

Hevesi misses out on parole in 2-1 decision

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Flight 1225 nonstop to Santa's shop

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

Patients from Cohen Children's Medical Center took off from LaGuardia Airport and landed at the North Pole Saturday, where they met Santa Claus and received gifts to brighten their day.

"The North Pole is reporting some cold weather and snow," an on-board flight attendant said.

The plane was decorated with Christmas lights along the overhead bins and the crew told the children to pull down the shades on their windows because Santa did not want anyone to know where his secret workshop was located.

By shaking bells and chanting, "Merry Christmas," the children powered the plane to the North Pole.

Cohen is a part of the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System and is adjacent to LIJ Medical Center.

The North Pole was actually a US Airways hangar at LaGuardia, but the kids and their families received boarding passes, were checked in by volunteering US Airways employees, passed through airport security and took their seats on Flight 1225 to the North Pole.

In reality, it never left the
Continued on Page 20

No blizzard snafus this year: City

Bayside, Little Neck LIRR stops will get special attention during storms: Manager

BY IVAN PEREIRA

The city manager responsible for keeping northeastern Queens' streets clear during snowstorms reassured Community Board 11

Monday that this winter he and his team will not allow residents to be stranded during a major snowstorm.

Sanitation Department Deputy Chief James McGovern, who commands the Q11 garage

in Bellerose, talked to the board during its monthly meeting and said the city has rethought the way it clears the streets during blizzards.

McGovern, a Far Rockaway native, acknowledged that sanita-

tion crews did not do a good job clearing nearly 2 feet of snow during the Dec. 26 blizzard last year, but he reminded the board that the storm was abnormal.

"By the time [the plows]
Continued on Page 20

WINTER WONDERLAND



Sophia Zheng, 3, of Bayside, peers at the holiday decorations set up at a home at 32nd Avenue and 213th Street in Bayside. The home's owner creates the annual display to raise money through donations for St. Mary's Healthcare System in Bayside. **See more photos at timesledger.com.**

Photo by Christina Santucci

Pols blast USPS shutdown

Postal Service says falling profits may mean ax for College Point facility

BY JOE ANUTA

A group of postal workers and two politicians voiced their opposition Friday night to the U.S. Postal Service's proposed closure of a College Point facility that could leave hundreds of jobs in limbo.

Stephen Larkin, vice president of the Flushing chapter of the United Postal Workers Union, said that USPS has not made clear what will happen to the workers at the plant who number about 1,000.

"We have clerks, mail handlers, maintenance and motor vehicle operators that will be affected and they won't give us any information about what they plan to do," he said.

A spokeswoman for the USPS said that about 700 workers will be relocated to other jobs.

The proposed closure of the facility — one of nearly 300 that USPS would like to shutter across the nation at the expense of 35,000 jobs — would save the struggling system nearly \$31 million, according to the spokeswoman said.

Larkin said that there is a layoff clause in their contract, but that he suspects the USPS will try to circumvent it anyway.

The spokeswoman said "changes are being sought after" with regard to the contracts, though USPS would work to find everybody a landing spot.

If the plant is eventu-



The United States Postal Service is proposing to close down the College Point sorting facility as part of a national consolidation effort.

ally consolidated or closed, the work would instead be done in Brooklyn or in Manhattan.

The switch would not cause any delay in service, the spokeswoman said, but USPS is changing the definition of first-class mail on a national level.

Instead of some mail arriving in one day, it will soon take two to three days if the cost-cutting proposal goes through in March and is approved by Congress.

A USPS spokeswoman said that while the mail will be slower because of the policy change, it will not be due to the consolidation of facilities all over the country.

But City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whites-

tone) cited traffic between the two boroughs as reason to question USPS's statement.

He also took issue as to why the Queens facility was slated for closure in the first place.

"They wouldn't tell us how they reached the conclusion to close this the facility instead of Brooklyn," he said.

But the USPS's budget woes have another source as well, according to state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bay-side) who also spoke at the hearing.

In 2006 the U.S. Congress passed legislation requiring the USPS to pay pension costs for an employee upfront — a process that Avella called "absurd,"

and U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-Bayside) sought to overturn by co-signing legislation earlier this year.

Pre-funding pensions means that when a new employee is hired, the USPS must pony up the money for that person's benefits in one lump sum. It costs the postal service, which is the only agency required to do so, about \$5.5 billion a year, Avella said.

Workers will find out in March whether the facility will be closed or consolidated pending congressional approval.

Reach reporter Joe Anuta by e-mail at januta@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4566.

Floral Pk. synagogue builds smaller temple

BY RICH BOCKMANN

A few dozen congregation members gathered in Floral Park Friday to celebrate the groundbreaking for Temple Sholom's new synagogue.

Standing in the vacant lot at the corner of 80th Avenue and 254th Street, Cantor Josée Wolff, the temple's spiritual leader, read from Psalm 118 as she spoke about a community that, not too long ago, was close to closing its doors.

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the corner stone," she read.

President Paul Trolio said the temple's former home of 20 years, the sanctuary and school buildings at 264th Street and Union Turnpike, was much too large for the congregation and the overhead costs of operating it were becoming a financial burden.

In an effort to trim

costs, Temple Sholom sold its home a little more than two years ago to the Korean All Nations Church and has been working for more than a year to design a new, more economically feasible building.

Synagogues across the borough are faced with the same problems, he said: ever-smaller congregations in buildings meant to accommodate those twice the size.

"I think that with the baby boom generation, everyone was building synagogues. Now coincidentally the first ones are retiring. It's a generational thing," he said. "I've spoken with my colleagues, and I think we're coming now to the end of a 60-year cycle where all of a sudden we have the synagogues that were built for 400 [to] 600 people and now they're down to 100."

"In our heyday — we

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Cantor Josée Wolff donned a hard hat for the ceremonial groundbreaking of Temple Sholom's new synagogue.

Photo by Rich Bockmann

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Martial arts experts grow mustaches to KO cancer

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BT

Sensei, instructors at Bell Blvd. Tiger Schulmann's school take part in monthlong charity movement

BY RICH BOCKMANN

A mustache has always signified something about the man wearing it, whether it be machismo, an ironic appreciation of 1970s styling or — ever since the 'stache-twirling villains of vaudeville — one's nefarious character.

But in November, also known to the mustachioed as Movember or No Shave November, men don their Fu Manchus and handlebars to raise money and awareness for prostate and testicular cancers.

"Nowadays, mustaches are not as popular as they were in the past," said Bryan Gotthoffer, head instructor at the Tiger Schulmann's martial arts school on Bell Boulevard in Bay-side, his upper lip covered with thick, light-colored facial hair. The sensei said

his age was a secret around the school, but did admit to sporting a stylish 'stache in his earlier days.

The trainers and students at the martial arts school joined men across the world last month and registered with movember.com, a nonprofit that encourages men to "become walking, talking billboards for our men's health causes — specifically cancers affecting men."

According to the website, nearly 65,000 Americans raised \$7.5 million last year for its health partners, the Prostate Cancer Foundation and Livestrong.

"You know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and you see the NFL players wearing pink, but about 30,000 men in the United States die from prostate cancer each year," Gotthoffer said. "You don't



Bryan Gotthoffer (l.-r.), Julio Arce and Matt Castillo show off their 'staches.
Photo by Rich Bockmann

really hear about prostate cancer that much, unless it's a high-profile case like [former Mayor Rudy] Giuliani. It's important, though."

Dr. Gerald Wang, director of urology at New York Hospital Queens, said prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among men in the

United States and the second most-lethal after lung cancer.

"What's important to know about prostate cancer is that it exists on a spectrum. Some is aggressive, some is not," he said.

About 1,450 new cases of prostate cancer and 47 cases of testicular cancer were diagnosed in Queens

last year. Wang said men at the age of 40 should start talking to their doctors about screening for prostate cancer. Testicular cancer is most prevalent in men 18-35 and can be detected by self examination.

Students, staff and others throughout the Tiger Schulmann's organization reached out to their communities, and with mostly small donations they were able to raise about \$11,000 for the cause, Gotthoffer said.

"Every little bit helped. We didn't get there with just 10 people," he said.

The sensei said that during his years in the health and fitness industry he has always stressed the need for men and women to take an active approach to maintain their health.

"I tell my students all the time: Eat right, work

out, get the proper amount of sleep and get an annual checkup. These are the keys to preventative medicine," he said. "You know, in the West, we practice curative medicine. You get sick and they give you medication or they cut you open or whatever. In the East, they practice preventative medicine."

Gotthoffer said instructor Matt Castillo had the best 'stache in the school.

"Matt's came out the best. By the first week he had a full moustache. It took a couple of weeks until mine came in fully," he said.

Castillo, 28, said he had never had a mustache before and he had trouble getting used to tasting his coffee in it after his cup was

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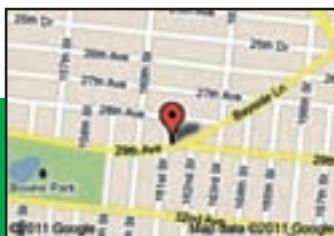
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City to update waterfront

Koo thinks process will be long due to changing community needs

BY REBECCA HENELY

Representatives from the Department of City Planning presented a year-long plan to update the city's Waterfront Revitalization Program to the Queens Borough Board Monday night, but City Councilman Peter Koo (R-Flushing) thought it would take longer than expected.

"I think it's going to take more than a year to go through the process," Koo said.

Michael Marella, of City Planning's Open Space Division, said his department was revising the program to bring it in line with Vision 2020, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Council Speaker Christine Quinn's (D-Manhattan) blueprint for the city's shorelines.

"We do need to look at our waterfronts," Borough President Helen Marshall said. "We have neglected them."

Marella said since its inception in 1982, the Waterfront Revitalization Program has been a set of



Mary Kimball (l.) and Michael Marrella (r.), of the Department of City Planning, present plans to revise the Waterfront Revitalization Program to the Borough Board. Photo by Rebecca Henely

policies against which new property built along the waterfront must be measured.

"This is really a regulatory tool," Marella said.

City Planner Mary Kimball said the federal government dictates that every state must come up with a plan for its waterfronts, and New York state

delegates its planning to local jurisdictions.

The Waterfront Revitalization Plan was last updated in 2002, and the goals for the latest revision are to increase public access to the waterfront, enliven the waterfront, create a working waterfront, improve water quality, restore the natural

waterfront, enhance the public's experience of the waterways, improve government oversight and increase the area's resistance to climate change.

To do this the department is revising the program's policies for residential, industrial and

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Dolan remembered by boro pols, civics

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

real estate."

Former Queens Borough President Claire Shulman called late civic leader Pat Dolan "the quintessential Queens civic worker" during a memorial service for Dolan last week in Forest Hills.

Dolan, the 72-year-old who headed the Queens Civic Congress and Flushing Meadows Corona Park Conservancy, was struck and killed by a car two weeks ago in an accident as she crossed Hillside Avenue on her way to a Community Board 8 Transportation Committee meeting.

Shulman was one of many who knew Dolan and were shocked to hear of her death.

"She was in effect the quintessential Queens civic worker," Shulman said during the memorial service Nov. 29 at Schwarts Brothers Forest Park Chapel, at 114-03 Queens Blvd. in Forest Hills. "She was very much part of my career in government."

Shulman said Dolan's knowledge of zoning laws and passion for transportation issues "was legion and you couldn't get away with anything."

"Queens was really her life," Shulman said. "Pat Dolan is not dead. She's upstairs directing traffic, making sure no one diminishes the value of the

To those who knew Dolan, her love for her large cat Timmy was as much a part of her life as her civic engagement.

"A major priority in her personal life was big, four-pawed and 'meow,' and that's Timmy," said Dolan's longtime friend Norma Stegmaier. "Timmy was an important part of Pat's life. The good news is Timmy has a new home."

Stegmaier said in a phone interview Monday that Timmy's new owner did not want to be interviewed.

Shulman's successor, Borough President Helen Marshall, said Dolan advocated for a new library in her neighborhood of Kew Gardens Hills and said there are plans to memorialize the longtime civic leader with something appropriate at the library.

"She has really shown that she cares about the community," Marshall said. "If we had maybe 50 Pat Dolans, we could take care of all the problems in the world. We have lost a great soldier in the battle to keep our communities safe and beautiful."

Richard Hellenbrecht of the Queens Civic Congress said Dolan was unwavering, tireless, bright and a dedicated advocate.

"You think of every

Continued on Page 56

Transit group calls Q58 boro's slowest bus

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

The 50th Street crosstown bus in Manhattan has won the title of slowest bus in New York City with the Q58 earning the title of the most tardy in Queens.

"You can push a lawn mower faster crosstown than it takes the M50 to go from First Avenue to 12th Avenue," said Gene Russianoff, attorney for the Straphangers Campaign.

The transit advocacy agency said the M50 averages no more than 3.5 mph on its crawl across midtown.

Russianoff said research revealed that a human-powered lawn mower could reach 4 mph compared to the 3.5 mph the M50 averages.

Straphangers announced that the Q58 was the slowest bus in Queens at 7.2 mph on its runs from Ridgewood to Flushing-Main Street.



A Q58 bus, which the Straphangers Campaign says travels about 7.2 mph normally, waits to be dug out during last year's blizzard.

At 31st among the 35 slowest buses was the Q44 Limited from Jamaica Avenue to Main Street in Flushing.

The nonprofit transit group surveyed the 10 slowest bus routes in the city, which all turned out to be in Manhattan, and the three slowest in

each of the boroughs, based on data from New York City Transit.

Straphangers also bestowed its Schleppie Award for unreliability because of gaps in service or bunching of buses. That designation went to the M101/102/103, which operate on the same "trunk route" in Manhattan, running on Third and Lexington avenues between the East Village and Washington Heights and the East Village and Harlem.

Queens did not make the Schleppie list since it had no buses found sufficiently bad in bus bunching or service gaps.

"This year's Pokey goes to yet another sad example of our underfunded transit system," said Paul Steely White, executive director of the nonprofit Transportation Alternatives. "The M50 might be slow, but

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Elected officials and civic leaders say Pat Dolan was a tireless activist for Queens.

Parole board denies Alan Hevesi's request

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NE
TIMES LEDGER, Dec. 8-14, 2011

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

In a 2-1 decision, disgraced former state Comptroller Alan Hevesi was denied his first shot at parole last week and will remain in an upstate prison, where he is serving time for corruption, for at least one more year.

Hevesi, who was sentenced to one year to four years in prison in April for taking \$1 million in campaign contributions and travel expenses in exchange for pension business while state comptroller, told the parole board he was "certainly guilty."

"And there's some refinements on the edges, but the answer is I'm guilty. I hurt a lot of people ... and I'm feeling bad. I have time in prison to think through all the people I've hurt," the former Forest Hills resident told the parole panel at Midstate Correction Facility in Marcy, N.Y., according to a transcript of the hearing.

Hevesi also represent-

ed Forest Hills and parts of western Queen in the state Assembly and served as the city comptroller.

Then-state Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, who filed the charges against Hevesi, said he went on trips to Israel and Italy funded by Elliot Broidy, of Markstone Capital Partners, a firm that specialized in Israeli investments, in exchange for Hevesi's investing pension funds with Markstone.

During his parole hearing, Hevesi said the Italian trip was just a stop-over in a Rome hotel for one night on the way back to New York from one of the Israel visits.

Hevesi also said the travels to Israel "were serious business trips" and not luxury vacations as the charges against him made them out to be.

When asked why he should be paroled, Hevesi said it was not likely he would commit another crime.



Ex-state Comptroller Alan Hevesi is serving a one- to four-year sentence in an upstate prison. He was denied parole last week.

AP Photo/Westchester County DA

"I'm not a career criminal," he told the panel. "I've made this awful, terrible error. I acknowledge how many people I hurt, which I never intended. I'm going to

either work -- if you think that's appropriate, I'm glad to do that."

But Hevesi said he would spend most of his time taking care of his ail-

ing wife, who is in a nursing home, and watching after his grandchildren.

"I'd rather focus on my wife. I'm her connection to the outside world. I'm the one who visits her every day, takes her to medical appointments to her doctors outside the nursing home," he said. "And I will be a baby-sitter and I will focus on the family."

Hevesi also said he wanted to write and was thinking of penning "a couple of books."

"I will be the kind of parolee that the parole officer would be delighted in having," he said. "I know what I did was wrong and it's a painful process to come to that conclusion, how wrong and stupid and criminal I was."

But the parole board did not believe Hevesi was being sincere and accused him of minimizing his crimes.

"During your interview, while you expressed that [the crimes] happened

on your watch, your explanation of your culpability was shallow," wrote one of the three commissioners of the state Commission of Correction.

The commissioner said that while Hevesi admitted his failures, "the majority of the panel finds more compelling the course of conduct from which you have attempted to distance yourself, the violation of your trusted role as an elected official and the loss of integrity of the New York State Office of the State Comptroller."

A second commissioner agreed with the written opinion and a third dissented, but chose not to explain why she was siding with Hevesi.

Hevesi's next parole board hearing is scheduled for November 2012.

Reach reporter Howard Koplowitz by e-mail at hkoplowitz@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

Semi-streaking Santas stroll down Ditmars for donations

BY JOE ANUTA

A nearly naked Saint Nick climbing down the chimney in the middle of the night might sound terrifying, but Astoria residents were all smiles Saturday when a group of scantily clad Kris Kringles stripped for charity and streaked through the neighborhood.

Participants in the second annual Santa Streak were baring it all for good reason: They gave away their clothes to charity.

The event is the brainchild of Ran Craycraft, creator of the neighborhood-centric blog whyleaveastoria.com.

"It's for people around the neighborhood to shed their clothes for a good



Scantily clad Santas streak along the waterfront in Astoria Park as part of the annual event for charity.

Photo by Joe Anuta

cause," Craycraft said.

All the donated items went to New York Cares, a Manhattan-based nonprofit that collects clothing, offers volunteer opportunities and provides youth programs around the five

boroughs.

About 50 Santas took up the cause, and around noon were fueling up for the run at Hellgate on the Park, a bar at 19-19 Ditmars Blvd.

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Mob involved in stripper trafficking scheme: Feds

BY REBECCA HENELY

Federal authorities said last week that 20 individuals, some of whom are allegedly members of the notorious Gambino and Bonnano mob families, were arraigned in Manhattan federal court on charges of importing women from Russia and Eastern Europe to work at strip clubs in Queens and on Long Island.

The individuals arrested and arraigned Nov. 30 were allegedly involved in a scheme to arrange for women to enter the United States illegally, either by advertising for them to work as exotic dancers and then getting them fraudu-



Gallagher's 2000 strip club, in Sunnyside, was raided by federal agents investigating a scheme to bring Russian women to the United States to work as strippers, but the community board chairman said nobody from the club was arrested.

Photo by Ken Maldonado

lent visas, advertising opportunities for work and then fraudulently getting them summer work or travel visas, or by having them enter into fraudulent marriages for legal status, according to U.S. Attorney

Preet Bharara of the Southern District in Manhattan.

After the women arrived, they were then sent to work for strip clubs, the prosecutor said.

The suspected mem-
Continued on Page 56

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American's bankruptcy filing not likely to hurt JFK

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NE
TIMES LEADER, Dec. 8-14, 2011

BY IVAN PEREIRA

Elected officials in southeast Queens say they are not too worried about American Airlines' bankruptcy negatively affecting the neighborhood's commerce, but they will be keeping a close eye on their future operations.

The airline's parent company, AMR Corp., filed for Chapter 11 reorganization bankruptcy last week due to a growing debt it incurred over the rising costs of operations, the company said. Despite the financial burdens, the airline will keep flying its aircraft to various destinations and operate its major terminal at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

"American is committed to continuing to provide our customers with the excellent service and safe, reliable travel experience they expect from us," the airline said in a statement.

U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-Jamaica) said he was not surprised with American's decision since other major carriers,

including Delta and United Airlines, have filed for Chapter 11 over the last 10 years.

He noted that the other airline companies have remained in business despite filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection from creditors due to in their work at JFK.

"I would think in order for it to remain competitive it would have to keep up its operations at Kennedy — especially the international operations," he said of American.

The airline has not indicated whether or not staff cuts are imminent as part of the restructuring, but Meeks and City Councilman James Sanders (D-Laurelton) said they did not think it would affect the thousands of Queens residents who work for American at JFK.

"It is merely a matter of a paper reorganization. Those implications have little effect on us," Sanders said.

The councilman said the airline has a major "cash cow" at the airport with Terminal 8, which it



An American Airlines employee works at the counter of the airline's gate at LaGuardia Airport. The Port Authority has said American's bankruptcy will not affect its operations at the two Queens airports. AP Photo-Seth Wening

completely renovated four years ago. Sanders said the terminal is still operating well and could be lucrative for the airline.

"No one gets rid of their cash cow unless they are truly at their end of days," he said.

Creating that cash cow, however, may have created American's current financial situation.

The bond yields on \$800 million American secured to make the terminal increased from 8 percent in October to 11 percent

last month and ultimately crippled their finances, according Reuters.

The Port Authority, which runs JFK, said American would continue to fly as normal while it works on its restructuring, but court papers show the agency may also be in financial trouble because of American Airlines' bankruptcy. The PA is one of the creditors listed in American's bankruptcy filing along with the other cities where the airline has major hubs.

The councilman said that despite the positive outlook he has on American's situation, he acknowledged that it does create a negative impact on the psyche of residents who are looking for a break during the rough economic times.

"It's just one more nail in the coffin of a seemingly emerging recovery," Sanders said.

Reach reporter Ivan Pereira by e-mail at ipereira@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4546.

