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PAYING OFF RATNER



Ghosts of 9-11
A mural on the door of the firehouse on Middagh Street in Brooklyn Heights — one of dozens of remembrances borough-wide — serves as a memorial to the lives lost during the Sept. 11 attacks five years ago next Monday. For more about artists reflecting on 9-11, see GO Brooklyn on page 12.

As developer slims project, public bill is likely to soar

By Ariella Cohen
The Brooklyn Papers

If Atlantic Yards shrinks, the public will pay more.
Forest City Ratner brass said this week they plan to tweak the mammoth \$4.2-billion mega-development by eliminating a few hundred luxury apartments and reducing the height of the 620-foot "Miss Brooklyn" tower, but the cost will be additional public subsidies for the 2,250 units of below-market-rate rentals that Ratner's promised to include in the plan.
Real-estate executives were not surprised.

"If a part of their profit is gone [by eliminating some of the project], they have to come up with a way to make the income back," said Real Estate Board of New York President Steven Spinola. "Public subsidy is a way to do that."
Estimates of public subsidies likely to flow Ratner's way remain in the billion-dollar-or-so range, yet city and state officials have consistently claimed that the public payoff to Ratner is small compared to the project's overall benefit.

Developer Bruce Ratner has said that Atlantic Yards must be big in order to cover his costs of renovating the MTA rail yards at Flatbush and Atlantic Avenues. See RATNER on page 2



Dogs swim at "Dog Beach" in Prospect Park's Long Meadow, during off-leash hours on Monday.

DOGS WIN! Off-leash hours survive

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Papers

Under fire from leash-law sticklers, the city will enshrine in law a two-decade-old unofficial policy that has allowed Lassie, Rusty and Sparky to roam free in city parks.
The proposed rule change — which would formally allow dogs to remain off-leash between 9 pm and 9 am in most parks — is an end-around around opponents of the off-leash hours, who have sued the Parks Department on the grounds that the practice is illegal and endangers human safety.
The new rules would render moot a forthcoming ruling in the case, lawyers working on the case say.

Dog owners' groups are heartened by the development, although they're too cautious to start yelping for joy. "We're not criminals, we're not crazy," said Mary McInerney, president of FIDO, a Prospect Park dog owners group. "[Off-leash hours] offer a legitimate form of recreation for millions throughout the city."

But opponents, who want the city to muzzle the free-ranging pooches, are fuming at the month. "The new rules are real, real stupid, and are really going to jeopardize the public," said Robert Holden, president of the Juniper Park Civic Association, the Queens group that sued to end the unofficial policy. "Someone will be attacked, and there will be an outcry."

Yet Holden also feels vindicated by the city's sudden admission that it needs to formalize its "unofficial" official policy.

"We caught them," said Holden. "They're essentially admitting that letting dog owners ignore leash laws between certain hours is illegal." But the city contends that the unofficial policy — which has been in place for more than two decades — is not only legal, but has balanced the needs of a wide range of users.

The policy is consistent with public health concerns and appropriate park use," said Paula Van Meter, senior counsel for the Law Department's administrative law division.

The courtesy hours, which were established by former Parks Commissioner Henry Stern in the 1980s, exist in a legal penumbra. The hours technically violate the Health Department code, which requires that dogs be on-leash all the time. On the other hand, the City Charter allows the Parks Commissioner to promulgate rules within the city's See DOGS on page 3

Welcome back to reality

By Dana Rubinstein and Rebecca Ballhaus
The Brooklyn Papers

Nostalgic for summer already? Have you already forgotten that summer is a mixed bag, filled with balmy evening cocktails at Gowanus Yacht Club and mid-afternoon brunches on Alma's rooftop — yet punctuated by heat waves, brownouts and the smells wafting across the Narrows? So bid summer goodbye with a touch of relief — especially since there's so much to look forward to this fall.

SEPTEMBER
9. Harvest fair
Do you wonder how your cucumber measures up to the competition? Visit the annual Green Thumb Harvest Fair, where hard-core community gardeners face off over the quality of their homegrown pumpkins, tomatoes, and zucchinis, among other choice produce. In this competition, size definitely matters. *Hattie Carthon Garden (654 Lafayette Ave., at Mancy Avenue), 12-5 pm, www.greenthumbnyc.org.*

9. Mother, may I?
Ringoletto, Lemon and Lime, and Be on Time. This is not some bass-ackwards attempt at poetry. These are children's games from the days or yore. If you'd like to learn more, the Gowanus Houses are hosting a daylong event called "Learning to Play the Old-School Way," for children, ages 1-99. Just be careful out there, Gramps. The three-legged race can be tough on the hips. *Gowanus Houses (bounded by Wyckoff, Hart, Douglass and Bond streets), Noon, (718) 858-1076.*

10. Brooklyn bicyclists
Thousands of cyclists will bike Brooklyn as part of the NYC Century Bike Tour. There are five different routes, and none includes Staten Island. If that isn't incentive enough, every participant will get a commemorative organic cotton T-shirt. *www.nyccentury.org or (212) 629-8000.*

12. Primary day
At long last, voters in the 11th Congressional District get a breather. Other hot races include the 57th Assembly District battle among Bill Batson, Hakeem Jeffries and Freddie Hamilton, and the 46th Assembly District race between former Soviets Art Kagan and Alex Brook-Krany. A race pitting state Sen. Velmanette Montgomery (D-Park Slope) against former Councilwoman Tracy Boyland started out promisingly, but Boyland is MIA on the campaign trail. *Visit the Board of Elections at www.vote.nyc.gov or call (212) VOTE-NYC.*

13. Conservative ladies
Some of the hottest up-and-coming Brooklyn Republican women will be at this event, so, to all conservative single men out there, here's your chance! For the ladies, it's half-price drinks and a chance to win a copy of Ann Coulter's latest, "Godless: The Church of Liberalism." It doesn't get better than this. *Peggy O'Neill's (6123 Fifth Ave., between 51st and 52nd streets), 7 pm, (347) 408-7923.*

13, 19, 20. It's over
Not that they got much vacation, what



with the state so thoughtfully releasing the Atlantic Yards draft environmental impact statement this summer, and then holding its lone "public hearing" a few weeks later, but Brooklyn's Community Boards are officially back in business. See below for a schedule of their first full board meetings of the fall.

CB6: Sept. 12, 7 p.m. (718) 596-5410.
CB6: Sept. 12, St. Peter St. Paul Church (190 Court St., between Congress and Wyckoff streets), 6:30 pm, (718) 643-3027.

CB7: Sept. 20, Community Board Offices (4201 Fourth Ave., at 42nd Street), 6:30 pm, (718) 854-4003.

CB10: Sept. 19, Shore Hill Community Room (9000 Shore Road, at 91st Street), 7:15 pm, (718) 745-8527.

16. Brooklyn reads
Jonathan Ames, Jhumpa Lahiri and Jennifer Egan may make odd bedfellows, but they all write books, and that fact will bring them together at the first annual See PREVIEW on page 18

Climax in Fightin' 11th: Donut hurled at Yassky

By Rachel Monahan
for The Brooklyn Papers

Still facing criticism that his white skin makes him an inappropriate choice to represent a predominantly black congressional district, City Councilman David Yassky had a donut hurled in his direction in a racially charged press conference with Mayor

Bloomberg at the very housing project where he launched his campaign in May. The stated purpose of the Labor Day appearance at the Wyckoff Gardens Houses was to publicize \$600,000 Yassky had earmarked for long-sought security cameras there and in the neighboring Gowanus Houses. The four-way primary to succeed retiring Rep. Major Owens

is set for Tuesday, Sept. 12. The chocolate-covered artery-clogger landed just a few feet away from the mayor and briefly interrupted his remarks and sent state banking superintendent Diana Taylor, the mayor's girlfriend, scurrying. No more high-calorie projectiles were forthcoming — but there was plenty of the verbal kind: Yassky was booed before

being given a chance to speak. The donut quickly became a symbol of an underlying issue in the campaign, namely that some black residents of the 11th District do not want to be represented by the white Yassky. "This is a game," shouted Beverly Corbin, 52, a 21-year resident of Wyckoff Gardens who admitted she supports the congressman's son, Chris Owens, in the race. "This [event] is all to support Yassky."

Yassky has the support of Charlene Nimmons, head of the complex's tenants' association, and Marguerite Scott, her Gowanus Houses counterpart. Nimmons was on hand at the press conference, where the mayor stopped short of his own endorsement, but called Yassky "a See FIGHTIN' on page 2



Best friends 4ever!
On the opening day of school at Park Slope's PS 107, on Eighth Avenue at 13th Street, Tuesday, four pals reunited after a summer off. See Smartmom on page 6.



Candidates for "the Fightin' 11th" congressional seat met voters at the West Indian-American Day Parade in Crown Heights on Labor Day. From left, City Councilwoman Yvette Clarke, state Sen. Carl Andrews (with the Rev. Al Sharpton), Chris Owens (on steel drum) and City Councilman David Yassky.

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Facts back Connor in nasty Senate run

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Papers

A nasty battle for a Brooklyn state Senate seat has proven the old adage: Don't believe everything you read.

With less than a week before the Sept. 12 Democratic primary, state Sen. Marty Connor (D-Brooklyn Heights) spent valuable time struggling to redress a spate of error-filled mailings recently sent out by his self-funded challenger Ken Diamondstone.

The slick attack mailings call the 28-year incumbent a flunkie for Big Pharma and Big Tobacco.

The allegations in the mailings are demonstrably false — but Connor is worried that his opponent for the 25th District seat will be laughing last.

"How can I respond so late?" asked Connor, as he sat with The Brooklyn Papers at the DUMBO General Store on Front Street, his demeanor alternating between joviality and rage.

Connor is so eager to set the record straight — and so peeved by his opponent's "mixture of dirty politics and plain incompetence" — that he's been telling his story to anyone who'll listen, pride be damned.

In his visit to DUMBO, Connor pointed to a Diamondstone mailing that reads, "After taking over \$37,000 in campaign cash from pharmaceutical and health insurance companies, Connor voted for a bill

TRUTH SQUAD

that would make it harder for New Yorkers — even those with insurance — to fill their needed prescriptions."

But Connor actually voted against the bill, which would have lowered insurance premiums for businesses by raising employee deductibles.

And, according to state records, the senator received about \$11,000 — not \$37,000 — from insurance and drug companies.

On Wednesday, Diamondstone was in the unenviable — and virtually unprecedented — position of having to not only acknowledge the mistake, but announcing that he would spend an estimated \$30,000 to send out a new mailing correcting the record.

"We are in the process of sending out [a] correction," Diamondstone said. "Even if it's last minute."

He blamed the pamphlet error on a staffer who is "no longer with us."

But the drug flyer isn't the only one with mistakes. A glossy mailing shows a box of "Connor" brand cigarettes with a Surgeon-General-type warning on the side: "Voting for Senator Marty Connor may be hazardous to your health" (above right).

Connor takes thousands from tobacco giant RJR, and was one of only four senators to vote against New York's smoking ban, the flyer claims.

