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Feb. 2-8, 2012

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Pressure builds to cut 109th Precinct in half

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QGuide Page 23



Redistricting map release roils borough

BY JOE ANUTA

The proposal for new state Senate and Assembly districts is out and Queens could see drastic changes.

State Sens. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone) and Tony Avella (D-Bayside) would be forced to run against each other in an upcoming election.

Along with Stavisky's district, that of state Assemblyman Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows) would contain a majority of Asian residents.

Lancman praised the new lines, but state Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) vowed to testify against them.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo called the lines "hyper-partisan" and planned to veto them. A public hearing in Queens is set for Tuesday.

Halloran opposes outside billing



Andrew Rocco (l.), president of the College Point Civic Association, shakes hands with Steve Larkin, vice president of the Flushing chapter of the United Postal Workers Union, during a news conference to denounce water and property bills being sent out of state. Postal worker Dennis Spriggs (l.-r.), Councilman Dan Halloran, Assemblyman David Weprin and postal worker George Wilson surround them.

Photo by Christina Santucci

City agencies ask residents to send checks to NJ, Pa.

BY REBECCA HENELY

City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone) slammed the city Department of Finance and Water Board Sunday for maintaining post office boxes for residents' property tax and water bill payments outside the state, but both agencies said the boxes' locations were decided by the financial institutions that process the bills.

"The message is that you can't do business in New York City," Halloran said.

The councilman held a news conference at the U.S. Postal Service's sorting facility, at 20th Avenue and Whitestone Expressway, with state Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) and postal service union workers to protest Finance asking residents to send

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Split up 109th Pct: Avella

Senator, civics say Flushing headquarters' command is too large

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Civic leaders from northern and eastern Queens, who have maintained for years that their police forces have been stretched too thin, gathered last week to show their support for a state legislative effort to split both the 105th and 109th precincts in half.

"People in the 109th and 105th feel that because of the population and the size of their precincts, they're not getting the police coverage they deserve," said state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside), who stood in his Bayside office with state Assemblyman Ed Braunstein (D-Bayside) and representatives from about a dozen civics to announce he had introduced legislation to split the precincts.

The 109th Precinct covers downtown Flushing, East Flushing, Queensboro Hill, College Point, Malba, Whitestone, Beechhurst and Bay Terrace, while the 105th covers Queens Village, Cambria Heights, Laurelton, Rosedale, Springfield Gardens, Bellerose, Glen Oaks, New Hyde Park and Floral Park.

"The 109th has a population density larger than both the 103rd and the 113th precincts combined, while the 105th is responsible for patrolling an area that encompasses nearly twice the square mileage of the 100th and 101st precincts," he said.



Sen. Tony Avella (r.) discusses legislation he introduced to split both the 105th and 109th precincts into two as state Committeeman Matthew Silverstein (l.-r.), Assemblyman Ed Braunstein, Warren Schreiber and Bob Friedrich look on.

Photo by Rich Bockmann

Elected officials and residents alike stressed that they were not criticizing their police and offered anecdotal stories about poor response times they said highlight how their precincts have too much to cover.

Warren Schreiber, president of the Bay Terrace Civic Association, said he was told that if police were responding to his neighborhood from the 111th headquarters in Bayside rather than from the 109th's in downtown Flushing, response times could be cut by 90 seconds or more.

"That may not seem like a long time," he said, "but that could be the dif-

ference between life and death."

Bob Friedrich, president of the Glen Oaks Village co-op, said that during rush hour it can take police up to an hour and a half to drive from the station in the north to the other end of the 105th in the south..

Avella said he had undertaken this issue when he was a city councilman and was told by Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Ray Kelly that the funding to build and staff two additional police headquarters was not available.

To that end, he criticized Bloomberg and Kelly for building a \$1 billion-plus police academy in Col-

lege Point and adding extra costs by relocating the police museum from downtown Manhattan and building a special residence for visiting dignitaries when they could be boarded at Fort Totten. He estimated the cost of two new precinct headquarters at \$20 million to \$30 million.

The mayor's office referred requests for comment to the NYPD, which did not respond.

Avella said he would attempt to find funding from Albany and would work with the city on a possible matching program. The state legislation would require a home rule law, which would then go to the Council for a vote.

Flushing Chamber will close its doors

BY JOE ANUTA

The Flushing Chamber of Commerce and Business Association announced last week it will dissolve after decades of operating in the community.

Myra Baird Herce, co-president of the association, made the announcement Friday, citing the changing demographics of the Flushing area and the emergence of a host of new business organizations that cater to the community.

"It is like the end of an era for this group," Herce said. "But it was time to move on."

The chamber was first established in 1928, and advocated on behalf of the business community to promote economic development in the neighborhood, according to Herce.

The chamber has pushed for the restoration of the RKO Keith's Theatre on Main Street in downtown as well as the transformation of Municipal Parking Lot No. 1 into some sort of commercial center.

"We thought these would bring in jobs and put a different spin in the area," she said.

Yet the projects, undertaken by private developers, have had difficulty getting off the ground.

The theater was recently cleared for construction after the federal government held up the project due to height restrictions near LaGuardia Airport, and a plan for a \$850 million project on the site of the parking lot has not yet broken ground due to funding issues.

In addition, the chamber advocated for the redevelopment of the Willets Point area near Citi Field, which is currently mired in controversy regarding the eminent domain process.

While issues with the projects have been ongoing, in recent years the chamber has been sapped of its core strength.

The other two co-presidents had left the chamber: Jack Hogan died about

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Myra Baird Herce announced last week that the Flushing Chamber of Commerce would officially dissolve.

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Taste of Bayside brings savory samples to Bell Blvd.

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WT

Annual event introduces longtime staples and relative newcomers to NE Queens restaurant scene

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Sensuous flavors, enticing aromas and a jovial atmosphere combined to transform the ballroom at the Adria Hotel last week into one of the most eclectic restaurants in town at this year's Taste of Bayside.

The Jan. 25 feast provided a dozen or so eateries with the opportunity to promote their signature dishes and gave hundreds of hungry epicureans the chance to nosh — at a bargain price — on casual cuisine, fine dining fare, elaborate desserts and no less than four different varieties of sliders.

"This is a great event. It introduces us to new people who have never heard of us and gives us the chance to reach out to our existing clientele," said Dominick Brucoleri, owner of Pa-

pazzio restaurant.

Brucoleri is not only the restaurateur of a 22-year stalwart of the Bayside dining scene, but also the chairman of the Bayside Business Association's Taste of Bayside Committee.

"The businesses that have been around for years draw people in, and that helps introduce people to new businesses," he said.

The restaurant's dishes, like the Tuscan chicken with sausage, onions and peppers in a light garlic sauce over a bed of fettuccine, were favorites with a number of attendees.

"For the second year in a row, Papazzio had the best food," said state Assemblyman Ed Braunstein (D-Bayside).

Bob Klein leapt out of his seat and yelled, "I got the best one!" when BBA



Steve (c.) and Beverly Veissy eye some chicken wings at Javier Lorenzo's (l.) Local Bar and Grill table. Photo by Rich Bockmann

President Judy Limpert announced he had won a gift certificate to Papazzio. Klein said he eats at the restaurant about once a week.

Mario Palermo, co-owner of the Palermo Salumeria, at 33-35 Francis Lewis Blvd., said business was slow, so he was hoping the event would bring in more customers. He served an Italian pork sausage on

top of a rich garlic crostini.

In the back corner of the ballroom near the Tequila Sunrise table, the mariachi band Acapulco 90 provided an aural atmosphere in-between the restaurant's frozen margarita machine and one of the event's irresistible draws: the White Castle table.

The orange and blue boxes its famous slider

hamburgers were served in were ubiquitous on patrons' plates. The restaurant, on the corner of Northern and Bell boulevards, had prepared about 400 burgers, which employees could barely keep their table stocked with before people like John Brannan could snatch them up.

"They're so enticing!" the Baysider said as he finished his fast-food fare in a few bites. "The first one was highly anticipated."

Strawberry's Sports Bar and Grill in Douglaston offered up its take on the slider: a tangy pulled-pork sandwich, the sweet aroma of which hung around the restaurant's table.

Both Strawberry's and the Local Bar and Grill on Bell Boulevard are relative newcomers to the area cuisine scene. The latter offered teriyaki chicken

wings, shrimp ajilo and a crab cake slider.

"We're mostly a bar, but we're also a bar and grill," said Local co-owner Javier Lorenzo. "Hopefully, we'll attract some different age groups, not just young people drinking."

Andrea Sparacio attended with her husband, Phillip, and the Fresh Meadows resident said the best thing she tasted throughout the evening was the meatball slider from the Safari Beach Club table.

Tickets for the event were \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door.

"It's a good value for your money. It's a great date night," she said.

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

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BATTLE OVER NEW

Qns. residents slam Albany's plan

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

No matter how you slice it, the redistricting plan drawn up by a state task force last week was widely panned in Queens by critics who said the proposal breaks up communities and gerrymanders the lines.

Every 10 years, districts for state Senate, state Assembly and congressional lines are redrawn to reflect population changes recorded in the census.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has said he would veto any plan not conceived by an independent commission.

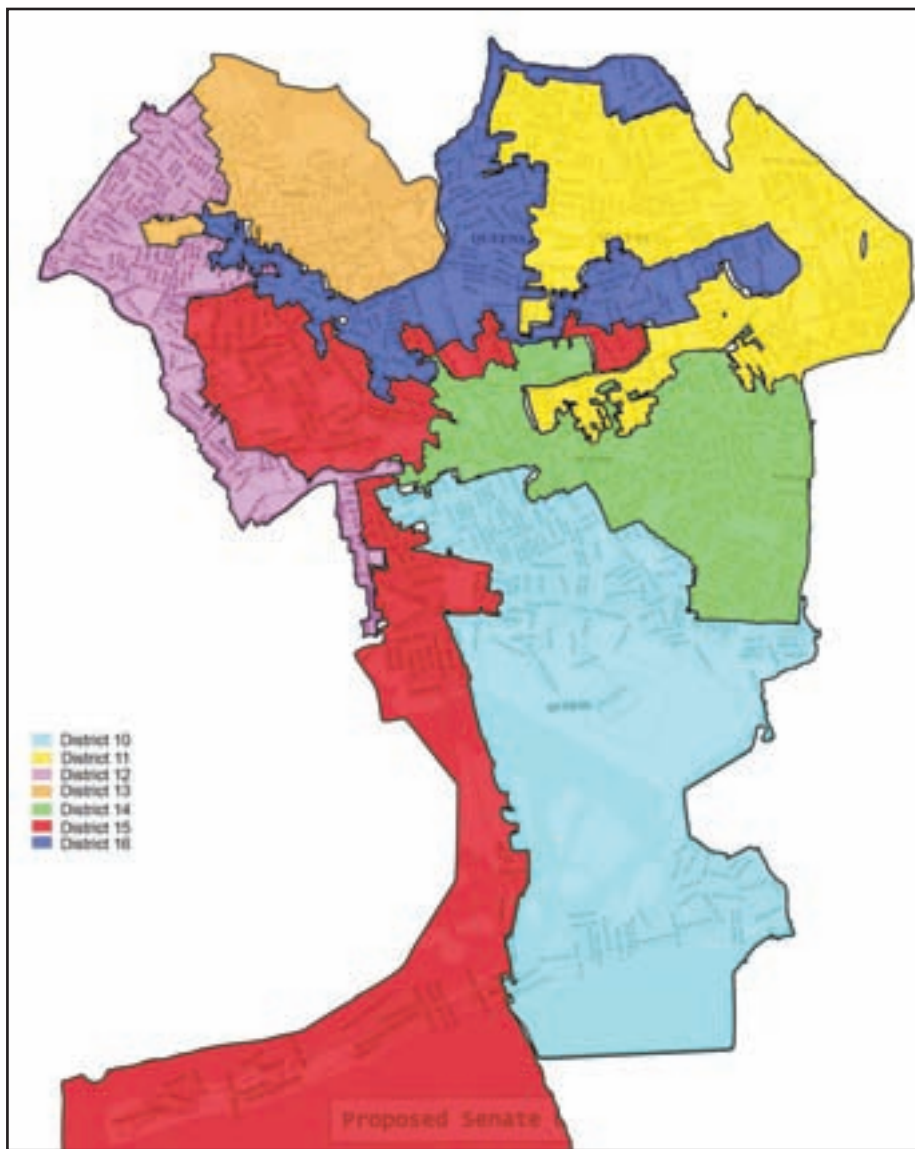
The lines were proposed by the state Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, a body comprised of elected officials and members of the public selected by elected officials.

Under the group's plan, Sens. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone) and Tony Avella (D-Bayside) would have to run against each other in a primary in one district and Sens. Jose Peralta (D-Corona) and Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria) would face off in another contest.

"I can't believe there are Democrats that would have to primary each other," said Sen. Shirley Huntley (D-Jamaica), whose southern Queens district would cut Broad Channel and sections of southeast Queens and add parts of the Rockaways if the plan is enacted.

The Woodhaven Residents' Block Association is against the plan because it would carve up the neighborhood among three different senators: Joseph Addabbo, Malcolm Smith and Shirtley Huntley.

"When it comes to the



A state task force proposes these state Senate districts for Queens, which has received wide criticism in the borough.

Senate lines, the people of Woodhaven are being treated as pawns in Albany's gerrymandering games," said Alexander Blenkinsopp, spokesman for the association.

Eastern Queens United, a group of a dozen civic associations, criticized the redistricting process for dividing communities.

The task force "has abdicated its responsibility to serve the needs of the community and instead has served the needs of

its politicians," said Bob Friedrich, president of the Glen Oaks Village co-op and founder of EQU. "The new legislative maps are an abomination and are gerrymandered to break up our communities that have simply asked to remain united."

Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck), who represents a portion of the area covered by Eastern Queens United, said he was against the task force's map.

"Northeast Queens is a special and distinct geographic region, whose residents and community leaders have voiced their desire to be kept together in a contiguous district rather than be divided," he said in a statement. "I look forward to offering testimony as part of [the task force's] public review process and for my constituents to do likewise in order to end with a map that truly represents the unique character

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Task force lines pit Avella vs. Stavisky

BY JOE ANUTA

After a state body released redrawn lines for New York's state Senate districts, cries of political gerrymandering were heard from northeast Queens all the way to Albany.

In particular, political sources pointed to the proposed districts of Sens. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone) and Tony Avella (D-Bayside), who would have to run against each other if the boundaries are adopted.

A state body called the Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment released redrawn political boundaries last week as part of a process that happens every 10 years to accommodate population growth.

Stavisky and Avella's districts — the 16th and 11th, respectively — were already some of the most gerrymandered seats in the state, according to the two lawmakers.

Avella's district is only contiguous during low tide, and a portion of Stavisky's district is the unpopulated Cross Island Parkway.

Neither Stavisky or Avella could be reached for comment on the plan.

The proposed lines, drawn by Senate Republicans, took Stavisky out of

her own district.

Every politician has to live, or at least spend a certain amount of time, at a residence in the district. Stavisky lists her address in Beechhurst, which would now lie in the same district as Avella under the proposed lines.

In the previous maps from 2002, the Beechhurst portion of District 16 already looked like a strange addition, an isolated lobe sticking out from the neighborhood of Bay Terrace. Even Stavisky has said the addition of Bay Terrace, which is thinly connected to the rest of the district by the Cross Island Parkway, smacked of gerrymandering.

A source knowledgeable about partisan politics said the Republicans might be trying to create as much infighting as possible in the Democratic Party ahead of the 2013 elections by pitting the likes of Avella and Stavisky in eastern Queens and Sens. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst) and Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria) in the west against each other.

The infighting could mean expensive primaries between Democrats at a time when Republicans enjoy a large fund-raising advantage statewide, the

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The proposed districts of state Sens. Toby Stavisky (l.) and Tony Avella. Stavisky's home was not included in her proposed district, meaning she would have to run against Avella.

DISTRICTS BEGINS

Reapportionment starts game of musical chairs

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

State Sens. Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach), Shirley Huntley (D-Jamaica) and Malcolm Smith (D-St. Albans) may need to sign up for dance lessons if newly proposed district maps are approved because they will be doing the shuffle.

"It looks like a switcheroo," Huntley said in a telephone interview Monday, comparing how the new lines give her parts of the Rockaways that are now Smith's constituents.

Under the redistricting proposal submitted by the state Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, the Rockaways would be split, with Addabbo's

district representing the western Rockaway neighborhoods, including Breezy Point and Rockaway Park, while Huntley would represent Arverne and Far Rockaway.

Senate, state Assembly and congressional lines are redrawn every 10 years to account for population changes recorded by the census.

Smith now represents the entire peninsula while the Rockaways is split in Congress between U.S. Rep. Bob Turner (R-Middle Village), who has the western part, and Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-St. Albans).

The task force's proposal would take away Lindenwood, Ozone Park, Woodhaven and Richmond Hill from Addabbo and give



The proposed lines for districts represented by state Sens. Shirley Huntley (l. to r.), Malcolm Smith and Joseph Addabbo are drastically different than what currently exists.

him part of the Rockaways, Fresh Meadows and Broad Channel.

If those changes go through, Addabbo's district would be more conservative because of Republican-

leaning areas in the Rockaways.

"It's absurd the Republicans are trying every which way to stay in power," said Addabbo, who beat

Serphin Maltese in 2008. "The voice of the people has totally been ignored in the process and that's a problem."

Both Addabbo and Huntley said they would

have preferred the Rockaways to be intact as the area is now. Addabbo represented part of the Rockaways in the City Council.