Divorce Caribbean Style

For a growing number of New Yorkers, tired of the delays and expense of conventional local divorces, fast, inexpensive Caribbean and offshore US divorces have been the answer.

A leader in the fast divorce business has been Divorcefast.com of Massachusetts, a company that has been providing speedy, low-cost foreign divorces for 50 years. The company provides divorces that can be completed in as little as one day in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and the US offshore island of Guam.

According to Alan Alford,

proprietor of Divorce.com, some of the divorces offered require travel to the court, while some can be done without any travel or court appearance. Some require both parties to sign the court petition for divorce, while others can be achieved with only one party signing. All of the divorces happen very quickly and with a minimum amount of paperwork.

The divorces are valid and recognized everywhere, and Alford reports that he processes several thousand of them every year, particularly for New Yorkers. The total cost for fast divorces starts

at \$895, with other options raising the price to as high as \$1,500. All of the divorces, Alford says, are completed within a few days and the clients are then free to remarry or otherwise continue with their lives as single persons. Anyone interested in more details about the Divorcefast offerings should access the company website: www.divorcefast.com The forms and instructions are printed out from there and submitted to the company. For those lacking Internet access Alford and his staff are prepared to discuss foreign divorces on the phone, or by mail.

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RES-HP-adv1-feb11

POLICE Blotter

Cops on the lookout for missing elderly man, 80



BAYSIDE — Police have asked the public's help in finding a missing senior citizen.

James Adams, 80, of Queens Village, was last seen last Thursday around 1:30 p.m. driving a blue 2003 Toyota Camry in front of 38-26 Bell Blvd., police said.

Adams was described as a black man, 5 feet 10 inches tall and approximately 140 pounds and was last seen wearing a blue/gray jacket, multicolored shirt and burgundy shoes, according to investigators.

Police are looking for this man who went missing in Bayside last week. Photo courtesy NYPD

3 men raped woman, 20, in Long Island City: Cops

LONG ISLAND CITY — The authorities were searching for three men who they say raped a 20-year-old woman early Sunday morning.

The incident took place around 3:45 a.m. near Vernon Boulevard and 10th Street, where the victim was grabbed by two men from behind, police said.

The unidentified men allegedly dragged her to a parking lot and placed her between two cars, according to investigators.

A third suspect, who was described as a white man between 25 and 30 years old and 5 feet 10 inches tall with dirty blonde hair and light colored eyes, raped the victim as the other two men continued to hold her down, investigators said.

The three fled the scene and the victim was taken to an undisclosed hospital for treatment for her injuries, according to police.



Police say they were looking for a man fitting this description in connection with the rape of a 20-year-old woman.

Sketch courtesy NYPD

Agent admits attacking LGA supervisor: DA

LAGUARDIA AIRPORT — A 34-year-old ramp agent for Southwest Airlines at LaGuardia Airport pleaded guilty Tuesday to brutally assaulting his supervisor in August, Queens District Attorney Richard Brown said.

Calvin Williams, 34, of Hempstead, L.I., admitted Tuesday to repeatedly hitting his supervisor in the head and body with a metal bar Aug. 2 following an argument the two men had several days earlier, Brown said.

The supervisor was taken to a hospital after he suffered numerous and serious head lacerations that took 24 staples to close, the DA said. He also suffered a

broken rib and two fractures to the spinal process of his vertebra, Brown said.

"If co-workers had not been present to pull the defendant away from his victim, the injuries could have been even more horrific," the DA said. "Such extremely dangerous and outrageous behavior as displayed by the defendant cannot be tolerated and, as evidenced by the expected sentence, will be severely punished."

Queens Criminal Court Judge Dorothy Chin-Brandt indicated she would sentence Williams to five years in prison and two years' post-release supervision Jan. 4, 2012, the DA said.

Astoria dive pool being re-imagined

BY REBECCA HENELY

City Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. (D-Astoria) announced Tuesday that Astoria Park's long-neglected diving pool will get a \$1 million renovation and be converted into a first-class performance space by 2013.

"I was ecstatic today to be able to announce this," Vallone said. "It was something I wanted to see done for a long time."

The councilman said he has lived close to the park, at 19th Street and 23rd Drive in Astoria, ever since he was young and the unused diving pool has been an eyesore in the community since he was a child.

He said the refurbishment, which will come out of the councilman's capital money, is set to begin this month and will give the borough a sterling performance space, which he said is sorely needed.

"This long unused space will be transformed to bring music, theater and more to residents of Astoria and the borough of Queens," said Dorothy Lewandowski, Queens commissioner for the city Parks Department, in a statement.

Vallone's office said the renovation will pour concrete into the pool, dispose of debris, remove the small diving boards, build seating areas and flooring

and create a concrete walkway around the perimeter. It will be completed in 2013.

"It's really going to make Queens residents feel like they're maybe back in ancient Rome or Greece," Vallone said.

The councilman said the diving pool's three-level diving board is landmarked and thus will remain where it is, but it will be refurbished. The performance space will seat about 1,500 people and will have access to electricity, allowing for night shows and concerts.

Vallone said Community Board 1 and the Central Astoria Local Development Corp. have been helpful in the creation of the plan. He said the members of the Astoria Performing Arts Center are also eager to put their imaginations to work on performances.

"It will draw people to Astoria and provide artists with a unique space to share their talents," Taryn Sacramone, executive director for the center, said in a statement. "The location is absolutely inspired and the possibilities are endless."

Another \$2 million will also be used to refurbish Astoria Park's pool house, providing structural improvements and giving it a roof, Vallone said. He hopes a café or concession stand can be put there.

Continued on Page 36



City Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. (l.) said the long-unused diving pool in Astoria Park will be converted into a performance space. Queens Parks Commissioner Dorothy Lewandowski (second from r.) joined him.

Photo courtesy Peter Vallone Jr.

MTA more prepared for snow

NYC Transit prez tells Council it has better system for tackling blizzards



A bus rests atop a pile of snow and ice on 39th Avenue in Woodside following the December 2010 blizzard.

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

New York City Transit President Thomas Prendergast said Tuesday the MTA's performance in the near-catastrophic blizzard a year ago was inadequate but that the agency had learned much and has made vast changes since then.

"When we appeared before this body for more than four hours last January, you were understandably very unhappy with our performance, as you were with the performance of other city operating agencies for what was arguably an inadequate response to the Dec. 26, 2010, blizzard," Prendergast said at a City Council Transportation Committee hearing in downtown Manhattan.

The snowstorm paralyzed the city and left some Queens streets unplowed for days as residents struggled to get to work, buy groceries and get medical

attention. Subways, buses and the Long Island Rail Road stopped running and service was not restored on some lines for several days.

Transportation Committee Chairman James Vacca (D-Bronx) told Prendergast and other transit officials that "we want to insure straphangers that all is being done that can be done to avoid a repeat of that storm that immobilized our transportation system."

Prendergast said, "Many of the changes we were able to quickly execute were tested with great success during subsequent snowstorms in January and February. They were recently tested again during Hurricane Irene and the first winter snowstorm of this season just before Halloween."

Prendergast said Metropolitan Transportation Authority officials learned that they cannot always

keep the transit system running regardless of the weather.

"There was a mantra to run at all costs," Prendergast said. "There are times when you have to change that mantra, where it's clear that you can't continue top-rate service."

Among changes Prendergast mentioned — some right after the 2010 storm — were the appointment of an emergency team to look after passengers in immobilized vehicles and more detailed and reliable bus service status information on the website mta.info, as well as improvements in bus operating procedures for evaluating and responding to bad roads.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Vacca suggested that straphangers may be taking a "wait-and-see attitude" on whether everything is ready for a snowy winter.

But Vacca praised and

thanked Prendergast for a "very thorough report."

Vacca spoke in a manner of great concern about the status of the transit system in bad weather. It no doubt also concerned members of his committee, although it was difficult to gauge their concern.

Vacca had to gavel the hearing into session with no other committee members present. They trickled in throughout the hearing, with committee member Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) showing up just before the hearing was adjourned.

Committee members Darlene Mealy (D-Brooklyn), David Greenfield (D-Brooklyn) and Ydanis Rodriguez (D-Manhattan) were absent.

Reach contributing writer Philip Newman by e-mail at timesledgernews@cnglocal.com or phone at 718-260-4536.

BORO STANDS AGAINST BIGOTRY

It was an event that should not have to happen in the 21st century. The most diverse borough in the city should be beyond the religious bigotry and racism that has surfaced in recent weeks. But ignorance is still a powerful force in Queens, and for that reason we applaud the gathering of 30 religious and political leaders at Flushing Town Hall.

They came together Nov. 23 to sign “A Pledge for Tolerance & Understanding,” which calls for unity among people of all races, colors, nationalities and backgrounds. The meeting was prompted in part to condemn the painting of swastikas on libraries and religious institutions in Jackson Heights and East Elmhurst.

The meeting was organized by Michael Nussbaum, of the Jewish Community Relations Council, who said the document signed that night is based on the Flushing Remonstrance, a letter written in 1657 by Flushing residents to then-New Netherland Director General Peter Stuyvesant, condemning him for prohibiting Quakers to worship and from seeking religious freedom.

Hopefully, borough history teachers will see this as an opportunity to teach about a pivotal moment in the history of Queens and to remind students about the importance of tolerance. Sadly, we suspect many American history teachers do not even know about the Flushing Remonstrance.

The Rev. Floyd Flake, a former congressman and the leader of the Greater Allen AME Church in Jamaica, a man who has spent a lifetime fighting against racism, said, “We all come from the same root and we must all learn the power of tolerance.”

City Councilman Daniel Dromm, who represents the area where the attacks occurred and a man who has led the fight for gay rights in New York City, said, “Anytime hate crime happens, anytime swastikas are painted on the walls, it’s very important for the community to speak out.”

Other leaders at this gathering included Borough President Helen Marshall, District Attorney Richard Brown and Councilman Leroy Comrie.

The document they signed speaks more loudly than the graffiti sprayed by a bigot in the dark of night.



OTHER VOICES

Dolan fought for welfare of Queens

The sudden and tragic death of Queens Civic Congress President Patricia Dolan has left the civic community shocked and grief-stricken.

She was struck and killed by a vehicle on her way to a community board committee meeting on the evening of Nov. 15.

Pat was a person who dedicated herself to improv-

ing the quality of life for all New Yorkers. She was not only concerned with local issues in her community, but with countywide and city-wide issues such as education, transportation, the environment, libraries and zoning.

As part of her job as president of the QCC, an organization made up of more than 100 civic and commu-

nity groups, Pat frequently testified at city agency hearings, wrote letters to city officials and newspapers regarding concerns of her organization and hosted many important QCC events. She lobbied elected leaders for changes that would be positive for the stability of our neighborhoods.

Pat was intelligent,

knowledgeable, tenacious, fearless and a role model for many of us in terms of community activism. She was also a friend and I will miss her. My condolences to her family and all of her friends.

*Henry Euler
Bayside*

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LIC, Jamaica can handle train growth: Transit group

We read with interest your Nov. 24-30 article "Hevesi wants barriers for Fresh Pond trains" and believe it is important to clarify some of the inaccuracies in the article.

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council is the metropolitan planning organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. Comprised of members that include the state and

city Departments of Transportation, Department of City Planning, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Suffolk, Nassau, Westchester, Rockland and Putnam counties, NYMTC is the conduit for federal transportation dollars that come to the region.

Decisions about the use of those dollars are made by the member agencies. NYMTC is neither an operating agency nor a regulating authority, and

as such cannot compel operators to do things like buy more technologically advanced locomotives that emit quieter noises.

To further clarify, the desired growth areas that are noted in the article are not designed to bring additional rail freight into the region, but were selected by our member agencies as areas that can support additional development when coupled with strategic transportation invest-

ments. In Queens, Jamaica and Long Island City were identified as the two desired growth areas mentioned in the article.

We encourage New Yorkers to join us as we undertake the next update of our long-term Regional Transportation Plan, with a 25-year horizon and including the freight planning component, and look forward to beginning additional outreach in the spring of 2012.

We are continuing to work with elected officials and community organizations to see how the next plan can help to address some of the issues that have been raised about rail freight, but want to be clear that these issues cannot be resolved at the NYMTC table but rather by working with the operators and appropriate regulatory agencies.

For more information on NYMTC and to join our

mailing list for e-newsletters and meeting announcements and for ways to get involved, visit nymtc.org or facebook.com/NYMTC.

*Lisa Daglian
Public Information Officer
New York Metropolitan
Transportation Council
Manhattan*

New law protects against smoking

On Nov. 13, a new law went into effect that bans smoking in outdoor areas of ticketing or boarding or on platforms on stations operated by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. This law was passed by the state Legislature with bipartisan support and signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo in August.

Everyone has the right to breathe clean air and this legislation is good public health policy that protects New Yorkers from secondhand smoke. The North Shore-LIJ Health System, Queens Smoke Free Partnership and state Sens. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone) and Andrew Lanza (R-Staten Island) applaud this initiative.

There is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure. Just 30 minutes of exposure to secondhand smoke can increase the

risk of blood clots and lead to more frequent asthma attacks in children. Secondhand smoke contains more than 250 chemicals known to be toxic or carcinogenic.

Non-smokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke are inhaling many of the same cancer-causing substances and poisons as smokers. Secondhand smoke causes premature death and disease in children and in adults who do not smoke.

Now that the law is in full effect, we would like to encourage Queens and Staten Island residents to quit smoking. Did you know that the Rockaways has the highest percentage of smokers (22 percent) followed closely by northwest Queens (20 percent), northeast Queens (18 percent) and central Queens (17 percent)? Staten Island residents have a smoking rate of 17 percent while the city

resident rate is 14 percent.

Protect yourself and those you love by helping someone quit smoking today. Call the New York Smokers' Quitline at 1-866-NY-QUITS or visit nysmokefree.com.

If you would like more information on cessation or smoke-free outdoor policies, please call the Queens Smoke Partnership at 718-213-1550 or visit nycsmokefree.org/Queens.

*Nancy Copperman
Director of Public Health
Initiatives
North Shore-LIJ Health
System
Great Neck, L.I.*

*Toby Stavisky
State Senator
(D-Whitestone)*

*Andrew Lanza
State Senator
(R-Staten Island)*

Dolan tirelessly advocated for parks

On behalf of the city Parks Department family, we were saddened to hear of the untimely death of our friend, Pat Dolan.

Pat embodied what it meant to be a dedicated citizen activist. While a friend to many parks in Queens, she devoted considerable energies to Flushing Meadows Corona Park and was the president of the Flushing Meadows Corona Park Conservancy.

Among her achievements were advocating for Urban Park Ranger pro-

grams at Meadow and Willow lakes, installing bird blinds at both lakes and working toward the shoreline restoration of Meadow Lake and a future installation of an osprey pole and nest at Willow Lake.

Pat was also instrumental in providing crucial letters of support that bolstered our grant applications and was a tireless advocate for the funding of essential maintenance equipment.

But her efforts did not end in Queens' largest park. She was a leader

in neighborhood greening efforts, including the creation of a Greenstreet at 73rd Avenue between 141st and Main streets.

On a personal level, Pat was a caring and spirited woman who inspired others to get involved for the betterment of their communities. We will miss her energy and presence.

*Adrian Benepe
Commissioner
City Parks Department
Manhattan*

SNAP growing to care for seniors

The cover story about Services Now for Adult Persons expanding transportation to northeast Queens ("CB 11 approves Little League bleachers plan," Bayside Times, Nov. 10-16) only took into account one small aspect of the real story, which is that the SNAP of Eastern Queens Senior Center was awarded the contract to become one of

eight innovative senior centers in the city.

What this means for eastern Queens, in addition to increased access to transportation, is a new and wide array of programs and services focusing on wellness and healthy aging. SNAP will have additional staff and they will be able to reach out to those residents of Community Boards 11 and 13 who have not previ-

ously attended a center.

There is excitement and great expectations around this new opportunity for the community to be part of this cutting-edge center of tomorrow.

*Dr. Linda M. Leest
CEO and President
Services Now for Adult
Persons Inc.
Queens Village*

CORRECTION

In the Dec. 1-7 edition of TimesLedger Newspapers, the article on ERDA and City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer giving turkeys to public housing residents should have said they distributed 1,000 turkeys: 500 Nov. 21 and 500 Nov. 22.

Maltese, Padavan consider running for office ... sort of



Dee
Richard
■
*Dishing
with Dee*

The days are rushing by and we are receiving holiday party invitations by the droves. Unfortunately, everyone is still trying to squeeze most of the parties in on Thursdays. Most Thursdays have at least four parties scheduled. Oh, well, it's Ho! Ho! Ho! off to the parties we will go! We will try to give them our best shot for coverage.

This past week, we covered **Michael DenDekker's** fund-raiser at Dante's in Astoria. One of his interesting guests was **Vito Lopez**, of the Bronx. **Cathy Nolan** and **Jose Peralta**, along

with a number of others, showed their support for **DenDekker** by attending.

Dan Halloran had a fund-raiser at Verdi's in Whitestone. One of his guests, **Serf Maltese**, was teasing guest **Frank Padavan** by saying, "Frank, I understand you're going to run for your Senate seat again."

Padavan replied, "I understand you're going to run for county chairman again."

Whereupon both men laughed and then good-naturedly agreed to pose for a photo. At the end of the evening Dan said his committee was pleased with the results of the fund-raiser.

The Little Neck-Douglaston Lions Club held its annual bash at Leonard's of Great Neck. It had great attendance. The star of the show was a black Labrador named Seymour. He was

one of the seeing-eye dogs the Lions acquire and present to needy people each year.

Debbie Markell held a jewelry party in her home in Whitestone Saturday. I have been invited to at least four of them so far. They appear to be the modern equivalent of the Tupperware parties of years gone by, but they are fun and ladies never have enough jewelry.

The Robinwood Property Owners Association had its holiday cocktail party at Trattoria Neo in Whitestone. It was a rather new place and I had never been there before. I must say I have never had such mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres. Check it out, as it seems to be a great place to have a small party.

A change of pace: While in a Verizon store the other day, I heard a fa-

miliar voice behind me. When I turned around, it was **Joyce Shepard**. After we exchanged greetings, we suggested having lunch together. In the past, we were angry with each other and hadn't been speaking for quite a while.

As it turned out, neither of us seemed to remember why we were angry in the first place and decided to get together as life is too short to stay angry with anyone.

A rather sad note: We received an e-mail the other day informing us that an old friend, **Stevie Geitheim, Nettie Mayer-sohn's** sergeant-at-arms at her Stevenson Democratic Club, had died this past week.

Stevie called me religiously to remind me of the monthly club meeting and to inform me who the guest speaker would be. We

always would chat for a few minutes and I found him to be a pleasant man. It's so sad because he was a decent man. He was devoted to Nettie and the Stevenson Club. I will miss our monthly phone calls. Rest in peace, Stevie.

From early reports on the results of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, the sales totals of each were better than expected. Was it because the economy is getting better or because the sale prices were too low to resist?

On Sunday morning, while waiting to be picked up, I was watching C-Span. That particular segment was all about the proposed Canadian oil pipeline to Texas. From what I heard, it sounded like a good idea from many different aspects. It would provide jobs and give the economy a needed boost. The elec-

trical, plumbers and operating engineers unions were in favor of the project. The Canadian representative said his company was "shovel-ready" to go.

The president said he wanted to hold off on approval until 2013. This will be the year after the 2012 election. The president wants to get re-elected and doesn't wish to antagonize either the environmentalists who are against it or the unions who are for it.

I guess that's why you would classify the president's position as being between a rock and a hard place. It would make more sense to support the unions, as they are greater in number than the environmentalists and are in greater need for employment for their membership. Decisions are never easy.

Award-winning actress Patty Duke hails from Elmhurst



The Greater Astoria Historical Society

Actress **Patty Duke** was born Dec. 14, 1946, as **Anna Marie Duke** in Elmhurst. She is perhaps best known for her starring role in the eponymous sitcom "The Patty Duke Show" and her portrayal of drug-addicted Hollywood star **Neely O'Hara** in the 1967 camp classic "Valley of the Dolls."

Duke is the younger sister of actor **Ray Duke** and also has an older sister named **Karen**. Since the mid-1970s, the Queens native has primarily appeared in television dramas, including an October 2011 role in the new "Hawaii Five-O" series on CBS.

She also served as president of the Screen Actors Guild from 1985-88. Duke currently lives in Idaho with her husband **Michael Pierce** and is the mother of actors **Sean** and **Mackenzie Astin**.

Young **Anna Marie** came from a sad, dysfunctional family, and the experience would leave a lasting mark. Her father, **John**, was an alcoholic and her mother, **Frances**, suffered from severe depression and was prone to violence when dealing with her three children.

Her father left the family when she was 6 and **Frances** entrusted her care to **John** and **Ethel Ross**,

who began promoting her as a child actress. Her new managers changed her name to **Patty**, piggybacking on the success of child star **Patty McCormack**.

"**Anna Marie** is dead, you are **Patty** now," pronounced **Ethel**.

In the late 1950s, **Patty Duke** made her first appearance in the soap opera "The Brighter Day" and later won \$32,000 in the game show "The \$64,000 Question." In 1961, Duke testified before a Congressional panel when it was revealed that the show was rigged. She landed her first starring role in the Broadway play "The Miracle Worker," appearing as **Helen Keller** alongside acting great **Anne Bancroft**. The play was made into a film in 1962 and Duke won the Academy Award for best supporting actress.

