

The Brooklyn Paper

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WHAT THE MUCK?

Gowanus sludge could be concrete addition to Red Hook coast

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

The federal government may turn sludge dredged from the toxic Gowanus Canal into a concrete landmass extending off the shore of Red Hook — and gift that treated terra firma to a neighborhood concrete tycoon.

Some of the muck pulled up in the Environmental Protection Agency's half-billion dollar Superfund cleanup of the fetid waterway could be decontaminated and transformed into a "confined disposal facility," which would



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

The feds are considering filling this basin off of Halleck Street in Red Hook with a massive concrete slab made from the sludge dredged out of the nearby Gowanus Canal.

become a permanent part of John Quadrozzi Jr.'s Gowanus Bay Terminal and Gowanus Industrial Park after the job is done.

The sludge used in the build-out would be dredged from the least polluted section of the canal, which is south of Hamilton Avenue, moved by barge, and cleaned to remove hazardous toxins that may include coal tar and heavy metals, eliminating any health risks, feds claim.

Workers would then mix the crud with cement-like materials and store it as stabilized concrete inside a bathtub-like

structure made of reinforced steel that would be buried in the Gowanus Bay at the foot of Columbia Street and connected at shore level to Quadrozzi's industrial complex.

The new expanse of land would likely stretch 300 feet into the water and run 900 feet along the shoreline, giving Quadrozzi what he calls a "golden opportunity" to grow his shipping terminal and expand maritime economic development in Red Hook by luring bigger boats that require deeper waters to dock.

See **MUCK** on page 4



This map shows two areas under consideration for the sludge-to-land plan: one depicted by the areas in orange and yellow, and a less likely iteration shown in red and orange.

The diagnosis

If LICH closes, towers could rise

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

The State University of New York's plan to shut down Long Island College Hospital would turn a swath of Cobble Hill into a real estate gold mine that would give developers everything they dream of: location, lo-

NEWS ANALYSIS

cation, and location.

The ailing medical center is worth more dead than alive to buyers thanks to its primo spot and friendly zoning

See **LICH** on page 4



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Long Island College Hospital

HIT THE BRAKES!

Mayoral hopefuls: Slow down bike lanes expansion

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Forget soda bans, term limits, and high-rising development — Mayor Bloomberg's biggest contribution to the city is the proliferation of bike lanes. But what will happen when Hizzoner's time in office comes to an end? We chatted with this year's mayoral hopefuls, and in one way or another they all said the path to installing bike lanes should be bumpier than it has been under Bloomberg and Department of Transportation commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan:



Christine Quinn: "I'm a supporter of bike lanes — but the way the Department of Transportation had been implementing them, without any meaningful outreach or dialogue with local communities and community boards, was not the right approach. As speaker, we changed the policy to make it mandatory that Department of Transportation consult with local community boards."

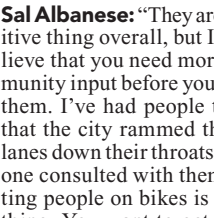
Joe Lhota: "We need to have more community involvement where they're located. And we need to have more enforcement of bike riders — if it's one way for cars, it's one way for bikes. We should avoid bike lanes that impede economic and commercial activity and keep them to residential streets ... Bikes and buses should not share the same streets."



Bill DeBlasio: "The motivation [for bike lanes] has been noble but the approach has often been without the kind of communication with the community that I'd like. What I'd say is that let's look at actual evidence, not biased evidence, about what has happened with each of them. Where they've worked, great, let's keep them. Where they haven't worked, let's revise them or change them."



John Liu: "There are too many of them. It would be one thing if the lanes were cluttered with bike traffic, but they aren't. There's a lot of competition for street space. There are a lot of people looking for parking spaces and trying to get around in their cars. We need parking spaces and traffic lanes. We need equilibrium."



Sal Albanese: "They are a positive thing overall, but I do believe that you need more community input before you install them. I've had people tell me that the city rammed the bike lanes down their throats and no one consulted with them. Getting people on bikes is a good thing. You want to get people out of their cars as much as possible. I do think there is room for growth."



John Catsimatidis: "I hate them. I don't think they serve a lot of purpose. They cause more problems than they solve. You have thousands of cars stuck in traffic and four bicycles going by. It makes no sense. Unless someone convinces me otherwise, I would reduce them or get rid of them completely."

De-Forest City Ratner

Builder wants to chop down 20 trees on Pacific

By Eli Rosenberg
The Brooklyn Paper

Forest City Ratner isn't living up to its name on Pacific Street.

The mega-builder that brought Brooklyn the Barclays Center is scheduled to chop down 20 young trees on the thoroughfare this week, increasing its impressive arboreal headcount while neighbors make a last ditch plea to authorities to halt the slaughter.

The developer says the trees — which were planted about a decade ago between Carlton and Sixth avenues thanks to a grassroots community beautification effort — must fall to make room for construction, adding to the 30 woods it previously cleared from the Barclays Center footprint.

Forest City Ratner has permission to chop down 86 trees in total, so long as

See **TREES** on page 10



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Pacific Street residents Christine Schmidt and Leslie Dann say Forest City Ratner should spare these trees a visit from the ax man.



Yarrow Mazzetti has designed a fleet of "glowy" ladybug cars, among other rides.

Driven to distraction

Artist makes Burning Man cars in Billyburg

By Eli Rosenberg
The Brooklyn Paper

He's putting the pedal to the metalworks.

Artist Yarrow Mazzetti is turning the "art car" phenomenon of the funky desert art festival "Burning Man" into big business here — and the outlandishly sculpted vehicles that he creates in a Williamsburg garage are turning heads around



the city.

His company, Overkill, has created a Batmobile-esque limo, a Rav-4 with an airplane on top, glowing ladybug golf carts, a six-ton orange "Nemo" fish tank car, a 12-seater Humvee, and a Star Wars-inspired Landspeeder — all out of a workshop on Morgan Avenue.

"These are ridiculous sculptures," says Mazzetti.

See **CARS** on page 10

Devastating fire at Pratt

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

It was a sad brushstroke of fate.

Pratt Institute's classes have resumed after a four-alarm fire devastated its main campus building early Feb. 15, destroying student art work, collapsing a section of the roof, and causing water damage throughout the landmark structure.

The fire was an accident, fire marshals said, caused by electrical wiring on the top floor of the 126-year-old Willoughby Avenue

building, located between Emerson Place and Hall Street.

The flames erupted at 2:15 a.m., blazing for two hours before the fire department brought it under control. There were no injuries.

"The six-story building's roof and its sixth floor were gutted," the institute said in a statement.

The fifth floor was also badly damaged by the flames, it said. Pratt relocated all classes and offices formerly inside the main building by Feb. 19.



Rats tore up foam insulation to make a warm home under the hood of Edward Perl's car.

Rats raid roadsters

Post-Sandy, vermin move in under the hood

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

Some Brooklyn Heights motorists are discovering a creepy, costly surprise under the hood of their cars this winter: rats.

Heights resident Edward Perl

said he parked his Lexus on Montague Street near Hicks Street on Feb. 3 and returned the next morning to find he couldn't restart it.

A mechanic discovered that the car's wiring had been chewed

through, and foam insulation inside the engine had been fashioned into a cozy home for the city's most notorious critters.

With free heating to boot!

"You turn off the motor, the

See **RATS** on page 10



The L train platform regularly looks like this well after midnight.

Late show: Packed trains at night

Bedford stop is just as busy at 1 am as at rush hour

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

It's the hipster rush hour.

The Bedford Avenue L train station is just as jam-packed with night owls at 1 a.m. as it is with the office crowd during the dreaded weekday morning commute, a new study proves.

Carson Qing, a graduate student at

New York University's Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management, downloaded Metropolitan Transportation Authority data and determined that just as many people pass through the turnstiles at the bustling Williamsburg station at 1 a.m. every day of the week and all day on Saturday as they do during the "traditional" weekday

rush hours, between 8 a.m. and noon, and 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Qing admits the late-night crush needs more research, but he believes the MTA should alter service on the L line — which has seen its ridership double since 2005 — to accommodate the throngs of straphangers if the trend continues.

"They should not treat travel demands on all lines the same," said Qing. "The L has very unique travel patterns that should be taken into account."

Straphanger Sir Kay — who lives off the Bedford Avenue stop, where weekend ridership has increased eightfold since 2005 — agrees. Kay gets off work at midnight and said he is often subjected to overcrowded trains in the wee hours.