"I don't mind representing the Rockaways again — I find it intriguing — but I've held the position that communities should not be divided. I don't think Rockaway should have two state senators."

The Republican-led Senate drew up the lines for its own chamber while the Democratic Assembly did the same.

Huntley said her district and Smith's are both heavily Democratic and Republicans would have nothing to gain by tinkering with the lines in southeast Queens.

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Proposal turns Lancman seat into a majority Asian district

BY JOE ANUTA

Reactions were mixed after two state Assembly districts in eastern Queens were drastically changed last Thursday by a state panel in charge of redrawing political boundaries.

Assemblymen Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows) and David Weprin (D-Little Neck) saw their districts — the 25th and 24th, respectively — morph to include different neighborhoods throughout northeast Queens, with Lancman's being turned into a much-discussed majority Asian district.

Weprin vowed to testify against the current maps, calling his proposed district less cohesive, while



State Assemblyman Rory Lancman (l.) is pleased with the boundaries of his proposed district under redistricting, but Assemblyman David Weprin is not.

Lancman touted his proposed district as just the opposite.

The redistricting process happens every decade after the results of the U.S. census are made final. A state body made up of poli-

ticians and civilians, called the Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, adjusts political lines to accommodate for population increases.

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New western Queens districts create faux state Senate fight

BY REBECCA HENELY

The new proposed state Senate district lines would set Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria) against Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst), but the longtime friends say they have no plans to duke it out at the polls.

"This actually makes it very amusing," Peralta said.

Both senators characterized the new districts, drawn by Senate Republicans, as politically inspired. In the past, Gianaris' district, the 12th District, encompassed most of Astoria, Long Island City, Sunnyside and Woodside with a thin tentacle extending down to take in parts of Maspeth and Ridgewood.

Meanwhile, Peralta's 13th District mostly stayed within the area between the Grand Central Parkway and the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, encompassing East Elmhurst, Jackson Heights, Corona, most of Elmhurst and a part of Woodside.

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State Sens. Michael Gianaris and Jose Peralta have decried the proposed lines for their current districts, which would pit the two of them against each other.

Fewer pensions make retirement hard for New Yorkers: Study

City comptroller report says one-third of households may have to rely exclusively on Social Security

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

More and more New Yorkers cannot afford to retire and a principal reason is that dwindling numbers of people have pensions, according to a new study.

The report "Are New Yorkers Ready For Retirement?" is part of a research initiative by city Comptroller John Liu and the Schwartz Center for Economic Policy at The New School.

The report looks into whether city residents are financially prepared for their senior years.

"The answer increasingly is 'no,'" the survey said.

The study found that:

- Between 2000 and 2009, the percentage of employees in the city who had access to employer-

sponsored retirement plans declined from 48 percent to 40 percent — below the U.S. average of 53 percent in 2009.

- In 2009, only 35 percent of New York City workers were part of a retirement plan offered by employers.

- Overall, two-thirds of city workers — more than 2 million people in 2009 — did not take part in employee-sponsored retirement plans, largely because their employers did not offer one.

- More than one-third of city households in which the head is near retirement age (55-64) will have to subsist almost entirely on Social Security or will not be able to retire due to the fact that they have less than \$10,000 in savings.

"It is a significant pub-



City Comptroller John Liu (third from l.), shown here meeting with members and officers of the Myrtle Avenue BID in Ridgewood, says an increasing number of New Yorkers cannot afford to retire.

Photo by Howard Koplowitz

lic policy concern when such a high proportion of the workforce will not have enough money in their re-

tirement years," Liu said. "This report focuses attention on the need to help workers, both public and

private sector, properly prepare throughout their working careers for eventual retirement."

The report found that employers have become less willing or able to sponsor pensions — a trend that exists in most industries and occupations, which affects New Yorkers of nearly all ages and income groups.

"The brewing retirement crisis cuts across racial, ethnic and gender lines," the study reported.

"The deck is becoming increasingly stacked against New Yorkers in their efforts to retire," said Teresa Ghilarducci, director of the Schwartz Center. "More and more residents now face a choice between retirement into poverty or continuing to work in old age. Without significant policy reforms, the economic reforms tea leaves foretell a decrease in the standard of living for retired New Yorkers."

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POLICE Blotter

Senior citizen missing from doctor's office

FLUSHING — Police have asked for help in finding an elderly man who was last seen at a doctor's office on 38th Avenue near 138th Street.

Xiu Lan Shen, 83, who lives on Union Street near Cherry Avenue, was wearing a brown jacket, black sneakers and black pants

when he was last seen Monday.

Those with information should contact the NYPD's Crime Stoppers by phone at 1-800-577-TIPS, by its website at nypd-crimestoppers.com or by text at 274637 (CRIMES) and entering TIP577.



XIU LAN SHEN
Photo courtesy NYPD

Cops seek robber of Flushing Chase bank



FLUSHING — The NYPD is looking for a man suspected of robbing a Chase Bank in Flushing, authorities said.

A man wearing black clothing, whose picture was caught by a security camera, went into the bank, at 57-27 Main St., Jan. 20 at 5:22 p.m. and told a teller

there to give him money, police said. No one was injured, police said.

Those with information should contact the NYPD's Crime Stoppers by phone at 1-800-577-TIPS, by its website at nypd-crimestoppers.com or by text at 274637 (CRIMES) and entering TIP577.

Police suspect this man of robbing a Chase Bank in Flushing.
Image courtesy NYPD

Cops on the hunt for serial bank robber

Police were looking for a man suspected of robbing three banks in Queens and two in Brooklyn.

Authorities said a man, who originally hit two spots in Brooklyn Sept. 25 and Oct. 18, robbed an HSBC at 22-15 43rd Ave. in Long Island City, police said. The man entered the bank at 8:48 a.m. Dec. 7 and showed a firearm, police said. He shot a round into the ceiling and fled with cash, police said.

Next month, on Jan. 26, he entered a Sovereign Bank, at 75-15 31st Ave. in Jackson Heights, at about 9:41 a.m., put a firearm to an employee's back and fled with cash, police said.

The man's next crime was Jan. 28, when he entered a Chase Bank, at 205-19 Hillside Ave. in Douglaston, displayed a firearm



Police are seeking information about the whereabouts of a man who is suspected of robbing five banks. Images courtesy NYPD

and fled with cash, police said.

No one was injured in the robberies, police said.

The man is described as Hispanic, about 25 to 35 years old and about 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 8 inches tall. He has a mustache and a beard and was last seen wearing a green baseball

cap, dark sunglasses, a blue long-sleeve shirt, blue jeans and brown boots.

Those with information should contact the NYPD's Crime Stoppers by phone at 1-800-577-TIPS, by its website at nypd-crimestoppers.com or by text at 274637 (CRIMES) and entering TIP577.

GOP candidates learn ropes in Bayside class

BY REBECCA HENELY

To run as a viable Republican candidate in Queens, Bayside civic leader Vince Tabone said at a seminar Saturday that potential candidates not only need the GOP's support, but the support of other parties.

"That kind of coalition building is integral," Tabone said.

Tabone, who ran for the 26th state Assembly District in 2010 but lost to Assemblyman Edward Braunstein (D-Bayside), was one of several speakers at the Queens GOP's fourth annual candidate school.

The four-hour-long seminar at the Adria Hotel, at 220-33 Northern Blvd. in Bayside, discussed topics such as gathering candidate signatures, campaign financing and using social media.

"It's an opportunity for potential candidates and people to understand the process, to get some nuts-and-bolts information," said City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone).

The ratio of Democrats to Republicans in the borough is about six to one, according to statistics from the state Board of Elections. As of Nov. 1, Queens has 663,395 active registered Democrats and 128,011 active registered Republicans.

Queens GOP Chair-

man Phil Ragusa said the turnout of about 25 people at the school was good. He said the school not only helps potential candidates, but also the party.

"This is one of the processes that we use to get people interested in running for office," Ragusa said.

Tabone said in his talk on coalition building that the process of a candidate gathering signatures for a spot on the ballot can have many pitfalls and candidates can be rejected for a minor infraction, such as not filling out the cover sheet properly.

"The Democrats are going to throw you off the ballot if they can manage it," Tabone said.

He also said Republican candidates need to get the support of at least one-third of a party — like Conservative, Independence or Libertarian — to be viable, but the GOP also reviews candidates in advance and wants to ensure that the contenders will not run away from the party's platform after they are elected.

Robert Hornak, a former borough presidential candidate, said earning the party's support can help candidates not only in the election but in the primaries. Given the large size of Queens County, Republican candidates will face a lot of competition.



Maureen Daly attends the GOP workshop in Bayside.

Photo by Christina Santucci

Black History Month kickoff

Queens College events celebrate great African Americans

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

In celebration of Black History Month, Queens College in Flushing will be hosting a series of free cultural events commemorating African-American movers and shakers past and present in February.

Echoing this year's program theme—"The long struggle: Rising against oppression through education and culture, and building bridges for a brighter future"—these unique events will run from Feb. 6 through Feb. 29.

The college, at 65-30 Kissena Blvd., will jumpstart Black History Month with one of its most notable events Feb. 7, featuring guest speaker Carolyn Peck, an ESPN basketball analyst and the first African-American female head coach to win an NCAA national basketball championship.

She won the 1999 NCAA Women's Division I Basketball Tournament as head coach of Purdue University. Peck will discuss her long journey in rising to the top of her game and career. She will be at the Rosenthal Library, Room 230, between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"I am honored to be speaking at Queens College as part of Black History Month activities," Peck said. "I very much look forward to sharing my stories as well as meeting students,



Carolyn Peck won an NCAA women's basketball championship in 1999 with Purdue University. She will be at Queens College Feb. 7 to discuss her career as a coach and broadcaster.

Photo courtesy of Queens College

faculty and the campus community."

Another inspiring event Feb. 8 will feature an exhibition, "History of Black Films of the Early 20th Century," to spotlight the work of African-American filmmaker Oscar Micheaux.

He was the first person to make a full-length, eight-

reel movie with all black actors and he produced and/or directed more than 40 films at a time when Hollywood did not welcome black artists. The exhibit will include posters, books and clips of his most important films. The exhibit will be on view inside and outside Rosenthal Library, Room 230, from 10 a.m. to 2

p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The memorable film "Roots" will be shown Feb. 21. The popular 1977 television miniseries, based on Alex Haley's novel "Roots: The Saga of an American Family," received unprecedented Nielsen ratings when it aired and won nine Emmys, a Golden Globe and a Peabody Award. Watch it in the Student Union, Room 301, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The plight of black slaves will be remembered during an event showcasing the talents of Hilliard Greene, a passionate jazz musician, composer, music director, teacher and solo bassist, who will perform Negro spirituals, many of which have become well-known American folk songs, folk music and original compositions.

Greene will play six historically significant spirituals, whose Bible-based lyrics may have provided coded communication to help guide runaway slaves to freedom before the Civil War. His lyrics will be read and interpreted while he performs at Goldstein Theatre from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Feb. 16.

"Peck's lecture and Greene's performance top the lineup of exciting events we have planned for February, which are sure to educate, engage and enlighten both the college and community," Africana Studies Professor Evelyn Julmisse said.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS AT QUEENS COLLEGE:

Film: "The Murder of Fred Hampton." Hampton was an African-American activist and deputy chairman of the Illinois chapter of the Black Panther Party.
Feb. 6, 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Lecture: "Haiti, the Earthquake and its Aftermath"
Feb. 15, 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Documentary Film: "Second Chances: The CUNY SEEK and CD Story"

Feb. 22, 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Lecture: "Oppression of Blacks in America"
Feb. 23, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Latino Cultural Event: "Africa's Contributions to Latin America"

Feb. 28, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Exhibition: "History of Black Films of the Early 20th Century"
Feb. 29, 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Venues may be subject to last-minute change. Please call the college's events office for updates at 718-997-3600.

GET OUT OF THE WAY

TimesLedger Newspapers letter writer Anne, of College Point, makes the case that the spa proposed for the College Point Corporate Park has a good chance of succeeding.

"How many spas does College Point need?" she asks. "We already have the one on 11th Avenue, which is overcrowded."

Community Board 7 and Borough President Helen Marshall should not be deciding which businesses are needed and which are appropriate for College Point.

Their opposition to the Korean-owned New York Spa of College Point has a foul odor. Kwang Nam Park, who is hoping to build the spa, already owns the property, which is not located near any residential area.

In October, the community board voted against his proposal, citing extra pilings that would be needed to accommodate the second-floor pools of the spa on the soft ground in the corporate park.

Would it not have made more sense to ask Park to submit his plans to an independent engineer? After all, in 2009 Marshall and CB 7 voted to approve plans for a larger facility close by. The city plans to build a \$1 billion NYPD cadet training facility, which will sit on 35 acres of land and house 2,000 parking spaces.

After a sit-down with the property owner, state Sen. Tony Avella said, "I thought it was a good idea to begin with, and now having met with you and seeing the plans I still think it's a good idea. I do not agree with the community board's report nor do I agree with the borough president's report."

The report from CB 7 also cited Park's lack of experience as reason to vote against the measure, but that is not its call to make. And the fact that Park has enough funds to buy the property and build the spa indicates he has some business expertise.

In fact, Park and his father have run several successful businesses, including the Kew Motor Inn, a chain of Dunkin' Donuts stores and a bagel store.

CB 7 is standing in the way of the free enterprise system. The concerns that Marshall raised about the effect the spa might have on parking and traffic in the Corporate Park are silly.

If the public is not interested in another spa, Park will lose money, but that should be his decision to make and no one else's.



OTHER VOICES

Qns. Center Mall gives workers living wage

I read the letter to the editor "Queens Center Mall owner must help neighboring area" (Jan. 19-25) with interest. We are proud of the fact that Queens Center Mall is a generator of tax dollars for the city and state and we try to do as much as we can to be a positive force for the Queens community and a fair employer.

Macerich abides by New York state and city employment laws, including minimum wage laws, and is pleased that our employees earn incomes in line, and higher in some cases, than

a living wage, and full-time employees are eligible for benefits. We expect but cannot force our retailers to do the same.

Our shopping center is a venue for many employers who manage their employees' compensation. We do not have a voice in these relationships. We depend upon the federal and state guidelines to set standards.

This challenge was recently addressed by City Council Speaker Christine Quinn (D-Manhattan), who announced that the living wage bill compromise

would not apply to tenants of companies that will receive city subsidies.

Queens Center will continue to be an economic hub for the community it serves, helping to power the local economy and sustain other local businesses. We are proud to be a part of this community and the ability of our centers to have continued positive impact.

This year alone we hosted a blood drive, toy and food drives, two job fairs and events to benefit Sunnyside Community

Services, PS 206, the "Read-a-loud" program, The River Fund, The Salvation Army and Homes for the Homeless.

We will continue to provide our employees a living wage and encourage our tenants to do the same. In doing so, we hope to level the playing field and make a stronger economic platform for all New York employees.

*Jeff Owen
Senior Property Manager
Queens Center Mall
Elmhurst*

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Boro residents must show support for local diners

It is a sad day for all Queens residents with the closing of both the Gold Star Diner in Bayside and the Palace Diner in Flushing ("Gold Star Diner shuts its doors after being sold," Bayside Times, Dec. 29, 2011-Jan. 4, 2012).

Everyone has their favorite local diner. In November 2010, we lost our beloved Scobee Grill in Little Neck.

Eating out at diners has been part of our lives since we were growing up

as teenagers in the late 1960s and early '70s. Seventeen years ago, we met on a blind date at Scobee. We returned every year on the anniversary of that day. Last year, we packed our own lunch and sat outside in front of the still-vacant site.

We knew the staff on a first-name basis. Eating there was like joining the family for a home-cooked meal. Portions were generous and we often took home a doggie bag for the next

day. Between the customary soup, salad, rolls, cole slaw and pickles along with the main course, dinner was usually filling.

As such, we bagged our desserts to go. Chocolate pudding with whipped cream may have been eaten on site, but the customary black-and-white or chocolate chip cookies came home.

Neighborhoods all over Queens have seen changes over time. Many new immigrant groups sometimes fa-

vor their own ethnic foods and restaurants. Diners have also lost customers over time to numerous fast food restaurants such as McDonald's, Burger King, Wendy's, White Castle, Subway and Quiznos.

Many of their menus have expanded to include breakfast items and a greater selection for either lunch or dinner. Other customers have gone to competitively priced restaurants specializing in Italian, Greek and Chinese cuisine and sea-

food.

In difficult economic times, it is important to patronize your local diner if you want to see it stay in business.

My wife and I do not mind paying a little more to help them survive. We try to tip 20 percent against the total bill and taxes. If we can afford to eat out, we can afford an extra dollar tip. When ordering take-out, we leave a dollar or two for the waiter or cook.

It is appreciated. These

people are neighbors. They work long hours, pay taxes and provide local jobs. If we do not patronize our local diner when we eat out, they do not eat either.

Let us all toast the good times we had at Scobee along with Gold Star and Palace. Our New Year's resolution is hoping we do not lose any more local diners.

*Larry and Wendy Penner
Great Neck, L.I.*

Beware of Smart Meter installation

Across the United States and Canada, utility companies are forcing the installation of the Smart Meter, a digital device to monitor electric, gas and water consumption, upon a seriously uninformed public. In areas where the meters are located outside the house, they are installed without the owner's knowledge.

Once installed, these meters emit dangerous carcinogenic electromagnetic field radiation, and they also invade our privacy in that they monitor all electricity use in the household.

