dentures, Implants or MDI (Mini Dental Implant).

Must present this ad. Offer expires on 1/31/05.

718-8DENTX5
(718-833-6895)

Oral Dental Care

461 77th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209

We accept Medicaid and most Insurance plans

'Tis The Season To Be Toasty.



514 86th St.

718-491-4600

FREE DELIVERY

Mon-Sat: 10am-10pm

Sun: 11am-9pm

FREE
Cup of Soup

when you purchase
a Toasty™ Combo.

11418 Street
Brooklyn, NY 11229
718-491-4600
718-491-4600
Expires 01/16/05

QUIZNOS SUB
HOT...104977

QUIZNOS SUB
HOT...104977

Please join us for Open Houses at both of our communities
Saturday, December 11 and Sunday, December 12 from 12pm-4pm
Refreshments served

Every day can't be a holiday. But they can all be special.



Suites starting at \$79 a day for
the first 30 days!
Offer valid until December 15, 2004

Being surrounded by people who care doesn't
have to end with the holidays.

For more than 20 years, Sunrise Senior Living
has provided a variety of living arrangements
and personalized services from people who
recognize that each senior is unique.

Our resident-centered approach puts seniors
first, presenting them with options to match
their individual needs and wishes. By offering
amenities and services, delicious meals,
stimulating activities and scheduled group
outings, we work every day to improve your
senior loved one's quality of life.

SUNRISE
SENIOR LIVING

Lutheran Medical Center

Equal Housing Opportunity

Sunrise at Mill Basin
Sunrise at Sheepshead Bay

718-444-2600
718-616-1850

5905 Strickland Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234
2211 Emmons Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11235

www.sunriseseniorliving.com

* Limited time offer expires December 15, 2004 and is subject to change without notice. Offer applies to select suites only. Other restrictions may apply.

Not-so safe nets burglars \$100G

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

Call it a golden opportunity. Crooks hosted into a home on Fort Hamilton Parkway at 90th Street on Nov. 29 and fled with a metal safe containing more than \$16,000 in gold jewelry and \$100,000 in cash, police say.

Cops said that while the 49-year-old tenant was away, ambitious crooks crawled through a front window and headed for a safe hidden in a closet.

Although it is unclear whether the burglars were able to unlock the safe, the victim reported that it contained the cash plus a \$100 gold coin collection, a bracelet of gold coins worth \$1,200, a \$750 diamond bracelet, three gold chains worth \$800, four gold rings worth \$2,000, three gold bracelets worth \$12,000, a deed to the house and citizenship papers.

After closing sometime around 4 a.m., the 34-year-old owner of the bar, on Third Avenue at 73rd Street, locked the door and crossed the street to his nearby home.

But police said that only half an hour later, thirty thieves crawled through a window and headed straight for the box. With no witnesses, the men hopped back outside and ran away.

66th St break-in

Goons struck two apartments in one building, netting, in one case, keys for cash tenants' door. The brazen Nov. 30 burglaries, reported to police around 8 p.m., happened at a building on 66th Street between 13th and 14th avenues. Police said that in one of the apartments, the burglars got away with a fur coat and a collection of jewelry, while in another, \$200 and the house keys were snatched.

Police said that the burglars were able to enter through an unlocked kitchen window sometime around 7 p.m.

High definition

A burglar broke into a Gravesend home last week and stole a plasma television. Police said that the trendy trespasser broke in through the

POLICE BLOTTER

mental administration, resisting arrest and harassment, according to a complaint filed by the Kings County District Attorney's office.

The thug who grabbed the woman was charged with assault, forcible touching, sexual abuse, resisting arrest and harassment.

Bar robbed

Burglars broke into a Bay Ridge bar during the early morning hours of Nov. 26 and made off with a cash box containing \$1,000.

After closing sometime around 4 a.m., the 34-year-old owner of the bar, on Third Avenue at 73rd Street, locked the door and crossed the street to his nearby home.

But police said that only half an hour later, thirty thieves crawled through a window and headed straight for the box. With no witnesses, the men hopped back outside and ran away.

66th St break-in

Goons struck two apartments in one building, netting, in one case, keys for cash tenants' door. The brazen Nov. 30 burglaries, reported to police around 8 p.m., happened at a building on 66th Street between 13th and 14th avenues. Police said that in one of the apartments, the burglars got away with a fur coat and a collection of jewelry, while in another, \$200 and the house keys were snatched.

Police said that the burglars were able to enter through an unlocked kitchen window sometime around 7 p.m.

High definition

A burglar broke into a Gravesend home last week and stole a plasma television. Police said that the trendy trespasser broke in through the

front door of a home on West Fifth Street at Avenue T at around 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 3, but went no farther than the living room. With no witnesses to speak of, the 31-year-old thief lifted the flat-screen television and carried it out the door.

His-and-her burg

A crook broke into a house and stole his-and-her watches. Police said that the burglar slipped into the home on 86th Street between Ridge Boulevard and Third Avenue through a bedroom window on Dec. 2, snatched the watches and then escaped without being spotted by neighbors.

Despite his watches being gone, the 27-year-old tenant told police that the burglary happened around 9 a.m.

Unheard of

Police said crooks broke into the car of a 50-year-old New Jersey man and stole his hearing aid.

The Dec. 1 burglary, around 7 a.m., happened after the man walked away from his car parked near the corner of 13th Avenue and 68th Street without closing the door.

When the man, who owns a business in Brooklyn, returned to his car moments later, his \$2,000 hearing aid was nowhere to be found.

Credit snatcher

Easy come, easy go. A man holding a credit card on the corner of 86th Street and Fort Hamilton Parkway lost it after another man came up from behind him and snatched the plastic from his hand.

Police said the odd crime happened on Nov. 29 at around 4:30 p.m.

Tool time

Police arrested a crook after he tried to pilfer a toolbox from a car parked at a construction site.

Cops said the bandit, 38, parked his own 1989 Honda Sedan next to a Ford van on the corner of Bay 31st Street at Bath Avenue on Nov. 30. When it seemed nobody was looking, he grabbed two saws, two drills, three grinders and a flashlight from the car and put the collection in his own vehicle.

A suspect was caught and charged with burglary, possession of burglar's tools, petit larceny, the unauthorized use of a vehicle and criminal possession of stolen property, according to the district attorney's office.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Mini Media Group LLC, a domestic limited liability company (LLC), Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State on 8/17/04. NY office location: 8805 County, New York is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The LLC shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served to Christopher Chaves, 22 Jay Street, Suite 100, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: To engage in any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of LLC Name: "True Realty, LLC" Article of Organization filed with N.Y. Dept. of State on 12/22/04. Office location: Hemp County, NY 025 and mail copy of process to 541 Western St., Brooklyn, NY 11221.

Notice of formation limited liability Co. LLC: Swan Sea Photography, LLC. Article of Organization were filed with NY DCS 10/20/04. Kings County Secretary of State of NY designated as agent of LLC, upon whom process against the LLC may be served. 2007 copy of process to Swan Sea Photography, LLC 119 14th St. B1, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: Any lawful business.

Why Wait For The New Year To Start A New You!

**JOIN NOW
REST OF
YEAR FREE***

Make An Early Resolution To Join Curves. It's Easy, Fun,
Fast And Only 30 Minutes Three Times A Week Gets You
Real Results In A Women Only Environment.

Curves Is Here To Stay
You Have Only 30 Minutes To Work Out,
Don't Waste It At The Wrong Club

*Offer Based On 12 Mo. of Program. Service Fee paid at time of enrollment.
Not valid with any other offers. Valid only at participating locations.
Valid from 1/1/04 - 12/31/04.

**FREE
WEEK
ON US!**

Curves

Curves
FOR WOMEN

The power to amaze yourself.

Offer available **ONLY**
at the following
convenient locations
in Bay Ridge

• • • • •
9801 Fourth Ave.
(corner of Marine Ave.)
(718) 680-7975

• • • • •
181 Bay Ridge Ave.
(bet. Ridge Blvd. & Colonial Rd.)
(718) 238-4523

COMPACT DISC & DVD OUTLET



\$200 OFF

Purchase of any CD,
Cassette, or DVD
with this ad only

One coupon per customer.
Expires 9/30/05

479 82nd Street
near 5th Avenue

Open
Mon-Sat: noon-7pm

O.J. lawyer to sue city over Hamilton Ave truck death

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

The family of a 4-year-old boy killed by a truck while crossing a busy Red Hook thoroughfare earlier this year has hired O.J. Simpson lawyer Johnnie Cochran to sue the city for \$100 million.

Cochran filed notices of intent to sue the city on behalf of Sherry Laney, the shattered mother of Travis Bussey, who was run over by an 18-wheeler in June. Citing a lack of safety precautions at the bustling intersection of Hamilton Avenue and Court Street, the mother of 11 surviving children is also seeking damages stemming from the injuries suffered by Travis' sister Ashley Laney, 14, and the emotional distress the accident caused two of her other children.

The notices, filed in September, include a \$50 million claim for the estate of Travis Bussey, and \$50 million collectively for Ashley Laney, Keyandra Bussey and Ebony Bussey, according to the city's Department of Law.

Derek Sells, a personal injury attorney representing Laney for the Manhattan-based Cochran firm, was in London and did not return calls by press time.

Thomas Merrill, an attorney for the city, said the case was still in its earliest stages.

"The case has not yet been put into suit. The comptroller has been handling the claim. Because this is a pending legal matter, it would be inappropriate to comment further," he said.

The summertime tragedy happened around 2:40 pm on June 25 as Bussey and his older sister were returning home from a McDonald's on Hamilton Avenue following a party for the young boy, who had just graduated from a Head Start program. The truck side-swiped Laney but struck Bussey full on. The two were crossing diagonally at Hamilton Avenue and Court Street.

In an exclusive interview with The Brooklyn Papers last July, Sherry Laney lamented the intersection where her son was killed, calling it confusing and saying that it lacked safety measures typical of most busy streets in Brooklyn.

"Hamilton Avenue needs crossing guards," said Laney. "There's too many kids from the buildings playing out there and it's too dangerous for the kids. The intersection is too confusing."

Until the accident, however, Department of Transportation officials never recommended specific safety measures at the intersection. In fact, the thoroughfare was said to be under capacity in the 130-page, \$12 million Downtown Brooklyn Traffic Calming study released last year.

Paul Steely White, an executive director at Transportation Alternatives, said that judges across the country are handing down rulings that place the responsibility not on



The body of 4-year-old Travis Bussey lies under a blanket after he was struck and killed by tractor-trailer at the intersection of Court Street and Hamilton Avenue in Carroll Gardens in June.

pedestrians, but on those who design the streets.

"States are beginning to put the onus more on the street designer than on the road users," said White, who said that he would be watching the Laney lawsuit closely. "They're beginning to forgive the errors that pedestrians and especially young children are prone to make and instead go after municipalities."

"Throughout Brooklyn there are serious traffic safety problems," he added. "Everything about the street design is there to maximize the flow of traffic while safety is too often an afterthought."

In a long and well-documented career as a personal injury attorney, Cochran has found himself representing Michael Jackson, police brutality victim Abner Louima, former Black Panther Geronimo Pratt, "Dill" rent strokes" star Todd Bridges, soul singer James Brown and Sean "P. Diddy" Combs.

But his most famous client remains Simpson, the football Hall of Famer for whom Cochran gained a 1995 not-guilty verdict on charges that he murdered his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and Ronald Goldman in a jealous rage.

A biography posted on the Cochran Firm Web site says that despite his notoriety from representing such boldface names, Cochran's bread and butter remains personal injury cases.

"Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. may have become well known because of his representation of celebrities in high-profile cases," the bio reads, "but his true measure of success comes from his lifelong dedication to fighting for the injured and the disenfranchised."

**BRING YOUR
ITEMS
DIRECTLY
TO STORE!**

**GET
FAST
CASH**

for your antiques,
collectibles, estates,
liquidations
and anything valued
at \$50 or more

*We are a full service
ebay broker*



www.itsoutofhere.com
1865 Bath Ave.
(718) 331-7004

HK 香港佳式麵包小食
Hong Kong Guy Bakery & Snacks

**All Hong Kong
STYLE** Bakery • Cakes • Snacks
Hot & Cold Drinks • Dumplings
Fresh Noodles • Mei Fun • Congees

6205 20th Ave.
(718) 331-9361 Birthday Cakes
by Order

CORPORATE ACCOUNTS WELCOME

For a limited time the special duo is now \$90 (org. \$120)
hurry, while supplies last.

*Holiday
Luxury Promotions*

This holiday give yourself
the gift of luxury!



**Bodhi
salon**

6806 3rd Avenue • ph: (718) 748-0685 • www.bodhisalon.com

"IT'S AMAZING!" says
RACHEL BILSON
of The
hydrating
Alterna
White Truffle
Shampoo.
—Us Weekly

"I LOVE
THE
WHITE
TRUFFLE
SHAMPOO AND
CONDITIONER."
—DIANA MESSING

"IT'S NO WONDER THAT
JENNIFER ANISTON
HAS LONG USED
HER LONG-TERM STYLIST
CHIS MCNILLAN
ADVOCATES HER LUXURIOUS
MADE WITH ALTERNA
WHITE TRUFFLE SHAMPOO
AND CONDITIONER."
—People Magazine

*Three Great
Gift Packages
to Chose From!*

\$249 - 3 Months
\$399 - 6 Months
\$599 - 14 Months

ALL GIFTS INCLUDE:

- unlimited guest for friends and family (limit 2 per person)
- our exclusive health track training system (\$156 value)
- nutritional counseling (\$99 value)
- \$20 in "CLUB BUCKS" that can be used for shakes, pro-shop and tanning
- one-time personal training offer of \$99 for 3 introductory training sessions.

BAY RIDGE
92nd & 4th Avenue
(718) 238-9400
OPEN 24 HOURS

PARK SLOPE
191 15th Street
(718) 965-6200
OPEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT

www.harborfitness.com



3 Months of Fitness for \$115

Makes a great gift for yourself or a loved one. Unlimited use of our weight room, cardio center, indoor track and Y Express Circuit training area. Enjoy our Group Fitness classes, and swim in our heated pool.

Exp. 12/31/04

But hurry, this great offer ends soon!

Open to men and women 18 or older. There is an extra \$50 fee for early morning (before 9AM) swim privileges.

YWCA of Brooklyn

30 Third Avenue
(bet. Atlantic & State)

For more information call **718-875-1190**

Brooklyn Vein-Laser Center

Exclusively for treatment of varicose veins of all sizes and spider veins.



Exclusive Patent pending procedure
All work done in the office
No need for major anesthesia
Immediate return to work

20 YEARS
experience

263 7th Avenue, Suite 5E
(718) 499-7755

<http://www.cureveins.com>

4 BRZ

THE BROOKLYN PAPERS • WWW.BROOKLYNPAPERS.COM

December 11, 2004

The defiant one

With store in arena footprint, he decides it's time to expand

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Simon Liu has made a name for himself by producing high-end stretchers — the wood frames upon which painting canvases are stretched — for world-renowned painters.

This week he expanded the scope of his business, which he has operated out of a warehouse at 645 Dean St. for 20 years, and opened it to the public as an artist's supply store as well.

"I started thinking about doing an art store two years ago," Liu said at the opening party Saturday, as he saw an increasing number of working artists settling in the largely warehouse- and industrial-end of Prospect Heights, where his company is situated.

Liu busily shook hands and greeted longtime customers while shoppers, new and old, milled around eyeing the



Warren Isersee, of Manhattan, picks out paints at opening of Simon Liu Inc. in Prospect Heights on Saturday.

wares and the new space.

Some artists filled paper bags with carefully selected oil paints, blenders and brushes, while others eyed the discounted prices on pre-made stretchers that were neatly piled on risers in the center of another room, a veritable art display of their own.

And while Liu did his best to poke his head around the room, whether he was nearby or not, discussions among locals often turned toward one particular topic — whether or not Liu's store would even be standing two years from now, and if it was, who would be left to shop there.

When developer Bruce Ratner presented designs last year for his Atlantic Yards arena-housing-office complex, Liu's two-story warehouse and office building between Vanderbilt and Carlton avenues was nowhere in the design. The shop that's been his 20-year livelihood, along with all of the north side of Dean Street, had been replaced with housing on Ratner's canvas.

So Liu's expansion this week gave the artisan the air of a maverick.

Peter Krashes, a painter who lives across Dean Street from Liu's shop, called Liu's choice to expand anyway a good one.

"I think he just made a decision to keep his life moving," said Krashes, who recently started a Dean Street Block Association to create a collective voice for speaking out about Ratner's plans.

On this block alone I would guess there are 30 artists, so this street alone is a great location for an art supply store. He's

right in the center of a growing community of working artists," he said.

Krashes thinks most artists probably do their supply shopping in Manhattan, as he does, because while there are some supply shops in Williamsburg, "there are none in this part of Brooklyn that I know of. It's a great location in Brooklyn," he said, pointing out the nearby subway stations at Atlantic Avenue.

And with the heavily discounted art supply prices — Liu's bread and butter will always be his high-end stretchers — Krashes thinks Manhattan artists would even think it a worthwhile trip to come and buy in Brooklyn.

Jo Watanabe and his wife, Sachi Cho, over brie and burgundy at the opening party, discussed how they learned via e-mail last week that their absentee landlord, who lives in Arizona, sold the building at 644 Pacific St. where their print shop and home is located, to Ratner right

out from under them.

"I have a feeling that the sports arena will never happen," said Watanabe, who has lived in the area for almost 14 years, and owned his printmaking shop for 10. He offered his predictions to a conversing circle of local residents.

"Possibly condominiums, and yes, residential, but the sports arena? Never," he prophesied.

Cho disagreed, saying the basketball arena will happen, even if just so the developer, who bought the New Jersey Nets basketball team over the summer, could maintain his pride.

"He will not make so much money himself," she said, "but at least he would be saving face."

Watanabe agreed, saying some people cared more about their ego than the money.

"See, my problem is, I don't own any property in my life. This," he said, cracking a smile, "this is my problem."

City's financial analysis of arena stalled

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Five months after a city fiscal watchdog announced that it would analyze the cost to taxpayers of developer Bruce Ratner's proposed \$2.5 billion Atlantic Yards project work has yet to begin on the study.

Officials with the Independent Budget Office, a publicly funded non-partisan agency, agreed last July to study Ratner's plan to build a basketball arena, office skyscrapers and 14 residential-commercial high-rises after competing private studies alternately painted the Prospect Heights plan as a major boon to city coffers and a \$500 million drain to taxpayers.

But in October, IBO Director Ronnie Lowenstein met with Rep. Major Owens, state Sen.

Velmaunette Montgomery, City Councilwoman Letitia James, and neighborhood activists Patti Hagan and Daniel Goldstein — all of whom are opposed to Atlantic Yards — and told them nothing could be done until Forest City Ratner turned over detailed financial information, which it has yet to do.

"If you don't have that information, it narrows the scope of what you can do," said Doug Turetsky, an IBO spokesman. He said in October that if the agency sensed the negotiations were still "months and months" away, they might go ahead and complete a very preliminary report to respond to the immediate interest of local elected officials and the public. To date, nothing has been prepared.

Forest City Ratner Executive Vice President James Stuckey estimated the plan could cost the public \$500 million at a community meeting on Nov. 29. A study released in July by Columbia University researcher Gustav Peles and urban planner Jung Kim estimated a \$1 billion price tag for taxpayers.

And while Ratner said in September that negotiations with the state agencies presumed to be involved in the project — the Empire State Development Corporation and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority — would be completed before the end of this year, the hope of that happening now appears to be slim.

And there still exists the possibility that Ratner and the ESDC could sign a memorandum of understanding, committing partial funding of the project before the independent authority has had a chance to weigh in.

"We did ask [IBO] if they could at least make some projection as to what it would require to

support 4,500 or 5,500 new families in terms of police protection, and fire protection, and traffic safety and schools, and other things the city would look at paying for," said Montgomery, who organized the October meeting.

"They did not give us any indication of when they would have a report ready," she said.

"We've proceeded generally but haven't decided what we might do," Turetsky said this week. "In part we're trying to assess, well, are we going to know soon how much FCR and the city are going to need in terms of what they're asking?"

The plan would be built using air rights over 11 acres of MTA-

owned railroad storage yards and 13 acres of private property that could be condemned under eminent domain for use by Ratner.

At the Nov. 29 meeting, Stuckey said Atlantic Yards would automatically be eligible for many "as of right" tax incentive and tax abatement programs that are funded by city taxpayers.

In Memoriam

Joseph A. Raccuia, MD FACC

January 30, 1952 - December 6, 2004

The physicians, staff and friends of Lutheran Medical Center offer their deep condolences



IN 2005, OXFORD MEDICARE ADVANTAGE® NO LONGER REQUIRES REFERRALS TO SEE A SPECIALIST.

WHEN YOU'RE OFFERED VISION, HEARING AND UNLIMITED GENERIC DRUG COVERAGE, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO LOOK FOR A CATCH.

(IT'S NOT EVEN IN THAT FREE CUP OF COFFEE.)

The catch is, there is no catch. And to prove it, we're inviting you to join us for a free breakfast seminar where you'll get answers to your Medicare questions. You'll learn about benefits such as vision, hearing and dental that are part of every Oxford Medicare Advantage® plan. And, you won't pay a penny more than what you are already paying for traditional Medicare. To reserve your seat, or to find out more, call 1-800-677-5523 (TDD: 1-800-201-4874) between 8:00 AM and 5:30 PM.