See **L TRAIN** on page 10

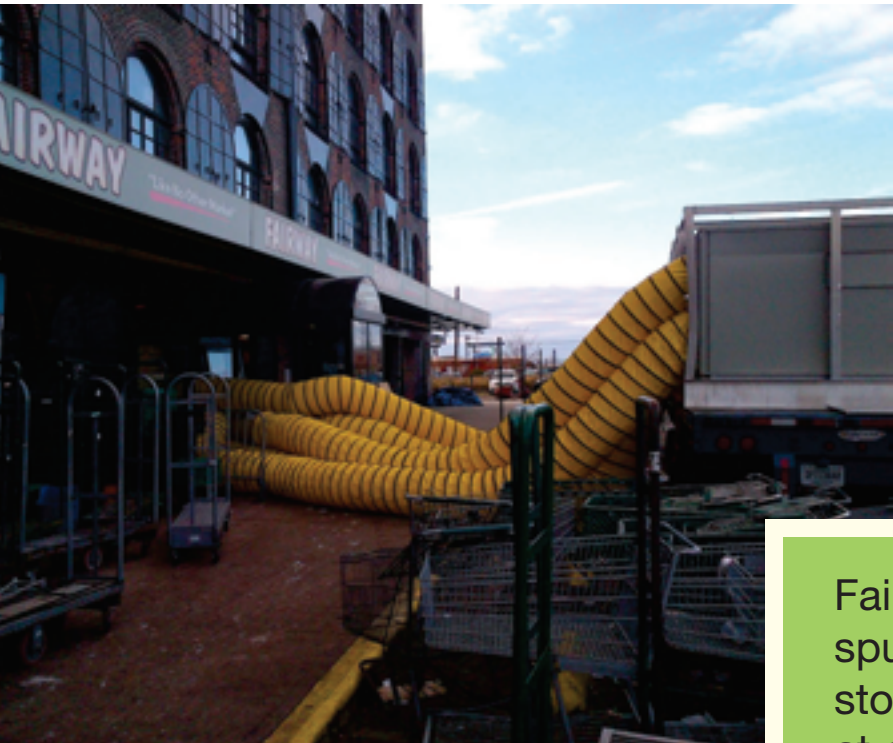
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THE KINGS SPEECH

Mayor’s last lecture lavishes praise on Bklyn legacy

By Eli Rosenberg
The Brooklyn Paper

Mayor Bloomberg chose Brooklyn as the centerpiece of his legacy during his 12th and final State of the City address delivered last Thursday at the Barclays Center — touting the gleaming arena as the reward for three terms of large-scale development and bashing critics as nay-sayers who tried, but failed, to stand in his way.

“Over the past 11 years, we have beaten the odds, and the obstructionists, over and over again, not just here in Brooklyn, but in neighborhoods all across the city,” said Bloomberg to a who’s-who of political luminaries including mayoral hopefuls Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio, Councilwoman Christine Quinn, and Comptroller John Liu. “Is there anyone who still believes that New York City can’t get big things done? Since we’re here in Brooklyn, I’ll say it again: Fuhgeddaboutit.”

The mayor ticked off a laundry list of large-scale development projects around city, but gave special attention to those in Brooklyn.

He championed the planned Greenpoint Landing project, which will bring luxury housing to the banks of the Newtown Creek, the Domino Sugar factory, which Two Trees Management Co. aims to turn residential, the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which is slated to become a technology and media hub,



Photos by Paul Marintika



The Mayor emphasized big development projects across the city — many of them in Brooklyn — in his final State of the City address. Borough President Markowitz (left) presented the Mayor with a Big Gulp as a birthday present, but not before sipping from it himself.

Downtown cultural developments, which include plans for a new theater and glass-working facility, Brooklyn Bridge Park, which recently debuted new open space and will soon turn the Tobacco Warehouse into an arts venue, Steeplechase Plaza, which heralds a glitzy new future to Coney Island, and, of course, the Atlan-

tic Yards mega-project, which brought the borough the Barclays Center.

“The Barclays Center is the latest sign of just how hot Brooklyn has become,” he said, trumpeting the 2,000 people employed at the arena, 75 percent of whom he claimed are borough residents. “For the first time since

La Guardia was mayor and FDR created the WPA, we’re not only conceiving big plans that fundamentally change the landscape of our city, we’re achieving them.”

The mayor, who wasn’t just celebrating his final State of the City address but also his birthday, called for a computer science training program for adults to be built Downtown as part of a larger program for strengthening the tech industry.

The mayor also vigorously endorsed the NYPD’s controversial stop-and-frisk program while calling for reduced penalties for marijuana possession, announced permanent East River ferry service, and triumphed environmental initiatives including a solar- and wind-powered recycling mega-center in Sunset Park that will accept more plastics — including salad containers and CD cases, Bloomberg claims — when it opens.

Borough President Markowitz, who served as the hype man for the mayor, kvelled about Brooklyn’s new Miss America, marvelled that it took “two boychiks not even from Brooklyn” to make the Barclays Center happen, and wondered what birthday gift to get for a man who, as he repeatedly pointed out, has more money than him.

But he came up with something: a Big Gulp cup made from Styrofoam, which the mayor hopes to ban twice over.

Open mic fight

Despite its financial struggles, quirky venue will let anyone take the stage

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Times are tough at the off-beat Bushwick music venue Goodbye Blue Monday, but the staff at the struggling performance hall refuses to say hello to a tried-and-true method of making money at a concert hall: booking bands that people want to see.

Workers at the quickly dilapidating venue will try anything to fix the eight-year-old space — anything, that is, except altering the free-for-all booking policy, which keeps Goodbye Blue Monday bohemian and experimental, but not necessarily profitable.

Refusing to sell out — and, in turn, failing to sell out the venue — is better than caving to the trend of only booking market-tested bands that are sure to bring in the bucks, says manager Kate Vandever.

“We’re a free-form music venue and we want to keep it like that,” she said.

Goodbye Blue Monday’s open mic policy, which went out of favor around the time Dylan went electric, allows anyone to call and snag a time slot on any night of the week. The staff doesn’t ask performers what kind of shows they are planning, if they can draw a crowd, or even if they can play their instruments.



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Like the vinyl surrounding Goodbye Blue Monday manager Kate Vandever, the venue’s business strategy is reminiscent of a different time period.

“We don’t turn people away,” said Vandever. “If you need a stage to play on in New York, we offer that.”

Susan Hwang, the founder of the Bushwick Book Club, said it was Goodbye Blue Monday’s openness that allowed her experimental literary and

music series — in which musicians read a book and then write songs relating to the text — to get off the ground.

“I don’t know if it would have come into existence in another venue,” she said. “Other places want something that is already proven. When we

started, I didn’t know if anyone would come out to see it.”

The club opened on Broadway in the heart of Bushwick back when the neighborhood was a cultural ghost town, and its liberal curatorial approach has given numerous acts a first chance, including preppy indie rockers Vampire Weekend.

But turning a profit has never been easy — especially because staffers refuse to charge a cover, instead allowing bands to pass a hat and play for tips.

“There was one weird summer where we tried to charge at the door for bigger names, but we didn’t take a dime from that. All the money went to the bands,” said Vandever. “But then we stopped. It compromises the integrity of what we are trying to do.”

Instead, the venue makes money on drink sales. Staffers are planning an online fundraising drive and a series of benefit shows to shore up finances, and there’s a push to expand the kitchen and food offerings. That revenue will go to long-overdue repairs including the installation of a new roll gate that actually opens (replacing one that is perpetually closed) and a new window (fixing a pane that has had a hole in it for years). After that comes the installation of air conditioning and a second bathroom.

“Right now, we only have one bathroom and the lines get really long,” said Vandever, whose venue hosts live shows seven nights per week, and often in the afternoons as well. “And it gets really hot in here in the summer.”

Slope is up for the BID

Vote is on for new tax on 7th Avenue merchants

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Seventh Avenue merchants are picking up steam in a push to levy a new tax on landlords on the strip — but before they can start collecting dues they must win support from the property owners who will foot the bill.

Members of the Park Slope Chamber of Commerce want to form a Seventh Avenue Business Improvement District to help tidy up the commercial corridor and supplement existing city services such as trash pick-ups and street-sweeping, funded by an annual fee charged to building owners on a 22-block stretch of the avenue.

If more than half of landlords on Seventh Avenue between St. John’s Place and 16th Street agree to the tax — averaging between \$700 and \$900 for owners of commercial properties and just \$1 for residential landlords — the plan will go to city council, where it will await a rubber stamp.

And once it becomes the law of the land, every property on the street must pay. The fees would produce an estimated annual budget of \$300,000 that the BID could spend to beautify Seventh Ave-



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Seventh Avenue merchants want to turn Park Slope’s shopping strip into a Business Improvement District spanning from St. John’s Place to 16th Street.

nue with plantings or benches, promote shops through marketing, events, and festivals, increase safety by installing security cameras, and tidy the retail stretch with more trash pick-ups, according to a proposal by the merchants group.

Seventh Avenue certainly needs some help, according to BID backer and Chamber president Tammy Shaw.

“Seventh Avenue is not up to par with the other major commercial strips in our immediate area and it certainly does not reflect well on Park Slope as a historic community,” said Shaw, of TB Shaw Realty Associates. “It’s not clean the way

Fifth Avenue is.”

Ever since politicians didn’t renew a 2011 contract with a non-profit that hires homeless men to collect street trash, garbage has littered the stretch, merchants say.

Booming Fifth Avenue has had a BID since 2009 — and if that street is any indication, creating a similar tax will do wonders for Seventh Avenue, Shaw said.

“It has been good for Fifth Avenue and it will be good for us,” said Shaw.

Fifth Avenue is lined with boutiques and mom-and-pops, but Seventh Avenue has seen an influx of national chains

that don’t contribute cash the Chamber’s \$35,000 annual budget, which is covered by voluntary donations from 100 small businesses along the 350-storefront strip. The establishment of a BID would force the franchises to pay up.