The Federal Wiretap and the Stored Electronic Communications acts state that informed consent is legally required for installation of any activity-monitoring device and that authorization for sharing of personal and private infor-

mation may be given only by the originator and subject of that information.

In addition, the U.S. Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 says that a digital time-based rate Smart Meter is to be provided to customers who request it, thus indicating that this is purely an opt-in program. The utilities are portraying this act to be a mandate when it is not. Legislators in several states are informing their citizens of the right they have to opt out of having this meter installed.

Most importantly, in May 2011, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified EMF radiation as a Group 2B potential carcinogen, along with lead, DDT and chloroform.

The strongest defense against these meters is to send via certified mail a

letter to your utility company saying it does not have permission to install this carcinogenic surveillance device in your home, citing the reasons and legal rights as outlined above, and emphasizing that you forbid any such installation at your address.

Some citizens in California, who have had the meter installed without their knowledge and are experiencing serious health effects, are having the meters removed and returned to their utilities. They have discovered that analog meters are available on the Internet.

More information about the Smart Meter and the dangers of EMF can be found at stopsmartmeters.org and citizensforsafetech.org.

*Carol Scherick
Jamaica*

Intersection needs left-turn signal

In the Jan. 12-18 TimesLedger Newspapers article "DOT says safety measures cut traffic fatalities in Queens," city Department of Transportation Queens Commissioner Maura McCarthy said "there were 67 traffic deaths in Queens last year, 'which is quite an accomplishment.'"

I have written two letters to the department concerning the installation of a left-turn signal for Northern Boulevard and Marathon Parkway. I even contacted our local representatives, but there has been no change in the signal light issue.

This situation is dangerous for pedestrians, who

include children walking to and from area schools, and cars trying to turn.

If McCarthy wants to reduce traffic deaths, she should consider the importance of installing left-turn signals at important street crossings such as this one.

*Adele K. Levine
Little Neck*

No one is fit to properly run country

The state of our government is chaos. The idiots who represent the American people in Congress in Washington, D.C., are all overpaid, underworked windbags and total disgraces.

We need to replace the entire Congress, as well as the current president, but the problem is who from the Republican Party is capable of running the country?

God help America! We are in serious trouble. If the

politicians in this country sat down, they would crush their brains because that is where they are — in their bloated backsides.

*John Amato
Fresh Meadows*

LETTERS POLICY

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Boro GOP schools potential candidates in running for office



Dee Richard
Dishing with Dee

How the weeks fly by! Would you believe it's now February? This past week was both fun and productive and informative.

Jan. 25 was a gastronomical delight. It was the Bayside Business Association's Taste of Bayside at the Adria Hotel in Bayside. Judging by the number of attendees, it appeared to be a success. Congratulations to the BBA, as it is trying to put Bayside on the map.

I think we can thank **Judy Limpert**, of Alma Bank; **Dominick Bruccoleri**, of Papazzio's Restaurant; and **Angela Gozzi** for

putting it all together. I do not have much of a sweet tooth, but the offerings of the Francis Lewis Pastry Shoppe were to die for, and from what the men said, the cigars that the Habana Hut were passing out were also pretty good.

Lauren Whalen Nelson, of the Queens GOP, is the organizer of the Northeast Queens Tea Party Patriots. She intends to hold monthly meetings at the Queens GOP HQ on Francis Lewis Boulevard in Whitestone.

The purpose is to bring like-minded people together who believe in less government, free trade and upholding the Constitution as the supreme law of the land. You go, girl! At the meeting last Thursday, they introduced a young man by the name of **Frank Scaturro**, a candidate for the 4th Congressional Dis-

trict in Nassau County. I did not have the opportunity to have more than a small chat with him, but on the surface he seems to be a nice, competent young man. Good luck, Frank!

Friday night was girls' night out. This time it was at the Deluge Restaurant in the Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel in downtown Flushing. The girls were **Janet Malone**, former president of the Northeast Queens Republican Club; **Debbie Markell**, district manager of Community Board 2; **Joann De Martino**, of Signature Bank; myself; and **Myra Baird-Herce**, of the Flushing Chamber of Commerce and Business Association.

At the dinner, Myra gave us all a copy of a press release stating that the FC-CBA is now dissolved and has ceased all activities. That's too bad and also

sad. I had covered many of their monthly meetings for quite a few years at the Sheraton. The organization was established in 1928 and since 1932 it has participated in many major projects pertaining to Flushing. The demographics have changed so drastically, so I guess this, too, is the end of an era.

Saturday was my kind of day. It was the Queens GOP's candidates school. It was also held in the Adria Hotel. It was not only a lot of fun, but informative as well. They had some excellent speakers. Among them was **Jay Townsend**, president of Townsend Group Consultants; **Jason Weingartner**, finance director of the New York Republican State Committee; **Bob Bishop**; **Robert Hornak**; **Daniel Peterson**; and City Councilman **Dan Haloran**. **Phil Ragusa**, Vin-

cent **Tabone** and the rest of the GOP group: You did an excellent job. Thank you for inviting me. I enjoyed it.

The gist of the program was that if you are considering running for office, you can possibly do it yourself on your own, but it is smarter and safer to hire professional consultants. The section on compliance is not one you should try on your own, as it confounds both lawyers and accountants. If you make mistakes, you can get thrown off the ballot and the fines are fierce. You need professional help. Aside from consultants, it is good to work with your party, or at least consult with it. No matter what party you belong to, it's really sound advice. Thank you, Dan, for the kind words you said about me. It's nice to know my hard work is appreciated.

Saturday night was one

of my annual fun affairs. It was the Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee's 19th annual Queens Winter Pride dinner-dance. This year's awards went to **John Liu**, city comptroller; **John Kryminski**, coordinating manager of social services at Elmhurst Hospital Center; and **Drew Tagliabue**, executive director of PFLAG New York City. They must have had 300 guests. Just about everybody was there.

At the event, **Jimmy Van Bramer** announced he and his partner of 13 years, **Dan Hendrick**, are going to be married July 28, which is Jimmy's dad's birthday and Dan's mother's birthday. What a nice gesture. Congratulations and have a happy, loving life together.

Pols should start promoting vocational schools once again



William Lewis
Political Action

During the last few weeks, we have heard a lot about instituting a public school teacher evaluation system in New York state and especially in New York City.

Our student populations are not performing as had been anticipated, and increasingly the blame seems to be falling on teachers from the standpoint that their teaching is ineffective.

It was not too long ago that the school teacher and the police officer were

considered the linchpins that held society together. We were encouraged to show them respect as they worked to maintain our social order. Today, the members of these professions are periodically being blamed for society's ills.

In the teaching profession, the term "bad teacher" is being used more frequently to denote teachers whose students are not performing up to established standards. One editorial even used the expression "rotten teacher." Such references have the effect of encouraging disrespect for our teachers and making it more difficult for them to perform their duties.

This constant emphasis on blaming the teacher for learning deficiencies in the student population is having an impact, espe-

cially on New York City teachers. During the last 10 years in the city, thousands of teachers have retired or resigned from their positions.

Regarding recent city high school graduates, almost 80 percent of whom could not do college-level work, it is time for the entire system to be evaluated, not just teachers.

It seems that high school students are continually being encouraged to go to college whether they are prepared or not. College standards of achievement are being undermined when some college classrooms in the city have more than 40 students. Sometimes half of them are not serious students. When a high percentage of new college students are continually absent or late

to class, in addition to not being prepared for class instruction besides not showing up for examinations or not turning in research papers on time, these things create a difficult situation for instructors. Such situations are also not helpful for college students who are prepared and trying to conform to their college educational standards.

College is not for everyone. Not all teenage students have the interest, desire or learning ability to study college-related academic subjects. As I have indicated in past columns, it would be better for our educational establishment to consider a return to the vocational high schools of the past that were prevalent during the 1950s and '60s.

These high schools taught academic subjects

in the mornings and trades in the afternoon, like carpentry and electrician skills. This type of school would provide high school graduates with much-needed skills that would be useful in the job market. It would be more productive in terms of money spent on education by the state and city Boards of Education. It would give education a more practical application.

It would cut down on the criticism of the teaching profession. This constant preoccupation with teacher evaluation would be lessened. The judging of teaching ability is only part of the problem.

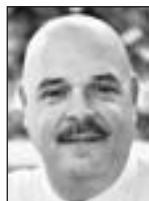
The question then is what type of teacher evaluation Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Michael Bloomberg have in mind. The system of evaluation

that is used in various colleges, where students once a semester evaluate their instructors' teaching, would not be suitable for high schools, much less middle schools.

In a significant number of cases, college students who are doing well give their instructors a good evaluation. Students who are doing poorly, however, do not give a satisfactory evaluation to their instructors.

Our political leaders, especially the governor and mayor, should be mindful of the fact that respect for the teaching profession is important in a successful educational system.

Boro co-ops and condos must fight high city valuations



Bob Friedrich
■
On Point

Many of you will remember the battle between co-op and condo owners and the city Department of Finance last year, after DOF Commissioner Frankel announced double- and triple-digit, single-year property valuation increases in eastern Queens.

Only after the New York Post exposed the agency's flawed valuation system did the DOF admit it had a "computer glitch" that was responsible for

the high increases in co-op property valuations. My analysis of the DOF data found that commercial buildings had been improperly used to compute residential co-op valuations, falsely skewing those valuations higher.

The Presidents Co-op Council, a think tank of co-op board presidents in eastern Queens, led the charge on this assault on affordable housing by the DOF. Under the weight of enormous public pressure, the DOF agreed to a temporary fix that limited single-year valuation increases to a still high 50 percent to be phased in over a five-year period.

The co-op and condo community expected that a permanent fix to this prob-

lem would be forthcoming. A year later, they still wait. It is not hard to understand why the DOF has not eagerly pursued a resolution which would dilute its ability to raise revenues at inflationary rates.

Round 2 of this battle has just begun, with the DOF release of its annual property valuation numbers for the city's real estate housing stock. These numbers are used to determine property taxes that every city homeowner will pay in the coming year.

As president of Glen Oaks Village, the largest garden apartment co-op in New York and an accountant, I reviewed these numbers and they are not pretty. Like most co-ops in Queens, the indisputable

facts are that Glen Oaks Village has seen its property values decline in 2011 as its residents continue to work their way out of the worst economic recession in a generation.

But in this high-stakes game of reality vs. fantasy, the DOF's property valuation numbers for 2011 tell a different story. The DOF claims Glen Oaks Village had a 21 percent increase in its property values. This Alice in Wonderland version of property valuations is at odds with economic reality and, most importantly, will have a serious and far-reaching impact on working-class families and seniors living in co-ops who can least afford it.

Aside from Glen Oaks Village, the DOF's latest

numbers for 2011 show that Queens co-ops on average have had a 9 percent increase in property values even after reported real estate data showed fourth quarter 2011 property values in Queens actually declined 7 percent.

To some, a 9 percent increase may sound deceptively reasonable, especially after last year's DOF triple-digit increase debacle. But owners must not be lulled into accepting this false dichotomy. A 9 percent increase at a time when we have been experiencing prolonged property value declines is unfair and inequitable and will affect the most vulnerable.

And lest we forget last year's five-year phase-in of Frankel's 50 percent in-

crease on co-op property valuations. This means that 2012 will be the second year of the DOF phase-in, bringing the increase to 20 percent in addition to the just-announced 2012 increases.

The battle for a permanent solution continues as co-op and condo owners tend to their battle scars from the heavy hand of an unelected DOF. Legislative in-fighting must not derail a permanent solution. Queens co-ops and condos offer the last bastion of affordable housing in New York, and they cannot afford to lose this battle.

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Restore No. 7 train for Lunar New Year: Pols

BY JOE ANUTA

Flushing lawmakers want full service restored to the No. 7 train for the neighborhood's Lunar New Year celebrations set for this weekend.

The train, which runs through downtown Flushing, is scheduled to be shut down Saturday and Sunday between Long Island City and Manhattan as part of 11 weeks of maintenance by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

But elected officials said the lack of vital public transportation could prove disastrous for the small businesses that count on the yearly influx of people to maintain their bottom line.

"The Lunar New Year Festival is extremely important for small businesses in downtown Flushing," state Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D-Flushing) said in a statement. "Though



Members of the Korean Farmer Dance & Music Corp., including Jung Dae Park (c.), perform as they marched in Flushing's annual Lunar New Year Parade two years ago.

maintenance of the 7 train is critical to keep this life-line dependable and reliable, the economic significance of this weekend is paramount."

Meng, along with two other elected officials who represent the area, sent a letter to MTA Chairman Joseph Lhota, calling on him to restore service and

allow potential shoppers to take public transportation to the largely Asian neighborhood for the weekend.

The MTA sent out an advisory Tuesday afternoon indicating that the train's schedule would not be altered for the holiday.

The train will not run between the Queensboro Plaza and Times Square-

42nd Street stations because of the construction, but would operate between Queensboro Plaza and Flushing Main Street stations.

The MTA advised anyone coming from Manhattan to take the N or Q trains to Queensboro Plaza and transfer to the 7 train.

But City Councilman

Peter Koo (D-Flushing) said moving the construction to another weekend would give a huge boost to the community while not drastically affecting the overall schedule of the crews who will perform maintenance on the tunnels that run under the East River.

The 11 weekends of scheduled maintenance started Jan. 21, two days before Lunar New Year celebrations kicked off.

"I agree these repairs are necessary, but changing the start date from the weekend prior to Lunar New Year to even one weekend after would greatly help local businesses to sell their seasonal goods and conduct holiday services for their customers," Koo said.

The Lunar New Year is the most important holiday in many Asian cultures, and this year is even more exciting for many in Flushing because it is the Year of

the Dragon, the most popular of the 12 signs of the Chinese zodiac.

The annual Lunar New Year Parade alone is predicted to bring in 100,000 people, according to the organization that runs it.

Changing the maintenance schedule for the weekend would not be unprecedented, according to state Sen. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone).

In 2008, Stavisky and other lawmakers convinced the city to call off service upgrades for the weekend in order to have No. 7 train service during Lunar New Year celebrations.

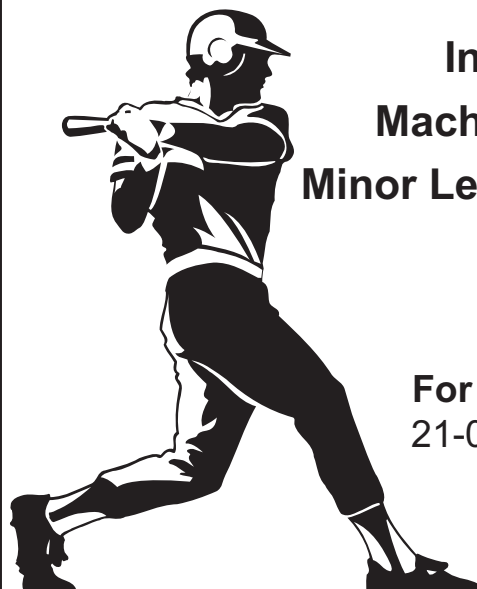
"It is my hope that we will once again be able to protect the community during this important holiday," she said.

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



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Selma Kupferberg leaves gracious mark on borough

15

WT

Bayside benefactor and her family contributed \$10M for Queens College performing arts center

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Bayside philanthropist Selma Kupferberg, a longtime supporter of the performing arts and a major benefactor of Queens College, died last month at the age of 86.

Selma Share was born in November 1926 to a family of modest means and married Queens College alumnus Max Kupferberg in 1946.

After World War II, the Kupferberg family founded the Kepco company, a successful engineering firm based in Flushing, and through their foundations the Kupferbergs became one of the borough's most visible philanthropist families.

A \$10 million gift enabled Queens College to establish the Selma and Max Kupferberg Center for the Visual and Performing Arts in 2006.

"We knew she was failing in recent months, and when we

heard she had passed, it was a big hole," said Queens College President James Muyskens. "It was always so wonderful when an event was going on in our auditorium, Max and Selma could always be seen there. It wasn't really right if they both weren't there. Knowing that her seat is vacant, it's a real sense of loss."

She lived with her husband in Bayside until her death Jan. 4.

The Kupferberg's gift allowed for major renovations to the Colden Auditorium, LeFrak Concert Hall, Goldstein Theatre and Godwin-Ternbach Museum, which Muyskens said are not only an asset to the college's students, but to all Queens residents.

"Several years ago when I came here, we talked with Max and Selma about how they might help Queens College. They were very eager to promote the arts here," Muyskens said. "Max told me one time, and this applies to Selma as well, he said he came to



The late Selma Kupferberg and her husband, Max. The Kupferbergs were benefactors of the visual and performing arts at Queens College.

Photo courtesy Queens College

Queens College and had a first-rate education. He said science gave him his livelihood, but what really enriched his life and Sel-

ma's life was an appreciation and understanding of the arts."

"Selma had that same conviction that the arts can make a real

difference and turn a life that's a hum-drum routine into one that's rich and inspiring," he said.

Selma's dedication to the arts began at an early age, when her mother scrimped and saved to take her to Radio City Music Hall.

Later in life, she would schedule regular family trips with her son Saul and daughter Rhoda Kupferberg-Joss to see Broadway shows, and they would even read the plays beforehand.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made in Selma's name to the Queens College Foundation.

The Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center & Archives at Queensborough Community College is named after her in-laws, Harriet and Kenneth.

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

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New Katz Women's Hospital celebrates its first birth

Flushing mother Rosa Kichikova brings fifth child, Avital, into the world in hotel-like setting

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

In the four times Rosa Kichikova has given birth, she never mistook the hospital for a hotel.

