

## Astoria man charged in murder of his wife

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## Drunk driver killed Astoria grandpa: DA

BY CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

An Astoria man has been charged with hitting and killing a beloved grandfather, who was a refugee from the Cuban Revolution, with an SUV while allegedly intoxicated, the Queens district attorney's office said.

Demitrios Matsoukatidis, 67, of 23rd Street, was arraigned on second-degree vehicular manslaughter in the death of Lizardo Aldama, 89, and operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, the DA said. He was held on \$50,000 bail.

The DA said police responding to the accident allegedly noticed that Matsoukatidis had bloodshot, watery eyes and smelled of booze. An intoxilyzer test given to Matsoukatidis registered at .16, double the state's legal limit of .08, according to the DA's office.

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## BREAKDOWN OF BALANCE

Harlem Globetrotters legend Curly Neal shows off his moves during a visit to the New York Hall of Science in Corona as part of the program "The Science of Basketball." Neal has been part of the team for 22 seasons, playing in more than 6,000 games in 97 countries with the Hall of Fame team.

Photo by Maria Lopez

## Astoria Greeks track debt crisis in the homeland

### Massive layoffs, wage cuts spark riots

BY REBECCA HENELY

Astoria's Greeks were pessimistic about the future of their home country after the Athens government Monday voted in favor of another round of austerity measures to stave off default that inspired demonstrations and riots.

"The poor people are going to get hurt," said 70-year-old Nick Psomos, who was having coffee Monday in the Lefkos Pyrgos café, at 31st Street and 23rd Av-

enue in Astoria.

After already passing measures requiring a new property tax and layoffs last year, Greece voted 199-74 with 27 abstentions to pass a 22 percent cut in the benchmark minimum wage and 150,000 layoffs for government workers by 2015, among other Draconian steps.

The cuts were passed so the government does not default on a critical bond issue in March with its debt now at 160 percent of gross

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# Dromm wants new drug law

Pol slams city's high marijuana arrests, calls for legalized medical use

BY REBECCA HENELY

When City Councilman Daniel Dromm (D-Jackson Heights) criticized Mayor Michael Bloomberg's administration for the large number of marijuana possession arrests made on his watch and advocated for legalizing medical marijuana, he said he was not dismissing the drug's ill effects.

"Nobody wants people to go into an addiction," Dromm said.

At a meeting of the New Visions Democratic Club at the Jewish Center of Jackson Heights, at 37-06 77th St., last Thursday, Dromm described himself to the 60-person crowd as a recovering alcoholic who had been clean and sober for 20 years.

He said while he believes there are those who struggle with marijuana addiction and that marijuana use should not be encouraged, the city and state should look at whether anti-marijuana enforcement is being done properly and the possibility of becoming the 17th state to legalize marijuana for medical purposes.

"It's really a serious topic and it's one whose time has come," Dromm said.

Gabriel Sayegh, New York state director for the Drug Policy Alliance, said 50,683 people in the city were arrested for the lowest level of marijuana pos-



City Councilman Daniel Dromm (r.) speaks to the New Visions Democratic Club about enforcement of marijuana possession rules while Gabriel Sayegh (l.), of the Drug Policy Alliance, looks on.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

session in 2011. He said more people have been arrested under Bloomberg's administration than under Mayors Ed Koch, David Dinkins and Rudy Giuliani combined, even though marijuana usage was the highest in 1980.

Sayegh added that 86 percent of those arrested are black or Latino, even though white people use marijuana at a much higher rate.

"This is how so many of our youth get caught up in the criminal justice system," Dromm said.

Sayegh said that in 1977 the state classified

marijuana possession of 25 grams or less for personal use as a violation. But having marijuana in public view is a misdemeanor, and thus those found guilty can be subject to future problems in finding employment and public housing or can run into immigration difficulties if they are found guilty of it.

Sayegh contended many of these arrests occur when young people are stopped and frisked by police and asked to empty their pockets. He said if the marijuana remained in the person's pocket, it would be a violation, but because

they followed the police's orders it becomes a misdemeanor.

While Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly has reminded the department of the state law, Sayegh said possession arrests have still gone up.

"The commissioner's order is not being followed," he said.

Dromm said he has co-sponsored a city resolution in support of state Sen. Mark Grisanti (R-Buffalo) and state Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries (D-Brooklyn) which would standard-

*Continued on Page 16*

# Community Board 4 chooses new leaders

BY REBECCA HENELY

While Community Board 4 has not yet hired a new district manager to replace Richard Italiano, who died of a heart attack last month, the board voted to name Louis Walker its chairman at its monthly meeting last week.

"I'm excited about it," said Walker, who ran unopposed.

The board, which covers the neighborhoods of Elmhurst and Corona below Roosevelt Avenue, also elected new vice chairs, a new treasurer, a new executive secretary and four at-large directors.

Most of the nominees faced no competition, although the board did vote for the at-large directors from a pool of five candidates. The winners were Patricia Terranova for vice chairwoman, outgoing CB 4 Chairman Anthony Moreno for second vice chair-

man, Joseph DiMartino for treasurer and Clara Salas for executive secretary.

Terranova said unlike the executive board, district managers are hired, paid positions and the board would be looking into hiring a new manager shortly.

Walker previously held the chairmanship for five years and said he hopes he can do a better job than he did previously.

"It will be different this time, I'm sure," Walker said. "Each time it is a little bit different."

Meanwhile, one person who had threatened to leave the board said he would be sticking around. Nick Pennachio, who said he would be resigning from the board last month due to two members' refusal to say the Pledge of Allegiance, rescinded his resignation.

The announcement was met with applause from  
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Louis Walker was voted the new chairman of Community Board 4. He previously held the position for five years.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

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# Borough drag queen debuts on national television

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## Sunnyside's Jiggly Caliente struts her stuff on cable reality program hosted by RuPaul

BY REBECCA HENELY

Drag queens from all around the country strive to win on "RuPaul's Drag Race," but it is only in Season 4 that fans have gotten to watch a queen from Queens.

Sunnyside resident Paulo Arabejo, better known as Jiggly Caliente, is one of 13 contestants on Season 4 of the LGBT cable channel Logo's reality show.

On "Drag Race," female impersonators often face unique challenges such as fighting off drag queen zombies for fabric to make dresses, acting in a sitcom set in prison or posing for a photo on a spinning platform while being squirted with paint.

Famous drag queen RuPaul conducts the contest and the winner gets

a trip, a lifetime supply of makeup, \$100,000 and the opportunity to headline the show's tour.

"It gave me the chance of a lifetime," Caliente said of competing. "What person would turn that down?"

Only three episodes of this season's program have aired, but with her round frame and penchant for lollipops, Caliente has already made an impression with fans and detractors alike. In the first episode, she won best photo shoot and saved herself from elimination with a rousing lip-synch to Britney Spears' song "Toxic."

But Caliente also earned criticism when another contestant, Sharon Needles, said she was dating another drag queen and Caliente made a disparaging comment. Caliente later apologized and Needles



Sunnyside resident Jiggly Caliente is one of 13 contestants in the latest season of "RuPaul's Drag Race."

Photo courtesy Mathu Anderson

said on Facebook they had since made up.

"I had good and bad feedback from it," Caliente said. "But that's what you get from being on the show."

Caliente said the fourth season has been focused on getting to know the contestants, including their sometimes painful stories. In the show and in the "Untucked" companion show, Caliente has talked about losing her mother, being bullied and her weight.

"This season, you get to know the people behind the mask," she said, "behind the beauty, behind the makeup, behind the glamour."

Caliente said while she cried a lot on the show, she made friends during filming last year with the other contestants, who helped her with her problems.

"Last summer was the best and biggest therapy I've had and it helped me grow so much," Caliente

When Jiggly's around, I just go from a 7 to a 10.

Paulo Arabejo, better known as Jiggly Caliente

said.

Growing up, Caliente said her mother wanted her to be a doctor or nurse, but she always wanted to work in the arts. She went to the Fashion Institute of Technology for comic book

illustration but became a professional drag queen after she found she loved performing. Her drag name comes from the "Pokemon" character Jigglypuff and the Spanish word for "hot."

"It's basically an exaggeration of who I really am," Caliente said of her persona. "When Jiggly's around, I just go from a 7 to a 10."

While California native RuPaul once called Caliente a queen "from the 'hood," Caliente said that was the one part of the reality show that was not true. Caliente was born in the Polynesian Islands and lives with her brother in the Sunnyside apartment where she grew up.

"I've loved living in Queens and I'll never leave," she said. "I'm minutes from the city and I have the quiet of the suburbs."

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# Fresh Direct exodus draws mixed reactions

## After grocery delivery service takes incentives to move to Bronx, Long Island City discusses loss

BY REBECCA HENELY

A representative of a Long Island City business organization said he believed the neighborhood would be able to recover quickly from the move of online grocer Fresh Direct to the Bronx, although a local deli owner said the loss of its 2,000 employees would affect his business.

"There's not too many companies out there that have that amount of employees," said Gus Kaloudis, owner of New York Deli, at 21-09 Borden Ave.

Fresh Direct, which was founded in 1999 and is currently at 23-30 Borden Ave., sells groceries through its site at freshdirect.com and delivers to Queens, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Riverdale in the Bronx, Staten Island, Westchester and Nassau counties, southern Fairfield County in Connecticut and parts of

New Jersey.

The company, which was planning to expand, had applied for a New Jersey tax credit program but was convinced last week to move to the Bronx's Harlem River Rail Yards through more than \$100 million in incentives offered by the city and state together.

"From Day 1, New York has been our home, and we are grateful for the support of [Gov. Andrew] Cuomo and Mayor [Michael] Bloomberg in making New York a place Fresh Direct wants to stay and grow in," said Fresh Direct CEO Jason Ackerman in a statement.

The company expects to create 1,000 permanent jobs through the move. Anna Adams-Sarthou, spokeswoman for state Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria), said the current employees of Fresh Direct will be able to keep their jobs.



Fresh Direct leaving Queens has gotten differing reviews in both Long Island City and the Bronx.

Photo by Christina Santucci

The terms of the deal include about \$34 million in incentives from the state: \$18.9 million in Excelsior tax credits, a \$9 million capital grant, \$4 million in

energy grants and incentives, a \$1 million loan and up to \$1 million in vouchers to buy electric-powered vehicles.

The city is pitching in

with \$74 million in sales tax exemptions; a deferral of the mortgage rate recording tax, which is charged on city mortgages; and real estate tax exemptions. It is

also offering \$9.5 million to acquire assets for the new facility, \$4.9 million in energy benefits and a \$1 million loan.

Finally, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. is giving Fresh Direct a \$1 million capital grant, and the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corp. is giving a \$3 million loan and a \$500,000 capital grant.

"Of course, we're disappointed. We certainly hoped they would have stayed here," said Dan Miner, senior vice president for business services for the business group Long Island City Partnership.

He said despite the loss, the Long Island City business community is thriving, and he expected other food distributors would take an interest in the site.

"Lots of people will know, wow, there's a big

*Continued on Page 38*

## Queens high school council blasts DOE's turnaround fix

BY REBECCA HENELY

Spurred by the announcement that eight persistently low-achieving high schools in the borough would be given the turnaround model, the Queens High School Presidents Council held a breakfast and presentation in Flushing Friday refuting the city's education policies.

"Our kids are not pawns for our game," said Jane Rieff, president of the Queens High School Presidents Council.

The group, run by the borough and made up of presidents of the parent-teacher associations of all the high schools in Queens, discussed what they saw as inherent problems in the education system with legislators from across Queens and others with a stake in the system. The meeting was attended by about 60 people and held at the city Department of Education's office at 30-48 Linden Place, 4th Floor in Flushing. Topics included student college readiness, school progress reports and mayoral con-



Dermot Smyth, of the United Federation of Teachers, decries mayoral control of the city education system at a legislative breakfast in Flushing.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

trol of the school system.

"They've dumbed down the top and all they've done is falsify the numbers to make it look like the bottom is going up,"

*Continued on Page 38*

## Boro residents welcome deal on foreclosure relief

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

Relief will soon be on the way for Queens homeowners on the brink of foreclosure and to some who have lost their houses after the federal government and five of the country's largest mortgage providers reached a \$25 billion agreement over foreclosure abuses.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, along with 49 state attorneys general, including New York's Eric Schneiderman, achieved the settlement.

Schneiderman was the last to join the suit and was able to negotiate an additional \$136 million, on top of \$795 million for the state —



President Barack Obama, flanked by a number of the country's attorneys general and federal officials, talks about the landmark mortgage settlement reached between the federal government and the five largest mortgage lenders in the country.

AP Photo/Susan Walsh

the fourth highest amount among the 49 states.

The total settlement is \$25 billion and was ap-

proved in talks between the federal government and the nation's five largest

*Continued on Page 38*



# Restaurant workers recount 107 stories

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Some 75 percent of Americans eat out at least once a week, though few get more than a passing glimpse into the lives of the people who cook, prepare and serve their meals, according to a new exhibit.

With the exhibition "107 Stories: Through Restaurant Workers' Eyes," currently on display at the Queens Museum of Art, the Restaurant Opportunities Center seeks to tell the stories and give voice to the more than 10 million people who work, often under arduous conditions, in the \$1.7 trillion-a-year industry.

"Everybody eats out," said ROC co-founder Saru Jayaraman, "but very few people know what goes on in back."

ROC was founded after Sept. 11, when 73 employees of the Windows on the World restaurant, on the 107th floor of Tower Two of the World Trade Center, died in the terror attacks.

Jayaraman said 300 employees lost their jobs that day, and another 13,000 would be lost throughout the industry in the months afterward. She and co-founder Fekkak Mamdouh started the organization to improve conditions for the low-wage workforce.

According to ROC's research, the median wage

for restaurant workers has stagnated below \$9 per hour because the minimum wage for tipped workers of \$2.13 has not increased in more than 20 years.

"At almost every restaurant you go out to, particularly in casual restaurants like Applebee's or TGI Fridays or Outback, there is typically at least one worker who is homeless, about to be homeless or just left homelessness," Jayaraman said.

A selection of 20-plus photographs and video installations from the exhibition show the day-to-day realities of restaurant workers, from the mundane tasks of their labors to their lives outside their occupations.

One poster shows a worker named Frank, the caption informing his job titles include "server, busser, cashier, breadwarmer."

"A lot of pictures show how fast-paced it can be," Jayaraman said.

Another photo shows a man riding his bike on a street. "Delivering food isn't as easy as you think," the caption reads.

"Many delivery workers are hit by cars," Jayaraman added. "They also have to deliver in the snow and rain."

Still, others document life outside the work place, such as a worker's favor-

*Continued on Page 38*



Fekkak Mamdouh (l.) and Saru Jayaraman are co-founders of the Restaurant Opportunities Center, which is exhibiting a collection of restaurant workers' photographs at the Queens Museum of Art.

Photo by Rich Bockmann

# Schumer wants kinder TSA

Senator's legislation requires advocates to settle security tiffs

BY REBECCA HENELY

Spurred by three elderly women who alleged they had been mistreated by U.S. Transportation Security Administration agents at John F. Kennedy International Airport, U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) said Sunday he was introducing legislation mandating the agency create positions for passenger advocates.

"While we must do everything we can to ensure the safety and security of our passengers, that is no excuse for TSA agents to act in ways that embarrass, harass or make passengers uncomfortable," Schumer said in a statement.

The TSA said in a statement that it does not comment on pending legislation but offers help to travelers through its Contact Center, customer service managers and Internet-based tool Talk to TSA, which puts passengers in touch with customer service agents.

The agency said it had also instituted a hotline, TSA Cares, that passen-



U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer has introduced legislation mandating the TSA implement passenger advocates, who would settle disputes during security screenings.

AP Photo/Charles Dharapak

gers who have disabilities or medical conditions can call for information up to 72 hours in advance of their flight.

The senator had been calling for the agency to institute advocates, who would resolve disputes that arise between passengers and agents during security screening, since December

after three women traveling to New York for Thanksgiving said they were asked by agents to remove their clothes during the screening process.

The TSA apologized for the incidents at JFK and said its agents had acted improperly in screening the medical devices of two of the women — one of

whom had a back brace and another a colostomy bag — but denied the women had been strip-searched.

Schumer said he wanted the agency to hire the advocates voluntarily, but decided to mandate it when women began reporting other inappropriate behavior from agents like

*Continued on Page 38*

# Turner to top Lincoln Day Dinner

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

U.S. Rep. Bob Turner (R-Middle Village) is scheduled to give the keynote address at the Queens Village Republican Club's annual Lincoln Day Dinner Sunday at Antun's catering hall.

Turner, who represents portions of western and eastern Queens and parts of Brooklyn, shocked the country in September when he defeated state Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) in a special election to replace disgraced ex-Rep. Anthony Weiner in Congress.

The club, the oldest in the country, said the dinner Sunday at Antun's, at 96-43 Springfield Blvd. in Queens Village, "has been the highlight of the Queens political calendar and this year promises to be the most



The Queens Village Republican Club's annual Lincoln Day Dinner brings out some of the heavy hitters in the world of politics, including Mayor Michael Bloomberg (c.) and former state Sen. Frank Padavan (r.).

electrifying event ever as we enter a crucial election year for the Republican Party, which will determine the future direction of our country."