But the flyer is misleading. Connor received just \$1,100 from the tobacco giant in 2000 — hardly the "thousands" of Diamondstone's claim.

Equally misleading is the literature's implication that Connor voted against the state's smoking ban because of the Big Tobacco payoff.

Connor did vote against the ban, but mostly because the state law would have contradicted the city's existing anti-smoking law.

The incumbent spent the week grabbing for the high ground in this bitter battle, but grabbed plenty of mud at the same time, putting out his own fier, "Ken Diamondstone keeps on lying..."

The fier repeats several charges that Connor made earlier in the campaign, including one that "Ken Diamondstone is a slumlord," citing violations his buildings have racked up with the city.

But Connor's fier had a lit of its own, repeating a claim that Diamondstone did not live in the district for the required year. The courts ruled otherwise, yet Connor repeats the claim.



FIGHTIN'...

Continued from page 1
guy who's really cared" and has focused "on trying to make life better in this city."

That brought about more boojing. The mayor fled after the press conference, but Yassky stood his ground and debated the issues. Some residents of the nearby Warren Street Houses complained that their buildings were not included in the security camera project.

Limited funds precluded it, Yassky offered.

"We'll come back next year and try to do more," he said. Willie McDonald, vice president of the tenants' association, was unimpressed.

"I might not be here next year," McDonald, 69, responded. But given the rocky road his race for Congress has taken, Yassky might be.

Meanwhile, City Councilwoman Yvette Clarke (D-Flatbush) was endorsed this week by former state Comptroller Carl McCull, who called her an heir to Rep. Shirley Chisholm, the black trailblazer who first held the 11th District seat. The endorsement comes on the heels of a nod by several labor unions that could factor into a "get-out-the-vote" push.

State Sen. Carl Andrews (D-Crown Heights) marched in the celebrated Labor Day Caribbean parade with the Rev. Al Sharpton, another proven vote-getter in central Brooklyn.

Yassky was endorsed last week by the New York Times and The Brooklyn Papers.

On Wednesday night, a candidates' forum at the Garfield Temple in Park Slope turned into an Owens vs. Yassky affair as the congressman's son blasted the councilman for being too cozy with developers.

"I just can't see how you say you stand for the people," Owens said. Yassky replied that he "voted against tax breaks for developers." He retaliated by slamming the Owens campaign for distributing an unsigned flyer claiming that Yassky had taken contributions from the lawyers who defended disgraced Republican lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

After the forum, Owens apologized for the erroneous handout, but said, "I can't be blamed for what my volunteers come up with."

At the same forum, Clarke and Andrews, who both support Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards project, played to the largely anti-Yards crowd by now saying that they have concerns about the project's environmental impacts — something which neither candidate dwelled on in the past.

— additional reporting by Ariella Cohen

RATNER...

Continued from page 1

enues, building a platform over them, and providing the 2,250 below-market rentals.

The reported trim — a six- to eight-percent reduction in overall size — will return the project to the 8-million-square-foot specs of the original plan introduced by Ratner in Dec., 2003.

But since that state-studded Borough Hall presentation, the estimated cost of Atlantic Yards has soared from just over \$2 billion to \$4.2 billion. And critics said that Ratner was trying to balance his still-unreleased numbers on the backs of New York State taxpayers.

"It's typical of Forest City Ratner to inflate projections in order to get more public money from the state," said Evan Thies, spokesman for City Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights).

"It's a deceitful way of doing business, and they should be committed to a project that works and can be vetted to the community."

Yassky doesn't support giving the developer any additional subsidies for affordable housing. Thies told The Brooklyn Papers. He has called for the project to be halted unless its traffic, transit, noise, shadow and other adverse impacts are not properly mitigated.

Critics say the reported trim not only requires more money from taxpayers but ignores the larger criticism that Ratner's plan would transform a quiet section of Prospect Heights into a shiny hub of 16 Frank Gehry-designed towers and the country's most-expensive arena ever.

(Then again, there may not be a trim at all: The New York Observer reported Wednesday night that Ratner met with the City Planning Commission on the same day the Times story broke, yet the topic of a scale-back did not come up.)

If Ratner cuts back on the number of market-rate apartments, some worry that the developer would also cut the number of affordable units, currently pegged at 2,250.

Since the news of the slight trim trickled out, even project supporters like Assemblyman Roger Green (D-Prospect Heights) have called for a guarantee that the number of affordable units will stay the same regardless of the number of market-rate units or their profitability.

Green supports a bill introduced last spring by Assemblyman Jim Brennan (D-Park Slope) that would deliver hundreds of millions of state dollars to Ratner — \$462 million over 30 years in affordable-housing subsidies and a \$68 million green energy credit — in exchange for a 34-percent reduction in density. The Brennan bill would also free Ratner of the \$100 million he's committed to paying the MTA, a state agency, for the Atlantic Yards site.

If the bill became law, Brennan estimates that each affordable unit — available to families earning between \$21,270 and \$113,440 in today's dollars — would cost the government about \$235,000.

"Without [the subsidies], if there is an economic downturn in the next 10 years, the affordable units will be threatened," said Brennan spokesman, John Keefe.

Right now, the only legal document that binds Ratner to building all 2,250 affordable units is the "Community Benefits Agreement" — but the developer can back out simply by paying \$500,000 to the organizations that signed the deal.

FCR spokespeople did not respond to questions from The Brooklyn Papers.

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ATLANTIC YARDS COUNTDOWN

3 20

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(As of Saturday, Sept. 9)

The Empire State Development Corporation invited Brooklynites to comment on the agency's draft environmental impact statement for the Atlantic Yards project by sending letters to ESDC's Maria Mooney, 633 Third Avenue, New York 10017 or e-mailing atlanticyards@empire.state.ny.us. Letters are due by 5:30 on Sept. 29. We've asked our readers to send copies of their testimony to newsroom@brooklynpapers.com. Watch for letters next week.

Less of Marty to love ... or hate

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

The Atlantic Yards project is not the only thing that appears to be slimming down — it's biggest booster is, too.

Borough President Markowitz, whose weight topped 200 earlier this summer when he had emergency surgery to install two stents in his heart, has lost at least 15 pounds in just over two months.

The famously fluctuating five-foot-five fixture credits a new regimen that includes a half-hour of exercise a day and a low-fat, low-carb diet that he's

actually sticking to this time.

"I walk in Prospect Park every day for a half-hour — and an hour on Saturdays and Sundays," he said.

His diet (see sidebar below) is now filled with salads, vegetables, fruits and fish instead of his former staples: bagels, corned-beef, pasta and dessert.

"The biggest challenge has been the bread and pasta," he said. "There is no question my diet used to revolve around bread — and everything you put on bread, like psstrami."

"Take tonight for dinner," he continued. "I'll have chicken Francese, but pan-fried in olive oil, and not breaded. And instead of pasta, I'll

have two vegetables and a salad. And that's it."

He says he has dropped one pants size — to a 36 waist — but is hoping to get to 34 again.

Whether he can do it is another story. The history book is filled with Markowitz's failed diets, a struggle with weight that actually strengthens the borough president's reputation as the Brooklyn "Everyman."

"I'm hoping I can keep to this diet," he said, admitting to the one thing that politicians rarely acknowledge: lust.

"Some guys lust for golf, but I lust for food, it's true."

Even people who will forever be-

grudge Markowitz his support of Atlantic Yards had to admit that the Beep was looking good.

"I actually went over to him [at the Aug. 23 Atlantic Yards public hearing] and told him how great he looked," said Daniel Goldstein, a spokesman for the anti-Atlantic Yards group, Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn.

Good news for the Markowitz cardio-vascular system is bad news for restaurateurs borough-wide. During his diet, Markowitz said he has not had a single slice of cheesecake from Junior's — once a fairly regular haunt — and has cut back on regular visits

to Anthony's, a popular restaurant near his Park Slope home.

"They make the best eggplant dish there," Markowitz said. "I'd go in, start with a pizza, then the eggplant, then some pasta, and always leave happy. But I can't do it anymore."

Anthony's co-owner Joe Bosco said he's felt the ripple effect from Markowitz's diet, and wants his customer back. As such, he offered to make a low-fat version of "Josephine's eggplant," so beloved by the borough president.

"If he gives us a heads-up, we'll whip up something delicious for him," Bosco said. "But you know, this low-fat thing, it's no way to live."



Borough President Markowitz is lookin' good, thanks to losing 15 pounds of extra baggage.

The Marty Diet

The Brooklyn Papers

Borough President Markowitz has lost 15 pounds in two months — and kept it off — with regular exercise and a diet consisting of more fruits and vegetables, less bread, virtually no pasta and absolutely none of his beloved Junior's Cheesecake.

In hopes of inspiring all Brooklynites engaged in their own battles of the bulge, Markowitz shared his diet with the readers of The Brooklyn Papers.

BREAKFAST
Non-fat yogurt with a banana.
Decaf coffee.

LUNCH
Fruit cup.

DINNER
Chicken pan-fried in olive oil or grilled fish. Two vegetables.
Salad. No bread.
Fruit for dessert.



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DOGS...

Continued from page 1
more than 28,000 acres of parkland.

And dog owners are pleased with how parks commissioners have wielded that power.

"Letting dogs go off-leash is a benign habit," said Rissa Pecker, who walks her mutt Jesse in Marine Park as many as four times a week. She compares the rare unruly dog to the occasional car accident.

"You can't stop life from happening," she said.

The off-leash saga began when Holden's organization sued the Parks Department in May.

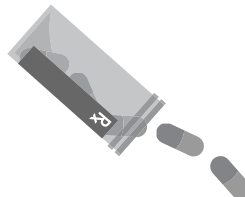
The presiding judge subsequently asked the two sides to negotiate an agreement on their own. Holden says he did just that, offering to drop the lawsuit, if the Parks Department would allow individual community boards to opt out of the off-leash privileges.

The city Law Department rejected the notion of allowing community boards to veto city policies as untenable.

The rule changes are bound to clear up some legal confusion, say off-leash advocates.

"The city's decision to rewrite the rules is needed," said Robert Marino, president of NYC Dogs. "Confusion allowed this case to go as far as it has."

"We must share limited park space. Anything that allows us to do so peacefully will promote cooperation instead of lawsuits."



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Sat. Eve. 9/23, 6:30 - 9pm
Sun. Day 9/24, 9am - 3pm
Sun. Eve. 9/24, 6:30 - 9pm

Yom Kippur Services
Sun. Eve. 10/1, 6:30 - 10pm
Mon. Day & Eve. 10/2, 9am - 9pm

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Happy Holidays!

from

Brooklyn's **REAL** newspapers

PRIMARY ELECTION SMACKDOWN

25th Senate District

Marty Connor vs. Ken Diamondstone



Marty Connor



Ken Diamondstone

Why should voters choose you?