But that almost happened the fifth time, when the Flushing mother last week became the first woman to deliver a baby at the new Katz Women's Hospital in New Hyde Park.

Little Avital Kichikova was brought into the world at 10:24 p.m. Jan. 24, the first birth at the new hospital.

"It feels like something special," Kichikova said. "It's very nice here. Beautiful. It's like a hotel. It's very comfy here. Privacy, your own room. Your own place, your own privacy. It's what I like."

What gives the hospital the look of a hotel are its



Chantal Weinhold (l.), executive director of Long Island Jewish Medical Center, presents a gift to Flushing mom Rosa Kichikova, who gave birth to the first baby at Katz Women's Hospital.

Photo by Howard Koplowitz

single-bedded rooms and amenities, such as a meditation center and a women's garden.

"This is really what the whole new building is all about and we're thrilled to have a new women's hospital," said Chantal Weinhold, executive director of Long Island Jewish Medical Center, which runs the women's hospital. "I think what we've done is transformed it into looking like a hotel. We're very proud. This is really, from our perspective, the future of health care."

The \$300 million hospital, named after donors Saul and Iris Katz, opened Jan. 23.

Saul Katz was chairman of the North Shore-LIJ board of trustees and Iris is an associate trustee.

Rosa's husband, Ilya

Kichikova, gave their child the name of Avital, which means "gift from God" in Hebrew.

As Orthodox Jews, the couple waited until the girl was born before naming her.

"We were thinking the whole night," Rosa Kichikova said. "Usually mommies look and they know."

Rosa said she looks forward to the day when she can tell Avital how she was the first baby born in the new hospital.

"She's going to be excited to hear that," Rosa said.

The Flushing couple have four other children: two boys, ages 6 and 8, and two girls, 3 1/2 and 5.

Avital was delivered by Dr. Sarah Linkie, who helped deliver babies at nearby LIJ for 17 years.

DOT faces criticism over shoddy Flushing paving job

BY JOE ANUTA

A haphazard paving job by the city will make Broadway-Flushing look more like Venice, according to homeowners concerned about flooded streets.

Residents were joined by state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) last week to draw attention to the manner in which the city Department of Transportation repaved 32nd Avenue between 146th and 148th streets.

"This resurfacing has put the entire neighborhood at risk of flooding and needs to immediately be torn up and redone," said Avella, who sent a letter to the DOT asking the agency to redo it.

About two weeks ago, a contractor hired by the DOT tore up the existing street in preparation to repave it with fresh asphalt.

The contractor only milled the road down 1

inch, according to Avella, but piled on 3 to 4 inches of asphalt. The road is even with the curb and in some cases even higher.

Now when it rains and the water hits the asphalt, instead of being herded down the street by the curbs to a drain, it just flows to the yards and driveways of homeowners like Paul Graziano, a Flushing community activist.

"We are in a bad situation," Graziano said after a rainstorm had already left stagnant pools of water along the street. "The water isn't being fed to the catch basins because the street is above the curb. It just floods into the sidewalk."

The water also flows down into residents' driveways and could flood their basements.

The DOT did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

But this is not the first



Pools form after residents say the city paved 32nd Avenue so thickly their curbs cannot direct water into catch basins.

Photo courtesy Paul Graziano

time street repavings have left the neighborhood in a soggy state.

About 15 years ago, the same problem happened on a smaller scale, according

to Graziano.

And even though the pavement did not rise above

the curbs when it was repaved then, flooding still occurred, which is why the neighborhood is even more worried this time around.

Avella said that a policy that rewards contractors who finish the job early might have played a part in rushing the work.

But one aspect of city maintenance that has not been rushed is curb replacement, which Avella said should be done to protect neighborhoods in Queens and elsewhere from flooding.

"Unfortunately, we are seeing this in many other neighborhoods in this city as the cycle for repairing curbs has fallen way behind the cycle for street repaving," he said.

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

Halloran

Continued from Page 1

property tax payments to Newark, N.J., and the board requiring residents to send their water bill payments to Pittsburgh.

Halloran said given that the federal government has considered shutting down the College Point facility and sorting Queens mail in Brooklyn, asking residents' to send payments to be sorted elsewhere was adding "insult to injury" in terms of sending jobs out of Queens.

"How much money do we save by keeping the jobs here?" Halloran asked.

A typical bill for the property tax looks like this:

If Paying The Easy Way Isn't For You,
Mail Payment to:
NYC Department of Finance
P.O. Box 680
Newark, N.J. 07101-0680



Trevor Stuart (second from r.), president of the Mail Handlers Union branch in Flushing, speaks about a plan to close the postal facility in College Point.
Photo by Christina Santucci

Both agencies said in e-mails to TimesLedger Newspapers that the out-of-state boxes were set up by the financial institutions that process the city's payments.

Owen Stone, spokesman for the Department of Finance, said property tax processing was once done in Kingston, N.Y., but the department entered into a five-year contract with Wells Fargo last year that

centralized processing in Staten Island.

"The post office in Newark is closer and more convenient to the Staten Island location than the one in Lower Manhattan," Stone said. "Using an NYC P.O. box could prevent same-day processing."

He said the new contract will save the city almost \$3.3 million throughout the next five years.

Farrell Sklerov, spokesman for the city De-

partment of Environmental Protection, said the board has had a contract with the Bank of New York since 2006 to process the water bills. In consolidating its operations, the Bank of New York centralized its processing in Pittsburgh.

"Rather than incur up to \$100,000 in additional unnecessary expense by having bills sent within NYC and then resent to the processing facility, the Water Board chose to maintain the existing contract until a new request for proposals is drafted in the near future," Sklerov said.

He said the department has maintained a P.O. box in Manhattan to potentially use in the future.

Stephen Larkin, vice president of the Flushing chapter of the United Postal Workers Union, said the facility in College Point was capable of processing the bills.

"We have the highest productivity level of the five boroughs," Larkin said.

Chamber of Commerce

Continued from Page 2

two years ago and Richard Gelman moved out of the state.

That left Herce to hold meetings and attending various hearings to speak on behalf of the community.

In its heyday its meetings would be packed with people from all over north-east Queens, according to Frank Macchio, a developer who also sits on Community Board 7.

"During the 1980s and 1990s, the Flushing Chamber was abuzz with business and commerce," Macchio said.

But Herce said the chamber had run its course and the neighborhood could rely on the abundance of other business organizations like the Flushing Chinese Business Association, Taiwan Merchants Association, Flushing Development Center, Korean

American Small Business Service Center of New York and the Flushing Business Improvement District to take over.

Recently, an organization called One Flushing also formed to aide the small business community.

Herce sees the support of the organizations as giving Flushing a bright future, and if another chamber is needed, the business owners will respond.

"Do I think other people will want to form a chamber?" she asked. "If there is a need for it, the business people will get together."

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

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Bloomy gabs with Gossip Girl in LIC for show's 100th episode

BY REBECCA HENELY

Before “Gossip Girl” fans tuned in to see if Blair Waldorf would marry Prince Louis Grimaldi of Monaco or return to her old flame, Chuck Bass, Mayor Michael Bloomberg delivered an early wedding present to the cast.

Bloomberg visited Silvercup Studios, at 42-22 22nd St. in Long Island City, last Thursday to recognize the hit TV show for its 100th episode, which aired Monday. He said shows like “Gossip Girl,” as well as movies and commercials filmed in the city, contribute \$5 billion to the city’s economy and employ about 100,000 people both in front of and behind the camera.

“This is a show that has captivated viewers across the country,” Bloomberg said.

The mayor declared last Thursday to be “‘Gossip Girl’ Day” and presented a proclamation to the executive producers of



Actress Blake Lively (r.) puts her hand on Mayor Michael Bloomberg's shoulder as he presents a proclamation naming last Thursday “Gossip Girl Day.” Photo by Christina Santucci

the show, Stephanie Savage and Josh Safran, as well as its staff and stars: Blake Lively, Penn Badgley, Ed Westwick, Kelly Rutherford, Matthew Settle and Kaylee DeFer.

Savage said it has always been a priority to shoot the show, which follows the lives of young socialites on the Upper East Side and the unknown blogger, Gossip Girl, who writes about them, in the city. New York state offers a 30 percent refundable tax credit for film productions.

“We are honored to shoot in this city,” Savage said. “There is no ‘G.G.’ without NYC.”

In return for the recognition, the cast of “Gossip Girl” presented Bloomberg with a T-shirt that had both the show’s name and the eponymous blogger’s sign-off “XOXO.” In one of the “O’s” was the “Made in NY” logo, the name of the city’s program to encourage film production in New York.

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Queens teen reaches finals of Intel competition

BY REBECCA HENELY

Astoria teenager Danielle Goldman said she was feeling great after learning last week she was one of three New York City students and the only one from Queens to advance from Intel Science Talent Search semifinalist to finalist.

"It did come as a surprise, because I know that so many people who did become semifinalists really deserved it," Goldman said.

As a finalist, Goldman will be able to travel to Washington, D.C., in March to meet the 39 other finalists who placed in the prestigious science contest. The finalists will go through a final judging there and compete for a collective \$1.25 million in scholarship money. The grand prize is \$100,000.

"I feel like it's going to be even more of an opportunity now that I can meet the



Astoria teenager Danielle Goldman was named the only Intel Science Talent Search semifinalist from Queens to advance to the finals.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

other finalists and see what they're passionate about," Goldman said.

Taking part in the Intel contest has been a longtime goal for Goldman, who at-

tended Bronx High School of Science due to its reputation for its students getting into the contest. Like all contestants, she has been working on research since

her sophomore year.

Goldman worked with Dr. Vilma Gabbay, a research child psychiatrist at the New York University School of Medicine and di-

rector of the Anita Saltz Institute for Anxiety, to analyze the role of GABA, a neurotransmitter, in major depressive and generalized anxiety disorders in adolescents. From a sample of 40 of Gabbay's patients, they found that lower levels of GABA correlated to higher levels of anxiety.

"I hope that I can continue research in college and further beyond that," Goldman said. "I really want to pursue finding new things that do expand on this topic or other areas of neuroscience that can really better the community."

Goldman was the only winner from Bronx Science this year. The other two New York City students, Huihui Fan and Mimi Yen, attend Stuyvesant High School. Goldman said she had not met them yet, but had corresponded with them through the Intel finalists' Facebook group.

"They seemed so nice,

so down to earth," she said.

Goldman said she did not expect to win, as she read articles written about the other semifinalists and found them to be very involved in their projects. She said she wished there could have been more finalists in the contest.

"I am excited for just meeting them and seeing what D.C. has to hold," she said.

Until then, Goldman has been celebrating her victory. She said her parents took her out to dinner last week and her friends are planning to throw her a party.

"I know now I'll get to go shopping for everything I need, so I can go break the bank," she said.

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

Shevell resigns from MTA board after 10 years on job

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

Things could turn out just a tad dull Feb. 29 at 347 Madison Ave.

Nancy is gone.

No more gleaming smiles for her colleagues at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. No more checking out her ever-changing ensembles.

She will be missing — and missed — when the full MTA board again convenes at the end of February.

It was in October when Nancy Shevell married Beatle Sir Paul McCartney in London after a trans-Atlantic courtship that began in the Hamptons.

Now it was time to resign after 10 years on the board.

"In my 30-year professional career, this has been the highlight," she said Jan. 25 before getting hugs all around from board members who guide our transport system.

Shevell said she planned to live in England and New York.

Board member Mark LeBow

A little of our
stardust just fell off
on us.

Mark LeBow
Board member

told Shevell that "a little of our stardust just fell off on us."

Shevell, 51, missed a few votes in the transit agency while meeting her betrothed at soirees large and small.

She got flak from the occasional member of the public at MTA meetings, some implying she did not know what she was doing, although she graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in transportation and runs a family trucking company in New Jersey.

But it was during a discussion of how much leave is appropriate for bus operators who get spit on

in on-duty altercations that she drew criticism. She said a driver so abused should "go home and take a shower and return to work."

The Transit Workers Union took particular exception.

But these were exceptions in a decade of businesslike service Shevell performed on the transit board, where she voted on issues, headed committees and handled other tasks.

Then-Gov. George Pataki appointed Shevell to the MTA in 2001. Gov. Andrew Cuomo will appoint her replacement.

Oh, yes — board member Patrick Foye, of Nassau County, also resigned from the MTA and will be replaced by Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano.

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

Nancy Shevell has resigned from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority board.

Photo by Philip Newman



Academics

Berkeley College recently recognized **Thomas Kokis** of Richmond Hill with the 2011 Honorable Mention Associate of the Year Award in Teamwork.

Alemante Tedla of Flushing, **Tiaira Myers** of Jamaica, **Jewel Brown** of Briarwood and **Angelo Hunt** of Rosedale earned honors for the fall 2011 academic term at Westminster School.

Bank of America has announced that **Tracy Wang** of Flushing has been named a student leader in its 2011 Neighborhood Excellence Initiative.

Ihsaan Davis of Jamaica is a third-year member of the Lycoming College men's basketball team.

Zachary Betancourt of Little Neck has recently received the Most Valuable Player in Cross Country Award for his achievement during the fall trimester at the Hyde School.

Priya Patel of Ozone Park and **Heather Cohen** of Fresh Meadows are members of the 2011-12 Harpur's Ferry Student Volunteer Ambulance Service squad.

Jessica Chow of Rego Park has graduated from Springfield College.

Rebecca Warne of Whitestone, **David Champlin** of Maspeth and **John Lares** of Middle Village participated in the annual Run/Walk for Hunger Month at Marist College.

Alisha Lahogue of St Albans performed in the Marist College Dance Ensemble fall semester showcase "Dance Out Loud."

Sakirat Akadri of Jamaica, has been named to The Loomis Chaffee School fall term high honor roll.

Xiaoyang Zhou of Flushing has graduated from Campbellsville University.

Bo-hyun Moon, daughter of **Ju-han Moon** and **Young-mi Bae** of Flushing, was named to the Choate Rosemary Hall fall 2011 dean's list.

Olubukunola Biodun Banjoko and **Norman O. Mattis** of Jamaica, **Cynthia Pedrasa** of Forest Hills, **Caleen Frances Oliver** of Rosedale and **Golda Weiser** of Flushing have graduated from Excelsior College.

Derwin D. English of Arverne is a candidate for graduation at SUNY Fredonia.

Casondra Calandrillo of Maspeth has graduated from York College of Pennsylvania.

Jaclyn M. Rodriguez of Rego Park has graduated from Emporia State University.

Daniel James Solomon of Belle Harbor has received a college scholarship from The Jewish Guild for the Blind.

Stephanie Rosen of Whitestone has received and Excellence in Education Scholarship to Attend Alfred State College.

Leandro Blanco of Corona has graduated from Mohawk Valley Community College.

Darlina F. Liu of Flushing has been named to the Phillips Academy 2011 fall



DANIEL JAMES SOLOMON

honor roll.

Melissa Monsalve of Corona performed in the Connecticut College Dance Department's fall concert "Things Went Awry Some Time Ago" in December.

The following have been named to the fall 2011 University of New Haven dean's list: **Tania Gonzalez** of Woodside, **Eliot Pacheco** and **Michelle Peralta** of Ozone Park, **Annamaria Primiani** of East Elmhurst, **Audra Clyburn** of South Ozone Park, **Iajhiah Lucas** of Jamaica, **Grace Kazlauskys** and **James Kazlauskys** of Glendale and **Louis Rizzo** and **Joseph**

Totino of Whitestone.

Aiysha Brown of St. Albans has received athletic honors for women's basketball in December at Berkeley College.

Yunjin He of Flushing, **Lucas Bejarano** of Ozone Park and **Anira Figueira** of St. Albans were named to the Kent School 2011-12 honor roll.

Caitlin Lawlor of Glendale and **Al-yssa Calderon** of Corona were named to the York College of Pennsylvania fall 2011 dean's list.

La'Quetta Martin of Jamaica was named to the William Peace University fall 2011 dean's list.

Lisa M. Labate, daughter of **Adeline** and **William Labate** of Whitestone, has been named to the Hamilton College fall 2011 dean's list.

The following were named to the SUNY Geneseo fall 2011 dean's list: **Yael Rosenstock** of College Point; **Marcus Kim** and **Kristina Tricomi** of Whitestone; **Daniel Nan** of Rego Park; **Joseph Figliolia** and **Max Lin** of Forest Hills; **Joel Pineda** of Ozone Park; **Nikisha John** of South Ozone Park; **Yuliya Muradova** and **Jisu Ryu** of Corona; **Jeffrey Ma** of Jackson Heights; **Julia Passik** of Holliswood; **Sabrina Amin** and **Nazibur Rahman** of Jamaica; **Nicholas Lupo** of Briarwood; **Belem Sanchez** and **Mateusz Zukowski** of Maspeth; **Stephanie Halvax** of Middle Village; **Gounee Kim**, **Jennifer Cantatore** and **Fangyuan Jin** of Flushing; and **Yoomi An** of Fresh Meadows.

Awards

Julie S. Trivedi, a senior assistant district attorney in the Queens district attorney's Narcotics Investigation Bureau, is

the Queens County recipient of the seventh annual Thomas E. Dewey Medal.

Business

Donna Lapidus of Bellerose and **Gina Angelillo** of Whitestone have earned top honors in lia sophia's Excellent Beginnings Program Achievers.