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Brooklyn	Brooklyn	Brooklyn - Sunset Park
December 14, 9:00 AM Del Rio Diner 166 Kings Hwy. Cross St./W. 12th St.	December 16, 5:30 PM Perry's Restaurant 3482 Nostrand Ave. Btwn. Ave. U & V	December 21, 9:00 AM George's Restaurant (Bi-Lingual) 5701 5th Ave. Cross St./57th St.
December 22, 9:00 AM Arch Diner 1866 Ralph Ave. Corner of Flatlands	December 23, 9:00 AM Mirage Diner 717 Kings Hwy. Cross St./E. 8th St.	December 29, 10:00 AM Vegas Diner 1619 86th St. Cross St./16th Ave.

A sales representative will be present to provide information and applications. Oxford Health Plans (NY), Inc., is a licensed HMO operating under a Medicare Advantage contract. ©2004 Oxford Health Plans, LLC. NY-04-025

Save 15% when you Switch payroll companies for January

Eliminate the tedious chore of payroll preparation! With over 30 years experience, Paychex delivers expertise right here in Brooklyn.

- Send data via
- quick weekly phone call
 - fax
 - several online options

Paychex provides employee pay (in a variety of popular payment methods), easy-to-read reports, payroll tax deposits & filing of returns, with a highly trained support staff.

PAYCHEX®
1-718-222-9929
www.paychex.com

Xaverian students keep in touch with troops

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

One student wrote that he was pulling A's in pre-calculus. Another boasted that the Clippers' football team, crushed Bishop Ford in last month's Thanksgiving Day bowl game. Yet another asked, "How's the weather over there?"

But for troops stationed in Iraq, all news from the home front is good news — apparently even when regarding calculus. And so, with that in mind, Xaverian, the Catholic boys' school in Bay Ridge, is setting out to connect its 1,400 students with about as many soldiers via e-mail.

"It's a big project and it's so important," said Dr. Sal Ferrera, president of the school at 7100 Shore Road. "The kids' letters are so sweet and it helps those soldiers know what they're fighting for."

So far, more than 500 private e-mail addresses have poured into the school and about 10 English teachers have introduced the project to their classes. Rough drafts, all about a paragraph or two in length, have been submitted by students who last week will likely head to the tech lab, where they'll have their first chance to reach out to their new pen pals via the Internet.

From there, the project will either be incorporated into English classrooms or, instead, be dropped into the laps of students, who will be allowed to correspond with their pen pals during free periods.

A majority of the addresses are being provided by SOS America Inc., a Brooklyn-based group dedicated to sending care packages to troops. Kathryn Falk, president of the group, said that she enlisted military leaders to help address letters for soldiers in their units.

"The soldiers, from our area at least, have never been properly welcomed or acknowledged," said Falk, whose group regularly sends care packages overseas. "Kids over there are not much older

than these children, and for that reason they can really connect warmly and creatively."

Patricia Reilly, who teaches World Literature and Gothic Literature to seniors, said that her 55 students had initially fretted over what to write, but soon found themselves scrawling personal stories and wishing the troops luck. Last week, they sat down to write drafts of their e-mails.

Among them, she said, students scribbled words like "port" while others offered a little slice of their own world.

State Sen. Marty Golden, who spearheaded the project after being introduced to members of SOS America, said that more e-mails would be arriving shortly.

The project comes just as students received word that a Xaverian alumnus, Carmine Caselli, was seriously wounded overseas by shrapnel.

Caselli, who graduated three years ago, is recovering in Bethesda, Md., and students were asked this week to send their prayers.

"I think it's important that we get as many people corresponding to these guys as possible, especially around the holiday season," said Golden, who said he would be partnered up with his own pen pal overseas.

ARI'S MUSEUM...



Shea Halberstam, 14, brother of the late Ari Halberstam, lights the menorah at the dedication of the Jewish Children's Museum on Tuesday.

Continued from page 1

to explain the Jewish tradition of Sukkot.

Rabbi Yechmiel Benjaminson, the museum's executive director, said the museum's message of peace and understanding would counter hatred and anti-Semitism.

"The most important lesson is tolerance," Benjaminson said. "When children find out about other cultures, it brings peace and harmony to this world. It all starts with the kids."

The museum aims to speak to children on their own terms. Instead of a standard exhibit explaining kosher food, the museum has a model of kosher grocery store, where children can pretend to shop for food. A game show room features a trivia game called "Jewquary."

The 50,000-square-foot building, the result of 10 years of planning and construction, cost more than \$30 million and features computer labs, a library, a movie theater, more than 80 different activities and a community center.

CB10...

Continued from page 1

and more receptive to differing opinions than the board under Eaton's predecessor, Stephen Harrison, who held the position for three years.

"Craig has been an effective and inoffensive chairman, unlike the previous one," said Grimaldi, making reference to Harrison.

Indeed, under Harrison the board endured a rigid management style that included seating assignments at meetings — a first among the city's 59 community boards — and a call for all members to read "Robert's Rules of Order," a tome first published in 1896 that is considered the last word on parliamentary procedure.

Things came to a boiling point at a May 2002 meeting in which Harrison told board members he would not accept the environmental committee's report on a sanitation initiative involving commercial Dumpsters. To that, one board member cried out, "Heil Hitler."

A Bay Ridge Paper headline characterized that meeting as a CB10 "Mekdohn."

Similar feuds were commonplace under Harrison's predecessor, Kirk Tzanides. But aside from the peculiar, if not persnickety, management styles of those two men, board members were, before this year, asked to rule on several divisive issues, many introduced by then-Councilman Marty Golden.

Now a state senator, Golden, during five years as a city official, supported such contentious projects as the ill-fated 1999 proposal to build a five-story senior assisted living facility on a 40,000-square-foot lot at Bay Ridge and Narrows avenues.

The same year, Golden supported a proposal to turn Third and Fifth avenues into one-way streets that set community member against community member. And in 2000, Golden introduced a plan to build a skateboard park in Owl's Head Park that ultimately succeeded, but not before causing a deep rift on both the board and in the community.

"We offered a lot of proposals, and we got beat up on some of them, but that's the

risk," said Golden spokesman John Quaglione.

The state-park proposal led to a First Amendment battle on the board when a board member in opposition to the plan gave personal testimony before the city Art Commission in 2000.

Tensions flared as a group of board members raised issue with a bylaw that prevented board members from taking a public position opposite that voted by the board when identifying themselves as a board member.

In that debate, former board member Tzanides, the CB10 chairman at the time, argued that members who spoke publicly against board decisions were undermining the majority will of the community board. After several heated meetings, the board voted to make the bylaw even more stringent.

The New York City Law Department ruled in May 2000 that the bylaw violated the First Amendment.

It was changed last December.

Harrison, who agreed that zoning is the glue keeping the board together these days, said that before the UA lot, meetings were nothing if not serene. But following it, the board went into disarray. While he was not a member when the UA lot issue arose, he said that, once elected chairman, he was forced to weather much of the contention left over during Tzanides' reign.

"A lot of it came about while Kirk Tzanides was chair. Poor Kirk," said Harrison. "I was faced with taking the board through a very contentious time."

What also sets CB10 up as a big dysfunctional family is the fact that, unlike most of the other boards in the city, it is largely homogeneous with respect to geography.

Comprised entirely of the twin, adjacent neighborhoods of Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights, the issues before the board have an impact on every board member. On other boards, the interests of as many as four or five neighborhoods compete.

Added to that, one council board appoints nearly half of the board, with the borough president appointing the other half. On most other boards, two or three council members

have appointing authority. The prevailing councilman, therefore, has much greater control over CB10 than do other council members with their respective boards and those appointments, whether made by the Conservative Republican Golden, or his Democratic successor, Vincent Gentile, have tended to tie participants on the board.

These days, however, the board's primary concern is the implementation of a far-reaching zoning initiative that targets 250 blocks in Bay Ridge. Although a zoning study began several years back, the board's Zoning and Land Use committee, under then-chairman Eaton, released a final report last December, at about the same time as the CB10 officers election. Since then, the Department of City Planning has taken up the cause, and the plan is now being reviewed under the city's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure, which started with a CB10 public hearing Thursday.

Other issues surfacing over the last year, including complaints that a dry cleaning business in Dyker Heights was emitting dangerous levels of chemicals into the air as well as into neighboring apartments saw little argument among members. One of the more heated debates in the past year, whether to grant a special permit to a homeowner who wanted to enter the roof of his house by several feet, abated shortly after a near split vote in favor of the proposal.

"I don't want to say that because they're not the don't have time to fight, but

said Quaglione, who agreed that, with few exceptions, CB10 members have not been as hotly engaged in the zoning efforts.

"It's very encouraging to see over the past year the

work ethic exhibited by members at the meetings," he said. "It's a testament to the leadership of Craig Eaton, and it is imperative that such a community-centered approach continues as we look at issues of great importance including zoning."

Gentile, who as state senator when Golden was councilman stood in opposition to Golden's viewpoint on nearly every disputed issue before CB10, contends that the board's recent stability also stems from a balance that he has brought through his appointments of some 30 members over the past two years.

"The chemistry on this board has never been better," said Gentile. "I think the fact is that, with my appointments, we've achieved a good chemistry and we're now going for the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

Eaton, a real estate lawyer, said last week that he was pleased about the nominating committee's decision, adding that he was bolstered by the decision among members not to wage a campaign against him or the other officers.

"It shows me that we're on the right track and that we've accomplished our goals," said Gentile. "I think that we're now going to be able to move forward with the big goal of preservation."

VETO...

Continued from page 1

still a child. The state Department of Education, an agency that would have shouldered much of the new responsibility, is being blamed for pushing Pataki to veto the bill.

"This is the Department of Education not being able to put this into a plan and cost this out, and it's a shame," said Golden. "But Vito's not going away and Sen. Marty Golden's not going to let it go away. We're going to fight."

Under the proposed law, state Department of Education officials would be required to perform inspections of each licensed facility at least once every three years with additional inspections whenever a report of abuse or neglect is made.

What's more, the agency would have to maintain a register, accessible through its Web site, of schools deemed qualified to meet the needs of children with disabilities, and routinely update it when new schools are licensed and others are fired or neglected.

One concern among state Education Department officials was that the heightened inspections would serve to shrink services in New York, where an effort is being waged to provide more mental health and education facilities in the coming years. The challenge, said one state official, was to balance the services in New York without threatening those in surrounding states.

The state offices of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health, and Children and Family Services would have been included in the legislation's oversight provisions.

State Education Department spokesman Tom Dunn declined to outline specific issues the law would raise, but indicated that the legislation, as is, had demanded too much of the agency.

"As it was written, the bill did not provide the resources needed to implement it," said Dunn.

Vito Albanese, 65, had shepherded the bill through the state Senate and Assembly, where it was amended and reworked by a series of legislators, most notably Golden, Millman and, in earlier drafts, former state Sen. Vincent Gentile, who is now the Bay Ridge councilman.

"This is a scandal and an outrage," said Vito Albanese. "I think it's the most outrageous thing that I have to go through this again, this emotional roller coaster. It's an outrage that he would even entertain vetoing this bill."

Golden said that following a Wednesday afternoon briefing with Pataki, who joined the senator at a press conference at the Javits Center in Manhattan, a last-ditch effort to have the legislation signed was mounted in Albany. Only after 7 pm did Pataki finally veto the bill, less than five hours before a deadline, in which outstanding legislation was due for finalization.

As a result of the veto, Golden, a Republican, and Millman, a Democrat, were asked to join a task force created last year to hash out concerns over the legislation. Recommendations would be ready by June, said Golden, following discussion among members of the task force, which includes representation by each of the agencies involved.

One issue that is expected to be discussed before June is whether youths placed in out-of-state facilities could be provided more effective services in New York, where there are fewer options.

"The governor feels that this is that serious and important enough that we resolve the issue as soon as possible," said Golden, less than an hour after the veto.

More than 1,000 young New Yorkers with mental disabilities are currently sent to neighboring states to be treated and educated, in part due to a lack of state funds. Until the law is passed, parents or legal guardians have no way of knowing if those facilities are fully licensed or even if employees have ever been charged with abuse.

In a two-page veto memo, a copy of which was obtained on Wednesday by The Bay Ridge Paper, Pataki said that the legislation posed problems that were not limited to services outside of New York.

"I am concerned that facilities may not agree to such provisions, in which case the bill could inadvertently result in the curtailment or reduction of services currently being provided to disabled students," wrote Pataki. "More specifically, if any of the facilities with which school districts currently contract refuse to agree to the requirements of the bill, the bill prohibits students from being placed in those facilities. This could necessitate the relocation of otherwise appropriately placed children in need of specialized services."

But Albanese raised issue with Pataki for vetoing the bill while signing another piece of legislation earlier in the year that, similarly, would call for greater accountability at adult homes and assisted-living residences where elderly New Yorkers go for care.

"Shame on you, Mr. Pataki," said Albanese. "You're talking out of both sides of your mouth."

HORROR...

Continued from page 1

slow or lax responses to crime and violence inside and near the building on Benson Avenue at Bay 43rd Street.

The school's reputation for handling racism a fever pitch in March after four thugs viciously pummeled homophobe student Ching Ki Ho in a dimly lit second-floor stairwell — so badly, in fact, that the Hong-Kong-born senior had to be rushed to Coney Island Hospital, where he was treated for a broken nose. Last December, a student knocked unconscious principal Alan Siegel while making a getaway after mugging a peer.

Assemblyman William Colton, one of the most vocal opponents of the Lafayette administration, lashed out against the school and the Department of Education, saying that both should shoulder the blame for last week's brawl as well as others this year.

"It's obviously it's associated with the school," said Colton. "I'm not saying the school is responsible for the actions of the students, but to say that the school is not responsible, well, that's clearly irresponsible."

According to complaints filed with the Kings County District Attorney's office, as well as police spokespersons, a crowd of at least 200 students gathered around the fight, which involved more than 20 girls, nearly all from Lafayette. Police Officer Haytham Khalil of the 60th Precinct was among the officers to respond to the brawl. He was attacked by a swarm of 100 students while trying to handcuff one of the girls and was treated at Lutheran Medical Center.

One student threw her compact disc player at a police officer, connecting with the officer's forehead and causing a concussion. The officer was treated at Lutheran also.

Aside from the arrest of two 17-year-old girls, four other girls were disorderly conduct summonses and six received juvenile reports.

Need a pre-school in Downtown Brooklyn?

Consider Kiddie Korner JEWISH PRESCHOOL

For children aged 6 mos - 5 yrs
Full Time • Part Time • Extended Day 8-6
117 Remsen Street (btwn Clinton & Henry Sts)
Call for a tour today: 718 596-4840

HEALTH, MIND & BODY

Full Star BODY WORK

Foot Reflexology
Grand Opening Specials

Foot or Body Massage
\$40 for 1 hr
\$22 for 1/2 hr
Steamed Sauna
Half price
\$10 for 2 hrs

Buy 10 sessions, get 1 FREE!

OPEN 7 days
11am-10pm
Specials good until 1/15/04

2317 86th St. 2nd Fl.
718.449.2960

FREE Exam and 20% OFF First Visit for all new patients.

Friendly atmosphere and very gentle care.

EXCELLENCE IN:

- Cosmetic
- Children's Dentistry
- Root Canals
- Teeth Whitening
- Dentures
- Crowns & Bridges
- Extractions
- Bonding
- Restorative
- Emergencies
- Laminates
- Gum Care

We accept Medicaid and most insurance plans.
MODERN NEW FACILITY.

Dr. Quang Nguyen
283 67th Street
(btwn. Ridge Blvd. & 3rd Ave.)
(718) 836-9940

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri, 9:3

The Top Ten List:

Why The Brooklyn Papers are
Brooklyn's REAL Newspapers!

**#1 Prize
Winners
for 25 years**



#4



**EVERY
WEEK!**

Advertisers are invited
to submit articles for this
high-readership section

#5



**EVERY
WEEK!**

Brooklyn's only weekly
parenting page



**EVERY
WEEK!**



The Essential Guide to
the Borough of Kings—
Brooklyn's arts and
entertainment weekly,
featuring Brooklyn's
only complete
Nightlife Guide

#6

**Circulation
that COUNTS!**

We're the most experienced free-distribution
newspaper company in New York City.
We carefully monitor and control our circulation
to insure maximum impact and minimal waste.

#7

**Editorial that's
TRUSTED!**

The Brooklyn Papers' full-time professional
editorial staff covers the news of our neighbor-
hoods like no one else. Well-read and trusted
articles lend credibility to our advertisers.

#8



**Sports Page
throughout
the Baseball
Season**

#9

Seasonal Specials including:

- Brooklyn Bites
- Summer Camps
- Brooklyn Home
- Graduation
- Style & Fashion
- Best of Brooklyn

**#3 Brooklyn's ONLY
FULL-COLOR
Classifieds!**



#10

**NOW
ONLINE!**

**Brooklyn
Papers.com**

Surprise at Poly Prep expansion plans

By Jess Wisloski
The Brooklyn Papers

Some Park Slope residents who live near the Poly Prep Lower School, at 50 Prospect Park West, were surprised to learn last week, through fliers posted by a neighbor, that the school plans to build a 15,000-square-foot expansion. The new wing, which would stand four stories tall, is to house a "cafetorium," with enough space for the children — from age 2 through the fourth grade — to have a shared lunchroom (they eat in their classrooms now), gym space, and a stage for performances and assemblies. Three new classrooms would also be built, with extra space for art classes, said Poly Prep spokeswoman Lynn Chandhok.

But in what appeared to some Slope residents as an attempt to sneak the development through during the busy holiday season, school representatives presented their building designs at a Community Board 6 Land Use committee meeting on Dec. 2.

"We had to effectively lay over the issue," said Craig Hammerman, the CB6 district manager, because when the Poly Prep officials were asked if they had consulted the community about the project, he said, they could not say they had.

"We want to make sure that the school works with the community, and that people are aware of the designs," which he said will be reconsidered on Jan. 11.

A possible vote on the plans by the city Landmarks Preservation Commission had been scheduled for Dec. 14, but was postponed following inquiries by The Brooklyn Papers, so that Community Board 6 could first make a recommendation on the application.

The Poly Prep administration did make attempts to "reach out" to at least one neighbor who abuts the property, as they finalized their plans for the addition, but when she flat-out refused to support the project, she broke the "hush-hush" conditions under which their meeting was held.

Jan Franks has lived at 572 First St. for a year. She said she was told about the school's plans back in October 2003, when she and her husband were in contract to buy their brownstone.

"The reason we're in Park Slope in the first place is I wanted to get my kid in Poly Prep," she told The Papers. "It seemed perfect for him."

The school contacted them at that time, and the principal invited the family over for cake, according to Franks.

"They said that they were contemplating this addition, I, being totally naive, though, said, 'Oh sure, whatever,'" Franks recalled.

The idea was never brought up again, and the school administration changed, but a year later, Franks said, she was contacted again and told that the school was moving ahead with the plans.

She was invited to a private

meeting on Nov. 23 and asked not to tell neighbors.

"I said, 'Well are you going to tell the community about this?' They said, 'No, no, we have to get this approved by Landmarks before we tell the community,'" Franks told The Papers.

"We need to know what you need to feel good about this," Franks said she was told by acting principal Lana Schweitzer, so Franks and her husband listed their concerns. Schweitzer, she said, asked her to sign a letter expressing her support for

the project to Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio.

She refused. "That meeting left such a bad taste in my mouth that I opened my mouth as wide as I could," said Franks, who spent that very weekend designing fliers, handing them out, and going door-to-door, trying to rally her neighbors to attend the Dec. 14 landmarks meeting that has now been postponed.

Franks' biggest concern is with the design, which looks "just so square," she said, including the concept of moving

the main entrance onto First Street (which the old principal told her about), as well as the cornices on top that reach to five stories, and the notion that her 7-year-old son would be studying amid a construction zone for two years.

Carole Taylor, a real estate developer who lives on the same block of First Street and whose two children went to Poly Prep, had more issues with the proposed addition's appearance.

"It belongs on the back of MoMA," she said, referring to the Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan. "And they didn't even consult us. That's just not right."

Poly Prep's Chandhok said that far from "end-running" people, the school is just "going through the steps right now" of public review for the school's application for a Certificate of Appropriateness to allow the construction, which is why the community had not yet been consulted.

"We are very much in the preliminary stages of an expansion," she said.

The Web site for the school's architects, Arup Baksa Architect PC, she said, showed "initial designs," and Chandhok added that Poly Prep is "creating something that will be approved" with an architect from the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

She rebuffed the fliers, which she has seen distributed in the neighborhood, saying, "It's so inaccurate."

Chandhok said the building was "not any higher than the other buildings, and it's exactly the same proportion as the other brownstones going up the hill," from Eighth Avenue, she said.

"The top is just a cornice," she said, which does extend to a height of five stories.

Chandhok said the extension would not serve to increase the school enrollment, but only enhance space for the current students. She said concerns about architectural context were illogical.

"We have spent above and beyond a million dollars on historic restoration for the building to the point that Landmarks is impressed," she said.

"We're sorry that it's out there like this. We will be doing the official notification to the community soon," she said, but added that the school wasn't quite ready, and hoped to get

landmark's approval first.

"This is just the way we were told things generally go," said Chandhok.

But Franks doesn't think it has to be. She sent a letter to the school, and copies to local elected officials, letting them know her concerns about the "major traffic, noise, congestion and safety issues" she and other community members believe the addition would bring to First Street, a "normally peaceful block."

The letter closed, "You will soon be contacted by a lawyer."