KEN DIAMONDSTONE
 1. I will bring reform to Albany...
 The New York Times supports my campaign based largely on my ability to be a strong proponent of change.
 2. I am an advocate for affordable housing and sensible development...
 3. I will be a steward of the taxpayer's money [and] a strong advocate for greater fiscal responsibility in Albany.
 4. I will focus on issues such as reclaiming our port development process from a New Jersey-centric Port Authority, and advancing renewable energy and stem-cell research projects.

MARTY CONNOR

1. I have passed significant legislation over the years — from the school bus safety bill to the Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Act. I know how to pass legislation even when it is in the minority. That's why virtually every Democratic state Senator has endorsed me.
 2. I know the district's concerns. I have lived in the district for 36 years.
 3. On the important issues (choice, death penalty, gun control, LGBT rights), I do not just talk about what "my position" is — I have voted my beliefs, without compromise.
 4. I have always refused to pander. It takes political maturity to stand up to vociferous pressure — as in the case of the Chinese Women's Shelter in Carroll Gardens. Often, constituents do not appreciate an elected official taking a responsible, nuanced position on an issue and attempting to reconcile opposing positions. But, that is my approach.

Offer two or more reasons why your opponent is unqualified — or significantly less qualified than you.

DIAMONDSTONE
 1. My opponent is not a proponent of reform, but is part of the problem in Albany. Recently, he tried to circumvent the democratic process by trying to have me removed from the ballot.
 2. He is not an advocate for the key values of our community. Most harmful of all, however, was his role in supporting the commuter tax, an act which has cost the city to date over \$3 billion.

CONNOR
 1. As the New York Times stated, my opponent "does not have a strong record of accomplishments."
 2. A wealthy landlord, he moved into the Senate district for the purpose of running for the Senate. He has run before where he lived for 30 years — and lost soundly. He lacks knowledge of the community issues in 85 percent of the district.

What are the three most important issues facing your district — and what are your positions on them?

DIAMONDSTONE
 1. Development: Major projects such as Atlantic Yards and Brooklyn Bridge Park threaten to change the nature of the entire borough. Looking ahead, I propose that developers would only qualify for tax breaks from the state if they reserve a minimum of 30 percent of their building for affordable housing. The state should

Primary Tuesday

They say you can't tell the players without a scorecard — and you definitely can't tell where the politicians stand without The Brooklyn Papers' exclusive primary election candidate survey.
 Although the four-way race for Congress in the Fightin' 11th District has dominated the headlines, there are hard-fought contests for Assembly (check out that three-for-all in the 57th District or the former-Soviet smackdown in the 46th) and state Senate on the ballot this Tuesday, Sept. 12. Use our guide to help you make your picks (The Papers' choices are on page 8) — and remember to vote.
 Polls are open from 6 am to 9 pm. To find your polling location, call the Board of Elections at (212) VOTE-NYC. And if you're confused about what district you live in, head for www.cmap.nypir.org/netmaps/MyGovernment/NYC/MyGovernmentNYC.asp, an indispensable map service from NYPiRG.
 If you're not registered to vote, you're out of luck this time. But there's still time to register for the Nov. 7 general election.

20th Senate District

Eric Adams vs. Guillermo E. Philpotts

Note: A third candidate, Anthony Alexis, declined repeated requests to participate in this valuable survey. Guillermo E. Philpotts did not provide a picture.

Why should voters choose you?

ERIC ADAMS
 1. My combination of academic achievement and professional achievement offers voters the opportunity to support a candidate who has firsthand knowledge of the negative impact of failed legislative policies.
 2. My active involvement with community issues throughout my career has enabled me to establish strong relationships with the various groups that comprise this diverse district.
 3. As the co-founder of 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care, I was responsible for identifying programs that would improve the quality of life for New York families. We created workshops and forums that empowered everyday New Yorkers on such issues as domestic violence, predatory lending, child abuse, and conflict resolution.
 4. New Yorkers have learned that I will raise my voice to support integrity and reform. As a police officer, I aggressively assisted in reforming the NYPD, an agency that I loved and devoted over 20 years to. Just as New Yorkers want good cops to not hide behind the "blue wall of silence," voters also want good elected officials to stand up and fight against corruption in Albany.

GUILLERMEO E. PHILPOTTS

1. I am the best-qualified candidate in this race. I ran for this position before.
 2. I am an activist and I address issues of this community at hand.
 3. I use the political process to help my communities. Contacting agencies, city and state officials.
 4. I try to resolve problems not sweep them under the carpet. Work them out on a step-by-step basis.

Offer two or more reasons why your opponent is unqualified — or significantly less qualified than you.

ADAMS
 1. I will not engage in negative campaigning of any kind. Voters are intelligent and capable of examining my record and my opponents' records.
PHILPOTTS
 1. A former police officer can only enforce the law. He can't make it.
 2. Aides to legislators only follow instructions as given; they do not make laws or speak out for themselves.

What are the three most important issues facing your district — and what is your plan to address them?

ADAMS
 1. Education: I will introduce legislation that will mandate New York City receives its fair share of educational funding. I will introduce legislation to make it a felony to misappropriate funds from the Department of Education.
 2. Affordable housing: Much of the new development does not address the housing needs of low- or moderate-income residents. I will insist that any new government-subsidized development have an affordable-housing component attached to it.
 3. Health care: The state must be creative and think outside the box to address the overall health care crisis. Too many residents are using hospital emergency rooms as their primary health care. This must stop. I will open more venues for early screening and detection methods and neighborhood health fairs. I will also promote a state-sponsored prescription drug program.
PHILPOTTS
 1. Affordable housing
 2. Economic development
 3. Affordable health care

18th Senate District

Velmanette Montgomery vs. Tracy Boyland



Velmanette Montgomery

2. Preventive health and mental health services. I will continue to fight for health care services, including school-based and culturally competent community health and mental health clinics, the availability of sex education for youth, and information about HIV prevention. I will also continue to work and support the expansion of home care services for the elderly.
 3. Educational opportunity for youth. There must be adequate funding, reforms to improve the outcomes of students, and the broadest public support in order to ensure the continuation of social, economic and educational progress for generations.

Note: Despite repeated requests, candidate Tracy Boyland did not fill out our questionnaire. She also did not return repeated calls from The Brooklyn Papers.

What should voters choose you?
 I am a full-time legislator who spends 100 percent of my time, attention and work on constituent services and representation in Albany. My years of experience as a teacher, community organizer, child-care advocate, parent and elected official gives [sic] me a breadth and depth of understanding and knowledge about important issues.

Why is your opponent unqualified?
 She has no proven record of representation consistent with the standards expected by voters. And she has not disclosed the source of her campaign contributions as required by law. Voters have no way of knowing who is financing the Tracy Boyland candidacy.

What are the three most important issues facing your district — and your plan to address them?
 1. Affordable housing. I will continue to work on including affordable housing as a requirement for all developments receiving public subsidies. I support the extension of the Mitchell-Lama program.

57th Assembly District

Bill Batson vs. Freddie Hamilton vs. Hakeem Jeffries



Bill Batson



Freddie Hamilton



Hakeem Jeffries

What should voters choose you?

BILL BATSON
 1. My 20-year record of working in and with the community on tenant organizing, labor organizing.
 2. I would be an innovative, progressive Assemblyman, more interested in the health of my community than making backroom deals in Albany.
 3. My commitment to always working to get the best deal for my constituents when it comes to negotiating with outside entities (developers, etc.).
FREDDIE HAMILTON
 1. I have the most experience working in the 57th Assembly District.
 2. I have demonstrated over 30 years, my administrative skills, my ability to work effectively with my people and my commitment to dependable, consistent and quality services.
 3. I have the broadest knowledge of the issues that face working-class families. I also understand the issues and concerns of recent retirees or those near retirement as well as older seniors.

HAKEEM JEFFRIES
 1. I want to preserve the district's cultural and socio-economic diversity, as well as its celebrated array of arts, cultural and educational institutions.
 2. I have an ambitious agenda for change.
 3. As an attorney, I have fought discrimination in federal court and bid landlords in housing court. My knowledge of the law will allow me to legislate for the kind of change our community seeks.
 4. I have the support of some of the city's most effective public servants, including Speaker Christine Quinn and Comptroller William Thompson, plus the Working Families Party.
Offer two or more reasons why your opponent(s) are less qualified than you.
BATSON
 Hakeem Jeffries does not have any recent retirees or those near retirement as well as older seniors.

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Brooklyn Papers

School in, and Slope's Body Snatchers return

SMART mom

By Louise Crawford

IT'S HARD ENOUGH returning to the routines of school so soon after Labor Day — the getting the kids up and out before eight in the morning, the scramble to scramble eggs for that all-important fortifying breakfast, the two hours of picking out an outfit — but that's nothing compared to the annual Invasion of the Park Slope Body Snatchers!

You can't see these evil villains, but they're there. And they've already snatched dozens of Park Slopers, transforming them from laid back, convivial summer people into stressed out, pushy, neurotic PARENTS.

After the first drop-off of the year, Smartmom ran into a friend who just last week was wearing shorts, reeking of SPF 45 and regaling her with tales of a family vacation in Tuscany.

On this day, she engaged Smartmom in a long conversation about the pros and cons of the John Hopkins University Talent Search for gifted kids and her middle schooler's SAT scores (since when do middle schoolers take the SATs?).

The body-snatched person may look normal (whatever that is), but don't be fooled. Smartmom waved at a friend in front



of PS 321, a woman, Smartmom barely knew.

Back to the Land on Seventh Avenue.

"How was your summer?" she asked cheerfully. But her friend spoke with desperation in her voice: "Do you know when the Department of Education is releasing last year's standardized test scores?"

Smartmom saw another friend nursing a chai latte at ConnMuffCo before pick-up. Last week, she was sitting on her stoop sipping an iced mocha latte (frappuccino machiatto) and reading the September Vogue. Today, she seemed edgy, distracted, a tad tense.

"How was your Labor Day weekend?" Smartmom ventured.

"Fine," she said, but Smartmom knew her friend had been snatched. In fact, all that Smartmom's anxious friend wanted to do was compare and contrast Upper Carrol and the area's "hot" public middle school. The strange thing is: her kid is only in second grade.

At pick-up in the bus backyard

of PS 321, a woman, Smartmom barely knew. rected a list of all the books her third-grader had read over the summer vacation, which included titles by Lemony Snicket, J.K. Rowling, a smidgen of Dostoyevsky and the first act of "Hamlet."

It was obvious that this woman had also been snatched and she couldn't help herself. Nor could any of the others.

SMARTMOM AND THE Oh So Feisty One took Sixth Avenue back to the apartment in an effort to avoid Seventh Avenue, where the snatchers were obviously lurking in droves.

"Mommy, I want to go to Maggie Moo's," OSFO said of her favorite ice cream parlor. But Smartmom imagined being snatched while ordering OSFO's Very Yellow Marshmallow cone. Maybe it was something in the ice cream.

"No, no, I have some ice cream in the freezer," she said, nothing her disappointed daughter to the relative safety of home (could Maggie Moo's be in catnaps with the Body Snatchers? Smartmom was not willing to take that chance.)