Laura Ensler has been appointed to the board of trustees of Queens Library by Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Luis Rodriguez of Forest Hills and **Jonathan Wolfsohn** of East Rockaway have been named to the U.S. Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.

Michelle Gray of Oakland Gardens has become an independent consultant with Tastefully Simple Inc., a national direct sales company featuring more than 60 easy-to-prepare foods.



LAURA ENSLER

Military

Airman 1st Class **Jose L. Clavijo** of East Elmhurst has completed the U.S. Air Force Basic Military Training course at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Anthony Reardon of Long Island City has been elected a division commander in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Air Force Airman 1st Class **Hyuk Yoo**, son of **Seung K. Yoo** of Flushing, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Air Force Reserve Airman **Matthew D. Turner**, son of **Harriett Turner** of Arverne, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Jakub Jakubowski of Woodhaven, serving with the 133rd Quartermaster Supply Co., is promoted to the rank of specialist.

Dereck Basdeo of South Ozone Park, serving with the Co. B 642nd Support Battalion, is promoted to the rank of specialist.

Odelle Despot of Jamaica, serving with the Headquarters and Headquarters Co. 427th Brigade Support Battalion, is promoted to the rank of captain.

Air National Guard Airman 1st Class **Jose L. Clavijo**, son of **Jose Clavijo** of East Elmhurst, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.



REPUBLIC DAY

Dozens of people gathered at the Hindu Temple Society of North America in Flushing Saturday to celebrate the India's Republic Day. (Clockwise from top l.) Rishika Jikari (front) performs a traditional dance; girls demonstrate a Bharatynah remix of popular moves; Akash Parikh (r.) shows the Indian flag; an image of Lord Ganesh is covered in flowers; sisters Rathika and Thevika Thevathasan perform on stage; and Ashwin Prabakaran shows his patriotism.

Photos by Christina Santucci



- Sudoku 24
- QStage 25-26
- Crossword Puzzle 28
- Arts & Entertainment 26-28

Vaya Bags, made inside a modest store in Ridgewood, are constructed using leftover materials found at a sailboat awning manufacturer and area bike shops.

Photo by Nicole Guglielmo

Q GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

When trash becomes treasure

Ridgewood woman has turned industrial scraps into designer bags

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

At a time when small businesses aren't thriving, a young store owner, who lives in Ridgewood with her husband and three cats, bravely maintains her "I think I can" attitude.

In the workshop of her small Ridgewood storefront, at 70-08 60th St., which opened in March 2010, Tianna Meilinger teams up with her staff of two good friends, Grace Kim and Angie Boylan, to craft hip, one-of-a-kind messenger bags out of, well, garbage. Actually, from recycled materials, like sailboat canvas scraps and old bicycle tubing, combined with rugged industrial textiles. The result is a stylish custom bag designed to withstand everyday abuse.

"The great part about Vaya Bags is that they are all individually handmade — making them all unique." They've become popular with teens, college kids and bike messengers; even office execs and moms, who can use them as diaper bags.

A cycling enthusiast and Boston University environmental science major, Meilinger first thought, "Oh, I'll make bags until I find a real job in my field," but she just kept making them, and soon it became her occupation. A hobby morphed into a small business, and her fierce drive and moxie finally paid off.

Thinking out-of-the-box, the designer made her first messenger bag in 2005, while studying and working in Boston. It was her "Aha!" moment: "I was riding my bike to and from school and work, and desperately needed a sturdy, functional bag; instead of buying one, I decided to make myself one."

Continued on Page 25



Tianna Meilinger learned how to sew from her father, who is a leather craftsman.

Photo by Orlando Perez

‘Jackson Heights 3AM:’ A showcase of diversity

BY ARLENE MCKANIC

“Jackson Heights 3AM: is a quirky, funny love letter to this fractious, multifarious region of Queens, one of the most diverse places on earth. Conceived of by director Ari Laura Kreith, it was written by an ensemble of writers and actors called Theatre 167, referring to the number of languages spoken in the area.

The play is the result of years of interviews with EMT workers, transvestites, bar owners and other denizens. The result reminds you of what Times Square used to be like before it was Disney-ified, for good or for ill.

The people in the play are all in some form of trouble. Sometimes it seems the trouble just comes from living in that part of the world and being up that late: the action takes place between 10 p.m. and 3 a.m.

Transvestites dance at seedy bars, two young Desi women answer the phones at a car service. Cops walk the beat, medics in the

ER at Elmhurst Hospital see stuff no one would believe, every single night. One tomboy, just 13, plays soccer in the streets with a bunch of boys while her mother tries to make ends meet.

All of the characters and their stories are linked, like that six degrees of separation game. Consider Lindi, played beautifully by Flor De Liz Perez. She’s in love with Mikhail (Sergey Nagorny), and the two of them want to run away to somewhere, like Maria and Tony in “West Side Story.” They have no money, but during a moment of chaos Misha finds a credit card.

The credit card belongs to Soma (Indika Senanayake), a resident at Elmhurst Hospital, who’s upset because her boyfriend Matthew (Nick Fehlinger, in one of a couple of roles) is moving away. Soma finds herself in a deli with the gentle Salim (Andrew Ramcharan Guilarte), who calms her down by helping her play Lotto and by buying sandwiches for her and the other sleepless medical

staff.

Salim knows Devaj (an achingly lovesick Rajesh Bose), one of the drivers from the car service, who’s in love with Adela (Arlene Chico-Lugo), the sweet and beautiful Ecuadorian girl at the bakery. She barely speaks English and the only Spanish he knows is what he’s picked up from overhearing it on the street. Adela also makes friends with Lindi. And so on.

Other notable performances are John P. Keller as a combative but tender-hearted drag queen, Neal Mayer as a gay cop fleeing from the conformity of Massapequa (the very name got a laugh in the audience), and Pablo (Ephraim Lopez), the young Hispanic man who befriends Mayer for a night. Another chap who wore little but a sports jacket and a jock strap was both hilarious and thoroughly menacing as yet another casualty who ends up in the Elmhurst ER.

Kreith admirably keeps the comings and goings of the big cast

All of the characters and their stories are linked, like that six degrees of separation game.

interesting. The set, designed by Michael Wilson Morgan, is basic, consisting of boxes and other simple props. Kimberly Dowd’s lighting is suitably muted, and Ben Rodman’s sound effects, of dogs barking or sirens howling, are spot on. Both light and sound capture the nighttime uneasiness of a neighborhood whose side streets are often disconcertingly dark and whose sounds can be jarring.

Georgie Landy’s costume design, of micro minis and sky high heels, both on men and women, of doctor’s coats and plain work clothes, also capture the neighborhood.

One quibble: the stage manager should arrange the seats so that the actors don’t block the audience’s view of the action. The play is performed in Queens Theatre’s little downstairs stage, and the reviewer sometimes had to crane her neck to see around the actor who was standing right in front of her and hiding what was going on in the performance area. Also, if the scenes could be listed in the program it would be easier to find out who played who, the better to shower praise upon them.

In the end, at 3 a.m. the characters gather together in an outburst of compassion, or curiosity, or both. The audience not only sees how huge this talented cast is, but how diverse. It’s not exactly “We Are the World” — the characters are too gnarly for that — but it’s hopeful and generous.

“Jackson Heights 3AM” will be at Queens Theatre till Feb. 5. Tickets are \$18. Learn more at queenstheatre.org.

sudoku

Answers in Sports

Easy #49								
				5	8	3		
		2			3			
		8	1			7	4	
	3	9		4			6	
7			6		5			8
	6			3		4	2	
	5	3			2	1		
			3			6		
		6	5	8				

Hard #49								
						8	3	
1				3	8		9	
	6		5					
	8	9	7					
		3	4		9	2		
					3	9	5	
					4		1	
	9		8	5				7
5	1							

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

When trash becomes treasure

Continued from Page 23

Nowadays, the messenger bag is her best seller because of its versatility and colorful graphics. It comes in varying sizes and boasts special features designed for biking, such as reflective tape and a padded stabilizer strap, making it perfect for commuting or grocery shopping by bike. "Since the bags are completely waterproof, you can carry your laptop, papers and whatever else, and not worry about getting caught in the rain; everything stays dry," said Meilinger.

The complete line of "upcycled" products also includes laptop bags, purses, wallets, backpacks, bike accessories and more.

The story behind Vaya Bags

At 15, Meilinger learned how to sew from her dad, who is a leather craftsman. After college she moved back home to Long Island in 2006 and had her workshop out in the garage. "I started making bags, then selling them to friends, at craft shows and online. That's how Vaya Bags was born."

Aptly named, vaya means "go" in Spanish: "I wanted something with a Latin flare to it and thought it was a good name for my business, since the bags are made for people on the go."

"I always had a good eye for making things, but I never really intended to go into the bag-making business," said Meilinger, who grew up with an appreciation for handmade goods and understood how to use other people's garbage to make art.

So she found a sailboat awning manufacturer who agreed to give her any scraps he would throw out from his factory. And the old bike tubes? She gets those from local bike shops in Queens, Brooklyn and on Long Island: "They agreed to throw them in a box for me, instead of discarding them."

With no business model or experience, Meilinger said it was her dad who had given her an in-depth look at what it's like to run a small business. "My family is extremely supportive of me making a living out of my

art," she said, "and trying to make a business out of doing something I love."

A green philosophy

The environmentally conscious designer noted that about 75 percent of the materials she uses for her bags are recycled; she just buys the hardware, Velcro, and few other materials.

"I'm really passionate about keeping our environment clean and healthy. At the store, we try not to throw anything out, so even scraps used to make our bags are swept up and transformed into small pouches and wallets."



Tianna Meilinger (r.) learned how to sew from her father, who is a leather craftsman. Photo by Orlando Perez

Is it any wonder then that Meilinger gets inspiration for her designs from the environment and nature? "I do a lot of custom bags with leaves, trees, mountains and cityscapes on them."

"We're proud to say our bags are 100 percent handmade in the U.S.A., and I love the fact that I'm personally involved in the production of each product. The customer knows that a lot of love and care went into the making of each item," Meilinger said.

She also noted that there's a lot of pressure and stress with owning your own business, but she likes the freedom that it brings.

Vaya Bags will be starring in an upcoming feature film this summer, called "Premium Rush" — many cast members will be wearing them.

Meilinger's bags are on display at the Queens Museum of Art gift shop, where she is one of their "Made in Queens" artists.

Find her bags for sale at vayabags.com or etsy.com/shop/vayabags.

THEATER CALENDAR

Jackson Heights 3am — Peer into the world of a lovesick livery cab driving working the midnight shift, complete with sex workers, drag queens, ER doctors, gamblers and insomniacs. From the creators of 167 Tongues and You Are Now the Owner of This Suitcase.
When: Through Feb. 5, Friday

7:30 pm, Saturday 8 pm; Sunday 3 pm
Where: Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Cost: \$18

Chekhov's Cherry Orchard — Classical version of the tragicomic masterpiece directed by Professor John

Henry Davis.
When: Feb. 2, 7:30 pm; Feb. 3, 2 pm; Feb. 3, 7:30 pm; Feb. 4, 7:30 pm; Feb. 8, 2 pm; Feb. 8, 7:30 pm and Feb. 9, 7:30 pm
Where: LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, 30-20 Thomson Ave., Long Island City
Contact: (718) 482-5151

Continued on Page 26

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VALET PARKING

THEATER CALENDAR

Continued from Page 25

Website: www.laguadiaperformingarts.org

Henry V – A charismatic leader in the flush of youth embarks on a war and takes huge risks for a debatable cause with enormous bloodshed. The Titan Theatre Company works with amazing actors to unveil Shakespeare in its most edgy, raw and though-provoking fashion.

When: Feb. 3, 8 pm; Feb. 4, 8 pm; Feb. 6, 7:30 pm; Feb. 9, 7:30 pm; Feb. 10, 8 pm; Feb. 11, 8 pm; Feb. 13, 7:30 pm; Feb. 16, 7:30 pm; Feb. 17, 8 pm; Feb. 18, 8 pm
Where: The Secret Theatre, 44-

02 23rd St., Long Island City
Contact: 718-392-0722
Website: www.secrettheatre.com

The Cherry Orchard Project – Experimental version of the tragicomic masterpiece conceived and directed by LPAC Assistant Artistic Director Handan Ozbilgin. Presented with Cherry Orchard on Feb. 8 and Feb. 9.
When: Feb. 8, 6 pm; Feb. 9, 6 pm; Feb. 10, 7:30 pm; Feb. 11, 7:30 pm
Where: LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, 30-20 Thomson Ave., Long Island City
Contact: (718) 482-5151

Website: www.laguadiaperformingarts.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

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS

Hanh-Bin: Till Dawn Sunday – Special protégé of the legendary Itzhak Perlman, Hanh-Bin made his international debut at the age of 12 at the Grammy Awards in 2000. Till Dawn Sunday follows the violinist's acclaimed solo performance, "Soliloquy for

Andy Warhol," at the Museum of Modern Art.

When: Feb. 3, 8 pm
Cost: \$25, nonmembers \$20, students \$10
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Boulevard, Flushing
Contact: (718) 463-7700
Website: www.flushingtownhall.org

Public Concert – The choir will perform a program of well-known works by Victoria, Brahms, Rautavaara and Penderecki at Old South Church in Boston and the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art in Providence.
When: Feb. 8, 12:15 pm
Where: Queens College, 65-30

-10-20-30-40-50-60-70-80-90-100-

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\$13.⁹⁵ per person

Choice of 5 Items
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Ravioli - Baked Ziti
Eggplant Parmigiana
Sausage & Peppers
Broiled Chicken, Small Meatballs
Linguini, w/Red or White Clam Sauce
Pasta w/Broccoli, Garlic & Oil

CHOICE B
\$15.⁹⁵ per person

Any 3 Choices From A
Any 2 Choices From B
Chicken Parmigiana - Chicken Francaise
Chicken Marsala - Chicken Pizzaiola
Veal Cutlet Parmigiana
Penne Vodka
Tortellini Alfredo

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\$15.⁰⁰ per ft. Chicken Grilled or Fried - Lettuce & Tomatoes
DRESSING - Mustard, Mayonnaise, Vinegar & Oil or Balsamic Vinaigrette

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Pagliacci – Includes a sing-along.
When: Feb.12, 12 pm
Where: Christ the King High School, 68-02 Metropolitan Ave., Middle Village
Contact: (718) 366-7400
Website: www.ctrkhs.org

Monthly Jazz Jam – The Flushing Town Hall Jazz Jam Series is a unique free jam session right here in Queens. No need to travel into Manhattan, share the stage with our Jazz Jam house band at monthly jams curated by internationally acclaimed trumpeter and Queens College Professor, Michael Mossman. All levels are welcome; just drop by and sign in! (btw, we got the baby grand, drum kit and the house band.)
When: March 7, April 4, May 2 and June 6, 7 pm
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Boulevard, Flushing
Contact: (718) 463-7700
Website: www.flushingtownhall.org

KIDS & FAMILY

Sunny Bunnies Nature Education – Ages 3-4. Bring a bag lunch. Explore nature trails, music time, free play and more. Pre-register. Two session types to choose from.
When: Weekdays until March 29
Where: Alley Pond Environmental Center, 228-06 Northern Blvd., Douglaston
Contact: (718) 229-4000

EVENTS

Astoria Comedy All Stars – Ben Rosenfeld hosts five different comics each week. Comics range from underground NYC acts to nationally touring headliners. The show is absolutely free, no cover charge and no drink minimum.
When: Tuesdays, 8 pm
Where: On the Rox Lounge, 43-03 Broadway, Astoria
Contact: Ben Rosenfeld ben@bigbencomedy.com
Website: www.bigbencomedy.com/blog/archives/astoria_comedy_all_stars/

Greek Night at Cavo – Cavo

announces Greek night every Wednesday. There will be a live musical performance by Aphrodite Daniel and Panos Chrysovergis, plus guest singers, along with Greek specials on the menu. Dinner reservations are recommended.
When: Wednesdays, 8:30 pm
Cost: Free
Where: Cavo, 42-18 31 Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 721-1001

First Sundays for Families – The Queens Museum of Art and MetLife Foundation invite families of all ages to an exciting array of interactive dance, art and music workshops.
When: First Sunday of each month, 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Cost: Free
Where: Queens Museum of Art, New York City Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Contact: (718) 592-9700

GALLERIES & EXHIBITS

Coda by Yve Laris Cohen – Coda, choreographed and performed by interdisciplinary artist Yve Laris Cohen,

Continued on Page 28

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			20 WINGS + 1 PIE \$24.95 40 WINGS + 2 PIES \$44.95

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THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Continued from Page 27

addresses the shifting subjectivities and power relationships among human bodies and objects.

When: Feb. 5, Feb. 25 and March 3, 5 pm

Where: SculptureCenter, 44-19 Purves St., Long Island City

Contact: (718) 361-1750; sculpture-center.org

Surviving Life: Collages by Jan Svankmajer – The installation consists of 50

collages made during the production of the film *Surviving Life* (2010), revealing the gentle surrealism and whimsical humor behind Svankmajer's artistry.

When: Through Feb. 26

Where: Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria

Contact: (718) 777-6888

Website: www.movingimage.us

Clifford Owens: Anthology Performance – In conjunction with his exhibition at MoMA PS1, Clifford Owens will give a

special performance of several scores from *Anthology*.

When: Feb. 11, March 11, 3 pm

Where: MoMA PS1, 22-25 Jackson Ave., Long Island City

Contact: (718) 784-2084

Website: momaps1.org

EAFF11 2011 Emerging Artist Fellowship Exhibition –

Featuring 20 new artworks by our current resident artists.