Also scheduled to speak at the

dinner, which in prior years toasted the likes of Mayor Michael Bloomberg, former state Sen. Frank Padavan and Guardian Angels founder Curtis Sliwa, is GOP congressional candidate Frank Scaturro.

Scaturro, who may run against Reps. Gary Ackerman (D-Bayside) or Carolyn McCarthy (D-Garden City) depending on how the congressional lines are redrawn, is a constitutional scholar, visiting professor at Hofstra Law School and a partner at the law firm FSB FisherBroyles.

Nassau County Comptroller George Maragos, who got his political start as sergeant-at-arms of the Republican club, is also scheduled to speak.

Maragos is planning a challenge to U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-  
*Continued on Page 38*



# Ferreras touts plans to improve streets and tourism

BY REBECCA HENELY

City Councilwoman Julissa Ferreras (D-East Elmhurst) advocated for better streets and for making the neighborhoods she represents a destination at her State of the District address last Thursday.

“We are in a state of transformation,” Ferreras said, “but I believe the state of our district is strong and it gets stronger every day.”

Speaking at the Langston Hughes Library, at 100-01 Northern Blvd. in Corona, Ferreras discussed what was coming to the neighborhoods of East Elmhurst, Corona, Elmhurst and Jackson Heights as well as work she had done over the past year.

Much of the councilwoman’s speech centered around how to better the quality of life on the streets in her district and encourage economic development.



City Councilwoman Julissa Ferreras (second from r.) talks to audience members before her State of the District speech. Photo by Rebecca Henely

“The condition of many of our streets is unacceptable and I’m really upset,” she said.

One public area will be getting a major improvement. She said that in 2014 construction will begin on revamping Corona Plaza,

at Roosevelt Avenue and National Street.

“It will be beautiful and our community deserves a state-of-the-art plaza,” Ferreras said.

She also spoke about the 82nd Street Business Improvement District get-

ting a new leader, the installation of 14 new trash cans along Roosevelt Avenue, an upcoming community survey on how safe the streets are for women, plans to create a new business corridor and affordable housing along Astoria

Boulevard and new sewer system currently being installed at Willets Point.

Ferreras said a rezoning of East Elmhurst is in the works and encouraged residents to call with what they want to see in the community.

“We need your input,” she said.

The councilwoman also came out for making the neighborhoods a tourist destination. With many attractions such as Citi Field, the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center and the Louis Armstrong House in the neighborhood, Ferreras said it was distressing how few tourism dollars come back to Corona.

She said she would be sponsoring a restaurant week in the district and encouraged residents to promote as well as explore their own neighborhoods.

“We are here because we care about and love

this community,” Ferreras said.

She also called for improvements to Flushing Bay and urged residents to call 311 to complain about any bad smells coming from the waterfront. She said the city should work toward making it an attraction.

“We have this great waterfront we’re just not using in an adequate way,” she said.

Ferreras talked about her advocacy for women’s issues and for the community in the Council as well as trying to fix the long-time problem of overcrowding in the school districts in northwest Queens. She said in addition to PS 287 in Corona, which recently broke ground. Three other schools are coming to her district: PS 311 in Corona, PS 315 in East Elmhurst and another school at a location to be determined.

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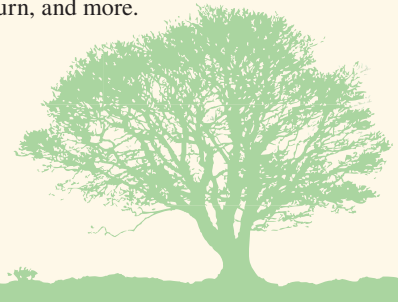
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# CUNY Law responds to low bar exam pass rate

BY JOE ANUTA

CUNY School of Law in Flushing has made some policy changes in response to statistics showing only 63 percent of its students passed their first bar exam last summer, the lowest percentage in the state.

The New York Law Journal published the statistics in December, ranking all 15 of New York state's law schools and showing each school's performance for the past years.

CUNY rounded out the bottom of the list at 63 percent, ranking far behind seventh-place St. John's University, also in Queens, where 88 percent of its students passed the bar. The state average was 86 percent.

But the data was not so cut and dry, according to a CUNY Law spokeswoman, who said that only 99 CUNY students took the bar in July 2011, the lowest number out of all the schools.

That means each failing student brought down CUNY's score by nearly a percentage point. In addition, nine of those students were graduates from years past who returned for the exam this year.

Nevertheless, state Sen. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone), a ranking member on the Senate Higher Education Committee, called the statistics "troubling."

But Stavisky also pointed out that since

CUNY is far cheaper to attend than some of the top-ranking law schools like Columbia and New York University, which tied for first place with a 96 percent pass rate, CUNY students might be at a financial disadvantage.

Bar review courses, which help prepare law students specifically for the New York test much like an SAT prep class, can run more than \$3,000.

Nevertheless, the dean of the law school, Michelle Anderson, recognized that changes needed to be made to the curriculum.

"The faculty and administration have adopted a series of policy changes to address our bar pass rate," she said in a statement.

According to the law journal, 2011 marked the fourth year in a row that the CUNY Law passing rate had fallen for the July test, which is one of two offered by the New York State Bar Association. In 2008, the CUNY Law rate was 83 percent, the next year it was 80 percent, then in 2010 it was down to 73 percent before hitting 63 percent in 2011.

In November, the faculty voted for raising academic standards at the university. One of the measures that was later approved by the executive committee of CUNY's board of trustees was raising the GPA required to remain a student in a good standing from 2.3 to 2.5.

In addition, the university would restrict struggling law students from taking pass/fail courses and would stipulate that struggling students in their sixth semester would have to take an extra semester of coursework. The changes will go into effect in the spring.

Stavisky said it was a

good move designed to protect a vital institution in the borough.

CUNY specializes in producing public interest lawyers, who typically work for nonprofits.

"They are unique in training people to work for the public," she said.

New York Law School, a private university located

in Manhattan, ranked 12th with an 80 percent pass rate, instituted a program in 2003 to identify struggling students and reduce their course load while extending their curriculum by one semester at no extra

cost, according to a spokeswoman for the university.

Reach reporter Joe Anuta by e-mail at [januta@cnglocal.com](mailto:januta@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4566.

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CUNY School of Law has taken measures to address the percentage of first-time bar exam takers who pass, which has fallen in the last three years and is currently ranked last in the state.

Photo by Christina Santucci



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# POLICE Blotter

## Rockaway suspect killed in cop shootout: Mayor

ROCKAWAY BEACH — A Harlem man who police said was a suspect in the shooting of a 25-year-old woman in Rockaway Beach was killed during a shoot-out with a police officer in a Manhattan subway station Tuesday afternoon, and a detective who was shot during the melee was in stable condition, Mayor Michael Bloomberg said.

When Detective Kevin Herlihy and fellow officers confronted suspect Michael McBride near 145th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue, McBride shot at police, hitting Herlihy in the left arm, Bloomberg said.

“Detective Herlihy exchanged fire, and the shooter was killed,” Bloomberg said.



**MICHAEL MCBRIDE**

Bloomberg said Herlihy had been tracking McBride.

At some point McBride realized that he had been spotted, went into the subway station, then turned and fired between four and six shots at police, according to a statement from the NYPD.

McBride was shot in the chest, police said. His .22-caliber six-shot revolver was recovered at the scene, with six shell casings used, police said.

The NYPD had released a request for the public’s assistance Tuesday afternoon to locate McBride, 52, for questioning about the shooting of a woman who Bloomberg said is believed to be the daughter of McBride’s girlfriend in a Rockaway Beach apartment.

Police said the victim was shot once in the head Monday and remained in very critical condition at North Shore University Hospital.

## Boro police impersonator arrested in N.J.: Cops

CITYWIDE — Members of the NYPD’s Internal Affairs Bureau arrested a New Jersey man last week who they said impersonated a police officer and forced prostitutes to perform sexual acts on him.

Police said they arrested 32-year-old Warren Taylor, of 1275 Sawcreek Estates in Bushkill, N.J., Feb. 6. According to police, during the months of January and February Warren allegedly approached four prostitutes in the 108th and 13th precincts in a red 2010 Nissan Maxima. He would allegedly identify himself as an officer and threaten the females with arrests if they

did not perform sexual acts for free, police said.

In one incident, Taylor allegedly assaulted one of the women, according to police.

Warren was charged with criminal impersonation of a police officer, criminal sex act, patronizing a prostitute, assault, forcible touching, kidnapping and criminal possession of a weapon, police said.

The 108th Precinct covers Long Island City, Sunnyside and Woodside. The 13th Precinct covers the lower portion of midtown Manhattan.

## ATV rider robbed of \$900 in Howard Beach: Cops

HOWARD BEACH — A man who was riding his ATV on the streets of Howard Beach told police he was robbed of \$900 by a Brooklyn man pretending to be a police officer, according to a criminal complaint.

Edwin Maldonado told police he was stopped by 34-year-old Walter Faison, of 597 Warwick St. in Brooklyn, as he rode his ATV on Cross Bay Boulevard, the report showed.

Maldonado said Faison and another unapprehended suspect allegedly stepped out of their black Ford SUV wearing bullet-proof vests, badges, radios and what appeared to be firearms holstered on their belts, court documents showed.

The two men then allegedly told Maldonado they had been following him for several blocks and that he could be arrested for operating his off-road vehicle on

public streets and asked to see his driver’s license, according to police.

Maldonado pulled it out of his pocket, along with the approximately \$900 wrapped around it, and then the unapprehended suspect allegedly took both the money and license from him, retreating to the SUV to “run” his license, according to the complaint.

After returning Maldonado’s license, the two men allegedly made off with the cash, though they apparently had a change of heart as Maldonado’s sister told police they later showed up and handed her about \$180 they said Maldonado had lost, the report said.

Faison was arraigned Feb. 11 on charges of grand larceny and criminal impersonation.



# NAACP Jamaica head feted in boro

BY RICH BOCKMANN

On the eve of the 103rd anniversary of the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Alpha Phi Alpha senior citizens center of Cambria Heights honored NAACP Jamaica Branch President Leroy Gadsden for his leadership during its third annual Valentine's Gala Saturday.

Alpha Phi Alpha is the country's first inter-collegiate African-American fraternity, and in 1974 the local chapter founded the senior center, at 220-01 Linden Blvd., in order to serve the southeast Queens community. The national fraternity counts among its members leaders such as W.E.B. Du Bois, Martin Luther King Jr. and Thurgood Marshall.

## BLACK HISTORY

"The NAACP has been able to achieve many outstanding things through great leaders," said center member Halvor James, as he presented Gadsden with the leadership award, recognizing him for his stance on political and social issues.

Gadsden was elected to the position of president four years ago, and since then he has led the branch in its fight for an economic fair share at Aqueduct Casino and taken on issues such as police brutality, discriminatory practices in school closings and voter

protection at polling sites.

The Alpha member began by invoking the fraternity's motto of "First of all, servants of all, we shall transcend all."

"America still is not right," he told the hundred or so attendees at the gala lunch at Antun's catering hall in Queens Village, "Queens is still not right."

Gadsden said the most pressing current issue for the community is the newly released legislative redistricting maps drawn by a "segregated panel" made up of "a group of white men who make decisions for black folks and everyone else."

Specifically, he criticized the state's Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Redistricting for drawing lines he said voters who live upstate a larger voice than those downstate.

"What kind of math is it where you get a decrease in population and increase in representation?" he asked, referring to the addition of a 63rd state Senate seat upstate.

Re-electing President Barack Obama, Gadsden said, was another priority, and he urged the community to interpret a national rhetoric of hate as a warning sign against becoming complacent.

"Don't get caught up thinking all is well," he said. "Show up, show out and put him back in the White House."



Honoree George Hulse (l.-r.); honoree Dora Rivas; Hilda Rodgers, director of Alpha Phi Alpha Senior Citizens Center; James Fletcher, chairman of the Alpha Phi Alpha Senior Citizens Center; honoree Kelly Singleton, mistress of ceremonies Cheryl Wills and honoree Leroy Gadsden attend the center's Valentine's Gala.

Photo by Nat Valentine

# QC remembers Holocaust

College's ceremony shines spotlight on forgotten genocide victims



Petra Gelbart (l.) and Siv Lie perform a Romani-language song composed in the Auschwitz concentration camp at Queens College's commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Photo by Rich Bockmann

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Queens College commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day Sunday a little bit differently than everyone else.

For starters, the United Nations designated Jan. 27 as the day of memorial for the 11 million victims of the Holocaust. In addition, the college invited speakers to draw attention to the forgotten minorities persecuted under the Third Reich in Germany in an effort to promote a better understanding of the prejudices that led to the various genocides of the 20th and 21st centuries.

"This is not a usual Holocaust recognition most of you are used to," said Jeff Gottlieb, founder of the college's Holocaust Remembrance Day, which was held Sunday due to scheduling difficulties. "We're focused

on fostering inter-group understanding."

Gottlieb reminded the attendees gathered in the student union ballroom of the atrocities committed in the Congo starting in 1996, of those in Darfur at the beginning of this century, of the 1915 massacre of Armenians during World War I and the Rape of Nanking in 1937.

This year, speakers from the LGBT and disabled persons communities and from the Jehovah's Witnesses shared their histories from the Holocaust and spoke about the importance of remembering these lessons in order to combat the prejudices all minority groups face today.

City Councilman Daniel Dromm (D-Jackson Heights) said he was not taught in high school that lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transsexuals and other deviants were put in concen-

tration camps and forced to wear pink triangles on their clothing.

"It was not until just 10 years ago that the German government apologized to the gay community," he said, adding that many anti-gay Nazi laws had been on the books until 1994.

Dromm said the real lesson to be learned was not of the dangers of homophobia but of defining marginalized groups as "the other."

"As a gay activist prior to being elected to the City Council, I've always tried to reach out to communities other than my own," he said, drawing a parallel to the recent rise of Islamophobia.

The councilman said most recently he spoke out against bigotry in reaction to the spray-painting of swastikas on the Jackson Heights Library.

"I didn't do it because I

want to support the Jewish community. I did it because I feel I was protecting myself," he said.

Jolene Chu is a Jehovah's Witness and, as conscientious objectors, members of her faith were also forced to don pink triangles under Adolf Hitler's regime. She said the Nazis went after non-violent protesters because they opposed everything the party stood for: racism, ultra-nationalism and absolute obedience to men.

Chu pointed out that the inscription outside the U.N. headquarters reads, "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more."

"War is learned behavior," she said. "You're here today because you agree. Peace, harmony, cooperation and understanding are qualities that can be learned, too."



# THANKS, GOVERNOR, SORT OF

The good news is Fresh Direct has decided to relocate to the Bronx. The bad news is Queens will lose 2,000 jobs.

The credit for keeping the company, which delivers groceries and caters to places throughout the metropolitan area, goes to Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who came up with a package of incentives that beat those offered by New Jersey.

State Sen. Michael Gianaris said he was “disappointed they couldn’t find a way to stay in Long Island City, but I’m glad that we kept them in New York City.”

It is not clear how many of Queens workers will decide to make the trek each day to the Bronx. The commute will add at least two unpaid hours to their work day.

According to the governor, Fresh Direct will be spending \$112.6 million on a 500,000-square-foot facility near the Harlem River Rail Yards. This will create 1,000 new permanent jobs and some 684 construction jobs. The company says this will allow Fresh Direct to expand services through New Jersey and into Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

We are disappointed. The loss of this company will have a negative impact on the small businesses in Long Island City that served employees from Fresh Direct.

Gianaris said he is hopeful a company can be found that will take the place vacated by Fresh Direct.