Back at the apartment, Hepcat greeted OSFO and Smartmom.

"So how was your first day of school?" he said, looking anxious, his brow was dotted with sweat. "Shouldn't you start your homework? It's very important that you start your homework the minute you walk in the door."

Smartmom and OSFO looked at one another, wondering what had gotten into Hepcat — or is that really Hepcat?

"Then you need to read for 20 minutes. Make that an hour. No maybe two hours and afterwards practice your violin."

OSFO glared at her Dad. "But I don't play the violin," she said.

Hepcat was not himself. "Er, I mean the piano. Practice the piano."

The irony is that OSFO is nothing if not the Perfect Student. In fact, she was the only one in the family who was actually looking forward to the first day of school.

She had her outfit picked out a month ago and two dozen #2 Ticonderoga pencils sharpened and ready to go. Teen Spirit, by comparison, avoided thinking of school altogether, despite the thousand pages of summer reading needed to get done by opening day.

But with Hepcat apparently body-snatched, Smartmom realized that she was next. Maybe not today or tomorrow, but soon, and for the rest of her life, as Bogart would say, The Body Snatchers would get her, too.

And she'd be obsessing about Teen Spirit's 10th-grade report card, the PSATs, the SATs, and his college essay. Come to think of it, is he doing anything to earn social service credits for his college applications?

Smartmom could even start stressing about OSFO's middle-school admissions and whether she was invited to enough birthday parties.

But Smartmom would be back to normal by next summer. Just like everyone else. Then the family could enjoy blissful days and nights on the beach in Sag Harbor and on the farm in California without once thinking about school. They could even talk about books, writing, and music without a word about homework.

But for now, the Body Snatchers were here to stay, transforming eager moms and dads into hyper, over-determined PARENTS.

Remember: be careful at Maggie Moo's.

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**“When I had my stroke, two things saved my life.
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— Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz, 45th District, Brooklyn, New York

One morning last year, Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz realized something very wrong was happening to his body. His entire left side had gone numb. A friend saw he was in distress and immediately called 911.

Fortunately, despite his loss of mobility and slurred speech, Assemblyman Cymbrowitz had all his wits about him. When EMS arrived, he told them to take him to the Maimonides Stroke Center.

It proved to be a very wise decision.

You see, in a situation where every second counts,

no hospital in Brooklyn is prepared to treat those suffering from a stroke as immediately, or as thoroughly, as the Maimonides Stroke Center.

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It's because of this total commitment to stroke care that HealthGrades, the nation's largest independent rating system, ranked Maimonides in the top 5% in the nation and second-highest in all of New York State.

No wonder that at the first sign of a stroke, more and more people in Brooklyn, like Assemblyman Cymbrowitz, are saying what could prove to be the most important four words of their lives... “Take me to Maimonides!”



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OUR OPINION

For Congress in the 10th, Ed Towns

IN THE 10TH CONGRESSIONAL District — which stretches through central Brooklyn and includes parts of DUMBO, Fort Greene, Boerum Hill and Prospect Heights — voters are asked to choose between a candidate who's right on local issues, and one attuned to foreign affairs but out to lunch domestically.

We reluctantly endorse the latter: the lackluster incumbent, Rep. Ed Towns, over his spirited challenger, City Councilman Charles Barron.

Were this merely a referendum on local issues, we might well favor Barron — a former Black Panther who still holds dear the spirit and passion of the 1960s. Like Chris Owens, a candidate in the neighboring 11th District, Barron's idealism is precious, and believable — but it's somewhat unworkable in today's world and in a Congress dominated by the Republicans.

Towns, who has been in office since 1982, has a thin record of achievement. He often votes with the Republican majority — as he did on the estate tax cut, a punitive bankruptcy bill, and President Bush's energy policy — and against the apparent interests of his constituents.

But on the largest issues — including foreign affairs — Towns votes correctly and has a real-world view. And if the Democrats take back the House, Towns's seniority will give him added clout.

A third candidate, Assemblyman Roger Green, is without merit. Green resigned his Assembly seat, then won re-election without real opposition, following his 2004 conviction for stealing from taxpayers by submitting false travel vouchers. He is a disgrace even by the usual low standards of Brooklyn politics.

Yassky in the 11th

As a reminder, The Brooklyn Papers last week endorsed City Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) in the four-way race to succeed retiring Rep. Major Owens in the 11th Congressional District. Our endorsement cited Yassky's leadership in the Council and his real-world positions on local and national issues.

To read our full endorsement — or watch all four candidates in The Papers' exclusive endorsement debate — visit our Web site, www.BrooklynPapers.com.

In other races...

The Papers makes these endorsements:

• State Senate, 25th District (Brooklyn Heights, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill): **No endorsement.** This race pits longtime incumbent Marty Connor against gadfly Ken Diamondstone. We strongly objected to Connor's effort to knock Diamondstone off the ballot on a factually inaccurate charge that Diamondstone did not live in the district. But in recent mailings, Diamondstone has lied about Connor's record. Both candidates should be ashamed.

• State Senate, 18th District (Park Slope, Fort Greene, Prospect Heights): We endorse incumbent **Welmanette Montgomery.** Montgomery is running a transparent and reasonable campaign, while her opponent, Tracy Boyland, seems to regard openness as a luxury, ignoring requests for basic information and not filing campaign finance reports. They also differ on Atlantic Yards, which Montgomery opposes.

• State Senate, 20th District (Park Slope, Prospect Heights): We endorse former police officer **Eric Adams**, who will make a fine senator. His opponents offer

no competition.

• State Assembly, 57th District (Prospect Heights, Fort Greene): In a close battle, we endorse Community Board 8 member **Bill Batson**.

While his opponent Hakeem Jeffries is intelligent, articulate and talented, his inability to take a clear position on the Atlantic Yards mega-development — which is centered in this district — is problematic. Batson has been a strong opponent, pointing out the project's flaws, including a recent discovery of tens of millions more in public subsidies. In addition, he has been a strong voice in the fight against landlords who set fire to their own buildings to drive out low-rent-paying tenants. For that, we endorse Bill Batson.

A third candidate, district leader Freddie Hamilton, signed the Community Benefit Agreement with Atlantic Yards developer Bruce Ratner, rendering her unable to negotiate on behalf of the community.

Be sure to vote

This week's Paper contains coverage of all the local races. Pick your candidates and vote — Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6 am to 9 pm.

LETTERS

The Atlantic Yards hearing

To the editor,

Coverage of the Atlantic Yards hearing by your reporters ("Battle for Brooklyn," Aug. 26) was not so bad — not old school Brooklyn Papers but acceptable, if not good.

The hearing was an excellent example of how money is the god of this world and development will always be a bloodbath. A friend of

mine likes to say anything in New York will get opposed, but the hearing showed why it should be opposed: the real-estate industry is running the state.

Supporters of Ratner's Atlantic Yards used every race-baiting trick in the book.

Why didn't they talk about predatory lending, or when Brooklyn was redefined by the banks? Let's not forget luxury decontrol of government housing. What about the education programs at Metrotech that did not provide jobs for residents of the Fort Greene projects? How about the condominiums built around the city with tax abatements? What about all the warehousing in the housing projects that the City Comptroller recently found?

Atlantic Yards will push out the last remaining black residents in Fort Greene and Prospect Heights. The project will kill the air quality, cause traffic and bring in shadows

that will result in real blight. We will forever suffer the consequences of Bruce Ratner.

I live one block from Atlantic Yards, but I can't afford to live in the neighborhood I grew up in.

As a young black man, I was taught that the elders marched, risking their lives for civil rights and for the right to vote and equality. But Atlantic Yards is the start of an unfortunate future that will open Pandora's Box forever.

Daniel McCalla, Fort Greene

To the editor,

The "Battle for Brooklyn" began more than 40 years ago.

Back then, there would have been no controversy over any development promising new housing, commerce, and jobs in the proposed site, because Downtown had fallen into decay and abandonment, was threatened by crime and poverty, and slated for "slum clearance" and highway development.

John Galobio, Park Slope

ALL DRAWN OUT



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By fax: (718) 834-9278.

By email: Letters@BrooklynPapers.com

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier you send your letter, the better.



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Diaper thief gets flushed out

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers

The thief was desperate for diapers, but he should have heeded his own warning: "It's not worth it."

The 18-year-old security guard at a store on Henry Street near Clark Street watched as the burglar began to unload bags of Pampers from the shelves at 10:45 am on Sept. 3. When he approached, the man grabbed a half-dozen bags of diapers — an \$82 value — and bolted for the door.

Two bags fell from his grasp on the way, but the thief still had four packages when the security guard caught up to him. That's when the robber pulled a knife and uttered words which convinced the sentry to back off.

But the thief's escape was quickly thwarted by police, who were summoned by the guard's co-workers. Police Officer Tamar Keaton arrested a 42-year-old suspect — and even recovered the diapers.

Samaritan scan

A thief posing as a beggar snatched \$60 from a teen on a Carroll Gardens sidewalk on Sept. 1 — but then gave him back one third of the money, police said.

The robber returned \$20 to the 14-year-old after the boy

begged him not to steal his hand-earned cash.

The swindler first approached the youngster, asking for change, around noon as the boy walked home along Warren Street, between Smith and Court streets. When the boy pulled out his hankroll, the robber grabbed the bills and took off running. The teen's pleas convinced the thief to lighten his load by \$20, but didn't delay him for long.

Middy mug

A trio of thieves robbed a bicyclist at knifepoint and drove off against traffic on Concord Street in Vinegar Hill on Aug. 31, police said.

The brazen heist began when the black Nissan Maxima driven by the robbers pulled up in front of the biker on Navy Street at 2:15 pm. Passengers jumped from the front and back and stopped the 31-year-old from peddling away.

The fellow in front pulled a knife on the victim and insisted, "Run your pockets, motherf—er." The biker pulled \$38 from his pockets and turned it over. The thugs jumped back into the car and sped away, heading west against traffic.

Police are looking for three black men. The knifeman is described as 6-foot-3, 260 pounds, dressed in a black

POLICE BLOTTER

Kicks taken

In Brooklyn, it's all about the sneakers. A Chelsea man learned that lesson the hard way when someone stole his pair of New Balance sneakers as he crossed the Manhattan Bridge into Kings County on Aug. 27. The 39-year-old was just 200 feet off the bridge, near Jay Street, when a trio of teens on bicycles snatched his shoe bag as they peddled past.

The victim gave chase, running after the thieves as they raced into the public housing complex nearby. He pursued them into the buildings and began to search floor by floor, for his attackers. But when other project residents questioned his visit and insisted it wasn't safe for him, the victim left empty-handed.

Shool targeted

Thieves beat the students back to school this year, it seems. Someone stole seven LCD projectors and two DVD players worth more than

\$21,000 together — from a public high school on Navy Street, at Flushing Avenue. The equipment was inside the Urban Assembly School for Law and Justice when the school closed for summer vacation on June 28.

But when teachers returned on Sept. 1, they realized a burglar had paid a visit to at least seven classrooms.