When: Through March 4

Where: Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City

Contact: info@

socratessculpturepark.org

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers
Feb. 2-8, 2012

By Ed Canty (Ed@gfrpuzzles.com)

It's About Time

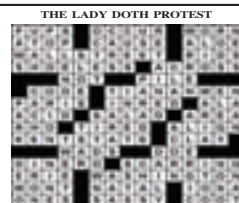
ACROSS

1. Sunscreen rating nos.
5. 1984 Derby winner
10. Abbr. at the end of a list
14. Good earth
15. Resided
16. Isolated
17. Choir member
18. Companionless
19. ___ dash of...
20. Reservists, perhaps
23. Rock add-on
24. Atlas feature
25. Kayak kin
28. Spelunker's place
30. Jesus in the field
31. Lasso loop
33. Qty.
36. Paying bills, checking bank statements, etc.
40. ___ Wee Reese
41. Drawing support
42. Asta's mistress
43. Long
44. Back somersault dive
46. Chose
49. Bonnie or John of song
51. Summer time
57. 1952 Olympics host
58. Composer Copland
59. Legal rights org.
60. USPS assignments
61. Sen. Lott
62. See the sights
63. Delhi wrap
64. Goalies' feats
65. A direction, in Spanish

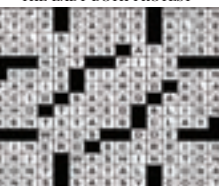
Down

1. Deli side
2. Barbershop emblem
3. Destiny
4. The Great Ameican ____
5. Biases
6. Oft-quoted Irishman
7. Admits
8. Horne or Olin
9. German river
10. "Seinfeld" gal
11. Ruckuses
12. Courtman Agassi
13. Minimum
21. Hot time in Québec
22. Pin
25. Cot site
26. Balm ingredient
27. Zero
28. Hip
29. Tempe sch.
31. Nasdaq cousin
32. Kind of deposit
33. Soon, to a bard
34. No more than
35. Autocrat until 1917
37. Spyri heroine
38. PC linkup
39. Start
43. Former Lady of the House?
44. Mel Ott's team
45. Off-roader's purchase, for short

LAST
WEEK'S
ANSWERS



THE LADY DOTH PROTEST



THE LADY DOTH PROTEST

THE LADY DOTH PROTEST

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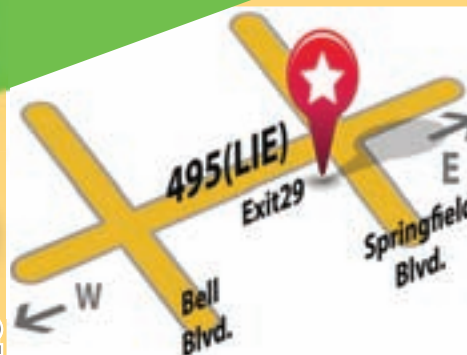
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MTA police nab Bayside man suspected in iPhone train thefts

BY JOE ANUTA

A suspected serial thief and source of recent delays for the Long Island Rail Road was arrested Monday, according to law enforcement officials.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department nabbed Thomas Gray, of 214th Place in Bayside, at around 11 a.m., thanks to some quick thinking on the part of the LIRR crew.

On Jan. 26, Gray allegedly stole an iPhone from a woman riding the 7:55 a.m. train from Port Washington to Penn Station, the MTA Police said.

According to an eyewitness account, the woman was holding her iPhone while the train was stopped at the Flushing-Main Street station at around 8:14 a.m.

As the doors began to close, a man in a brown leather jacket reached inside and snatched the device out of her hand before taking off down the platform stairs.

In response to the woman's screams, the conductor got out and alerted police, delaying the train for at least 15 minutes. Other LIRR trains on the line were also

delayed.

The phone was later recovered using an application that allowed it to be tracked, but Monday Gray got on a 10:49 a.m. eastbound train on the Port Washington branch.

Once onboard, he refused to pay for his ticket, the MTA police said.

While he was making a scene, some of the LIRR crew remembered him from the Jan. 26 incident and alerted MTA police, who apprehended him at the next station in Bayside.

"This is a good example of the LIRR train crews and the MTAPD working together in order to apprehend a thief," said MTA Police Chief Michael Coan.

Gray is suspected of two other thefts on the train in addition to the Jan. 26 incident, according to MTA police.

On Feb. 19, 2011, he is suspected of stealing a purse, and on Jan. 6 this year he is suspected of stealing an iPod, the MTA police said.

Gray was charged with theft, criminal possession of stolen property and theft of service, the MTA said.

Do you know a Student of Distinction?

TimesLedger Newspapers and Community Newspaper Group invite your school to participate in our feature highlighting young people who are excellent students as well as role models for their younger peers.

Nomination requirements are:

- A) That the student excel in academics in addition to participation in extra-curricular school activities.
- B) A nominating letter from your school's guidance counselor and instructors describing the student's abilities and why they would be worthy of this recognition.
- C) Please make sure that the student's bio and a recent photo are included with the nomination.

D) Categories are:

1) Middle School 2) High School 3) College

Please send nominations and information to:

srossi@cnglocal.com, or mail to:
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7 Danny Dromm and Letitia James



8 Toby Stavisky, Tom Duane, Audrey Pheffer and Michael Den Dekker



9 Craig Williams and Matt Blessing



10 The honorees: John Liu, Drew Tagliabue and John Kryminsky (holding plaques) with officers of the Gay Pride Committee



11 Carolynn Maloney at the Podium with other elected officials, congratulating the QLGPC Committee on a successful event



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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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Knowing the difference in kids' dentistry

Choosing any type of medical service provider in the era of managed health can prove challenging. It either involves pouring through pages of provider booklets or spending time online to find someone who accepts a particular insurance plan.

In terms of dentists, it can be difficult to discern pediatric dentists from regular practices, leaving individuals to wonder if they should bother seeking out a pediatric dentist at all.

Importance of care

It is important to make children's dental health a priority. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found that tooth decay is one of the most chronic diseases among children aged 5 to 17. Oral health problems affecting infants are no less serious.

What is a pediatric dentist?

Pediatric dentists specialize in the care of infants, children and adolescents. In the United States, pediatric dentists complete two years of residency in addition to their four years of dental training to become a Doctor of Dental Surgery. Specialty education includes child psychology, behavior guidance, preventive techniques, restorative dentistry, interceptive and comprehensive care (braces), and the treatment of handicapped or chronically ill children. Residents also learn about the process of adolescent tooth replacement and the importance of regular care from a young age. A pediatric dentist is the only dentist



the large, often imposing equipment of a family practice, pediatric offices have furniture and equipment in scale with a younger patient. There also may be items used to assuage the fears of children, including televisions, games and toys to divert attention from the procedures to come.

Guide to children's dental care

Dental care should begin as soon as a child's first tooth erupts, generally around 6 months of age. A warm, wet washcloth can be used to clean the teeth and gums. If more than one tooth erupts, a small, soft-bristled toothbrush with warm water can be used to clean teeth.

Pediatricians generally recommend a child visit the dentist by the age of 1. A pediatric dentist can point out if teeth are developing properly and provide guidelines for care. He may also apply a dental sealant to prevent tooth caries (decay and crumbling of a tooth or bone) in developing teeth.

When children are old enough to use a fluoride toothpaste, only a pea-sized amount should be used and the child should be supervised to minimize swallowing of the paste. As children get older, they should be encouraged to brush their teeth at least twice a day and learn flossing skills.

A pediatrician may have a listing of recommended pediatric dentists, making the search for a qualified, board-certified professional easier.

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com-pletely qualified in delivering comprehensive children's dental care.

Apart from the training geared toward a younger patient, pediatric dental offices are also built around creating a comfortable environment for youngsters. Rather than

Though costly, braces have lifelong benefits

Genes are responsible for many traits in a person. They'll determine if you'll have brown eyes or blond hair, and could dictate whether you will be tall or short. Genes are also largely responsible for dental problems that could necessitate orthodontic braces, something many children need to correct crooked teeth or bite issues.

Finding out about braces

Your family or pediatric dentist will likely be the first person to point out the need for braces. He can usually recommend an orthodontist who specializes in children's teeth.

The mechanics of braces

Braces work by slowly forcing teeth into a position the orthodontist decides upon. Brackets are glued onto the front (or rear, lingual side for "invisible braces") and then connected by an arch wire. A buccal tube on the band of the last molar holds the end of the arch wire securely in place. At each visit, the orthodontist will either trim the wire or place a shorter wire in place that draws the teeth backward. The child might also have to wear rubber bands or headgear, a metal brace that fits into slots in the brackets and wraps around the head, pulling the front teeth back for additional pressure.

When is a good time for braces?

It is not necessary to wait until your child's permanent teeth are all in place before investigating braces. Many alignment

problems and jaw problems can be corrected while the child is still growing. The majority of children now get braces around the age of 9.

Length of treatment and cost

Braces are worn between one and three years depending upon the severity of the problem and how diligent the patient is regarding the use of headgear or rubber bands, or other treatment procedures. After braces are removed, a retainer will likely have to be used to maintain the position of the teeth until wisdom teeth have grown in — or even into adulthood. The cost of braces ranges from \$5,000 and up. Less visible braces may cost more because of their cosmetic nature.

A child will generally see the orthodontist every month for adjustments made to the hardware in her mouth.

Are braces painful?

Most patients will experience mild soreness after a tightening appointment or irritation from friction with mouth tissues and the metal hardware. Over-the-counter pain medications can alleviate soreness, while dental wax can smooth over points of irritation.

Today's braces are smaller and more advanced than in years past. Therefore, the wires and other hardware used may cause less discomfort.

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Wisdom teeth extraction can be easy and painless

Wisdom teeth are the final set of molars a person gets in his late teenage years. While many people go on to keep these teeth, more often than not they are removed due to misalignment or impaction.

Poor alignment of wisdom teeth can crowd an ordinarily healthy mouth. The teeth may curve in or out, or fail to even erupt through the gumline. Because any of these situations can lead to pain or other dental decay, many individuals are advised to have wisdom teeth extracted.

The average adult has 32 teeth. Wisdom teeth are the last molars in the mouth. A dentist can determine whether wisdom teeth are properly aligned through visual examination and X-ray. If it is determined that the wisdom teeth are a detriment, a patient will be

referred to an oral surgeon for a second opinion and extraction. Removal of these teeth is generally easier when a person is young, as the wisdom teeth roots are not fully developed and the bone is less dense. As individuals age, recovery time and discomfort increase.

The extraction process is based entirely on how bad the wisdom teeth are in the mouth. Teeth that are fully erupted may come out quite easily. Those that are impacted or nestled in the bone may need to be surgically removed in pieces.

In many cases, wisdom teeth extraction is done under mild anesthesia. The process can take 20 to 30 minutes in all. The surgeon will extract, cut and suture as needed to produce the best possible results for healing.

Afterward, bleeding



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and swelling may occur. It is essential that a clot form in the socket of the extracted tooth, otherwise bacteria and food particles can become lodged and cause infection. The condi-

tion called dry-socket occurs when the blood clot is dislodged, exposing bone and nerve. This can be quite painful and lengthen healing time. Therefore, individuals should avoid

smoking, sucking through straws, spitting heavily, or doing any other activity that can disrupt the clot.

Soft foods or even a liquid diet is recommended for several days until the pain and soreness subside. Some surgeons advise rinsing with salt water or irrigating the surgical site with warm water to keep the mouth clean. Antibiotics are often prescribed to prevent infection.

Because wisdom tooth extraction can be painful, over-the-counter pain medications are recommended. The dentist may prescribe a more potent pain reliever for use when pain is greater.

It may take seven to 10 days for the incisions and sockets to heal, but it could be a few months before the underlying bone has recovered from the procedure.

Do's and Don'ts of Wisdom Teeth Surgery

DO address wisdom teeth issues early on so that they can be extracted at the earliest possible time and potentially reduce healing time and pain.

DON'T stick your tongue or finger into the extraction site, as it may dislodge the forming clot.

DO alert your surgeon or dentist if you are not feeling better within five days, or if the pain is increasing.

DON'T stretch the gums or sides of your mouth to view the surgical site, otherwise sutures may be torn.

DO follow all of the instructions provided for post-extraction.

DON'T drink alcohol if you're taking pain medications.

DO use caution when brushing your teeth, especially around the extractions.

DON'T hesitate to call the dentist with questions.

DO follow up a week later to see if sutures need to be removed or if the healing process is going properly.

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Business

Boro welcomes first daily comedy club

The Laughing Devil in Long Island City will get patrons rolling on the floor seven days a week

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

In the last 20 years, there has not been a full-time comedy club operating in the city outside Manhattan — that is, until The Laughing Devil Comedy Club opened its doors in Long Island City in December.

“Why [would] Toledo have two clubs and Queens has none?” said Steve Hofstetter, a stand-up comedian of 10 years, Long Island City resident and one of two managing partners of the club, at 47-38 Vernon Blvd. “Long Island City is an amazing, vibrant neighborhood and it made sense it should support a club. You have 25,000 people in a quarter of a square mile [of the club] and few entertainment options.”

The club opened Dec. 16.

“So far, so good. We’ve been packed on the weekends. We’ve been solid on the weekdays,” said Hofstetter, who occasionally gets on the stage himself.

The Laughing Devil differentiates itself from the clubs in



Steven Hofstetter, stand-up comedian of 10 years, is a managing partner of Long Island City’s The Laughing Devil comedy club.

Photo courtesy Steven Hofstetter

Manhattan with 14 beers on tap, a professional kitchen and its 50-seat capacity, Hofstetter said.

“It’s a very intimate show,” he said. The food “is not bar food. This is dinner. This is dessert. This is real food.”

Tickets range anywhere from \$5 to \$20, depending on the

act and day of the week.

The club also has a two-item minimum, unlike Manhattan venues that demand drink minimums.

T-shirts and shot glasses can also be included in the minimum, Hofstetter said.

“We’re not jerks about it,” he

said.

About 75 percent of The Laughing Devil’s customers are local, Hofstetter said, meaning “half the room won’t be German tourists” or a bachelorette party that wants the comic to only interact with their group.

On Mondays and Tuesdays, the club rewards local residents by charging \$5 for those who live in Long Island City when regular admission is \$10.

On Thursdays, college students get in for \$3, and on Sundays those showing military IDs can enjoy a show for free.

“The good thing about being small is we can market to our crowd,” he said.

Hofstetter said the club also works with local organizations, allowing them to hold fund-raisers at the club and keep the proceeds.

“If we weren’t conscious of giving back to the community, then we won’t exist,” he said. “The community is what makes us survive.”

The Laughing Devil’s calendar is filled with special events, including a Moms’ Night on the first Monday in March that the club may extend to the first Monday of every month.

For Moms’ Night, the club’s comedians will be comprised of parents telling jokes about having and raising kids. Admission includes two tickets redeemable for wine.

The club also plans to teach comedy classes for kids at nearby Gantry Plaza State Park, emphasizing how to get over stage fright.

Hofstetter said The Laughing Devil’s success is attributed to how the owners and staff pay attention to detail.

“The club is a lot of the experience,” he said. “It’s not just about what’s on stage.”

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

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Breakfast with the Queens Borough President — Hear about the economic accomplishments and plans for the future and meet key administrators.
When: Feb. 7, 8:30 am
Where: LaGuardia Marriot, 10205 Ditmars Blvd., East Elmhurst

Financial Boot Camp — Queens Economic Development Corporation’s other training sessions, entitled “Financial Projections Boot Camp 101,” will consist of three classes. The first one deals with the theoretical principles of financial projections, and participants will learn about such issues as best business practices and common pitfalls. The second class will revolve around the case study of a business that sells products and services, looking at projections for annual, quarterly and monthly periods. During the third class, participants

will develop and work on their own business projections, using the case study as a model.

When: Wednesdays, through Feb. 15, 6 pm

Where: Entrepreneur Space, 36-46 37th St., Long Island City

Contact: (718) 263-0546

Website: www.queensny.org/qedc

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, 7-8:30 am

Where: Clearview Park Golf Course, 202-12 Willets Point Blvd., Bayside
Contact: Martin Koos (516) 488-8877, Ext. 15

BNI Peak Professionals Chapter

— 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 Lydie Pellissier, chapter president, to arrange a visit.

When: Wednesdays, 7-8:30 am

Where: Fame Diner, 176-19 Union Tnpk., Fresh Meadows
Contact: Lydie Pellissier, (718) 276-8986

Website: www.bniouterboros.com

The Eastern Queens and Long Island Networking Group — This unique business networking group discusses today’s challenges and helps form alliances. Relationships are built.

Facilitator is Gayle Naftaly, rainmaker, entrepreneur, coordinator, leader and organizer with contacts.

When: Second Wednesday of every month

Cost: \$20, includes food from Marcella’s Pizzeria of Glen Oaks. Payment benefits the Ronald McDonald House of L.I.

Where: Ronald McDonald House of Long Island, 267-07 76th Ave., New Hyde Park

Contact: Gayle Naftaly, gnaftaly@accessoffice.net, (866) 391-2780

Website: www.accessoffice.net



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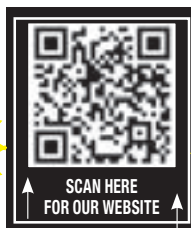
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Redistricting

Continued from Page 4

of northeast Queens.”

The Asian American Community Coalition on Redistricting and Democracy applauded the task force for drawing a new Asian-American majority Senate district in Queens and a

new Assembly district but criticized the group for dividing Flushing.