The teenage star landed her own show in 1963

with the debut of "The Patty Duke Show." Duke played both main characters, appearing alternatively as the mischievous **Patty Lane** as well as her prudish, prim and proper Scottish cousin **Cathy Lane**. The Queens native was nominated for an Emmy Award for her performance.

In spite of her fame and on-screen success, **Patty's** teenage years were far from happy. She described herself as a virtual captive of the **Rosses**, who only doled out a small amount of her acting earnings for her to survive. **John** and **Ethel** gave her alcohol and prescription drugs when she was 13, and she soon developed substance abuse problems. Duke left the couple when she was 18 and found that they had wasted most of her money.

Newly independent, she broke free of her wholesome, child star image

with the 1967 hit "Valley of the Dolls." Duke garnered mixed reviews with her over-the-top portrayal of alcohol and drug-addicted singer **Neely O'Hara**. Two years later, the actress shared the spotlight with another young up-and-coming actor, **Al Pacino**, in the comedy "Me, Natalie." Although the film was a box office flop, Duke earned the Golden Globe for best actress for her role.

Since the mid-1970s, Duke's primary medium has been television. She received her second Emmy for the miniseries "Captains and the Kings" in 1977 and another for the 1979 TV version of "The Miracle Worker;" this time appearing as **Annie Sullivan**. In 1985, Duke made a splash as the first female president of the United States in the series "Hail to the Chief." She was elected president of the Screen Actors Guild

in 1985, and served for the next three years.

In recent years, Duke has taken a step back from her acting career, making occasional television and stage appearances. She spoke about her battle with bipolar disorder on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" in 2007 and has become a mental health advocate since going public with her struggle. She has helped remove the stigma from this disorder through her lobbying and advocacy work.

This daughter of Queens has gone full circle from child star to award-winning actress, mother and activist whose roles have mirrored the beauty and complexity of her own story.

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Car breaks glass doors at center in Little Neck



Firefighters respond to the scene of the crash.

Photo courtesy Solomon Hwang

BY RICH BOCKMANN

One of the partners working to open a new adult daycare center on Northern Boulevard in Little Neck said a bump in the road experienced last week would not change the plans to open the center's glass doors this week.

Solomon Hwang said the building, at 250-21 Northern Blvd., used to be home to the Marathon Furniture company, which has been undergoing renovations to make way for the new Silver Town Adult Day Care Center for most of November, but last week a car went crashing through the floor-to-ceiling windows fronting the store as he worked in his office.

Hwang said he had just gotten up from his desk abutting the glass storefront to make a phone call when the car backed into

the window.

"It was around 10:50 a.m.," he recalled the next day. "The car kind of partially hit the building on its side and smashed through the glass."

The black, four-door Nissan sedan apparently backed into the storefront, its trunk mangled after striking the brick wall and the western-most window. The impact knocked over a few boards leaning against the window and sent pieces of broken glass showering inside the office, covering the desk where Hwang had been sitting.

"Thank God no one was hurt," he said. "Had it hit straight through the glass, I think there would have been a lot more damage."

Hwang said he believed one pedestrian outside may have been injured, but not seriously.

It was not clear who the driver of the vehicle was.

The day after the accident, a new window had been installed, sans the frosting featured on the lower halves of the spared panes, and a sign hung behind the glass advertising the center's open enrollment.

Hwang said Silver Town will specialize in offering a range of services to the aging Korean community.

These services include transportation, meals and ethnic-specific activities such as Korean folk dance and conversational English classes, legal consulting and recreation and sports.

Reach reporter Rich Bockmann by e-mail at rbockmann@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4574.

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Wilets Pt. sewer project begins amid opposition

BY JOE ANUTA

Mayor Michael Bloomberg broke ground Friday on a \$50 million project to install working sewers at Willets Point, but a group opposed to the redevelopment of the Iron Triangle said the city is not playing by the rules.

Bloomberg plunged a shovel into a mound of dirt near the Flushing Bay Promenade to mark the beginning of the sewer construction, set to be completed in 2013, which he said is the first step toward the \$3 billion redevelopment project that will create 62 acres of mixed-use buildings and greenspace.

Willets Point is “an area many thought would always remain neglected,” Bloomberg said at the news conference, which was held across the highway from the pockmarked, puddle-strewn streets of the neighborhood that is mostly comprised of auto shops.

The construction project will create sewers and then plug them into the city’s network to deal with both rainwater and sewage, according to Seth Pinsky, president of the city Economic Development Corp., which is overseeing the project.

“Willets Point is entirely off the grid,” he said at the conference.

Due to contaminated



soil at the site, the city was not able to install the sewers until an area-wide remediation plan was in place, he said.

Other lawmakers, including City Councilwomen Karen Koslowitz (D-Forest Hills) and Julissa Ferreras (D-East Elmhurst), praised the mayor’s vision for the blighted triangle, both saying it was historically a bad area where women were advised not to even walk past.

But Mir Nasratullah, who owns an auto body shop in Willets Point, said that was a gross mischaracterization of the area. Half of his customers are women — many even bring their children — and they have always been treated just fine, he said.

Nasratullah’s objection to how the neighborhood is portrayed is similar to points raised by Willets Point United, a group of property owners opposed to the redevelopment of the area and how the city is proceeding with the project.

The group has already filed two lawsuits against the city regarding the project, which involves the controversial use of eminent domain to seize many of the properties in the footprint of the redevelopment, neither of which have been resolved.

Photo by Joe Anuta

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By Dr. C. Hammoud Ph.D.

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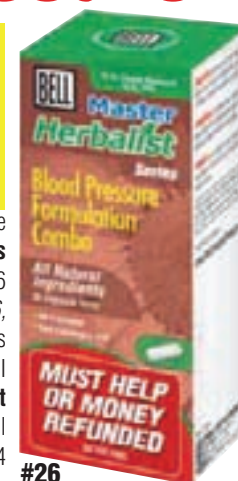


#14

Bell Prostate Ezee Flow Tea, HDL Cholesterol Management, Blood Pressure Combo and Stem Cell Activator. I love your products. They all work for me. Great results. That's all that matters. *Basil Richards, 49, S.W. Ranches, FL* ■ **20 years of high cholesterol alleviated!** I had high cholesterol for 20 years and drugs didn't agree with me. After taking Bell Cholesterol Control #14 for 6 months I had a check-up and was surprised about the big improvement. I was delighted and extremely happy and so was my doctor. *Norma Hrysio, 65, Lac Du Bonnet, MB.* **We supply TRUE EVIDENCE.**

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#26

Ragusa meets with Gingrich at Staten Island event

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

Republican presidential frontrunner Newt Gingrich met with Queens GOP Chairman Phil Ragusa during a stop in Staten Island Saturday, and while Ragusa heaped glowing praise on the former House speaker, he stopped short of backing him.

Gingrich, a former Georgia congressman and House speaker in the early 1990s, vaulted past former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney in national polls in recent weeks to claim the top spot among Republican primary voters.

Gingrich made an appearance at the Staten Island Hilton before a crowd of Tea Party voters.

New York is such a reliably Democratic state in presidential politics that candidates of both parties barely make any appearances here except for raising funds from deep-pocketed city residents.

The last time a Republican presidential contender won the

state's electoral votes was Ronald Reagan in 1984.

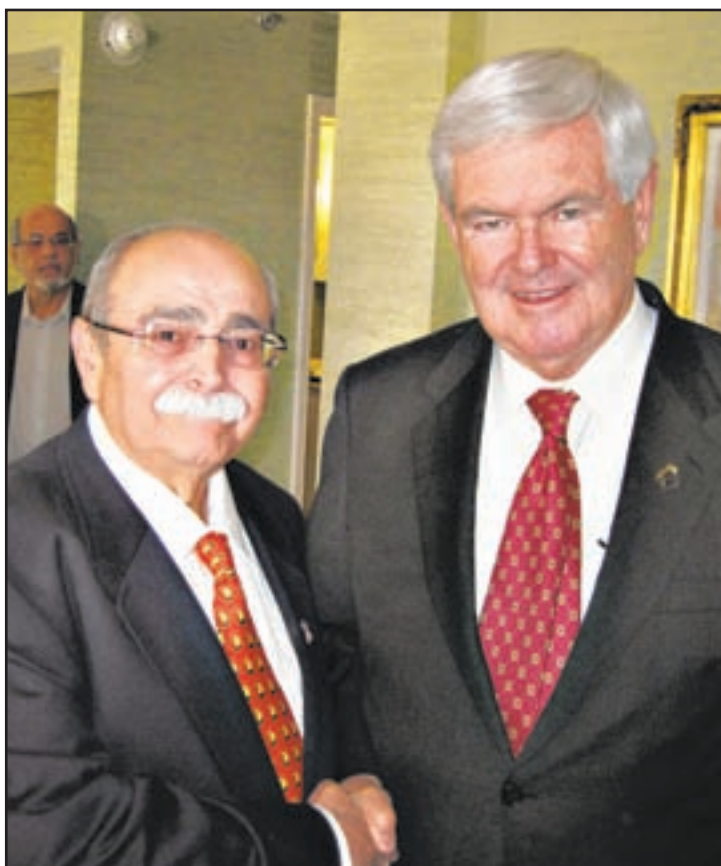
"I am extremely pleased Newt Gingrich took time out to talk with me and some of my Queens leadership team to discuss his plans," Ragusa said in a statement Monday. "Clearly the speaker appreciates the important role Queens continues to play, and he demonstrated a keen knowledge of the concerns of Queens' voters."

"Newt Gingrich is a strong and very impressive candidate and is someone I think the American people would have great confidence in when it comes time to turn around our failing economy and put America back on the right track."

Gingrich's visit to the city came a week after City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) was selected to head Romney's campaign in the city.

Queens GOP spokesman Robert Hornak said Ragusa has not backed a candidate for president yet.

"This is not an endorsement



and there's no final decision made," Hornak said.

But a source familiar with Ragusa's thinking said, "Phil is leaning toward Gingrich."

Ragusa said Gingrich has "an incredible command of the issues."

"Even former President Clinton described Speaker Gingrich as a problem solver and the thought of him debating Obama is almost irresistible," he said. "One thing is clear — a mere month to go before the Iowa caucus, the field is thinning and Newt Gingrich is demonstrating his experience and intellectual vigor. I look forward to discussing the Republican slate with my leadership in the coming week. It is great that we have such a strong field!"

The state's presidential primary is scheduled for April 24.

Queens GOP Chairman Phil Ragusa (l.) shakes hands with Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich.

Photo courtesy Queens Republican Party

At 10:30 pm, he needs the Jungle Room, not the Emergency Room.

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Flight

Continued from Page 1

ground but taxied its way to the hangar.

Caran Tobias, a 2-year-old leukemia patient at Cohen, was cheering and screaming throughout the flight.

"She's excited. She's on the plane and she's touching stuff," said Caran's father, Eric Tobias, of Huntington, L.I.

"I think it's a great experience," he said. "It's nice to bring families together. We're kind of grateful for the whole experience. A time like this, it's really important to all these families."

When the kids got off the plane and walked to the hangar, they were greeted to a DJ blasting Christmas songs and hugs from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

"I'm excited. It's beautiful," said Natacha Beaubrun, of West Hempstead, L.I., whose 4-year-old son Christopher has sickle cell

anemia.

Christopher was too elated to comment, instead dashing toward a cotton candy machine.

"It's really amazing. It's a wonderful experience. US Airways did a really great job," said Robert Prust, of Huntington, L.I., whose 3-year-old son Colin is battling leukemia.

"He was excited. He couldn't sleep last night," he said of Colin, who asked Santa for a violin and drums for Christmas.

Long Island City resident Irving Rojas has a 2-year-old son who is fighting leukemia. He said the fantasy flight was a welcomed distraction from son Michael's illness.

"It takes a lot of weight off the shoulders of the parents," Rojas said. "It's something different."

Thereas Zervas, of Lynbrook, L.I., the mother of 6-year-old leukemia patient Laura, said she was touched by the volunteers who made the flight possible.

"This is an amazing

thing that everybody does here," she said. "They're here with their hearts and you forget about everything. They give [the children] a chance to be kids and run around instead of being in the hospital."

This is the 15th year the hospital has partnered with US Airways and LaGuardia to fly the kids to the North Pole.

Shoshana Bronner has been a Santa's helper for the flight for five years.

"It's a lot of work, but at the end of the night you feel good," she said.

A similar flight out of John F. Kennedy International Airport was flown Tuesday with patients from Cohen. The medical center, part of the North Shore-Long Island Jewish health system, is at 269-01 76th Ave. in New Hyde Park.

Reach reporter Howard Koplowitz by e-mail at hkoplowitz@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

CB 11

Continued from Page 1

reached the same spot of the street on the opposite direction, the first side was covered in white," he said.

The garage is part of Sanitation's Queens East jurisdiction, which covers Bayside, Little Neck, Douglaston, Bellerose and other parts of northeast Queens. McGovern said this section is important to the city because it lies on the cusp of Nassau County and includes four major highways: the Long Island and Clearview expressways and the Grand Central and Cross Island parkways.

Under the new snow cleanup plan, plows will clear those highways first before moving to the important roads in the neighborhood and finally the side streets, McGovern said. All sanitation workers have had extra training since September on how to handle heavy snowstorms and the city has given the Q11 garage seven new plows.

In addition to the new equipment, the department

will be looking at several hotspots in the northeast Queens area where residents have said there problems develop during storms, including the Cross Island entrance on Northern Boulevard and the Little Neck and Bayside Long Island Rail Road stations.

McGovern said his crews will be at those spots as quickly as they can and not only remove the snow from the street, but also work to prevent ice and puddle conditions.

Some of the residents who attended the meeting questioned McGovern on the reliability of his workers during the Dec. 26 snowstorm.

In the immediate aftermath of the Dec. 26 blizzard, City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone) contended that some sanitation workers came to him and said they were told by their union supervisors to deliberately sabotage the cleanup as revenge for budget cuts to the department.

A city investigation into the handling of last year's blizzard not only determined that there was no planned sabotage, but also

concluded that Halloran, who did not attend Monday's board meeting, tried to strong arm sanitation workers into backing his allegation.

McGovern said he and his team were called in to the garage on Christmas Day, 24 hours before the snowfall started, and he did not return home until four days later.

"The dedication of the men and women cannot be questioned. Many of these workers stayed overnight to prepare," he said.

One of the residents claimed at the meeting he saw a truck raise its plow during last year's blizzard and fail to clear his street. McGovern said the man did not see the full picture.

He said the trucks are mandated to raise their plows up 4 to 5 inches when snow on the streets exceeds a foot, because the plows cannot handle the weight of that much snow. A second truck is instructed to return to the street and pick up the remainder of the snow, according to McGovern.

Synagogue

Continued from Page 2

always had a lot of kids — we had about 300 or 400 families. We've got less than half of that now," Trolio said. "[Synagogues are] burning money and their biggest asset is the building, which is non-liquid with this economy. The best thing to do is sell the whole thing and build smaller and more economically feasible.

The front of the new building along 80th Avenue will feature a wooden wall

styled as a menorah that will be softly illuminated at night, and the wall wrapping around the opposite corner will be wrapped in Jerusalem Stone.

The stone wall will extend past the height of the roof to obscure the solar panels, Trolio said, and could provide more than 100 percent of the building's electrical power.

State Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) acknowledged the temple's financial ups and downs and said it had a great future to look forward to.

Trolio said many congregations facing financial

hardships have chosen to renovate older buildings as opposed to build new ones.

"I've spoken with the Queens Historical Society, and no one can remember a new synagogue being built in the past 60 years," he said. "I think we're going to have a permanent impact on Jewish congregational life in Queens for a long time."

"It sounds strange. We're having a lot of fun. This small little renegade congregation is making an impact," Trolio said. "If this works, it may be an answer for a lot of synagogues on the brink of disaster or insolvency."

Moustaches

empty.

Instructor Julio Arce, 22, the winner of last year's Golden Gloves boxing competition, said a few people made fun of his mustache, but it was all in good fun.

"It's all for a good cause, so I didn't really mind," he said.

And though a mustache can be practical in the cold winter months, no one who was asked planned to keep wearing theirs.

"No way!" Gotthoffer said. "It's coming off to-

night!"

Reach reporter Rich Bockmann by e-mail at rbockmann@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4574.

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Fiancée urges Kelly to boot Bell cop from force

21

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BY IVAN PEREIRA

For the last five years, Nicole Paultre-Bell has yearned for justice in the 50-shot shooting that took her fiancé's life, but after an NYPD judge called for the removal of the undercover police officer who fired, the teary-eyed mother of two said her calls were answered at a bittersweet price.

"If I had a chance to speak with him, I would let him know he caused so much pain," she said of Detective Gescard Isnora.

The final word on the officer's fate, however, comes down to Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly, who had not made a decision about Deputy Commissioner Martin Karopkin's ruling by press time Tuesday.

Paultre-Bell, who talked about the Nov. 30 decision at the Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network offices in Harlem last Thursday, said she is most disappointed that the five officers who killed Sean Bell and seriously wounded his two friends, Joseph Guzman and Trent Ben-

efield, were never incarcerated for their roles and were still on the force.

"They didn't show any honor or dignity to Sean, Trent and Joe," she said.

The judge's decision capped the latest development in the Nov. 25, 2006 case.

Isnora, who fired 11 shots during the early morning incident in Jamaica, and his partner Michael Carey, who fired three shots, were tried at an internal Police Department procedure to determine whether they violated police guidelines during the shooting.

Bell was celebrating his bachelor party the night before his wedding at the Kalua Cabaret, which was being investigated by undercover police officers for suspected drug and prostitution operations.

Isnora claimed he saw Guzman get into an argument outside the club during the early morning hours and heard Bell's friend say he was going to get a gun. The detective called for backup and



Sean Bell's mother Valerie (from l.), his fiancée, Nicole Paultre-Bell, and her mother, Laura Paultre, talk among themselves before discussing a commissioner's recommendation to fire one of the officers who opened fire at the bridegroom.

Photo by Ivan Pereira

followed Bell, Guzman and Benfield to the corner of Liverpool Street and 94th Avenue, where Bell had his car parked, and soon an unmarked police van pulled up to the bridegroom's sedan.

Bell rammed the police van and Isnora, Carey, Michael Oliver, Marc Cooper and Paul Headley

opened fire at the car, killing Bell instantly and seriously wounding the other two men. No weapon was ever found.

The judge ruled that Carey should not be removed from the force, but he found that Isnora acted recklessly by not only opening fire but by also dropping his

undercover persona when he was pursuing Bell and his entourage.

Oliver, who fired 31 shots and reloaded, and Marc Cooper, who fired four shots, were acquitted on manslaughter and reckless endangerment charges and are both negotiating with the department to retire instead of facing a departmental trial, according to the Detectives Endowment Association. Carey, who fired three times, and Headley, who fired once and has left the force, were not criminally charged.

Queens Supreme Court Justice Arthur Cooperman acquitted the three indicted officers in a bench trial in the spring of 2008.

Bell's mother, Valerie, praised Karopkin's decision because she said to this day she cannot believe the officers were found not guilty in criminal court.

"The [NYPD] judge should have been the judge in the criminal case," she said.

The Detectives Endowment Association did not return phone calls asking for comment.

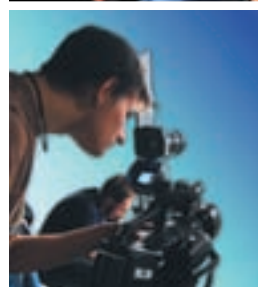
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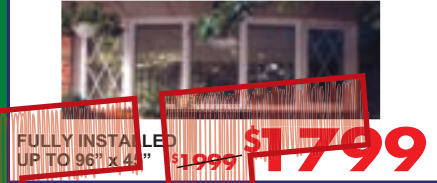
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Dozens of patients at Cohen Children's Medical Center took a plane ride to see Santa. (Clockwise from top l.) Rosedale resident Addison Williams, 1, gets a festive outfit thanks to her dad Tshombe. Addison completed treatment for neuroblastoma; Christopher Peaubrun (front), who is being treated for sickle cell, greets a reindeer; elf Caroline Mikolaj of Floral Park takes a moment before boarding to send a text; Jackie Poeggel, 8, waits patiently with her mother Cindy to board the plane; and Collin Trust, 3, covers his ears as he walks into the North Pole with his mother Sarah; and Richmond Hill resident Chris Boodhoo gives his daughter Arianna, 7 months, a kiss aboard the plane. Arianna is being treated for kidney failure.

Photos by Christina Santucci



Avella wants city to stop ignoring Jamaica High's need for resources

BY IVAN PEREIRA

Jamaica High School's days may be numbered, but state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) said the city still has an obligation to give its remaining students the opportunity for a good future.

The legislator joined teachers and teens outside the school's front steps Monday to protest the cuts made to Jamaica's resources since the beginning of the school year. Last year the city decided to phase out Jamaica High School and replace it with four new campuses within the building, at 167-01 Gothic Drive.

Avella said students have struggled since September with not only having to share space with three growing school bodies, but also working with the lack of up-to-date books, equipment and other materials.

"They have been shortchanged for every educational resource they deserve," Avella said of the 20 students.

James Eterno, a Jamaica social studies teacher and United Federation of Teachers chapter leader, said instructors have to share classrooms to teach and the curriculum has been cut back. The school cannot

offer honors courses to students and many subjects, like chemistry and physics, are not taught, according to Eterno.

"The chancellor always talks about students being college-ready. How can you be college-ready without physics?" he asked.

Last year the city Department of Education voted to close Jamaica and Beach Channel high schools, IS 231 in Springfield Gardens and PS 30 in Jamaica because of low graduation rates. Starting in the fall, the high schools stopped admitting freshman students and the remaining students would continue at the school until graduation.