Dawn mug

What is your life and safety worth? More than \$3, for sure.

But early on Aug. 28, a mugger forced one Brooklyn man to contemplate this question.

The thief stopped the victim at 6:30 am, as he made his way along West Ninth Street, near Smith Street, to the F train station, police said. The robber asked for the man's wallet — but the victim resisted.

That's when the mugger pulled out a box cutter and started slashing. The victim tried to fight him off, but suffered wounds on his lip, chest and hands, landing him at Lutheran Medical Center for treatment.

The thief snatched the wallet and escaped, running toward the Red Hook public

housing complex. Police are looking for a black man, 5-foot-9 and 180 pounds, with dreadlocks, dressed in a black leather jacket and blue jeans. He left behind his baseball hat and the box cutter, which police collected as evidence.

Hospital heist

Burglars struck Long Island College Hospital and snatched computer equipment valued at more than \$1,000, police said.

The thief broke through a back window at the hospital, on Amity and Henry streets, sometime after 3 pm on Aug. 25 and before 9 am on Aug. 28.

Once inside, the robber cracked the lock on the room 101 door and stole a hard drive, 17-inch computer monitor, keyboard and mouse. Hospital employees also found a television removed from an office and abandoned in a hallway.

Cash and carry

Steak knives aren't just for dinner, anymore. But they're not just weapons, either.

One mugger put his serrated blade to work during a hold-up on Adelphi Street Sept. 1, police said.

The thief sneaked up behind his 20-year-old victim as she walked home, between

Myrtle and Willoughby avenues, around 12:30 am. He knocked her to the pavement and demanded she turn over her pocketbook.

When the victim hesitated, the meat-eater withdrew his weapon and used it to saw through the purse's straps, which still circled the woman's shoulder. The thief severed the handles, grabbed the bag and ran off along Willoughby Avenue.

Robbery time

A trio of teens used a handgun to rob an older boy on Aug. 25, police said.

The young thugs followed the 17-year-old victim from the park. When he reached the corner of Emerson Place and Willoughby Avenue, at 9:20 pm, they stopped him and asked for the time.

But the question was cover for their robbery plans. One thief tried to grab the victim's backpack, but the boy managed to fight him off. That's when another attacker pulled a weapon from his waistband and demanded the victim hand over his cash.

The teenager ran off instead, with the robbers at his heels. One thug caught up and knocked him to the ground, but the trio fled before it could steal anything or hurt the victim further.

See **BLOTTER** on page 16A

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Mailbox mischief in Bay Ridge building

By Lilo H. Stainton
The Brooklyn Papers
68th Precinct

Detectives are investigating a Bay Ridge man who allegedly raided a mailbox to steal his neighbors' identity, reaping close to \$3,000 in ill-gotten gains.

Cops believe that sometime in early June, the suspect started vandalizing mailboxes in the 77th Street building, near Tenth Avenue, and opened various accounts in the names of some residents.

One 60-year-old victim said the trickster recently stole checks valued at \$2,675 from his mailbox and cashed them in another resident's name.

Clarification

In our Sept. 2 issue, The Bay Ridge Paper printed a picture of Dyker Heights teenagers to illustrate a story about a police crackdown on late-night teen crime along 13th Avenue. The teens in the picture, however, were not doing anything illegal.

POLICE BLOTTER

Ridge Ave rob

Remember, mother always knows best.

It took a mom's eye to notice something was out of whack after a burglar visited her daughter's Bay Ridge Avenue apartment on Aug. 28, police said.

The 25-year-old daughter left her home, near Fifth Avenue, around 11 a.m. She returned at 4 p.m. but only when her mom showed up two hours later, the women realized someone had stolen a dozen items of gold, platinum and diamond jewelry, valued at \$2,180, from the apartment.

The thief left no sign of a break-in, confounding police with his mode of entry.

Friend no more

A teenage house-sitter is suspected of stealing three laptops from a Bay Ridge home during the last week of August, police said.

The 47-year-old victim left the house on 89th Street at Shore Court, in the care of his daughter's best friend, a 17-year-old boy, when the family left for vacation on Aug. 21. When they returned home on Aug. 27, the computers had disappeared.

Police found no signs of a break-in and the boy had a full set of keys. The current status of his friendship with the victim's daughter was not clear.

Lights looted

Add two more Xenon headlights to the list of hot auto parts.

Thieves snatched the popular set of front lamps, which have a street value of at least \$1,600, from a Nissan Maxima parked overnight, police said. The owner left the 2003 sedan on Colonial Road, near her 74th Street home, around 9 pm on Aug. 21.

62nd Precinct

Steel string

A string of three heists on Aug. 30 have police searching for a pair of white men armed with a knife and driving an old, brown or tan car.

Cops don't know if all crimes involve the same thieves, but the similarities are striking. The three attacks also occurred within a half hour and a dozen blocks of each other.

The first robbery came moments before 10 a.m., with two thieves appearing at the door of a home on 73rd Street, near 21st Street, police said. When a 15-year-old girl answered the door, one man flashed a knife and the other threatened her with a club. The victim told police she feared they also had a gun.

The thugs stole \$30, a cellphone and various electronics, and escaped in an outfitted brown vehicle.

Moments later, a tan two-door sedan pulled alongside a 49-year-old man as he walked along 63rd Street, near 17th Avenue, police said. A white man jumped from the passenger's side and showed off a knife, insisting the man turn over his cash.

When the victim refused, the

Young & violent

Police nabbed three teens who repeatedly stabbed a 15-year-old boy during a robbery attempt on Sept. 1.

The suspects — ages 13, 14 and 16 — face first-degree assault charges after the 10:10 a.m. attack near the corner of New Utrecht Avenue and 62nd Street. The boys surrounded the victim and one pulled a knife, stabbing him three times in the leg before they ran off.

Police searched the neighborhood and, with the help of a witness, quickly had the young thugs in handcuffs.

Cared for cash

Two teen suspects with a wooden cane stole \$210 and a cellphone from a boy their own age on Aug. 31.

The pair surrounded their

Costly spree

Someone snatched a woman's wallet — stuffed with \$350 and critical identification — from a woman's purse as she tried on clothes at a store at Bay and Shore parkways, around 7:30 pm on Labor Day, police said.

When the 72-year-old victim discovered the theft and called her credit card company, she discovered someone had already charged up a bill on her account.

Hidey heist

Police arrested a thug for beating a man with a metal pipe during a robbery on 17th Avenue, near 67th Street, at 4:35 pm. Cops say he knocked the man to the ground and demanded cash. The thug ran off with the man's money, cellphone and jewelry, leaving the victim with cuts and bruises on both knees.

But police tracked the thief and quickly arrested the 20-year-old suspect on felony robbery charges. He also matches the description of a robber who struck moments earlier and just two blocks away.

Pistol power

A gunshot is certainly one way to end an argument.

One man chose that punishment after a debate with a stranger on the corner of 17th Avenue and 66th Street just before midnight on Aug. 26, police said.

The gunman was among a group of up to six men who began to argue with a 26-year-old victim. When the words grew heated, the thug pulled the weapon from his waistband and fired a single shot into the victim's right ankle.

The victim was unable to provide any details about his attackers. The root of their argument also remains a mystery.

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Cared for cash

Two teen suspects with a wooden cane stole \$210 and a cellphone from a boy their own age on Aug. 31.

The pair surrounded their

17-year-old victim on the corner of Bay 37th Street and Benson Avenue, at 5:20 pm. One thug shook the stick at the terrified teen and the other grabbed the goods. Both then fled the scene.

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5	Tue	St. Martin	08:00am	04:00pm
6	Wed	Guatemala	12:00am	08:00pm
7	Thu	Barbados	08:00am	06:00pm
8	Fri	St. Lucia	07:00am	02:00pm
9	Sat	Malaga	09:00am	02:00pm
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Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 1st day of September, 2006, bearing the Index Number N50042/2006, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KING'S COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to: Assume the name of Emily Paton Chang. My present name is Emily Paton Chang. My present address is: 2016 West 17th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11223. My place of birth is: Fort Payne, Alabama. My date of birth is: July 24, 2001.



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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

September 9, 2006



Filling the void

Brooklyn Museum show reflects on the past, present and future of the World Trade Center site

By Erin Marie Daly
for The Brooklyn Papers

As galleries across New York struggle to mark the five-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the Brooklyn Museum is approaching the task from a unique perspective. "Looking Back From Ground Zero: Images From the Brooklyn Museum Collection," which is an exhibition of paintings, photographs, prints and drawings from the Museum's permanent collection, reflects on the Lower Manhattan area around the World Trade Center site before, as well as after, the attack. The result is somewhere in between nostalgia and horror, tapping into that hidden feeling in all of us that still — half a decade later — can't be-

lieve the Twin Towers are gone. That sense of disbelief pervades the exhibition from its opening display. Gerard Maynard's photograph of Ground Zero snapped on Sept. 11, 2003 that is so garantuan that one must step back to comprehend the eerie smoothness of the dirt marking the gaping hole. Many of the works that follow require such physical distancing: not because of their size, but because grappling with the quiet emotion inherent in these depictions of the lost towers necessitates a few deep breaths, and perhaps the squeeze of a loved one's hand. There was a lot of hand-squeezing in the gallery on a recent rainy Saturday when GO Brooklyn visited the exhibit. There was also a lot of explaining to do, as children inquired about the differences in the photographs in

Folk art born from loss

Five years after Sept. 11 changed the Manhattan skyline forever, the Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC) is paying homage to the fallen Twin Towers by putting the memory-making into the hands of the people. In "Here Was New York: Twin Towers in Memorial Images," a collection of images of the Towers culled from community members throughout the New York area will be displayed in 12 galleries across Brooklyn. The photographs document a wide range of expressions, including everything from homemade shrines and fridge or mantle displays, to wall murals and graffiti, as well as tattoos, T-shirts, and custom painting on trucks, among others. BAC folklorist Kay Turner, who curated the show, told GO Brooklyn that it was her own wanderings in downtown Manhattan in the days following 9-11 — and the absence of a formal memorial today that inspired her to collect images of local forms of remembrance in order to

keep the Towers visible. "People have taken charge of their own memorializing until a rebuild really starts to happen," said Turner. "The photographic medium is very democratic in the sense that almost anyone can use a camera. When a traumatic event like 9-11 occurs, people need a way to believe that it's really happened. These pictures are a way for us to affirm that it did happen, and here's something that stands for the way New York was before." The collection of images will eventually be used to create an archive that may be transferred to a museum at Ground Zero, said Turner. "Here Was New York: Twin Towers in Memorial Images" will be on display at BAC Gallery, 1111 Front St. at Adams Street, Suite 218 in DUMBO through Sept. 30. Admission is free. For a complete list of participating galleries, call the Brooklyn Arts Council at (718) 625-0080. — Erin Marie Daly



Reflecting on 9-11: On display in the Brooklyn Museum's "Looking Back From Ground Zero" exhibit are Gerard Maynard's 2003 photograph, "WTC 11.11.03" (top left), and G.N. Miller's "Guarding the Tombs," taken on Sept. 11, 2001 (above). (At left) The exhibition's design incorporates elements of the towers' architecture.

the first section of the exhibit — an historical snapshot of life in Lower Manhattan, known as "Radio Row," before and during the construction of the Towers — and the second, depicting the aftermath of the attack.