“A compact district in Flushing-Bayside should be drawn to keep Asian-American communities of interest together in these neighborhoods,” the group said.

ACCORD also said the task force “has not brought equality to all Asian-American neighborhoods across New York” because Richmond Hill and South Ozone Park were divided into multiple districts.

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

Addabbo

Continued from Page 5

“I frankly thought our lines would stay the same,” she said. “I have no idea why anybody would do this. They could have left me how I was. It really doesn’t benefit them to do it.”

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has said he would veto any

redistricting plan that is not drawn up by an independent commission, and Addabbo said it appears the lines will be legally contested.

“We are looking at lines drawn by a court at this point,” the senator said about the likelihood of litigation over the redistricting plan, which was conceived out of “the same politics that have plagued

Albany for years.”

The senator said the process should be “about voters choosing their representatives, not representatives choosing their voters.”

“The process is flawed to begin with,” he said.

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

Lancman

Continued from Page 5

The majority party in each house draws the maps, so Democrats created the Assembly lines and Republicans the Senate lines. The process is often controversial, and this time around is no different.

In 2002, the last time the lines were drawn, Lancman’s District 25 was largely aligned on a north-south axis. His district stretched all the way from portions of Richmond Hill in the south through Briarwood, Kew Gardens Hills, Fresh Meadows and Flushing and finally up to Whitestone in the north. It encompasses six community boards, six police precincts and four school districts.

The proposed district would be oriented east to west and lose the far-flung neighborhoods to the north and south, like Whitestone and Richmond Hill, and instead concentrate more on Flushing, Fresh Meadows and parts of Bayside.

And that would cut the number of community boards, police precincts and school districts for the seat in half.

“It helps keeps communities together,” said

Eric Walker, spokesman for Lancman. “We’re happy with the outcome and look forward to reporting to our new constituents.”

The district would also be more than 50 percent Asian — which includes people of all Asian backgrounds — which is something advocated for by The Asian American Community Coalition on Redistricting and Democracy.

The coalition has said the rising Asian population in New York City warranted at least four Assembly districts so the populations could be adequately represented in government, according to James Hong, spokesman for the coalition.

The coalition ultimately supports the Unity Maps, an alternate proposal drawn up by several groups throughout the state, but Hong echoed Lancman and said the proposed District 25 is an improvement over the 2002 version.

“It is more reflective of a community that exists here in northeast Queens,” he said. “We are definitely appreciative of what the Assembly side of [the task force] has attempted to do here.”

But Hong said the coalition’s cautious optimism does not carry over to other

neighborhoods like Richmond Hill, which has long been splintered into several Assembly districts.

A portion of that neighborhood was formerly represented by Lancman, but under the proposed maps, a portion of it would go to Weprin’s District 24 instead.

District 24 is currently compact and vaguely rectangular. It covers neighborhoods including Jamaica Estates and Auburndale to the west and runs through Fresh Meadows, Douglaston, Little Neck, Glen Oaks and Floral Park in the east.

The proposed district is much thinner and would run from Richmond Hill in the east and then follow the Grand Central Parkway west through Jamaica Hills, Jamaica Estates, Holliswood and Fresh Meadows before ending up again in Oakland Gardens.

“Following the publication of the draft redistricting maps, I want to state my opposition to the changes made to the 24th Assembly district,” Weprin said in a statement. “Northeast Queens is a special and distinct geographic region, whose residents and community leaders have voiced their desire to be kept together in a contiguous district rather than be divided.”

Avella

Continued from Page 4

source said.

According to the state Board of Elections, as of January the state Democratic Senate Campaign Committee had \$164,163 in its coffers, while the state Senate Republican Campaign Committee had more than \$3.7 million, which means Republicans have about 22 times as much funding as their blue counterparts.

But if Stavisky did not want to run against Avella, who once worked as her chief of staff before rising through the political ranks

to his current seat, she could always move somewhere else within District 11.

The proposed District 16 also brought mixed reactions from groups calling for independent redistricting.

The Asian American Community Coalition on Redistricting and Democracy had called for a majority Asian Senate seat to represent the people with ethnic backgrounds ranging from Chinese to Bangladeshi whose population has soared.

The proposed District 16 would be an Asian-majority Senate seat, and the coalition praised the task

force for at least hearing its side of the argument, according to spokesman James Hong.

But Hong said the coalition could not support the bizarre and gerrymandered shape of the district in its proposed form and would rather have seen a district centralized more around the Flushing area and eastward toward Bayside.

The proposed lines, however, might not be the final chapter in the redistricting fight. Gov. Andrew Cuomo called the proposed lines “hyper-partisan” in Albany and vowed to veto them.

Gianaris

Continued from Page 5

Peralta’s new district instead extends northwest to take in a chunk of Astoria, while another tentacle further south takes in a chunk of Woodside. The proposed 13th District also includes the Con Edison complex, LaGuardia Airport and a chunk of Flushing Meadows Corona Park, which now are in Sen. Toby Stavisky’s (D-Whitestone) district, but loses parts of Elmhurst.

To make up for the pieces lost, the 12th District now extends down even further, taking in slivers of Glendale, Woodhaven, Ozone Park and Lindenwood.

Gianaris said the new district lines change the makeup of the district by about 10 percent.

“The only thing they did is that they took my house out of it,” Gianaris said.

Peralta characterized New York state as becoming more Democratic and accused the Senate Repub-

licans of trying to maintain their majority by pitting Democrats in the city against each other.

“The only way they can do it is by gerrymandering, and they’ve done so,” Peralta said.

Both lawmakers hold high positions in the Senate. Gianaris is the chairman of the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee and Peralta is the Democratic whip.

In addition to pitting the party heavyweights against each other, Peralta said his new district also loses about 20,000 Asian residents in exchange for 20,000 white residents. The new lines will put the Asian population in a new Asian district, which is now Stavisky’s, but Peralta said the lines have the effect of cutting in half the Asian residents of Elmhurst.

“There’s no concern for the Asian community in northwest Queens,” Peralta said.

Gianaris, who has long been a proponent of independent redistricting, said while politics can be a factor, the lines fail to be compact, continuous or to

keep together communities of interest.

“Astoria is one community,” he said. “For them to split it in two is completely outrageous.”

The senators are not the only ones unhappy with the new districts. On his Facebook page, City Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. (D-Astoria) called the new lines an “outrage” and said the 12th District resembled a “baby alien popping out of a stomach.”

Rose Marie Poveromo, a civic leader whose home would be in Peralta’s new district where she now is in Gianaris’ district, said the new districts were “disgraceful.”

“Why should it be changed?” she asked. “This is truly a perfect example of gerrymandering.”

Gianaris said he expected Gov. Andrew Cuomo to veto the new lines, but added whatever happens, he and Peralta will not run against each other.

“Sen. Peralta and I have been friends longer than we’ve been elected officials,” Gianaris said.

Mitchell, pastor of Flushing church, dies

The Rev. Timothy Mitchell, pastor of Flushing’s Ebenezer Baptist Church for 43 years, died Jan. 26.

A wake will be held Friday, Feb. 3 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the church, at 36-12 Prince St.

Funeral services will begin at 7 p.m.

Sports



Christ the King's Jon Severe had 17 points and picked up an offer from Xavier.
Photo by Denis Gostev

CK comes together in face of adversity

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Jon Severe has noticed something about his team. Christ the King has something of a switch, not unlike the light in your living room.

"Every time we lose, in the next game we just play together," the Royals junior guard said. "I don't know how. Every time we lose, the next game we find a way to play better every time. We just gotta keep playing like that. We can't go off and on."

There were elements of good Christ the King Friday night and there were splashes of bad Christ the King. In the end, the good won out en route to a 77-71 victory over pesky Bishop Loughlin in CHSAA Class AA boys' basketball in Middle Village.

The Royals (13-6, 7-1 'AA') led 34-22 at halftime and seemed to be in position to roll over a young and inexperienced team — except they left that first-half excellence in the locker room downstairs. Loughlin

(8-7, 3-4) whittled its deficit down to 42-40 after three quarters and actually had a 55-52 lead on Michael Williams' three-pointer with 3:55 left in the game.

"Part of the problem today was we came out in the second half and we thought the game was over and somebody forgot to tell Loughlin," Christ the King Coach Joe Arbitello said. "They jumped back on us. You could see our intensity was terrible."

UConn-bound guard Omar Calhoun responded to Williams' 3, like he has so many times before, with a trey of his own to pull the Royals even. Severe followed with a steal and tough layup and CK never trailed again. Calhoun was 6-of-6 from the free throw line in the fourth quarter and finished with 30 points. He's been just about automatic from the stripe when the Royals are protecting a lead.

"That's why we run about 18 screens to get him the ball," Arbitello said

Continued on Page 42

Dozo stays hot without star

After losing Jermaine Lawrence, Judges have kept winning

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

When Jermaine Lawrence inexplicably left Cardozo three weeks ago for Pope John XXIII in Sparta, N.J., the Judges lost one of the nation's top junior prospects. In his absence, however, they have become a better team — tougher, with better ball movement and more poise.

How else to explain this recent upswing of four straight wins, including Sunday's impressive 71-67 victory over Bronx AA powerhouse John F. Kennedy in the Public Schools Athletic League Steve Simms Memorial AA Division Showcase at York College?

"Everybody's been doubting us, which lit a fire under us," senior forward Tajay Henry said. "We're playing really well, playing as a team."

Ever since Lawrence left, Henry said detractors have come out of the woodwork, saying the season was virtually over, that the Judges weren't a title contender any longer and Bayside would overtake them in Queens AA. Henry took it personally, and has played the best basketball of his career.

"When Jermaine left, I had to put the team on my back," Henry said. "I just don't want to lose, so I come out to play hard every day and I try to get my team to play hard."

That continued against Kennedy as Henry went off for 22 points and 15 rebounds. Kendall Brown added 14 points, Ryan



Cardozo's Tajay Henry scored 22 points and grabbed 15 rebounds in the Judges' 71-67 win over John F. Kennedy.
Photo by Denis Gostev

Yearwood had 12 and Kyle Credle 10. The Judges did a phenomenal job sharing the ball, with 20 assists, six from Edwin Sainvil and five from Omar Williams.

"Denver lost Carmelo and it worked for them," Kennedy Coach Johnny Mathis said. "It creates team unity. They move the ball really well."

Muhammed Ahmed paced Kennedy (15-8) with 23 points and Bashir Ahmed, his younger brother, had 13.

Henry scored 14 points in the first half, helping Cardozo build a 37-31 advan-

tage with a variety of quick moves around the basket. He scored four points in a 9-2 run after Kennedy pulled within a point in the third quarter. Brown had the biggest shot, a top-of-the-key three-pointer to make it 62-55 with 2:07 left.

"I'm just so proud of my kids," Cardozo Coach Ron Naclerio said. "They've been counted out with the kid I love being gone. I have kids like Tajay, my assistant coaches that just don't want to lose."

Henry has emerged as Cardozo's emotional leader on the court and off.

The uncommitted, 6-foot-5 senior become its top rebounder, has always been the Judges' best defender and now the leading scorer, also.

"He's taking on a lot of responsibility," Brown said.

Immediately after Lawrence left, Cardozo (15-4) dropped consecutive non-league contests, to top competition. Even in those games, Naclerio raved about Henry. In a loss to New London (Conn.) two days after Lawrence's departure, Henry played

Continued on Page 42

Holy Cross shares the wealth, tops Molloy again

BY MIKE SMOLLINS

Holy Cross is no stranger to spreading its points around and Friday night was no different.

The Knights had four players reach double digits in their 68-55 victory against rival Molloy, which they beat for the second time this season, in CHSAA Class AA boys' basketball in Flushing.

Holy Cross was led by the strong play of senior guard Anthony Libroia, who scored a team-high 17 points. The Knights broke out the scoring early, going on a 14-0 run midway through the first quarter, a run that saw Libroia convert six of his points.

"We don't have to rely on one person," Libroia said. "Everybody can score from different positions and drive to the basket. I wasn't thinking about scoring that much, but I had to make big shots."

Libroia had plenty of



Holy Cross' Terrell Williams had 13 points in another Knights balanced attack.

help as Terrell Williams scored 13 points and Edward Roscigno and Mairega Clarke both contributed 12 points. The team's star, Marquise Moore, remains

out with a toe injury.

"We always make the extra pass," Williams said. "There's always gonna be someone open and there's always an extra pass and

we just make it. We've played well in the league and good coaching contributes to it."

Holy Cross (16-3, 7-1 'AA') took a 24-11 lead into

the second quarter when Molloy (10-10, 1-6) began to cut into the advantage. The Stanners outscored the Knights 12-10 in that frame, but still entered the half trailing 34-23. The second half would give Holy Cross' defense a chance to prove itself to head Coach Paul Gilvary, and they took full advantage of it, never relinquishing the lead.

"I was happy with the defensive effort tonight," Gilvary said. "That's usually the key for us because offensively we are usually pretty consistent, so when we defend and rebound I think we can be pretty good and ... we did that."

Molloy began to turn it on in the third quarter pulling within five when forward Justin Brown's layup put the score at 45-40. That was the closest the Stanners would get to a comeback as Libroia quickly hit a 3 and Clarke added two more points to give the Knights a 50-40 lead head-

ing into the fourth.

"They were going on a little run and then I hit that big 3," Libroia said. "I wasn't thinking too much about scoring."

Holy Cross (16-3, 7-1) went on another impressive run in the fourth quarter. Clinging to a six-point lead, the Knights went on a 10-0 run to put a stranglehold on the game as Molloy (9-10, 2-6) couldn't break through Holy Cross' defense.

"I think they played much better than we did," Molloy Coach Jack Curran said. "Our defense was shaky. We got the game close in one stretch but then they hit an easy 3 and that was the game. For about a month now we haven't played as well as we should."

The Knights have found much success spreading the ball around and having multiple players contribute, something that Gilvary hopes to continue doing this season.

Flushing star King accepts scholarship with Army

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Disappointment quickly turned into elation for Andrew King.

Frustrated over his lack of Division I scholarships offers, Flushing's star running back/outside linebacker took a visit to West Point, the one Division I school, to show sincere interest and forgot about his worries. He was offered a scholarship by Coach Rich Ellerson — his first and only offer — and accepted it last week.

"It's a great tradition and I feel at home there," the 6-foot-1, 215-pound Queens native said of Army, a Football Bowl Subdivision independent. "I toured the campus, they showed me the facilities and it was really nice. They have great academic support."

King and Flushing Coach Jim DeSantis are

still confused about the senior's lack of offers. The New York Post All-Queens Player of the Year ran for 963 yards and 10 touchdowns and was the Red Devils' top defensive player.

"I just wish there were more places to choose from," the coach said of King, a three-year varsity standout. "I think he could have done better in terms of football, but in terms of overall, you can't do better than where he is right now."

King is excited about the opportunity to play Division I football and also about his life with the Army thereafter. Both King and DeSantis are thrilled with West Point.

"It will be an honor to serve my country," he said of his five years of service following graduation. "It will be a reward. I'm looking forward to it."



Flushing's Andrew King verbally committed to Army last week.

"I look at him and I see him in uniform and it's been that way for a long time," DeSantis added. "It's phenomenal. I know his life is going to be set."

King would like to explore his options in the military, though his family wants him to look into medicine or military intelligence. Either way, King

does know what to expect somewhat as his uncle, Rhonny, is in the Air Force. His father, Michael, is also an NYPD lieutenant.

"He said the Army

could really change your life and set you up for life," King said, referring to his uncle. "They give you all the benefits you can ask for."

DeSantis said Army coaches told him King could play for them right now. It is unclear where he will fit in, either at fullback or outside linebacker, but King will have the opportunity at both spots.

"It's a weight off my shoulders," he said. "I don't have to worry about reaching out to all these coaches to get my name out there. Now I have a place to look forward to, a place I can be really excited about. I feel I was waiting too long for my talent and what I proved I can do, but I'm glad I got this offer and I'm going to make the best out of my opportunity."

Photo by William Thomas

Hard work pays off for CK's Connell

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

After an extensive process and plenty of work in the classroom and on the court, Rayne Connell is where she wants to be.

The Christ the King senior guard, a 90-average student, said she took two SATs and five ACTs to get the score required for acceptance to the University of Pennsylvania, her dream school. She finally hit the mark last month and then had to start an extensive process of essays and interviews.

"From the second I stepped on campus, I knew I was supposed to be there," said Connell, who took a visit in September.

It all culminated Jan. 25 when she took a trip to the Ivy League school to meet with its dean of undergraduate admissions. After the interview, she was accepted on the spot and verbally committed to play women's basketball there next season.

Connell, a three-year starter, at Christ the King, chose the Quakers over Southern Methodist. She will get her tuition paid through financial aid since Ivy League schools do not give athletic scholarships and is overjoyed to get the school's prestigious education.

"It's the best feeling in the world," she said. "I'm so

happy that I'm finally in. I'm so happy."

Connell said she grew up playing in the post and was more of a scoring guard her freshman year on the JV team. She was thrust into the point guard role as a sophomore and went on to excel, helping lead the Royals to the New York State Federation Class AA title. She's had a propensity for big baskets, hitting a buzzer-beating jumper to win the CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens junior varsity diocesan title. Connell had 11 points and a key jumper in the Federation semifinals against Murry Bergtraum in 2010.