Success stories
of people living with
MS are everywhere

In fact, on December 14*, you can hear some great ones in Brooklyn.

Serono 

Attend our Living with MS™ Seminar

Hear how people with MS are living full, active and independent lives. Join us for dinner and a lecture. Michael's, Brooklyn, December 14*, 6:30 pm

To Register, call 1-800-283-8088 ext. 4171

Turn Your Post-Election Despair into Hope for the New Year

Help MADRE defend the human rights of children and families in conflict zones worldwide



Photo: MADRE ALB

Yes! I want to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the programs of MADRE, an international women's human rights organization. Please fill out the coupon and return to the address below or visit our website at www.madre.org to contribute online.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MADRE, 121 West 27 St., Room 301, New York, NY 10001

212-627-0444 • madre@madre.org

BKHN1204

Do you need legal help?

We can help with most legal matters!

REAL ESTATE: all matters
Matrimonial • Divorce • Family Court
CIVIL: COMMERCIAL Cases
FORECLOSURES • BANKRUPTCY
TRUSTS • ESTATES
CHURCH CASES
VIOLENCE

THE LAW OFFICES OF
DAVID J. HERNANDEZ
"Serving the Community of New York and New Jersey"
FREE CONSULTATION
Visit Our Website At:
www.djhernandez.com

718-522-0009 HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL
26 Court Street, 22nd Floor, Brooklyn, New York

Whether YOU'RE looking for a **UNIQUE GIFT** solution or **LITTLE LUXURIES** for YOURSELF, these **SELECT HOLIDAY PACKAGES** are just the thing to nourish MIND, BODY, and SPIRIT . . .

ELAN
SALON & DAY SPA

THE SPA is your HAVEN, your ESCAPE, your PLACE to GET AWAY from it all — even if it's just for a little while

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AT
157 7th Ave.
(bet. CARROLL & GARFIELD)

(718) 789-1700
Open 7 days •   

Gift Certificates Available

DAY AT ELAN

Repechage four Layers Facial
Swedish Massage ~ 60 min
French Manicure
Pedicure with Reflexology
Foot Massage & Paraffin Wax Dip
Hot Oil Hair Treatment & Style
Reg. \$275⁰⁰ **\$25 OFF**
HOLIDAY GIFT FROM ELAN

HEAD TO TOE

Seaweed Hydrating Facial
Aroma Therapy Massage ~ 60 min
Manicure
Spa Pedicure
Hair Shampoo & Style
Reg. \$200⁰⁰ **\$20 OFF**

SIGNATURE

Deep Tissue Massage ~ 60 min
Manicure
Men's Haircut
Reg. \$105⁰⁰ **\$10 OFF**

AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Classic European Facial
Swedish Massage ~ 60 min
Manicure
Reg. \$120⁰⁰ **\$15 OFF**

HARMONY

Aroma Therapy Facial
Reflexology Foot Massage
French Manicure
Pedicure
Reg. \$167⁰⁰ **\$17 OFF**

EVENING RELAXATION

Swedish Massage ~ 30 min
Spa Manicure with Paraffin Dip
Reg. \$60⁰⁰ **\$10 OFF**

What makes the Maimonides Cardiac Institute one of the best in the world?

"The Coronary Intensive Care Unit provides a continuum of care utilizing the latest technology to monitor patients, including bedside defibrillators. Our dedicated team of doctors, nurses and technicians perform every intervention available anywhere in the world — dramatically increasing the rate of survival. Extraordinary cardiac care is at the very pulse of this hospital."

— Shirley Sales-Hernandez, RN
Coronary Intensive Care Unit

PREVENTION ■ DIAGNOSIS ■ TREATMENT ■ REHABILITATION ■ RESEARCH

To learn more about the Cardiac Institute go to:
www.maimonidesmed.org

To make our team part of your care, call:
1-800-682-5558

*Modern Healthcare Magazine



Maimonides
Medical Center
THE CARDIAC INSTITUTE
One of the top 100 heart hospitals in America*

Chicken joint faces sex-harass suit

By Jotham Sederstrom
The Brooklyn Papers

At least 20 female employees of a wildly successful Guatemalan chicken restaurant in Sunset Park, which opened just four months ago, have filed a federal class action lawsuit claiming that a manager gave preferential treatment to workers who had sex with him, while refusing to pay others for time on the clock.

Jonathan Sack, an attorney representing the employees who are suing Pollo Campero, a fast-food chain founded in Guatemala more than three decades ago, said that his clients are seeking unspecified damages and back

pay to September. The accused manager is on a paid leave of absence while an investigation continues, said a spokeswoman for the chain.

"These women are getting paid less than males for the same work and that's discrimination," said Sack. "Being told to come into work and not getting paid, that's against the law. And the sex?"

According to the complaint, filed in the Eastern District courthouse in Downtown Brooklyn, the women were routinely told to wait without pay for hours at a time at the store at 4506 Fifth Ave. at 45th Street. The suit also claims that the manager in question demanded they lift inordinately heavy

equipment or operate fryers without proper experience. He berated them when they refused, said Sack.

An undisclosed number of women employees who allegedly consented to sex with that manager, often inside an office at the restaurant, were allowed to work longer hours and at a better pay, the suit claims, noting that women at the store were paid \$5.40 per hour while men earned \$5.75.

Maria Romeu, a spokeswoman for Pollo Campero, refuted the claims, saying it was the first anyone at the site or throughout the chain of command had heard of the allegations. Of 11 managerial positions at both New York locations — there is also one in Queens — nine

are held by women, she said.

Romeu said that the disgruntled employees, all of whom are U.S. citizens, could have presented their complaints to one of the supervisors.

"Basically, when I saw that the lawsuit was served to the manager in question, it was the first anyone at the New York franchise had heard anything about the complaints," said Romeu. "It came as a shock to the franchise, primarily because employees have ample opportunity to talk to their supervisors."

Marilyn Martinez, director of operations at both locations told a reporter that she was only made aware of the allegations after several media outlets reported

the lawsuit on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1.

"It's a shame, truly a shame, what's happened, especially after all the attention [from the Aug. 5 grand opening]," said Martinez. "But it's all under investigation."

Romeu and Martinez said that most of the women who filed the suit remain employed at the store. Romeu said that one of the women had been fired before the suit was filed.

"If you were an Hispanic American eating at a native Guatemalan fast-food chain and found out that this chain was discriminating against Latin-American people you would have a problem with that, right?" said Sack, the plaintiffs' attorney.

TUT COMING TO B'KLYN...

Continued from page 1

While Lehman had already doubled the annual attendance from 250,000 in 1996 to 470,000 in 1999, the 9,000 visitors who attended the opening day of "Sensation," some waiting as long as 90 minutes for one of the \$9.75 tickets, doubled the museum's previous one-day record, set on the opening of the Monet exhibit.

A good portion of the "Sensation" ticket sales have been attributed to the controversial nature of the collection, which featured, among other works owned by British art man Charles Saatchi, artist Damien Hirst's vivisectioned animal carcasses under glass and Jake and Dinos Chapman's mannequins of children with sexual organs in place of noses and mouths.

But no advance promotion could have inspired the public curiosity over the exhibit like then-Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's lawsuit to have public funding for the museum cut off after a furor over artist Chris Ofili's depiction of the Virgin Mary, which included balls of elephant dung. That propelled the exhibit onto the national stage, making the nightly news and even garnering a reference on "The Simpsons," in which, during the opening credits, Bart Simpson was shown writing, "I will not make art with dung" over and over on a school blackboard. Lines were nearly as long on the closing day as for the exhibit's opening.

Since then, Lehman has brought several exhibits that straddled the fence between art and cultural phenomenon in the hope of drawing more visitors to the museum, including an exhibition of artifacts from the "Star Wars" movie series and a history of Hip-Hop music exhibit, neither of which drew anywhere near "Sensation"-al crowds.

With the Tut exhibit, on the other hand, the Brooklyn Museum could complement its already significant collection of Egyptian antiquities. More than 1,200 objects, including sculpture, painting and pottery, grace seven galleries at the museum, located at 200 Eastern Parkway near Washington Avenue.

"It would be a great fit for us," Williams said.

King Tut ascended to the throne at about age 8 and died mysteriously around 1323 B.C. at 17. Some archaeologists have speculated that he was murdered because a 1968 X-ray found bone fragments in his skull. His tomb, discovered in 1922, was the first intact tomb found by modern archaeologists.

The exorbitant price for the exhibit would mark a reversal from Tut's 1978 visit to New York, which saw crowds swell to 1.2 million at the Metropolitan, albeit little profit for the government of Egypt save for sales at the gift store, a former Met director told the International Herald Tribune.

The cultural significance of the show in the United States then was best exemplified by a 1978 skit on "Saturday Night Live" that featured comedian Steve Martin dressed as King Tut. The song-and-dance number, an answer to the perceived commercialization of the 3,500-year-old king, included the line, "Now, if I'd known they'd line up just to see him, I'd taken all my money and bought me a museum" and the chorus, "Born in Arizona moved to Babylon — King Tut."

The song was recorded and sold more than a million records. John Gerner, a Virginia-based entertainment venue consultant who studies amusement parks, water parks and museums, said that, ultimately, it comes down to whether crowds can still be wooed by Tut the way they were 25 years ago. Although he suggested that the recently raised admission at the Museum of Modern Art — from \$10 to \$20 — hinted that customers would be willing to pay higher prices, he wondered if geography might not ultimately be a factor.

"You're up in theme park territory," Gerner said of the proposed \$30 admission for the Tut exhibit. "The Brooklyn Museum is a little more mainstream than [Manhattan's Museum of Modern Art], a little more middle class. There might be some resistance to that."

—with Neil Sloane



26 YEAR ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY SEASON SALE

Nov. 19th – Dec. 31st



RECEIVE A \$104 SPECIAL SERVICE PACKAGE **ABSOLUTELY FREE** WHEN YOU PURCHASE A GIFT CARD VALUED AT \$50 OR MORE

PILO ARTS DAY SPA & SALON

8412 Third Avenue, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, NY 11209

(718) 748-7411 • www.piloarts.com

JOIN US ON 5th AVENUE BROOKLYN!

Experience The Magic Of The Avenue Where You'll Find Everything You Need For A Festive Holiday Season.



5th Avenue Park Slope Brooklyn Your Guide To The Goods 2005

VISIT THESE AND OTHER FABULOUS MERCHANTS ALONG BROOKLYN'S HOTTEST SHOPPING AND EATING AVENUE

<p>Active Transport Aguiayo & Huebner Realty Al Di La Trattoria Aladdin Plumbing Associated Supermarket Aunt Suzie's Restaurant Beacon's Closet Beso Bierkraft Blooms on Fifth Blue Ribbon Brooklyn Blue Ribbon Sushi Bob & Judi's Collectibles Body Reserve Body Tonic Inc Brooklyn Frameworks Checks & More Cog & Pearl The Corner Delices de Paris Diana Kane d'mai urban spa Donawald Realty Edolon El Viejo Yayo Restaurant Elements Hair Studio Excelsior</p>	<p>Extraordinary 5th Avenue Cat Clinic 5th Ave. Bageltique Cafe The Gate Ginger's Bar Goldy + Mac Gorilla Coffee The Grand Prospect Hall Graphicolor Corp. Has Beans Kimeria The Klean Machine Laundromat La Villa Pizza & Restaurant Le Chandelier SalonThe Lighthouse Tavern Long Tan Los Pollitos Mexican Restaurant Matter Mezcal's Mexican Restaurant Nana Restaurant and Bar Nancy Nancy Neergaard Pharmacy Opal Center for Massage Ozzie's Coffee Park Slope Chip Shop Park Slope Insurance Agency Patio Lounge Postmark Café</p>	<p>Press 195 Pure Energy Martial Arts R & A Cycles R&A Hardware Rapunzel Rapunzel Red White & Bubbly Rita Knox Realty Rumble Seat Music Save on Fifth Scaredy Kat The Sellers Group LLC Serene Rose Slang Betty Square Stores Steve Belsito Sons Inc. Tempo Restaurant & Wine Bar 3R Living, Inc. Timboos Tavern Trailer Park Trattoria Mulino 200 Fifth Umkarna Uncle Louie G Under The Pig Antiques Urban View Realty Wrapper's Delight Zuzu's Petals</p>
---	--	---

LOOK FOR THE NEW 5th AVENUE MAP AT ALL YOUR FAVORITE DESTINATIONS

5th Avenue / Park Slope / Brooklyn

brought to you by the Park Slope Fifth Avenue Merchants Association



(718) 834-9350

The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

December 11, 2004

Mighty 'Mice'

Mark VanDerBeets shines as director and star of Charlie Pineapple's 'Of Mice and Men'

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

For most small theater companies, the level of acting necessary for John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" would be prohibitive. But undaunted by the difficult text, the 2-year-old Charlie Pineapple Theatre Company has chosen this drama for its fourth production.

Mark VanDerBeets both co-directs and plays a major role in the play, and even those who (like this reviewer) frown on this kind of doubling up, must admit he does a remarkable job in both capacities.

"Of Mice and Men" is a play about the universal need for companionship. George (VanDerBeets) is a ranch hand who takes care of the powerful but dim-witted Lenny (Robert McCarthy) as they move around California looking for work. While traveling, they concoct a dream about how they will one day settle down, farm and raise rabbits.

Lenny is particularly eager to help with the rabbits as he likes small, soft things. The problem is that Lenny's strength and lack of intelligence lead more often than not to his killing the animals he loves. He has already gotten into trouble when he refused to let go of a woman's velvety dress.

By the banks of the Salinas River, Charlie and Lenny find work on a ranch where they meet Candy (the excellent Steve Abruscato), another lonely misfit who convinces himself he can share their dream. But as the line goes in Robert Burns' poem, "The best-laid plans of mice and men oft go awry. And leave us naught but grief and pain."

The owner of the ranch has a belligerent son, Curley (Nicholas Kattor), who likes to

THEATER

Charlie Pineapple Theatre Company's production "Of Mice and Men" runs through Dec. 19 and Jan. 7-22, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 8 pm, at 2488 N. Eighth St. at Roosevelt Street in Williamsburg. Tickets are \$15. For reservations, call (718) 907-0577 or visit www.charliepineapple.com.

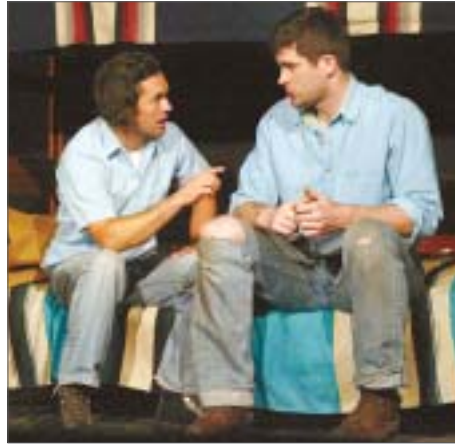
pick on smaller guys when he can beat them, and bigger guys when they can beat him, so he can yell "fool." Curley has a wife (Sarah VanDerBeets) who is bored, aggrieved and frustrated. From the moment the two walk on stage (never together), it is apparent that Lenny's fate is sealed.

With not much more than Steinbeck's gripping script (Julio Montero gets the credit for sound and light design), the cast of "Mice and Men" manages to evoke the bunkhouse, the stable, the barn and the sandy banks of the river.

VanDerBeets as George is brutal, kind and practical. He is noble in his stoic resignation to his hard-luck life. The fact that he also directs McCarthy in a performance that is nothing less than stunning is all the more to his credit.

Of course, McCarthy's performance is so natural that one suspects he may have needed very little direction. His rendition of the stutter and the stance of a grown man with the mind of a child is painfully believable. A few scenes were so perfect this reviewer wanted to stand up and applaud.

The supporting cast of cowboys — Mark Stone, James Klobner, Jesse Shafer, Paul Young and Reginald Ferguson — is also noteworthy. These actors masterfully capture



Can't 'Beets him: Co-director-actor Mark VanDerBeets as George (left) and Robert McCarthy as Lenny in Charlie Pineapple Theatre's production of John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men."

the West of the not-so-distant past when men lived and died with their boots on.

It is perhaps partly due to the contrast with the other performers and partly due to inexperience that Sarah VanDerBeets is so unconvincing as Curley's wife. Although she is co-artistic director of the company and co-director of this production, she is primarily a dancer, and in this play, she is stepping into a role that is too big for her. Casting her for this

important role was a mistake a young company cannot afford to make if it wants to be taken as seriously as Charlie Pineapple deserves to be.

However, given the promise of the Charlie Pineapple Theatre Company, most people should be willing to overlook one unfortunate slip. This is an up-and-coming company happy to tackle substantial work. We are eager to see what they will offer for their next project.

Living history

Playwright talks about art that inspired 'Isabella's Room'

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

When a director says, "The tragedy of theater is the applause," it's a pretty sure bet his staging will be far from ordinary. In Jan Lauwers' latest work, "Isabella's Room," which his Need-company will perform at BAM's Harvey Theatre this week, the playwright-director once again demonstrates his iconoclastic tendencies.

For Lauwers, applause is dangerous because it takes away from the weightiness of theater and puts it in the realm of entertainment.

"Theater is very important," he told GO Brooklyn in a telephone interview from Ohio, where he is on tour with this production. "It's the medium of the future. The way photography influenced painting is the same way film should affect theater. I think theater needs rededication."

See ISABELLAS on page 15



Theater as museum: In "Isabella's Room," which will come to the BAM Harvey Theater for four performances beginning Dec. 14, the cast shares the stage with artifacts from the former Belgian Congo, which the playwright inherited from his father.

The Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht Menorah
Brooklyn's Official MENORAH

Outside the Brooklyn Supreme Court
(Court Street • Downtown Brooklyn)

From Tues., December 7th
thru Tues., December 14th

LIGHTING TIMES
Friday: 2:00 pm
Saturday: 6:00 pm
Monday-Sunday: 5:00 pm

Sponsored By Our Community Friends:

Creative Lighting	Heights Vision Center	Brooklyn Heights Real Estate	Rimland & Associates
Max Health • Kosher	Filmcore	Harry Klein, Saul Edelstein,	Brooklyn Bridge Realty
Nutritional Supplements	Real Estate	Glynn Harper, Ed Towns,	Signature Bank
Steven D. Cohen	Ben Z's Fish	Seth Rubinstein	Quality Flourish

Park Slope's Best Bar & Grill

Now Serving OLE Costa Rican Beer

The Lighthouse Tavern

Baby Happy Hour Every Tues. 4-7pm
Kids & Parents of all ages welcome

Bar Hours
Mon-Fri: 3pm-4am; Sat & Sun: 12noon-4am
Costa Rican & American Food

Kitchen Open Late
Until 2am on weekends
Smoking in the garden • Pool Table

Great wine & cocktail menu

NFL SUNDAY TICKET!!
\$1.00 OFF any Boca or Appetizer

243 5th Ave. between Carroll & Garfield

Learn to make Mulled Wine & Ice Cream Egg Nog

This Saturday 5PM @ The Greene Grape

From master mixologist, Brooklyn resident
and author of Drinkology: The Art and Science of the Cocktail

James Waller

The GREENE GRAPE

Order our new catalog online

765 Fulton Street
Fort Greene

Open 7 Days • 718-797-WINE

CINEMA



Wild, wild West

"Glissando," an indie feature by Park Slope filmmaker Chip Hourihan, has been traveling the festival circuit for a couple of years, but it will be screened a bit closer to home on Dec. 18 at Manhattan's Pioneer Theater.

The film's soundtrack features a number of Brooklyn-based artists. Hourihan told GO Brooklyn, including Tom Clark and the High Action Boys, John Kimbrough and guitarist Lenny Kaye.

Hourihan produced and directed "Glissando," a story centering on 15-year-old Jim (Chris Van Strander) and his father (Paul Frediani), who comes between them. (Wright and Frediani are pictured above in a scene from "Glissando.")

Based on Robert Boswell's short story (included in 2000's "Still Wild: Short Fiction of the American West, 1950 to Present" edited by Larry McMurtry), the movie, shot on color MiniDV and black-and-white Super 16-mm film, is set in a desolate Arizona desert town in the '70s.

A Q&A with Hourihan will follow the 7 pm screening. The Pioneer Theater is located at 155 E. Third St. at Avenue A. Tickets are \$9. For more information, visit www.twoboots.com/pioneer or call (212) 254-3300.

— Lisa J. Curtis

CINEMA

First at Kane

This Thursday, Dec. 16, the Kane Street Synagogue's first "Israel Film Festival" will kick off with an 8 pm screening of Asher Tadmor's 1998 film "Hitchhikers." The screening will be preceded by a 7:15 pm reception.

The festival, curated by Hedda Kafka, continues on Dec. 18 at 8 pm with Shemi Zartini's 2003 work "Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi," and closes on Dec. 19 with a 7 pm screening of "Broken Wings," written and directed by Nir Bergman. "An Inside Look into the Making of Broken Wings," by Tova Aviram, will follow Bergman's film.

Tickets to "Israel Film Festival" screenings are \$8 per film in advance, \$10 at the door. Series passes for the three films are available for \$20. The synagogue is located at 236 Kane St. between Court and Clinton streets in Cobble Hill. For advance sales or more information, contact the Synagogue office at (718) 875-1550.

— Lisa J. Curtis

BOOKS

Arthur talk

Food critic Arthur Schwartz (pictured) will discuss and sign copies of his new book "Arthur Schwartz's New York City Food" (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, \$45) at the Brooklyn Museum on Dec. 11, from 1 pm to 4 pm.