A short film, "Building the World Trade Center," answers some of those questions, although it's difficult to regard the construction workers, hoisting massive steel beams, without recalling the images of people falling that have been so indelibly burned into our collective memory. (It's also nauseating to see the aerial views of the towers, creating a horrifying sense of the decision many inside the buildings faced on that day.)

We learn from the film that those beams, or "trees," provided the buildings with their strength, and gain a renewed appreciation for the painstaking effort that went into the creation of these monumental structures but also a heightened incredulity that it took mere minutes to flatten them.

The exhibit reminds us of a community that existed before the towers were erected. One hundred and sixty small buildings were demolished to make way for the World Trade Center, which opened in 1972.

Before there was anything to compare it to, many truly mourned the metamorphosis of that old way of life in Lower Manhattan, co-curator Marilyn Kushner told GO Brooklyn.

"We discovered that there was a lot that was lost when that area was demolished to make way for the World Trade Center buildings," Kushner said. "What happened on 9-11 was an unspeakable tragedy, and nothing can equal the great loss sustained by those who lost their family and friends on that day. But interestingly, the earlier loss of buildings

created a big controversy in and of itself."

The exhibit also tackles the misconceptions many of us harbored before 9-11 changed our lives forever. As it turned out, the towers were not indestructible: although Minoru Yamasaki, the architect of the buildings, notes that the driving force behind the construction of the towers was not to boast of America's economic omnipotence, but to symbolize world peace.

World Trade Center is a living symbol of man's dedication to world peace, a representation of man's belief in humanity."

Given those ambitions, it's even more heart-wrenching the portion of the exhibit detailing the towers' destruction, for if the World Trade Center symbolized world peace, what does it mean for us now that they are gone? The exhibit can't answer that question and doesn't attempt to. Instead, we are left to face the raw images captured by G.N. Miller, one of the first photographers allowed access to the area in the hours following the attack. The jarring scenes — a pair of shoes abandoned in the dust near the Wall Street subway station, a fireman praying beside the empty jacket and hat of a fallen comrade — are stark reminders of the collective terror of those first few hours.

There are more startling displays, too, that reach beyond the photographic medium. Christopher Drager's 5,000-piece jigsaw puzzle depicts the mulch of Ground Zero in 2003, while Jennifer Pun's alphabetical listing of the people who died in the attack is superimposed on an image of Lower Manhattan. A graphic documentation of actual phone conversations and messages on 9-11 by Jessica Green is shielded in a glass cube, making it hard to read, but also, perhaps, protect-

See 9-11 on page 16

TV Bklyn on NBC

When it comes to capturing the essence of a time and place on film or in a television series, Hollywood stars Delroy Lindo and Jeremy Sisto say there is no substitute for shooting in the actual location. Fortunately, the actors get to do just that for their new suspense drama, "Kidnapped," which is scheduled to air on NBC Wednesday nights, starting Sept. 20.

In the series, created by "Karen Sisco" and "Lucky Number SleVIN" mastermind Jason Smilovic, Lindo and Sisto portray investigators charged with bringing home the abducted teen-age son (Will Denton) of a wealthy Manhattan couple (Dani Delany, pictured, and Timothy Hutton), while also unraveling the mysterious circumstances surrounding the boy's disappearance.

While much of the show takes place in the family's posh, Upper East Side apartment — constructed on an enormous sound stage at Silver Cup Studios in Queens — Lindo and Sisto are also seen working the case in Brooklyn's Greenpoint and Williamsburg neighborhoods. "Of course it impacts your performance because one is responding naturally to the stimuli of the streets and the stimuli of the environment," Lindo told reporters during a recent visit to the "Kidnapped" set. "New York has so much going for it, in terms of feel ... You just eat it up; you absorb it ... I would say this being a New York story, and the fact that we are shooting on the streets of New York, just adds to the authenticity of the whole endeavor."

Sisto echoed Lindo's sentiments. "For the show, it's great to have the New York streets be such a strong character," Sisto noted. "These characters kind of only make sense here, right now, anyway."

Although Delany and Hutton have only signed on for one season of the show, Lindo, who plays an FBI agent, and Sisto, who plays a private investigator, are expected to return for subsequent seasons should the series be renewed.

— Karen Butler

ART



The Brooklyn Museum's "Looking Back From Ground Zero" exhibit is a living symbol of man's dedication to world peace, a representation of man's belief in humanity."

Sinks, sticks, steel and suitcases formed into provocative sculptures have invaded two DUMBO parks as part of the 24th annual Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition's (BWAC) "Garden of Delights."

The unique outdoor sculpture show can be seen at the Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park and the park at the foot of Main Street until Oct. 13.

This year's sculptures include artist and BWAC curator Ursula Clark's "Stick Dome" (pictured at top) and its name has nothing to hide: the sculpture is a tall, round sculpture formed from sticks.

Sculptor Tyrone Tripoli's "Travel With the Kitchen Sink," which contains stainless-steel sinks fastened together and flowing from an open suitcase, is also featured, along with Matt Johnson's take on two of the seven deadly sins, steel men (pictured at right) representing "Gluttony" and "Greed."

Stephanie Bloom's "Before and After" is an eight-foot-high aluminum house decorated with painted leaves and squirrels, making a statement about her concern for the environment in replacing nature with development.

The exhibit incorporates these and other sculptures from the minds — and hands — of 29 artists. See the "Garden of Delights" at the Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park (Water Street at New Dock Street) and the park at the foot of Main Street in DUMBO every day, from 8:30 am to sunset. The exhibit closes on Oct. 13. For more information, visit www.bwac.org or call (718) 596-2507. — Jovanna Rizzo

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MONTAGUE B/W COURT & CLINTON

9-11...

Continued from page 12

ing us from the pain of getting too close to those memories. And J. Mejin Yoon's interactive display, "Absence," allows museum-goers to finger the pages of a tiny, all-white 101-page book, each page — one for every floor of the towers — blank except for a pinhole and two cutout squares. (GO Brooklyn overheard one father explain it to his child this way: "Absence" means there is now air where the buildings were.)

But one of the most poignant elements of the exhibition comes in the form of our own voices: in the final section, museum-goers are invited to share their written thoughts in a book. The result is telling. Thumbing through the inscriptions, one witnesses an array of emotions, echoing sentiments ranging from "Bush let them come down" to "God Bless America" to "Everyone's inside" — screaming as they see these pictures to "I'm still pissed off at them. Maybe someday I'll heal." These words are the closest thing we have to comprehension: identifying with the uninhibited grief, anger

and sadness of others in our community is one way for us to begin to try and make sense of it all. While the exhibition attempts to close on a redemptive note — Sara Parker's string of Tibetan prayer flags — many may leave with images of terror more prevalent in their minds. That's because the exhibition space itself, with its blue-and-gray painted walls and imitation steel "trees," hauntingly evokes a sense of actually being inside the absent buildings.

Nor does the exhibition feel like resolution, which — for many of us — remains elusive, even five years later. Or as one toddler leaving the exhibition put it to his father, "But Daddy, why did the towers fall down?" It's a question that many of us are still struggling to answer.

Where to GO...

Continued from page 14...

WALKING TOUR: Maurice Lorenz hosts the Metro Tour Service, taking a walk through Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Brooklyn Heights. \$25, 2 pm to 5 pm. Meet at Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams St. (718) 699-6430.

GET ON THE WATER: Urban Doves Estuary Conservancy

Nightlife...

Continued from page 15...

Solomon's Porch
307 Suydam Ave. at Halsted Street in Bedford Stuyvesant, (718) 919-8001.
Tuesdays: Open mic, 8 pm, \$5 (admission FREE before 10 pm).

Sputnik
262 Taffe Pl. at DeKalb Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-6666, www.brooklyn.sputnik.com.
Saturdays: French Beats International, 9 pm, FREE.
Tuesdays: DJ Schott with rock 'n' roll meets hip-

Stain
766 Grand St. at Humboldt Street in Williamsburg, (718) 387-7860, www.stainbar.com.
Mondays: Patti Starr, 5 pm (often accompanied by the jazz guitar of Noboru, 8 pm). FREE, Wednesdays: JAMAICA, an informal open mic hosted by singer/songwriters, 9 pm, FREE. Sept. 9: Kevin So, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 10: Corey Brown with YouKnow, 9 pm, FREE. Sept. 14: Manhattan Hot Club, 8 pm, Mike Baggett's jazz trio, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 15: 181st Project Jam, Tomi Whelan and Friends, 9 pm, FREE. Sept. 16: Michael Winogrod's Hornet, Jewish, newish band, 1:30 pm, Sarninifalaz jazz, 8 pm, Carnegie Music, 10 pm, FREE.

Tea Lounge
837 Union St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 789-2762, www.tealounge.com.
Sept. 14: BodyLogic, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, FREE. Sept. 15: Barbarian Horse, 9 pm, 10:30 pm, FREE.

Trash Bar
256 Grand St. at Orange Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.trashbar.com.
Sept. 9: The Feavers, 8 pm, Live Fast Die, 9 pm, The Plungers, 10 pm, The Shemans, 11 pm, The Four Sides, 12 pm, Sept. 10: Rock Star Karaoke, 10 pm, 5c. Sept. 11: Steve and the Boppers, 8 pm, Sept. 12: 28 Degrees Taurus, 8 pm, You Ain't My Mother, 9 pm, The Soundwaves, 10 pm, The Killing Fields, 11 pm, John Wayne, 12 pm, Sept. 13: DJ Mojo presents The Most Holy Trinity, 8 pm, Bridges and Resonance, 9 pm, The Reunion Project, 10 pm, The Flat Ows, 11 pm, Air Waves, 1 am, 5c. Sept. 14: Drexel, 8 pm, Dynamic Plan,

9 pm, Funeral Cashiers, 10 pm, Spar Hornet, 11 pm, Black Horse, 12 pm, Sept. 15: Paddy Po, 8 pm, Career Club, 9 pm, Brewblast, 10 pm, System Noise, 11 pm, Brian Wilson Shock Treatment, 12 pm, Sept. 16: Birthday Suits, 8 pm, Jet Set, 9 pm, Ashoric, 10 pm, Black Taxi, 11 pm, Indiarium, 12 pm, 1 am, 5c.

Two Boots Brooklyn
514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 499-5253, www.twobootsbk.com.
Sept. 9: Dang it Bubbly, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 15: Birthday Suits, 8 pm, Jet Set, 9 pm, Ashoric, 10 pm, FREE.

Union Hall
(Downstairs at) 702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4402, http://www.unionhall.com/040805.
Sept. 9: Bing Kong, The Gaskets, 8 pm, STED, Sept. 14: Finian McKean, Moore 'n' Sons, 8 pm, 5c.