The DOE had said the students at the phased-out schools would still receive strong support, but Jamaica High members said that has been the case.

Jamaica students said they are at a marked disadvantage when they see the students at the Hillside Arts & Letters Academy, the High School for Community Leadership and Queens Collegiate High School and Jamaica Gateway to the Sciences enter the same school but get a better experience.

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Two auto scam rings busted in SE Queens



Queens DA Richard Brown and a group of investigators talk about the arrest of several suspects who were allegedly involved in two auto loan scams.

Photo courtesy Queens DA's office

BY IVAN PEREIRA

Investigators have taken down a major auto loan scamming ring that used a Queens Village dealership as part of its operations and cost financial institutions nearly \$2 million in losses.

Queens District Attorney Richard Brown and Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly announced last Thursday the arrest and arraignment of 18 individuals on 165 charges, including enterprise corruption.

The suspects operated two separate rings where they purchased luxury vehicles using straw buyers and fraudulent loans before reselling the cars on the black market, the DA said.

"This was a highly complex and sophisticated financial fraud scheme in which individuals with good credit agreed to 'lend' their identity and credit scores to the defendants in return for monetary kickbacks, as well as a general assurance that engaging in the activity would boost their credit score," he said in a statement.

The arrests came following a three-year investigation by the police into two rings. Two individuals involved in the conspiracies are still on the loose,

according to Brown. One of the suspects, Duane Box, of Queens Village, worked at ABC Auto Sales, at 98-04 Springfield Blvd.

Between July 1, 2008, and March 30, 2010, a dozen of the defendants who were led by Andre Dickenson, 31, of Brooklyn, conspired to recruit straw buyers with good credit to take out \$1.9 million in loans from banks to buy the autos, the DA said.

The buyers were allegedly promised kickbacks for being part of the operation and that they would earn better credit ratings, according to the DA.

The cars, which were mostly Mercedes-Benzes, Cadillacs and other high-end brands, would then be given to the conspiracy's leaders or allegedly retitled and sold in other locations, such as Florida, according to Brown.

Some of the car purchases took place at ABC Auto Sales, where one of the arrested men, Duane Box, worked, Brown said. ABC would wholesale the vehicles over to a more established dealership and fill out the paperwork to the bank to make it appear as if they were sold on their lot, the DA said.

The dealership, which

could not be reached for comment, was not charged by the DA.

A second group of scammers, who were allegedly led by South African national Alexander Ndaula, of Brooklyn, also used straw buyers to take out auto loans, but no cars were purchased, the DA said. The money would allegedly be laundered to Ndaula, but he did give some of the cash to the borrowers as a kickback, according to Brown.

The defendants in both groups would make initial payments on the loans before defaulting, leaving the straw buyer, the dealership and banks to deal with the losses, the DA said.

Several of the members of the conspiracy were from southeast Queens and the operations involved two dealerships in the area, according to Brown. Dickenson was arrested and arraigned earlier in the year on murder charges for a 2009 killing on Long Island.

If convicted on their charges, the defendants face up to 25 years in prison, the DA said.

Reach reporter Ivan Pereira by e-mail at iperira@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4546.

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Last VLTs, two eateries to open at Aqueduct soon

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

The operator of the racino at Aqueduct Race Track is getting set to open the last remaining video lottery terminals and electronic gaming tables at the property next week.

Resorts World Casino New York will also unveil two new floors at the facility, including the 5th Avenue Casino to complement the Times Square Casino that opened last month.

The final 2,514 VLTs out of 5,000 total at Resorts World will be available for play starting Dec. 16.

Also on the new floors will be two, 250-seat dining facilities — the Asian-themed Genting Palace and the RW Prime steakhouse — and the Central Park Events Center, which Resorts World billed as the largest event and catering space in the borough.

The new additions are

opening four months ahead of schedule, Resorts World said.

“We have been truly humbled by the response of New Yorkers and tourists alike and we thank them for their ongoing support and patronage,” said Resorts World New York President Michael Speller. “Due to the hard work of our 1,500-person staff, we’re confident that we will be able to continue providing the highest level of service to our customers as we unveil the second stage of our facility.”

Genting Palace will feature authentic Chinese cuisine prepared by veteran Hong Kong chefs dishing up Chinese barbecue, a wide selection of dim sum and seasonal fresh seafood.

The restaurant will also have a terrace with views of Aqueduct.

RW Prime will offer steaks and seafood with an



Daisy Rodriguez (r.) of Jamaica tries her luck at the Resorts World New York opening.

open kitchen concept “in a setting of rich woods and leathers,” Resorts World said.

In an attempt to capture customers who have traditionally flocked to Atlantic City and other casi-

nos near New York before Resorts World’s opening, the casino is offering free gaming to VIP guests who

have loyalty cards from gambling halls in other states in exchange for signing up for a Resorts World loyalty card.

Accompanying the Central Park Events Center on the third floor will be Festival Commons, a 70,000-square-foot outdoor space overlooking the race-track that will be open for private events and bookings.

“With these two new spectacular venues, Resorts World will be one of the premier locations for concerts, festivals, receptions and other events in New York City,” the company said.

Reach reporter Howard Koplowitz by e-mail at hkoplowitz@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

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LIRR Far Rockaway line testing Quiet Car

Is your commute spoiled by cell phone gabbers, music from electronic gadgets and loud-voiced fellow travelers?

The Long Island Rail Road may be able to help if its new pilot program is well received.

The LIRR this week began including what it calls Quiet Cars on some trains of its Far Rockaway branch between Far Rockaway and Atlantic Terminal in Brooklyn.

These trains are supposed to be free of the aforementioned annoying distractions.

"As more and more electronic devices enter our lives — smart phones, cell phones, DVDs and music players, tablets — many of our customers have asked for some relief from the noise they can create during their commute to and from work and other activities," said LIRR President Helena Williams.

"This pilot is meant to respond to customers who seek quiet during their travels on the LIRR and is part of our overall effort to improve customer service."

The 5:22 a.m., 6:28 a.m., 7:18 a.m. and 8:54 a.m. trains will include quiet cars from Far Rockaway to Atlantic Terminal as well as the 4:31 p.m., 5:11 p.m., 5:49 p.m., 6:27 p.m., 6:59 p.m. and 7:56 p.m. from Atlantic Terminal to Far Rockaway.

LIRR officials said the pilot program will be voluntary on the part of passengers. Conductors will hand out "Shh" cards to passengers who fail to comply.

Announcements will be made in Quiet Cars informing passengers and reminding them of the location of the cars as well as accompanying restrictions.

Conversations must be in subdued voices.

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A passion for fine jewelry at Joseph Anthony's

The folks at Joseph Anthony's Fine Jewelry want the next piece of jewelry that you buy to be as special and unique as the person who will wear it ... even if you're buying it for yourself.

Since his store first opened in Manhasset in 1988, Joseph Anthony has been helping customers find that perfect piece of jewelry that says everything they want to say. Joseph, a master jeweler, designer and appraiser, takes pride in each piece of jewelry that his store sells. "Quality is more than a word," he says. "It is a way of life in our business."

Every item in the Joseph Anthony's is a one-of-a-kind. "You won't find a duplicate in any other store," Joseph says proudly. He works with his customers to create new



pieces starting with the drawing and then the wax carving, the pouring of the gold or silver and the placement of the gems. "We start from zero," he says.

In addition to new creations, the store that he runs

with the help of his wife and father also offers vintage pieces that date back as far as the 17th century. "There was a time," he says, "when creating fine jewelry was a work of art. It didn't matter if it took a week or more."

Sometimes people come in just to look at the clocks and exquisite jewelry that the store sells. Joseph designed his showroom to feel "more like my home" than a store. He wants it to be "a fun place where a regular guy can come in and buy something great for his wife."

For Joseph this is more than a job, it's a passion. He has been fascinated by fine jewelry and watches since he was a young man and is a graduate of the Bulova School, where he studied watchmaking and repair, and the Gemological Institute of America, the world's foremost authority on diamonds, colored stones, and pearls.

Joseph takes personal satisfaction in each piece of jewelry that he produces. He is proud of the reputation that

he and his staff have earned as skilled professionals. As buyers and sellers of antique jewelry Joseph and his staff have a deep appreciation for the artistry and value of jewelry pieces created during various time periods. They understand how the styles evolved and were influenced by the economics of a particular era and even by individual political and cultural figures of the times. They respect the master craftsmen who created their ornaments to be owned, worn, admired and enjoyed for generations. These are true wearable works of art and valuable pieces of history.

A trip to Joseph Anthony's is about more than buying a necklace or a ring. It's an experience that you won't soon forget.

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TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

On Making it BIG

Douglaston musician **Neil Davis**
muses on getting a start
in music in the digital age

BY ALAN KRAWITZ

At age 25, Douglaston native Neil Davis is already an accomplished musician, having recently released his debut, self-produced album, "In My Mind," a compilation of 10 piano-driven pop/rock songs.

"Producing and releasing my own debut album was a dream come true for me, a product of my vision and lots of hard work," said Davis, who used all his own money to fund the project. "I wanted the album to be all my creation — both creatively and financially."

Davis, who in 2004 was part of the first class to graduate from Frank Sinatra High School for the Arts in Astoria, founded by legendary singer Tony Bennett, has been working hard to translate his love of music into a career.

In only a few short years, Davis has already made musical inroads by playing established New York City venues, including The Bitter End, Rockwood Music Hall, Pianos and The Living Room.

A self-taught musician, Davis traces his musical ability back to age 5, when he was given a 23-key piano. He has since developed his skill by leaps and bounds, featuring piano on "In My Mind," as well as keyboard, organ and a vintage Wurlitzer.

While Davis said that part of his inspiration to write comes from his own life experiences and the ability to "tell his story through music," he also has many artists he admires and draws creative energy from.

"I really love Adele and also Lady Gaga. They're both great artists and they've helped to inspire me," said Davis, who also is a lover of live music of all types from pop and rock to soul. Some of Davis' other musical inspirations include Gavin DeGraw, Joss Stone

Continued on Page 35

Neil Davis, 25, of Douglaston, is trying to live his dream as a musician.

Photo by Farah Nazz

Villa Isabella: Good, festive Italian in Forest Hills

BY SUZANNE PARKER

Forest Hills' commercial strip along Metropolitan Avenue has no dearth of Italian eateries. With other cuisines, you can choose from one of this or one of that, but when it comes to Italian, options range from multiple casual pizzerias to full-blown white tablecloth establishments.

A few have come and gone, but most of those still standing have endured the test of time. Villa Isabella falls into the latter category. Its name was changed from Sarabella's about four years ago when it changed hands, but little else, including the chef and the menu, has.

The décor is sumptuous for a neighborhood joint. Gilt-framed paintings and mirrors adorn the walls, and no horizontal surface is spared its own objet d'art. A white lacquered

baby grand occupies a window corner, and a mural-sized street scene featuring a restaurant called Villa Isabella takes up most of one wall. All Bah-Humbug types should be forewarned that they really go to town with their holiday decorations.

The menu is a rather predictable, slightly updated inventory of the Italian hit parade. It's reassuringly familiar for those who like that, a tad boring to those who don't. Scanning for something out of the ordinary, we started off with Mozzarella en Carozza. They take a foccacia-type bread, fill it with mozzarella and deep fry it. It is quartered and served with a piquant tomato sauce flavored with garlic, capers. The sauce had complexity with a little kick, and the mozzarella was nice and chewy.

DINING OUT



Mozzarella Carozza served at Village Isabella in Forest Hills.

Photo by Suzanne Parker

The Caesar salad was an expert rendition of this classic. Just what a Caesar should be.

They do a decent Bolognese sauce which can be had over spaghetti, or for \$2 more over whole wheat spaghetti — huh? I've never heard of charging extra for whole wheat anything, but they evidently do here.

You can also have your Bolognese sauce over potato gnocchi. Don't. Their gnocchi were gummy and mealy when they should have been springy. A waste of a very pleasant sauce.

Ossobucco lived up to its classic reputation, braised slowly in an earthy brown sauce. The quality of the risotto that accompa-

nied the veal, which would have been pretty decent, was diminished by the careless addition of what looked and tasted like frozen peas and carrots.

Fillet of sole Piccata was a daily special, offered on the prix fixe menu. Sole was a tasty riff on the more typical veal Piccata, and the sauce was flawless. The accompanying veggies were also well executed with tender-crisp carrots and string beans complementing roast potatoes.

Our meal concluded with a sweet ending of freshly made cannoli. The filling was more creamy than cheesy, and filled to order, keeping the pastry nice and crisp. Complimentary Sambuca was served with our espressos.

The Bottom Line

Villa Isabella serves traditional Italian fare
Continued on Page 40

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Answers in Sports

Easy #41

						2	6	8
					8	3		
4		8	2	7				
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				6		7		5
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		4	3					
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Hard #41

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	7			9				
4	6		8					3
	3		5		6			
		6				3		
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		4			7	2		

Fill in the grids so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. There should be no repeats; which means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

Tips at www.sudoku.com
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Continued from Page 33

and Brendan James.

Asked about the unique process of self-producing an album at a time when the music industry has undergone sea changes, Davis recalled that it was a learning experience from beginning to end.

"Because I was producing the album completely on my own and simultaneously learning the recording process, I experimented and pulled from different studios to create the perfect sound," said Davis, noting that the entire project was recorded in Manhattan and then later mixed in a Brooklyn studio.

"The industry is in the artist's hands right now. I was able to release an album totally on my own," Davis said. "I don't have a label now; in fact, I don't even have a manager. But, I learned so much from producing... It was an entire process that gave me tons of freedom."

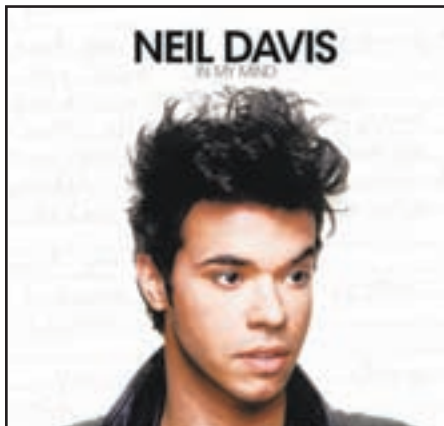
But Davis said that he is now actively seeking a major record label deal and he hopes his debut album will serve as a means to showcase his music and build a fan base.

Reflecting on how the music industry has changed in the last decade, Davis said it is much more difficult now for artists to get signed by a label.

"It can be extremely hard for two reasons: one is financial — music companies have cut back drastically on their spending, which leaves little room for new acts; and two, each label is seeking a very specific sound/act to add to their roster."

Davis has also tackled marketing himself using social media such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube to help promote the album and connect directly with fans. He said song distribution can best be handled online via iTunes and Amazon.com.

Lamenting the nostalgic era of albums, Davis explained his affinity for vinyl. "I'm a total fan of the physical album. It's such a



Neil Davis's "In My Mind" was self-produced and available on iTunes and Amazon.com.

Cover image by Chris Owyong

cool experience. I love the artwork, the experience. Albums and lyrics help bring you closer to the artist," he said. "If it was up to me, I'd buy all my music in album form instead of just downloading music online." Physical copies of his album will be available for purchase at all of his upcoming gigs for \$12.

While still a relative newcomer to the music business, Davis has already performed for and with some iconic entertainers, including Tony Bennett, Britney Spears and Beyonce. He has also performed for Nelson Mandela at a United Nations fund-raiser as well as opening for the Dave Matthews Band in Central Park in 2005 in front of tens of thousands of people.

Looking ahead, Davis said he is pursuing music full-throttle. "There's nothing else out there that I want to do. So much of who I am is connected to music."

Davis will next be performing on Dec. 21 at the Rockwood Music Hall, 196 Allen St. in Manhattan, starting at 8 p.m. He will also be returning to Frank Sinatra High School for the Arts on Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. for a special performance to celebrate the school's 10th birthday.

For more information on Neil Davis's upcoming performances and music, visit www.neildavismusic.com.

THEATER CALENDAR

Rumors — The Bayswater Players resent Neil Simon's comedy play.

When: Dec. 8 and 10, 8 pm; Dec. 4, 3 pm; Dec. 11, 7 pm

Where: Bayswater Jewish Center, corner of Dickens Street and Healy Avenue, Far Rockaway

Contact: (516) 239-2632

Arts on Stage — RSVP. Shows include "Snow White," "Tribute to Michael Jackson," "Black Nutcracker," "Caribbean Holidays," "Holiday Tales" and "Christmas Carol."

When: Dec. 8, 9, 13 and 14, 10 am and 11:45 am

Cost: \$8

Where: Queensborough Performing Arts Center, 222-05 56th Ave., Bayside

Contact: info@aosny.com (718) 266-0202

Website: visitqpac.org

Anon(ymous) — A modern retelling of "The Odyssey."

When: Dec. 8, 9 and 10, 7:30 pm

Cost: \$10, \$5 for seniors, \$3

Where: Queensborough Performing Arts Center, 222-05 56th Ave., Bayside

Website: visitqpac.org

Flamenco & Lorca — A flamenco tribute to Garcia

Lorca.

When: Fridays and Saturdays, 8 pm, Sundays, 4 pm, until Sunday, Dec. 11

Where: Thalia Spanish Theatre, 41-17 Greenpoint Ave., Sunnyside

Contact: (718) 729-3880

Website: www.thaliatheatre.org

With Over Two Pieces of Luggage — A Cypriot, a Greek and an American walk into a theater... And so begins one of the most touching, nostalgic and heartfelt anecdotes ever told at the Greek Cultural

Continued on Page 38

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A return to the Queens Theatre Network in 2012?



Ronald B. Hellman

The Play's The Thing

This being my last column for 2011 and as a special holiday treat — at least for me — I will share with you some of my random opinions, some of which may have something to do with theater but all under the heading of “Rants & Raves.”

You kids out there may not know who **Jimmy Cannon** was — he died almost 40 years ago — but he was a popular sportswriter for several of the New York tabloids who, on occasion, would meet his column deadline with a number of

non-sports subjects starting with the phrase “Nobody asked me, but...” Well, nobody asked me, either.

Why don't the local theater groups get together to coordinate show dates and publicity?

As we all know, attracting an audience is always a challenge, especially with limited resources, so a united effort to get the word out makes a lot of sense. About 25 years ago, there was something called **Queens Theatre Network**. It ran a one-act play festival, had some good ideas and good intentions, but it didn't last too long. Perhaps someone out there will rise to the challenge.

The weekly papers could help promote local theater by expanding their coverage. Getting into the dailies is close to impos-

sible, although on Sundays, if you part with five bucks for **The New York Times**, you'll see listings for Long Island shows in the Metropolitan section. But nothing for Queens.

I'm a technophobe, one of the last few without a cellphone. I get frantic when I see all the kids, and older, constantly using their handheld devices wherever they go and whomever they're with. So it's not surprising that an entity — **socialsklz** — was recently created to teach the younger generation, for a fee, such skills as how to start a conversation, patience and thoughtfulness, self-control, respect and consideration, and dining and phone manners. You know, the stuff we learned naturally a long time ago.

The golden age of

musicals is no more, and nearly all the new shows are hardly worth your time and the money it will cost you. So-called “priority seating” tickets for some of the current ones are in the \$400 range! Revivals are plentiful with memorable music and make-sense lyrics. There's **Stephen Sondheim** for you high-brow types, and for humable tunes, there's **Jerry Herman**, who turned 80 this year. “Hello, Dolly!”, “Mame,” “La Cage aux Folles,” and for us cultists, “Mack & Mabel,” are always welcomed back.

Discounted tickets for Broadway are usually available, but the producers withhold the better seats for full-price customers. That's why you'll often see some empty center seats a few rows ahead of you. Wait 'til

the lights go down, move up, and hope some latecomers don't throw you out. And at the curtain call, please shun the standing ovation, now all too common — save it for something truly exceptional.

A character in one of my favorite plays, **Eugene O'Neill's** “The Iceman Cometh,” complains about “no foundation.” A recent **AARP Bulletin** editorial expressed similar concern about the state of our nation's foundation “with a fragile economy, a dysfunctional government, devalued institutions and angry, dispirited citizens.” Meanwhile the political class is focused mainly on getting elected and re-elected, and raising the money to do so. What's best for the country doesn't get done. Occupy, anyone?

Some numbers have caught my attention. Over the Thanksgiving long weekend, it's estimated that half the population went holiday shopping, which is why, I guess, that the generic greeting this time of year is “Happy Holidays.” However, less than 1 percent of the population is in military service, while the war in **Afghanistan** is costing \$2 billion a week.

Before I fall off my soapbox and run out of space, let me end on a more hopeful note, wishing Happy Birthday to granddaughter **Addison**, 2 years old on Christmas Eve.

Contact Ron Hellman at rbh24@Columbia.edu.