"New York City Food" is the fifth cookbook by Schwartz, who "grew up in a food-obsessed Brooklyn family," according to his Web site (www.the-foodmaven.com). His new tome includes 100 recipes sprinkled among 400 pages crammed with everything from tidbits about Brooklyn's West Indian enclaves to egg creams to information about those other boroughs.

Following Schwartz's lecture in the museum's Iris and B. Gerald Cantor auditorium, attendees will join Schwartz in the Beaux-Arts Court for coffee, tea and goodies provided by Downtown Atlantic restaurant, Junior's, Cake Man Raven and Royal Crown Bakery among other local purveyors.

Tickets are \$75 (which includes a copy of Schwartz's book and parking). The Brooklyn Museum is located on Eastern Parkway at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights. For more information and to make a reservation, call the Brooklyn Museum Committee office at (718) 501-6286 or (718) 638-5000.

— Lisa J. Curtis

Elegantly Casual — Not Stuffy
Serving your Family & Friends since 1964.

This is a dining experience for people who regard eating as one of life's major pleasures.
— THE BROOKLYN PAPERS

Parties for up to 200

Enjoy piano music nightly

Park in our private lot

Michael's RESTAURANT
2929 Avenue R (at Nostrand Ave.) • (718) 998-7851
www.michaelsbrooklyn.com

DELICES DE
PARIS
Fine International Pastries

• Gourmet Gift Baskets • Imported Cheeses & Coffees
• European Imports • Unique Holiday Gifts

ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS!

321 9th St., (bet. 5th & 6th Aves.) • 768-5666
OPEN 7 DAYS: Monday-Saturday 7am-8:30pm; Sunday 8am-7pm • eat: 117

LUNCH SPECIALS
EAT IN ONLY

THE HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!
Let
Casa Calamari
Pizza & Pasta

Do the cooking for you.
Specializing in catering, home, corporate, private parties — up to 250 people

8602 3rd Ave. (718) 921-1900
CORPORATE & PRIVATE CATERING AVAILABLE — Up to 250 people

BLUE PEARL FOODS
Importers of Cheese, Charcuterie, Fine Foods

**814 Union St.
(at 7th Avenue)
Brooklyn, NY 11215
(718) 230-3180**

MON: closed
TUES-FRI: 10am-7:30pm
SAT: 10am-7pm
SUN: 11am-6pm

MARCO POLO RISTORANTE

New Year's Celebration 2005

Friday, December 31, 2004 8:30pm to 2:00am

Featuring a Four Course Dinner, Live DJ, Midnight Champagne Toast & All Night Open Bar

Appetizer
Fagottino di salmone con gamberi alla pancetta e confit di pomodoro
Marinated Salmon filled with radicchio & served with shrimp wrapped in pancetta topped with a medley of julienne vegetables & shrimps

Primi Piatti
Crepellina alla Sorrentina o Cousis d'Auanta con Basilico
Coke with wild filling in tomato & cream sauce topped with melted mozzarella & fresh basil

Secondi Piatti
Medaglione di Rana pescatrice con timo e vongole
Mignon di Manzo gratinato alla senape
Combination dish of Mandarins sautéed with shrimp, white wine & vanilla cream & Grilled Filet Mignon topped with fresh bread crumbs & mushroom crust

Dessert del Pasticcere (dessert & coffee)
Tradizionale Gelato al Forno
Rabot Vanille & Chocolate gelato with a ginger cake filling

Piccola Pasticceria
Assorted Cookies

\$100 per person
(Plus Sales Tax & Gratuity)
\$75 per child under 12

**345 Court Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231
(718) 852-5051**
www.marcopoloristorante.com

Make Your Reservations Now!
All Major Credit Cards Accepted
Free Valet Parking

**Join Us for Christmas Eve!
Fri., Dec. 24, 2004**
Special Christmas Dinner
Menu à la Carte

Featuring Tantalizing Appetizers, a wide array of Delicious Entrées, including many Seafood choices, and Luscious Desserts by Our Pastry Chef

12 AWP THE BROOKLYN PAPERS WWW.BROOKLYNPAPERS.COM Dec. 11, 2004

Time out for two

D'mai Urban Spa offers massages for couples

By Lisa J. Curtis
GO Brooklyn Editor

In the midst of the holidays, it's nearly impossible not to get caught up in the stress of entertaining, shopping and decorating.

Have you been surprised by your husband's outbursts as he tries in vain to find the reason why half of the Christmas tree lights have gone out, while you massage your aching upper arms after toting sacks full of presents up the stairs to your apartment? Do your eyes ache from searching Web sites for the perfect gift, while your partner accidentally hummers his finger while hanging the garland of gilded poinsettias you envisioned elegantly draped over the windows?

There's no time like the present for you and your mate to take a time out to relax and remember what the holidays are really about — reveling in and celebrating the love we have for our family and friends.

Do it now, before someone gets hurt.

Don't squawk about not having time or money. This is about saving your sanity (and your marriage) as well as maintaining your health in the midst of this hectic — yet special — time of year.

And look no farther than Daniela Stromberg and Mark Abbondio's D'mai Urban Spa in Park Slope for the ultimate retreat experience for two: a massage in the spa's new couple's cabana.

"Our spa is Indonesian inspired," explained Stromberg. "It's common there to have outdoor massages. It's a great way for couples to share a non-verbal level of intimacy."

Modeled after luxurious resorts, D'mai offers a serene, mercifully quiet ambiance with all of the amenities. Waiting areas with wicker furniture are accessorized with pitchers of water flavored with refreshing cucumber.

The cabana itself, which opened in September, is an elegant tent with two parallel massage tables. An opaque ceiling lets in sunshine during the day, while candles keep the heated enclosure lit at night. (Warning: book your appointment accordingly. If you're not ready to wobble your new pumpkin pie-filled love handles at your partner, a nocturnal appointment promises to be more flattering upon disrobing. If you have no shortage of self-confidence, the cabana filled with daylight is a rare, lovely experience.)

"There are alternative ways to relax and recreate than going into a bar," said Stromberg. "The spa is open



Double the pleasure: The new couple's cabana at D'mai Urban Spa in Park Slope is a tranquil, rejuvenating setting for a massage for two.

on Thursdays and Fridays until 9 pm. If you make an appointment for 8 o'clock on a Friday evening, that's a date."

The cabana's wood floor is edged with stones and plants, and after clients nestle their faces into the massage table

fractures in the fascia," or knots, harbored in our muscles. (After Kotch applied deep tissue, shiatsu and myofascial release massage techniques to my aching muscles, he was able to offer several therapies — from chair pads to stretches — that I could practice at home and the office to minimize future aches and pains.)

A common complaint among couples who book their spa appointments in the hopes of spending time together is that they become separated during treatments.

With D'mai's couple's cabana booking, you're in the waiting room together, are massaged together and can spend time luxuriating in the sauna after the massage — together.

If you're going to a spa together, you might as well do it together," said Stromberg.

And D'mai's sauna is the real deal. We felt like we had parked our relaxed, massaged bodies in an authentic Scandinavian sauna when we sat down in the wood-paneled room. It's replete with a large wood scoop to spoon water over heated rocks that release

nasal-clearing menthol into the air.

The spa also offers lockers in the exquisite changing rooms, so worries about personal belongings won't plague clients during treatment. The changing rooms are equipped with everything a client needs to return to life as glamorously as they arrived; look here for everything from hairdryers to Q-Tips.

Although a visit to the couple's cabana was just what the doctor ordered for this stressed-out guy and gal, Stromberg describes D'mai as "an inclusive spa. We welcome all kinds of couples. We've even had mothers and daughters and sisters."

Whether a gift for another couple, or a gift you give yourself and your partner, a couple's cabana massage is remarkably relaxing — yet invigorating — time well-spent.

"We want this place to be a vacation getaway, be an experience," said Stromberg. "When you return to your life, we want you to feel like you had a vacation, feel the rejuvenation."

Now, about those gifts.

D'mai Urban Spa is located at 157 Fifth Ave. at Lincoln Place in Park Slope. Massages in the Couple's Cabana are \$60 per person for a 30-minute massage, \$110 per person for a 60-minute massage and \$150 per person for a 90-minute massage. Hot stone massages are an additional \$10 per person. For appointments and more information, call (718) 398-2100 or visit the Web site at www.dmaurbanspa.com. Gift certificates are available.

donuts, they are greeted by a glorious lily floating in a bowl of water on the floor.

My husband and I gratefully threw ourselves down on our respective tables with much anticipation — grateful for 60 minutes when we didn't have to talk about our over-scheduled lives.

Massage therapists Micah Kotch and Nicole Serrano applied massage oil with chamomile, frankincense and rosemary to rub out the "con-

Owned and operated by local artisans since 1994

Happy Holidays
Brooklyn Artisans Gallery

221a Court Street (corner of Women St.)
• Open: Tues-Sat 11-7; Sun 11-6 • (718) 330-0343

Handcrafts for the Holidays!

Latin American folk art, home furnishings, jewelry, books, music and greeting cards.

DUHg
90% + 10% 5j Ybi Y
6fcc_nk2BM
+ %) + % S- %
k k k DUHgWa
99 1 CZZk #h jg 5X
Yd d "WAF" WAFS

The Most Affordable View of the Manhattan Skyline and Brooklyn Bridge
Exceptional Italian Fare and Warm Service
Plan Your Holiday Parties!

2 Water Street • Brooklyn 11201 • Phone 718-858-3510
www.PetesDownTown.com • PARTY ROOM AND CATERING

The Pearl Room
Restaurant
Garden Dining
Available for Private Functions

8201 Third Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
Tel: 718.833.6666 Fax: 718.680.4172
www.ThePearlRoom.com

RISTORANTE VACCARO
Cucina Italiana

HOLIDAY SPECIAL
\$29.95 APPETIZER, SALAD, PASTA & ENTREE
Chestnut & New York City
Schnitzel & La Cattedrale
Cappuccino and primo fritto di pesce
Call for reservations
Not available on weekends

Having A Party?
Private Party Room Accommodates Up To 50 People
In A Quiet & Relaxing Atmosphere. Office Parties, Reunions, Graduations, Showers, Christenings & More!

6716 Fort Hamilton Pkwy • near 67th St. in Dyker Heights
Open for Lunch & Dinner • (718) 238-9447

Les Babouches
AUTHENTIC MOROCCAN CUISINE

Belly Dancer, Shisha, and Henna parties on weekends

TEL: 718-833-1700
FAX: 718-833-5466
WWW.LESBABOUCHESTORESTAURANT.COM • We Cater Private Parties
Open Tues-Sun • Lunch & Dinner • Happy Hour • Takeout & Free Delivery

7803 THIRD AVE.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209

THE 2004 CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS 2005 SEASON

THE BROOKLYN CENTER
FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BROADWAY MUSICALS

The Nutcracker
Moscow Classical Ballet
Sunday • November 28, 2004 • 3pm
Sponsored by JPMorgan Chase
Tickets: \$40, \$55

David Glickman
Laughing from Right to Left
Sunday • December 26, 2004 • 2pm
Tickets: \$25

Rabbi Bob Alper
Sunday • January 16, 2005 • 2pm
Tickets: \$25

Philadanco
Saturday • January 22, 2005 • 8pm
Sponsored by Matt Gilmore Foundation, Barbers Foundation
Tickets: \$30

Circo Comedia
Smythe and Soucier
Sunday • January 23, 2005 • 2pm
Sponsored by JPMorgan Chase
Tickets: \$15

Call 718.951.4500
or visit the Box Office, located at Coughlin Road and Hill Place,
one block from the junction of Nostrand and Flatbush Avenues in Brooklyn.
Box Office hours are Tuesday — Saturday, 1-6 pm
For groups of 15 or more, call 718.951.4800 x26

For complete season
brooklyncenter.com

Additional support provided by
metlife



Moroccan morsels

New Les Babouches triumphs with tasty traditional dishes

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

The ebullient owner of the newly opened Les Babouches, in Bay Ridge, may look familiar. He is Boubaid "Bou" Gassimi, the former proprietor of La Maison du Couscous, a beloved Moroccan eatery on 77th Street that is still going strong—but under new management.

From the outside, the three-month-old Les Babouches, named for Turkish heel-less slippers, resembles every other bistro on Third Avenue, with multi-paned windows and an attractive awning. Inside, it's a cashab, with triple the seating of Gassimi's first restaurant, saffron-colored walls, plush banquettes strewn with mirrored pillows, and Moroccan antiques on display. Yes, it's a grander space, but not a blander one, as I feared. (I've loved and lost too many hole-in-the-wall types.)

The dishes that emerge from Les Babouches' kitchen—headed by La Maison du Couscous' former chef, Labata Tiohi, and the staff she trained—are as memorable as ever.

The entire range of spices used in the Moroccan kitchen comes into play in Tiohi's appetizing salads and delicate "brivats" (philly dough triangles filled with meat or fish and spices). The smoky eggplant salad, sweetened with slow-cooked garlic and smeared over chewy slices of warm Moroccan semolina bread, is a luscious way to begin the meal. Spinach cooked down to a creamy dice is given tang with preserved lemon and heat from cumin; and

slices of baby carrots in a buttery glaze were brightened with parsley and lemon. Beets were cooked until jammy, but retained their earthiness.

However, cubes of fresh cucumber in a lemon and olive oil dressing needed a better partner than slightly mushy, no-flavor tomatoes. Another salad of garlicky roasted green peppers, mixed with those dull tomatoes, suffered the same fate.

Break through the buttery, papery leaves of the phyllo dough, and the bistro's fluffy centers—one filled with moist, minced chicken released the heady scent of coriander and paprika; the other, a lighter blend of shrimp and squid, was brightened with cilantro leaves and lemon—were consumed in two delicious bites.

The pastries are lovely with a cup of sweet Moroccan mint tea, poured by the waitress who held the pitcher a foot above the pretty gilded glasses. The tea-pouring experience is a little frightening, but our server was a pro who managed not to splash a drop.

This restaurant could do without a couple of nods to the largely Italian neighborhood that are included among the appetizers and desserts. One is a Mediterranean salad topped with pallid tomatoes and small cubes of flavorless mozzarella tossed in a dressing that needed vinegar. The other is trapanese, a humal dessert for an Italian restaurant that's senseless after a Moroccan meal.

Moroccan chefs base their reputation on serving fine tagines, the rich aromatic stews served in a conical clay pot. Lift off the tagine's lid, and the oven's heat and moisture of the pot has created magic.



Feast your eyes: (Clockwise from top left) Les Babouches co-owners Boubaid Gassimi and Jeff Julia sit down to a feast of tagine dishes, steaks cooked in conical clay pots. The mixed salad appetizer features roasted eggplant; carrots with Moroccan spices; black olive puree; yogurt sauce, cucumber and tomato salad; and assorted olives. Chef Labata Tiohi's fish tagine is a medley of mussels, olives, carrots and potatoes.

The "dayah," one of three chicken tagines, features a plump chicken breast so moist that juices ooze from the meat when it's cut. The breast is served atop a composit of raisins cooked down to a sherry-like richness, luscious strands of caramelized onions and chick peas that break up the dish's sweetness with their nutty taste. It's a stunning dish. Lamb and fish versions are offered, too.

On this night, spicy merguez (garlicky lamb sausages) were served a little underheated, marring the full impact of their spices. A side of Moroccan rice mixed with slivered almonds and golden raisins, lightly scented with orange blossom essence, was pleasant but a bit dry. Ditto for grilled slices of eggplant and carrots.

While it's not listed under desserts, ask for a plate of traditional Moroccan cookies; they're a better choice than trapanese. On the plate are deep-fried, honey-dipped, twisted cookies called

"chubakia" that remind me of funnel cake. They're crunchy, pleasingly oily and the honey lends a bright, clover-like scent.

I also love Les Babouches' "laab el ghazal," or gazelle's horns, a crescent-shaped cookie filled with almonds and flavored with cinnamon, sugar and orange blossom water.

The lemon, mango and coconut gelato are not a bad way to end a meal, either.

The tea-drinking men I remember from La Maison du Couscous' dining room, who lingered outside that restaurant talking for hours, were missing when I dined at Les Babouches. Here, local couples and families have replaced them; and there's a full bar where one can order a "Morocini" (martini made with mango juice).

Sure, the surface of Les Babouches is glitzy, but beneath it, Gassimi's chef is turning out dishes straight from her heart.

Feeling Blu

Aqua restaurant on Smith Street is all washed up.

In its place, Aqua's owner Giuseppe Salvitti (pictured), and chef Jose Lema have installed Mare Blu, a casual, mostly Mediterranean seafood restaurant.

"With Aqua, people came in for a special occasion. When we opened Mare Blu in August, we have regulars who dine here all the time. That's just what we wanted," says Salvitti, who also owns Savona, an informal Italian cafe on Smith Street.

Aqua's cool, elegant interior is hotter now, with deep-green walls, wood floors and tiled tables. The menu, too, has experienced a sea change.

Aqua's all-over-the-globe smorgasbord, has ebbed into simple Italian fare with a concentration on seafood.

"We get our fish daily from Fish Tales on Court Street," says Salvitti of the excellent seafood market nearby.

Coming from the kitchen are warm octopus salad tossed with saffron, celery and black olives; pepper-crusted tuna steak served with eggplant caponata; wild striped bass with a warm potato cake, and for meat eaters, there's fillet mignon in Gorgonzola sauce and pork tenderloin in a balsamic vinegar glaze.

Mare Blu (174 Smith St. between Warren and Wyckoff streets in Boerum Hill) accepts American Express, Diner's Club, Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Entrees: \$9.50-\$19.50. The restaurant serves dinner daily. Lunch and brunch will be added soon, according to Salvitti. For reservations, call (718) 643-1589.

—Tina Barry

BROOKLYN

Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week:
SMITH STREET

Chance

223 Smith St. at Butler Street, (718) 242-1515, (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$12-\$20. * Owner Ken Li (Park Slope's Yamato and Cobble Hill's Osaka) has a hit with this restaurant that blends French and Chinese cuisines. Open since August, Chance has a sleek contemporary exterior that gives way to a polished, playful interior with red lanterns and a bubble wall. Chef Kir Ben-Ari recently revamped the menu, blending the two cuisines subtly, according to GG Brooklyn dining critic Tina Barry. Among her recommendations are the "Miss Piggy" entree, a pork shank surrounded by wild mushrooms scented with garlic, the seared foie gras appetizer, and the ocean box of plump dumplings filled with sweet shrimp, lobster meat and sea bass. Don't forget dessert—house-made ice creams and sorbets. Dim sum brunch is served from 10 am to closing on Saturday and Sunday. Closed Mondays.

Hana Cafe

235 Smith St. at Butler Street, (718) 643-1983 or (718) 643-1167, (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$10.95-\$15.95. * On May 3, Hana Cafe opened its doors to Japanese-food lovers. Teriyaki, noodle dishes and sushi are just some of the items on Hana's menu. For \$12.95, Hana offers 12 dinner special combination bowls. In addition to the entree, each dinner bowl is served with rice, miso soup, green salad, three pieces of sushi, a California roll, and three pieces of shuma (Chinese style pork dumplings). The list of special rolls on the menu is equally enticing. Check out the Godzilla, spicy boy, spicy girl and rock 'n' roll. Their new all-you-can-eat prix fixe is \$20.95 per person, and it's available all day, every day. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

La Rosa and Sons

315 Smith St. at Pacific Street, (718) 625-0545 (Cash only) Entrees: \$8.75-\$10.50. Large cheese pizza: \$12.75. *

Schnack owners Jim Mamary and Alan Harding have teamed up again to open, La Rosa and Sons—an old pizza joint where you can sit down and enjoy a bottle of wine just as easily as you can grab a slice to go. It sits back-to-back with the parent Pacific Street-fronting Pacific restaurant. They share Pacific's bar, so margaritas and beer can be enjoyed with meals as well as wine. In addition to sandwiches, calzones and pizza, the restaurant offers sumptuous fare like baked rigatoni with escarole and white beans in a veal ragu. Right now, all cheese slices are \$2. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Mare Blu

174 Smith St. at Warren Street, (718) 643-1589 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$9.50-\$23.50. *

What was formerly known as an upscale seafood restaurant named Aqua has been transformed into a "modern Italian seafood restaurant," that co-owner and manager Giuseppe Salvitti calls "a lot more affordable" than its predecessor.

The owners wanted to make their restaurant more neighborhood-friendly, says Salvitti, because "the neighborhood took Aqua as an upper-class place—they only came for special occasions."

While the menu got a facelift, the restaurant's decor has been toned down a notch, while remaining date-friendly with its candlelit, blue-tile tables. To start, Salvitti recommends the tuna tartare. At \$9.50, the raw tuna with ginger, chives, capers and yellow peppers is the most expensive appetizer. You might also consider trying the "shrimp on a stick," as Salvitti calls it, which is served with peppers and lemon zest over arugula. An alternative to the seafood-rich menu is the "polenta fritta"—aka cream of corn—with Gorgonzola sauce. For a main course, Salvitti suggests the pepper-crusted tuna steak served over eggplant caponata with lemon honey sauce. Open daily for dinner.

Pacifico

269 Pacific St. at Smith Street, (718) 935-9090 (Cash only) Entrees: \$6-\$13.

Pacifico serves authentic Mexican food with a hip, yet reverential attitude. Opened by Jim Mamary and Alan Harding, Pacifico's inventive menu offers a charred shrimp and tortilla steak with corn mango salsa, steamed mussels with beer and serrano chile, and pulled beef tacos with olive sauce. The interior should be marveled at—between the wood floors, roaring fireplace (in winter), votive candles and walls covered by Mexican tiles, Pacifico could be a proper hacienda if it only had burros tethered outside. Dinner served every night. Open for lunch and dinner Friday through Sunday.