“With the corporate chain stores the money is going to shareholders and not back into the community in any way, so if the BID goes through they will have more of a say and be forced to contribute to the avenue,” said Little Things Toy Store owner and Chamber vice president Mitch Szpicek.

“Mom-and-pop businesses return most of the money to the area they are in,” he said.

But small businesses might wind up paying for the BID, if landlords choose to pass the fee to tenants in the form of rent. That doesn’t faze some merchants, who are looking at the big picture.

“We are one hundred percent for it,” said Community Bookstore co-owner Ezra Goldstein, who has asked his landlord to revise his lease so he will pay the new tax. “A BID could promote a richer mix of businesses and we could certainly use a richer mix on Seventh Avenue.”

Organizers delivered ballots to all landlords this month.



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Cops crack case of nutty almond bandit

90TH PRECINCT

Southside–Bushwick
Police arrested a man who they say tried to steal 75 pounds of almonds from the back of a delivery van on S. Eighth Street on Feb. 17 — but was spotted by the driver.

The driver told investigators that he parked his vehicle between Bedford and Driggs avenues at 4 pm, and when he came back a few minutes later, he saw a man grab the boxes from the back and then run west on S. Eighth Street.

When the nutty perp saw that the driver was watching him, he dropped all of the boxes and continued running, police said.

Cops apprehended the suspect.

Wythe perp
A thief broke into a car parked on Wythe Avenue on Feb. 16 — and got away with a smorgasbord of electronic equipment.

The 42-year-old victim told police that she parked her car near S. Fifth Street at 8 pm. When she returned at 11 pm, she found the driver's-side lock broken and her luggage, backpack, iPad, Nikon camera, Canon camera, headphones, navigation system, and paperwork all missing.

Bad party
A group of 20 men and women beat two young women with bottles on Moore Street on Feb. 16.

The women told police they were leaving an apartment in a housing development between Humboldt Street and Bushwick Avenue at 4:30 am when they were attacked by the large group of brutes, who beat them with bottles and kept them from leaving the apartment.

The victims were taken to a hospital where one received stitches to a cut on her forehead.

Police are looking for a number of suspects in the case.

Slash and ask
A gang member with a beef slashed another teenager on the face on Humboldt Street on Feb. 15.

The victim told police he was between Boerum and Seigel streets at 6 pm when a perp approached him and slashed him across the face.

“Are you a Bundie boy?” asked the bully.

The victim refused medical attention and police have made no arrests in the case.

Bag snagged
Someone took a designer purse from a woman's Maspeth Avenue apartment on Feb. 18.

The victim told police that she noticed her Marc Jacobs bag missing from her pad between Humboldt Street and Bushwick Avenue at 4 pm, and suspects it was her former roommate who took it.

Sleepy prey
Police say they caught a sneaky thief who snatched an iPhone out of the pocket of a 31-year-old man who was dozing on the J train on Feb. 9.

The victim told police that he got on the train at Marcy Avenue at 6 am and then fell asleep. When he got off at the Lorimer stop, he found that his phone was missing.

Police arrested a 22-year-old, who is charged with grand larceny and robbery.

POLICE BLOTTER



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Comb or knife?

Police arrested a 20-year-old who allegedly threatened a woman in her Ten Eyck Walk apartment building on Feb. 12 — but got scared when he thought she also had a knife.

The 27-year-old woman told police that she was walking in the hallway of her apartment building between Graham and Manhattan avenues at 5:50 am when a man pulled her into an apartment and put a knife in her face.

“Give me your wallet or I’m going to stab you” the would-be robber told the woman.

She then pulled out a comb from her back pocket, which frightened the man and allowed her to run away.

94TH PRECINCT Greenpoint–Northside Phone gone

A knife-wielding robber attacked a woman on McGuinness Boulevard on Feb. 10 — and stole her iPhone and cash.

The 25-year-old woman told police she was texting on her phone while between Box and Clay streets at 10:15 pm when a man walked past her and then turned around and pointed a knife at her back and demanded money.

“Give me all your money,” the robber said.

She turned around and he pointed the knife at her stomach, then snatched her phone and ran southbound on McGuinness Boulevard.

Scary attack
A villain followed a woman into her Jackson Street building and stole her cash on Feb. 14.

The woman told police she was entering her home between Kingsland and Devoise avenues at 10:20 am when a man pushed her into the rear of the building.

He threatened to cut her, pushed a knife against her face, pulled her hair, and slapped her several times, causing scratches. He took money out of her rear-right pants pocket, told her he would kill her if she called 911, and then ran away, according to investigators.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

78TH PRECINCT Park Slope Bad romance

An obsessive boyfriend pulled a knife on his girlfriend on Feb. 14 and told her that he would kill her if she broke up with him, police reported.

The 52-year-old woman told cops that she got into an argument with her partner and tried to break up with him inside her Dean Street apartment between Sixth and Carlton avenues at 5 am.

That’s when the perp threatened her life, whipped out a knife, and pressed it against her neck, causing a scratch to her neck and throat, police said.

The skullcap-wearing attacker fled the scene on foot, police said.

All-star crook

A red-clad thief stole more than \$1,000 worth track jackets from a Fifth Avenue chain sneaker store sometime overnight on Feb. 14.

An employee at the store between 13th and 14th streets told cops that surveillance footage showed the goateed perp swipe 11 of the lightweight jackets from the rack sometime between 6 pm on Feb. 14 and 2 pm the next day.

TV sinner

Someone swiped a bunch of flat-screen television sets from a man's Sixth Avenue house as it underwent renovations between Feb. 11 and Feb. 12.

A witness told police that four Samsung flat screens televisions and 10 low-wattage dimmer switches disappeared overnight.

The witness told cops that the front door was closed and locked at night and the following day at 7:40 am, but that he found footprints in the snow leading to the back door, which does not have a lock on it.

There was no forced entry at the scene, police said.

substance, police said.

Not looking

A bandit snagged more than \$800 worth of goods out of a woman's purse while she was on the job at a Union Street arts space on Feb. 13.

The 23-year-old victim told police that she left her purse by her desk in the front of the store near Nevins Street before she went to the back room with her co-workers at 11 am.

When she came back to her desk nearly an hour later, her iPad, wallet, \$60, and her credit and debit cards were gone from her bag.

Change coming

A burglar broke into a Eighth Avenue apartment and stole \$20 in coins on Feb. 11.

The 51-year-old victim told cops that the bandit entered the home between Third and Fourth streets through a rear window that the victim left open sometime between 7:40 am and 9:15 pm, and made off with the change.

The crook fled through the front door, according to cops.

Big break-in

A band of quick-handed thieves broke into a Fourth Avenue apartment and stole nearly \$4,000 worth of electronics on Feb. 15.

The 33-year-old victim told police that the perps pried open the front door of her apartment between Warren and Baltic streets when she wasn't home sometime between 11:30 am and 6:30 pm.

The criminals made off with two MacBook laptops, a Pentax film camera, an iPod nano, 20 Xbox games, and Xbox controllers.

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There was no forced entry at the scene, police said.

Someone plucked a wallet from the bathroom of a college campus on University Plaza on Feb. 11.

The 19-year-old victim told cops she was at DeKalb Avenue at 1:50 pm when she placed her wallet on a shelf in the ladies' room. The wallet was gone when she returned an hour later.

Shelter shocked
A bandit stole money from a woman staying in a family shelter at Auburn Place sometime between Jan. 30 and Feb. 11.

The victim told cops someone entered her room at the shelter near Park Avenue between 3 pm on Jan. 30 and 7 pm on Feb. 11, stealing \$2,150 and \$50 worth of post stamps.

Car pop
A crook broke into a car parked on Classon Avenue on Feb. 12 and took the owner's wallet.

The 28-year-old victim told cops she parked at Emerson Place at 6 pm, returning five minutes later to find the doors unlocked, the trunk open, and her wallet gone.

Family affair
A quick thief took a purse from a woman's desk in a Family Services building on Fulton Street on Feb. 14.

The 50-year-old victim told cops she left her purse on her desk in the building near Rockwell Place at 6:05 pm,

returning 10 minutes later to find it gone.

Defraud

Someone charged \$899 to a man's debit card on Clinton Avenue on Feb. 14.

The 22-year-old victim told cops he paid a cab fare with his debit card in front of his house at Fulton Street at 11:30 pm, and then found out that someone charged his account for \$899 at 12:15 am.

Honda gone

A thief swiped a car on Navy Street on Feb. 11.

The 43-year-old victim told cops he left his 2000 Honda Accord with the keys in the ignition at Park Avenue at 8 am, returning at 5 pm to find it gone.

— **Eli Rosenberg**

76TH PRECINCT Cobble Hill–Boerum Hill– Carroll Gardens–Red Hook Scary mugging

Two unknown assailants grabbed a man, pushed him into a car, and held him up on Baltic Street on Feb. 16.

The criminal duo pulled off the scary heist at around 9:55 pm between Hoyt and Bond streets, making off with the victim's iPhone, iPod nano, and wallet containing \$15, credit cards, health insurance cards, and a drivers' license.

After the stick-up, one of the robbers pushed a gun into the victim's face and told him to walk away or he would shoot.