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THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS

CK Musical Group – A special performance of songs from the upcoming Beatles Revue along with Christmas carols to warm the heart.
When: Dec. 9 and 10, 8 pm; Dec. 11, 2 pm
Where: Christ the King High School, 68-02 Metropolitan Ave., Middle Village
Contact: (718) 366-7400; www.ctrhs.org

Jazz at the Chapel – York College Blue Notes Fall Concert and York College Big Band Fall Concert.
When: Dec. 10, 7 pm and Dec. 14, 7 pm
Where: York College Performing Arts Center, 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd., Jamaica
Contact: (718) 262-2000; www.york.cuny.edu

Judas Maccabaeus – Queens College Choral Society presents the 71st annual winter concert, featuring George Frideric

Handel's Judas Maccabeus.
When: Dec. 10, 7:30 pm
Where: Queens College Arts Center, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 793-8080
Website: www.kupferbergcenter.org

Blessed Hope – The Glen Mohr Chorale will perform an original dramatic production.
When: Dec. 11, 3 pm
Where: St. Robert Bellarmine, 56-15 213th St., Bayside
Contact: (718) 229-6465

Annual Christmas Concert – The concert features highlights from the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah." The performance features Geraldine McMillian, soprano, Richard Slade, tenor and Thomas Stallone, bass-baritone with the Orchestral Arts Ensemble of Queens.
When: Dec. 11, 4 pm
Where: Our Lady Queens of Martyrs, Ascan Avenue and Queens Boulevard

Bucky Pizzarelli Guitar Trio – Known as "the master of the 7-string guitar", Bucky Pizzarelli's career spans over 60 years from the Vaughn Monroe Orchestra to the Johnny Carson Tonight Show, hundreds of concerts including White House performances with Benny Goodman and Frank Sinatra, and tours with Benny Carter and Charlie Byrd.
When: Dec. 16, 8 pm
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd., Flushing
Contact: info@flushingtownhall.org

A Hanukkah Celebration With Louie Miranda – Join singer, songwriter, storyteller Louie Miranda and his band for a highly interactive performance celebrating the story of Hanukkah. Come early and make your very own Star of David. Fun for the entire family!
When: Dec. 18, 2 pm
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 463-7700 X222

THEATER CALENDAR

Continued from Page 35
Center, and which we will have the pleasure of enjoying during the upcoming winter theatrical season.
When: Through Dec. 11, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 4 pm
Cost: \$20 Adults (\$15 children and seniors)
Where: Greek Cultural Center, 26-80 30th St., Astoria
Website: www.greekculturalcenter.org

Little Women – Book by Allan Knee, lyrics by Mindi Dickstein, music by Jason Howland and directed by Taryn Turney.
When: Dec. 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16 and 17, 7:30; Dec. 11 and 17, 2:30 pm
Where: The Secret Theatre, 44-02 23rd St., Long Island City
Contact: (718) 392-0722
Website: www.secrettheatre.com

A Caribbean Christmas Carol – Black Spectrum Theatre presents "A Caribbean Christmas Carol" written by Jaqueline Wade. Like the classic

story, "A Caribbean Christmas Carol" is about a miserly plantation owner who employs many inhabitants of a fictitious Caribbean island.
When: Saturday, Dec. 10, 8 pm & Saturday, Dec. 17, 8 pm
Where: Black Spectrum Theatre, 119 Ave. at Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica
Contact: (718) 723-1800
Website: www.blackspectrum.com

The Nutcracker – Tchaikovsky's classic music comes to life as Ballet for Young Audiences introduces children to the story of Clara's Nutcracker. Visit the Enchanted Forest with its magical dancing snowflakes and the wondrously beautiful Sugarplum Fairy in the Kingdom of the Sweets.
When: Dec. 11, 1:30 pm and 4 pm
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 463-7700 X222

It's a Wonderful Life - The Live Radio Play – Celebrate the season with the heartwarming holiday classic re-imagined as a live 1940s

radio broadcast. A cast of five actors bring George Bailey and the townspeople of Bedford Falls to life, playing dozens of different characters and performing all the sound effects, just as they did during the golden age of radio. Don't miss this special holiday event the Chicago Tribune called "The best holiday choice around!"
When: Dec. 14 through Dec. 24
Cost: \$39-\$44
Where: Queens Theatre in the Park, Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Website: www.queentheatre.org

MEETINGS

North Shore Playwrights Circle Meeting – Formerly known as the Playwrights Circle of Great Neck, this open group features discussion, workshoping and writing exercises for playwrights in Queens and Nassau counties.
When: Every other Wednesday, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Where: Sterling Glen of Great Neck, 96 Cutter Mill Rd., Great Neck
Cost: Free membership
Contact: Robin Gorman Newman - robin@lovecoach.com (516) 732-0911



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- Broiled Chicken
- Small Meatballs

- Chicken Parmigiana
- Chicken Francaise
- Chicken Marsala
- Chicken Pizzaiola
- Veal Cutlet Parmigiana
- Penne Vodka
- Tortellini Alfredo

CHOICE B
\$15.95 per person
Any 3 Choices from A
Any 2 Choices from B

Above served with either Antipasto, Garden Salad or Caesar Salad, Stands, Sterno, Napkins, Plates, Cups, Forks, Knives & Italian Bread. Delivered to your home or office. (Min. 15 people)

YOUR PARTY CATERED AT OUR RESTAURANT

CHOICE A
\$23.⁹⁵
Any 5 Items
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Tortellini w/Meat Sauce
Ravioli
Baked Ziti
Eggplant Parmigiana
Sausage & Peppers
Broiled Chicken
Small Meatballs
Linguini, w/Clam Sauce
Pasta w/Broccoli, Garlic & Oil

CHOICE B
\$25.⁹⁵
Any 3 Choices From A
Any 2 Choices From B
Chicken Pizzaiola
Chicken Francaise
Chicken Marsala
Veal Cutlet Parmigiana
Veal Marsala
Tortellini Alfredo
Penne Vodka

CHOICE C
\$26.⁹⁵
Sit Down Dinner - 1 of 3 Choices
VEAL CUTLET
Marsala, Picatta Parmigiana

CHICKEN Marsala, Parmigiana Francaise	FISH Filet of Sole Broiled, Parmigiana Tilapia Oreganata
--	--

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Alexander Creighton, 3, (r.) takes a closer look at Santa, who stopped by Bell Boulevard for the Bayside tree lighting.
Photo by Christina Santucci



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Our Cheese Obsession 623 cheeses and counting. From Europe and the U.S. We are obsessed with bringing you the best handcrafted, time-honored cheeses and amazing new cheeses at affordable prices. So stroll over. Sample this one, take a taste of that one, but we give you fair warning: the more you try, the more you'll want to buy.



Baked Goods Baked Better

Baguettes, bagels and pastries all baked from scratch in our in-store ovens. We lovingly hand-roll thousands of regular and mini bagels every week. From Plain to Everything. Add a schmear of Fairway cream cheese along with our famous smoked salmon and you're in bagel heaven.

Organics and Natural It's no longer a fad. For many (including the head of our department), it's a way of life. So we make it both accessible and affordable. With a selection that many "organics-only" stores can't match. All with the unbelievable freshness, variety and value that Fairway is famous for.



Olives: Our Invention Before Fairway, olives only came in jars or cans. We put them in large containers, glistening with a come-hither look, just waiting for you to scoop them up and take them home.



Seafood Our Master Fishmonger, Captain Tony, was a licensed commercial fisherman for more than 30 years before joining Fairway. Now, Tony is at the docks buying fresh fish and seafood way before you wake up. Every day, including Sundays. Now that's fresh. We also carry a wide selection of fish that is filleted, packaged and certified kosher under rabbinical supervision.



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Villa Isabella

Continued from Page 34
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*Suzanne Parker is the
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ing Like Queens: A Guide to
Ethnic Dining in America's
Melting Pot, Queens, N.Y."*
She can be reached by e-mail
at qnsfoodie@aol.com.

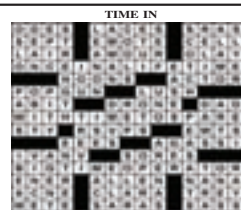
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TimesLedger Newspapers
Dec. 8-14, 2011

By Bill Deasy
Biopics

LAST
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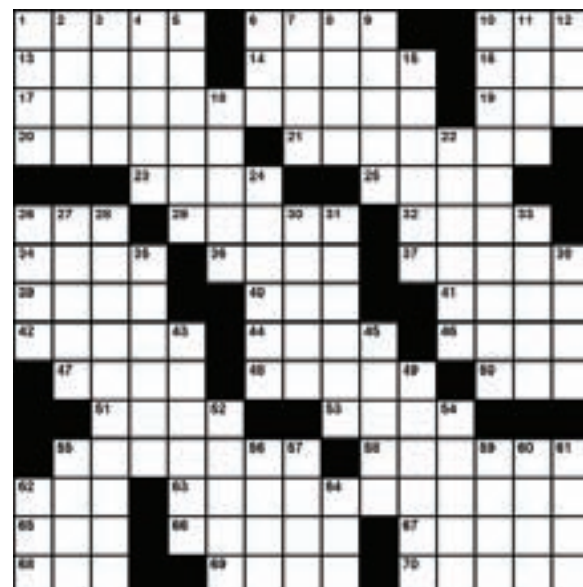


Across

1. Half a '60s pop quartet
6. "I ___ shocked as you are!"
10. All-around athlete Thorpe
13. Bacteria in an outbreak
14. Prefix with logical
16. 10 of calendars
17. *The Hurricane*
19. "___ So Shy"
(Pointer Sisters hit)
20. Clipper or cutter
21. Brave
23. New Mexico Art colony
25. Forsaken or bereft
26. More sizable, briefly.
29. Fights like Aaron Burr
32. Brand of chips
34. "Don't have ___, man!"
36. Classic Vegas hotel
37. Awards host
39. 1st name at '72 Olympics
40. Churchill sign
41. Fleming and Woosnam
42. Goes after
44. Basin filler
46. Flat tire indicator
47. At no charge
48. Phony duck
50. "___ Haw!"
51. Common canine
53. 1940s Red Scare org.
55. Some carry-on items
58. Campfire goodies
62. ___ Lingus
63. *Coal Miner's Daughter*
65. Mai ___
66. W.W. II bomber ___ Gay
67. India's official language
68. AWOL arresters
69. Beach nos.
70. "... ___ of robins..."

Down

1. Bygone talk show VIP
2. Miss ___ (err onstage)
3. Angry throngs
4. "He's making ___ ..."
5. Irish singer O'Connor
6. Psychiatrists' org.
7. Former Bills coach Levy
8. "___ girl!"
9. Bit of pasta
10. *Walk the Line*
11. "Law & Order: S.V.U."
actor
12. Chain abbr.?
15. Baltimore athlete
18. Leverage
22. Last answer in
Slumdog Millionaire
24. Waited on
26. Cambodia neighbor
27. Common musical symbol
28. 61*
30. *Camelot* composer
31. *The King's* ___
33. *The Sixth* ___
35. "Pay attention!"
38. Being, in Latin
43. Come to terms
45. Awaken rudely
49. Harley competitor



52. Animated characters
54. Gen. Powell
55. "... one giant ___
for mankind"
56. Actor's cane, e.g.
57. "Note to ___ ..."
59. Cub legend Sandberg
60. Breaks off
61. Bad mood
62. 24-hr. bank
64. Helpers of profs

Quotable Quote

*I can find my
biography in every
fable that I read !*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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A Taste of Sicily Right Here in Bayside

When Joseph and Grace Lupo opened their restaurant eight years ago, they had a simple goal. They wanted their customers to feel like they were walking into their home, like they were part of the family.

At L'Italiano Trattoria just off the Harding Expressway in Bayside they've come a long way toward achieving just that. The regulars are intensely loyal and they even call Grace, the head chef, Momma.

Grace says she learned to cook from her mother and grandmother while growing up in Sicily. "I was cooking for nine people,"



she says. Today she says, "I make my meatballs like my momma used to make."

"When I came to America, I tried working in the insurance business. But it was not my passion. Cooking is a passion for me."

Her husband Joseph also cooks,



but Grace runs the kitchen.

"I enjoy what I'm doing and I have satisfied customers," she says. "They make my day."

L'Italiano Trattoria is a family-oriented Italian eatery with a wide range of appetizers, entrées and desserts. The décor and atmosphere are designed to make customers feel as if they are in a trattoria in Italy. Momma is cooking in the kitchen and her family members wait tables. Customers are treated like family.

L'Italiano Trattoria also does catering and is available for parties.

Grace teaches a class at her restau-

rant where adults learn to cook traditional Italian dishes. When they are done, they sit together and eat what they have prepared. It's a lot of fun, she says.

And every third Tuesday of the month she teaches a class of fifth- and sixth-graders from the nearby St. Robert Bellarmine School in Bayside. Like the adults, when the students are done, they get to sample what they made. "We make a lot of cookies," she says. She is planning to publish a children's cookbook sometime next year.

The extensive but moderately priced menu offers traditional Sicilian appetizers, entrées and desserts. "There is a lot of fish," she says. "Everything is simple, tasty, made with extra virgin olive oil and fresh ingredients."

Asked what her favorite dish is, Grace replies, "Everything is my favorite. I wouldn't serve my guest anything I wouldn't eat myself."

Located at 216-01 Horace Harding Expressway, L'Italiano Trattoria is closed on Monday. Grace recommends that on weekends people call to make a reservation. The phone number is (718) 224-2536.



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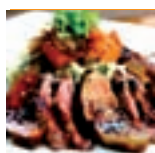
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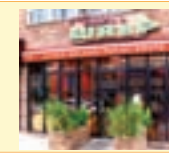
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De Blasio blasts U.S. atty over detention center

BY IVAN PEREIRA

The city public advocate is joining several Queens elected officials in another call to the federal government to stop its association with a private group that has been running a controversial immigration detention center in southeast Queens.

Bill de Blasio, along with City Councilman Danny Dromm (D-Jackson Heights) and U.S. Reps. Gregory Meeks (D-Jamaica) and Joe Crowley (D-Jackson Heights), sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder last Thursday that criticized the U.S. Department of Justice for refusing to investigate the GEO Group, which runs 7,000 of 32,000 detention beds in the United States, including one in Springfield Gardens.

The company has been accused of treating its pris-

oners with several unjust practices, including long periods of solitary confinement.

"This is not complicated: Government should not do business with companies that violate basic human rights," de Blasio said in a statement.

The GEO-run detention center, at 182-22 150th Ave., holds suspects accused of violating immigration policies, and for years nearby residents have protested and complained about its existence near their homes.

De Blasio noted that in 2004, 175 detainees at the Queens facility went on a hunger strike to protest their conditions and in 2009 two of the facility's guards were convicted of covering up the beating of an inmate. The public advocate called on Holder to investigate the government's contract with GEO in October, but he has



Public Advocate Bill de Blasio (second from r.) and other elected officials protest the government's contract with the GEO group.
Photo courtesy of Bill de Blasio's office

not received any response.

Justice declined to comment about the letter

to the attorney general and the GEO Group did not return requests for comment

as of press time Tuesday.

While he waits on the federal government for a

response and possible action, Dromm, who chairs the Council's Immigration Committee, said he and his fellow City Hall colleagues will investigate GEO themselves.

The committee will hold a hearing on the issue Dec. 13 and he wants to get more support against the controversial contract between the feds and GEO.

"We must be fully committed to upholding and protecting basic human rights. I will continue to work with my colleagues in government to address any potential human rights violations that occur, especially in the City of New York," the councilman said in a statement.

Reach reporter Ivan Pereira by e-mail at iper-eira@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4546.

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Orthopaedic surgeons at LIJ Medical Center have new technology that is providing their patients with "custom-fit surgery" for a total knee replacement.

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The result is a decreased surgical time, meaning less time under anesthesia and potentially less need for transfusion.

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Photo by Rob Salant

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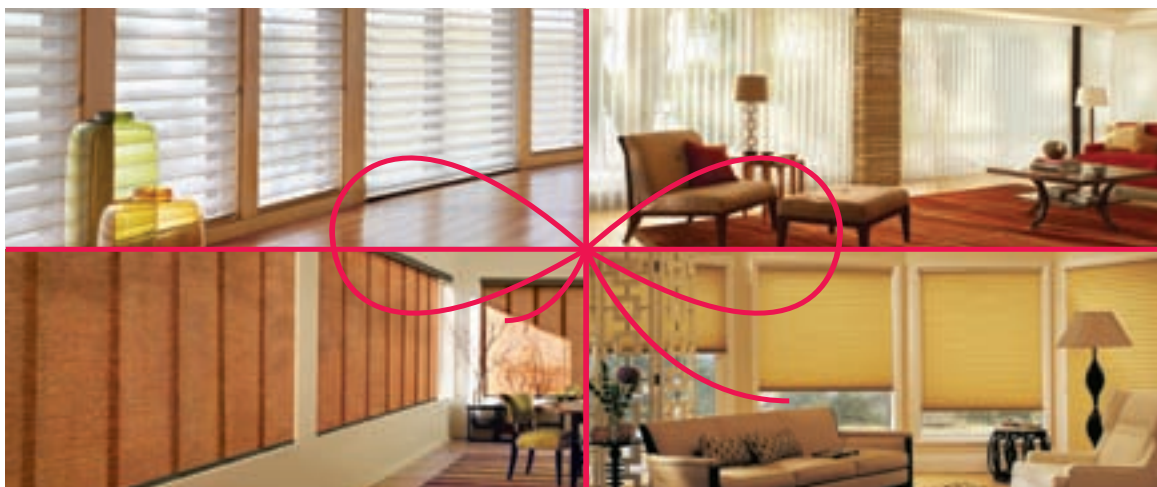
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Photos by Dee Richard

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2 Matthew Di Stafano, John Dorsa, Lillian Kowalsky and George Fanjul



3 Nayibe Nunez-Berger, Ivan Lafayette, John Park



4 Joseph Ferramosca, Edward Kalanz, Cathy Nolan, Michael Den Dekker, John Dorsa and Jose Peralta

DAN HALLORAN FUND-RAISER AT VERDI'S IN WHITESTONE



1 Philip Fierro (l.) and Vito Palmieri



2 Serf Maltese, Dan Halloran, Frank Padavan and Dennis Ring



3 Dan Halloran (center) surrounded by his office staff



4 Elio Forcina and Mario D'Elia

LITTLE NECK-DOUGLASTON LIONS AT LEONARD'S OF GREAT NECK



1 Rod O'Connell, Mary and Linden De Bie



2 Ed Braunstein, Charles McBride, Carolyn Meenan



3 Walter Mugdan, Dan Halloran and Frank Padavan



4 Ed Braunstein, honorees Rovena Schirling, Walter Mugdan, Pattie Rifino and Charles McBride



5 Paul Vallone and Charles McBride



6 Carolyn Meenan



7 Ralph and Barbara Barba



8 Rod O'Connell, Fred Heitz, Frank Padavan, Alvin and Rochelle Dunmsky

People IN THE NEWS

COMPILED BY JOSEPH GARGIULO

TIMES LEDGER, Dec. 8-14, 2011

Military

Army National Guard Pvt. **Jonnathan A. Meza**, son of **Linares Chamorro** of Jamaica, has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

Army National Guard Pvt. **Bernard Alvarez**, grandson of **Raquel Perez** of Arverne, has graduated from the Basic Field Artillery Cannon Crewmember

Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

Army Pvt. **Josian Ramirez**, son of **Maritza Gutierrez** of Jamaica, has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

Army National Guard Pvt. **Vanessa Zea**, daughter of **Maria Zea** of Jackson Heights, has

graduated from basic combat training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

Alain Ocampo of Woodside, serving with the Headquarters and Headquarters Co. (-) 3-142nd Aviation, is promoted to the rank of private 1st class.

Reginald Best of Ozone Park, serving with the Co. D 1-69th Infantry, is promoted to

the rank of staff sergeant.

Juan Rocha of Jackson Heights, serving with the 1156th Engineer Co. Vertical, is promoted to the rank of private 1st class.

Francisco Colomer of Jackson Heights, serving with the 719th Transportation Co. (Medium Truck Cargo), is promoted to the rank of sergeant 1st

class.

David Gonzalez of Elmhurst, serving with the Headquarters 106th Regiment (Regional Training Institute), is promoted to the rank of staff sergeant.

John Powell of Jamaica, serving with the Co. B (-) 642nd Support Battalion, is promoted to the rank of specialist.

Academics

Matthew Harville of St. Albans has transferred to Armstrong Atlantic State University.

Alicia Fish of Forest Hills has entered McDaniel College.

Juliet L. Marsh of Glendale has enrolled at Lebanon Valley College.

Argina R. Girsang of Sunnyside and **Marella Y. Romero** of Jackson Heights have enrolled in St. Lawrence University.

Lorenzo R. Sewanan of Hollis has been named a 2011-12 President's Fellow at Trinity College.

Andrew Levy of Bayside and **Camilo Montes** of Corona have been named to the honor roll of the Hudson Valley Men's Athletic Conference at Berkeley College.

Jeannette Neto of Ridgewood was named a student ambassador at Marist College.

Qadriyyah N. Parsee, **Adnan Faruqi** and **Tennyson G. Johnson** of Jamaica and **Sheetal J. Sheth** of Bayside have graduated from Boston University.

Nadia Ackbarali of Bellerose is taking part in an internship this fall through the Marist College Communication Internship Program.

Nancy Moyal, **Gung T. Lo** and **Rachel Nisanov** of Flushing and **Sylburn V. Peterkin** of Jamaica have graduated from Excelsior College.

Briana Floyd of Bayside was named to the LIM College spring 2011 dean's list.

Yimin Peng of Elmhurst was named a Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholar at Bowdoin College.

Stefan Jose Oliva of Doug-



ANDREW LEVY



JESSE HERMAN



CAMILO MONTES

laston, **Ying Lin** of Elmhurst, **Gisselle Perez-Leon** of Kew Gardens and **Jasmine Chou Hwang** of Flushing have enrolled in College University.

Juliet Marsh of Glendale is serving as a student leader at Lebanon Valley College this year.

Gary Chin of East Elmhurst has been inducted into Ithaca College's Oracle Honor Society.

N'Dea Hallett of Rosedale has enrolled in Tufts University.