Patois

255 Smith St. at Douglass Street, (718) 855-1535, www.patoisrestaurant.com (AmEx).

★ Full review available at

BrooklynPapers.com

Abbreviation Key: AmEx=American Express, DC=Diner's Club, Disc=Discover Card, MC=MasterCard, Visa=Visa Card



Bay scallops ceviche (foreground) is on the menu at Chance.

MC, Visa) Entrees: \$12-\$19. This pioneering French bistro begun by Alan Harding and brothers Paul and Jim Mamary sparked the Smith Street restaurant revolution when it opened in December 1997. One wall is even papered in French newspaper clippings. Two dining rooms offer patrons a feeling of intimacy and eliminate long lines for a table. Chef Charles Steatelman's signature dishes include garlic snails with puff pastry, steak frites, sa poivre and grilled Atlantic salmon with sherry mustard, a lentil salad and roasted mushrooms. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, a \$20 prix fixe dinner is served from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. For a romantic evening, request a table by the fireplace.

Outdoor dining is available in season. Vegetarian offerings include Sunday brunch (with unlimited mimosas, virgin Bloody Mary and coffee).

Red Rose

315 Smith St. at Union Street, (718) 625-0963 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$10-\$17.

This Italian restaurant laid the foundation for the Smith Street renaissance more than 20 years ago. Red Rose has an expanding wine list with wines from around the world, pink linen-draped tables, and red brick walls. Operated by the Romano family for two generations, Red Rose offers a classic Southern Italian menu featuring seafood, poultry and pastas as well as many daily specials.

"Our crab cakes are the best around," boasts Santo Romano. He oversees the restaurant's menu, and ensures that chef Steven Bankhead continues to serve dad's "famous rice balls" as well as the many other popular entrees. Romano sums up his two decades of success simply: "Our formula is fresh, great food and good service."

Open Monday and Wednesday through Saturday, from 4 pm to 11 pm; Sunday, from 2 pm to 11 pm. Closed Tuesdays.

Restaurant Saul

140 Smith St. at Bergen Street, (718) 935-9844 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$20-\$30. *

Named after its chef, Saul Bolton, this restaurant's creative menu features tempting appetizers such as seared roasted sanders and bacon and onion tart. Entrees include pan-roasted Niman Ranch pork loin, maple-glazed pork belly and center of pork shoulder served with mustard greens and roasted Gionone Farms chicken breast paired with risotto of butternut squash, chanterelle mushrooms and roasted Jerusalem artichokes. Desserts include a warm apple brown Betty with crème and Amaranth ice cream and a pine-nut tart with rosemary-scented chestnut honey ice cream. Dinner served daily.

Sonny's Bar & Grill

305 Smith St. at Union Street, (718) 643-2952 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$7.50-\$19. *

Sonny's Bar & Grill opened on this Carroll Gardens stretch of Smith Street last March. Chef Marlin Tlapa, formerly of Coco Pazzo in Manhattan, offers simple, familiar dishes in an unpretentious, Mission-style dining room. Among the appetizers, there are fried calamari and a wild mushroom bisque. For entrees, GG Brooklyn dining critic Tina Barry found Tlapa's meatloaf "nearly perfect." She writes of its therapeutic properties, "On an evening when the world is hard to bear, this dish will soothe you." Outdoor dining on the front patio is available in season. Brunch is served from 9:30 am to 4 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Kids' menu is available.

Smithwicks

191 Smith St. at Warren Street, (347) 643-9911 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$10-\$23. *

Chef Noel Thompson dresses up reliable American favorites, adding the occasional unexpected ingredient. For example, his Macadamia-crusted Pacific cod with wild mushroom sauce and wasabi mayonnaise. Their \$20 prix-fixe five-course dinner menu is available from 4 pm to 9 pm. There's also an \$8.95 lunchtime prix-fixe menu, available Monday through Friday, between 11:30 am and 3 pm, which has to be one of the best bargains in Brooklyn. The Smithwicks menu also features an "Irish Corner," which includes shepherd's pie, mixed grill and fish and chips. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Weekend brunch is offered from 11 am to 3:30 pm.

Seniors: 15% Discount
every Tuesday night (dine-in only)

LUCEE
D.E.L.I.C.I.O.U.S.
Chinese Cuisine & Vegetarian Nutrition

- Fast Free Delivery
- Open 7 Days a Week
- Party Orders Welcome

We Only Use Vegetable Oil
Natural Cooking
and Fresh Vegetables

162 Montague Street
Brooklyn Heights
(718) 522-5556/66
(Fax) (718) 522-5205 (24hrs)

Mon - Thurs 11:30am - 10:00pm
Fri - Sat 11:30am - 11:00pm
Sunday 2:00pm - 10:00pm

FREE \$7.00
Delivery min.

New in Red Hook!

El Huipil
Cocina Mexicana

Authentic Home Style
Mexican Comfort Food

Specialties from Guerrero Region
BUEN PROVECHO!

116A Sullivan St. in Red Hook • (718) 855-4548
Betw. Van Brunt & Conover **FREE DELIVERY IN RED HOOK**

OPEN 7 DAYS
for Brunch,
Lunch and
Dinner

Caffe Carciofo
— Family owned since 1990 —

Featuring delicious, innovative specials,
fresh pastas, homemade desserts,
grilled meat and fish specialties.

Special New Year's Eve Menu
Reservations recommended • Call for details

Famous Sunday Brunch
Sun. Brunch: 10am-3pm; Sun. Dinner: 5-10pm
Mon-Sat: 5:30-10:30pm
No credit cards

248 Court St. (corner of Kane St.) (718) 624-7551

Court Express
BROOKLYN'S
#1 CAR SERVICE

Airport Service

- LGA: \$25
- JFK: \$35
- NWK: \$40

SPECIAL!
\$3 OFF
any airport trip
with this coupon
valid until 1/15/04

718-237-8888
24 Hour • 7 Day Dispatch

Tonight Stay Home In Brooklyn



RESTAURANT & SUPPER CLUB

lunch 12-4 • dinner 4-10
sunday buffet brunch
live music every sat
swing dancing, latin dancing

Wine Spectator Award Winner

The ultimate retro night out!

263 PROSPECT AVENUE • PARK SLOPE
(718) 788-0400 • VALET PARKING

Hosting parties of
50 to 1000 guests
for the past 114 years.



www.GrandProspectHall.com
www.OakRoomRestaurant.com

139 Montague Street • 718.858.5592
www.latraviatato.com • Delivery in Brooklyn Heights only

Membership 5% OFF

Free Local Delivery • Eat-In or Take Out
Open 7 Days a Week • Catering

71 Clark St.
Brooklyn Heights

(718) 222-0308

Uce

on the hook
women's boutique

From Day wear
to Evening
...and everything
in between

Celebrate Our
1st Year Anniversary
20% OFF
everything in store

Wed-Sun 12-6 pm • Thurs & Fri Late Hours

281 Van Brunt Street
(between Vinton & Pioneer)
Red Hook, Bklyn, NY 11231
luconthehook@yahoo.com 718.852.1345

Free Local Delivery

Pizza Royale

Pizza, Heroes, Flatters & More

Two Small Pizzas \$13.99

6718 Ft. Ham. Pkwy
Right next to Fortway Movie Theater

718-238-5396

Where to

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal

Sat, Dec 11

5th Night of Hanukkah
HANUKKAH MEMORIAL LIGHTING
A towering menorah is lit every night of Hanukkah in front of the state Supreme Court at Court and Montague streets. Enjoy music and hot latkes, wine and candles to take home will be distributed from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

OUTDOORS AND TOURS
DUMBO ARTS WALK: Brooklyn Historical Society walks along Brooklyn's waterfront. Learn about its history and artists who now live there. \$15. \$5 children. 2 pm to 4 pm. Meet outside Park Street. Free subway station. (718) 222-4111.

FLEA MARKET: Old stuff and new stuff in Red Hook. 10 am to sunset. 399 Van Brunt St. (718) 369-1515.

PERFORMANCE

CONCERT: Brooklyn Philharmonia Chorus performs. Noon. St. Joseph's College, 267 Waverly Ave. (718) 596-2004.

MUSIC: Bella Voice Singers of the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music perform a winter concert. \$10. \$5 seniors and children. 2:30 pm. 38 Seventh Ave. (718) 622-5802.

HOLIDAY CONCERT: Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy performs "Holiday Harmonies." 8 pm and 10 pm. 230 1st Ave. St. Charles Borromeo Church, 21 Sidney Place. (718) 243-0447.

DUETS: Hogar Collection and Harsh House host an evening of Decompositional Duets. 7 pm. 11 Grand St. (718) 388-5022.

PANORAMA JAZZ: Live jazz and champagne, caviar, dessert wines and chocolate. \$85 per person. Starts 7 pm and 10 pm. 119 Vanderbilt Blvd. (718) 597-1163.

CONCERT: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music presents a concert of original works by contemporary New York City-based composers. 5:30 pm. 38 Seventh Ave. (718) 622-5802.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents John Jagers' "California." 8:30, 8:50, 9:10, 9:30 pm. BAM Hays Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 634-4100.

BOUDOIR BAR: presents "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind." See review on page 15. 10, 11, 12 pm. 273 Smith St. (718) 624-8878.

THEATER: Brooklyn College Theater Department presents "Suburban" by Eric Bogosian. 5:30, 8 pm and 8 pm. New Workshop Theater, Brooklyn College, 2900 Bedford Ave. (718) 951-4500.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Wanderers' Side Man." \$15. \$12 children under 12 and seniors. 6 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 395-6547.

CHARLIE PINAPPE THEATER: presents "Of Mice and Men." See review on page 11. 8, 9, 10, 11 pm. 245 North Eighth St. (718) 627-0520.

HOLIDAY SHOW: Brooklyn Theater Arts Project presents the dark comedy "The Eight Reindeer Monologues." 9 pm. Call for ticket info. Christ Church Bay Ridge, 7201 Ridge Blvd. (718) 395-0189.

MOONLIGHT RIDE: Time's up! Ride bike through Prospect Park. Skaters also welcome. 9 pm. Meet at Grand Army Plaza. (718) 802-8222.

SPOKE THE HUB: Faculty benefit concert. \$15. \$5 kids and seniors. 2:05. Douglas St. Call for time. (718) 408-3234.

CHILDREN

PHOTO OP: Santa visits Commerce Bank. 10 am to 1 pm. 84th Street and Bay Parkway. (718) 954-7300.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART: Stories and art for members and children. Free. 11 am to 2 pm. Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-5000.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: hosted by Pack and Troop 20, Bay Scouts of Queens. \$10 adults. \$5 children. 11 am to 2 pm. New Utrecht Reformed Church, 18th Avenue and 84th Street. (718) 229-2537.

FAMILY MOVIE: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents "The Rescuers." 1977. 11 am. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100.

MUSIC: Deedee Dee's play rock music for kids. \$5. 11 am to 1 pm. Cafe Bo Bo, 6th Ave. (718) 753-9773.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Workshop on exploring family traditions such as toys, tales, songs, recipes and everyday objects. \$4. free for members. Noon to 1:30 pm. Ages 5 and older. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, and the West Indian American Day Carnival host a party for kids 12 and under. Entertainment includes a steel pan band, arts and crafts and holiday treats. Noon to 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100.

PUPPETWORKS: presents "Hansel and Gretel" by The Brothers Grimm. Recommended for ages 4 and older. 5:30, 7:30 pm. 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. Reservations required. 338 East 10th St. (718) 965-3931.

KIDS PLAY: Neighborhood Theater presents "Rudolf: The Day After." 7 pm and 3 pm. St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, 467 Court St. (717) 694-2340.

NY TRANSIT MUSEUM: Workshop for kids 8 and older. "Amazing Mosaic." Crafts project of subway-style mosaic mosaic. \$5. \$3 kids. Boersum Place and Schermerhorn Street. Call for time. (718) 624-6000.

FAMILY TIMES SERIES: Ryan Repertory Company presents "Christmas in the Land of Oz." \$12. \$10 children under 8. 2 pm and 5 pm. Harry Wain Theater, 2445 Bath Ave. (718) 996-4800.

TOY DRIVE: 78th Precinct and North Flatbush Business Improvement District host their first holiday event. Participants can have their picture taken with Santa and enjoy live entertainment. 3:30 pm. Invited to drop off unwrapped new toys for underprivileged local children. 1 pm to 4 pm. Sixth Avenue between Flatbush Avenue and Bergen Street. (646) 224-5280. Free.

SALES

FLEA MARKET: at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. 9 am to 5 pm. 1550 Hendrickson St. (718) 253-4040.

HOLIDAY FAIR: at the Dillon Child Study Center. 10 am to 3 pm. 245 Clinton Ave. (718) 636-6880.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: at Grace United Methodist Church. 10 am to 3 pm. 33 Seventh Ave. (718) 638-1168.

DESIGNERS SHOWCASE: Brooklyn's

A choir-tale: The Jingle Bell Jamboree holiday concert, singing and toy drive on Dec. 12 at the Old First Reformed Church will feature conductor Marlene Clary and the Brooklyn Community Chorus (pictured) as well as the Edward R. Murrow High School Gospel Choir, Spoke the Hub Dance, and more.

Designers Showcase presents the hand-crafted wares of local designers. Musical entertainment. 11 am to 6 pm. 230 Classon Ave. (718) 763-7654.

CRAFTS FAIR: PS 39 FTA hosts a fair featuring the handmade crafts by 20 vendors. 9 am to 3 pm. Camp Fire-Hillside, 339 Eighth St. (718) 788-0204.

DESIGNERS GALLERY: Holiday sale at Open Ground Gallery features products designed by emerging talent from across the country. Items include fashion and accessories, jewelry, fragrances, baby things, toys and more. 11 am to 11 pm. 252 Grand St. (717) 539-7931.

OTHER

MEETING: Older Women's League meets and presents a discussion by the executive director of Compassion in Dying of New York. 1:30 am. 200 Eastern Parkway. New Ipswich Hall, room 420. Bedford Ave. (718) 21-2400. Free.

FOOD TALK: Brooklyn Museum of Art, cookbook author and former host of WOR Radio's "Food Talk," \$75 includes a copy of his new book "New York City Food." 1 pm to 4 pm. 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 601-6334.

HIGH TEA: Christ Church Bay Ridge offers assorted sandwiches, holiday desserts, soups and a holiday toast. \$15. 2:30 pm. 7201 Ridge Blvd. (718) 395-0189.

MEETING: AARP Queens Chapter, meets. 1 pm. Bay Ridge Center for Older Adults, 6735 Fourth Ave. (718) 748-0650.

READING: Author Jonathan Lethem and his publisher, NYRB, reads. Leonard Lopate of WNYC hosts. 2 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Central Library, Eastern Parkway. (718) 230-2100. Free.

BROOKLYN AUTHORS: Brooklyn Historical Society presents "Tearing Out the Past: Archaeological Past: Eight Self-Guided Walking Tours Through NYC." \$6. \$4 students and seniors. 2 pm. 128 Pierrepont St. (718) 222-4111.

BAMCINETEAT: presents a series of films by Luciano Visconti. Today: "Death in Venice" (1971). 3:30 pm, 6 pm and 9 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

OPENING: Gouffon prints from 1990 to 2004 at Fading Aid Gallery. 3 pm to 7 pm. 679 Myrtle Ave. (718) 254-9300.

BENEFIT DINNER: hosted by The Salvation Army Bay Ridge Center. 6 pm, 252 86th St. Call for ticket info. (718) 836-4100.

AUCTION: DUMBO Arts Center hosts a winter auction of works by established and emerging artists. Reception from 6 pm to 8 pm. Live auction begins at 8 pm. 100 Washington St. (718) 694-0831.

SOCIAL: Commodore Bar Club hosts its annual social and dance. Includes music and food. 9 pm to 1 am. St. Patrick's Center for the Arts. Street parking lot. (718) 833-3405.

YULETIDE BAZAAR: Brooklyn Kindergarten Society, to raise funds for live early-childhood learning centers located in NYC. Housing Authority apartment complex. 5 pm. Black Horse Market Casino, 75 Montague Street. Call for ticket info. (718) 273-2263.

Sun, Dec 12

HOLIDAY CONCERT: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents a Steel Pan Band and Holiday Concert of Kleiner and Yiddish music. 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100.

MUSIC: Kingsborough Community College presents the Kingsborough Orchestra and Chorus in a holiday Cole Porter. 2:30 pm. End of Oriental Boulevard, Manhattan Beach. (718) 368-5596. Free.

CHAMBER MUSIC: Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra and Brooklyn Festival Chamber Music present a program of works by Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin and Liszt. 7:30 pm. 100 Washington St. (718) 694-0831.

SACRED MUSIC: All-English program, medieval period through Renaissance, performed by choir. 5:15. \$10 students. 3 pm. St. Charles Borromeo Church, 21 Sidney Place. (646) 834-2326.

DANCE FORUM: Brooklyn Museum begins its fourth season of its series with a showcase of works on provocative themes including litigation, seduction and self-invention. Presented in conjunction with the exhibit "The Love of the Law: Photographs of Marilyn Monroe." 4 pm. 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 501-6334.

MUSIC: St. Jacobi Lutheran Church hosts a Messiah community sing-in. Includes professionalists. 4 pm. 5406 Fourth Ave. (718) 439-8978. Free.

CANOEELIGHT VESPER: Pageant of Carols hosted by the Flatbush-Triborough Congregational Church. 4 pm. 424 E 19th St. (718) 282-5353.

SOLO CONCERT: Composer Ned Rostling performs works for cello.

base clarinet and alto sax. \$10. \$6 students and seniors. 4 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Place. (718) 763-7654.

CONCERT: Brooklyn Philharmonia Chorus presents its annual winter concert. \$12. 5:30 pm. St. Augustine's RC Church, 116 5th Ave. (718) 596-2904.

CHAMBER CONCERT: Good Shepherd's ninth annual chamber music presents. Today: Antonio Vivaldi's "Gloria" and Handel's "Messiah" (Part 1). 6 pm. Avenue 5 between Brown and Bath churches. Baby things, toys and more. 11 am to 11 pm. 252 Grand St. (717) 539-7931.

HOLIDAY CONCERT: ISO Synphonic Band and St. Patrick's Church perform the Hallelujah Chorus. 7 pm. St. Patrick's Church, Fourth Avenue and 95th Street. (212) 410-3070.

FLY: E. Shoshana Productions presents "Wiley Run Traps." 5:30, 7 pm. Canarsie High School, 1000 Rockaway Parkway. (917) 458-1311.

THEATER: "Suburban" by Eric Bogosian. 8 pm. 245 North Eighth St. (718) 627-0520.

BOUDOIR BAR: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind." See Sat., Dec. 11.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "Side Man." 3 pm. See Sat., Dec. 11.

CHARLIE PINAPPE THEATER: "Of Mice and Men." 8 pm. See Sat., Dec. 11.

CHILDREN

CONCERT FOR KIDS: Gillygo, a band for kids, plays acoustic music. 10 am to 12 pm. 252 86th St. (718) 230-2100.

SING-A-LONG: Fourth Annual Peace Corps Council Jingle Bell Jamboree, a family holiday concert, 10 am to 12 pm. See Sat., Dec. 11.

PUPPETWORKS: presents "Hansel and Gretel." 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. See Sat., Dec. 11.

BASEBALL INTRO: Players and parents are invited to a pre-season introduction to the 2005 Baseball Field Team. 2:00 pm. Ages 9 to 15. 2 pm. Nathan Bishop Field at Coast and Butler streets. (718) 208-5663.

FAMILY TIMES SERIES: "Christmas in the Land of Oz." 2 pm. See Sat., Dec. 11.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: The children of Plymouth Church sing the story of the nativity in words and music. 11 am. 718. 624-6743. Free.

OTHER

HEALTH WORKSHOP: Lutheran Medical Center and the New York State National Multiple Sclerosis Society hosts a workshop for anyone suffering from multiple sclerosis. 1:30 pm to 4 pm. 150 55th St. Pre-registration necessary. (212) 463-7787. ext. 3057. Free.

OPEN HOUSE: Congregation Mt. Sinai invites the community to join about its programs. 11 am to 1 pm. Also, Hanukkah party and candle lighting. 7:30 pm. 1718 64th Street between Benson and Avenue. (718) 262-3312. Free.

HANUKKAH MEMORIAL LIGHTING: In front of the state Supreme Court building. 5 pm. See Saturday, Dec. 11. Free.

LECTURE SERIES: Pratt Institute presents a lecture series on the work of films by Luciano Visconti. Today: "L'innocenza" (1976). 3:30 pm, 6 pm and 9 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

READING: Serial Thought Magazine hosts a reading series. 6 pm to 8 pm. Call for ticket info. (718) 832-2310. Free.

DESIGNERS GALLERY: at Open Ground. Noon to 6 pm. See Sat., Dec. 11.

Mon, Dec 13

HANUKKAH MEMORIAL LIGHTING: In front of the state Supreme Court building. 5 pm. See Saturday, Dec. 11. Free.

LECTURE SERIES: Pratt Institute presents a lecture series on the work of films by Luciano Visconti. Today: "The War of the Worlds" (1938). 3:30 pm, 6 pm and 9 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

LANDLORD-TENANT LAW: Brooklyn Bar Association offers a course for continuing legal education credit. \$70. 6 pm to 8 pm. 123 Rensselaer St. (718) 634-0275.