He bluffed
A 20-year-old attempted to steal an iPhone from an older man on the corner of Sackett and Hoyt streets on Feb. 16, police claim.

The would-be robber allegedly threatened to shoot the victim at 4:15 pm, but he did not have a gun and didn't make off with the device, according to cops.

Investigators apprehended a suspect about 30 minutes later.

Broken door
Someone smashed a glass door frame on Henry Street on Feb. 18 or Feb. 19, police claim.

The perp committed the act of “criminal mischief” between Huntington and Loraine streets at some point after noon on Feb. 18 and before 9 am the following day, investigators believe.

iPhone assault
Cops cuffed a man accused of punching a woman and shoving her to the ground in an attempt to steal her iPhone at the corner of Henry and Sackett streets.

The suspect allegedly grabbed the device from the 20-year-old's hands at 9:05 pm on Feb. 15, slugged her in the face, and knocked her over.

The victim managed to recover her cellphone, and police apprehended the suspect on Feb. 17.

Candy caper
Police nabbed a 22-year-old accused of stealing a \$7 bag of M&Ms from a Smith Street convenience

store on Feb. 12.

The suspect allegedly left the pharmacy at the corner of Warren Street without paying at 4:50 pm — and got locked up just 12 minutes later, according to investigators.

Bottled up rage
Cops cuffed a woman accused of smashing a bottle over a man's head during a Feb. 18 dispute on Bush Street.

The woman and the victim were arguing with each other near Hicks Street at 2:30 pm when the man threw a punch and threatened the alleged assailant with the bottle.

That's when the suspect grabbed the bottle from the man's grasp and turned it into a weapon, police claim.

— **Jaime Lutz**

**68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights
Bruised fruit**
A brute battered a woman and stole her iPhone on 64th Street on Feb. 13, police report.

The victim said she was between 10th and 11th avenues on the way to her sister's house at 7 pm when the thug grabbed her from behind, punched her in the face, and threw her to the ground. The crook then took her iPhone and fled toward 11th Avenue.

Dyker heist
A bandit looted a 73rd Street apartment of thousands of dollars in cash and jewelry on Feb. 11, according to cops.

The victim reported that she left her ground-floor pad between 13th and 14th avenues at 2 pm, and came back at 5:15 pm to see her back sliding-glass door in shards and three gold rings, one onyx ring, a diamond bracelet, a diamond necklace, an elk ivory watch, a pair of elk ivory cufflinks, \$5,000 in bills, and her Nikon camera missing.

Treasure chest
A scalawag stole a pirate's ransom of jewelry and electronics from a 76th Street apartment on Feb. 12, cops say.

The victim said she left her home between Third and Fourth avenues at 5:30 pm, and came back four hours later to find her front entrance blocked shut with the door of a nearby closet.

When she pushed her way in, she saw her apartment in disarray and the shade up on her fire escape window — and two iPads, her checkbook, a gold chain, two gold necklaces, two gold watches, two gold bracelets, a silver necklace, a pair of gold earrings, and two gold pendants gone!

China cash grab
A villain ransacked a Ridge Boulevard apartment of techie gadgets and Chinese currency on Feb. 12, according to authorities.

The victim said he left his home between 75th and 76th streets at 7 am and came back at 11:30 pm to see his MacBook, his tablet computer, his Canon camera, his watch, and \$400 in foreign money missing.

— **Will Bredderman**

Any hospital closure must first be approved by the state board of health, and neighbors are hoping Albany will deem the institution too important to shut down because of the added strain it would place on other borough medical centers.

The second hope, as this paper reported last week, is that Long Island College Hospital doctors can secure a buyer who would take the troubled institution off the State University's hands and keep it open — a bid that doctors say should be taken seriously, with at least two suitors in preliminary discussions.

“It's highest and best use is as a health care institution,” said Roy Sloane, president of the Cobble Hill Association. “We are not entertaining conversations about a sale.”


The agency will accept written and public comments on the proposal until April 27. E-mail gowanus-canalcomments.region2@epa.gov or write to: Christos Tsiamis, project manager
Central New York Remediation Section
US Environmental Protection Agency
290 Broadway, 20th floor
New York, NY 10007-1866


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LICH...

Continued from page 1
just outside the Cobble Hill and Brooklyn Heights historic districts, giving whoever snatches up the land the rare chance to erect the very kind of apartment housing that the landmark zones were designed to stop.

As such, the sale of the 155-year-old medical center could be the biggest of its kind in Brooklyn in almost a decade, said the legendary broker and realty expert Chris Havens, who called the possibility “momentous.”

“It’s just so rare that something this big gets converted,” Havens said of the Cobble Hill institution, which the State University voted to close last Friday.

The last sale of its cali-

ber was the 2004 turnover of nearby 360 Furman St. in Brooklyn Bridge Park, which developers snatched up for more than \$200 million, Havens said.

The sale of Long Island College Hospital real estate could be even more valuable, possibly netting as much as \$500 million for the state, as this newspaper reported last month.

If the land is sold to a developer, housing is a near certainty, Havens said.

“That’s by far the most valuable use, or as they say in the business, the highest and best use,” Havens said.

The hospital's property is already zoned for residential use, and Cobble Hill isn't a great neighborhood for retail,

MUCK...

Continued from page 1
“[The Environmental Protection Agency] is getting a free disposal facility and we are getting this upland without having to do it ourselves,” said Quadrozzi, who claims his Gowanus Bay Terminal owns 33 acres of land underwater at the site of the proposed sludge-fill.

Quadrozzi would get the concrete expanse for free — the Superfund program charges proven canal polluters for the cleanup — and he could do what he wants with it, so long as he follows certain federal guidelines, according to Environmental Protection Agency officials.

“There will be a lot of restrictions as to what you can build there, as to whether you can drill in there and what types of plants you can put there,” said Superfund project manager Christos Tsiamis, whose agency will regularly inspect the site even after the cleanup ends.

Quadrozzi isn't the only one who will like the deal: the polluters who must foot the bill can save \$37 million if the feds choose to de-water the sludge in a temporary facility on the concrete-seller's land and use some of it to build the new landmass, instead of shipping all of the gunk off-site to a licensed treatment facility.

But the feds say they aren't hot on the plan just because it's cheaper for polluters.

“This is not why we [proposed] it,” said Tsiamis, who claims on-site disposal will create between 30 and 60 jobs over six years. “We thought there would be a benefit.”



(718) 260-2500 *The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings* February 22-28, 2013

Ballet with a byte

Artist teams up with dancers, computer for show

By **Jaime Lutz**
The Brooklyn Paper

Park Slope artist Ranjit Bhatnagar can't paint and he can't sculpt — but he knows how to make ones and zeroes into something beautiful.

The computer-based artist will put his programming skills to the test on Feb. 28 in a collaboration with the real-life dancers at Brooklyn Ballet.

Bhatnagar and his compatriots in the "hacker collective" NYCResistor are figuring out a way to project each quiver of a ballet slipper and every choreographed step on a wall facing the audience, giving them a literal new perspective on the nuances of choreography.

The idea isn't to outshine the dancers — but it takes a computer to reveal how complicated and precise their movements are.

"I had been interested in focusing and revealing choreography in real time," said choreographer Lynn Parkerson.

"Sometimes dance pieces can look simple but have a lot of ideas that go into creating the movement."

The collaboration is a logical next step for Bhatnagar. He has long been interested in using his programming ability to create something that goes beyond an algorithm.

Bhatnagar's art has the ability to surprise even him.

"It has a life of its own even after it's finished," he said.

That's not unlike his previous endeavor, in which he designed a computer program — dubbed the Pentametron — that took endless streams of tweets from multitudes of Twitter users and merged

ART

"Brooklyn Ballet's 2013 season: In 4D" at Actors Fund Arts Center Theater [160 Schermerhorn Street, between Smith and Hoyt streets in Downtown, (718) 246-0146, www.brooklynballet.org]. Opens Feb. 28, 8 pm. Tickets start at \$15.



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

In 4-D: Brooklyn Ballet dancers Vincenzo Marra and Miku Kawamura prepare for a show that melds computer programming with ballet. The computer will track dancer's feet and project their steps on a wall for viewing pleasure.

them together to create poetry — featuring iambic pentameter with rhyming couplets.

"I know a little freak in Hollywood,

I'm tired by Pandora getting good," Pentametron once wrote. "I wonder what tomorrow's gonna bring, I'm losing everyone and everything."

Lo-fi meets high art

Artists use Walkman and Super 8 for exhibit

By **Hannah Palmer Egan**
The Brooklyn Paper

It's like if Marty McFly and Doc Brown were conceptual artists.

Aki Onda records everyday sounds on cassette tapes — with a Walkman — mixing the tapes during performances to create abstract sound-environments.

Joining him is San Francisco-based filmmaker Paul Clipson, who films his daily surroundings with a super low-tech on Super 8 camera.

"Paul's work has the same kind of quality [as mine]," said the Onda, who will perform along with Clipson's visuals in a sound and video installation at Light Industries in Greenpoint on Feb. 23. "It's really kind of lo-fi and grainy. He also has a similar practice: he shoots film as a diary."

Onda bought his first Walkman in 1988 from a junk dealer in London and made his first recordings in Morocco.