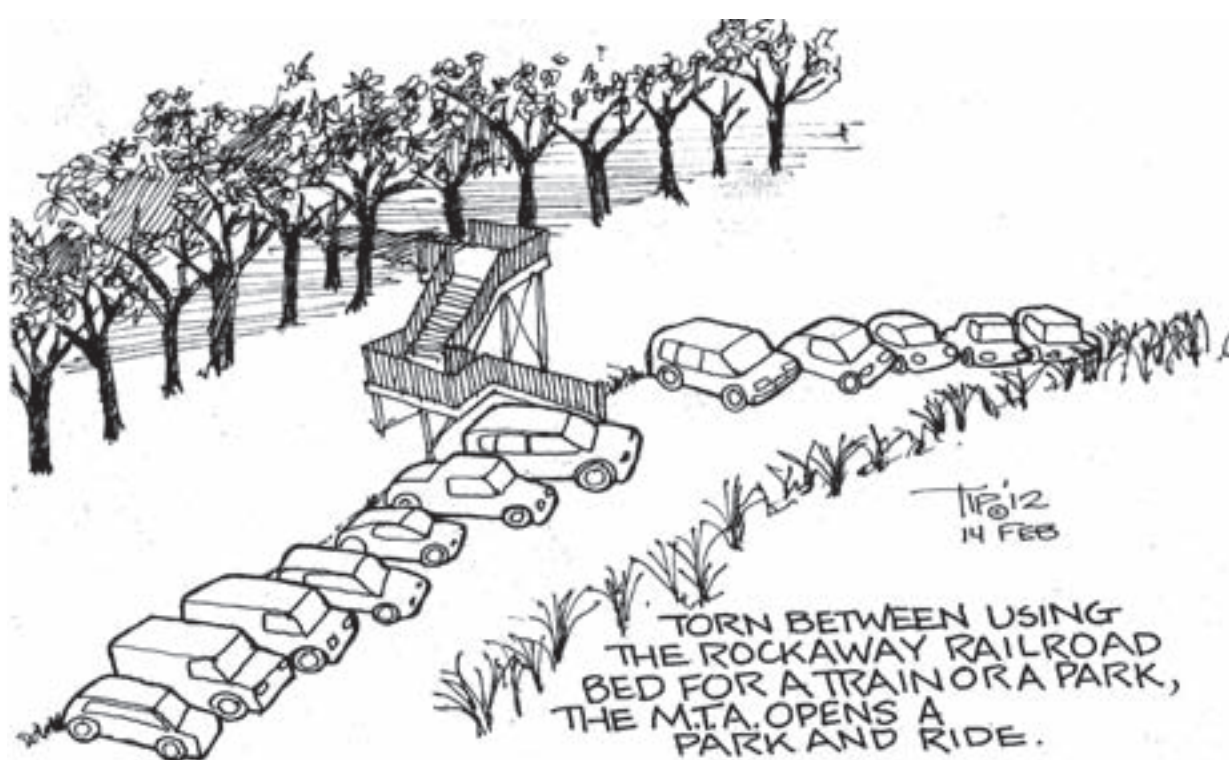
## HIGH-TECH COPS

Cell phones, laptops and iPads have become the No. 1 target of the city’s lowlifes. Robberies of these items take place every day in nearly every precinct. But a quick-thinking cop in the 105th Precinct has shown that the technology sword cuts both ways.

A 27-year-old man reported that his wallet, iPhone and iPad had been stolen. The robber allegedly pulled a gun and then beat his victim over the head with it.

One of the responding officers quickly used a computer program called iCloud to track the stolen iPhone. In a short time, the thief was arrested.

Hopefully, this program and others like it will take the profit out of stealing gadgets.



## OTHER VOICES

# Politics not behind Lions Club elections

*An open letter to Dee Richards:*

Generally I look forward to reading your articles, but found your Feb. 9-15 article entitled “Bayside-Whitestone Lions Club looking for new president” misrepresentative of the club and its procedures.

Although a new club, the BWLC is part of an international organization with a long history providing community service and support throughout the globe. Each member club is charged with identifying

local community needs to support but in accordance with guidelines established by the New York International Lions Club of New York and Bermuda.

It is also important to note that each member of the club participants in activities as evidence by the large turnout at the Club’s monthly meetings. During the past year, the BWLC has honored policeman from the 109th and 111th precincts and established a scholarship fund for high school seniors, food drives for needy individu-

als and supplies for senior citizens and an upcoming tree-giving event. The club has just established a 501c charitable foundation that will enhance its abilities to support the community.

Regarding the election process, this is an annual requirement overseen by a nominating committee and board of directors of the club. To imply this is somehow politically motivated is wrong and misleading. The committee considers members in good standing and presents a slate at a monthly meeting. Once

the slate is presented to the members, any member can nominate another member for consideration. The members then vote.

The BWLC is proud of what it has accomplished in a short period of time and is confident its membership and community support will grow.

I trust you will convey these facts to your readers.

*Donald Frain  
First Vice President  
Bayside-Whitestone Lions Club  
Flushing*

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# Everyday errand leads to meeting with music great

It was a windy, cold January afternoon, and after battling Steinway Street traffic I finally found a parking spot. I had to remind myself that this challenge is always worth the effort when I am visiting my friend Zafar from Humza Studio to have my old 8 mm tapes transferred over to DVDs.

The fact of the matter is that I have so many of these precious memories captured on celluloid that I prefer to bring a few at a time to Zafar, despite his excellent prices.

But on this day things were a little different. In-

stead of one of the regular faces greeting me when I entered this family-owned and -operated business, a strange but somehow familiar face met mine.

I instantly knew I had never met this elderly Pakistani gentleman before, but at the same time I knew the face. Then it hit me: That warm, smiling face belonged to none other than Moshin Raza. I cannot tell you how often I have viewed his compositions on YouTube and also read many of his published writings.

For those of you not familiar with this Pakistani music icon, I will give you

a quick biography. In 1971, he began his career doing musical compositions. He received his formal education from Government College in Lahore, India.

Thanks to practice, hard work, rigorous training and education in the domain of making music compositions from Khwaja Khurshid Anwar, Ustad Nazar-e-Hussain and Master Sadiq, he immediately made a name for himself in the presence of stalwarts, combining the styles of these three great genres into one, perfect in craftsmanship and aesthetics.

Raza also made his

mark as a highly regarded music director both at PTV and Radio Pakistan. He has by now composed for and conducted more than 250 programs for PTV, especially stage shows organized on occasions such as Eid, national days and award ceremonies.

Of particular note was his work on the Millennium Show for Madam Nurjehan. In addition to the numerous songs he has recorded for Broadcasting House, Radio-Pakistan and Lahore, he has more than 3,000 musical compositions for film, TV and radio to his credit.

If I were to cite all the awards Raza has received over his career, we would surely run out of ink to print this piece. Suffice to say that based on the single fact that he is a two-time recipient of the Presidential Award of Performance — in 2004 and 2009 and presented by none other than the government of Pakistan itself — Raza is a composition genius of legendary status.

But as a fan you always wonder if meeting someone of that stature will turn out to be disappointing if their personality falls short of their talent. Well, I can tell

you the man who spreads the message of peace and love by composing exceptional Arifana Kalam/Sufi and religious music is just as genuine and amiable in person. We had a short chat, but it was obvious this was a special person.

All that and I dropped off my tapes into good hands to be converted — a great afternoon indeed.

*Joseph Cicchelli  
School Director  
IMTI Trade School  
Long Island City*

## Don't fingerprint over food stamps

In New York state, more than 3 million people are living beneath the federal poverty line. From 2007 to the present, that number has increased by 11 percent, according to federal census data.

More than 3 million state residents — one in six — now live in poverty, according to a survey conducted by the city Coalition Against Hunger, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently released a report showing a 56 percent increase in food insecurity among New Yorkers. At the same time, New York has one of the lowest food stamp enrollment rates in the nation, and fingerprinting requirements could be one reason why so many eligible New Yorkers are facing increased food insecurity.

In such an economic climate, we should be ensuring that the neediest among us have access to adequate safety nets, not demonizing those who are trying to put food on their children's tables by requiring them to be fingerprinted.

While I share the Bloomberg administration's concerns with preventing waste in government, I believe there are better avenues with which to combat fraud. In addition, fingerprinting adds a costly administrative burden to an already underfunded program. In 2011, the USDA undersecretary wrote to states that "there are serious concerns that finger-imaging requirements may be a barrier to participation among many of the hard-to-reach eligible populations who wish to enroll in the [food stamp] program." He encouraged states to find more cost-effective methods to root out fraud.

According to a study conducted by the Food and Research Action Center, analyzing data provided by The New York Times, in Queens alone 11 percent of residents were enrolled in the SNAP program in 2009, while almost 17 percent of the population was found to be under 125 percent of the poverty rate.

In real numbers, that

means more than 262,587 were receiving SNAP benefits, although more than 381,612 people were eligible for the program. Thanks to Gov. Andrew Cuomo's pledge to add an extra \$1 million to a food stamp outreach program, I hope we can close that gap.

On a weekly basis, my office responds to constituent concerns regarding food stamp applications. Many people are eligible for the program and do not realize it. Other eligible applicants are ashamed to admit they need help. It is time to get rid of the stigma that fingerprinting requirements reinforce.

We cannot afford to let our children go hungry or let food insecurity become a dominating factor in the everyday lives of New York's residents. It is time to stop the practice of fingerprinting for food stamps in New York City.

*David Weprin  
State Assemblyman  
(D-Little Neck)*

## This fall vote for change favoring you

Finally, our troops are out of Iraq but without the oil which precipitated the phony invasion and without the lives of our 4,000 soldiers unknowingly fighting and dying for it.

We eradicated Saddam Hussein, we made Iran powerful and victorious, we allowed our war in Afghanistan to languish and it only took 10 years. What could possibly go wrong?

Well, at least Dick Cheney's Halliburton did well, as did private contractors. Obviously Cheney still believes there is profit to be made from this fiasco, since he wants us to stay there. If Cheney thinks it is wrong

to leave Iraq, judging from his past misjudgments, it must be right.

Let us hope that come November 2012, voters remember the comedy — read: tragedy — of errors that our present administration inherited from the previous. We have the opportunity to end the futile struggle in Afghanistan, save our country from the disaster of an ever-increasing inequity of wealth, close loopholes, insure fair-share tax implementation and eliminate a host of other destructions heaped upon our country by the previous administration.

The alternative is continued tax breaks for the

wealthy on the backs of the middle class and bye-bye Medicare, Social Security, education aid and all programs necessary for the middle class to rise. We are at the crossroads of our country's future.

Either we relinquish all to the benefactors of today's version of the Republican Party and the conservative U.S. Supreme Court's invention of the "corporate people" or stand firm for the "real people."

The choice is in the hands — or, more accurately, votes — of the middle class.

*Alan Johnson  
Bayside*

## Club is not seeking new president

With all due respect, Dee Richards' Feb. 9-15 headline is incorrect.

Paul Vallone never said he was seeking a new president, the club simply presented the slate for the upcoming elections and

he announced who will be running, including the candidate for president, Donald Frain.

He advised the club that if anyone was interested in running before the elections to contact the board so we can add their

names to the slate, as any organization does.

In less than one year we have more than 60 members and have participated in charitable events.

*Michael Seroa  
Bayside*



# Annual cocktail party draws Dems from boro and beyond



Dee Richard  
Dishing with Dee

Let me start this week's column on a rather sad note. I wish to extend my deepest, heartfelt sympathy to the family of **Marissa Roslyn Feldman**.

She is survived by her son **Michael Feldman** and daughter **Beth Curcio**. She had two grandchildren, **Erica Feldman** and **Amy Curcio**. She died Feb. 9 at the assisted living home Harbor House in Oyster Bay, L.I.

As some of you may know, Michael has been a partner of mine for quite a few years. He and his sister should have no regrets, as

they were always devoted and loving children to their mother. Marissa had been failing for the past two years, and they both went above and beyond what was expected of them.

Rest in peace, Marissa. You will always be in our prayers. Needless to say, Michael, if I can be of any help, do not hesitate to call.

On Feb. 7 at 9 a.m., there was a breakfast with Borough President **Helen Marshall** and her cabinet at the LaGuardia Marriott Hotel. The room was filled to capacity and everyone was brought up to date on the present and future plans of Queens. The event was sponsored by the Queens Chamber of Commerce.

While there, we ran into old friend **Dolly De Thomas**, who has worked across the street from the Marriott for many years at the LaGuardia Plaza Hotel.

Dolly was upset as she announced that her hotel was scheduled to close in mid-March. We also heard at the breakfast that Staples on Northern Boulevard is also due to close. At the same time, there is a rumor circulating that the Waldbaum's on 154th Street may also close its doors. Who says the economy is starting to get better?

Feb. 7 was the 15th annual Taste of Fine Food at Terrace on the Park to benefit the Queens Centers of Progress. That's always a fun but fattening evening, as all the purveyors of fine food in Queens had samples for everyone to taste and enjoy. This year's Chefs of the Year were **Martha Taylor Esq.**, a long-time community activist, and **Linda De Sabato**, president of Vallo Transportation.

It was a well-deserved honor for both ladies. Mar-

shall was the honorary chairwoman. QCP is celebrating more than 60 years of service to the Queens Community. **Charles Houston**, executive director, and **Maryann McAleer**, director of development, both deserve kudos for presenting a great event.

Early last Thursday evening, the Democratic Organization of Queens held its annual winter cocktail party at Antun's in Queens Village. It was hosted by **Joe Crowley**, chairman of the Queens Democratic Organization. The dinner co-chairs were **Elizabeth Crowley** and **Sulpice Chamblin**.

As usual, just about every Democrat who wanted to support the party was present. **Mary Lou** and **Jamie Plunkett** did their usual exceptional best to provide everyone with a memorable evening. Some

of the notable guests were **Joe Crowley**, **Gary Ackerman**, **Tom DiNapoli**, **Christine Quinn**, **Scott Stringer**, **Bill de Blasio** and **John Liu**. I mentioned them as they are not the regular politicians who attend Queens events. This is an election year and Queensites vote.

Last Thursday evening, the Jefferson Democratic Club held its February meeting at the Clearview Golf Course Club House. The guest speaker was state Assemblyman **Ed Braunstein**, who brought everyone up to date on the new legislative session in Albany. I really like Ed, as he is a decent young man, the kind of man everyone would like to represent them. You can be sure he sincerely tries to do his best to represent his constituents.

On Friday evening,

the School Sisters of Notre Dame Education Center held a Mardi Gras festival at Monsignor Mulz Hall in Woodhaven. The honorees were **Jerry Sampanato**, general manager of JFK Airport, and **Dolores Hofman**, program manager of Queens Air Services. They both made an excellent King and Queen of the Mardi Gras. Needless to say, I added more purple, green and gold beads to my collection.

An interesting bit of trivia: Did you know the first Mardi Gras, "Fat Tuesday," was near New Orleans in 1699? I had no idea it went back that far. I had the pleasure one year of being in New Orleans for Mardi Gras. New Orleans folks sure know how to celebrate party and live large. What a great city!

## Romney wins Florida, Maine but faces Santorum surge



William Lewis  
Political Action

Florida has just proven to be a key state in the presidential race. Mitt Romney has established himself as a lead contender for the Republican nomination. Newt Gingrich, after doing well in the South Carolina primary, could not maintain his momentum. Gingrich is a good public speaker and knows the issues well, but it was not enough.

In Florida, it was Romney who was the main aggressive candidate, attack-

ing Gingrich's political background in Congress and his business dealings after being forced to resign from Congress. Romney did well in the debates by continually putting Gingrich on the defensive.

In various ways, the all-important Florida primary this year can be compared to the same primary four years ago in 2008, when former Mayor Rudy Giuliani ran for president in that primary. He and his staff had decided to make a major effort there after practically abandoning the New Hampshire primary.

Like Gingrich, in 2008 Giuliani had been doing well in the polls and for a while was one of the leading candidates. Once the general Republican voting

population became aware of Giuliani's entire background, however, they became less enthusiastic about Giuliani's presidential candidacy.

After all the campaign efforts of the Giuliani organization were put into Florida, the final results were that Giuliani received only 15 percent of the vote, while John McCain won the primary. This poor showing in the 2008 Florida primary ended Giuliani's presidential ambitions.

The results of the recent 2012 Florida primary has not ended Gingrich's presidential bid, but it did diminish his chances.

As we look at the Romney campaign, the obvious reasons for his decisive victory are that he had a

stronger campaign organization on the ground than Gingrich did and, what was even more important, Romney outspent his rival by a margin of 5-1.

In addition, Romney led in most of the population centers and among most groups of voters except the conservative voters in rural areas.

One aspect to the campaign which has received little attention from the news media is the role of Romney's wife Ann, who has recently been interviewed on several television programs and on Election Night introduced her husband when he gave his victory statement.

She makes a good impression. She is a good public speaker, has a knowledge

of the issues and seems to have a lot of self-confidence. A significant number of voters believe that the position of first lady is an important part of the presidency. More people are coming to the conclusion that Ann Romney would make an excellent first lady.

The Republican women's vote in Florida went heavily to Romney by a margin of 51 percent to 29 percent. Although economic issues were dominant, especially in regards to employment, nevertheless the women's pro-Romney vote showed that family values do count as an important matter.

The issue of family values helped Romney in Florida, as it no doubt will in other places.

It can be said that if the primary and caucus competition can be decided soon in terms of who will be the Republican nominee, it will benefit the Republican Party. If these primaries continue on into the late spring, however, President Barack Obama will benefit from a fractured Republican Party.

Speaking of a fractured party, on Feb. 7 Rick Santorum won the Colorado and Minnesota caucuses and the Missouri primary, while Romney won the Maine caucus Feb. 11. The next primaries will be Feb. 28 in Arizona and Michigan.

# Columnist's friend finds much to gripe about over politics



**Kenneth Kowald**  
■  
*I Sit And Look Out*

Here are the comments of my fourth friend, responding to my recent column about my gripes about our society.

Don was born in Manhattan and lives in Denver. For many years, he and his family were residents of Queens. Don began with the following brief list of gripes and then expanded it later:

"There are some things about the world that get my goat:

"1. The unbelievably low state of political discourse, particularly the contributions (?) of the cretins who have taken over the Republican Party.

"2. The dearth of creativity among the present-day composers of classical music.

"3. Ditto popular music since the 1970s.

"4. Ditto the visual arts.