CONCERT: Long Island University presents a concert of choral music and vocal jazz ensemble. 7 pm. Triangle Theater, corner of Delia and Flatbush avenues. (718) 851-1668. Free.

EVENING OF LESSONS: Advent evening with the Holy Family. 7:30 pm. 225 South St. (718) 638-1880.

Tues, Dec 14

Final Night of Hanukkah
JAZZ CONCERT: Long Island University presents its student jazz ensemble. 1 pm. Spile Lee Screening Room, Flatbush Avenue at Flatbush Avenue. (718) 488-1668. Free.

SUPPORT: Kids' Hospital Medical Center offers a group for caring for a loved one. 8 am to 11 am. 3 pm. 979 48th St. (718) 283-1168. Free.

MEETING: AARP of Bay Ridge holds a meeting. 10 am. 3000 Shore Road. (718) 745-9114. Free.

BAMCINETEAT: presents a series of films by Luciano Visconti. Today: "Conversation Piece" (1974). \$10. 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm and 9:15 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

HANUKKAH MEMORIAL LIGHTING: In front of the state Supreme Court building. 5 pm. See Saturday, Dec. 11. Free.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Isabella Room," an integration of text, music and dance. House under 16. 2 pm. Refreshments served after concert. Old Stone House, JJ Byrne Park, off Third Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues. (718) 763-8417.

MUSIC: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents Gospel Harmonies and the Righteous Sisters in a program of gospel music. 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. Free.

MUSICAL: Edward R. Murrow High School Player's Circle presents "Oklahoma." 2 pm (\$10) and 8 pm (\$10). 1600 Ave. L. (718) 258-9283.

BOUDOIR BAR: presents "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind." See review on page 15. 7:30 pm. 273 Smith St. (718) 624-8878.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Isabella Room," an integration of text, music and dance. See story on page 11. \$20, \$45. 7:30 pm. BAM Hays Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 634-4100.

HOLIDAY SHOW: Brooklyn Theater Arts Project presents the dark comedy "The Eight Reindeer Monologues." 9 pm. Call for ticket info. Christ Church Bay Ridge, 7201 Ridge Blvd. (718) 395-0189.

CHARLIE PINAPPE THEATER: presents "Of Mice and Men." See review on page 11. \$15. 9 pm. 245 North Eighth St. (718) 627-0520.

PANORAMA JAZZ: live with vocalists Y. Steiner and Roman. 2:30 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 395-6547.

CONCERT: Brooklyn Conservatory of Music presents a concert of original works by contemporary New York City-based composers. 5:30 pm. 38 Seventh Ave. (718) 622-5802.

NEXT WAVE: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents John Jagers' "California." 8:30, 8:50, 9:10, 9:30 pm. BAM Hays Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 634-4100.

BOUDOIR BAR: presents "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind." See review on page 15. 10, 11, 12 pm. 273 Smith St. (718) 624-8878.

THEATER: Brooklyn College Theater Department presents "Suburban" by Eric Bogosian. 5:30, 8 pm and 8 pm. New Workshop Theater, Brooklyn College, 2900 Bedford Ave. (718) 951-4500.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Wanderers' Side Man." \$15. \$12 children under 12 and seniors. 6 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 395-6547.

CHARLIE PINAPPE THEATER: presents "Of Mice and Men." See review on page 11. 8, 9, 10, 11 pm. 245 North Eighth St. (718) 627-0520.

HOLIDAY SHOW: Brooklyn Theater Arts Project presents the dark comedy "The Eight Reindeer Monologues." 9 pm. Call for ticket info. Christ Church Bay Ridge, 7201 Ridge Blvd. (718) 395-0189.

MOONLIGHT RIDE: Time's up! Ride bike through Prospect Park. Skaters also welcome. 9 pm. Meet at Grand Army Plaza. (718) 802-8222.

SPOKE THE HUB: Faculty benefit concert. \$15. \$5 kids and seniors. 2:05. Douglas St. Call for time. (718) 408-3234.

PHOTO OP: Santa visits Commerce Bank. 10 am to 1 pm. 84th Street and Bay Parkway. (718) 954-7300.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART: Stories and art for members and children. Free. 11 am to 2 pm. Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-5000.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: hosted by Pack and Troop 20, Bay Scouts of Queens. \$10 adults. \$5 children. 11 am to 2 pm. New Utrecht Reformed Church, 18th Avenue and 84th Street. (718) 229-2537.

FAMILY MOVIE: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents "The Rescuers." 1977. 11 am. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100.

MUSIC: Deedee Dee's play rock music for kids. \$5. 11 am to 1 pm. Cafe Bo Bo, 6th Ave. (718) 753-9773.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Workshop on exploring family traditions such as toys, tales, songs, recipes and everyday objects. \$4. free for members. Noon to 1:30 pm. Ages 5 and older. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, and the West Indian American Day Carnival host a party for kids 12 and under. Entertainment includes a steel pan band, arts and crafts and holiday treats. Noon to 2 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100.

PUPPETWORKS: presents "Hansel and Gretel" by The Brothers Grimm. Recommended for ages 4 and older. 5:30, 7:30 pm. 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm. Reservations required. 338 East 10th St. (718) 965-3931.

KIDS PLAY: Neighborhood Theater presents "Rudolf: The Day After." 7 pm and 3 pm. St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, 467 Court St. (717) 694-2340.

NY TRANSIT MUSEUM: Workshop for kids 8 and older. "Amazing Mosaic." Crafts project of subway-style mosaic mosaic. \$5. \$3 kids. Boersum Place and Schermerhorn Street. Call for time. (718) 624-6000.

FAMILY TIMES SERIES: Ryan Repertory Company presents "Christmas in the Land of Oz." \$12. \$10 children under 8. 2 pm and 5 pm. Harry Wain Theater, 2445 Bath Ave. (718) 996-4800.

TOY DRIVE: 78th Precinct and North Flatbush Business Improvement District host their first holiday event. Participants can have their picture taken with Santa and enjoy live entertainment. 3:30 pm. Invited to drop off unwrapped new toys for underprivileged local children. 1 pm to 4 pm. Sixth Avenue between Flatbush Avenue and Bergen Street. (646) 224-5280. Free.

SALES
FLEA MARKET: at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. 9 am to 5 pm. 1550 Hendrickson St. (718) 253-4040.

HOLIDAY FAIR: at the Dillon Child Study Center. 10 am to 3 pm. 245 Clinton Ave. (718) 636-6880.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: at Grace United Methodist Church. 10 am to 3 pm. 33 Seventh Ave. (718) 638-1168.

DESIGNERS SHOWCASE: Brooklyn's

A choir-tale: The Jingle Bell Jamboree holiday concert, singing and toy drive on Dec. 12 at the Old First Reformed Church will feature conductor Marlene Clary and the Brooklyn Community Chorus (pictured) as well as the Edward R. Murrow High School Gospel Choir, Spoke the Hub Dance, and more.

Designers Showcase presents the hand-crafted wares of local designers. Musical entertainment. 11 am to 6 pm. 230 Classon Ave. (718) 763-7654.

CRAFTS FAIR: PS 39 FTA hosts a fair featuring the handmade crafts by 20 vendors. 9 am to 3 pm. Camp Fire-Hillside, 339 Eighth St. (718) 788-0204.

DESIGNERS GALLERY: Holiday sale at Open Ground Gallery features products designed by emerging talent from across the country. Items include fashion and accessories, jewelry, fragrances, baby things, toys and more. 11 am to 11 pm. 252 Grand St. (717) 539-7931.

MEETING: Older Women's League meets and presents a discussion by the executive director of Compassion in Dying of New York. 1:30 am. 200 Eastern Parkway. New Ipswich Hall, room 420. Bedford Ave. (718) 21-2400. Free.

FOOD TALK: Brooklyn Museum of Art, cookbook author and former host of WOR Radio's "Food Talk," \$75 includes a copy of his new book "New York City Food." 1 pm to 4 pm. 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 601-6334.

HIGH TEA: Christ Church Bay Ridge offers assorted sandwiches, holiday desserts, soups and a holiday toast. \$15. 2:30 pm. 7201 Ridge Blvd. (718) 395-0189.

MEETING: AARP Queens Chapter, meets. 1 pm. Bay Ridge Center for Older Adults, 6735 Fourth Ave. (718) 748-0650.

READING: Author Jonathan Lethem and his publisher, NYRB, reads. Leonard Lopate of WNYC hosts. 2 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Central Library, Eastern Parkway. (718) 230-2100. Free.

BROOKLYN AUTHORS: Brooklyn Historical Society presents "Tearing Out the Past: Archaeological Past: Eight Self-Guided Walking Tours Through NYC." \$6. \$4 students and seniors. 2 pm. 128 Pierrepont

Isabella's Room

Everyone should go & see Heights' 'Anything Goes'

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

Although "Anything Goes" was originally conceived as a vehicle for Ethel Merman, William Gaxton and Victor Moore, the two-musical comedy has proven to be remarkably durable. Upon opening in 1934, it ran for 420 performances and was revised and revived on Broadway in 1962 and 1987.

This season, the Heights Players are bringing out the old-war-horse once again, and she's still playing.

Directed by Steve Vladek, this production glides along as beautifully as a ship on a smooth sea. It features a

strong ensemble and several impressive newcomers — most specifically Erika White as Reno Sweeney and Christopher Shackleford as Montague Martin. "Anything Goes" was first envisioned by producer Vinton Freedley while fleeing from his creditors and hiding out on a fishing boat in the Gulf of Panama. After paying off his debts and returning to New York, Freedley asked Guy Bolton and P.G. Wodehouse to write a book featuring a group of eccentric characters involved in a shipwreck.

But after the sinking of the S. S. Mona Castle off the coast of New Jersey, which resulted in the deaths of 125 passengers, the book was quickly

rewritten by Howard Lindsay and Robert Crouse, who turned the plot into a romantic comedy about the intersection of high society and criminal (though lovable) love. The title of this revision — "Anything Goes" — reflects the splashy way the show was put together.

In the new version, which featured the same characters, Reno Sweeney (White), the sexy evangelist turned nightclub singer, wants to marry Billy Crocker (Zachary Scott Abramowitz), assistant to the Wall Street banker Elisha Whitney (Dan Hermann). But Billy is in love with the debutante Hope Harcourt (Alca Valenzuela), who is engaged to the English gentleman Lord Evelyn Oakleigh (Raymond Adams). In order to win the heart and hand of Hope, Billy gets help from Penny No. 13, Moonface Martin (Shackelford), to give him the identification papers of a missing friend.

The ensuing misadventures and mistaken identities combine the best of William Shakespeare and Groucho Marx. But of course, neither one of these geniuses had the help of another genius — Cole Porter.

Porter certainly brings out the heavy artillery. He swings with "Anything Goes." He romances with "Easy to Love." He teases with "Friendship." He inspires with "Blow, Gabriel Blow." If Porter supplies the music,

the Heights Players supply the energy in this production that can easily sweep you off your feet. With choreography by Kathy Valentine and musical direction by Anne Rebold, who conducts the orchestra (Henry DeMey and Jim Colarusso on trumpet, Marty Rawlins on woodwinds and Dave Birchard on drums) and also plays keyboard, the music and dance on the boat in "Anything Goes" rocks the stage.

White has the voice the Heights Players need for robust musicals, and Shackelford has the cocky humor Adams starts off slowly, but ends up stealing a few scenes himself. Vortilas and Abramowitz are properly serious and earnest. And both the aforementioned Hermann and Cathy Lennon — who plays Hope's mother, Mrs. Evangeline Harcourt — are powerful and ridiculous.

Funny and frothy, "Anything Goes" is the quintessential musical. It has no nudge or dare other than providing entertainment and relaxation to the audience and delighting individuals we have all become.

In other words, it's just "de-vel-y." **B**

THEATER

The Heights Players production of "Anything Goes" runs through Dec. 19 (Saturdays and Sundays at 2 pm — at 26 Willow Place in Prospect Heights. Tickets are \$15, \$13 seniors and students. For reservations or more information, call (718) 237-2752 or visit www.heightsplayers.org.

the Heights Players supply the energy in this production that can easily sweep you off your feet.

With choreography by Kathy Valentine and musical direction by Anne Rebold, who conducts the orchestra (Henry DeMey and Jim Colarusso on trumpet, Marty Rawlins on woodwinds and Dave Birchard on drums) and also plays keyboard, the music and dance on the boat in "Anything Goes" rocks the stage.

White has the voice the Heights Players need for robust musicals, and Shackelford has the cocky humor Adams starts off slowly, but ends up stealing a few scenes himself. Vortilas and Abramowitz are properly serious and earnest. And both the aforementioned Hermann and Cathy Lennon — who plays Hope's mother, Mrs. Evangeline Harcourt — are powerful and ridiculous.

Funny and frothy, "Anything Goes" is the quintessential musical. It has no nudge or dare other than providing entertainment and relaxation to the audience and delighting individuals we have all become.

In other words, it's just "de-vel-y." **B**

ISABELLA'S ROOM...

Continued from page 11

In "Isabella's Room," the definition involves a cunning integration of text, music and dance, as Lauwers tells the story of the blind, 90-year-old Isabella Morandi (played by Viviane de Muynck), who regains her sight via a camera that projects images directly onto her brain. She relives her long life through a series of flashbacks triggered by what she now sees.

"Isabella is a fantastic character," says Lauwers. "She's very flamboyant. She's had 74 lovers. She's a very free and open person."

Spanning almost a century, Isabella's story incorporates many of the pivotal events that have shaped our world — two world wars, Hiroshima, the death of colonialism. As a Belgian and a heritor of his country's legacy in what was once the Belgian Congo, Lauwers believes his play

is both very European and very personal. In fact, it was his confrontation with the more than 4,000 ethnological and anthropological objects he and his family inherited upon the death of his father that led him to write "Isabella's Room."

"I was born and raised in a household full of these objects. You opened a drawer and you found a mummy. Half of the objects are stolen. There are ethical questions that were never asked in my father's generation," Lauwers says. "The confrontation with the collection and the ethical questions are not the story." Isabella's Room, I'm writing about my father, but I'm not writing morbidly. [It] is a reason to start writing."

"Isabella's Room" plays out on Lauwers' set built from a mixture of Egyptian and African masks and carved statues, fossils, mummified cats and antiquities.

"In this case, the props aren't the props but the real objects," Lauwers explains. "We destroy an illusion to create a new one."

But Lauwers has not only drawn from his father's collection; he has also plundered his own memories.

"We tell about an uncle of mine who survived Hiroshi-

ma and the first actor I worked with, who was killed in Somalia," he says. Although Lauwers studied painting at the Academy of Art in Ghent in preparation for a career in the fine arts, in 1979, at the age of 22, he decided to put his training in the service of the theater and formed the Epigone/theater ziv collective, which used music and language as structuring elements. After five years, this company broke up, but several associates prevailed on Lauwers to continue his work. At that time, Lauwers said that if he were to continue, he would need a company. Thus was born Need-company.

The company's most recent appearance at BAM was as part of the 2001 Next Wave Festival with their production of Shakespeare's "King Lear."

"Theater is a social place, a place full of energy. When

THEATER

Needcompany's production of "Isabella's Room" plays Dec. 14 and Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the BAM Theater (651 Fulton St. between Ashland Place and Rockwell Place in Fort Greene). Tickets are \$20, \$30, \$45.

A BAMadialogue with Jan Lauwers will be held Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. at the BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). Tickets are \$5. For tickets, call (718) 634-4100 or visit www.bam.org.

I work with others, it's totally different than working by myself," says Lauwers. "I try to balance different sources of energy at the same time. I use media I need to express what I want to express. Multimedia is always present. It's beautiful to work with different media. Dance, music, all this energy together is theater."

Although Lauwers believes "everybody has to make his or her story," he says "Isabella's Room" is all about people's "warm feelings."

"There's dancing. It's a musical — sing-along pop — on laptops," he says.

"Isabella's Room" reflects Lauwers' concern for the state of the world.

"There are good people and there are idiots," he says. "The idiots are winning and that is not good." But his vision is ultimately one of optimism.

"I wrote the play at a moment when everyone is connected and his or her story," Lauwers says. "I want to tell people we are wonderful. Let's love each other."

Big Bird Don't Cry

Sexy 'Bump & Grind' is neutered by sobbing

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

The Beauty of the Bump and Grind, playing at Brodway Bar until Dec. 19, starts with an interesting premise — repressed women can pump, grind and strip their way to spiritual freedom. But somewhere in the middle, playwright Garrett McConnell (also produced, directed and composed the music and wrote the lyrics for the songs) forgets a few major points.

First, the striptease was performed for men; second, it was performed for money; and third, everyone was supposed to have a good time.

It's hard to tell whether these characters are having fun stripping off their outer garments, but in between the sexy stuff, there's so much sobbing and sighing that the burlesque is certainly overwhelmed by the soap opera. The result is what might happen if "As the World Turns" was interpreted by Eve Ensler, performed by Gypsy Rose Lee and friends with a score by Rogers and Hammerstein — after they've had a few music lessons with Willie Nelson.

If nothing else, McConnell deserves credit for condensing what would have

NIGHTLIFE

The Beauty of the Bump and Grind, playing at Brodway Bar until Dec. 19, starts with an interesting premise — repressed women can pump, grind and strip their way to spiritual freedom. But somewhere in the middle, playwright Garrett McConnell (also produced, directed and composed the music and wrote the lyrics for the songs) forgets a few major points.

First, the striptease was performed for men; second, it was performed for money; and third, everyone was supposed to have a good time.

It's hard to tell whether these characters are having fun stripping off their outer garments, but in between the sexy stuff, there's so much sobbing and sighing that the burlesque is certainly overwhelmed by the soap opera. The result is what might happen if "As the World Turns" was interpreted by Eve Ensler, performed by Gypsy Rose Lee and friends with a score by Rogers and Hammerstein — after they've had a few music lessons with Willie Nelson.

If nothing else, McConnell deserves credit for condensing what would have

spanned several months on daytime television into a mere two hours and 45 minutes.

The story takes place in the South during the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s. Or at least it seems to until one of the characters starts talking about how after visiting Mecca, Malcolm X began thinking blacks should love whites — something that didn't happen until the '60s.

Madeline (Stephanie Van Vlack) is a working mother with an abusive husband, who one day, in a fit of rage (the cause is unknown), beats her until she's black-and-blue and bloody. Madeline's Cuban nanny, Clara (Maria Olivares), ends up being raped by Madeline's husband before he beats up his wife.

When she's not getting beaten up or yelling at her baby to be quiet, Made-

line works in an office next to Violet (Christine Quinn), who after a bad day on the job, quits to pursue a career in writing. (Her ops appears to be a collection of interviews with the other women in the play.) But in order to pay the bills, she gets a job in a nightclub where she meets Mac (Daphne Crosby), a black, hard-core DJ.

There's also a waitress at the neighborhood diner — a bespectacled racist named Lili (May Keley) who refuses to take the orders of a black couple who is to be replaced by the more sympathetic Ellen (played by the same actress wearing a wig).

If the storylines sound a bit stale, the dialogue is worse. It consists of phrases like, "You cut right to the chase. I admire that" and "I don't give a rat's ass, I'm me." When the ladies aren't talking, they're singing their blues. The music (arranged by and composed with Donatien Wilkinson) is not bad, but most of it is unusable (at least by these women). (Although Crosby has a few belting moments that are inspiring.)

Despite their troubles, these ladies are able to rise out of the depths of their depression by taking off their clothes. Sometimes, the not-yet-filly-liberated

women get stuck halfway through a strip and run off the stage clanking discarded garments to their chests.

The burlesque, which McConnell calls "an empowering art form, which allows every woman, with any body size, to accept their own bodies as a beautiful form," provides some of the brighter moments in the production.

The stripping music, which is not original, is lively, rhythmic and quite enjoyable.

And the girls are wearing great un-

derwear.

It's hard to imagine how someone who loves burlesque as much as McConnell can make it so boring. It may be because she's taken the tease out of striptease and the lawfulness out of the burlesque. It also could be that she's written a play with an agenda instead of real people and a real plot.

At an hour and 45 minutes of the play, this reviewer was so depressed, she could have used a liberating strip herself.

Playwright-director-producer-actor Garrett McConnell, right (with Camille Kitchen), blends the art of burlesque with the drama of the soaps.

women get stuck halfway through a strip and run off the stage clanking discarded garments to their chests.

The burlesque, which McConnell calls "an empowering art form, which allows every woman, with any body size, to accept their own bodies as a beautiful form," provides some of the brighter moments in the production.

The stripping music, which is not original, is lively, rhythmic and quite enjoyable.

And the girls are wearing great un-

derwear.

It's hard to imagine how someone who loves burlesque as much as McConnell can make it so boring. It may be because she's taken the tease out of striptease and the lawfulness out of the burlesque. It also could be that she's written a play with an agenda instead of real people and a real plot.

At an hour and 45 minutes of the play, this reviewer was so depressed, she could have used a liberating strip herself.

Playwright-director-producer-actor Garrett McConnell, right (with Camille Kitchen), blends the art of burlesque with the drama of the soaps.

women get stuck halfway through a strip and run off the stage clanking discarded garments to their chests.

The burlesque, which McConnell calls "an empowering art form, which allows every woman, with any body size, to accept their own bodies as a beautiful form," provides some of the brighter moments in the production.

The stripping music, which is not original, is lively, rhythmic and quite enjoyable.