"I didn't think I would be using a Walkman for the next 20 years," said the Japanese-born, Greenpoint-based artist. "I have thousands of cassettes. It doesn't really make sense to digitize them."

His collection includes "Birds-Wind-Bells," "Echo," "Revolving Door," "Raindrop Nara [Japan], 1999," and "Mexico City Footsteps, 2005."

But other than having such an extensive

collection, it's clear that everything about tapes appeals to the sound artist.

"It's a specific sound, different from digital," Onda said. "[Also] you can recycle a cassette. It's good for Mother Earth."

Clipson and Onda met in the Netherlands in 2009, when their work shared a program at a film festival. In 2011, they created "Ephemeris," a strange but pleasant seven-minute film. Like a Rose Sélavy film seen with colorful TV static, the work is dizzying and comforting.

Onda seems to be confident the upcoming collaboration will go well.

"I haven't seen the film yet," said Onda, who is eagerly awaiting his collaborator's arrival on Friday. "We have one day to prepare, so it will be a surprise!"

Aki Onda & Paul Clipson at the Issue Project Room [155 Freeman St. near Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, (718) 330-0313, www.issueprojectroom.org]. Feb. 23, 4 pm and 8 pm, \$10.



Tape man: Sound artist Aki Onda (pictured right) has collected thousands of tapes of everyday noises and will use some of them to perform in Greenpoint.

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POKER

A full house

On this episode of "This American Life," playing poker with Ira Glass.

A poker game at a children's writing workshop is inviting gamblers to play for charity in a celebrity afternoon of cards with comedians David Cross and Michael Ian Black, actor Eric Bogosian, and radio host Ira Glass.

Glass came up with the idea of playing something other than Scrabble at the Brooklyn headquarters of the youth

literacy group 826NYC.

"He mentioned that he liked to play poker and that it would be fun to raise money doing that," said Scott Seeley, executive director.

And what better place to play a few hands of poker than at Brooklyn Superhero Supply Co., a place where kids can hone their writing chops.

"I often joke at the beginning of the tournament that the space is not usually filled with adults playing poker, that it's usually filled with children playing poker," said Seeley.

Poker With Jokers at 826NYC [372 Fifth Ave. between Fifth and Sixth streets in Park Slope, (718) 499-9884, www.826nyc.org/poker]. Feb. 23, 1 pm, \$50 minimum buy-in.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

APOCALYPSE

End is nigh

Two rockers have a vision of the future of music — and there aren't any guitars.

In a warehouse-cum-gallery in the industrial wasteland of Bushwick, sisters Taraka and Nimai Larson of the cult rock band Prince Rama have built what they call a post-Apocalyptic Guitar Center store — a riff on the chain of musical instrument shops.

The retailer of Gibsons survives the end of days, but the instruments that gave rock its sound are nowhere to be found inside the exhibit.

"You go in there and it's almost like a post-instrument Guitar Center," said Taraka, whose show is open through Feb. 28. "It's all just kind of replicas — simulacrum of instruments."

To make up for the lack of instruments, the exhibit's walls are covered in Mylar and Guitar Center catalogues from the '90s, and the sisters hung trees from the ceiling, as a sign of the outside world creeping in.

Post-Apocalyptic Guitar Center at Secret Project Robot [389 Melrose St. between Irving and Knickerbocker avenues in Bushwick, www.secretprojectrobot.org]. Through Feb. 28. Free.

— **Jaime Lutz**

Photo by Derrick Belcham

PARTY

Tassel time

Pamper yourself with some pasties.

Women looking for an afternoon of self-love can attend a tassels- and pasties-making party, where they will get the craft materials to

design their own nipple adornments, as well as unlimited mimosas and the company of women who dream of dancing burlesque.

There will also be a raffle for a vibrator.

"This is a fun, body-affirming, safe space to work on a creative project," said Taja

Lindley, founder of the arts and empowerment group Colored Girls Hustle, which is throwing the event.

"[Our] work is to inspire girls, especially girls of color, to be creative," Lindley said. "I feel like it's vital for our humanity."

Andrea Plaid, also known as the burlesque performer A. Duskie Magdalene, will teach women how to craft their own tassels as well as how to wear them — helping them find the right fit so they can dance comfortably.

"Pasties are fascinators for your chest, and you can make them as frilly as you want and fit them to any size," said Plaid. "Many women complain that they can't find store-bought pasties that fit over their areolas."




Self-Love Party at the Museum of Women's Resistance [279 Empire Blvd. between Rogers and Nostrand avenues in Crown Heights, (347) 533-9102, www.coloredgirlshustle.com]. Feb. 24, at noon.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

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Brooklyn Reporter **NY NEWS**

Jeanine Ramirez joined NY1 News in October 1996 and covers Brooklyn's schools, politics, religions and neighborhoods. She also is the lead reporter on many Latino issues. A native Brooklynite, Ramirez majored in communications both at Brooklyn Technical High School and Fordham University.

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY

February 22



Margarita movies

Isn't it National Margarita Day every Friday? A seat-and-eat movie theater is having a drink special in its cafe, with \$5 margaritas as well as \$5 Mexi-cans (a Tecate beer and tequila shot) beginning at 7 pm. Catch Alejandro Jodorowsky's thriller "Santa Sangre" at midnight — featuring a live score.

7 pm–midnight at Nighthawk Cinema [136 Metropolitan Ave. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 384–3980, www.nitehawkcinema.com]. \$16 for movie.

SUNDAY

February 24

Englishman

Fans of the light-hearted English author P.G. Wodehouse, who some in his homeland deemed a traitor, can discuss the man and his works at their Greenpoint bookstore. Books are 10 percent off leading up to the discussion, so grab a copy of "Enter Jeeves: 25 Early Stories," to prep for the discussion.

3 pm at Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383–0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com]. Free.



MONDAY

February 25



Reading music

Jazz guitarist John Pizzarelli will perform solo at the powerHouseArena to raise money for the hurricane-damaged bookstore. Check out this rare performance and pick up a copy of Pizzarelli's memoir, a book that covers the life and career of an American musician who worked with the likes of Frank Sinatra and Benny Goodman.

7 pm at powerHouse Arena [37 Main St., at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666–3049, powerhousearena.com]. \$20.

TUESDAY

February 26

Double opera

See soprano Stacy Caterbury sing at the Regina Opera Company's free double bill evening of opera. The company will perform the Puccini tragedy "Suor Angelica," and Pergolesi's comedy "La Serva Padrona." The performances will be in Italian with English supertitles, and presented with a piano for accompaniment.

7 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help auditorium [5902 Sixth Ave. at 59th Street in Sunset Park, (718) 259–2772, www.reginaopera.org]. Free.



THURSDAY

February 28



Housing history

Architecture nerds can see the 3-d printed models of building prototypes from the Cold War at this new exhibit. The buildings of that era heavily influenced a new age of pre-fabricated housing systems. A symposium will invite academics and innovators to discuss the contemporary uses of factory-constructed buildings.

6 pm at the Higgins Hall Auditorium of Pratt School of Architecture [200 Willoughby Ave. between Classon Avenue and Hall Street, (718) 636–3600, www.pratt.edu]. Free.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, FEB. 22

ART, GO WINNER: Brooklyn-based artist Naomi Safran-Hon heavily integrates cement in her artwork, which is mostly a hybrid of photography and painting. \$12 contribution. 11 am–6 pm. Brooklyn Museum [100 Eastern Pkwy at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638–5000], www.brooklynmuseum.org.

THEATER, L'AMOUR FOU: As if Jacques Rivette's 1969 film "L'Amour Fou" — which follows a film crew documenting a theater group during rehearsals — weren't complicated enough, a Williamsburg stage adaptation of the same name is incorporating live video and projections to take the play to another level of complexity. 7 pm. The Brick [575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907–6189], www.bricktheater.com.

BARCLAYS, NBA BASKETBALL: The Brooklyn Nets take on the Houston Rockets. Starting at \$15. 7:30 pm. Barclays Center [620 Atlantic Ave. at Flatbush Avenue in Downtown, (212) 359–6387], www.BarclaysCenter.com.

THEATER, NOISES OFF: Narrows Community Theater presents the hit comedy "Noises Off." A Play in Three Acts by Michael Frayn. \$15 Adult; \$12 Senior/Child. 8:00pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium [97th St. and Fourth Avenue, (718) 482–3173], www.NCTheaterNY.com.

SKETCH COMEDY: From the Civil Rights Movement to interracial dating to exploitation films, American Candy: Too Black, Too Strong!! dares to touch the hot buttons of Black American culture just in time for Black History month. \$20 includes open bar. 8 pm. South Oxford Space [138 S. Oxford St. in Fort Greene], www.americancandytv.com.

PITTSBURGH INDIE ROCK: Pittsburgh's finest mathy indie rock foursome Legs Like Tree Trunks return to Shea Stadium to celebrate a new cassette release of Future Reference. Joining them will be Pittsburgh via Jersey lofi punks Nic Lawless and his Yung Criminals. Brooklyn groups Zula and The Ne'er Dowells will also make beautiful noises. \$7. 8 pm. Shea Stadium (20 Meadow St.), www.liveattheastadium.com.