"5. The conversion of air travel into air torture.

"6. The canonization of that second-rate actor and third-rate politician Ronald Reagan."

Not long after sending me that short list, Don came up with the following:

"1. The American taxpayer who doesn't know that taxation is the price we

pay for civilization, or who has been misled by the Republican Neanderthals into believing 'there is a free lunch.' California once had a superb educational system at all levels, but it was severely degraded by the passage of Prop. 13, which sharply cut the revenues which had supported it." (Don and his family lived in the Bay Area for many years.)

"2. The drivers who honk at me when I slow down at intersections to make sure I turn on the right one.

"3. The people who ridicule President Obama as a 'wimp' because he hasn't accomplished as much as we and he had hoped for." (I've called Obama "The Wimp" many times.) "Never mind

Obama has not been helped by the members of Congress who run when Republicans scream 'class warfare.'

that he inherited a terrible situation from Shrub — including two wars, at least one of which was totally unnecessary and for which Bush and Cheney will roast for a long time in hell — and a deep recession that probably will have to run its course. He has not been helped by the gutless

members of Congress who run every time that the Republicans scream 'class warfare.'

"We sure as hell are engaged in a war that is being waged by the very rich on the middle and working classes, and we'd better be prepared to fight it. Barack Obama is certainly the best president we are likely to get for a long, long time. Criticize him if you will — I certainly do — but do not dismiss him. Save that when Rick Perry becomes president and Don and Judy move to Mexico."

Don wrote this before Perry and others who tried to raise Cain disappeared

from the scene and left standing Willard "Mitt" Romney, whomever he may be impersonating today. Is Newton Leroy Gingrich still hanging around as I send this column to the copy editor?

Don and Judy have spent some wonderful vacations in Mexico and Don is the co-author of "Choose Mexico," a guide to retiring in Mexico.

*Next: The gripes of my fifth friend, a native and life-long resident of Ridgewood.*

(I hope you have a chance to check my blog, No Holds Barred, which you will find at timesledger.com.)

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# Astoria husband charged in wife's grisly murder

BY REBECCA HENELY

An Astoria man suspected in the beating death of his wife after a bloody note saying "I killed my best friend" was found in their apartment was returned to New York on murder charges Tuesday, the Queens district attorney's office said.

Jordan Hawes, 32, who lives at 30th Street and Newtown Avenue in Astoria, waived extradition after he was arrested in Connecticut Feb. 4 by the state police at a rest stop on Interstate 95 close to Bridgeport, where a 2008 Jeep Liberty belonging to his wife Tara Hawes was spotted, the DA said.

Hawes had a seizure that required hospitalization after his arrest but has since recovered, the DA said.

He is awaiting arraignment in Queens Criminal Court on charges of murder, two grand larceny counts, two counts of criminal possession of stolen property, unauthorized use of a vehicle and criminal possession of a weapon



as of Tuesday afternoon press time, the DA said.

"The defendant is accused of savagely beating to death the woman whom he purportedly loved," District Attorney Richard Brown said in a statement. "If convicted, her brutal and senseless death merits serious punishment."

Tara, 33, worked as a special education teacher in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and had not been heard from since Jan. 30 at 9 p.m., the DA said. Messages had been sent from her phone and Jordan Hawes' phone saying she would be absent from work during the next two days, although when a neighbor called her home telephone Feb. 1, Jordan Hawes claimed Tara had not come home from work, the DA said.

Law enforcement officers found her dead in the apartment she shared with Jordan Hawes Feb. 2 at around 10:30 p.m., Brown said. Tara Hawes had suffered

blunt force trauma to her head and body and authorities also allegedly found two bloody knives and a baseball bat with blood, skin and hair, the DA said.

The authorities also found a bloody note reading in part, "I don't know what ... happened last night, but my life is destroyed. I killed my best friend."

Jordan Hawes allegedly was seen on security cameras and those in the neighborhood Jan. 31 and Feb. 2 pawning jewelry and trying to take money from multiple ATMs with Tara's credit card, the DA said.

Authorities found Jordan Hawes after his cell phone was tracked to Connecticut Feb. 2.

Jordan Hawes faces up to 25 years to life in prison if found guilty, the DA said.

*Reach reporter Rebecca Henely by e-mail at [rehenely@cnglocal.com](mailto:rehenely@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4564.*

Jordan Hawes (inset) was returned to New York on charges of killing his wife Tara Hawes. The couple lived in Carver Arms. Inset courtesy NYPD

## Grover Cleveland tech whizzes build mobile applications

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

The developer of the next hit mobile application may not be a Silicon Valley programmer, but a group of Grover Cleveland High School seniors.

The Ridgewood school, part of the National Foundation of Information Technology, was selected as only one of five schools in the country to be part of a program sponsored by tech giant Lenovo that teaches students how to develop mobile apps.

"To be picked out of 1,400 other schools in the city, to really get this off the ground is quite impressive for our students," said Grover Cleveland Principal Denise Vittor in a phone interview Friday, three days after the students began the curriculum.

The school was chosen in part because it had the

resources to implement the program.

As part of the program, the students will use 30 Android-based ThinkPad tablets and six computers to help them with the app development curriculum.

Vittor said the program, open to seniors with a background in the programming language JAVA, is the talk of the school.

Developing apps is "difficult to do but their up to the task because it's so interesting," she said. "Now they get to use their JAVA programming skills and apply it to mobile app technology. They find the relevance to real life so intoxicating. It's exciting not just to the education world, but the students themselves because of the relevance to their world."

About 40 students are enrolled in the program and at the end of the school



More than 40 Grover Cleveland HS seniors are part of a program that will teach them how to develop mobile applications.

Photo courtesy Fleishman-Hillard

year, the group will market its app to the public.

"This is something that they're going to put on their résumé," Vittor said. "It's a marketable skill in today's society."

After they develop the

app, the students will present it in Washington, D.C.

Grover Cleveland technology teacher Andrew Woodbridge will be instructing the students.

"It's a great opportunity for them because they'll

get real-world experience," Woodbridge said. "So far the kids are excited about this."

The students are starting the class by doing career research and focusing on what apps will be useful

to the industry they are researching.

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Lizardo Aldama was well-known in the Ditmars section of Astoria where he lived, his daughter said.  
Photo courtesy Maite Aldama-Foertsch

## Astoria

*Continued from Page 1*

"[Matsoukatidis] has to live with that, and it's something that could have been avoided. He shouldn't have been behind the wheel of his car," said Aldama's devastated daughter, Maite Aldama-Foertsch, 56.

Police said Aldama had been crossing at the intersection of 31st Street and 21st Avenue — one block from his home — at about 6 p.m. when he was struck.

Several neighbors said that after Aldama was hit, he was dragged by the black Mercedes SUV.

"People had to scream at him [the driver] to get off of him," said Patricia Kazakos, 50, who lives in the same building as Aldama and said she arrived at the corner after the accident.

"When I saw the cane, I knew it was him," Kazakos said of her neighbor.

Aldama-Foertsch said her father, a native of Cuba whose parents were originally from Spain, was extremely independent and a fixture in the Ditmars section of Astoria, where he had lived for more than 50 years.

"He was still full of life, had lots of plans, lots of chapters to complete," she said. "He wasn't quite ready to make an

exit."

His nephew Carlos Lopez, 57, owner of Havana Express on 31st Street in Astoria, said he and Aldama left their homeland in 1959 on the last ship to legally depart Cuba before the revolution.

In America, Aldama worked in a factory that made meters for cars and was a devoted family man, his daughter said.

"His wife and his kids came first," Aldama-Foertsch said.

The death of Aldama's wife Terre six years ago was a terrible blow to him, his daughter said.

The family had planned to celebrate the 18th birthday of Aldama's grandson, Andrew, together in Long Island this week.

"He lived for his grandson," Aldama-Foertsch said, explaining that the pair intended to travel to Florida to visit Aldama other child, his son, after Andrew graduated from high school.

"It's still a little bit of a shock," she said.

Aldama-Foertsch described her father as a "real city guy" and said he enjoyed walking around Astoria and chatting with neighbors.

"He's going to be missed tremendously," she said. "He felt that when you made a friend, it's for life and it's true, especially for him."

# Forest Hills man credits marriage for longevity

BY HOWARD KOPLOWITZ

Forest Hills resident Bob Schreibman said he is not sure how he is still ticking at 91 years old, but he thinks the answer may lie in the 66-year-old marriage he had with his wife, Marjorie.

Schreibman, a former firefighter who still drives, mostly to his volunteer job at the Long Island Alzheimer's Foundation in Port Washington, was one of five geriatric patients at Long Island Jewish Medical Center who shared stories about their marriages Tuesday to coincide with Valentine's Day.

"We're all different people, we all have different stories, but somewhere in that story is probably the reason for the longevity," the 91-year-old said. "You can't pin it down."

The stories will be part of a book, "I Do," the brainchild of geriatrician Dr. Gisele Wolf-Klein.

The Forest Hills resident met his wife, Marjorie, at a Halloween party in 1937, when he was 17 and she was 16.

"I thought [the party] was a silly thing to do and I refused to go to the Halloween celebration because I didn't have someone to go with," Schreibman said.

But Schreibman decided to go to the party and the couple eventually got married and gave birth to a son, which led to a grandson and two great-grandchildren.

Marjorie was diag-



Bob Schreibman, 91, met his wife when he was 17.

Photo by Christina Santucci

nosed with Alzheimer's in 1999 and died in November 2007.

"Seventy years later [from the first date] on Halloween night, she passed away in my arms," Schreibman said.

His wife's battle with the disease led him to volunteer at the Long Island Alzheimer's Foundation.

Schreibman, who said writing is one of his passions, said the project was a bittersweet experience.

"It stirs up memories that you don't want to stir up. I'm very emotional about this," he said. "You really have to treasure [it] when you open your eyes in the morning and your spouse is there smiling."

Wolf-Klein, who has worked for LIJ since 1976 and is the program director of the hospital's geriatric program and director of geriatric education, said listening to her patients is what led her to start the book project.

"It came to my atten-

tion that these people were not just coming to me with their illness, they were coming to me with their lives," she said.

And while her patients were aging, a part of them was not, Wolf-Klein said.

"That was the love they had for their spouses," she said. "They were willing to share their stories with us."

Barbara Vogel, Wolf-Klein's colleague and program coordinator of the Neuwirth Memory Disorders Program at Zucker Hillside Hospital, said having the patients write the stories about their spouses helped them learn how to take criticism and rejection in stride and grow from the experience.

"Witnessing the progress was always remarkable," she said.

Reach reporter Howard Koplowitz by e-mail at [hkoplowitz@cnglocal.com](mailto:hkoplowitz@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4573.



Flowers and candles are placed at the corner of 31st Street and 21st Avenue in the Ditmars section of Astoria, where 89-year-old Lizardo Aldama was struck and killed.  
Photo by Christina Santucci



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## CB 4

Continued from Page 2

the board.

Pennachio, who has been a member of the board for 24 years, said his change of heart came after Borough President Helen Marshall refused to accept his resignation. The death of Italiano also influenced his decision.

"I wanted to be here for the transition of the new district manager," Pennachio said.

The board also discussed the ongoing plans

to renovate the former St. John's Queens Hospital, at 90-02 Queens Blvd. in Elmhurst, into a mixed-use facility. The much-missed hospital was closed along with Jamaica's Mary Immaculate in 2009, when parent company Caritas filed for bankruptcy after racking up \$100 million in debt and could not get the state to provide \$36 million for operating costs.

Moreno said he went on a walkthrough of the hospital with the current architects for the property, Brooklyn's NSC Architecture. He said the new plans call for a supermarket in

the basement, retail on the first two floors, offices on the third floor, a medical facility on the fourth floor and rentals on the fifth, sixth and seventh floors.

He said the board was planning to meet with the architects again soon.

"We're keeping on top of this and making sure that we can be as helpful to them as possible," Moreno said.

*Reach reporter Rebecca Henely by e-mail at [rhenedy@cnglocal.com](mailto:rhenedy@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4564.*

## Austerity

Continued from Page 1

domestic product, according to The Wall Street Journal. The hard measures have triggered demonstrations and looting.

The news concerned many Greeks in Astoria, home to the largest Greek population outside the country.

An employee at the Foodoni Grill, at 23rd Avenue and 27th Street, who gave his name as Bobby, 35, said the rioters should be concentrating on finding a job.

"We work 14 hours a day, 15 hours a day," he said. "Cut out the fiesta and go to work."

But James Bouzas, 55, said it made sense that people were rioting in Greece, where unemployment is running at 21 percent.

"There's no production, no factories, no job, low payroll," he said.

Bouzas said he blamed the country's current problems on George Papandreou, the previous prime minister who resigned in November so a unity government could take over and tackle the debt crisis. Papandreou was a member of the Greek Socialist Party, which his father founded.

"Papandreou family destroy the coun-

try," Bouzas said.

Frieda Bletsas, the cook at Gregory's 26 Corner, at 23rd Avenue and 26th Street, said she disagreed.

"His father was a good politician," she said.

Nick Psomos' brother Demitrios, 73, said he did not believe the European Union was properly protecting Greece and that France and Germany's proposed escrow account for Greece to pay off its debts with interest was setting the country up to fail.

"I think they use Greece right now," Demitrios Psomos said.

But another patron at Lefkos Pyrgos, who declined to give his name, said the Greek people should learn to be responsible.

"I think the Greek parliament, when they voted the other day, did the right thing," he said.

Larry Panagiotopoulos, 65, of the Igloo Cafe, at 31st Street and Ditmars Boulevard, said he thought the Greeks needed to adopt a more hardworking mentality, but he acknowledged that the situation was difficult.

"If the people, they decide they're going to live without money, maybe they're going to make it 20 years from now," Panagiotopoulos said.

## Dromm

Continued from Page 2

ize penalties for marijuana possession. He has also sponsored a city resolution urging the state to support medicinal marijuana.

Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst), who attended the meeting, said he thinks there would be some good in the legaliza-

tion of medicinal marijuana, but said he was still studying the issue.

"I'm not completely there yet," Peralta said.

*Reach reporter Rebecca Henely by e-mail at [rhenedy@cnglocal.com](mailto:rhenedy@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4564.*

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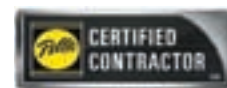


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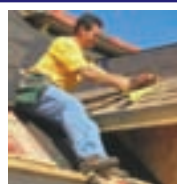
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## **Shopping For a Contractor**

Once you make a decision to do some work on your home, the next step is to call in some contractors for estimates and ideas. Most homeowners don't think they need to have their wits about them until the salesperson is sitting in front of them. That's a big mistake. So what is the right way to go about this often overwhelming process? How do you know if you've let the right contractor into your home? Here are a few tips to help make your home improvement projects as successful and worthwhile as possible.

Before you call anyone in for an estimate, there are some very important decisions to make. Are you the type of person who wants to deal with an established reputable company with a place of business (which will cost a little bit more money), or are you the type of person who wants to be your own general contractor and hire someone that works out of his truck or home (which should be less expensive)? There are numerous different types of contractors out there, but only one is right for you.

The truth is, you should only be comparing apples with apples. If you call in the largest construction company you can think of, a mid-sized local establishment, and your cousin's friend Johnny, you haven't accomplished anything. You're pricing three different quality products and three different levels of service. Remember, a guarantee is only as good as the company that issues it. Just because something is cheaper doesn't necessarily mean it's the better deal.

If you know your cousin's friend is not what you want because you don't want to deal with a pickup truck contractor, and the high prices of the national chains leave you questioning if the product is really worth the price, you should be calling in three local, established companies. Not only do you get an accredited company you can trust, but their prices will be much more reasonable. You can really compare prices and products on a level playing field. These midsized companies can be found in local papers, local television commercials, radio station ads, or by word of mouth. Just be sure to visit the company's showrooms. With a little bit of deception, many pickup truck contractors can seem like a midsized company.

Once you've found your local companies, make sure you get all the quotes in writing so that you can refer back to the estimate if you have any disagreements when the work is being done. It is also a good idea to check with your local Better Business Bureau and Consumer Affairs. They will not only tell you if the contractor has a lot of complaints, but will tell you how long they have been in business under that company name. Lastly, when dealing with salespeople, the best piece of advice is always "trust your instincts."

Written by: Steven J DiMare  
Chief Executive Officer  
Unified Window Systems, Inc.



# Father of Zazi receives 4 1/2 years for lying to feds

BY JOE ANUTA

The father of a Flushing-raised man who plotted to blow up New York City subway cars in 2009 was sentenced to 4 1/2 years in prison Friday for trying to throw the feds off the trail of his son.

Mohammed Wali Zazi, 56, was convicted in Brooklyn federal court last summer of trying to thwart a federal investigation into his son, Najibullah Zazi.

"This defendant sought to conceal one of the most serious terror plots in recent times," U.S. Attorney Loretta Lynch said in a statement after his conviction. "He also enlisted others to help him spin his web of lies and to destroy key evidence. Had the plot not been thwarted, it would have left Americans at grave risk."