Jesse Herman of Bayside has accepted membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Connie Calix of Queens Village has appeared in SUNY Delhi's College Players fall production "The Nerd."

Christian J. Lapointe of College Point, **Annibel A. Tejada** of Ozone Park, **Omy Melo** of Jackson Heights and **Taide S. Hernandez** of Elmhurst are interning through SUNY Oswego.

Krupa Patel of Jamaica has been awarded a David Wills Scholarship by Gettysburg College.

The following have been

awarded scholarships at SUNY Binghamton: **Stephanie C. Diaz** of Richmond Hill; **Kristina C. Smith** and **Janice C. McFarlane** of St. Albans; **Matthew L. Lugo** of Astoria; **Laura Park** and **Daniel Yang** of Sunnyside; **Marc C. Wiggins** of Long Island City; **John N. Minami**, **Pei Qi Yang**, **Wen Hsin Chang**, **Chunjian Liu**, **Han Wang**, **Alice Cheung**, **Julia Jin**, **Liang-You Chen**, **Matthew McMahon**, **Thomas M. McElhenney**, **Anthea Chen** and **Hannah J. Cho** of Flushing; **Alison R. Entin**, **Christina E. Herrmann**, **Yoon Sun Na**, **Aylon Pessio** and **Justin Kim** of Bayside; **Gloria O. Kwon**, **Avalon N. Siegel** and **Joseph Lee** of Oakland Gardens; **Elie Ogaye** of Corona; **Meifang Jiang** and **Shirley Yu** of Jackson Heights; **Shiqi Che**, **Steven Hoyos**, **Yangyun Zheng**, **Fanny Chu**, **Robert Lieng** and **Mingwei W. Chen** of Elmhurst; **Jiujiu Wang**, **Yulia Shalomov** and **Charles K. Young** of Rego Park; **Jason Chen**, **Qiu M. Kong** and **Sadia Hannan** of Woodside; **Cristhy A. Azcona** of Ridge-

wood; **Aleisha A. Forbes** of Cambria Heights; **Cynthia Chiduku** of South Richmond Hill; **Rain Rashid** of South Ozone Park; **Bonnie Li** and **Crystal L. Austin** of Woodhaven; **Clarice J. Hampton** of Hollis; **Tianna N. Clarke** and **Ting Yan Wong** of Jamaica; **Billy Yang** of Howard Beach; **Danny Choi** of Rockaway Park; **Jasmine A. Pena** and **Kimberly L. Torres** of East Elmhurst; **Jennifer Lui** of Whitestone; **Victor I. Bota** of Maspeth; **Chrystal A. Mahabir** of Fresh Meadows; and **Vincent Dao** of Oakland Gardens.

The following have won state Assemblyman **Ed Braunstein's** (D-Bayside) Halloween Essay Contest: **Joelle Chang**, who attends school in Whitestone; **Cheryl Lam**, who attends school in Floral Park; **Precious Cintron**, who attends school in Flushing; and **Parker Stephenson**, who attends school in Oakland Gardens.

Yueling Luo Chan of Fresh Meadows, **Dov Kasirer** of Jamaica and **Margarita Eisenbach** and **Dafna Zauderer** of Flushing

have graduated from Excelsior College.

Jasper Kozak-Miller of Jackson Heights has been named to the honor roll for the fall term at Pomfret School.

Debbian Hay of Ozone Park and **Kara Gioia** of Flushing earned academic honors at the Dominican College Honors Convocation.

Daniel McGahan of Woodside; **Magdalena Kierzkowska** of Ridgewood; **Giananthony Damasco** and **Madeline Lo** of Flushing; and **Megan Cifuni**, **Rebecca Warne** and **Christopher Zipf** of Whitestone have participated in the Marist College "Up 'til Dawn" fund-raiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.

The following are candidates for graduation at SUNY Oswego: **Paola Palacios** of College Point, **Stephen F. Green** of Rosedale, **Kenny Eng** of Woodhaven and **Anthony J. DiMarco** and **Glen Kelly** of Glendale.

University of San Diego student **Alanna Armstrong** of Middle Village has studied in Vienna, Austria.

Benge Li of Middle Village and **Natasha Lazare** of Queens Village were named to the Savannah College of Art and Design fall 2011 dean's list.

Christian Ventura and **Ali-reza Vaziri** of Little Neck, **Samuel Jeannite** of Jamaica, **Jonathan Baez** of Richmond Hill, **Spozmi Nouri** of Ridgewood and **Christopher Bernaudo** of Flushing were selected as resident assistants at Pace University.

Don't forget your flu shots

If you are one of the millions of Americans with a long-term health condition like asthma, this important information about flu applies to you. When combined with your existing health condition, the flu increases your risk of becoming seriously sick, which could result in an unexpected and expensive trip to the hospital — or even death.

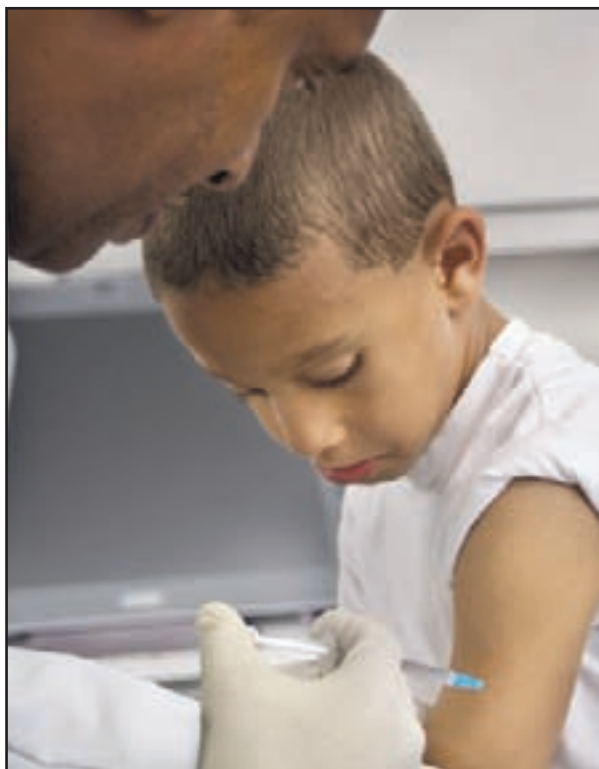
"We have known for years that flu is a serious disease, especially for people with certain chronic health conditions," said Dr. Anne Schuchat, assistant surgeon general of the U.S. Public Health Service and Director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases.

The burden of flu on people with asthma was demonstrated in the 2009 flu season, as the world faced its first flu pandemic in more than 40 years. Most of the deaths from 2009 H1N1 were in people who had at least one health condition, like asthma. People with long-term health conditions also were more likely to be hospitalized. The Center for Disease Control estimates that nearly 60 percent of children and more than 85 percent of adults hospitalized with 2009 H1N1 had one or more long-term health conditions or were pregnant.

Of those admitted to the hospital with 2009 H1N1 illness, asthma was the most common long-term health condition, followed by diabetes, chronic cardiovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pregnancy, neurological disorders (including stroke or seizure disorders in adults), and neuromuscular disorders. People who were morbidly obese (extremely overweight) also appeared to be at higher risk for severe 2009 H1N1 in some studies.

The message is clear: people with long-term health conditions should take action to protect themselves against the flu by getting a flu vaccine. This season's vaccine will protect against 2009 H1N1 and two other flu viruses. Safe, reliable flu vaccines have been made for decades, and you cannot get the flu from the flu vaccine.

Millions of Americans are affected by these conditions, although many people don't know that they have a long-term health condition. For example, diabetes affects an estimated 23.6 million Americans, but 5.7 million people (24 percent of those who have the disease in the United States) don't even know they have it. Heart disease affects



an estimated 26.6 million Americans. And asthma affects 23.4 million Americans. Ask your doctor whether you have a health condition that makes you more vulnerable to flu. If you do, be sure you get a flu vaccine.

Symptoms of flu include fever (though not everyone with flu will have a fever), cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting.

Flu viruses are thought to spread mainly from person to person through the coughing, sneezing, or talking of someone with the flu. Flu viruses may also spread when people touch something with flu virus on it and then touch their mouth, eyes or nose. Many other viruses spread these ways, too.

For more information, visit www.flu.gov, www.cdc.gov/

Keep asthma under control this season

A 2010 nationwide telephone survey of 1,001 asthma patients found that while most patients with asthma understood the risks associated with uncontrolled asthma, they didn't always act accordingly.

"This finding demonstrates a serious disconnect between the perceived consequences of uncontrolled asthma and the necessary steps people should take to achieve better control," explained Dr. Shailen Shah, an asthma expert with PA Allergy and Asthma Consultants. "Some people believe that asthma goes away when their symptoms do, but asthma is a chronic disease. The good news is that with the appropriate treatment regimen, the inflammation that causes the symptoms may be properly managed."

Additionally, there are simple steps patients can take to avoid unnecessary complications, beginning with an open discussion with a physician.

Understanding asthma

People with asthma suffer from chronic lung inflammation, with symptoms ranging from coughing and wheezing to chest tightness and shortness of breath. Additionally, asthma triggers such as air pollution, smoke, pet dander, pollen and mold can set off an asthma episode.

It's important for patients to understand that when their asthma is under control with the help of their physicians, through lifestyle modifications, and the proper use of appropriate controller medication, they should exhibit few asthma symptoms.

Simple steps to asthma control

A physician can help create an asthma action plan and determine if a controller medication, in addition to a rescue medication,

Continued on Page 51

The many faces and devastating effects of COPD

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease affects thousands of people each and every year. The condition is largely caused by smoking or prolonged inhalation of lung irritants. There currently is no cure, but there are treatments available that can slow the progression of the disease.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a term used to categorize many different ailments of the lungs, most especially emphysema and chronic bronchitis. It occurs when there is airway obstruction or simply when a person has trouble breathing.

There are certain contributors to the disease. These may include:

- Inflammation of the air passages that restricts airflow.
- Excessive mucous that restricts airflow.
- Air sacs, called alveoli, lose elasticity and cannot properly inflate with air.
- Damaged walls between air sacs that compromise breathing.

According to the pharmaceutical company Merck, about 12 million people in the United States suffer from the disease. It is second only to heart disease as a cause of disability that forces people to stop working. It is the fourth most common cause of death, accounting for more than 120,000

deaths per year in the United States, and those death rates are on the rise, with 60 percent more deaths now attributed to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease than there were 20 years ago. Men and women have equal death rates, though men are at a heightened risk for the disease.

In terms of treating the disease, treatment options generally hope to lessen the severity of the symptoms. Quitting smoking is the single-most effective way to reduce the progression of the disease. Since chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a progressive disorder, it will only get worse over time and could lead to death.

Doctors may prescribe medications for individuals with trouble breathing. Bronchodilators relax the muscles around the airways, helping to open them up and make breathing easier. Inhaled glucocorticosteroids also may be prescribed. These reduce inflammation in the airways to help improve airflow.

There are a number of programs and medications available that can help smokers quit. Talking to a doctor or support group could be the first step needed to quit smoking and reduce the risk or progression of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Metro Creative Connection

Cancer: The toll for not taking care of your lungs

According to the National Cancer Institute, lung cancer will claim the lives of more than 150,000 Americans before the end of 2011. In Canada, where the national population is considerably smaller than that of the United States, lung cancer will still take a heavy toll, causing more than 20,000 deaths, according to the Canadian Cancer Society. Meanwhile, Cancer Research UK reports that within the United Kingdom, lung cancer accounts for roughly 6 percent of all deaths, and 22 percent of all deaths from cancer.

Each of these figures illustrates the prevalence of lung cancer across the globe, and the deadly toll it takes on an annual basis. While many are quick to assume they will be immune to lung cancer if they simply avoid smoking tobacco, the disease is much more complex than that, and understanding it could mean the difference between life and death.

What causes lung cancer?

While the National Cancer Institute reports that smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer, that doesn't mean nonsmokers — or those who quit smoking — still aren't at risk. In fact, many additional factors can increase a person's risk of lung cancer.

Secondhand smoke has long been known to be very harmful, and no one, not even children, is immune to its effects. The American Cancer Society notes that, in the United States alone, roughly 3,000 nonsmoking adults will succumb to lung cancer each year because of secondhand smoke. Choosing not to smoke is a good decision, but being around smokers and breathing in their smoke could prove just as deadly as smoking. The less a person is exposed to tobacco smoke, the lower



their risk for lung cancer.

Another risk factor for lung cancer is radon, a radioactive gas that cannot be seen, smelled or tasted. Radon forms in soil and rocks, and men and women who work in mines could

be exposed to radon. Radon can also be found in homes when it pushes its way through cracks in floors or gaps around service pipes or in suspended floors. Testing a home for radon is inexpensive and won't take much time.

Additional causes of lung cancer include air pollution, asbestos, and even age. Older people are more likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer, as are those with a family history of lung cancer.

Does lung cancer have symptoms?

The deadliest form of cancer for men and women alike, lung cancer is per-

haps so deadly because it does not often have many symptoms in its early stages. While some symptoms might manifest themselves in the early stages, most will wait until the cancer begins to grow before they make their presence felt.

As the cancer grows, the following symptoms might appear:

- A cough that continues to worsen or won't go away
- Constant chest pain
- Coughing up blood
- A voice that grows hoarse
- Frequent infections of the lungs, including pneumonia
- Constant feelings of fatigue

• Unexplained weight loss

Each of these symptoms can occur even if a person does not have lung cancer. However, men and women who experience any of the above symptoms should consult their physicians immediately.

How is lung cancer diagnosed?

In many cases, individuals will experience one of the aforementioned symptoms of lung cancer and then visit their doctors. Such a visit should be made immediately, and men and women should expect certain tests to be performed upon visiting their doctor. In addition to ordering some blood work, a doctor will likely perform a physical exam to check for general signs of health and listen to breathing. During the physical, the doctor is likely to check for swollen lymph nodes, fluid in the lungs, and a swollen liver.

A doctor will also order X-ray pictures of the chest to detect if there are any tumors or an abnormal fluid buildup. A CT scan, which takes pictures of the tissue inside the chest, will likely be taken as well. These pic-

tures can show if there is a tumor, abnormal fluid or swollen lymph nodes.

When determining if a patient has lung cancer, a doctor will also enlist the help of a pathologist to study cell or tissue samples. These cells or tissues can be collected in a number of ways, and a doctor might order more than one test.

• **Bronchoscopy:** A thin, lighted tube is inserted through the nose or mouth into the lung, allowing a close exam of the lungs and the air passages that lead to them. A cell sample can be taken with a needle, brush or other tool.

• **Sputum cytology:** Sputum, or thick fluid, is coughed up from the lungs and then checked for cancer cells.

• **Thoracentesis:** A long needle is used to remove fluid called pleural fluid from the chest, and that fluid is then checked for cancer cells.

• **Thoracoscopy:** A surgeon makes several small incisions in the chest and back, then looks at the lungs and nearby tissue with a thin, lighted tube.

More information about lung cancer is available from the National Cancer Institute at www.cancer.gov.

Asthma

Continued from Page 32
is appropriate.

"Using an asthma action plan... can help patients stay in the know and in control of their asthma," Shah stresses. "By understanding proper asthma management and appropriate use of medications, patients can help maintain control over their asthma symptoms and minimize the risks associated with uncontrolled asthma."

Metro Creative Connection



Business

Bayside comic shop a place for kids to 'battle'

Who's on First sells action figure and comic books, gives children place to wage war with trading card games

BY JOE ANUTA

Every year children salivate over new iterations of video or computer games, but for two decades a small shop in Bayside has been providing youngsters with low-tech entertainment that a clerk hopes will not become obsolete any time soon.

Who's on First is a comic book and sports memorabilia store on the corner of 34th Street and Francis Lewis Boulevard where kids can go off the grid to immerse themselves in the fantastic realms of superheroes or compete in otherworldly card games.

"It's all a little bit of an escape from what's going on," said John Mangan, a clerk at the store.

Mangan was perched at the front counter, the gatekeeper to a wall of baseball cards behind him.

Children and adults alike come in on a daily basis, pick out a pack of cards and often immediately assess their value using an almanac in the store.

Near the door, a spinning rack holds the latest comics, while older issues sit in boxes on sale for \$1.

The walls are bedecked with effigies to baseball greats and action figures.

Lots of action figures.

Miniature versions of professional wrestlers, sports figures and comic book characters are stacked to the ceiling.

Some figures, like vintage characters from the original "Star Trek" series,



John Mangan stands in front of an array of baseball cards on sale at Who's on First.

Photo by Joe Anuta

are actually attached to the ceiling.

Aside from the identities of the players and characters, the essence of the

store's offerings have not changed much since "Star Trek" was a new show in the 1960s.

But fantasy card games

are what give the store its character.

Each day after school, part of the store becomes a kiddie card parlor of sorts, where youngsters hash out a never-ending battle at a card table set up for the card games Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh! and Magic: The Gathering.

In each game, the players use the characters on the cards to theoretically fight each other.

"It's very serious to them," Mangan said.

The games are popular, but comic stores like Who's on First are a dying breed, according to Mangan.

"In the general vicinity, there are not many of us around," he said, noting that the handful of similar stores in northeast Queens

is an anomaly.

Big box stores like Target and Wal-Mart sell comics, action figures and cards as well and have dedicated scouts to sniff out what is popular, he said.

"It's hard to compete with that," Mangan said.

The shop instead must rely on the children to find out what is the new, popular item.

But more importantly, the store provides a meeting place where youngsters can discuss their purchases, haggle and barter for different items and just hang around.

Reach reporter Joe Anuta by e-mail at januta@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4566.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 10th Annual Gala Awards — Honoring Patricia Jampol, Manuel Miranda, William Thompson, St. Mary's Healthcare System, Brenda Stuart-Luke, 93.1 AMOR and New York State Wide Coalition of Chambers of Commerce.
When: Dec. 9, 7 pm
Where: Terrace on the Park, 52-11 111th St., Corona
Contact: (718) 592-5000;
Website: www.terraceonthepark.com

Examining the New Tax Landscape Seminar — You are cordially invited to a complimentary seminar on Examining the New Tax Landscape and its Impact to Investors. Featuring guest speaker David Casey of Putnam Investments and Keith Brady of State Bank. Refreshments will be served. Free parking.
When: Dec. 14, 4 pm
Where: Queens Chamber of Commerce, 75-20 Astoria Blvd., Jackson Heights
Contact: (718) 426-2200
EAP Fall 10-Week Business Training Course — Develop a fully vetted professional business plan completed by the end of the

course. Learn first-hand where and how to conduct research for your business by taking a field-trip to the Science, Industry, Business Library of New York. Learn from experts and specialist who include a lawyer, accountant, marketing expert, and technology consultant.
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 pm through Dec. 15
Cost: \$300
Where: Queens Borough Hall 120-55 Queens Blvd Room G110 Kew Gardens, NY 11424
Contact: Franklin Mora fmora@queensn.org (718) 263-0546
Website: www.queensny.org/business/programs/eap

Powerful You! Women's Network — A new Queens chapter of the national organization that empowers and supports women in their business, personal and spiritual lives.
When: Third Tuesday each month, noon to 2 pm
Cost: Members and first-time attendees \$30, nonmembers \$40; includes lunch
Where: Giardino, 44-37 Douglaston Pkwy., Douglaston

Contact: Gayle Naftaly, gnaftaly@accessoffice.net, (718) 217-0009
Website: www.powerfullyou.com

Power Networking Group — Led by Harvey G. Beringer
When: Every Wednesday, 7 am
Cost: \$10 for breakfast
Where: Jackson Hole Diner, 35-01 Bell Blvd., Bayside
Contact: Harvey G. Beringer at HGBCPA@aol.com or (718) 423-0427

BNI T.N.T. (The Networking Titans) Weekly Meeting — BNI is a business and professional networking organization that allows only one person per professional classification or specialty to join a chapter. BNI provides positive, supportive and structured environment to further business through word of mouth marketing. Contact chapter president Martin Koos to arrange a visit.
When: Thursdays, 7 am to 8:30 am
Where: Clearview Park Golf Course, 202-12 Willets Point Blvd., Bayside
Contact: Martin Koos (516) 488-8877, Ext. 15

FUND-RAISERS

Bayswater Jewish Center Thrift Sale — Clothing, kitchenware, appliances, bric-a-brac, linens and lots more!
When: Thursday, Dec. 15, 7 pm; Sunday, Dec. 18, 12 pm & Monday, Dec. 19, 4 pm
Where: Bayswater Jewish Center, 2355 Healy Ave., Far Rockaway

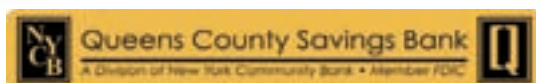
APEC 2011 Green Gala — Pre-register. The Alley Pond Environmental Center's annual fund-raiser.
When: Dec. 8, 6 pm
Where: Terrace on the Park, 52-11 111th St., Corona
Contact: 718-592-5000; www.terraceonthepark.com

Architects of Change Reception — Chhaya returns to Jackson Diner. Dress: Business casual, Festive or National costume.
When: Dec. 8, 6:30 pm
Where: Jackson Diner, 37-47 74th St., Jackson Height
Contact: events@chhayacdc.org

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 10th Annual Gala Awards — Honoring Patricia Jampol, Manuel Miranda, William Thompson, St. Mary's Healthcare System, Brenda Stuart-Luke, 93.1 AMOR and New York State Wide Coalition of Chambers of Commerce.
When: Dec. 9, 7 pm
Where: Terrace on the Park, 52-11 111th St., Corona
Contact: (718) 592-5000; www.terraceonthepark.com

Student of Distinction

SPONSORED BY



Christopher Chung
December 2011
Student of Distinction
Martin Van Buren High School
Queens Village, NY

TimesLedger Newspapers' next "Student of Distinction" is a student at Martin Van Buren High School.