PROG TRANCE: We are happy to welcome two legends of techno and progressive trance in the world today: Emok the head of the notorious Iboga Records and Perfect Stranger. \$25 advance, \$35 at the door. 10 pm. SRB Brooklyn (2nd Ave. at 14th Street in Gowanus), www.trancedirect.com.

SAT, FEB. 23

MUSIC, KARAOKE AND DANCING: Karaoke Killed the Cat is the infamous karaoke party for people who never thought they'd like karaoke. Karaoke Killed the Cat brings together equal parts vocal chord shattering sing-along and booty popping party. Free. 12 am. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.unionhallny.com.

THEATER, LAMARIE PROJECT CYCLE: The Brooklyn Academy of Music will showcase the controversial play "The Laramie Project," which tells the story of the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepherd, and for the first time ever present it alongside its epilogue: "The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later." \$20. 2:30–7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636–4100], www.bam.org.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: The music of Giuseppe Verdi, will be performed by the Metro Chamber Orchestra, the Brooklyn Conservatory Choral and the Brooklyn Wind Symphony. \$25. 8 pm. St. Anne and the Holy Trinity [157 Montague St. at Clinton in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 801–3811], www.themetorchamberorchestra.org.

COMEDY, STORY-TELLING AND MUSIC: The Little Top Circus & Medicine Show comes to Union Hall.



Strings with songs: Itzhak Perlman and Cantor Helfgot are bringing a variety of Jewish, Israeli, and cantorial music to the Barclays Center on Feb. 28.

Photo by Lisa Marie Mazurco

http://
Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

Led by the evangelically infamous Good Reverend Doctor Professor Elucius Clay, this sideshow of cautionary tales will horrify, flummox, and titillate all to the blood-stirring musicking of Ratty Mousebites, Miz E of The Hot Sardines. \$8. 10 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638–4400], www.unionhallny.com.

READING, BLACK HISTORY MONTH CHILDREN'S STORY TIME EVENT: In celebration of Black History Month Greenlight Bookstore will host an event featuring great picture books about African American people and history. Organizers will read books about people like Marian Anderson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Hank Aaron. The event is appropriate for children ages 3 to 8. 11 am. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246–0200], greenlightbookstore.com.

FUND-RAISER, MUSIC THERAPY: Join us in welcoming children's music recording artist and music therapist, Jon Sampson, for an afternoon of great music, dance and fun in support of Brooklyn Conservatory of Music's Music Therapy Program. \$20 suggested donation. 11 am–1 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622–3300 or email: rrfrank@bqcm.org], www.bqcm.org.

CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, FEB. 25

Community Board 6. Environmental protection and permits and licenses committee meeting. 6:30 pm. Old First Reformed Church [729 Carroll Street in Park Slope, (718) 643–3027], www.brooklynpcb6.org.

Community Board 10 General Meeting. Come on down: Third Avenue's "Summer Streets" event, Ocean Extreme Lounge, and Club Cats will be on the agenda. Free. 7:15 pm. Knights of Columbus (1305 86th St., at 13th Ave in Bay Ridge).

TUES, FEB. 26

Education, Community Education Council District 20. Come sit for a page-by-page overview of the new

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Calendar@cnglocal.com

Individualized Education Program. Free. 9 am. P.S. 205 [6701 20th Ave., at the corner of 67th Street and 20th Avenue in Bensonhurst, (718) 759–3921].

Community Board 10 Environmental Committee Meeting. Come hear the planning process for the Spring 2013 electronics recycling event. Free. 7 pm. Community Board 10 office [8119 Fifth Ave. between 81st and 82nd streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 745–6827].

THURS, FEB. 28
Community Board 6. Landmarks and land use public hearing. 6:00 pm. Long Island College Hospital [339 Hicks St., near the corner of Atlantic Avenue in Cobble Hill, (718) 643–3027].



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The Brooklyn Paper

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Listed:
SRDS

A snake oil show

Circus performers sell you medicine

By Colin Mixson
The Brooklyn Paper

It's the cure for all ailments, including gingivitis, the common cold, and even that pesky cancer, depending on which huckster you ask.

Join the Good Reverend Doctor Professor Elucius Clay and his dim-witted lackey Stitch the Geek for an evening of raucous revelry and spiritual rejuvenation at the world-renowned Little Top Circus and Medicine Show, the only place

where you'll find the one concoction that has the medical establishment shaking its stethoscopes in abject defeat — snake oil!

“What can snake oil cure? It depends on what ails you,” said Justin Blaser, who will devolve into the inarticulate fool Stitch the Geek come Feb. 23 at Union Hall. “I can't tell you the ingredients, but they're FDA-approved.”

Snake oil is a miraculous potion — in pill form — which only the Good Reverend Doctor Professor Elucius Clay could develop. And

CIRCUS

The Little Top Circus and Medicine Show at Union Hall [702 Union St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com]. Feb. 23, 10 pm. \$8.

the elixir is exclusively sold at the Little Top Circus and Medicine Show, alongside a fine selection of tobacco products and musical recordings.

“We actually sell these

things,” said Ian MacKenzie, who plays the Good Reverend Doctor. “We go around selling CDs, cigars, and snake oil pills.”

To demonstrate the effectiveness of the medicine, the show will have skeptics and wonderers watch as this astonishing capsule transforms Stitch the Geek from a bewildered dolt to an Achilles of men, capable of astounding physical feats, suffering all manner of unpleasant stimulations with an untarnished grin.

“I do sword swallowing, bed of nails, straight jacket escapes, and block head, which is where you hammer a nail straight into your face,” Blaser said. “I also do fire-breathing, fire-eating, and a couple bits with staple guns.”

This marvel of science and medicine may be the main draw, but it is not the only attraction to this church of circuses, which counterbalances its more macabre acts with a wholesome, godly sermon courtesy of the Good Reverend Doctor Professor.

“There's a large religious component I inject, to add something on top of the already strange criteria we've set for ourself,” said MacKenzie.

“It's not just a 19th-century medicine show, it's a 19th-century medicine show in the south.”

Thanks to his near divine status in Brooklyn's occult and theurgical circles, the Good Reverend Doctor Professor draws a diverse crowd of riveting performers who frequently drop in unannounced.

“We're fortunate to have a whole coterie of burlesque performers accompanying us, either burlesque or hoochie coochie dancers, which are basically hot people getting out there and dancing, and our little band will play stuff and they'll just shake their booty,” said MacKenzie.

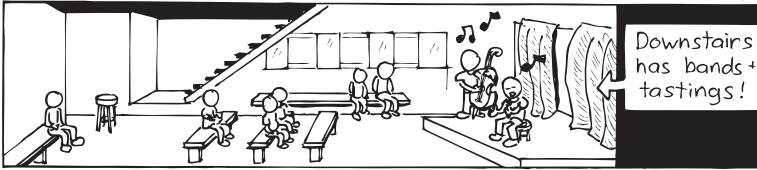
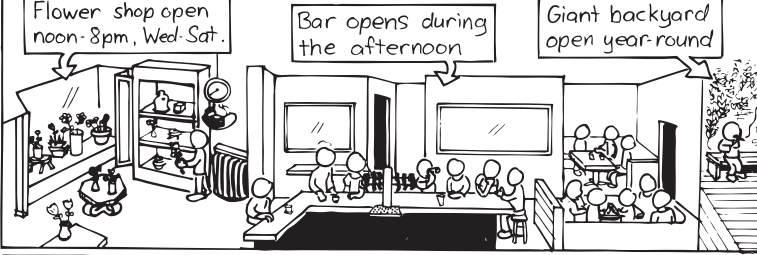


Cure-all: Thanks to their miraculous snake oil concoction, Justin Blaser and Ian MacKenzie can withstand any amount of pain and degradation — like stapling things to their arms.

BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roundy

Before the current wave of bar and business combinations, Sycamore was selling flowers and booze in Ditmas Park.



It has a full bar, but focuses on good beer and whiskeys.



Sycamore [1118 Cortelyou Rd., between Stratford and Westminster roads in Ditmas Park, (347) 240-5850, www.sycamorebrooklyn.com]. Open Mon–Thu, 4 pm–2 am; Fri, 3 pm–2 am; Sat, Sun, 1 pm–2 am.

Do the write thing and give

Oscars-watching party helps out a literary charity

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Forget winners and losers — everyone knows the Oscars is really about doing good old-fashioned charity work and saying thanks to the “little people.”

So make like Brangelina and do your part at an upcoming Carroll Gardens-based Oscars party, where all the proceeds will go to Girls Write Now, a group of professional women scribes that mentor underprivileged high school girls who are passionate about writing.

“It's a chance for people to be out in their local community and watch something that they would probably be watching at home anyway while raising money for a great organization,” said Nancy Mercado, a Girls Write Now mentor who along with Elaine Stuart-Shah will host the viewing party of the 85th annual Academy Awards at the historic Court Street sports bar and restaurant P.J. Hanley's on “Oscar Sunday,” Feb. 24.

“It's a really fun and festive event.”

A \$25 ticket will land attendees a free drink, an assortment of finger food appetizers, the opportunity to watch host Seth MacFarlane on multiple television screens.

Do-gooders also get a chance to win an array of raffle prizes donated from local businesses including Buttermilk Channel,



Winners: Elaine Stuart-Shah and Nancy Mercado of will host an Academy Awards viewing party to benefit an all-women writing and mentoring organization geared towards underprivileged high school girls.