The younger Zazi pleaded guilty in 2010 to charges that he conspired



to use weapons of mass destruction, conspired to commit murder in a foreign country and provided material support to al-Qaeda. He could face up to life if prison when sentenced.

Prosecutors said back in 2009 that Mohammed Zazi tipped off his son once he learned that federal investigators were looking into the terror threat.

At the time, the family was living outside of Denver, where the younger Zazi hatched his plan and later drove to New York to carry it out before his father warned him.

Co-conspirator Zarein Ahmedzay also pleaded guilty in 2010 to conspiracy and providing support to a

Mohammed Wali Zazi leaves a federal courthouse in 2010 after pleading not guilty to the charges he was later convicted of.

AP Photo/Seth Wenig

foreign terrorist organization. But Adis Medunjanin, who prosecutors allege was also part of the plot, has pleaded not guilty to terror charges.

The three men met at Flushing High School, and Medunjanin was arrested after he crashed his car on the Whitestone Expressway.

Najibullah Zazi also consulted with Flushing Imam Ahmad Wais Afzali, who was sentenced in April 2010 to time served and ordered to leave the country for lying to federal authorities about his talks with the younger Zazi.

Mohammed Zazi's nephew also took a plea deal for his role in the terror plot and testified that his uncle had instructed family members to "take care" of bomb-making chemicals in the Denver household.

Amanullah Zazi, the nephew, also testified that his uncle instructed him to

lie about Najibullah Zazi's travels to Pakistan.

In 2008, the nephew told prosecutors that he had helped Najibullah Zazi, Zarein Ahmedzay and Adis Medunjanin, travel to Waziristan to receive terrorist training from al-Qaeda.

Najibullah Zazi and Ahmedzay have admitted they went, but Medunjanin has denied it.

When Mohammed Zazi's nephew approached him about it, the older Zazi said not to say anything about the trip.

The charges against the 56-year-old carried a maximum sentence of up to several decades, but Federal Judge John Gleeson gave Zazi less than five.

Reach reporter Joe Anuta by e-mail at [januta@cnglocal.com](mailto:januta@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4566.

## Mormons could build on downtown Flushing lot: Civics

BY JOE ANUTA

Flushing residents and civic associations want to know why the Mormon church is intent on constructing a chapel on 33rd Avenue that exceeds zoning regulations when it could build one on the land it already owns downtown.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has drawn the ire of Flushing civic associations for its plans to build a chapel, at 145-13 33rd Ave., which would require at least three variances. The proposal was unanimously disapproved by Community Board 7 last month and is currently on the desk of Borough President Helen Marshall after a Feb. 2 meeting at Queens Borough Hall.

Both the board and Marshall's verdicts are supposed to be taken into consideration by the city Board of Standards and Appeals, which will make the

final call.

Aside from the BSA application, community leaders have questioned why the church cannot build on a plot of land it already owns, at 144-27 Sanford Ave.

With the size of the parcel, which is zoned for apartment-style buildings, opponents said the land could accommodate an enormous structure.

The downtown plot currently houses a church built by Christian Scientists, but representatives from the LDS church said the building is too small and does not have enough rooms for Bible study, an essential part of their weekly worship.

"The lack of teaching stations/Bible-study rooms in the temporary facility on Sanford Avenue is, in fact, the primary reason that facility is inadequate," the LDS church said in its BSA application.



Lawyer Daniel Braff (l.) explains the Mormon church's proposal for a chapel on 33rd Avenue, which would require several variances, to Borough President Helen Marshall.

Photo by Joe Anuta

Representatives from the church said at a January CB 7 meeting that the lot in downtown Flushing, which is 23,420 square feet, is not the correct shape to house the chapel the LDS leaders said is necessary for their worship.

But the LDS church has already built another vertically oriented structure elsewhere in Queens

on a piece of land that is one-third the size of the downtown parcel, according to documents from the city Department of Buildings.

The church recently cut the ribbon on a six-story facility, at 89-58 163rd St. in Jamaica, that contains many of the same amenities the church's proposed structure would contain.

The Jamaica church could have up to 17 Bible-study rooms accommodating 182 people if the sixth floor of the structure, purposely left vacant to allow for expansion, were fully used as described in the architectural plans. The proposed chapel in Flushing would have 15 rooms accommodating a total of 176 people.

The Jamaica church has a cultural hall like the proposed Flushing church and a chapel that would house more people than the proposed location, according to the plans. It also has a serving room, a relief society room and other amenities included in the proposed design.

But it only has half the space for bishop and clerk offices, according to the plans.

Civic leaders have testified at both the community board and borough president's office that allowing

the variances for the 33rd Avenue chapel, which include doubling the allowable floor space, would set a precedent for exceeding the zoning laws that were just amended in 2009 to protect the single-family character of the neighborhood.

During the Feb. 2 meeting, Marshall repeatedly reminded the church that the neighborhood was recently rezoned to preserve its character.

But the LDS church legally bought the 33rd Avenue plot in Flushing, where it wants to build, and has argued that it could build a structure without variances that would not look significantly different from the outside. It could either build the structure with very high ceilings, or by doubling the floor area, build a second floor inside the building and only making it taller by about 10 feet.



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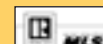


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# Cardozo student scientists ready for final competitions

## Bayside high school beats out city's top-tier institutions in New York State Olympiad regional round

BY RICH BOCKMANN

The brightest young scientific minds at Benjamin Cardozo High School were busy at work last week preparing for the final round of the New York State Science Olympiad after beating out some notable competition a few days earlier.

Students from the Bayside school took second place in the competition's regional round Feb. 4 at Grover Cleveland High School in Ridgewood, edging out teams from some high-profile schools like the Bronx High School of Science, Townsend Harris High School, Archbishop Molloy High School, the Dalton School and about 30 other competitive schools.

"They worked very hard," physics and physical science research teacher

Mark Siega, the team's head coach, said one day after classes had ended, which is when the Olympiad team meets each day. "The students stay as long as I stay. They're really competitive, and a big thing is that they're doing this on top of all their other schoolwork."

The students spend all year practicing for the competition in which pairs of two students from each team compete against others in about 20 different events, which have study and building components.

"I really like the team spirit," said senior David Xu, one of the team's captains. "It's like one big family experience. The result really doesn't matter."

One event required students to build a helicopter out of pieces of wood, paper and a rubber band.



Benjamin Cardozo High School senior David Xu demonstrates the gravity vehicle he and classmates built for the regional round of the state Science Olympiad competition. Photo by Rich Bockmann

"You had to consider the angle of the blades, and choose materials as light as possible to counteract the gravitational force," said Jenny Yu, the team's other captain.

The senior said Cardozo's helicopter flew for about 39 seconds — during which time it made an impressive recovery after dropping to about 2 feet off the floor — vs. the winning team's time of about 1:20.

"I just like to see it fly, she said. Every team had the same design, but we made our own."

The team of Sarah Kang and Marcus Choy took second place in the magnetic levitation event, which required the students to use magnets to propel a miniature levitated car down a track, and then answer questions about the history of magnets.

"They originated in China. They basically used it as a compass. They'd thin out a piece of magnet as a pin and stick it through a bamboo shoot. Then they'd fill a bowl with water and put the bamboo stick in," Choy explained.

"I'm really into magnets," he said, which drew a round of laughter from his friends.

The students said they each start out practicing for events based on their strengths and areas of expertise, but they also get to experiment in new fields.

"You find out that you're good at other stuff you'd never know," said senior Christian Uruburo, who added that most of the team members are already carrying a heavy load of about three or four Advanced Placement classes.



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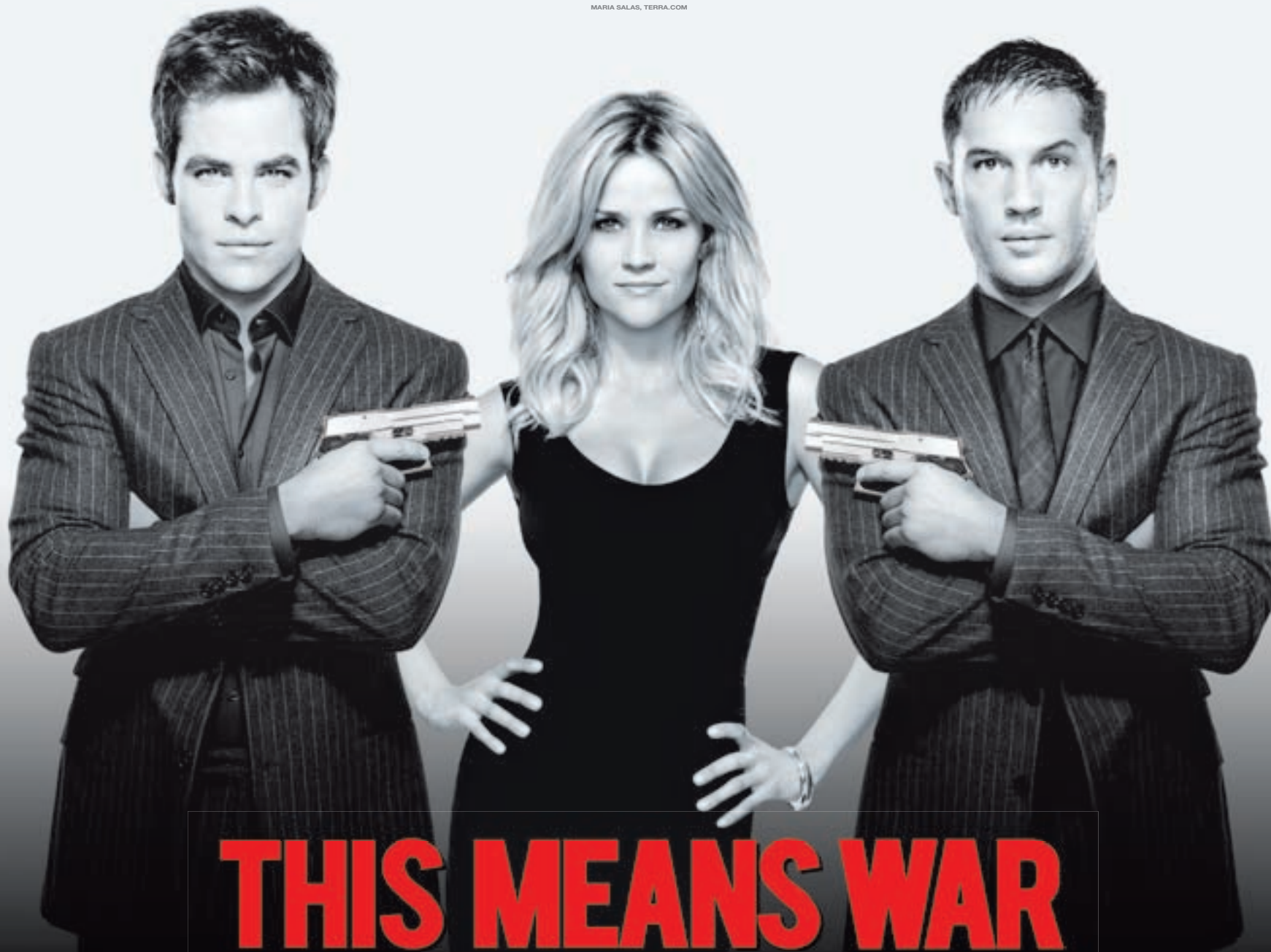
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# Q GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

A rendering of the new west entry to the Queens Museum of Art seen at night. The bright and colorful facade will be visible from the Grand Central Parkway.

Image courtesy Queens Museum of Art

QUEENS MUSEUM

## Redefining the Queens Art Scene

Queens Museum of Art Executive Director Tom Finkelpearl is on a mission to enhance institution's place in the panorama of New York and the world

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

Reinvention is no easy feat — not even for a popular 35-year-old cultural landmark and local international art space nestled in Flushing Meadows Corona Park and only a stone's throw from the Unisphere.

In the vastness of the busy, noisy construction site at the Queens Museum of Art, the work is going on at a steady pace, and it's possible to visualize what the completed space will look like when it becomes a bustling hub, attracting thousands of visitors from the community, the city and beyond.

Queens Museum of Art Executive Director Tom Finkelpearl is the man behind the relaunching of his favorite museum since childhood. An historic, massive expansion project is now underway, which will double its size, while broadening its profile as, according to Mayor

Michael Bloomberg, “a destination for New Yorkers and visitors to experience exciting exhibits and dynamic programs that reflect the creativity of New York's largest and most diverse borough.”

Finkelpearl added, “The expansion will re-define a new moment in the museum's history, but is also a symbol of QMA's and the City's dedication to giving the people of Queens that much more in cultural offerings.”

As an economic bonus, a revamped institution will bring more revenue into Queens and the city, and more jobs have been created during construction. But most importantly, the behemoth redesign will transform QMA into a centrally located recreational spot, where families can experience a variety of events, while enjoying all the museum has to offer — a place where kids can have fun while learning.

On April 12, 2011, a groundbreaking ceremony

kicked off the expansion project, which will transform the museum into a premier multi-faceted venue, enhancing its geographic reach and re-energizing the park. The \$68 million expansion will add 50,000 square feet of galleries, classrooms, public event spaces, a café and museum shop.

“The expanded outdoor lawn will have seating and more grassy areas for picnics,” said David Strauss, director of external affairs. “What better thing than for a museum to have a front yard like this with the Unisphere outside?”

The expansion gives QMA the entirety of the park's New York City Building, originally built as the city's official pavilion for the 1939 World's Fair. Afterwards, it was converted into a recreation building — half used for the ice rink, the other half for a roller rink. It was

*Continued on Page 27*

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# PS1 unveils otherworldly design for courtyard

BY ALEX PALMER

Visitors to MoMA PS1 will be seeing stars this summer. The art institution announced on Feb. 8 that its courtyard will feature a giant star-shaped installation called “Wendy” as part of its annual Young Architects Program.

The installation, made of sky-blue nylon fabric, will sit in the center of PS1’s large courtyard and engage passers-by with bursts of cool air, music, mists and water cannons shooting from its spikey arms. The New York City-based design firm HWKN submitted the winning proposal.

“It’s summertime—we wanted to make sure that the architecture really spoke to the people who were coming to the courtyard for a good time,” said Marc Kushner, partner at HWKN. “It’s something that would excite people

and get people thinking about the potential of buildings around them.”

Wendy also boasts a number of environmentally friendly design elements. The fabric is treated with a special “titania nanoparticle spray” which neutralizes airborne pollutants from cars. The design of the structure maximizes the surface area that will come into contact with the air.

According to HWKN, over the summer the installation will clean the air of pollutants equal to 260 cars being taken off the road.

The installation will be open to the public on June 28 and be up for the 10 weeks after that. It will be a particular draw during PS1’s weekly “Warm Up” events each Saturday of the summer, where visitors can enjoy concerts and DJ sets in addition to the museum’s regular exhibitions.

“This time we have a



MoMA PS1 unveiled this sharp, new design for its courtyard pavilion this summer. It was designed by architecture firm HWKN and was selected by a jury as part of the Young Architects Program.

Image courtesy of HWKN

very concentrated object, a powerful architectural gesture that is contained in its imprint, but manages to

touch the different courtyards,” said Pedro Gadanho, curator of the Department of Architecture and

Design for MoMA. “It also has a scale that you’ll see from the train line or highway, so we’ll have people

outside asking themselves, ‘What is this?’”

Last year’s winners, Interboro Partners, created the massive canopy installation “Holding Pattern,” which featured recycled objects including benches, ping-pong tables and floodlights strung overhead. The year before the courtyard showcased “Pole Dance,” from SO-IL, a 16-by-16-foot grid of 30-foot poles connected by bungee cords.

“MoMA gives architecture a platform to speak to a really wide audience, and gives architects a chance to speculate and dream about the potential of what we do everyday,” said Kushner. “Addressing environmental issues beyond the issues of our own project and on the city as an ecosystem is a really exciting opportunity — and, of course, having a really awesome time doing it.”

## sudoku

Answers in Sports

Easy #51								
	9		1				4	3
2	1		9		5			
		3						5
7		6	2					
			4		7			
					9	5		7
3						4		
			5		8		3	9
6	8				4		7	

Hard #51								
				2		6	8	
			1		9		5	
	6	9				1		
			5				9	
	8	4				5	6	
	7				2			
		5				4	3	
	9		3		4			
	4	8		7				

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](http://www.sudoku.com)  
© Puzzles by Pappocom

# Redefining Queens' Museum

*Continued from Page 25*

also the original home of the United Nations General Assembly from 1946 to 1950 and is where the petitions of Palestine and North and South Korea were signed. It was also used as the city pavilion in the 1964 World's Fair.

"Since the museum opened in 1972, we've been lusting after the other half of the building," said Strauss. "When the city decided they were going to build a new rink and pool on the other side of the park, we were able to realize our dream, and brought in fantastic architects to work with us and design a great plan." QMA teamed up with well-known British design firm, Grimshaw Architects. "We're thrilled to have them onboard," he said.

## Sharing the limelight

It's all about the power of teamwork and know-how. Arranging partnerships with Mayor Bloomberg, Queens Borough President Helen Marshall, City Council and board members, funders, artists and community leaders to make a vision a reality is one great example of what Finkelpearl does best. Then there's global fund-raising. He was recently in Korea looking for opportunities in Korean engagement and funding.