"If the jump shot is falling, she becomes a very tough matchup for anybody," said Christ the King Coach Bob Mackey. "At that level, with her speed and her strength to get to the rim, she is almost an impossible matchup in the Ivy League as a guard."

Her biggest contributions come on the defensive end. She said her mom joked with her that she needs to play more offense and stop killing herself on the other end. Connell's strength and speed make her a tough cover going to the basket and one of the city's top defenders. She missed the early part of this season for CK (5-8) after getting a benign cyst removed from

Continued on Page 42



Christ the King's Rayne Connell committed to UPenn.

Photo by Kenndal Rodriguez

Patriots down but not out

Francis Lewis surges to preserve lead against Banneker

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The script was about to be the same as too many other games for Francis Lewis this basketball season. The Patriots started fast, but saw a big lead dwindle to just two points late in the fourth quarter against Curtis.

"We were kind of frustrated that we lost our lead," senior forward Tyese Purvis said. "We were like we got to do this together."

Lewis' senior core took over from there. Purvis, Jasmine Davis and Jazmine Hamlet combined to score all 11 of their teams final points to close out a 68-61 win against the Banneker Warriors at the Kennedy Challenge in the Bronx Saturday afternoon. Purvis led all scorers with 24 points. Hamlet had 20 points and Davis 18. They credited a timeout by Coach Steve Tsai with 2:55 remaining with settling them down.

The frustration... started creeping up a little bit. But I think we fought through it."

Steve Tsai

Francis Lewis basketball coach

"When Tsai called a timeout, it just made everything better," Hamlet said. "We started talking to each other and we had to get back and do what we had to do. That's where the leadership comes in."

The Patriots (9-7), ranked No. 6 in the PSAL by the New York Post, led by as many as 19 after the first quarter. They were ahead 45-26 with 2:22 remaining in the third quarter before the assault by the seventh-ranked Warriors (13-6).



Francis Lewis' Tyese Purvis scored 24 points against Curtis.

Photo by William Thomas

After not scoring for the first 6:30 of the quarter, Curtis got three-pointers from Kristen Olsen (18 points) and Shannon McGill, who had 11 points, during a 10-3 spurt to end the frame to get within 48-36. Jessica Rosalbo chipped in 12 for the Warriors and Zulet Adeniji had six points and eight rebounds. Tsai asked for time when the lead was trimmed to 57-52, but Olsen immediately hit a trey from the left side to make it 57-55 with 2:42 left in the game.

"You can't put yourself in a hole like that, whether it's Francis Lewis or anybody else," Curtis Coach Bob Daggett said. "Even though we were able to get close a few times, that's not enough."

A 10-2 Lewis run immediately followed with

Purvis finding a cutting Davis to get it started. Davis would score again on a drive, Purvis had two free throws and Hamlet scored the final four. It was a fine all-around game for Purvis, who has already visited Queens College and is checking out Stony Brook and Concordia.

"Some of the frustration we had in some of our losses started creeping up a little bit," Tsai said. "But I think we fought through that."

The game appeared like it might be headed for a lopsided finish early. The Patriots played one of their best quarters of the season with a 31-12 opening frame. They attacked the basket with their superior athleticism, moved the ball on offense and outrebounded the smaller Warriors. Still

Lewis felt its defense was the biggest factor as the Patriots were in the passing lanes in their man-to-man defense.

"Our defense was really tight," Pervis said.

Daggett thought despite the slow start his team wasn't out of the game. They proved it, but they have yet to play four good quarters against a quality team. While Lewis bent and let them back in, the team never let the lead or the victory get away."

"I'm very happy with my team," Hamlet said. "First quarter, we was like, 'Wow.' I was shocked that we did that. Our hard work is paying off and for us to finish the game, that's a good accomplishment."

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her back.
“That’s pretty much what she has been for three years,” Mackey said. “OK, who is the best guard on the other team? OK, you got her.’ She’s done it and she’s done it quite well, guarding some of the best players in the nation.”
Connell will join the UPenn team that is currently 7-8 and went 11-17 and 5-9

in the Ivy League last year. Connell had high praise for third-year head Coach Mike McLaughlin and his staff, saying that they were real and showed that they really wanted her.
And she wanted them. Connell is where she hoped to be after a long, strenuous recruiting and admission process.
“I wasn’t going to stop taking all these tests until I got in,” Connell said. “It wasn’t like I was going to give up.”

Easy #49								
6	7	1	4	5	8	3	9	2
5	4	2	9	7	3	8	1	6
3	9	8	1	2	6	7	4	5
8	3	9	2	4	7	5	6	1
7	2	4	6	1	5	9	3	8
1	6	5	8	3	9	4	2	7
4	5	3	7	6	2	1	8	9
2	8	7	3	9	1	6	5	4
9	1	6	5	8	4	2	7	3

Week 5

Hard #49								
9	7	5	1	4	2	8	3	6
1	2	4	6	3	8	7	9	5
3	6	8	5	9	7	1	2	4
2	8	9	7	1	5	6	4	3
5	1	3	4	6	9	2	7	8
6	4	7	2	8	3	9	5	1
8	3	6	9	7	4	5	1	2
4	9	2	8	5	1	3	6	7
7	5	1	3	2	6	4	8	9

CK together

Continued from Page 39
with a laugh. “Make that 19 screens.”
As impressive as Calhoun was, it was hard for anyone to overshadow Williams. He was absolutely unconscious in the fourth quarter, where he scored 21 of his 26 points and drained four three-pointers. Williams, just a sophomore, almost single-handedly won the game for Loughlin.
“Mike’s a shooter,”

Loughlin Coach Ed Gonzalez said. “Mike can play. He works at it and he’s a superior shooter.”
Khadeen Carrington had 15 points and Jordan Nanton added 12 for the Lions, who lost to Christ the King in a nail-biter the first time as well 77-75. Loughlin has been in almost all its games this year and has won many of them. But one part of the formula is simple: a slow start.
“Every game we’re down 10 or 12 points at halftime,” Gonzalez said. “I wish games would start

in the third quarter. It’s youth. We’ll get better. We gotta learn we can’t come from behind every game.”
Severe, who picked up an offer from Xavier following the game according to Arbitello, had 17 points and Isaiah Lewis added 12 for the Royals. Severe said that same switch turned on again in the fourth quarter when Christ the King fell behind.
“We’re a talented team,” Severe said. “One to five, we all can score and sometimes we play ‘D.’ Yeah, sometimes. But we’re gonna fix that in practice.”
Arbitello said he saw positive signs: unselfish-

ness down the stretch and important defensive stops. Christ the King, he said, is on the right track since a win Jan. 24 at St. Francis Prep, which followed Sunday’s loss to Xaverian.
Loughlin isn’t far off, either.
“I think we’re gonna have our hands full for the next two years,” Arbitello said. “Maybe if they start really putting it together, this year. They make some young mistakes, but last time we played them they made more young mistakes than they made today.”
The Royals flipped the switch just in time.

Dozo

Continued from Page 39
so hard he had to be taken to the hospital for painful cramps.
“Tajay is a warrior,” Naclerio said. “I call him

the high school version of Ronnie Artest, who I know well. He just refuses to lose.”
His teammates have joined in of late and the Judges are starting to play

their best basketball with the borough playoffs looming.
“We’ve showed a lot of schools we can be a contender,” Henry said. “I don’t know if teams are still doubting us, but that’s doesn’t matter. We’re still going to play hard.”

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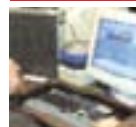
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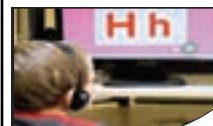
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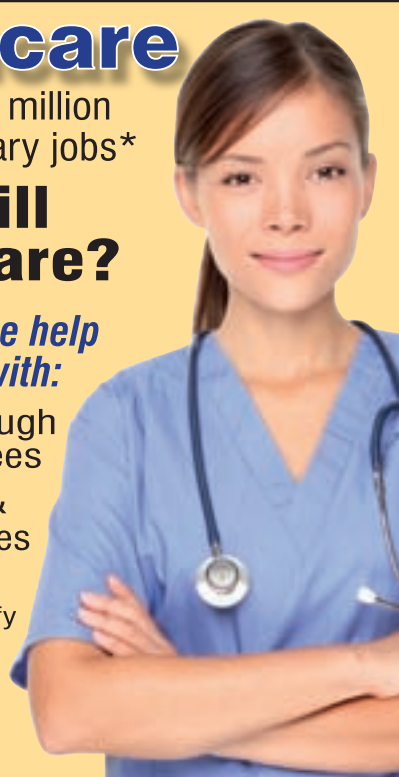


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89-42 MOLINE STREET LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/14/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Macario Tecson, 89-42 Moline St., Queens Village, NY 11428. General Purposes.

FANTASIA ICONIC GROUP LLC a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 7/26/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave., Ste. 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. General Purposes.

MARCUS LIU, DENTISTRY PLLC, a domestic PLLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/31/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the PLLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The PLLC, 42-10 82nd St., Apt. #5D, Elmhurst, NY 11373. Purpose: Dentistry

MFJF PROPERTIES LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/17/2010. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 51-46 65th St, Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

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Name of Foreign LLC: ONE Management Group LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 12/5/11. Office loc.: Queens Co. LLC formed in DE: 2/11/10. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o Business Filings Inc., 187 Wolf Rd., Ste. 101, Albany, NY 12205. DE addr. of LLC: 108 W. 13th St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful act.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: RUN FREE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/01/2011. 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: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: HOLIS PARK 9159 LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/06/12. 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

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process to the LLC, 166-07 Hillside Avenue, Jamaica, New York 11432. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: 34-18 33rd St., LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/23/11. 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, P.O. Box 610043, Bayside, New York 11361. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: 44-49 PURVIS STREET LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/14/11. 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, c/o Criterion Group LLC, 35-11 36th Street, Astoria, New York 11106. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Manhattan House A0304 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/19/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY design. as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 108-18 72nd Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: BEDDYBYE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/29/2011. 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: TRACY YOUNG 34-06 45TH ST APT 2D LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Little Sheep Flushing, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/27/11. Office location: Queens County. Princ. bus. addr.: 136-59 37th Ave., Flushing, NY 11354. Sec. of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 48-47 213th St., Oakland Gardens, NY 11364. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Quadboro Bethpage LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/15/07. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Sholom & Zuckerbrot, 35-11 35th Ave., Long Island City, NY 11016. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: EPIC SPEECH THERAPY PLLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/14/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the PLLC, c/o Noto, 155 Beach 120th Street, Apartment 1A, Rockaway Park, New York 11694. Purpose: For the practice of the profession of Speech Language Pathology.

Pol Pro, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/1/11. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: C/O Richard Lipkowitz, PO Box 670778, Flushing, NY 11367-0778. Purpose: General.

ROCKSMITH LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/19/11. Office Location: Queens County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: The LLC, 87-15 65th Dr., Rego Park, NY 11374. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act.

Notice of Qualification of SSP America JFK, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 1/12/12. Office location:

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Queens County. Princ. bus. addr.: 19465 Deerfield Ave., Ste. 105, Lansdowne, VA 20176. LLC formed in DE on 12/19/11. 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: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on 1/6/2012, bearing Index Number NC-001231-11/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) AVINA (Last) ZHANG. My present name is (First) ISABELLA (Last) ZHANG (infant). My present address is 166-12 CROCHERON AVE, Flushing, NY 11358. My place of birth is QUEENS, NY. My date of birth is September 15, 2011.

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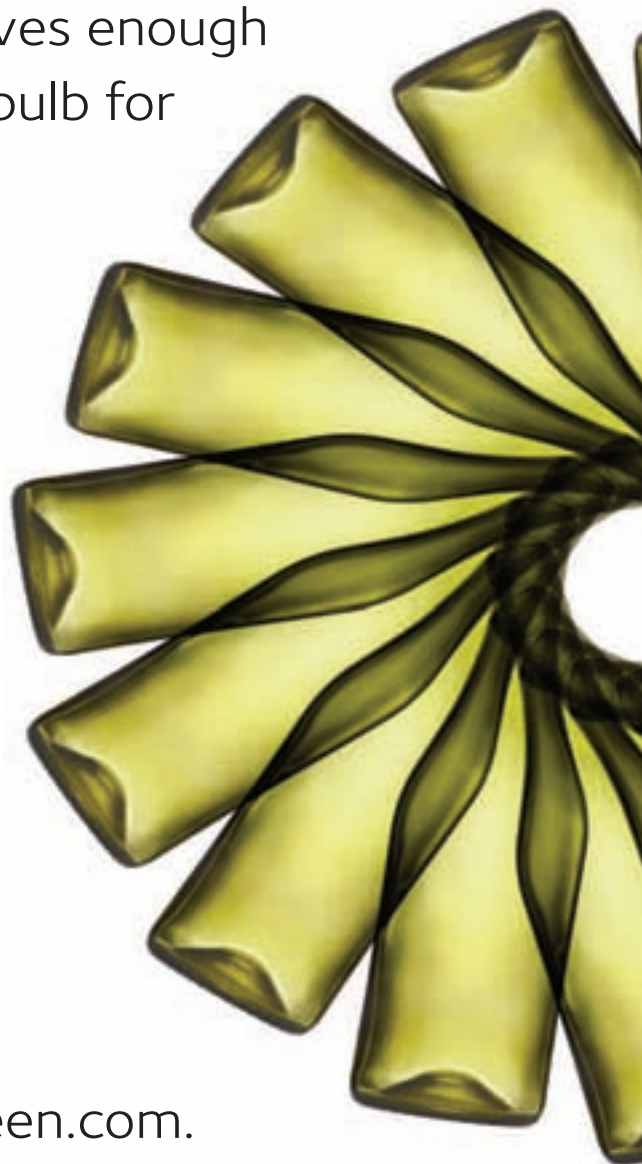
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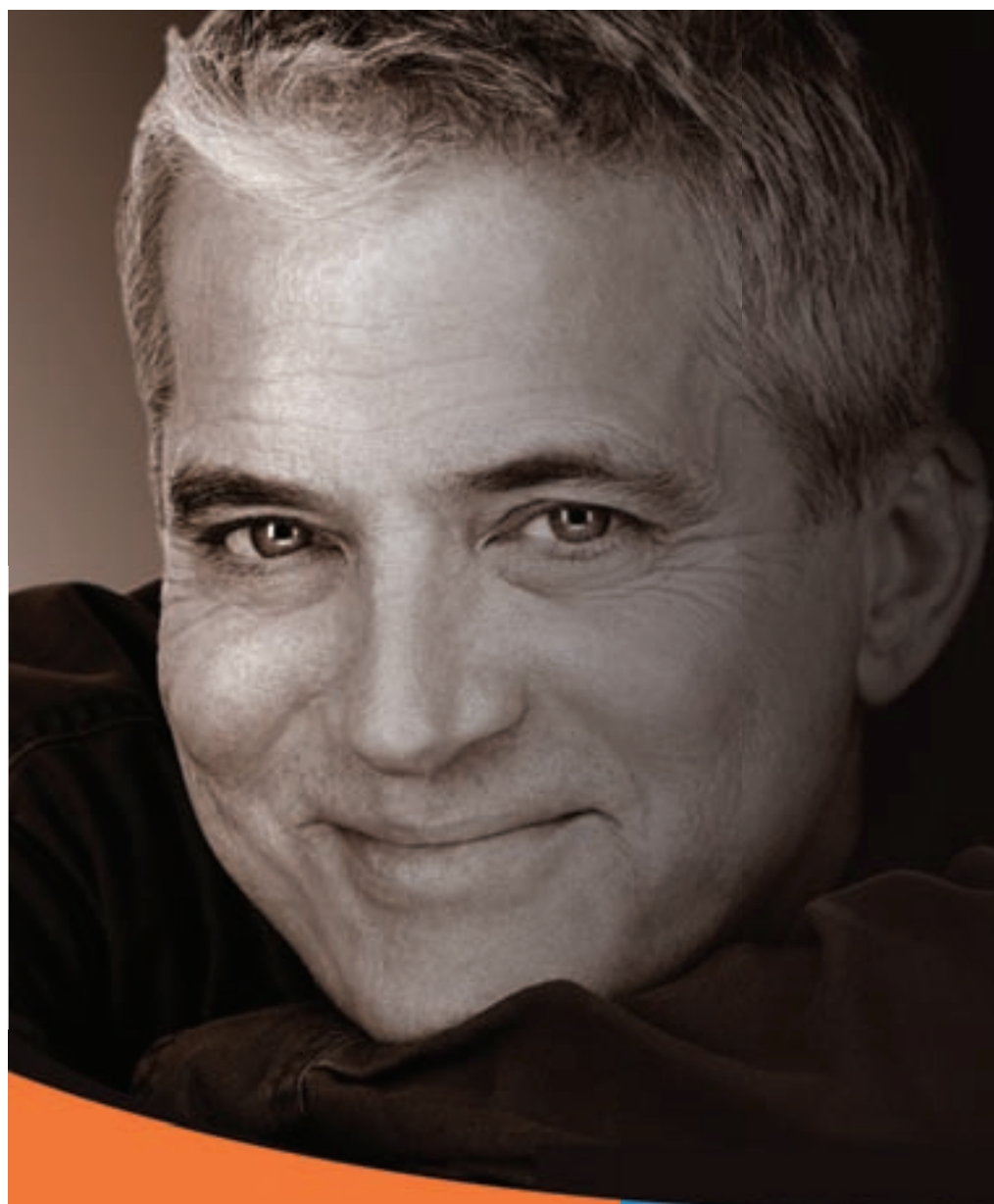
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