Area Yoga, and Momofuku Milk Bar.

Two tickets to Jon Stewart's “The Daily Show,” and Katie Couric's talk show will also be raffled off.

Attendees can also cast their vote for their favorite motion pictures.

“By the end of the night whoever has the most correct Oscar picks wins a prize,” said Mercado.

Organizers say it's also a great occasion for locals to mingle with the dozens of educators, journalists, novelists, poets, and editors who volunteer at Girls Write Now and learn about how they mentor high schoolers one-on-one throughout the organization's rigorous, year-long creative writing program chock full of genre-based workshops.

“It's really about empowering these girls and showing them that they have a voice and that their voice matters and that they have these stories that are worth telling,” said Stuart-Shah, a freelance writer whose articles have appeared in the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal.

“This is one of the most meaningful things that I've done — it's such an incredible organization to be a part of.”

Girls Write Now's Oscar Party at P.J. Hanley's [449 Court St. at Fourth Place in Carroll Gardens, (718) 834-8223, www.oscars2013gwn.eventbrite.com]. Feb. 24, 7–11 pm, \$25 online, \$30 door.



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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

Watching your mouth

Language expert exposes history of sexy words

By Hannah Palmer Egan
for The Brooklyn Paper

After he g----- her for over an hour, George suspected Sally didn't want to s---- and so he went to the kitchen for a bowl of ce-real instead.

If you are not familiar with super old-school language, this could mean anything, but if you are, this newspaper apologizes for offend-ing your sensibilities.

Author of "The F-Word" and Ox-ford English Dictionary editor-at-large Jesse Sheidlower is giving an illustrated talk on profane sexual language to entertain and enlighten Brooklynites—especially those who depend on a dictionary to expand their dirty vocabulary.

Sheidlower says dictionaries have historically dropped the ball when it comes to everyday sex talk, leaving out words or giving woefully limited

TALK

Sex in the Dictionary at the Gemini & Scorpio Loft (RSVP to get address, www.geminiand-scorpio.com/events.html) Feb. 26, 8 pm, \$10.

definitions, said the expert.

"For example, sexual intercourse [was] defined as coitus and coitus [was] defined as sexual intercourse," said Sheidlower, who'll be speak-ing at the Gemini and Scorpio loft in Gowanus.

But that hasn't stopped writers from finding lewd venues to express themselves—Sheidlower found fre-quent historic uses of some of Eng-lish's dirtiest words while research-ing for his book.

"[It] usually wasn't written down," he said. "[But] the word was ex-tremely common in Victorian por-nography. C--- is all over the place



and so is f---."

Another place Sheidlower found the word f--- was in legal documents—often in cases debating the word's legitimacy.

"When you have a word that usu-ally isn't written down, and peo-ple don't talk about it, legal cases are a great place to look because if there is legal import to a word, it'll have to get written down in court records," he said.

"The fact that that word was not in dictionaries, it was argued [in court] that the word didn't exist."

In the end, any discussion of dirty words is an academic one, so Sheidlower's talk is bound to get hot and heavy—with history.

"It is going to be an informed, serious historical discussion," Sheidlower said of the talk. "I will be discussing sexual [and scatolog-ical] terms and I will be doing it very explicitly."

Photo by Sarah Lang

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

will present his new book "Rage is Back." He will dis-cuss his book with Dr. Jo-seph G. Schloss, a hip hop scholar and author. 7:30 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246–0200], green-lightbookstore.com.

TUES, FEB. 26

STORY TELLING, SPILL THE BEANS! Jefferson Bites's true story telling series Spill! invites the adven-turous and the unafraid to tell their own tales of queer romance and sex. **Free.** 8 pm. Public Assembly [70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 782–5188], www.publicassem-blynyc.com.

WED, FEB. 27

READING, READINGS FROM START HERE: Book Riot presents Start Here. **free.** 7:00 p.m. Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. between Milton and Noble streets in Green-point, (718) 383–0096], www.wordbrooklyn.com.

THURS, FEB. 28

MUSIC, ITZHAK PERLMAN AT BARCLAYS: Joining Perlman on Feb. 28 will be cantor Yitzchak Meir Helfgot to get the crowd clapping to Israeli and



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Seeing the light: Spoken word artist J. La Londe will riff on his early sexual experiences with desperate housewives at the next installment of "Spill! True Stories of Queer Sex, Desire and Romance" on Feb. 26.

Klezmer songs, but the main attraction will be a sonorous display of liturgi-cal singing often used to lead a synagogue con-gregation in prayer. Starts at \$65.75. 7:30 pm. Barclays Center [620 Atlantic Ave. at Flatbush Avenue in Prospect Heights, (212) 359–6387], www.barclay-scenter.com.

FRI, MARCH 1

ART, JAPANESE ART: Pep-per's Project, a Tokyo-based gallery and art project, is pleased to present

a group exhibition, JAR-T3rd 6th Annual Japanese Emerging Artists Exhibi-tion. **Free.** 6–8pm. Wil-liamsburg Art & Historical Center [135 Broadway at S. Sixth Street in Williams-burg, (718) 486–6012], www.wahcenter.net.

SAT, MARCH 2

THEATER, OPERA DOUBLE BILL: Pergolesi's "La Serva Padrona" and Puccini's "Suor Angelica" will both be performed by the Re-gina Opera Company with a short intermission in

between. \$25 (\$20 seniors and students; \$5 teens; Children free). 3 pm. Our Lady of Perpetual Help [5902 Sixth Ave. at 59th Street in Sunset Park, (718) 259–2772], www.reginaopera.org.

ART, GRAVITY AND GRACE: Target First Saturday highlights the work of conceptual art-ist El Anatsui, with music, talks, a film, and sculpt-ing workshop. A cash bar will offer beer and wine, and the Museum Café will serve a wide variety of sandwiches, salads, and

beverages. **Free.** 5–8:30 pm. Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights, (718) 638–5000], www.brook-lynmuseum.org.

WORKSHOP, GAMING THE SYSTEM: What is the impact of video games? and Is there a link be-tween video games and violence? These are the topics that will be ad-dressed at this sympo-sium. **Free.** 10 am–3 pm. Long Island University [DeKalb and Flatbush av-enues in Downtown, (718) 488–1624], www.brooklyn.liu.edu.

READING, DR. SEUSS READING CELEBRA-TION: Greenlight Book-store will host a special story time featuring two Dr. Seuss books - "The Cat in the Hat," and "The 500 Hates of Bartho-lomew Cubbins," as part of a nationwide reading celebration that takes place on March 2, the birthday of the famed Dr. Seuss. 11 am. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246–0200], greenlightbook-store.com.

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There’s no hiding from these girls anymore

I sprinted out the door with no hat or coat at 8:05 am during a freezing-cold day, rushed across the street, car key in hand, only to find an empty spot where I had parked the day before. Turning, I saw my forlorn car rolling down the street on the back of an NYPD tow truck, and my first thought was “How can I keep my kids from finding out I messed up?”

It was a complicated equation. I was about to drive my younger daughter to school because she’s still on crutches after knee surgery. Do I call a car service or make her walk? How do I explain either of these without divulging the fact that her father blew it?

I was looking for a way to hide my failure from my children. When they were little, it was so easy to be impressive. In the eyes of a 3- or 5-year-old, an average guy like me appears close to Superman. I seemed big and strong and

smart. I could drive and cook and my arms could envelope their entire little bodies and all the worries and cares they contained.

Now, I have teenagers, creatures of intense skepticism, suspicion, and disbelief. If I’m lucky, they think I’m impressive once in awhile. It’s a struggle to seem even average as they go through waves of competing with and opposing me, focusing their adolescent lasers of sarcasm and rebellion on every suggestion or idea I share.

My instinct was to hide from their potentially withering criticism.

As I told my younger daughter I’d walk her to school, carrying her backpack and helping anyway I could, she, of course, asked

The Dad

By Scott Sager

why we weren’t driving. I knew immediately the truth was the right and only way, but I still put off the inevitable, telling her I’d explain as we went.

I confessed my goof up as she hobbled down Henry Street, and braced for whatever teasing or cutting words might emerge from her mouth. But that didn’t happen.

Instead, she was patient and understanding. In that moment I wasn’t any kind of a superhero, just a regular person who makes mistakes, like her or any adolescent. She could totally relate to forgetting a responsibility

or misjudging the timing of a situation.

When my older daughter caught up to us and I gave her my story, she shrugged it off as mundane and uninteresting.

As my girls have gotten older, they have become real people, struggling with the demands and responsibilities of high school and teenage life. The example I offer is a way to face life’s joys, frustrations, successes, and failures with honesty and without freaking out. I can deliver the message that when I make a mistake, I face it and move on.

More importantly, I no longer need to try and be the hero, phenomenal creature I was when they toddled around the living room. Today, just being a real person in their sight is extraordinary in a different and meaningful way.

Now I just have to figure out how to tell my wife about the car.

Photo by Bens Adler

A car designed after the Star Wars Landspeeder.

CARS...

Continued from page 1

ture concept cars,” said Mazzetti, who builds anywhere from two to 15 fanciful vehicles a year.