"With everyone's amazing support, we will be able to double our size and continue to present the museum's unique mix of experimental public programs, innovative shows, and multi-faceted, multi-lingual education programs," said Finkelpearl. "This has been a true public-private partnership."

He indicated that while a city agency runs the construction project, he visits the site each day and oversees "the big picture," leaving the day-to-day operations and details



An interior rendering of the Queens Museum of Art peering east toward Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

Image courtesy Queens Museum of Art

to Strauss.

Finkelpearl came on board in 2002 after 12 years as deputy director of the PS1 Contemporary Art Center in Long Island City. His family lived in Queens 100 years ago, in Rockaway and owned a hotel. He grew up in Massachusetts, but would visit Queens often.

On track for completion by the end of 2013, the museum is in full restructuring mode and the project's key components are taking shape, already boasting what is sure to be one of its grandest features — a series of beautiful skylights, bathing the entire space with natural light.

"Very rarely are you going to see an institution with 60-foot soaring ceilings and natural light coming in," said Strauss.

There's also a brand new 220-foot glass façade and six new galleries, ranging in size from 900 square feet to 2200 square feet, which will allow for the displaying of large-scale temporary exhibitions. And that will free up space for original, current galleries to show their permanent collection.

"On the park side, near the Unisphere, the museum will have a new entryway. So they're restoring the original access of the building. People can actually walk through the museum to get to the park," Strauss said.

He also said that the city is the largest funder for the project. Over \$21.5 million came from Marshall's discretionary funds, a \$15 million grant from New York state and considerable private funding.

"We're happy to say that we're fully funded. The silver lining in the

economic downturn is that our project went out to bid when the economy was at its worst, so we were able to get more for our money," said Strauss.

As a result of Finkelpearl's vision and experience, QMA has undertaken significant community engagement initiatives, including a partnership with Queens Library. Queens Teens, a skill-building program for careers in the arts, and Dance in Queens — a dance residency program offering emerging choreographers and dancers practice and performance space, are among them.

"We not only care about the local area very deeply, but it goes beyond that as well — to the entire city," said Finkelpearl. More than 250,000 visitors participate in QMA's programs each year.

The expansion will also provide space for hosting weddings, ranging from 25-person to 1,500-person affairs.

The crown jewel of QMA, the Panorama of the City of New York, will remain where it is, and new entryways will allow visitors to easily access it from anywhere in the museum. The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass will have a new gallery. There will be plenty of space for large-scale works.

"People love the Panorama — it's a great asset. It dominates the whole museum, and school kids are constantly streaming in to see it," said Finkelpearl, who describes himself as a contemporary art guy. "This was the first place I came to see when I would visit Queens. I would bring friends from out-of-town here."

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# THEATER CALENDAR



**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. 16, 7:30 pm; Feb. 17 and 18, 8 pm

**Where:** The Secret Theatre, 44-02 23rd St., Long Island City

**Contact:** (718) 392-0722

**Website:** www.secrettheatre.com

**Broadway Rox** – A special two-day performance that celebrates the rock and pop hits of Broadway including pulsating hits from Wicked, Jersey Boys, The Who's Tommy, Mamma Mia, Spring Awakening, HAIR, Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ Superstar and others.

**When:** Feb. 17, 7:30 pm and Feb. 18, 2 pm and 8 pm

**Where:** Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Corona

**Contact:** (718) 760-0064

**Website:** www.queenstheatre.org

**Tango 5 Senses** – Eight weeks only.

**When:** Through March 18, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 pm, Sundays, 4 pm

**Where:** Thalia Spanish

Theatre, 41-17 Greenpoint Ave., Sunnyside

**Contact:** (718) 729-3880

**Website:** www.thaliatheatre.org

**Snow White and the Seven Dwarves** – Artistic director Patricia Zaback.

**When:** Feb. 18, 25 and March 3, 2 pm; Feb. 22, 1 pm

**Where:** BroadHollow Theatre, 700 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont

**Contact:** (516) 775-4420

**Website:** www.broadhollow.org

**A Few Good Men** – Aaron Sorkin's hit about two marines on trial for serious crimes. Artistic director Patricia Zaback.

**When:** Feb. 18, 24, 25, 29 and March 2 and 3, 8 pm; Sunday, Feb. 19, 2:30 pm; Feb. 26 and March 4, 2:30 pm; Feb. 29, 2 pm

**Where:** BroadHollow Theatre, 700 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont

**Contact:** (516) 775-4420

**Website:** www.broadhollow.org

**Awake and Sing!** – A poor Jewish family in the Bronx in 1933 is struggling to survive through the economic chaos of the Depression.

**When:** Feb. 24, 25 and March 2, 3, 8 pm; Feb. 26 and March 3, 2 pm

**Where:** Zion Episcopal Church, 243-01 Northern Boulevard, Douglaston

**Contact:** (718) 225-0466

**Website:** www.zionepiscopal.org

**Concert Tribute to Odysseus Elytis** – The Nobel Prize winner in literature 1979.

Special excerpts from "Axion Esti" set to music by Mikis Theodorakis as well as songs by other Greek composers like Manos Hatzidakis, M. Loizos, S. Xarhakos, J. Markopoulos, N. Mavroudis and others who were inspired by the great Poet.

**When:** Feb. 25, 7 pm

**Where:** Frank Sinatra School of the Arts, 35-12 35th Ave., Astoria

**Contact:** (718) 361-9920

## 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



Tony Bennett's newest work depicting Louis Armstrong. The oil painting is 18 inches by 24 inches and available through an online auction at charitybuzz.com. It was first unveiled at the Louis Armstrong Gala in December 2011.

Photo by Norm Harris

# THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## CONCERTS

**Hill Greene Performance**

– Jazz musician, composer, music director, teacher and solo bassist, who once described music as a "spiritual experience," performs Negro spirituals, folk music and his own compositions with the same passion and unique virtuosity as Blues, bop and Bach.

**When:** Feb. 16, 5 pm

**Where:** Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing

**Contact:** (718) 997-5000

**BeBe and CeCe Winans** – The Grammy Award-winning brother and sister gospel duo BeBe and CeCe Winans will make their only appearance together in 2012. The Winans were recently honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and have a Grammy-nominated album, Still, that is approaching

gold-record status.

**When:** Feb. 18, 8 pm

**Where:** Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing

**Contact:** (718) 997-5000

**Brit Pop Matinee** – The band will play Beatles, Moody Blues, Kinks and more. Plus their own Brit pop tunes.

**When:** Feb. 19, 4 pm

**Where:** Bar 131, 131-02 14th Ave., College Point

**Website:** www.billpopp.com

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers  
Feb. 16-22, 2012

By Pete Canty (Pete@gfrpuzzles.com)

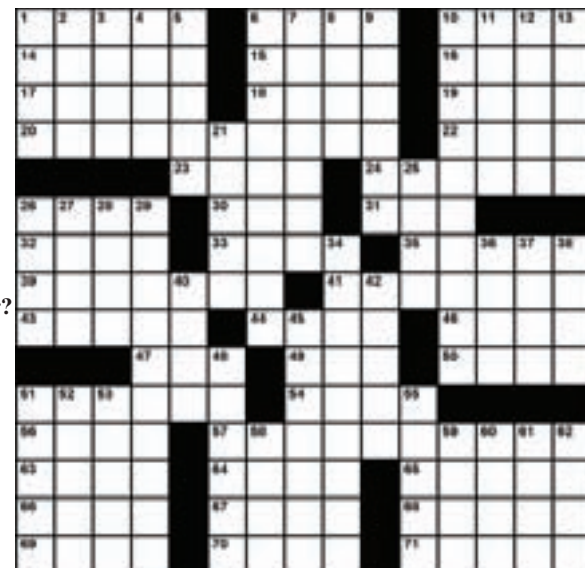
### Phun With Homophones

#### Across

1. Town square
6. Praiseful poems
10. Physics calculation
14. Pitcher's aid
15. Went down
16. Hankering
17. Olympic competition
18. Take off
19. Close
20. Story about the end of war?
22. Kind of package
23. Tape type
24. Future doc's major
26. Oman man
30. Fabrication
31. Thanksgiving serving
32. Coke, e.g.
33. Talk back to
35. Scenic view
39. Do glue?
41. Thumb neighbor
43. Diary bit
44. Peddle
46. School session
47. Before, before
49. Roman septet
50. Nimble
51. "Excuse me?"
54. Organic compound
56. Hoity-toity sort
57. What a smart coin collector may have?
63. Georgetown mascot
64. Burn balm
65. Spring sign
66. Sixth Jewish month
67. Disparage
68. Sticking points?
69. Unite metals
70. Consumes
71. Plumber's tool

#### Down

1. Kind of school
2. Zero, to McEnroe
3. Between ports



4. Metallic vitamin additive
5. Put in a stake
6. Referees
7. Erases
8. Util. bill
9. Happy's friend
10. Finely chop after-dinner candies?
11. Mr. T's group
12. Freighten
13. Cut up
21. Sign of life
25. Sitarist Shankar
26. Queens stadium name
27. Horse color
28. Mine entrance
29. Exiled poet?
34. Wood-cutter's concerns
36. Dance bit
37. Guam, e.g.
38. Major employer?
40. Greek sandwich
42. Hodgepodes
45. Become balanced
48. Package
51. "Nonsense!"
52. Positive pole
53. Kind of treatment
55. Future atty.'s exams
58. First name in jazz
59. Yeats's land
60. 1492 Atlantic crosser
61. Pursue
62. Latin 101 verb

### Quotable Quote

*I married the first man I ever kissed. When I tell this to my children they just about throw up.*

... Barbara Bush

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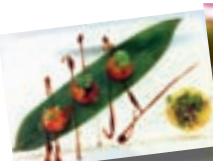


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CATERING FOR PARTIES





## Lunar New Year

Photos by Christina Santucci

Councilman Daniel Dromm and the Asian Community United Society marked the second-annual Elmhurst Community Lunar New Year celebration to welcome the Year of the Dragon. (Clockwise from top l.) Assemblyman Francisco Moya, (second l.), Dromm (c.) and state Sen. Jose Peralta (r.) gather with community leaders; a lion dancer visits Best Cut Hair Salon on Broadway; members of the Vong Ku Pak Traditional Korean Drum Troupe perform; a woman watches the show; lion dancers from New York Hung Sing Kwoon battle outside St. James Episcopal Church in Elmhurst; a drummer swirls a long piece of fabric behind his head; and Victor Tan, 7, pets a lion.







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Commissioner



## FOCUS ON QUEENS

Photos by Dee Richard

## DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION'S QUEENS COUNTY ANNUAL WINTER COCKTAIL PARTY AT ANTUN'S IN QUEENS VILLAGE



1 Joe Crowley welcomes everyone



2 David Weprin, Elizabeth Crowley, Gary Ackerman, Mark Weprin and Joe Crowley



3 Claire Shulman, Gary Ackerman and Toby Stavisky



4 Melinda Katz and Peter Vallone Jr.



5 Elizabeth Crowley



6 Tom DiNapoli, Leslie and Archie Spigner



7 Queens District Attorney Richard Brown



8 Christine Quinn, Jose Peralta, Grace Meng and Karen Koslowitz



9 Christine Quinn



10 Scott Stringer and Ivan Lafayette



11 Joe Crowley and Peter Koo



12 Paul Vallone, Carol Gresser, John Duane and Debbie Markell



13 Bill de Blasio



14 Aravella Simotas and Michael Gianaris



15 Claire Shulman and Bill Thompson



16 Leroy Comrie and Archie Spigner



17 Scott Stringer



18 Pamala Huntley Corley, John Liu and Shirley Huntley



19 Daneek Miller, Helen Marshall and John Liu



20 Joe Crowley, Sulpice Chamblin and Helen Marshall



# Obama earmarks cash for city transit projects

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

President Obama has set aside \$215 million for the Second Avenue subway and the East Side Access in his proposed budget, which U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Astoria) said would keep both projects going for another year.

"I'm grateful that the budget includes complete final funding for the first stage of the Second Avenue subway and continues funding for the East Side Access project in the 14th [congressional] District, the two largest public works projects in the nation," said Maloney.

The East Side Access will bring some Long Island Rail Road trains into Grand Central, but the Second Avenue subway must be completed first so that it can handle the influx of more passengers into the already congested terminal.

A \$123 million appropriation for the Second Avenue subway, if passed by Congress, would be the final installment of the \$1.3 billion in federal funding that was committed to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority under the full-funding grant agreement governing the first phase of the project.

"The infusions of federal funding proposed by the president will help keep both projects on track for another year," said Maloney, who has fought for both projects for years. "At a time when we need to continue creating jobs, I am delighted that hundreds of millions of dollars in federal



The East Side Access tunnels are slated to bring Long Island Rail Road trains into Grand Central Terminal in Manhattan.

al funding will be headed to two of the best job-creation engines and most important infrastructure projects in the nation."

Maloney, who along with other members of the Queens congressional delegation, has opposed a GOP transportation bill that would end dedicated transit funding to urban centers around the country.

"While this is wonderful news, the transportation bill recently proposed by House Republicans would put funding for future phases of the subway in doubt, which is one major reason why that bill needs to be defeated," Maloney said. "I thank President Obama

for his leadership on mass transit when some congressional Republicans are running the other way."

The GOP legislation would end automatic federal infusions of mass transit money for the city, using the money derived by gasoline taxes instead for the nation's highways.

"It would quite literally massacre our mass transit system," said Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-Jackson Heights).

Reach contributing writer Philip Newman by e-mail at [timesledgernews@cnglocal.com](mailto:timesledgernews@cnglocal.com) or phone at 718-260-4536.

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# Borough Beat

COMPILED BY JOSEPH GARGIULO



## LIGHTS UP

Astoria Federal Savings Bank donated \$7,800 to The Hugh P. Kirwan Performing Arts Center at Christ the King Regional High School. The monies will be used to upgrade the lighting system in the auditorium.



## TOURNEY WINNERS

The Martin Luther High School lady Cougars basketball team forced 19 turnovers to defeat St. Agnes 44-28 in tournament finals.



## PLAYMATES

Borough President Helen Marshall (l.-r.), city Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe and City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley celebrate the official opening of the Juniper Park South Playground at Juniper Boulevard South and 75th Street.

Photo courtesy borough president's office



## A LONG WAIT

U.S. Rep. Bob Turner (l.) congratulates Arno Heller after presenting the 91-year-old World War II veteran with the Bronze Star Medal at a ceremony held in Heller's honor at American Legion Post No. 1424 in Forest Hills. Heller, who earned the medal for his service during the Rineland Campaign, contacted the congressman's office for assistance to prove his eligibility for the award.



## GREEN BILL

City Councilman James Gennaro (standing, c.) watches as Mayor Michael Bloomberg (sitting) signs into law one of the environmental bills he worked on. Behind him are Councilwoman Gale Brewer (l.-r.), city Director of Long-Term Planning and Stability David Bragdon, Councilwoman Margaret Chin and Councilman Stephen Levin.



## FEEDING THE HUNGRY

City Council members Daniel Dromm (center, l.-r.) and Julissa Ferreras and state Sen. Jose Peralta teamed up with Queens Center to donate food to local pantries in an effort to address hunger in the area during the holiday season. The elected officials helped identify organizations that could benefit from Queens Center's contributions.



## WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT

City Councilman Daniel Dromm and Jackson Heights residents call on Trade Fair ownership to comply with the partial vacate order for the enclosure abutting the sidewalk on 75th Street, remove the bins of broken bottle glass around the recycling area and restore the tree pit which it has filled in with cement.



## START ME UP

LaGuardia Community College student entrepreneurs who have dreams of starting their own businesses received up to \$1,000 in seed funding and business counseling. With them is Giselle Cahalan of Capital One Bank (fourth from l.).



## POSITIVE PAISANOS

State Sen. Joseph Addabbo Jr. was invited to attend the Jan. 7 meeting of the Palo del Colle Society in Howard Beach and presided over the installation of its executive board members. The society is a cultural group that promotes the positive influences and contributions of Italian Americans.





## 'LIN'SIDE POLITICS

State Assemblywoman Grace Meng (l.-r.) greets overnight Knicks star Jeremy Lin with her husband. Meng said she was excited to meet the Los Angeles-born Lin, who she called a down-to-earth guy and, as a Harvard graduate, a great role model for young New Yorkers and Asian Americans.

Photo courtesy Grace Meng

# JetBlue will add more flights from LaGuardia, Washington

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

JetBlue Airways plans to nearly double its flights from LaGuardia and Ronald Reagan National airports in Washington, D.C.

"By seizing the opportunity to invest in the rare slot pairs made available in our hometown of New York City and in the nation's capital, JetBlue is comfortably poised for organic growth," said JetBlue Vice President Scott Laurence. "Together with our low fares, award-winning product and customer service, we're pleased to be able to double the flights, new destinations and more options to customers in both of these vital regions."

JetBlue's expansion of flights at LaGuardia is a byproduct of similar moves

by Delta at LaGuardia.