Christopher Chung, a resident of Richmond Hill, is the President of the Student Organization (S.O.) at Martin Van Buren H.S., Queens Village. The amazing thing about this is that usually a senior is the S.O. President because a senior has the knowledge about the school and the maturity to perform in this important position.

Chung explained that when he entered Martin Van Buren H.S. he found that there were bad influences he was getting involved with in the lunchroom. As a result, he decided to get involved with the S.O. and stay in their room during lunch period. He became a freshman representative, then the Sophomore President, and is now the S.O. President. The school recruited him for the Scholars Institute where academically promising students are cultivated with special research classes, community service, and leadership training. He is now a Junior Officer in the Scholars Institute. He participated in a Breast Cancer Walk in Flushing Meadows Park, and was on the school Website team and in the Drama Club.

His interest in science and the activities that the Science department operates for the Scholars Institute, led Christopher to join the new



Robotics team, of which he is Captain. He has a 90 grade point average and is interested in studying mechanical engineering at MIT, or, perhaps studying pediatrics because he likes working with children. All of his classes are Honors or Advance Placement (college level) classes and he will soon be taking actual college classes through Queensborough Community College.

One of the Scholars' activities is with Junior Achievements, a city-wide program that prepares high school students to teach for a day in a local elementary school. MVB H.S. students read to and teach lower grade children about New York City at nearby P.S. 33.

As the S.O. President, Christopher represented the school recently at the High School Fair in Brooklyn Technical HS. He was also present when Chancellor Dennis Walcott and State Senator Tony Avella paid a visit to MVB H.S. to meet with parents, teachers, students and Principal Marilyn Shevell. He is on the school Consultative Council and also spoke at the freshmen orientation at the start of the school year to help ease the way for freshmen entering

high school.

Christopher is always willing to do service for teachers or guidance counselors. He even helps his Math Research teacher, Mr. Inshan, teach his class. He especially wanted to thank Mr. Greenspan Coordinator of Student Affairs (COSA), "for pushing me to get involved" and his former guidance counselor, Ms. Carmel, "for advising me to do the things I do today."

He commented that, "I like to help people, to get involved. Then, when I do things, I want to do more." He especially wanted to "thank my mother for always being there for me."

Mr. Brian Greenspan, who is in charge of the student government, had this to say about him, "Christopher Chung, 16, is currently a junior at Martin Van Buren H.S. and has been involved in student activities since 9th grade. In his sophomore year he was elected Freshman/Sophomore President, and is currently the Student Organization President, which is one of the school's most demanding student positions. He is one of the most dedicated and hardworking students ever to serve our school's Student Organization. He is a fine, charismatic young man who is well-liked by his peers."

Mr. Castellano, the Senior Advisor, also works closely with Christopher because it is the Senior Class which does so many things in their last year of high school. Castellano frankly said, "I was against the idea of having an 11th grader become S.O. President, however, Chris has not been a disappointment. He comes in every day prior to the start of classes and stays after class to work on S.O. activities." Principal Marilyn Shevell summed everything up in a few words, "Very mature young man."

- by Bob Harris

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City agencies untapped resource in distributing library cards: Pol

BY REBECCA HENELY

City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer (D-Sunnyside) announced at the Woodside Library last week that he had introduced legislation designed to put even more library cards in the hands of needy children.

As an extension of his Library Card Act of 2010, which incorporated library card applications into the city Department of Education's enrollment packets, Van Bramer said he would be working to distribute library card applications to children who come through four city agencies: the Department of Youth and Community Development, the Administration for Children's Services, the Human Resources Administration and Department

of Homeless Services.

"We know that the best thing for every young mind is a library card," Van Bramer said.

The councilman made the announcement Nov. 30, surrounded by many of those young minds in the children's room of the library, at 54-22 Skillman Ave.

Van Bramer, formerly the external affairs director for the Queens Library and now chairman of the Council Libraries and International Intergroup Relations Committee, said he was introducing the bill, Intro 711, since too many children in the city do not have library cards and the four agencies have extensive outreach and interaction with young people.

ACS alone interacts with 225,000 young people

every year, Van Bramer said.

"As wonderful as it is to see this children's room full, we want to see it bursting at the seams," he said.

Van Bramer did not have an estimate on how many additional children could become library customers through this bill, but said the New York Public Library — the library system for Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island — saw a 22 percent increase in customers after the 2010 act was instituted.

As in the 2010 act, which included library card applications in the already-existing enrollment packets, Van Bramer said he hoped to institute this act at little to no cost and was working with agencies to see how best to distribute the applications.

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2009 Suzuki SX4 Auto, Sport Touring, 42k mi. Stk#U194T.....	\$9,998⁺	2010 Hyundai Elantra GLS Auto, Like New! 12k mi. Stk#U260T.....	\$14,988⁺	2010 Hyundai Vera Cruz Auto, 4WD, Power, 14k mi. Stk#U205T.....	\$21,988⁺
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Waterfront

Continued from Page 4

maritime development; reviewing how it promotes waterway usage and ecological resources; looking into new ways to improve water quality and minimize flooding and erosion damage; managing solid and hazardous waste; creating public spaces on the waterfront; seeking input into wind power projects and using historic sources such as old ships.

“This is something that people are really excited about,” Kimball said.

She said the program also maps two areas of spe-

cial significance that require developers to comply with additional policies. The first are called Significant Maritime and Industrial Areas, and in Queens that covers Newtown Creek. The second are ecological resources known as Special Natural Waterfront Areas, which in Queens include Jamaica Bay and the East River and Long Island Sound.

Kimball said the plans would be submitted to city community boards, the borough presidents and the borough boards in February. After it goes through the City Planning Com-

mission, the department expects to submit it to the City Council for review December 2012.

Koo said he found the plan ambitious but thought it needed a lot of community input since every area has specific needs.

State Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (D-Howard Beach), whose district is surrounded by water, said all options need to be explored to protect the waterfront.

“This is a good step in moving in the right direction,” he said.

Reach reporter Rebecca Henely by e-mail at rhenedy@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

Mob

Continued from Page 5

bers of the Gambino and Bonnano families are also charged with extorting payment from owners of four strip clubs in Queens and on Long Island in exchange for “protection” from competing clubs and crime figures, prosecutors said.

The clubs included Gallagher’s 2000 in Sunnyside, Perfection in Woodside and Rouge in Maspeth, according to a federal immigration official.

“The defendants themselves had one thing in common — the desire to turn the women they allegedly helped enter this country illegally into their personal profit centers,” Bharara said in a statement.

Joseph Conley, chairman of Community Board 2,

said that while Gallagher’s 2000 was raided, nobody from the club was charged with any wrongdoing.

Those from Queens who were arrested as part of the scheme include Alphonse Trucchio, 34, and Christopher Colon, 37, of Howard Beach, and Richard Gutowski, 40, of Ridgewood, who are allegedly part of the Gambino crime family, Bharara said.

They have been charged with racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy and conspiracy to harbor illegal aliens, Bharara said. Trucchio and Gutowski were also charged with visa fraud, Bharara said.

Yong “Jonathan” Wang, 36, of Flushing, and Natalia “Natasha” Ivanova, 43, of Kew Gardens, also face charges. Wang is charged with harboring il-

legal aliens and visa fraud; Ivanova is charged with harboring illegal aliens and marriage fraud, Bharara said.

The racketeering and extortion charges each carry a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, conspiracy to harbor illegal aliens brings a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and visa fraud and marriage fraud carry maximum penalties of five years in prison.

The investigation was conducted through U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Homeland Security Investigations and the U.S. State Department’s Diplomatic Security Service.

Reach reporter Rebecca Henely by e-mail at rhenedy@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

Dolan

Continued from Page 4

positive attribute ... and that pretty well describes Pat,” he said. “We will try our hardest to fill in her shoes. We will miss her. It’s a huge loss, a huge loss for the community, for the borough, for the city.”

City Comptroller John Liu, who served on the Queens Civic Congress with Dolan, said she was a

mentor to him.

“She always reminded me how she recruited me,” Liu said, referring to his time as chairman of the congress’s Transportation Committee.

Liu said Dolan always had ideas on transportation and was “forceful” in making her points when Liu served as Transportation Committee chairman of the City Council and credited her with working on a \$4 million program to give vans and operating funds

to senior centers across the city.

“She cared about seniors, she cared about kids,” Liu said. “She just had so many hats. It’s hard to believe that such an incredible force has been taken away from us. She was a fierce advocate for Queens.”

Reach reporter Howard Koplowitz by e-mail at hkoplowitz@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

Q58

Continued from Page 4

the bus system itself is racing toward catastrophe at

full speed. New Yorkers deserve better.”

White said he was troubled by official transit statistics showing that breakdowns had increased on city buses by 12 percent

since last year.

Reach contributing writer Philip Newman by e-mail at timesledgernews@cnglocal.com or phone at 718-260-4536.

Santa

Continued from Page 5

The route went along the waterfront of Astoria Park and ended at the Hellgate Social Club, another bar, at 12-21 Astoria Blvd.

City Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. (D-Astoria), fully clothed in a polo shirt and sports coat, stuck out in the crowd.

“You never know what you’re going to see at this event — literally,” he said, surrounded on all sides by Santas barely clothed in a variety of garb: red underwear, striped boxer briefs held up by suspenders, what appeared to be a holiday-themed codpiece or just barely covered in tinsel.

Many donned Santa hats. One participant regretted not wearing a fake beard to hide his identity.

On the heels of the recent Zombie Walk, where legions of the undead wandered 30th Avenue, Vallone said Astoria is gaining a reputation as a happening neighborhood.

“That’s what Astoria is all about,” he said.

As the group limbered up and walked en masse to the start of the run, residents came out of their houses to gawk at the streakers.

“I thought they were great. They were hysterical,” said Andrea Mardach, who had seen them the year before as well.

Eddie Garcia has lived in the neighborhood for 53 years and commended the

streakers for donating to charity in their own unique way.

“I think it’s just young people enjoying themselves and doing something crazy,” he said.

Though the runners had no pockets, Craycraft said local businesses donated prizes for the streakers at an after-party at the Hellgate Social Club.

Craycraft said the idea for the Santa Streak came to him after he participated in Santa Con, a day where thousands of often inebriated Santas can be seen invading the streets and subways in Manhattan.

Reach reporter Joe Anuta by e-mail at januta@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4566.

Turner reminds constituents to register for HEAP

U.S. Rep. Bob Turner (R-Kew Gardens) has announced the upcoming opening of registration for the Home Energy Assistance Program this year. The deadline is Jan. 3.

HEAP is a federally funded program that provides heating benefits to supplement a household’s annual energy cost. HEAP also provides emergency assistance for households in a heat or heat-related energy emergency.

Additionally, HEAP assists with furnace repairs and/or replacements for households with inoperable heating equipment. You can visit otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/ for more information. You can also see if you are eligible by completing a HEAP screening at mybenefits.ny.org.

Weprin holds winter toy drive

This winter, state Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) is hosting his first winter toy drive. Weprin will be collecting new and unwrapped toys for children throughout Queens who may otherwise go without gifts this holiday season. The drive will run through Dec. 19.

New and unwrapped toys should be delivered to Weprin’s office, at 56-21 Marathon Pkwy. in Little Neck, or the Hollis Hills Jewish Center, at 210-10 Union Tnpk. in Hollis Hills.

For more information, call 718-428-7900.

Pool

Continued from Page 9

The councilman said he would be hounding the Parks Department about this project, and he hopes it will be as successful and popular as the skate park

that recently opened in Astoria.

“I only have two years left on my term,” Vallone said. “I want to see this done.”

Reach reporter Rebecca Henely by e-mail at rhenedy@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

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Sports



Francis Lewis' Danny Bedoya is the New York Post's All-Queens boys' soccer Player of the Year. Photo by Denis Gostev

Bedoya picked best boys soccer player

BY ZACH BRAZILLER AND MARC RAIMONDI

Queens was arguably the best boys' soccer borough in 2011.

St. Francis Prep won the Catholic High School Athletic Association Class AA intersectional championship for the first time since 2006 and Monsignor McClancy won the CHSAA Class A title. On top of that, Archbishop Molloy and Christ the King were in the 'AA' semis along with St. Francis Prep.

In the Public Schools Athletic League, Francis Lewis was back in the title game for the fourth time in five years — it fell to nationally ranked Martin Luther King 3-2 in heartbreaking fashion — while Bayside and Aviation joined the Patriots in the semifinals, making it a banner year for Queens.

All-Queens boys' soccer Player of the Year: Danny Bedoya, Francis Lewis

His impressive three-year career at Francis Lew-

is ended without that elusive PSAL Class A crown, though it was no fault of his own. Bedoya was magnificent in a heartbreaking 3-2 loss to Martin Luther King Jr., having his way in the midfield against the Knights' highly skilled trio of Ibrahim Diaby, Tarek Beckles and Bryan Moya and serving balls into the box like only he can.

That was just a snippet of what made Bedoya so special this year. Lewis' orchestrator, he made the attack so potent with his precise set pieces and on-the-money through balls. It was like the ball was on a string attached to his foot, he was always in so much control. He scored 16 goals and added 14 assists, helping to extend the Patriots' unbeaten streak in Queens to a hard-to-fathom 57 matches (50-0-7).

"He knows what to do with the ball, even before he gets the ball," teammate Daniel Castro said of Bedoya, who has drawn high Division I interest

Knights swim for cancer

The men and women of Queens College raise awareness, money

BY MICHAEL CANFAROTTA

When the Queens College men's swimming and diving coach started at his new post this year, he brought with him a number of goals: to increase the roster size, build a successful program and improve on the record of the previous year.

He also brought the "Movember" initiative.

Starting on the first day in the month of November, Jeremy Cuebas and the team he coaches have sported an assortment of different facial hairstyles in order to raise money for prostate cancer and the other cancers that affect men.

Essentially, the facial hair served as a walking billboard for the team that they created on Movember.com. Anyone could go online and donate to the specific team of their choice, with all the proceeds going to programs run directly by Movember, as well as the Prostate Cancer Foundation and Livestrong, the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

Cuebas started participating in the Movember campaign at SUNY Cortland, where he served as a player and a coach. His current players loved the idea from the start.

"You get the couple of guys who are hesitant at first and usually those are the guys who struggle to grow facial hair, but it's all about having fun," said Cuebas.

Besides the fun, it's also about the money that



Diver Raphael Spiro was one of several students to grow moustaches.

Photo by Christina Santucci

you raise. The team set a goal of \$1,000 and they reached that goal on the last day of the month.

On Nov. 30, the Knights took on SUNY Maritime at Fitzgerald Natatorium in a contest they lost 160-116. The crowd in attendance showed their support by donning mustaches, both real and fake. This was also the day that the team took their first full shave in over a month.

One of the "Mo Bros." who participated in the event was senior swimmer Joseph Perna. He happened to be one of the Bros. who had no problem with grow-

ing out his facial hair. He settled on the handle bar, Fu Manchu style that he claimed gave him a "70s look."

The particular style generated some attention on the Queens College campus, but Perna used that to his advantage, pointing out the true meaning of his unorthodox fashion.

"People were looking at me like what's with the beard? What are you doing? I'm like, it's Movember, if you want to donate. I tell them the information about it," said Perna.

The Mo Bros. were not alone in their efforts. The

women's swimming and diving team, known as "Mo Sistas," also were involved in the fund-raising. Lacking the facial hair to promote, they sent out e-mails and letters. The donations came in from an assortment of different funds, which included friends, family, players and faculty.

It was a unique experience for the women's team senior captain, Angela Parra.

"We always do breast cancer, something for the girls ... so it was a cool idea, something we had never done," said Parra.

Continued on Page 60

Continued on Page 60

Bayside's Glazer tops Qns. girls soccer players

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Queens was back in a big way this year. Staten Island has been known for its dominance of the girls' soccer world, but Queens is closing in fast.

Christ the King won its first Catholic High School Athletic Association Brooklyn/Queens title, beating out Mary Louis in the process.

Over the PSAL, Francis Lewis and Bayside both reached the Class A semifinals. The Commodores and star D.J. Glazer put together one of the best seasons in program history. So did Long Island City, which reached the PSAL quarterfinals for the first time in school history and St. John's Prep won the inaugural Brooklyn/Queens 'A' crown.

With teams like St. Francis Prep and Molloy also in the borough, expect these kinds of accomplishments to keep flowing in.



Bayside's D.J. Glazer (r.) in the New York Post's All-Queens Player of the Year.

Photo by Philip Hall

All-Queens girls' soccer Player of the Year: D.J. Glazer, Bayside

The junior's first full high school season was a memorable one. Glazer shined in the biggest moments. She led Bayside to

its first PSAL Queens A-IV title since 2008 and a trip to the Class A semifinals. She netted 59 goals and had five assists, including the time-liest of the season. Glazer twice produced the tying goal in the final three min-

utes to earn ties with rival Francis Lewis. In the post season, even when teams tried to take her away, Glazer made them pay on set pieces. She recorded a hat trick in a quarterfinal win against LaGuardia. Glazer

had the tying goal late in regulation and the winner on a 15-yard free kick in the second overtime.

All-Queens girls' soccer Coach of the Year: John Fayad, Christ the King

It was the season Fayad and the Royals had waited and worked for. The CK coach has watched his players, his team and his program develop into one of the city's best, but there was no title to show for it until now. Fayad and the senior group that helped put things on an upswing won the Brooklyn/Queens regular season crown and rallied in dramatic fashion to beat Mary Louis for the program's first-ever diocesan title. It is Fayad's passion for this team and immense confidence in them that helped them believe this was possible.

FIRST TEAM

F Wendy Avendano, St. Francis Prep

If the Terriers were putting the ball in the back of the net Avendano, who had the lone goal in a win over St. John the Baptist, was usually a part of it in some way. The senior was nearly automatic from 18 feet and in, whether it was a perfectly placed kick or a timely header in one of the toughest leagues in the area.

F Therese Boyle, Mary Louis

The explosive forward was a few minutes away from leading the Hilltoppers to a CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens title with a gorgeous strike. It was nearly impossible to keep her off the scoreboard as Fontbonne Hall learned in the semifinals when she recorded a hat trick in a 3-2 win.

GK Julia Bernhardt, Francis Lewis

The senior has been one of the city's top keep-

Continued on Page 60

CK does not disappoint at kickoff against Orange Wave

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Christ the King was down seven points, Thomas Jefferson's tiny inferno of a gymnasium was rocking and Joe Arbitello couldn't have been happier.

This was exactly what the Royals coach imagined Saturday when he scheduled a visit to the rugged Public Schools Athletic League powerhouse to kick off the basketball season.

"It was good they had to come out there and fight and battle and see how good they are," said Arbitello, who noted it was the first road game in a PSAL gym for the Queens school since 1978.

Christ the King got the answer it was looking for. It responded to the adversity as Arbitello hoped — by punching back — and went on to an impressive 92-81 victory in East New York. UConn-bound senior Omar Calhoun led the junior-heavy Royals with 25 points, 11 rebounds and four assists, but got plenty of help from backcourt mates Jon Severe (22 points) and Isaiah Lewis (17).

The three had their way with the young Orange Wave, scoring on a variety of dazzling drives to the basket and long jump shots after beating Jefferson's press.

"There aren't three guards better than



Christ the King's Omar Calhoun scored 25 points in the Royals' 92-81 victory over Thomas Jefferson.

Photo by Denis Gostev

those three guards in the city," Jefferson Coach Lawrence "Bud" Pollard said.

The game turned late in the first half, with Christ the King closing on a 17-8 run behind six points from Severe. CK (1-0) got out of the gate in the third quarter just as fast, scoring 20 of the game's next 24 points that was capped by Lewis' running one-hander along the baseline.

"Coach told us at half time that they played their best basketball and we were up by two still," Calhoun said. "So all we had to do is come out in the third quarter, come out firing hot and expand the lead and from there they wouldn't be able to come back."

Tiring of seeing Jefferson's small but elusive guards find their way into the paint, Arbitello switched to zone and the undersized Orange Wave, without sharp-shooter Thaddeus Hall, went cold from the perimeter and were stifled by the Royals' size, notably Jordan Fuchs (11 points, 10 rebounds and six assists) and Marthely Senat (16 rebounds).

"Thaddeus could've shot them out of the zone," Pollard lamented. "The zone hurt us a little bit. It slowed the game down. It was definitely to their advantage."

Junior Jaquan Lynch (29 points) nearly shot the Brooklyn school back into the

game, hitting consecutive three-pointers to trim the deficit to seven at one point before Calhoun responded with the dagger, a deep 3 of his own to push the lead back to 10 with 4:59 left. Lewis followed and Severe added a layup and a pair of free throws to put the game out of reach.

"It's great to start the season like this," Calhoun said. "All we can do is get better."

It also put to rest the notion one ball isn't enough for the loaded three-man backcourt of Calhoun, Lewis and Severe. Severe said he's heard the entire preseason about it, how there would be problems. It wasn't an issue against Jefferson.

"It's not like that," he said. "We have to play together to win."

There were plenty of areas of improvement — such as free-throw shooting, defense and ball protection — Arbitello singled out afterward. One area he was extremely pleased with.

"You can't teach heart," the coach said. "That part we have down."