And the girls are wearing great un-

BROOKLYN Nightlife

The Backroom

Inside Freddy's Bar 4820 13th Ave. in Prospect Heights, (718) 622-7025, www.freddysbackroom.com. Dec. 11: "Hollywood Extravaganza" with The New Orleans Explosion, 9 p.m. Rich and Ben (The Three Penny Quartet) with DJ Nite. Dec. 12: John Piranotto, 10 p.m. SP42, 10:45 p.m. Bill Carey, midnight, FREE. Dec. 12: Kirt Night features "Stitch & Black" featuring orca, 7:30 p.m. Ernest Anderson Trio, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 12: Hecate Patti, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 14: Will Vinton Jazz, 9:30 p.m. FREE. Dec. 16: The Brooklyn Winter Hootenay with a song cycle, 8 p.m. LF Back, 9 p.m. River Alexander's Mad Jazz Hatters, 10 p.m. FREE. Dec. 17: The Brooklyn Winter Hootenay with The Kate and Lou Band, 9:30 p.m. Salsaguarra Industrial Tool & Die Co., 10:30 p.m. The Wives, 11:30 p.m. FREE. Dec. 18: The Brooklyn Winter Hootenay with The American Sonnet Consociation, 6:30 p.m. Uncle Leon and the Albas, 8 p.m. The Fandangers, 9:30 p.m. The Jug Addicts, 10:30 p.m. The Whiskey Rebellion, 11:30 p.m. FREE.

Barline Bar

426 Lorain St. at Ten Eyck Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-5055. Dec. 17: "Classics" in The Lounge Baroque Show, 10 p.m. \$5.

BAM Cafe

30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 634-4100, www.bam.org. Dec. 11: East Village in the '30s series with Ben Hall, 9 p.m. \$10 food/drink minimum; Dec. 17: Brooklyn Sax Quartet, 9 p.m. \$10 food/drink minimum; Dec. 18: Theo Backroom with a tribute to Meredith Monk, 9 p.m. \$10 food/drink minimum.

Barbes

376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-7177, www.brooklynbarbes.com. Mondays: Travelling Cinema, 7 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: Jerry Schaeffer, 7 p.m. FREE. Steve Soul Party, 9 p.m. \$5. Wednesdays: "Night of the Twisted Lungs," 9 p.m. \$5. Sundays: Stephanie Wrenthel, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 11: Second Annual DJANGO-A-GOGO Festival with Ripley McCollough, 8 p.m. Robin Katz, 9 p.m. \$5. Dec. 12: Second Annual DJANGO-A-GOGO Festival with Stephanie Wrenthel, 8 p.m. Alfonso Ponticelli (from Chicago), 9 p.m. Jam with Stephanie Wrenthel, 10 p.m. Dec. 17: The Barbes/Brooklyn Theater Holiday Marathon, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 18: Cat Martini, 7 p.m. Luminous Orchestra, 9 p.m. FREE.

Bomb

21 South St. at Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-5389. Saturdays: DJ Nova, DJ Miki E and DJ Jay Ride-on alongside live Latin percussion. Favors, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Universal Rhythms," 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Cold Hard" with DJ Gligo, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Ragga Rock" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Galifaria" with DJ Miller Cruz & Duda Amoroso, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Touche" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Call to Drum," world beat fusion, 9 p.m. FREE.

Black Betty

366 Metropolitan Ave. at Havermeyer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 599-0243, www.blackbetty.net. Saturdays: DJ Lil' Shalimar, 11 p.m. FREE. Sundays: Brazilian Beat with DJ Sam Marquand and DJ Greg Chaz, 10 p.m. FREE. Mondays: Reverend Vince Anderson and His Love Choir, 10 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: Hot Rocks sponsored by Miller High Life, 10 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: Electric Gypsy, a Balkan dance party with DJ Shonnes, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "The Great 70s" with DJ Munkrone and DJ Emilee, 11 p.m. FREE. Fridays: DJ Munkrone, 11 p.m. \$10.

Bluestone Bar & Grill

117 Columbia St. at Kane St. in Columbia Street Waterfront District, (718) 403-7430. Dec. 16: New Music with Tom Abbott (modern jazz), 8 p.m. FREE. Dec. 17: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 18: Bartosz Hadala & Friends, 7:30 p.m. \$10 (students free before 8 p.m. with valid ID).

Boudoir Bar

273 Smith St. at Sackett Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 622-3300, www.aastand.com. Dec. 11: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 12: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 13: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 14: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 15: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 16: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 17: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 18: "The Beauty of the Bump and Grind" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. \$10.

Brooklyn Conservatory

(At 15-25 42nd Street St. at Baltic Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 622-3300, www.brooklynconservatory.com. Dec. 11: New Music Collective, 7 p.m. \$10, \$5 students and seniors. Dec. 12: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 13: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 14: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 15: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 16: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 17: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 18: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE. Dec. 19: Holiday Concert, and afternoon of madrigals, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. FREE.

Brooklyn Public Library

Grand Army Plaza in Prospect Heights, (718) 230-2100, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org. Dec. 15: "Brooklyn Jazz, Brooklyn Swing" with Renee Mariani, 7 p.m. FREE.

Chocolate Monkey

329 Flatbush Ave. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 813-1023. Saturdays: Express a.k.a. Open Mic Poetry silent showcase, 7 p.m. Sony Lumbardia Street in Park Slope, (718) 797-3007, www.thehook-music.com. Dec. 11: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 12: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 13: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 14: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 15: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 16: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 17: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 18: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10. Dec. 19: The Fourth Annual Festival of Russian Rock in America, 6 p.m. \$10.

Crossroads Saloon

409 Conny Island Ave. at Kings Highway in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 339-3333. Fridays and Saturdays: Karaoke, 9 p.m. FREE.

Le Dakar Restaurant

245 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-9900, www.dakar-cdn.com. Tuesdays: Spoken Word, 9 p.m. FREE.

Elite Ark

73 Wortham Ave. at Georgia Avenue in East New York, (718) 649-6535. Dec. 11: John Hall, Ken Boothe, Dobby Dobson, Marshall Montano, doors open at 8 p.m. show starts at 9 p.m. \$10. Dec. 12: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 13: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 14: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 15: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 16: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 17: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 18: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE. Dec. 19: Wilbur Hadler and band with special guests, 9 p.m. FREE.

Europa Night Club

99 Mesrope Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 387-5323, www.europeclub.com. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wednesdays: "Wednesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Thursdays: "Thursday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Fridays: "Friday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Saturdays: "Saturday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Sundays: "Sunday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Mondays: "Monday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Tuesdays: "Tuesday" with DJ Nite, 9 p.m. FREE. Wed

Nightlife

Continued from page 11...
Fontaine Toups, Kevin Devine, 8 pm, \$15; Dec. 17: Elysian Fields, 8 pm, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of the show.

Office Ops

57 Thames St. at Morgan Avenue, 2nd floor, in Williamsburg (718) 418-2599; www.officeops.org
Dec. 17: Rock 'n' Roller skate, 9 pm, \$5.

Parlor Jazz

119 Vanderbilt Ave. at Myrtle Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 855-1981, www.parlorjazz.com
Dec. 18: Ty Stephens & Romantary, 9 pm, \$20 donation.

Peggy O'Neill's

(Two locations)

8123 Fifth Ave. at 81st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 748-1400, www.peggyoneills.com

Sundays: NFL Party, 1 pm, \$25 (includes open bar and food); Mondays: Karaoke with Rod, 10 pm, FREE; Thursdays: Karaoke with DJ Rob, 10 pm, FREE; Fridays: DJ Richie, 10 pm, FREE.

1904 Surf Ave. at Kaysan Park in Coney Island, (718) 449-3200, www.peggyoneills.com

Sundays NFL Party, 1 pm, \$25 (includes open bar and food); Karaoke with Coco immediately following football, FREE.

Pete's Candy Store

709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 365-3770, www.petescandystore.com

Sundays: Open Mic, 5 pm-8 pm, FREE; Matty Charles and the Valentines, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 11: Jenifer Jackson, 8 pm, Jan Moore, 9 pm, Bird Brain, 10 pm, Charles Water-Roh Mallard Ensemble, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 12: Swivel Chairs, 8:30 pm, FREE; Dec. 13: Nayan Kim, Dave Steele, Wilder David Carter & Bryon Estep, Comrade Red, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 14: Gold Sparkle Night with Yvette Perez, 9 pm, Gold Sparkle Trio, 10 pm, Gold Sparkle Brass Band, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 15: Adam Sultan, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 16: C. Moore, 9 pm, Laurel Brauns, 10 pm, McGowan, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 17: Alec Ounsworth, 9 pm, The Malaficos, 10 pm, Gloria Deluxe, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 18: Hipster's Holiday Show, 7 pm, The Howard Fishman Quartet, 10:30 pm, Hobbs & Rippe, midnight, FREE.

Samba Restaurant & Nightclub

9504 Third Ave. at 96th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 439-0423.

Saturdays: "Havana Nights" featuring Nino Torre spinning Latin rhythms, salsa, club classics, and more, 10 pm, ladies FREE, men \$10 (ladies 24 to enter, men 26 to enter); Fridays: Joe Bee, Donnie C, Brian Large and Orlando present "Samba Fridays" with music by DJ Sotzlands, DJ Expor and Ava, 10 pm, \$10 (ladies 24 to enter, men 26 to enter).

Sistas' Place

456 Nostrand Ave. at Jefferson Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 398-1766.

Dec. 11: Ughadi with Kaissa, Tony Cadras, Elvert Okon Eze and Mackie Schellal, 7 pm, 10:30 pm, \$20 in advance, \$25 day of the show.

Southpaw

125 Fifth Ave. at St. John's Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236, www.southpawdc.com

Dec. 11: JDub Records presents Jewtude II with guest DJ Thundergod (Brian from Gutter), Frank London's Brazilian Brass Allstars, So Called, Heale, 8 pm, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of the show; Dec. 13: OSLO ("No Doubt" Side Project), Landford, 7:30 pm, \$7; Dec. 14: Juliana Hatfield, Amy Miles, 8 pm, \$12; Dec. 15: Defacto presents Katy Mae, The Waylons, Slow Learner, Annie Keating, 7:30 pm, \$7; Dec. 16: Heale Society with special guest, DJ Max Glazer (Federation Sound) and special guests, 8:30 pm, \$10; Dec. 17: The E&B and Mama's Boy Productions present Special Ed, Awesome 2, Barrington, Fly Target, and special guests with DJ Ayres and Eleven spinning all night, 9 pm, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of the show; Dec. 18: Beavis, Dub Trio, The Gray Kid, 8 pm, \$10.

T.J. Bentley's

7110 Third Ave. at 71st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-0748.

Wednesdays: Latin/swing dancing to the Townsmen, a 17-piece big band, 8 pm, FREE.

Tommy's Tavern

1041 Manhattan Ave. at Freeman Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-9699.

Dec. 11: Pail, Christmas Decorations, 8 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 12: Vampire Can't, 2673, Saccharomatic Targets, Ona, 8 pm, \$5; Dec. 17: BJ Rubin's Holiday Party, 8 pm, \$2.

Trash Bar

254 Grand St. at Orger Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.trashbar.com

Dec. 11: On the Moon Music Show case/Inner's Birthday, 8:30 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 12: Badbow party, 8:30 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 14: Dumbie Annie, 8:30 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 15: A.M., 8:30 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 16: "The Ladies Room" featuring Lucy, Plot to Corner, 9 pm, \$5; Dec. 17: Jena Hunter, 9 pm, Aaron Family, 10 pm, Windsor for the Derby Set, 11 pm, \$7; Dec. 18: New Radiant Storm King, 9 pm, Hopawell, 10 pm, The Caulfield Sisters, 11 pm, karaoke, midnight, \$7.

Two Boots

514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 499-3253.

Dec. 11: River Alexander's Mad Jazz Hatters, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 12: Clemente, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 14: Sugar bunch, 8 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 17: Flash-back, 8 pm, \$TBD; Joe Hook Say, 11 pm, \$5; Dec. 18: Lucky 13- \$TBD, 24/7, 11 pm, \$5.

200 Fifth

200 Fifth Ave. at Sackett Street in Park Slope, (718) 638-2925, www.200fifth.net

Saturdays: DJ Blazer spinning reggae, hip-hop, 10 pm, \$5, \$5 ladies, \$10 men; Fridays: Friday Night Salsa with a live salsa band and DJ's Blazer One and Big Will spinning salsa, reggae, hip-hop, 10 pm, \$5 ladies, \$10 men.

Waterfront Ale House

155 Adams Ave. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 522-3794, www.waterfrontalehouse.com

Dec. 11: Jason Green Trio, 11 pm, FREE.

The Wicked Monk

8415 Fifth Ave. at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 927-0607.

Dec. 11: Fat Baby Juke, 8 pm, FREE; Berfly, 11 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 12: Clemente, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 14: Sugar bunch, 8 pm, \$TBD; Dec. 17: Flash-back, 8 pm, \$TBD; Joe Hook Say, 11 pm, \$5; Dec. 18: Lucky 13- \$TBD, 24/7, 11 pm, \$5.

Williamsburg Music Center

357 Bedford Ave. at South Fifth Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-1654.

Saturdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, \$5; Fridays: Live blues, 10 pm, \$5.

—compiled by Chiara V Cowan

Continued from page 11...

Fontaine Toups, Kevin Devine, 8 pm, \$15; Dec. 17: Dylan Fields, 8 pm, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of the show.

Office Ops

57 Thames St. at Morgan Avenue, 2nd floor in Williamsburg (718) 418-2599. www.officeopsnyc.com. Dec. 17: Rock 'n' Rollerz, 9 pm, \$5.

Parlor Jazz

119 Vanderbilt Ave. at Myrtle Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 855-1981. www.parlorjazz.com. Dec. 18: 7 Saxophones & Rostrom, 9 pm, \$20 donation.

Peggy O'Neills

(Two locations) 8123 5th Ave. at 81st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 746-1400, www.peggyoneills.com.

Sundays: NFL Party, 1 pm, \$25 (includes open bar and food); Mondays: Karaoke with Rod, 10 pm, FREE; Thursdays: Karaoke with DJ Rich, 10 pm, FREE; Fridays: DJ Rich, 10 pm, FREE.

1904 Surf Ave. at Koyanjan Park in Coney Island, (718) 449-3200.

Sundays: NFL Party, 1 pm, \$25 (includes open bar and food); Karaoke with Gino immediately following football, FREE.

Pete's Candy Store

709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 362-2702, www.petes candystore.com.

Sundays: Open Mic, 5 pm-8 pm, FREE; Matty Charles, 8 pm, and the Valentines, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 11: Jennifer Jackson, 8 pm, Jan Moore, 9 pm, Bird Brain, 10 pm, Charles Watson, Rob Mallard Ensemble, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 12: Swirl Chans, 8:30 pm, FREE; Dec. 13: Nuyor Kite, Steve Steele, Wilder David Center & Byron Este, Comrade Red, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 14: Gold Sparkle Night with Yvette Perez, 9 pm, Gold Sparkle Trio, 10 pm, Gold Sparkle Brass Band, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 15: Adam Sultan, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 16: C. Moore, 9 pm, Laurel Brans, 10 pm, McGowan, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 17: Alex Ousemire, 9 pm, The Markies, 10 pm, Gloria Delano, 11 pm, FREE; Dec. 18: Hipster's Holiday Show, 7 pm, The Howard Friend Quartet, 10:30 pm, Hobbs & Roper, midnight, FREE.

Samba Restaurant & Nightclub

9604 Third Ave. at 96th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 439-0425.

Saturdays: "Heaven Nights" featuring Nino Torro spinning Latin rhythms, salsa, club classics, and disco. \$10 ladies 24 to enter, men \$10 (ladies 24 to enter, men 24 to enter). Dec. 11: Bee, Donnie, C. Brans, and Orlando present "Samba Fridays" with music by DJ Sazzadine, DJ Exuber and Awa, 10 pm, \$10 (ladies 24 to enter, men 24 to enter).

Sistas' Place

456 Nostrand Ave. at Jefferson Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 298-1766.

Dec. 11: Ughadi with Kaitia, Tony Cedras, Elmer Chon, Elmer Chon, Schell, 2 pm, 10:30 pm, \$20 in advance, \$25 day of the show.

Southpaw

125 5th Ave. at St. John's Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0236, www.southpaw.com.

Dec. 11: J24 Records presents Jewellite II with guest DJ Thundergod (Brian from Guster), Frank London's Brazilian Brass Allstars, So Called, Heale, 8 pm, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of the show; Dec. 12: OSLO (The Duster) Side Project, Landford, 7 pm, \$10; Dec. 14: Juliana Hatfield, Amy Miles, 8 pm, \$12; Dec. 15: Defacto presents Katy Mae, The Winkles, Steve Lerner, Annie Keating, 7 pm, \$7; Dec. 16: Noble Society presents special guest, DJ Max Glazer (Frederation Sound), and special guests, 8:30 pm, \$10; Dec. 17: The Rill and Maria's Bay Productions present Special Event, Avarose, 2 pm, 10:30 pm, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of the show; Dec. 18: Beans, Dub Trio, The Gray Kid, 8 pm, \$10.

T.J. Bentley's

7110 Third Ave. at 71st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-0748.

Wednesdays: Let's swing dancing to the Townsmen, a 17-piece big band, 8 pm, FREE.

Tommy's Tavern

1041 Manhattan Ave. at Freeman Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-9699.

Dec. 11: Matt, Christmas Decorations, 8 pm, \$10; Dec. 12: Vempe, 8 pm, \$10; Dec. 13: Sacharman Targets, One, 8 pm, \$5; Dec. 17: DJ Rubin's Holiday Party, 8 pm, \$2.

Trash Bar

565 Grand St. at Orange Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.trashbar.com.

Dec. 11: On the Moon Music Show: celine/linna/bradley, 8:30 pm, \$10; Dec. 12: Bradbury, 8:30 pm, \$10; Dec. 14: Dinkabe, 8:30 pm, \$10; Dec. 15: A.M., 8:30 pm, \$10; Dec. 16: "The Ladies Room," featuring Lucy, Pilot to Love, 9 pm, \$5; Dec. 17: Jason Hunter, 9 pm, \$10; Dec. 18: Michael Todd & The Midstate Trio, 10 pm, FREE.

Two Boots

514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 490-3253.

Dec. 11: River Alexander's Mad Jazz Hatters, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 12: Billy and the Bad Boys, 10 pm, FREE; Dec. 18: Michael Todd & The Midstate Trio, 10 pm, FREE.

200 Fifth

200 Fifth Ave. at SoHo Street in Park Slope, (718) 638-2925, www.200fifth.com.

Saturdays: DJ Blazer spinning reggae, hip-hop, 10 pm, \$5 ladies, \$10 men; Fridays: Friday Night Salsa with a live salsa band and DJ Blazer One and Big Will spinning salsa, reggae, hip-hop, 10 pm, \$5 ladies, \$10 men.

Waterfront Ale House

155 Avenue A at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 523-3794, www.waterfrontalehouse.com.

The Wicked Monk

8415 Fifth Ave. at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 927-0671.

Dec. 11: Fat Baby Juke, 8 pm, FREE; Dec. 12: Billy, 10 pm, \$10; Dec. 13: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 14: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 15: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 16: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 17: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 18: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 19: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 20: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 21: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 22: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 23: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 24: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 25: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 26: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 27: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 28: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 29: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 30: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE; Dec. 31: C. Moore, 9 pm, FREE.

Williamsburg Music Center

357 Bedford Ave. at St. John's Place in Williamsburg, (718) 384-1454.

Saturdays: Live jazz, 10 pm, \$5; Fridays: Live blues, 10 pm, \$5.

—compiled by Chiara V. Cowan

ABA's 'Heat' will beat Nets to Brooklyn

By Jotham Sederstrom

The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklynites, who have proven with the Cyclones single-A baseball team that they can support professional sports, could be front and center for high-scoring, fast-paced, action-packed basketball.

No, not the Nets — the Heat.

The four-year-old, resurrected American Basketball Association, which rebounded last year with 30 new teams after a yearlong hiatus in 2002-03, will start its 2005 season with a roster of newcomers, including the Brooklyn Heat, say organizers.

Sherman Givens, a co-owner of the semi-pro team, said the Heat will start play next Decem-

ber at either a renovated 3,000-seat arena at Downtown's Long Island University, or at St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights. "We're already getting calls from across the country," said Givens, who bought into the league with partner Dis Stronble.

In January, the team will hold its first round of tryouts — athletes from as far away as Tijuana,

Mexico have already expressed interest in playing. At least one big name locally, said Givens, William "Junior" Sanders, has been scouted. The 32-year-old guard may be remembered by some Brooklynites for his play on the Brooklyn Kings in 1999. The Kings, who play in the semi-pro United States Basketball League, formed in 1985, play their home

games at LIU during the spring and summer. Besides the Heat, 23 new teams are slated to join the ABA in 2005. In all, 60 teams across the country will compete, including teams in Harlem and Long Island. The games are expected to be broadcast on ESPN, Brooklyn Cable Access, Telemundo and OBT, which airs throughout Europe and Africa. And with extras like the "3D rule," which from the back court lets players shoot for three and even four-pointers, the games could draw a new crowd to the sport.

But will the Heat be viable alongside the Brooklyn Nets, should team owner Bruce Ratner gain the necessary approvals to build a basketball arena at Flatbush and Atlantic avenues for the team and, second, gain league approval to move the team out of New Jersey when their lease at the Meadowlands expires after the 2006 season?

Ratner spokesmen declined to comment for this article. Givens, however, is confident that his team will be welcomed as Brooklyn's hometown team.