JetBlue got the chance to expand at LaGuardia and Reagan National because Delta and US Airways swapped some takeoff and landing slots. The Federal Aviation Administration ruled that the two airlines could trade their rights at LaGuardia and Reagan if they gave up some slots at each airport to a low-cost airline.

In the resulting auction, JetBlue outbid Southwest Airlines.

The Forest Hills-based airline said it plans to increase flights to Washington by eight round-trips daily to at least 16 round-trips by this summer.

JetBlue also announced it plans to add service from LaGuardia to three new Florida destina-

tions — Fort Myers, Sarasota-Bradenton and Tampa — beginning in June.

The airline said it would also add more existing service between LaGuardia and Orlando and Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood and West Palm Beach.

JetBlue began service in 2000 to points in Florida and cities in upstate New York.

Jetblue began flying out of LaGuardia in 2004 and now provides services to 70 destinations. It recently also announced plans to offer service to Dallas/Fort Worth later this year.

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

# 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](http://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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# Business

## Singerie makes fabric dreams come true

Whitestone shop offers a wide variety of materials for homemade creations and flashy crafts

BY JOE ANUTA

Whitestoners eager to channel their inner fashion designer need to look no further than a new fabric and crafts store on 14th Avenue.

Hedieh Fuller and her mother, Homa Roowalla, opened the hip-looking store, called Singerie, in November and have been providing a unique venue for do-it-yourself sewers in the neighborhood ever since.

"This is my passion. It's my mom's passion," Fuller said, eager to show off roll after roll of fabric that she and her mother scored after scouring factories and outlets in New York and out of state.

One fabric featured ice cream sandwiches on a pink background while another, called "las señoritas," depicted a set of Mexican women drawn in vintage style amid cacti and

roses.

Contemporary or classic, the duo have collected fabric for their whole life the way other people accrue coins or stamps.

The oldest pieces she could think of were saved by her grandmother and passed down.

But hoarding old rolls of cloth is not what makes Fuller, whose first name is pronounced "hay-dee," the expert. She graduated from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandise in San Francisco in 2000 and spent the next several years designing everything from children's clothing to men's bowling shirts in California and then in New York, after she relocated to Jackson Heights.

"I am flexible. I got experience from all these different places," she said.

And that experience might come in handy for Whitestone residents.

In addition to seeking



Hedieh Fuller stands against a wall of fabric she personally selected for her store.  
Photo by Joe Anuta

out quality fabrics shoppers might not find in bigger, more impersonal stores, Fuller is also eager to pass

on her knowledge of how to turn those fabrics into actual clothing.

With several sewing machines in the back of the store, she teaches classes to anyone who wants to unleash his or her creative side and start making his or her own duds.

Fuller encourages thwarting convention. She suggests using furniture upholstery to construct tote bags or using skirt material to make curtains.

Some of her students are as young as 12, and after ungluing themselves from television shows like "Project Runway" come into the shop with a creative zeal that Fuller tries to channel through a needle and thread.

"They see it on TV and then get inspired and want to do it, too," she said.

She also teaches crochet classes, instructing pupils to transcend the rectangles of scarves and

afghans and try their hand at something more complicated and spherical like a hat.

But if anyone needs help with patterns, advice on what to buy or help starting a project, Fuller welcomes them to the cutting table in back.

"Sometimes they work on the project right here, and we encourage that," she said.

Making clothes from scratch can give the creator a sense of pride—just think if someone asked, "Where did you buy that?"

But according to Fuller, there are more practical reasons as well.

"If you buy jeans, they can be too tight here, but too loose over here," she said. "But you can make it fit perfectly yourself."

Reach reporter Joe Anuta by e-mail at [januta@cnglocal.com](mailto:januta@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4566.

### BUSINESS CALENDAR

**New Citibank Branch Opening** — Our hours will be Monday through Friday 9 am-6 pm, Saturday Closed and Sunday 10 am-3 pm (this in direct response to the community needs of Sunday hours).  
**When:** Feb. 22  
**Where:** Citibank, Forest Hills North, 64-20 108th St., Forest Hills  
**Contact:** (718) 268-2891

**Minority and Women Owner Certification** — Open to those who have been in business for at least one year. This certification is a great way to attract public agencies as clients, and Empire State Development Corporation representatives will be on hand to provide information on the certification and procurement process.  
**When:** Feb. 23, 10 am

**Where:** Bulova Center, 75-20 Astoria Blvd., Ste. 140, Jackson Heights

**How to Make Good Money During Bad Times** — Byron Perry, Sherise Patterson and Hanif Russell will speak.  
**When:** Feb. 25, 5 pm  
**Where:** Apt Cafe, 176-09 Jamaica Ave.

**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](mailto:gnaftaly@accessoffice.net), (718) 217-0009  
**Website:** [www.powerfullyou.com](http://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](mailto: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

### FUND-RAISERS

**Queens Village Republican Club 137th Anniversary/Lincoln Dinner** — Honoring the Oratorio Society of Queens, Steve Logiudice, Stephen Flanagan and Joseph King.  
**When:** Feb. 19, 3 pm  
**Where:** Antun's, 96-43 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village  
**Contact:** (718) 468-6400;  
**Website:** [www.antuns.com](http://www.antuns.com)

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# Flushing street renamed for 200-year-old church

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WE

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Ceremoniously renaming a street can be a long, bureaucratic process, but more than 200 years after Flushing's Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded, the institution's name now adorns Union Street.

The church, at 37-22 Union St., celebrated its bicentennial last year with a number of different events, and on a bitter, cold Sunday afternoon community members braved the weather to witness the unveiling of the "Macedonia A.M.E. Church Way" street sign.

"It started about 2 1/2 years ago. We began to implement our plans to do this," said Marion Brown, chairwoman of the church's renaming committee. "You know how long New York City takes. We planned ahead."

Brown said Feb. 12 was chosen for the unveiling be-



Union Street is ceremoniously renamed Macedonia A.M.E. Church Way after the 200-plus-year-old Flushing house of worship Sunday afternoon.  
Photo by Ken Maldonado

cause it was on that date in 1816 that Richard Allen founded the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

In the past, individual Council members could request a street renaming, but the process is more lengthy now as requests

are grouped and voted upon once every six months.

"I'm happy to offer this as a small token of appreciation from the city of New York to the Macedonia AME Church for its 200 years of service to the community," Councilman Peter Koo (D-Flushing), who could not

attend the ceremony, said on the phone.

"As people look up at the sign, I hope it will be a reminder of the church's dedication to the community, its spiritual guidance and its work at promoting neighborhood harmony," he added.

Macedonia's roots reach back to the 1800s, when it was built by freed slaves, native Americans and poor whites — and as Flushing has changed throughout the last two centuries, so has the church.

"Imagine what's gone on here — the history it's seen," said state Sen. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone), who pointed out that Macedonia was at one point a stop on the Underground Railroad. "It's always been a welcoming church and opens its facilities to all groups."

The church previously owned property in what is now the municipal parking lot until the city acquired it under eminent domain. Members of the church community said the street sign was a way to honor the past.

"I'm ecstatic. It's great that we're here to recognize what they've done over 200 years and to commemorate

the struggles of the founders," said Minister Sherrell Jordan, who leads the Sistas in the Hood ministry at the church on Wednesdays.

"I'm really grateful that this church is in our community," said state Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D-Flushing). "It plays a big role here spiritually, mentally and economically."

While the congregation is still primarily African American, Macedonia serves a large Hispanic and Asian community, particularly on Wednesdays, when the line for the church's food pantry stretches around the block.

"As the community changes, we have to evolve. We have to change," said Brown.

Reach reporter Rich Bockmann by e-mail at [rbockmann@cnglocal.com](mailto:rbockmann@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4574.

## Etchings highlight facets of human emotion, life

A two-person show, entitled Monoscape, opened at Yegam Art Space in Auburndale Saturday evening. The show features the etchings and drawings of Bruce Waldman and Joonhee Lee, who both focus on expressing human emotions. The exhibit is slated to run through March 11 at Yegam, at 196-50 Northern Blvd.

Both artists emphasize figures using black and white along with a limited palate of colors.

Waldman has been teaching at the School of Visual Arts for more than 25 years, is a member of the Board of Governors of the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop and serves as a director of the New York Society of Etchers.

Lee, a native of Seoul, Korea, received his masters in illustration at the School of Visual Arts in 1993. His drawings consist of hundreds of layered lines.



Donna Cleary, a student of Bruce Waldman's, brings her dog Haley to the opening.  
Photo by Christina Santucci



Artists Joonhee Lee (l.) and Bruce Waldman chat during the reception Saturday evening. Both of their work - etchings and drawings - are featured in the show.  
Photo by Christina Santucci



# Fresh

*Continued from Page 4*

commercial facility really close to midtown Manhattan that just opened up," he said.

But Kaloudis said he expected the space to stay open for a long time.

"I just feel like the

city's always going against us," Kaloudis said.

Some in the Bronx were unhappy with the move, especially since the business does not deliver to most addresses in that borough. City Councilwoman Melissa Mark-Viverito (D-Manhattan), whose district includes part of Mott Haven in the Bronx, requested a stay before the subsidies

were approved.

City Comptroller John Liu also said the subsidies seemed to give away too much for the economic development promised, averaging \$93,000 for each new job.

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# Mortgage

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mortgage lenders: Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Citigroup and Ally Financial. The agreement ended nearly a year of negotiations.

In Queens, the southeast portion of the borough was the hardest hit by foreclosures and subprime mortgages that offered interest rates that ballooned in later years, which made the arrangements unaffordable.

Southeast Queens led the state in the number of foreclosures at the height of the financial crisis and at one time some neighborhoods in the area were among the worst in the country in terms of foreclosed properties.

State Sen. Malcolm Smith (D-St. Albans) applauded the settlement and said he was proposing legislation to increase funds for foreclosure victims.

"Home purchasing is the largest single investment that individuals make in their life time," Smith said. "Banks committed crimes against homeowners and restitution needs to be fair.

U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Astoria) said the settlement "offers substantial relief to homeowners hurt by unethical mortgage providers.

"New York homeowners will benefit significantly, with a projected \$790 million being directed to New York state for victims of wrongful foreclosure and for mortgage modifications."

But the congresswoman also said the amount of the settlement "is not nearly enough to help all of the homeowners who were negatively impacted during the financial crisis."

The extra \$136 million will be distributed to fund legal aid, homeowner assistance and advocacy organizations to help people facing foreclosure or abuse

by their lender.

In addition to that amount, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates \$13 million will be paid to New York victims of wrongful foreclosure, \$140 million will be earmarked for home owners to refinance their mortgages and \$495 million will be used for loan modifications.

The money gained in the settlement is scheduled to be doled out over three years and borrowers will not immediately know if they are eligible for payments, Schneiderman's office said.

It will take between 30 and 60 days to appoint an administrator for the settlement and banks will be conducting searches to identify eligible borrowers, which Schneiderman said may take "several months."

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# Breakfast

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said City Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens).

Much of the talk also focused at how eight persistently low-achieving Queens high schools were scheduled for turnaround.

When a school goes through turnaround, the principal and 50 percent or more of the staff is replaced. Schools up for turnaround include William Cullen Bryant High School in Astoria, Long Island City High School, Newtown High School in Elmhurst, Flushing High School, Grover Cleveland High School in Ridgewood, August Martin High School in Jamaica, Richmond Hill High School and John Adams High School in Ozone Park.

"Closing schools I don't

believe is the answer," state Assemblywoman Barbara Clark (D-Queens Village) said. "I've made that very, very clear."

Rieff said the city is not preparing its middle-school children for high school or high school students for college. Many students have said they were unprepared for the college workload compared to what they had to do in high school.

"I am appalled that at the CUNY community colleges, 75 percent of the students need remediation," state Sen. Toby Stavisky (D-Whitestone) said.

Rieff and David Solano, another City Council member and Bayside High School PTA co-president, also called into question how progress reports are conducted. Rieff said schools get extra points if grades increase for certain students but not for others and that there is no

standard time frame for English language learners to become proficient even though Queens has the largest number in New York.

"The methodology used is not consistent and it's not fair," Rieff said.

Dermot Smyth, of the United Federation of Teachers, said while the union was once in favor of it, mayoral control of the school system has been a problem. He said the administration should be looking at the system itself rather than specific problems in the school buildings.

"Mayoral control has not worked," Councilman Leroy Comrie (D-St. Albans) said. "It's locked out parents. It's locked out communities."

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# Schumer

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suggestive comments and being asked to go through the body scanners multiple times.

"These latest incidents offer further proof that passengers need an on-site point of contact who they can bring grievances to

and who can advocate on their behalf when they feel they are being treated unfairly or inappropriately," he said.

The legislation, called the Restoring Integrity and Good-Heartedness in Traveler Screening Act, requires the agency to establish an Officer of Passenger Support to record complaints, have an on-duty advocate at all times,

put up signs informing passengers that they can rely on an advocate if they feel they have been mistreated, determine the best ways of resolving frequent complaints, fix problems when they occur and give passengers the opportunity to pre-arrange the screening process if they have a disability or medical condition.

# Lincoln

*Continued from Page 5*

N.Y.) for her seat.

The dinner will also honor Stephen Flanagan, founder and director of the Conservative Society for Action, which the Republican club said is the oldest grassroots Tea Party orga-

nization in the country.

Flanagan, who lives on Long Island, will be presented with the Patriot of the Year Award.

The mother of Staff Sgt. Luis M. Gonzalez, an Ozone Park resident who was killed in action in Afghanistan, will be given the Ultimate Sacrifice Award on her son's behalf.

The Businessman of the Year Award will be

doled out to Stephen LoGiudice Jr., owner of Gaby's Pizzeria, at 204-23 Jamaica Ave. in Hollis.

Other honorees include Patty DeCiccio-Franke, president of the Oratorio Society of Queens, and Antun's owner Joe King.

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# Workers

*Continued from Page 5*

ite meal at a local Chinese restaurant. One shows a protest with a ROC member holding a sign reading, "I worked at W.T.C and I say no to war," above the Henry

David Thoreau quote, "How wonderful it would be to see the world through one another's eyes."

"They show people's lives — not just how they work, but how they live," said Jayaraman.

The exhibit "107 Stories: Through Restaurant

Workers' Eyes" is on display at the Queens Museum of Art, at Flushing Meadows Corona Park, through March 4.

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## Dredging means daily bridge lifts at Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial Bridge

Due to a dredging project being conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, there will be multiple daily bridge lifts at the Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial Bridge beginning Jan. 26 and lasting through February.

The lifts, which will take place around-the-clock, require full, periodic closure of the bridge to traffic. It takes approximately 15 minutes to raise and lower the bridge, which has a clearance of 150 feet above water in its raised position.

Federal code requires that a lift bridge must be raised in order to allow for crossing marine traffic. If possible, motorists are advised to use the Cross Bay Veterans Memorial Bridge as an alternative.



# Sports



Christ the King's Jon Severe had 25 points in his team's win.

Photo by Christina Santucci

## Calhoun leads rally in late comeback

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

With 28.9 seconds left in Christ the King's dramatic, 88-82 basketball overtime victory Friday over Holy Cross, Omar Calhoun wrote his name into the Middle Village school's record books.

Calhoun sank two free throws to pull even with current CK assistant Coach and former Arizona All-American Khalid Reeves atop the famed powerhouse's all-time scoring list with 1,676 career points.

"It's definitely special," the UConn-bound senior said. "A lot of great players have come through Christ the King. My hard work is paying off a little bit."

The plateau, though significant, was a side note to the wild Royals win, one in which they rallied from 11 down with 1:55 left. Calhoun was typically brilliant, scoring a game-high 31 points. CK's full court pressure, however, was the story in the raucous comeback, speeding up the previously patient Knights

and forcing turnovers.

"We really needed it in this game, which made it stand out more," Calhoun said after the Royals' sixth straight win.

Holy Cross was in complete command, comfortably ahead 72-61 after two Anthony Libroia free throws. Then everything that could go wrong did as Christ the King clinched the Brooklyn/Queens title, which was up for grabs.

In the final 1:55, the Knights committed three turnovers, missed three free throws and took questionable shots. Christ the King (17-6, 11-1 'AA'), meanwhile, could do no wrong. Reserve Isaiah Cosbert, on the floor only because Isaiah Lewis fouled out, started the run with a three-pointer. After a Marquise Moore travel, Malik Harmon hit two free throws, which were followed by a five-second violation on Holy Cross and a Jon Severe trey. To compound matters, Eddie Roscigno missed two at the line and Fuchs scored

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## Cardozo captures 'A' title

Bayside school beats Long Island City for third-straight crown

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Before Jermaine Lawrence became a national prospect, when Cardozo's junior varsity was making it to the city championship game two years ago, Kyle Credle was thought of just as highly. As a freshman, he averaged over 20 points per game, before limited playing time and a serious Achilles injury set him back last year.

Of that dynamic duo, he remained at Cardozo while Lawrence recently transferred to Pope John XXIII in Sparta, N.J., and on Saturday the 5-foot-10 guard showed some of the promise Credle displayed as an underclassman.