Vox Pop
1022 Cortelyou Road at Stratford Road in Flatbush, (718) 940-0844, www.voxpop.net.
Sundays: Open mic, 7:30 pm, FREE with 2-drinks-in-consumption.

Zebulon Cafe Concert
458 Wythe Ave. at Metropolitan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 218-6934, www.zebuloncafeconcert.com.
Sept. 9: Adios, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 10: Gig Contact, Ryan Sawyer, Free Style Music Improvisation, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 12: Pure Horowitz, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 13: Sonya Vohler and Los Pollos Galacticos, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 14: Edson, 10 pm, FREE. Sept. 15: Dub Nubon, 10 pm, FREE.

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THE SACKETT GROUP: presents the comedy "Picasso at the Lapin Agile," written by Steve Martin. \$20, 8 pm, Brooklyn Music School Playhouse, 126 St. Felix St. (718) 638-7104.

PARLOUR JAZZ: Jazz vocalist Denise King and Her Trio perform \$20 for two acts, 9 pm and 10:30 pm, 119 Vanderbilt Ave. (718) 855-1981.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: presents "The Dinner Party," \$12, \$10 children and seniors, 8 pm, 26 Willow Place, between Jerome and State streets, (718) 625-1814.

CHILDREN
WALK-A-TALK: Madison Square Boys and Girls Club host an event to raise funds for after-school and summer program for Brooklyn's at-risk youth. Minimum sponsorship of \$5 per mile is required to participate. 9 am registration. Walk begins at 10 am. Prospect Park. Enter park at Parkside and Ocean avenues. (718) 262-7799.

PROSPECT PARK CAROUSEL: Take a ride, \$1.50 per ride. Noon to 5 pm. Flatbush and Ocean avenues. (718) 262-7799.

NY TRANSIT MUSEUM: hosts a program, "Design a Train," kids are invited to take a look at some of the vintage cars on display in the museum and compare them to the subway cars of today. Admission free for ages 4 and older, \$5, \$3 children ages 3 to 17, 1 pm, Schermerhorn Street and Boerum Place. (718) 694-1600.

OTHER
BOOK READING: Brooklyn Hls-

torical Society presents a reading with Rick Colten, author of "Street and Love," 7 pm, 128 Pierrepont St. (718) 222-4111.

BAMCNEIMATEK: presents "Jean-Louis Carrière's Language of Film Festival." Today: "Belle de Jour" (1967), \$10, \$7 children and seniors, 2 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:50 pm and 9:15 pm, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 777-FILM, www.bamcneimatek.org.

HOLIDAY SERVICE: Congregation Mount Sinai celebrates the Jewish holiday of Selichot. Social hour at 8 pm. Buses leave for service at Ground Zero at 9 pm, 250 Cadman Plaza West. (718) 875-9124. Free.

MOVIES IN THE PARK: presents the Italian Job, "Coffee Park, Rockies and Verona streets." 8:15 pm. For information, www.rockholmovies.org. Free.

ROOFTOP FILMS: presents "What is Paper Maché?" Music at 8:30 pm; film at 9 pm. Old American Can Factory, 232 Third St. (718) 471-7362. Free.

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ATLANTIC ANTIQ: 32nd annual street festival features local merchants, restaurants, crafts shows, community groups and more. Activities for kids include clown, pony rides, floating water puppets, art activities and more. 1.5 miles of Atlantic Avenue is closed to traffic from Hicks Street to Fourth Avenue. (718) 875-8993. Free.

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BLOTTER...

Continued from page 9

Police are looking for three black boys, all around 15-year-old. One dressed in a gray jacket and blue jeans and another wore a red shirt and jeans.

Watch it!

It was an odd request. But who argues with a man holding a meat cleaver?

A stranger with a shopping cart approached a man around 8 a.m. at the corner of Hanson Place and Greene Avenue, and demanded he watch over the buggy. The shopper hefted a meat cleaver and threatened the victim with "serious physical injury" if he didn't remain vigilant.

It's not clear what precious cargo was inside the cart, or where the thug was headed. But police got there before the fellow made it too far. Officer Juan Perez arrested the 53-year-old suspect on menacing charges. The cleaver was collected as evidence.

Bash bankrolled

Two dollars — no holler. But \$700 was a bit much.

But that's how much a thief grabbed from a 69-year-old Good Samaritan who had agreed to buy him a beer on Aug. 31, police said.

The mugger wandered up to the victim on Greene Avenue near Cumberland Street around 4:15 and asked him for \$2 to purchase a cold one. The man removed his bankroll — a fat \$700, he told police — and began searching for singles.

But the temptation was too much. The thief snatched the cash and ran off. Police are looking for a suspect named Michael, described as a bald black man in his late 40s, 6-foot-1.

Quick hit

Police arrested a 44-year-old man who allegedly stole \$1,200 in electronics from a South Oxford Street apartment on Aug. 28.

The 30-year-old victim left his second-floor apartment off Atlantic Avenue, at 10:40 a.m. When he returned 15 minutes later, a front window had been broken and his computers and games were gone. The burglar

helped himself to two laptops, a Sony PlayStation, \$100 in video games and music CDs and four canvas bags — helpful in hauling the loot away.

But the bags may also have given the thief away. Police found the fellow wandering the neighborhood, draped with the telltale stolen goods, and arrested him on burglary charges. Officers collected his sneakers and a pair of black leather gloves as evidence.

Cleaned out

Have you seen "Hotoco"? Police are looking for a Ford Explorer sporting Virginia vanity plates with that moniker after a burglar stole 54 cases of cleaning supplies from a Grand Avenue warehouse. The building, at Park Avenue, was locked at 8:30 p.m. on Aug. 30.

But when a 31-year-old worker arrived at 5 a.m. the next day, the warehouse door had been forced open and nearly \$900 in cleaning solvents had disappeared. A witness saw the SUV with vanity plates parked nearby that morning.

An inventory of the missing items included the following: two cases of Comet, three cases of bleach, 19 cases of Windex, 17 cases of Fantastik, 19 cases of trash bags and four cases of Glade air-freshener spray. The thief also snatched a pallet jack, valued at \$575, and three hand trucks, worth \$150, probably using the tools to help him load his stolen loot.

High power

Someone stole a coil of power cable worth \$190,000 from an MTA storage spot in the Atlantic Avenue train station, police said.

Track inspectors discovered 60-feet of the heavy-duty copper cable missing during a check of the southbound tracks at the station, near Flatbush Avenue, at 8 a.m. on Aug. 28. A 41-year-old transit official said the "500 MCM" cable was on site at 1 p.m. the previous day.

Lobby rob

Police nabbed two middle-aged men who mugged a 63-year-old Boerum Hill resident inside his building on Sept. 2.

One thug approached the victim at the corner of State Street and Flatbush Avenue, around 7:50 a.m. When the thief insisted, "Give me your money," the older man ran for his building and ducked into the lobby.

But the robbers followed him inside, where they cornered him and snatched his wallet from his pants. When the victim called 911, officers arrested the two men, ages 56 and 59, on felony robbery charges.

Visitor mugged

A man stole the purse of a Minnesota woman walking near the Brooklyn Heights Promenade on Aug. 28, police said.

The thief rushed up behind the 74-year-old victim around 2 p.m. as she crossed Columbia Heights at Pineapple Street. He ripped the purse from her shoulder and ran off toward Clark Street. The pocketbook contained \$60, her driver's license, credit cards, Medicare information and keys.

Police are looking for a 6-foot-1 black man in his late teens.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAVINGS

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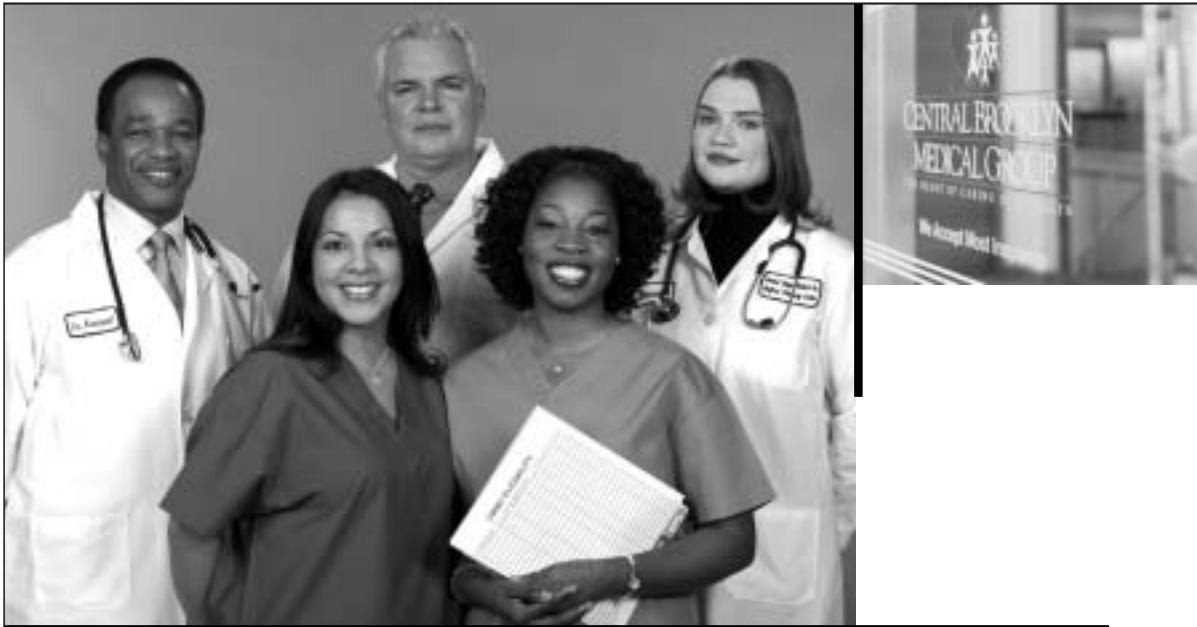
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The Play's the Thing

with Ed Shakespeare

Berrios pitches in with hurlers



Cyclones pitching coach Hector Berrios (right, front) works with his hurlers at Keyspan Park.

BROOKLYN'S PROFESSOR OF PITCHING — Hector Berrios — spends his most effective hours toiling out-of-sight before games in the right-field bullpen, teaching his pupils in one-on-one sessions. When his students take their "test" in a game a few days later, they usually perform well; the Cyclones are, after all, third in the league in earned run average (3.01) and opponents' batting average (.246) and lead the hurlers with 10. That the Cyclones even had a shot of making the playoffs (at presstime, it was still up in the air), despite being next to last in runs scored, is a tribute to their pitching coach.

But Berrios wasn't always a pitching instructor — first he was a player.

Born in Puerto Rico, he spent most of his youth in the Bronx, where he was a pitcher, outfielder and first baseman while playing in youth leagues at Corona Park. Later, he was an all-city pitcher/outfielder for James Monroe High School. At Connors (Oklahoma) State College, he was exclusively an outfielder. So naturally, he was drafted by Kansas City as a pitcher. In a career that took him through five major-league organizations, he got as high as the Triple-A level for several teams. An arm injury limited his career — on the field, at least.