"We're the real Brooklyn team, so we're gonna have people coming from Queens, Manhattan, the Bronx and Long Island," said Givens, neglecting to mention Staten Island. "The price they pay for a New Jersey could get their whole family into an ABA game."

The original ABA, which is where the Nets first played, existed from 1967 to 1976, and gave the established NBA a run for its money with electrifying players like Julius "Dr. J" Erving, Connie Hawkins, George "Ice Man" Gervin, David Thompson, Artis Gilmore and Moses Malone, among others. The fledgling league also employed a red, white and blue

ball — as does the new ABA — many of its stars were large and the league adopted the three-point shot, all of which helped earn it an "outlaw league" status.

After the 1976 season, the four strongest ABA teams — the then-New York Nets (they played on Long Island and featured star player D.J. Wilkins), Denver Nuggets, Indiana Pacers and San Antonio Spurs — joined the NBA while the remaining teams dissolved, as did the league.

The resurrected league began in 2002, took a season off in 2003 and then returned for the 2003 season. Besides adding 30 teams to its roster, rapper Master P and former NBA legend Dennis Rodman played, either adding credibility or whittling away at it, depending on one's point of view.

Even now the ABA provides talent to the NBA, including Malik Allen, who now plays for the Miami Heat, and Jannerro Pargo of the Chicago Bulls.



A council of literates

Borough President Marty Markowitz (lower right) gathers some of Brooklyn's literary heavyweights during Monday's introduction of the Brooklyn Literary Council at Borough Hall. The group is planning a literary festival in the borough in the spring of 2006. To the left of Markowitz is Kate Travers and, from left, are Jonathan Galassi, Jay Kaplan, Mary Gannon, Zoe Pagnamenta (in back), Jennifer Carlson, Johnny Temple, Peter Rothberg, Ted Hamm and Greg Polvere.

Brooklyn papers PARENT Benefits of routine

Q: I have a 3-year-old in preschool two mornings a week, on Monday and Wednesday. She's in day care on Tuesday and Thursday. She's lashing out, not wanting to go and showing anger at my husband and me.

A: What's behind the acting-out behavior? Parents need to investigate with empathy.

If a child cannot settle into a routine and continues to lash out, her demanding schedule is not a "good fit" for her temperament.

For some preschoolers, just switching from outdoor play to indoor circle time is a major, troublesome transition. So imagine how tough it could be for a 3-year-old to alternate between preschool and day care.

"I have a child who does not adapt well to transitions," one mother says. "I avoid unnecessary changes, and, when practical, prepare her well in advance when a change is inevitable."

In the first three years, the ideal is for every child to have one or two primary caregivers who remain in a steady, close relationship, says Stanley Greenspan, MD, a child psychiatrist. Consistency in caregiving, direct interaction and nurturing are crucial in the early years, he emphasizes.

Whether your child's daily schedule is consistent or hectic, parents find it helps to teach her the words to express her frustration; talk to her ahead of time about where she's going each day; and focus attention on her after pickup time. That means leaving work behind, and checking your own attitude after a hard day.

Preschoolers thrive on routine. Before deciding on any combination of preschool and day care, keep in mind how

Parent-to-Parent

Also, the child-care researchers found, whether parents are worn out after work appears to influence how kids behave.

"Are parents stressed and exhausted with little energy left to enjoy each other or do they relish the time they have to play, talk, and cuddle?" asked Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, PhD. "One important finding ... is that no matter how many hours a child spends in child care, parents remain the most powerful influence on their growth and adjustment."

Other tips from parents geared toward smoother transitions:

- Attentive caregivers and teachers can diffuse tension by giving a child notice before the end of the day.
- Handle each arrival and departure with love and respect.
- Try to stay warm and positive as you depart, such as saying, "I see you painted a picture today," or "I have a big hug for you."

Can you help?

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

Parent-to-Parent

Also, the child-care researchers found, whether parents are worn out after work appears to influence how kids behave.

"Are parents stressed and exhausted with little energy left to enjoy each other or do they relish the time they have to play, talk, and cuddle?" asked Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, PhD. "One important finding ... is that no matter how many hours a child spends in child care, parents remain the most powerful influence on their growth and adjustment."

Other tips from parents geared toward smoother transitions:

- Attentive caregivers and teachers can diffuse tension by giving a child notice before the end of the day.
- Handle each arrival and departure with love and respect.
- Try to stay warm and positive as you depart, such as saying, "I see you painted a picture today," or "I have a big hug for you."

Can you help?

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

My first-grade son brings home classwork that he did not finish in school. It should take him about 15 minutes, but he drops it out. Let's say he has a spelling word, "red," and needs to write a sentence using that word. He will start talking about a red car we've seen and end- less other associations he can make with the color red. He has been diagnosed with ADHD and takes medication, which seems to help, but he still lacks the focus to finish his work in school and then it's worse at home.

If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

MEASURE! MASH! SIFT! KNEAD! PEEL! CHOP! GRATE! CUT! MIX! ROLL! SIMMER! BAKE! SERVE!

At Kids Cook! children learn basic cooking skills while preparing kid-pleasing foods from around the world. Our 8-week, hands-on program teaches kids to cook with confidence!

Kids cook!

Winter classes start in January

Call Today! (Class space is limited)

170 Hicks Street Brooklyn Heights

To register, call Jane at (718) 797-0029

OPEN HOUSE

WELCOME! You are cordially invited to the Park Slope Child Care Collective Open House to meet with the staff and families of PSCCC.

Saturday, Jan. 8th 2005 10am to 1pm

186 St. John's Place, Brooklyn Corner of 7th Avenue • 399-0397

Park Slope Child Care Collective

Nancy Gallo Portrait Photography

Nancy Gallo, formerly of Boro Photo (Montague St.) has opened her own studio in Brooklyn Heights. Studio hours are available by appointment only. The quality studio portraits Nancy has shot in the past are now available again at very reasonable rates!

Children

Animals

Families

Also available for parties and events

ngallophot@nyc.rr.com

please call 718 596 2478

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS For Rent / Brooklyn

All Areas

Studio, 1, 2, 3, 4 bedroom apartment, programs ok. Close to transportation and shopping. Ready now. Please call broker Lincoln James, (718) 783-2699. From \$425-\$1300. www.jamesenterpriserealty.com. D4W28.5

Bay Ridge

NO BROKER'S FEE. Fort Hamilton Parkway (6th street), Spacious 2BR, \$975.00/mo. near All. NO BROKER'S FEE. 100% more available. Call Kings Apartments 718-703-4466 or go to www.KingsApartments.com. D15/7

Bed-Stuy

Macdoug Street, 2 & 3 bedroom apartment, asking \$1,050 & \$1,200. Ready Now!! Please call broker Lincoln James, (718) 783-2699. www.jamesenterpriserealty.com. D4W28.5

Clinton Hill

NO BROKER'S FEE. Newly renovated studio, \$850.00/mo. and \$900.00/mo. each + 1 mo. sec. Has hardwood floors. Near all. Includes All Working Section 8. Okay. 100% more available. Call Kings Apartments 718-703-4466 or go to www.KingsApartments.com. D15/7

Ft. Greene

Cumberland Ave., studio & 1BR apartment. Asking \$1,000 & \$1,250. East 9th street, Brand new large 2BR, \$975.00/mo. Has a new kitchen, washer/dryer, separate entrance, all of the back yard. Includes gas. Near shops and transit. NO BROKER'S FEE

Brooklyn Papers HOME IMPROVEMENT

Architects

ARCHITECT & INTERIOR DESIGNER

- From Concept to Completion
- Residential, Commercial, Manufacturing Alterations & New Buildings
- Realistic Estimates & Time Schedules
- Construction Management
- Expediting Approvals & Permits
- Department of Buildings & Landmarks
- Zoning Analysis & Property Potential

To buy or not buy

Martin della Paolera
ARCHITECT
45 Saint Felix Street
Brooklyn NY 11217
TEL (718) 596-2379
FAX (718) 596-2579
EMAIL: felix53@aol.com

Blinds

Stop at Home with our
State of the Art Software.
National Buying Power
up to 80% off List Price!

The Virtual Window Fashion Store

Roman & Cellular Shades, Draperies, Silhouettes, Luminaires, Blinds, Verticals, Shutters and Decorative Accessories
Featuring Roman Shades, Roller Blinds, Cellular, Luminaires and more.

"See It Before You Buy It"
Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Call for a Free In-Home Consultation:
718-522-7245

Closets

more than just closets...
custom closet, wardrobe, furniture,
office & pantry/utility design
interior design & renovation

718-624-0328
www.closetstyle.com

Construction

BAUEN CONSTRUCTION

COMPLETE RENOVATIONS
KITCHENS • BATHS
BASEMENTS • ADDITIONS
CARPENTRY • PAINTING
WINDOWS • SHEETROCK

FULLY INSURED

FREE ESTIMATES
(718) 668-2063
BUILDING OUR REPUTATION
HI # 1146631

MEN AT WORK

Renovations & Remodeling
All Home Improvement Needs
Kitchen • Bath • Paint • Carpentry

Fully equipped with all trades
Equipped with
DESIGNERS • ARCHITECTS • EXPERTS

"You've tried all the rest,
now go with the best."
Do it right the first time.

17 YEARS EXPERIENCE
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
G.C.# 0950141

718-965-1857 or 718-492-7193

EAGLE CONTRACTORS

General Renovations
Interior & Exterior
Roofing • Waterproofing
Painting • Plastering
Carpentry • Sheetrock
Tile • Stucco • Pointing
Scaffolding • Brick & Cement Work

License # 904813 • Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

718-686-1100

KNOCKOUT Renovations

Lots of References!
CR Magazine's
"Top 500 Contractors"

COMPLETE RENOVATIONS,
KITCHENS, BATHROOMS,
All Work Guaranteed
Licensed by Consumer Affairs
LIC: 1065708

(718) 745-0722
www.knockoutrenovations.com

Construction

Timeless Construction and Restoration, Inc.

Two generations of fine craftsmanship serving the downtown Brooklyn area for over 3 decades.

SPECIALIZING IN ALL PHASES OF INTERIOR RENOVATIONS

Custom Kitchens • Custom Baths
Custom Finish Carpentry
Plastering • Painting
Wallpapering

All Phases of Tile Work
Hardwood Flooring
Finished Basements & Extensions

We are licensed and insured and we guarantee all of our work
LICENSE #HIC8099974
718-979-0913

Contractors

Chris Mullins Contracting

Roofing • Bathrooms • Kitchens
Carpentry • All Renovations • Brickwork
Dormers • Extensions • Windows

Free Estimates, Licensed & Insured
718-276-8558

NORTHEASTERN CONTRACTING

Complete Alterations & Remodeling
EXTERIOR & INTERIOR
Over 20 Years Experience

Shipping & Refining • Finished Basements
Room Addition • Complete Kitchen & Bath
Lofts • Apartments • Showrooms

Residential/Commercial • Landscaping
Rustic Remodel • Design & Consulting
Local, Reliable, All Work Expertly Done
Senior Citizen Discount

Ask for George: 1-347-724-6540
Licensed & Insured

Decks

DECKS by Bart

A Piece of Me!

ROOF • GARDEN • TERRACE
Fence, Tool • Free Estimates

Call Bart:
15+ years experience
Plan Ahead
(718) 284-8053
800-YES-4-DECK
Design Assist./Archit. Engr.
www.decksbybart.com

Electricians

ALECTRA INC.

Have an electrical problem?
No job too big, no job too small!
Call me, Anthony Illiano
Licensed electrician
718-522-3893

Co ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Licensed Electricians
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

No Job Too Small
Family Owned & Operated for over 25 years
(718) 966-4801

Floor Maintenance

— Ace Floors —

Specializing in hardwood floor sanding, staining & refinishing and new floor installation. Borders & patterns, ceramic tile & bathroom renovations, plastering & painting.

(718) 363-2593 Office
(917) 219-0146 Paper
FREE ESTIMATES

D & K FLOOR SERVICE, INC.

Parquet and wood floors sanded, refinished, stained & refinished.
Carpet steam cleaned & shampooed professionally.
Tile floors stripped & waxed

718-720-2555

TOM'S PROFESSIONAL DESIGN

Floor Maintenance
Specializing in hardwood floors, sanding, staining, refinishing and new floor installation. Great low prices.

(347) 628-3965

Gardening

Prepare your Garden for Next Season!

Garden Service
Fall Maintenance • General Cleanup
Sub Planting • Fertilization
Brooming • Terraces, Yards, Crops

Marilyn Manning
718-753-9741

dig

Garden • Rooftop • Container
Design & Maintenance
(646) 489-5121

Handyman

KBM Contracting

Bathrooms • Carpentry
Tiling • Decks • Windows
Flooring • Roofing • Doors
Painting • Staircases
Piping • Heating
Violations Removed

FREE ESTIMATE
(718) 763-0379
Licensed, Insured

Handyman

All kinds of home repairs. No job's too small. Even weekends O.K.
Call Mr. Handyman.

(917) 951-6639

S&D Home Improvement

Sheetrock, taping, int/ext painting, wallpaper, wood floors, tilework, windows, doors, decks, stone interiors — remodeling kitchens & baths our specialty.

FULLY INSURED. LIC #1147276
All work guaranteed
(718) 998-1110 Simon

Home Improvement

CALL NED

Plastering • Roofing • Sheetrock
Ceramic Tile • Carpentry
Cement Work • Painting
Wallpaper • FREE ESTIMATES

718-871-1504

Locksmith

Home and Office Security by All Security Locksmiths

Did you know that All Security Locksmiths is looking up at you?

Locks • Alarms • Gates
EMERGENCY SERVICE
ANY DAY, ANY TIME

Lic # 650428
We cover all of Brooklyn
718-435-9055

Movers (Licensed)

MOVERS

We do last minute jobs!
Expert packers
Packing materials • Fully insured
Prompt • Cordial

TOP HAT MOVERS
86 Avenue C New York, NY 10015
718-965-0214 • 718-622-0377
718-222-3390

CROSS AMERICA Moving & Storage

Specializing in Long Distance

Residential Movers
LOW RATES
Fast & Next Counts
Fully Licensed & Insured
Free Packing Service
Guaranteed Pick Up Days

1 (866) 407-6683
(718) 433-0633
www.cross-america.com

FREE BOX DELIVERY

"So glad you happen only when you care!"
USDOEP 1059024 / ICG 436268

GARFIELD KITCHENS AND BATHS INC.

266 Fifth Avenue
at Garfield Place Park Slope, Brooklyn
(718) 783-2800

Two Floors Of The Finest Kitchens, Baths & Accessories

FEATURING: Mobara Kitchens
From Spain, Rich Mold Cabinetry,
Luxor Cabinetry of Canada,
Hansam Cabinetry, Todd Wood
Fine Cabinetry

PLUS:

- Kohler • Toto • Saniia of Spain
- Barclay • Zen Tubs By Neptune
- St. Thomas • Mobara Vanities
- Rubens Medicine Cabinets
- Flina Faucets • Sola Faucets
- Jacuzzi • Custom Countertops

MARBLE, GRANITE, CORIAN AND SILESTONE

Free Kitchen Layout & Design

- Saniia • Occasional Glass • Bezaa
- Corian • Natural Stone
- And Much More

UNBELIEVABLE QUALITY INCREDIBLE PRICES

Bob & Judy's Collectibles

WE BUY & SELL ANTIQUES
(from one item to entire estates)
217 5th Ave. (bet. Pres. & Union)
718/638-5770 Hours: 11-7 Closed Mondays

Painting

SUNSHINE PAINTING CO.

NYS Registered # 074
LIC# 093304
Int./Ext. • Comm./Resid.
MASTER PLASTER
DRYWALL • SKIM COAT
sunshinepainting.com

718-748-6990
B.B.B. • Rating! Lowest Prices!

Professional Painting

Restore old surfaces.
Benjamin Moore Paints used.
Taping, plastering, wallpaper removal.
Free Estimates

Call 718-720-0565
Reasonable Rates Free Estimates

Johnny Mac Contracting

Specializing in Plastering, Painting, Spray Painting, Sheetrock & Taping

Cell: 1-917-838-5024
Call: 718-871-4092
Serving the 5 boroughs for over 20 years

Master Plaster/Painter
Old Walls Saved
Repair, Install, Moldings, Skim Coats
Excellent References
718-834-0470

John Haviaras PAINTING

Interior/Exterior Painting
Taping • Sheetrock
Complete Apartment & Home Renovations. Affordable Prices
Quality Work • Free Estimates

718-921-6176

JP Interiors

Painting • Decorative Surfaces
Plastering • Paper Hanging

FREE ESTIMATES/FULLY INSURED
718.522.3534

AMERICAN PAINTING

Low Price
Clean Job
Fast Service
References
FREE, RELIABLE

718-139-7309

ART & INTERIORS PAINTING COMPANY

PAINTING
FAUX FINISHES
MURALS
STENCILS
RESTORATION

FINE QUALITY FOR 25 YEARS
AT REASONABLE RATES

646-221-4361

New York's largest lighting store is not in Manhattan; It's right here in Brooklyn.

The Victoria Collection

Tuscany

Normandy

Victoria

floor lamps • table lamps • lampshades • repairs
MIRRORS • TABLES • DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES

MURRAY FEISS
HOME FASHION FOR LIFE

LAMP WAREHOUSE
Everything in lighting... Discounted!

1073 39th Street
(corner Ft. Hamilton Pkwy)
(718) 436-2077

Mon. & Tues. 9-5:30; Wed. CLOSED; Thurs. 9-8; Fri. 9-5:30; Sat. & Sun. 10-5
— Family Owned & Operated for over 30 years —

Brooklyn Papers Home Improvement

Call (718) 834-9350 to advertise

Moving YOUR WAY

Moving co T33315 584 6th Av
LICENSED/ INSURED
718-788-4920
Free Estimate & Box Delivery
POSITIVELY LOWEST PRICES!

Roofing

SUPER ROOFER

IN BROOKLYN OVER 25 YEARS
Roofing • Flat Roofs • Pitch
Skylights • Shingles • Leaders
Gutters • One-Ply Rubber

TOP QUALITY WORK LOW RATES

Emergency Repairs
Free Estimates Cheerfully Given
Bill Boshell
(718) 833-3508
Licensed & Insured HIC 80945754

Schwamberger Contracting

All Roofing, Rubber, Metal, Skylights,
Excellent References Available
TOLL FREE
License #0031318
17th year with Brooklyn Papers
718-646-4540
NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

Roofing

Rubber Roofs
Shingles • Gutters
Leaders • Soffits
Waterproofing
Brickwork

CRYSTAL ROOFING

718-238-9433
FREE ESTIMATES
LIC # 1133009

Mention this ad for \$250 off
any complete roofing job of
1,000 sq.ft. or more

CRASH ROOFING & Waterproofing

Flat Roof Specialists
Affordable, Prompt & Experienced
Rubber Roofing & All Types of
Protective Coatings for Roofs & Walls
Aluminum • Silestone • Butyl Coatings
Shingles • Leaders • Gutters
Skylights • Chimneys • Cornices
Membrane • Brick/Pier
Fully Licensed & Bonded
Emergency Service • April 24 Hrs. • 7 days
Ask About Our Guarantee
866-487-5799
212-206-2342
LIC# 0924152

Stairs

Cee Dee PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTORS

Broken or Missing
Baluster/Spindles
Weak or Broken Steps
(Treads, Stringers or Risers)

Call: 718-893-4006

Rubbish Removal

GREG'S EXPRESS RUBBISH REMOVAL

Basements Cleared • Yards
Construction Debris
Houses & Stores
All appliances removed
ALL Contractors Welcome!
Commercial Stores Welcome!
Demolition
6, 10, & 15 yard containers

Serving the Community
Member Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Prompt & Professional • 24hr • 7 days
(866) MR-RUBBISH
6 7 7 7 8 2 2 4
CELL 917-416-8222
Lic: BIC-1180 Fully Insured
8th year with The Brooklyn Papers

John Costello Tiling

Plumbing and Tile Work. Toilets,
faucets and shower bodies
refinished. Specializing in tile jobs
— large and small.

Free Estimates • Reasonable Rates
John Costello (718) 768-7610
16 YEARS EXP. W/28-15

Upholstery

Kitchen and dining chairs
New foam cushions
• Stoves
• Window Treatments
and verticals
• Table Pads

Free Estimates

Perfect Touch Decorators

718-263-8383
30 yrs experience • Serving the 5 Boroughs

Windows

Quality Replacement Windows and Repairs

Repair ALL TYPES of windows.
Screens and insulated glass.
Custom Window Installation
Licensed & Insured • Reasonable Rates
Call Rene (718) 227-8787

Wood Stripping

PSST!!

Recapture the original beauty of your
fine architectural woodwork. We
strip-paint-refinish doors, mantels,
columns, shutters, banisters with non-
toxic, environmentally safe, removers
and finishes. Careful, considerate
workmanship since 1959. Call the
Park Slope Stripping Team
@ 718-783-4112

E & S Professional Wood Care

Floor Sanding • Paint Stripping &
Refinishing • Doorways • Molding
Wainscoting • Window Frames

Emerald
(347) 451-7982 (718) 345-5130
16 YEARS EXP. W/28-15

#1 Masters Wood STRIPPING

DOORS • FRAMES • CABINETS
FIREPLACES • BANISTERS
OLD STAIN REMOVAL
ALL WOOD MATERIALS
Careful, clean, professional work.
No Job Too Big or Too Small.
Reasonable prices 16 years
(718) 647-2121

Brooklyn Papers