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CK alumni bring wisdom to bench

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Two of the best players ever to walk through the doors of Christ the King are back at the school this year as coaches.

Erick Barkley and Khalid Reeves, both former first-round picks in the NBA draft, will be on the bench for head Coach Joe Arbitello and the Royals, who are trying to win a third straight Catholic High School Athletic Association Class AA inter-sectional title.

“With them being McDonald’s All-Americans and being in the NBA, things they say we’re gonna listen — point blank, period,” Christ the King star junior guard Isaiah Lewis said. “They’ve accomplished things we’ve dreamed about.”

Lewis said he’s been compared to Barkley, who led St. John’s to the Elite Eight, and the former Portland Trailblazer is teaching him how to become more of a point guard rather than just a scorer. Barkley has been working with him and UConn-bound shooting guard Omar Calhoun, while Reeves is taking juniors Jon Severe and Jordan Fuchs under his wing.

All four players are high Division I talents — like Barkley and Reeves, who played at Arizona and with six NBA teams in six years in the league.

“They don’t say much yet, but when they say something it’s like Einstein spoke,” said Arbitello, who had another CK legend, Derrick Phelps, on his staff two years ago. He’s now an assistant at Monmouth. “They’ll say one or two things that just open your mind to something you haven’t even been thinking about.”

Barkley was a player-coach last year in Canada and hopes to one day coach at the college level. He played with Arbitello at Christ the King in the 1990s on a team that also featured Lamar Odom and Speedy Claxton.

“It’s excellent,” Barkley, 33, said of his experience back at his alma mater. “I’m actually happy more as a coach than as a player.”

Reeves, 39, retired two years ago from pro basketball after playing most recently in Costa Rica. He doesn’t have the coaching ambitions of Barkley; he’s happy at Christ the King.

I just love coaching the kids how to play and being around the kids and my old school.

Khalid Reeves

Former NBA draft pick

“This is where I want to be,” Reeves said. “I just love teaching the kids how to play and being around the kids and my old school. It’s a great atmosphere to play basketball.”

Arbitello couldn’t be happier to have the two on staff, not just because of their basketball credentials, but because they’re both upstanding citizens.

“There’s a lot of nonsense that’s involved with basketball,” Arbitello said. “They both played at the highest level and they can tell these guys who to stay away from, what to stay away from. They have a frame of reference.”

Stanners led by Gallagher

59

NE

Junior plays through foot injury to secure victory over Spotswood

BY MIKE SMOLLINS

Nothing could stop Archbishop Molloy’s Carolyn Gallagher — not even a foot injury.

Despite missing nearly an entire quarter, the junior still led the Stanners with 19 points in their 50-40 victory over Spotswood (Va.) at the third annual Under Armour Girls High School Basketball Classic Saturday morning at St. John the Baptist in West Islip, L.I.

“I think we all played really well,” said Gallagher. “We were playing a really good team and I’m just proud we played our hardest. We came out in the beginning and played our best.”

Gallagher took the event to showcase her leadership skills. Seconds after scoring on a jump shot, Gallagher went up for a rebound and lost her balance, rolling her left ankle midway through the third quarter.

“I went up for a rebound and I landed badly on my left foot,” Gallagher said. “It’s not that bad, but it just hurts a little bit.”

The injury didn’t keep her sidelined for too long as she returned with a little over two minutes left in the fourth. Gallagher didn’t miss a step as she put up five points in that span.

Molloy took the lead early. With 4:25 remaining in the first quarter, Kamille Ejerta’s three-pointer gave the Stanners a 9-8 edge. Molloy would never trail again.

Ejerta’s presence was felt throughout the game as she hit three three-pointers and scored 13 points.

Molloy (2-0) dominated the second quarter, only allowing four points from Spotswood and taking a 31-



Molloy’s Carolyn Gallagher had 19 points against Spotswood (Va.).

Photo by An Rong Xu

16 halftime lead.

“I feel good about the win,” Molloy first-year Coach Scott Lagas said. “I feel better about where we are with our energy and our enthusiasm. Being a new coach with a new system has been a little bit of an adjustment for everyone, but we’re starting to build and get it.”

Spotswood went on a 6-0 and later a 7-0 run in the third quarter, but Molloy was able to respond without giving up the lead. The Stanners would then fend

off Spotswood in the fourth to pull away with the victory.

“From the very first day that I’ve been here we’ve pushed hard and talked about mental toughness,” Lagas said. “I contribute a lot of today’s success to their mental toughness. They work hard at practice every day and even when [Spotswood] made their run we were able to stop them. I’ve been blessed to get this job and have a player like Carolyn. She stepped up as a leader.”

Even though it wasn’t a league game, Molloy, which won the New York Federation Class A title last year, knows it beat a team that has gone to the state final the previous two years and also posted a 48-8 record while doing so.

“It’s a really big confidence booster for us,” Gallagher said. “We just set the bar for our team going forward and that’s how we’re going to need to play every single game, especially in league games.”

TIMESLEDGER, Dec. 8-14, 2011

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Boys soccer

Continued from Page 1

from St. John's, Clemson and Penn State. "Your job is just to finish the play."

Coach Roger Sarmuksnis has called Bedoya one of the top players he's ever coached, right up there with Sebastian Guenzatti, Chris Herrera and John Koutsounadis. His play this fall proved, perhaps, that he belongs in his own category.

All-Queens boys' soccer Coach of the Year: Franco Purificato, St. Francis Prep

Just about every year St. Francis Prep is considered one of the favorites to win the CHSAA Class AA intersectional title. Yet the Terriers have struggled in big games. Until this year. Purificato had the league's best team, but also pressed all the right buttons and put his players in the best position to succeed. He guided SFP to its first city title since 2006 while juggling the birth of his daughter Carolina.

FIRST TEAM

M Peyton Atteloney, Christ the King

The senior was a rock late in the season when moved into more of a defensive midfield role by coach Ovid Cusu. Atteloney was a tremendous facilitator and ball winner in the middle of the field to lead Christ the King to its first-ever CHSAA Class AA intersectional semifinals.

F Jason Gonzalez, St. Francis Prep

No one had a better postseason in the entire CHSAA than Gonzalez. He scored in the Class AA intersectional quarterfinals, the semifinals and had the game-winning goal against Fordham Prep in the final to give St. Francis Prep its first city title since 2006.

F Sebastian Choin-ski, Aviation

The Flyers enjoyed their best season in over a half decade, winning Queens A West and reaching the PSAL Class A semifinals. The emergence of the heady striker was one of the major reasons for the memorable season, the senior accounting for 13 goals and 12 assists and getting better as the year progressed.

F Nick Matusewicz, Archbishop Molloy

Whenever Molloy needed a big goal, he provided it. The athletic junior forward had the game-sealing tally in a 3-2 win over Holy Cross in the CHSAA Class AA intersectional quarterfinals and had his team's lone goal in a 1-1 tie with eventual champ St. Francis Prep in the regular season.

D Christian Molano, St. Francis Prep

An absolute dynamo in the back, Molano was the biggest reason St. Francis Prep was so stingy en route to a first CHSAA Class AA intersectional title since 2006. Perhaps the senior's best performance came in the regular season when he shut down Iona Prep's Marist-bound striker Cesar

Ceja in an SFP win.

M Santiago Moore, Bayside

If not for a knee injury, there is no telling how far Bayside could've gone with the playmaking midfielder who scored 17 goals and added 15 assists before going down in the second round of the playoffs. One of the top talents in the city, the big-footed Moore's future is bright.

D Jack Moravek, Archbishop Molloy

Big, physical and athletic, it was a challenge for any forward going up against one of Molloy's senior captains. Moravek was a vital part of Molloy's leadership as it advanced to the CHSAA Class AA intersectional semifinals in the face of tragedy when junior Justin Thompson was shot and paralyzed.

M Chris Joseph, St. Francis Prep

With a never-ending spark, Joseph seemed to be in the thick of every big St. Francis Prep goal. The super-quick senior midfielder wasn't only a leader, he was also one of the most dynamic players in New York City with the ball at his feet.

F Kenny Redzematovic, St. Francis Prep

The big, athletic striker was a force with his head or his leg anywhere near the opposition's goal. He scored once in the CHSAA Class AA intersectional semifinals against Christ the King and was always a threat as St. Francis Prep won its first city title since 2006.

GK Constantine Pouiouklidis, Bayside

Without star midfield-

er Santiago Moore gone for much of the playoffs, the onus was on the Bayside back line and was phenomenal, leading the Commodores to back-to-back playoff wins in penalty kicks and the first semifinal berth of Coach Joe Corrado's tenure. Though the Queens power returns several pieces, it loses Pouiouklidis, who will be basically impossible to replace.

F Yiming Yang, Francis Lewis

Big, strong, fast and at his best in the penalty area on headers, the junior striker emerged as a lethal weapon for Lewis, scoring 14 goals and adding five assists. Though the Patriots lose plenty, Yang is back and should be even tougher to handle as his improvement continues.

HONORABLE MENTION

D Danny Babar, Bayside

F Daniel Castro, Francis Lewis

M Calogero Curcuru, Christ the King

F Robbie Lago, Holy Cross

M Angelo Luongo, Archbishop Molloy

M Eric Mirkov, St. Francis Prep

D Sebastian Morales, Christ the King

F Sal Pipia, Monsignor McClancy

M Kiyo Scott, John Adams

D Ryan Winters, Archbishop Molloy

F Shokhrukhm Zakhidjonov, Forest Hills

Glazer

Continued from Page 2

ers since she started and this year was no different. The athletic Bernhardt made game-saving stops in the second round and quarterfinals, including a diving save on MSIT star Jackie Bruno. Lewis made the PSAL semifinals for the second time in four seasons.

F Casey Collins, Archbishop Molloy

Collins has quietly gone about the business of scoring goals the last two seasons. The senior scored twice, including the game-winner, in a comeback victory over rival St. Francis Prep. She brought a toughness and leadership to the field every time she stepped on it.

GK Kristen Drogslers, Christ the King

If there is a player the Royals have to thank for their most successful season in program history, it's their sophomore goalie. Drogslers made three saves, including one of the punch variety, in the final 3:50 to preserve CK's win over Mary Louis in final after frustrating the Hilltoppers all season.

M Geraldine Huisa, Long Island City

The junior provided exactly the balance, skill and leadership Long Island City needed. She had 20 goals and 22 assists to help lead the Bulldogs to their first-ever quarterfinal appearance. Huisa scored twice in a second-round win over Susan Wagner and had two assists in a near-upset of Bronx Science.

D Aimée Kasmally, St. Francis Prep

It will be hard to find a better sweeper in the five boroughs. The strong, athletic and extremely smart Kasmally helped the Terriers hang right with some of the top teams in CHSAA Nassau/Suffolk. She can angle a would-be scorer away from the goal or come out of nowhere for an important stop.

M Gena Koutsounadis, Francis Lewis

Patriots Coach Jeovani Paredes understood just

how special Koutsounadis (11 goals, five assists) was, telling his team she would find a way to send them to the semifinals. The senior netted a second half penalty kick to do just that. She was the engine to a Lewis team that struggled to create offense if she wasn't involved.

M Deirdre Ray, Mary Louis

Everyone on the field knew Ray at some point was going to try to dribble her way to a goal and few could stop it. The senior formed a dangerous tandem with Therese Boyle. She fell a few inches short of completing a near heroic rally with an injured ankle in the final.

F Fabiana Rebecca, Christ the King

A knee injury limited her early, but once the speedy Rebecca got going, she was a huge factor in the Royals winning their first CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens title. The senior outran the defense to net the tying goal in the final after Mary Louis had just taken the lead. Rebecca had 16 goals and eight assists.

M Christina Viaggio, Christ the King

With Fabiana Rebecca slowed in the early season, Viaggio carried the load valiantly. The strong-footed senior scored 16 of her 23 goals in the first six games. Viaggio also dished out 10 assists, two of which came in the CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens final.

HONORABLE MENTION

F Alison Dowdle, Long Island City

M Lina Dominguez, Forest Hills

M Vanessa Giraldo, Bayside

D Valerie James, Francis Lewis

M Jessie Jamin, Archbishop Molloy

F Olivia McFadden, Townsend Harris

M Katlyn Merino, Benjamin Cardozo

D Deirdre Munday, Mary Louis

GK Ashley Rivera, St. John's Prep

M Flavia Santana, Arts & Business

M Daniella Valencia, Bayside

Easy #41								
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4	3	8	2	7	6	1	5	9
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3	6	5	7	9	1	4	8	2
9	4	1	8	6	2	7	3	5
5	7	3	6	2	4	8	9	1
8	1	4	3	5	9	6	2	7
6	2	9	1	8	7	5	4	3

Week 49

Hard #41								
8	2	9	7	6	3	5	4	1
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7	1	6	4	8	2	3	9	5
5	4	2	9	3	1	7	8	6
2	5	7	3	4	9	6	1	8
6	9	3	2	1	8	4	5	7
1	8	4	6	5	7	2	3	9

Knights

Continued from Page 1

Cuebas praised his team and all those involved for coming together on a special occasion. He spoke about his experience so far with Queens College.

"[It has been] extremely positive, a great bunch of guys from a lot of different backgrounds, whether it's culturally or religiously," said Cuebas. "It's a lot of adjusting, compromising, learning the players and they're learning me at the same time."

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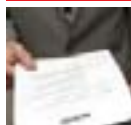
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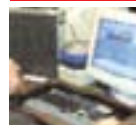
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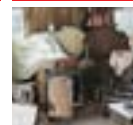
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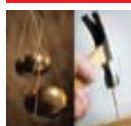
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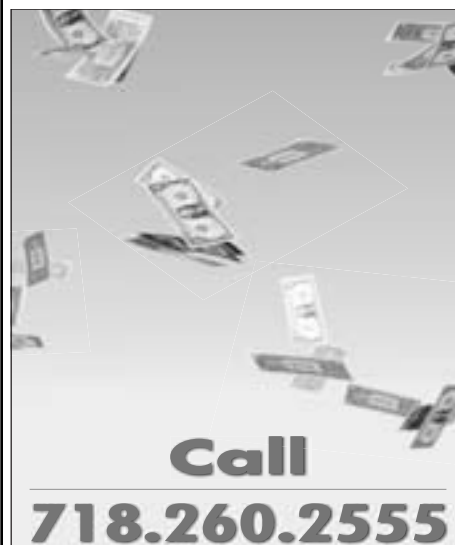
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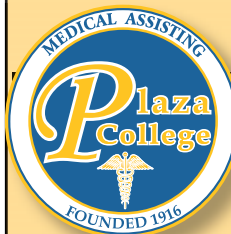
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1919 BLEECKER LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 9/1/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Marek Gumieniak, 60-48 56th St., Maspeth, NY 11378. General Purposes.

32-26 97th Street LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/29/11. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Roy D. McFarlane, 25-76 99th St, East Elmhurst, NY 11369. Purpose: General.

COOPER SQUARE VENTURES LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/5/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 106-16 Jamaica Ave., Queens, NY 11418. General Purposes.

JLR Johnson Ave., LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/21/04. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 213-19 99th Ave, Queens Village, NY 11429. Purpose: General.

Notice of formation of Arcabascio Real Property Holding Co LLC Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 10/20/2011. Office located in Queens: SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC 40-12 67th Street Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of DARJESS EDGE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY)

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on 11/23/11. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: 42-09 235th St., 2nd Fl., Douglaston, NY 11363. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of EIFEL RESORT & CONVENTION, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/08/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: THE LLC 41-40 UNION ST. SUITE 15W FLUSHING, NY 11355. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Kin Lai LLC. Art. of Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/3/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY Designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 76-07 270th Street, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: YWL & Company LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/05/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: HIGH STREET INTERNATIONAL INC 5110 VAN HORN ST. ELMHURST, NY 11373. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: AXION NYC REALTY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/12/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated

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as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 39-05 27TH STREET SUITE 1S LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: UNION CENTURY LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/25/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 4007 149th Street, Flushing, New York 11354. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of LM Little Hands LLC Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 01/05/2011. Office located in Queens: SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC 25-54 73rd St., Jackson Heights, NY 11370. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of RAYO TURKUM MEDIA GROUP LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/09/11. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: c/o Mel Anda, Unique Settings of New York, 3100 47th Ave., 2nd Fl., Long Island City, NY 11101. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Roll-N-Smoke Tobacco Outlet NY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 10/06/2011. Office located in Queens County. SSNY has been

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designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC at 206-20 45 Drive Bayside, NY 11361. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Qualification of LBPR SERVICES, LLC. App. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/13/11. Office location: Queens County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 10/6/11. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Nelson Management Group Ltd., 118-35 Queens Blvd., 14th Fl., Forest Hills, NY 11375. DE address of LLC: c/o The Corporation Trust Company, 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, Townsend Bldg., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Qualification of NRG Maintenance Services LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 11/14/11. Office location: Queens County. Princ. bus. addr.: 211 Carnegie Ctr., Princeton, NJ 08540. LLC formed in DE on 12/21/06. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: c/o The Corporation Trust Co., 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, Townsend Bldg., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

XI QUE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 09/12/11. Off. Loc.: Queens Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 7 Greenway North, Forest Hills, NY 11375. General Purposes.

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Notice of Qualification of OP EVE 2 LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/07/11. Office location: Queens County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 04/01/09. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State, DE, DE Div. of Corps., 401 Federal St. - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

TREASURE FORTUNE, LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/2/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 131-08 40th Rd., Flushing, NY 11355. General Purposes.

Notice of Formation of Cynthia Tsen, DDS, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/27/09. Office location: Queens County. Princ. bus. addr.: 85-27 Broadway, Elmhurst, NY 11373. Sec. of State designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: practice dentistry.

Notice is hereby given that a license, number 1258812 has been applied for by Safari Beach Club LLC. d/b/a Safari Beach Club to sell wine, beer and liquor at retail in a restaurant. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 40-05 Bell Blvd Bayside, N.Y. 11361.

NOTICE OF SALE JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, in accordance with its rights as current secured party, will conduct a public sale of se-

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curity: the proprietary lease and 851 shares of stock of OAKWOOD NORTH AND SOUTH OWNERS CORP. Said security is appurtenant to premises: located at 108-49 63RD AVE, Unit 4N, FOREST HILLS, NY 11375. Said sale includes the fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said premises. The sale shall be on December 16th, 2011 at 10:15AM on the front steps of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Queens, located at 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11435. The secured party reserves the right to bid. The secured party makes no representations or warranties as to the title or premises being sold herein.

The sale is subject to any conditions of transfer set by the cooperative corporation or its board, and subject to any tenants or occupants of the subject premises and the Terms of Sale to be read at the sale. Victor Rawner, Auctioneer, License # 1224356 ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Secured Party Fishkill Office 2 Summit Court Suite 301 Fishkill, NY 12524 845.897.1600

NOTICE OF SALE JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, in accordance with its rights as current secured party, will conduct a public sale of security: the proprietary lease and 220 shares of stock of 83-84 116th Owners Corp. Said security is appurtenant to premises: located at 83-84 116TH STREET, Apt. 2K, RICHMOND HILL, NY 11418. Said sale includes the fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said premises. The sale shall be on December 16, 2011 at 10:30 AM at on the front steps of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Queens,

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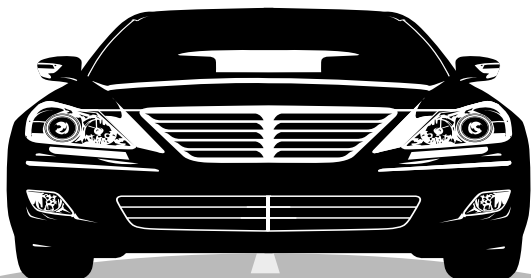
The sale is subject to any conditions of transfer set by the cooperative corporation or its board, and subject to any tenants or occupants of the subject premises and the Terms of Sale to be read at the sale. Victor Rawner, Auctioneer, License # 1224356 ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Secured Party Fishkill Office 2 Summit Court Suite 301 Fishkill, NY 12524 845.897.1600

NOTICE OF SALE JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, in accordance with its rights as current secured party, will conduct a public sale of security: the proprietary lease and 79 shares of stock of Dorie Miller Housing Co., Inc. Said security is appurtenant to premises: located at 112-19 34TH AVE, unit 5B, CORONA, NY 11368. Said sale includes the fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said premises. The sale shall be on December 16th, 2011 at 10:45AM on the front steps of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Queens, located at 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11435. The secured party reserves the right to bid. The secured party makes no representations or warranties as to the title or premises being sold herein.

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NOTICE OF SALE Washington Mutual Bank, FA now backed by J.P.Morgan Chase, in accordance with its rights as current secured party, will conduct a public sale of security: the proprietary lease and 159 shares of stock of SHERWOOD APARTMENT OWNERS CORP. Said security is appurtenant to premises: located at 64-41 SAUNDERS ST. Apt. 615, REGO PARK, NY 11374. Said sale includes the fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said premises. The sale shall be on December 16th, 2011 at 10:00AM on the front steps of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Queens, located at 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11435. The secured party reserves the right to bid. The secured party makes no representations or warranties as to the title or premises being sold herein.



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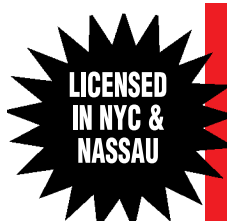


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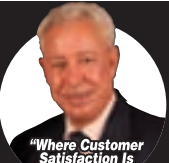
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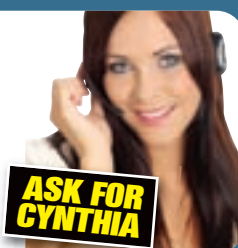
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