"Because I can speak both English and Spanish, I was always being asked to translate instruction for players, and as my pitching career faded, I was almost becoming a coach while I was still playing," Berrios said.

Berrios was the Cyclones' pitching coach in 2003-4, and returned to the role this season.

On Labor Day, two of Berrios' students, right-hander Tobi Stoner and left-hander Todd Privett, were scheduled to start the crucial day-night doubleheader against Lowell.

But their tutorials were days earlier. While Stoner got ready for his outing, Berrios began a mound bullpen session with Jake Ruckle, who would be starting two days later.

"This year, I've been emphasizing that the kids come to the park ready to focus 100 percent on every single program we have, from the running, to the bullpen throwing, to playing catch," said Berrios.

He explained his emphasis on making his pitchers concentrate, even while playing catch.

"The difference between the major leagues and the minor leagues," he continued, "is that those guys [major leaguers] are a lot more consistent, and thus avoid the mental lapses that we see in the minors."

Berrios walks to the bullpen, where Ruckle was warming up. As Ruckle throws, Berrios stands near him, offering advice and then sometimes taking Ruckle's hand and placing it on the baseball with just the correct pressure from each finger that Ruckle would need for each of his pitches.

IN THE BULLPEN, BERRIOS EMPHASIZES THAT Ruckle pitch to the catcher's shin guards and below, so that the hitter only sees the top half of the ball.

But even pitching to the catcher's glove is not precise enough for Berrios.

"I have them try to pick out a line in the catcher's glove and throw to that. The more precise the target, the more command a pitcher will have," he said later.

Next, Berrios works on Ruckle's balance. Ruckle has a big, windmill wind-up, so Berrios demonstrates how Ruckle must not lean his head back in the windup because that will throw off his balance.

At one point, Berrios stands in front of Ruckle and leans into Ruckle's front (left) thigh, forcing him to maintain his balance without leaning forward.

Berrios works with Ruckle's wrist motion on his slider, making sure that Ruckle breaks the pitch off hard rather than with a sweeping motion that will make the pitch easier to hit.

After about 20 minutes, Ruckle's bullpen session is done. Now Berrios can focus on the times at hand, first assessing Stoner, then Privett, for The Brooklyn Papers.

"Stoner is too competitive, I have to get him to calm down," says Berrios. "Privett's working on getting the ball deeper in his hand, where the fingers are stronger, and he's working on not slowing up his arm motion and telegraphing the change-up."

The Cyclones won both games of the doubleheader, each by a 3-2 score, so Berrios must be doing something right.

Stoner pitched the complete seven-inning Game One, not allowing an earned run.

In Game Two, Privett threw six innings, not allowing an earned run. Reliever Jose De La Torre pitched three scoreless innings to get the win.

The Cyclones thus allowed no earned runs for the day over 16 innings and squeezed out two wins to stay in the playoff race.

Every game, the Cyclones draw a big crowd. But how many of the thousands sitting in the stands know that some of the hardest work behind the night's win took place outside of view two days earlier?

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BROOKLYN CYCLONES COVERAGE

Cyclone killer, qu'est-ce que c'est?

By Ed Shakespeare
The Brooklyn Papers

They say the killer always returns to the scene of the crime, and this was borne out over the Labor Day weekend when Anthony Bocchino was spotted working as a security officer at Keyspan Park.

As member of the 2002-2003 Williamsport Crosscutters, Bocchino murdered the Cyclones. In fact, in 2003 he hit an astonishing 500 against Brooklyn.

The Benshonurst native, who played at Xaverian High School and at Marist College, typically had more fans than the Cyclones whenever the pecky Crosscutters came to Keyspan Park.

But not everyone was cheering. "There were plenty of boos from the Brooklyn fans who weren't my friends or relatives," said Bocchino on Labor Day as he patrolled Steeplechase Pier prior to that evening's fireworks display.

"But I used the boos as motivation." Bocchino's father, Leo, is a regular Cyclones security officer, and the younger Bocchino is in a program to join Local 177 so he can work security at sporting events.

"I enjoy being around sports, so the security work is something I want to do part-time," said Bocchino.

Given Bocchino's prowess with the bat, many Cyclone fans were astonished to hear that he was no longer in pro ball.

"I was about to play my final season last year," he said. "I told myself that if I didn't hit 10 homers and bat .285, then I would hang 'em up." Bocchino did hit 10 home runs that year for Lynchburg and Hickory, but he hit .265 and decided to get on with his new career in business. He works for Bear Stearns.

But he'll never forget Keyspan Park — where he did most of his damage. His Crosscutters team clinched the 2003 New York-Penn League championship in Coney Island, thanks to Bocchino's late-inning bunt and, later, game-winning run.

"After the game, the team celebrated at Nathan's," said Bocchino. "Then they got on the bus to go back to Williamsport, and I went home to Benshonurst."



Papel-bombed

Lowell Spinners submarining hurler Jonathan Papelbon has a sidearm motion that looks like he'd be impossible to hit (his knuckles practically scrape the mound). But the Cyclones got to him on Labor Day, thanks to Jesus Gamero's walk-off single that knocked in two (see game summary below).

Whither the rally chicken?

The Brooklyn Papers

When Cyclones hitting coach Scott Hunter brought "the chicken" to the clubhouse as an avian mascot to spur on the Brooklyn hitters, the rubbery bird received a lot of credit for the team's surge into first place in August.

Later, the Cyclones began

struggling, and the chicken disappeared. An anonymous source on the Cyclones staff reported that the chicken was getting a little over-confident, and the Cyclones' success went to his head.

But news of Clucky's demise has been grossly exaggerated. Despite an unconfirmed re-

port of a clubhouse roasting, the chicken has survived, if somewhat ignominiously.

"The chicken now resides in [General Manager] Steve Cohen's car," said Hunter, smiling. "And we think we'll have better success if it stays in Steve's back-seat." — Shakespeare

Clones channel B'klyn's best

The Brooklyn Papers

There are several bulletin boards in the Cyclones' clubhouse, and the coaching staff likes to display inspiring quotes for the players.

Many popular quotations come from a former catcher from Sheepshead Bay who couldn't hit too well because of poor vision, but eventually played in the minor leagues (albeit football). Later in his career, he coached a pretty good team in Wisconsin.

Pitching coach Hector Berrios, himself from the Bronx, quotes the former Sheepshead Bay catcher regularly.

"There is no glory in practice, but without practice there is no glory," Berrios wrote on the board recently.

Hitting coach Scott Hunter posted a famous quote from the famous Brooklynite to inspire the Cyclones in their season playoff run: "I firmly believe that man's finest hour, the greatest fulfillment of all that he holds dear, is that moment when he has worked his heart out in a good cause, and his exhaustion is only from the field of battle — victorious."

The words were from Vince Lombardi — Brooklynite.

— Ed Shakespeare

The season ends on a note

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Papers

The Cyclones made a last-ditch run for the New York-Penn League's lone wild-card slot, but as we went to press, it was still unclear whether the plucky Brooks got the playoff berth. They certainly played well down the stretch.

Valley Cats 5 Cyclones 3
Sept. 30, at Tri-City

The Cyclones jumped on the league's best pitcher Chris Salamidis — he of the 0.86 ERA — lighting him up for three runs in the first two innings. Light-hitting Jesus Gamero and newcomer Emmanuel Garcia got the RBIs.

Starter Todd Privett tossed six shutout innings, and reliever Jonathan Castillo followed with a scoreless inning of his own before getting into trouble in the eighth. Reliever Jose De La Torre couldn't put out the fire, and the Cats got within one run.

In the ninth, De La Torre put the first two men on base, leading up to Jordan Narraz's walk-off three-run dinger.

Cyclones 7 Valley Cats 5
Sept. 1, at Tri-City

The scoring started early, thanks to an RBI single in the first by light- (and clutch-) hitting Jesus Gamero.

After the Cats stormed back, Brooklyn returned the favor with two in the top of



Cyclone Emmanuel Garcia flies through the air while attempting a double-play on Sunday.

the second, thanks to a Dan Murphy RBI and a wild pitch that scored Dustin Martin.

A D.J. Wabick double in the fourth added another run, and the team added three in the ninth — which they needed, as it turned out.

Starter Jake Ruckle (5-2) came in with five innings. Reliever Rip Warren pitched three shutout innings, and Jonathan Castillo got the save.

The win kept the Cyclones a half-game back in the wild-card race.

Spinners 9 Cyclones 6
Sept. 3, at Keyspan Park

They'd fallen and they couldn't get up, no matter how hard they tried. After falling behind 5-0 by the third inning, the Cyclones tried to come back, getting on the board in the fourth on Jesus Gamero's first homer.

A Dustin Martin double later brought home Elvis Cruz and Luis Rivera, and got

back with two in the bottom of the eighth, but Lowell added another in the ninth.

Cyclones 3 Spinners 2
Sept. 4, at Keyspan, Game 1

A great come-from-behind win kept the Cyclones in the playoff hunt. Despite a batting average below the Mendoza Line, Jesus Gamero was the hero again, lining a bases-loaded, walk-off, two RBI single in the bottom of the seventh and sending the small, rain-check crowd home happy.

Starter Tobi Stoner (5-2) went the distance in the seven-inning game.

Cyclones 3 Spinners 2
Sept. 4, at Keyspan Park, Game 2 (9 innings)

Another game, another walk-off win. D.J. Wabick's ninth-inning double scored speedster Jesus Gamero all the way from first, giving the Cyclones their sweep of the day-night doubleheader.

Starter Tobi Stoner (5-2) went the distance in the seven-inning game.

Cyclones 3 Lake Monsters 2
Sept. 6, at Keyspan Park (Game 1)

The Cyclones were rained out, but a loss by the Aberdeen IronBirds put the Clones just one game back for the wild-card slot.

Cyclones 3 Lake Monsters 2
Sept. 6, at Keyspan Park (Game 2)

Coupled with an Aberdeen loss, the Cyclones ended the week just one-half game back with one to play. Go to www.BrooklynPapers.com to find out what happened.

The Greer report

Down the stretch they come! The Cyclones had to win each of their final seven games for a chance at the New York-Penn League's lone wild-card slot, but it was unclear at presstime whether a post-season berth was in the offing. Win or lose, though, manager George Greer's job looks safe, given that he nearly steered the team into the playoffs after an 0-7 start. But will he finish out the season? A check of The Papers' copyright-protected Greer-ometer says the signs look good.

Atlantic Yards Project

A community forum, open to all persons will be held at The New York City College of Technology (Klitgord Auditorium) 285 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY. **Tuesday, September 12, 2006, 4:30-8:00pm.** The public comment period has been extended to **Friday, September 29, 2006, 5:30pm.** More information is available at:

<http://www.nylivesbiz.com/pdf/AtlanticYards/CommunityForumProtocol.pdf>.

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