Mazzetti’s own personal transportation is one of these cars, a tricked-out limo dubbed the “Batlimo” by his Tribeca neighbors.

And Mazzetti says that what for many people is a part-time hobby to indulge in during the months leading up to the annual desert festival at the end of August, has become a full-time trade for him in New York, where clients pay him big bucks to create art cars to keep the whimsical Burning Man spirit alive year-round.

“People have gotten so much life force out of the experience that those who have the means want to give back to the spirit so that other people can receive what they found at Burning Man for themselves,” he said. “So they fund art cars.”

The fully customized cars start at around \$100,000 — and the price goes up from there.

Mazzetti says he tries to get to know the owners first before creating what he hopes will be an authentic automotive reflection of them.

“All the cars are designed in a way to be a caricature of the owner,” said Mazzetti. “We usually hang out or take a trip, go somewhere or go skiing, and during that time we’d talk about what they’re trying to do. Do you want it for your friends, to pick up girls, a party car, a light car, transportation car? I try to find out what makes them tick. A lot of times I’ll ask what their spirit animal is.”

Mazzetti, a Washington State native who first attended Burning Man seven years ago, says he moved to New York two-and-a-half years ago when he was commissioned to create artwork for a nightclub in the Meatpacking District by someone he met in Black Rock City, as the desert encampment is called during the week-long festival in Nevada’s Black Rock Desert.

He soon realized there was a niche for his work here — even more so than the de-facto capital of Burning Man culture, the San Francisco Bay Area — as well as the financial base to support it.

“I wasn’t finding those people and opportunities on the West Coast — there are less opportunities to build \$150,000 cars for people,” he said.

Mazzetti’s work is now split roughly 50-50 between making cars and art for Burning Man buyers and doing high-end installations for Meatpacking District clubs like Kiss and Fly and Provocateur.

And he says that even 2,700 miles away from the festival, the community of “burners” is strong out here.

“Everybody that I now know in New York are all kind of around the Burning-Man scene,” he said.

RATS...

Continued from page 1

motor’s warm, and it’s a nice comfy place to stay,” said Perl, who paid \$750 to rewire and repair his car.

Thank Hurricane Sandy, which forced swarms of New York’s most resourceful four-legged residents out of basements and into the streets.

The service manager at Bay Ridge Lexus, where Perl took his car for repair, said that he has seen five cases of rat-infested cars so far this winter.

“Our calls pretty much doubled,” said Jason Anderson, a service manager at Brooklyn Heights Exterminator, who claims his business now gets about 30 calls per day for rat infestations, mostly from neighborhoods including Brooklyn Heights, Park Slope, Cobble Hill, and Carroll Gardens.

People who see rats on public property can call 311 to prompt the city to put traps out, said Judy Stanton, the executive director of the Brooklyn Heights Association.

But the problem could very well come from infestations that begin on private property — and since the mayor’s last few budgets reduced the number of pest-control inspectors in the city, these sorts of complaints may be getting addressed less frequently, she said.

“When the infestation is under the city streets,” Stanton said, “We don’t know where they’re coming from.”

TREES...

Continued from page 1

it replants 116 and pays the city \$159,000 — but it is unclear exactly when and where the mandated replacement trees will rise.

And that’s a clear shot across the bough, tree huggers claim.

“It’s disappointing and heartbreaking to not be told when they’re going to be put back,” said Peter Krashes, president of the Dean Street Block Association, which sent a letter urging the Parks Department to halt the abhorcide this week. “We want to see them re-tasked somewhere in the neighborhood at a reasonable date in the future.”

The Parks Department offered no concrete details about the placement or timeline for the new trees.

“Once construction is complete ... [the] trees will be planted in the community, in the public right-of-way,” a spokeswoman said.

But that doesn’t necessarily mean the new trees will rise from same sidewalks: a recent Parks Department e-mail obtained by this paper indicates the developer can plant the replacement trees on surrounding blocks if there’s no room for them on the Atlantic Yards footprint.

The lack of clear-cut plans leaves neighbors especially wary, considering that even Forest City Ratner’s replacement trees haven’t been safe from the ax man.

The arena builder says it already replanted 17 arbores to make up for chopped trees on Atlantic and Flatbush avenues, but was forced to uproot five of them — three in front of the stadium’s VIP entrance, and two from in front of the Nets gear shop — to “address and improve pedestrian traffic flow issues” at the behest of the Department of Transportation and the NYPD.

To keep that from happening again, a Forest City Ratner spokeswoman said neighbors must be patient.

“We do not believe it would be prudent to replant trees that will have to be removed when the future buildings and platforms are in construction,” said spokeswoman Ashley Cotton. “[But] we hope to put them back in the same place.”

Residents say they fear it could be decades before they see a patch of green again on their block.

“They could avoid planting another tree for 25 years,” said Christine Schmidt, a resident of the affected block between Carlton and Sixth avenues.

L TRAIN...

Continued from page 1

“If I miss the train, it’s another 15 minutes standing on the platform with a couple hundred other people,” said the 27-year-old.

Trains run at 20-minute intervals on the L train at night, allowing for workers to perform necessary maintenance, according to the MTA.

Agency spokesman Kevin Ortiz said transit experts must conduct more studies before determining if changes are warranted — but he said it’s clear ridership on the L is going to continue to increase.

“Our ops planning department has and will continue to study ridership patterns, but it’s no secret the L is seeing higher ridership — that’s why we added trains in June,” said Ortiz, whose agency recently started running 98 additional round-trips weekly on the L train, including 16 each weekday, 11 on Saturdays, and seven on Sundays.

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DEADLINE: WED. 11 AM

SURROGATE'S COURT,
YATES COUNTY
File No.2012-9960A
CITATION
TO: "JANE DOE STENGLER" and "JOHN DOE STENGLER", the names being fictitious, intending to designate decedent's maternal aunts and uncles, **WILLIAM ARUNDEL AND CATHERINE ARUNDEL** who are decedent's distributees paternal half-siblings, and "JANE DOE ARUNDEL" AND "JOHN DOE ARUNDEL" the names being fictitious, intending to designate decedent's paternal aunts and uncles whose names and places of residence are unknown to petitioner and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained, if living, and if any such maternal and paternal distributees, again whose names and places of residence are unknown, be dead, then to his or her distributees, legal representatives, assigns and all persons who by purchase, inheritance or otherwise have or claim to have an interest in the estate of Lorraine Ullger derived through the above-named persons whose addresses and names are unknown to the petitioners.

A petition having been duly filed by ELOY OQUEENDO, JR. of 5586 WAUGH ROAD, DUNDEE, NY 14837

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Yates County, at 415 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, New York 14527, on March 21, 2013 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of LORRAINE ULLGER admitting to probate a Will dated 7/19/2002, as the Will of LORRAINE ULLGER, deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that [X] Letters Testamentary issue to: ELOY OQUEENDO, JR., to serve without bond.

Dated, Attested and Sealed, February 6, 2013 (Seal)

HON. DENNIS F. BENDER, Surrogate
Vanessa V. Smith, Chief Clerk
Attorney for Petitioner: PETER H. BAKER, ESQ. Tel. NO. (607) 243-5416
Address of Attorney:9 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 7, DUNDEE, NEW YORK 14837.

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN DISTRIBUTUTES OF LORRAINE ULLGER
PLEASE BE ADVISED, that the nature of the proceeding referred to in the above citation is for the probate of the Last Will and Testament of Lorraine Ullger, dated July 19, 2002, and the relief sought is to have the Yates County Surrogate admit that Will to probate which will then ultimately result in the distribution of all of Lorraine Ullger's assets as directed in her aforesaid Last Will and Testament and the appointment of Eloy Oquendo, Jr. as her Executor.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/15/2013, bearing Index Number NC-000145-13/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Moshe (Last) Raskin. My present name is (First) Levi (Last) Raskin. My present address is 675 Empire Blvd, Brooklyn, NY 11213. My place of birth is Staten Island, NY. My date of birth is December 27, 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/15/2013, bearing Index Number NC-000161-13/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Craigie (Middle) Scott (Last) Bell. My present name is (First) Craig (Middle) Scott (Last) Davis AKA Craigie Scott Bell. My present address is 89-111 Porter Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11237-. My place of birth is Youngstown, Ohio. My date of birth is February 29, 1960.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/14/2013, bearing Index Number NC-000159-13/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Evelina (Last) Jarzynska. My present name is (First) Ewelina (Last) Jarzynska. My present address is 5423 Fort Hamilton Pkwy, Brooklyn, NY 11219-. My place of birth is Poland. My date of birth is January 12, 1981.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/14/2013, bearing Index Number NC-000157-13/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) David (Middle) Dawei (Last) Zhuang. My present name is (First) Dawei (Middle) D (Last) Zhuang AKA David Dawei Zhuang. My present address is 623 41st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232-. My place of birth is Beijing, China. My date of birth is October 05, 1986.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/14/2013, bearing Index Number NC-000155-13/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Neil (Middle) Ian (Last) Albstein. My present name is (First) Neil (Middle) Ian (Last) Albstein Hamada AKA N.I. Albstein-Hamada. My present address is 38 E. 85 St., New York, NY 10028-. My place of birth is New York, N.Y. My date of birth is October 14, 1987.



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