Credle scored seven of his 10 points in the final 2:07 of regulation, lifting No. 2 Cardozo to its third straight Queens basketball crown 69-58 over dogged Long Island City, the fifth seed and the only 'A' team to reach a borough championship game, at York College in Jamaica.

"It means a lot because it's the first step [of the postseason]," he said. "Especially for me. I've never not won a Queens championship. I didn't want this to be the first."

Early in the year, Credle and Naclerio butted heads over playing time. The junior wanted to start; Naclerio felt he was better served coming off the bench. He's adjusted and has become arguably the Judges' top guard. At least he was this week, averaging 13 points in the three



Cardozo celebrates the third-consecutive 'A' title.

Photo by Denis Gostev

borough playoff victories.

"My job is to make it hard for him to take me out," Credle said. "I value all the minutes I get. I know if I play well, I'll be in the game at the end."

Naclerio has had no reason to take him out of late. Credle is running the team with aplomb and making big shots.

"I believe he's gonna be a scholarship player," Naclerio said.

The Judges (19-6) had their way inside against the small Bulldogs. Forward Tajay Henry, who has elevated his play since Lawrence left, had 21 points and

10 rebounds and recently eligible swingman Rasheed Robinson came off the bench to post 13 points and eight rebounds.

Despite the size disadvantage and talent differential, LIC hung around. The two-time Queens A West champion seemed to be on the precipitous of getting blown out of the gym on several occasions, but always had an answer. The Bulldogs trailed by 32-16 in the second quarter and got within 34-26 by half-time. They fell behind 47-33 midway through the third quarter, only to draw within four on several occasions

late in the fourth quarter. Sadi Camara and Arthur Santanna each scored 17 points for LIC.

"After being down by 16, for us to come back and play even most of the way, shows our kids' heart," LIC Coach Harley Watstein said. "This gets us ready for the 'A' playoffs. It was fun."

At that point, Credle took over. He hit two free throws, sank a contested jumper and then drilled a three-pointer, extending Cardozo's lead to 65-56 with 55.8 seconds remaining.

"That was the game," Watstein said. "[He] doesn't

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# Mary Louis junior Nwajei heads to Bergtraum

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Jasmine Nwajei becomes the second star guard in as many days to land at Murry Bergtraum.

The junior has left Mary Louis citing financial reasons and enrolled at the Lower Manhattan public school Feb. 8, according to her Positive Direction travel Coach JoAnn Arbitello, who is also the Mary Louis JV coach.

It comes a day after Truman super sophomore Joella Gibson enrolled at the home of the 13-time defending PSAL girls' basketball champions. Both could be eligible to play from the start of next season.

Nwajei's parents struggled financially after they opened a bagel shop in the fall, Arbitello said. The Lady Blazers already have a number of Positive Direction players on their roster, including Aries Ad-



Jasmine Nwajei (r.) left Mary Louis and enrolled in Bergtraum.

Photo by Denis Gostev

ams, Kimberly Viafara and China Blissett. Mary Louis head man Joe Lewinger could not be reached late Feb. 8.

"[It] took more of a financial burden than expected," Arbitello said of the store's opening.

**Murray Bergtraum is 15-5 and looking at a possible No. 1 seed in PSAL.**

Nwajei, a sure-fire Division I player, was on her way to an all-city season before missing Mary Louis' game against Molloy last Saturday. At the time, Lew-

inger said she was dealing with personal issues with her family. She was also absent as TMLA fell to Bishop Ford last week.

"She left last week from school and we were trying to see what would be best for her," Arbitello said. "Those games were the least of her family's concerns."

Nwajei scored 25 points to help Mary Louis beat New Jersey power Teaneck at the Kennedy Challenge Jan. 29. Nwajei dropped in 21 points against Murry Bergtraum at the Francis Lewis Winter Ball Dec. 29. Mary Louis is currently 8-12 and sixth in CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens.

Bergtraum is looking at a possible No. 1 seed in the upcoming PSAL playoffs and is 15-5 after winning 11 straight league games.

# Cardozo track star chooses Miami over UAlbany

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The warm weather and year-round training proved to be too much for Lateisha Philson to pass up.

When the Benjamin Cardozo track star began the recruiting process, she said she would narrow things down to a school close to home and one far away. It came down to the University of Albany and Miami. Philson made it official last Thursday, signing with the Hurricanes, she told the New York Post. Teammate Alexis Panisse signed with Tennessee.

"I knew the hot weather would allow me to train better," she said. "The conference is more competition than UAlbany's conference."

Philson, one of the city's top hurdlers and sprinters, had a home visit with Miami around Thanksgiving and visited

**I'm ready for the competition.**

**Lateisha Philson**

Benjamin Cardozo athlete

the ACC school in early December. She enjoyed the team's family atmosphere and believes head Coach Amy Deem can take her to the next level. The senior joked that for her visit she went from the cold of New York City to 75 degrees in Miami. The Florida school also has the academic programs Philson was looking for. She wants to go into forensics or get involved in health care as an obstetrician.

"She has always kept it a secret [until last Thursday]," Cardozo Coach Gail Emmanuel said. "Even her



Lateisha Philson, of Cardozo, signed with Miami.

Photo by Robert Cole

family said they were surprised."

The All-City first team selection by the Post is coming off a stellar junior season, despite battling through a hamstring injury early on in the outdoor campaign. Philson ran the state's best mark in the 100 hurdles (14.17) and second best in the 100 meter dash (11.92) outdoors. She is a member of the Judges' national-level 4x400 relay team, which has won at the Millrose Games and competed in the Championship of America at the Penn Relays. Cardozo has won the PSAL indoor and outdoor city titles the last three seasons.

"I'm ready for the competition," Philson said of the college level.

This year Philson has put a greater influence on sprinting. She ran the state's fastest time this season in the 55 meter dash at

7.01 at the Colgate Women's Games Jan. 28. Philson recently tested herself in the 55 meter hurdles for the first time this season and finished in 8.04, just off her PR of 7.97. She is slated to compete in the 55 dash and the PSAL girls 4x400 relay during the Millrose Games at the Armory Saturday.

"She has been significant in all our relays," Emmanuel said. "All around, she has made a good contribution to the team, to the school."

Philson said she is looking forward to getting down to Miami. She believes training in a warm climate will give her an advantage and that along with all the school has to offer was something she couldn't pass up.

"You don't have to worry about cramping up and getting hurt," Philson said. "I think it's going to be a good place for me."



# Mary Louis force picks home school

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Elisabeth Gully finally got a reward for her perseverance and hard work.

The 5-foot-10 Mary Louis post lost 40 pounds last year and continued to transform her game with her Positive Direction travel team from a back-to-the-basket player to one who could attack facing up.

Gully still had little college interest into December. She wanted to get away from home, but immediately felt a connection to Queens College.

“I really didn’t think I was going to like it and then once I stepped on campus, I loved it,” Gully said. “I loved the dorms and everything and I really liked the coach and the team.”

She verbally committed to play women’s basketball for first-year Coach Bet Naumovksi at the ECC school and will receive a partial athletic scholarship. Gully picked the Knights over Hartwick and Washington College in Maryland. She joins former TMLA standout Megan White and Joanna Verouhis, who played at St. Francis Prep.

“It feels like everything is paying off,” Gully said. “I worked so hard.”

The Rego Park native earned her way into the

Mary Louis starting lineup midway through last season and is now a permanent member. Gully had to miss the majority of her sophomore campaign with a severe ankle injury.

The focus this summer was pulling her away from the basket more and improving her footwork, speed and shooting. She dropped in 10 points and attacked the basket and the glass in a Senior Day loss to Molloy last week. Gully is the Hilltoppers’ biggest force in the paint and an excellent shot blocker.

“All of it kind of came together and she really was able to transform herself,” TMLA Coach Joe Lewinger said. “She is multifaceted. She can go inside and out.”

Gully said she felt comfortable right away with Naumovksi and assistant Coach Sky Lindsey. She will join a program that is trying to turn itself around. Queens College will also put her on the path she wants for her physical therapy major.

“It was kind of overwhelming,” Gully said. “Schools were just coming out of nowhere and I finally sifted them out.”

The scholarship was a well-deserved reward for the time and work she put into improving her game, her body and her skill set.



Mary Louis' Elisabeth Gully verbally committed to Queens College.  
Photo by Lauren Marsh

# Molloy stuns in overtime

Carolyn Gallagher leads Stanners over Brooklyn's Bishop Ford

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Carolyn Gallagher had made all but one fourth-quarter free throw this season and there was no reason to think that was about to change.

The game appeared all but over when the Molloy junior stepped to the line with a chance to seal a key win against Bishop Ford. Gallagher, however, unexpectedly missed the front end of a 1-and-1 and Ford's Brittany "Pookie" Martin scored on a putback to tie the score and send the game into overtime.

"It was really frustrating," Gallagher said. "I usually make all my foul shots, but I guess I was just a little nervous and I wasn't concentrating."

Gallagher would not let that happen again when she got a chance at redemption in the extra session.

This time she made both at the line to put the finishing touches on a 24-point night and the Stanners 65-61 overtime victory in CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens Division I girls' basketball last Thursday night in Briarwood. Amani Tatum had 19 points, including two free throws with 2:03 remaining in overtime, to put the Stanners up for good. Nyasha Irizarry added 11 points.

"She has so much heart that I know that one free throw that she misses is not going to bother her and she is going to hit the next 10 in a row," said Molloy Coach Scott Lagas, of Gallagher.

Ford won the team's first meeting 61-48 in Brooklyn back in late December. The Stanners (15-6, 7-3), ranked No. 4 in the city by the New York Post, were motivated by comments made by the second-ranked Falcons (17-4, 7-3) in an nypost.com article after the game, saying they knew they could blow them out. Lagas reread the story



Archbishop Molloy's Carolyn Gallagher sealed the game with two free throws in overtime.

Photo by Denis Gostev

and the comments prior to the second meeting, which went much differently. The Stanners now move into second place in the division.

"I feel like last time they didn't think it was a big game," Irizarry said. "We knew that this was a big game and we came out and won."

The sharpshooting junior was a big reason why. She gave Molloy the lead twice in the fourth quarter with shot-clock beating three-pointers from the left side. The second put the Stanners up 55-53 with 1:08 to play, but Kamille Ejerta and Gallagher each missed the front ends of 1-and-1s.

"I knew I had to take them," Irizarry said. "[Defenders] weren't on top of

me as much as I thought they were going to be."

Bishop Ford, trailing by two, appeared to catch a bad break when a clear shot clock violation was not called with 29.5 seconds remaining in overtime. The Falcons got the rebound, but ended up rushing and turning the ball back over at midcourt.

Coach Mike Toro was not going to use that as an excuse. Instead he questioned the effort level of his guards on a night where the 6-foot-3 Martin turned in one of her best performances of the season. She had 13 points and 14 rebounds. Aaliyah Jones had 16 points, including three three-pointers, and Brittany Lewis added 12 points. The Falcons, who started

15-1, have now gone 2-3 in their last five games.

"That kid has built a hunger and has become a basketball player, has become a big girl and has busted her behind the last few games," Toro said of Martin. "I said it's bad when your big girl has been on the floor diving for balls in the last four games more than your guards combined. Something is wrong with that picture."

Molloy, on the other hand, is healthy and back on the upswing — winners of four straight — since losing three in a row. It has clinched a berth in the CHSAA Class AA state tournament a year after winning the state Federation Class A crown.



inside, cutting the deficit to 72-71 with 1:12 to go.

"It shocked us," Libroia said of the CK pressure. "It was the first time they pressed all game. Some guys didn't know what to do."

After Libroia split a pair at the line, Severe pulled the Royals even at 73 with 47.1 left. Williams and Cosbert missed shots

at each end to force overtime. CK pulled away in the extra session, reeling off a 9-2 to go up 86-79. Calhoun had five points in the spurt, including the record-tying free throws.

Severe followed Calhoun's 31 points with 25 of his own and Fuchs had 15. Libroia led Cross (18-4, 9-2) with 27 points, Moore and Mairega Clarke each had 14, Roscigno notched 11 and Will Davis posted 10.

It was a big night for Calhoun one day after he was disappointed at being

left off the McDonald's All-American roster, which selects the top 24 seniors in the nation.

"That's my motivation," he said. "I felt I should be a McDonald's All-American. It's gonna push me and motivate me and drive me every time I take the court."

It was another frustrating loss to Christ the King for Holy Cross, which hasn't beaten them since defeating the Royals in the CHSAA Class AA intersec-

Knights have lost both contests this year, by a combined 12 points. Clearly, Friday's setback was the most frustrating as Holy Cross was doing everything right, from holding its own inside against the bigger Royals to shooting the lights out from the perimeter.

"I told the kids it's very disappointing, but it's not discouraging," Holy Cross Coach Paul Gilvary said. "A lot of the mistakes we made can be corrected."

hit those shots, it goes down to the wire."

The Judges' celebration was somewhat subdued. They were expected to win Queens when LIC (23-3) upset No. 1 Bayside.

It was nevertheless a joyous locker room afterward. From Lawrence's abrupt departure to the 29-point loss at Bayside, there were doubts if Cardozo would have this moment.

"I'm really proud of the team. I'm glad these kids will have something to hang their hats on," Naclerio said.



Easy #51								
5	9	7	1	8	6	2	4	3
2	1	4	9	3	5	7	8	6
8	6	3	7	4	2	9	1	5
7	5	6	2	1	3	8	9	4
9	2	8	4	5	7	3	6	1
4	3	1	8	6	9	5	2	7
3	7	9	6	2	1	4	5	8
1	4	2	5	7	8	6	3	9
6	8	5	3	9	4	1	7	2

Hard #51								
1	5	7	4	2	3	6	8	9
8	3	2	1	6	9	7	5	4
4	6	9	8	5	7	1	2	3
2	1	6	5	4	8	3	9	7
9	8	4	7	3	1	5	6	2
5	7	3	6	9	2	8	4	1
7	2	5	9	1	6	4	3	8
6	9	1	3	8	4	2	7	5
3	4	8	2	7	5	9	1	6

Week 7

Red Storm centerfielder among Big East best

St. John's centerfielder Kristi Cady was named to the Big East softball Honor Roll after leading the Red Storm offensively at the Red & Black Showcase in Athens, Ga., during the opening weekend of the 2012 season.

Cady hit .533 during the four-game tournament, going 8-for-15 with three doubles, two triples and five runs scored. The Hamilton, N.J., native had a 1.000 slugging percentage over the weekend and registered seven putouts while starting all four games in centerfield for the Red Storm.

She posted multiple-hit games in each of the season's first three games, reg-

istering an RBI in all three contests. Cady now has five triples in her career, tying her for the St. John's career record.

The four-year starter in center is riding a four-game hitting streak to open the 2012 season, after compiling a team-best 14-game streak during the 2011 season en route to a .333 batting average.

This is the third Honor Roll nod for Cady in her Red Storm career, also receiving the honor for the weeks of Feb. 21, 2011, and March 15, 2010.

The Red Storm next take the field Saturday, Feb. 18, against UMBC at 11:30 a.m. as part of the Longwood Lancer Lead Off Classic in Longwood, Va.

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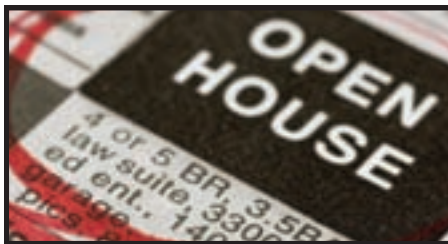
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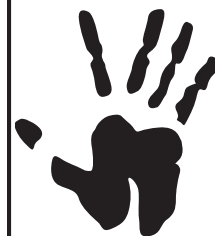
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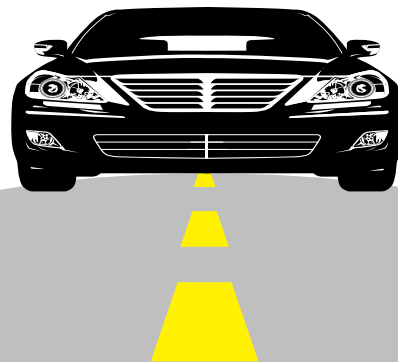
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Notice is hereby given that an order entered by the New York Civil Court, Court of Queens, on the 25 day of January 2012, bearing Index number 1258/2011, a copy of which may be examined at the office of the clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY, in Room 357, grants us the right to 1. assume the name of MAJIDAH FAREESA ALI.

### ► LEGAL

My present name is MAJIDAH FAREESA MOHAMMED AKA MAJIDAH F. MOHAMMED, AKA MAJIDAH MOHAMMED, AKA MAJIDAH FAREESA JOSEPH. My present address is 190-13 Vanderveer St., Queens Village, NY 11428. My place of birth is Trinidad & Tobago. My date of birth is May 9, 1974, and grants my minor son the right to 2. assume the name of ALEEM JALEEL ALI, His present name is ALEEM JALEEL MOHAMMED, His present address is 190-13 Vanderveer St., Queens Village, NY 11428. His place of birth New York, NY. His date of birth November 6, 1997, and grants my minor son the right to 3. assume the name of RA-SHEED ISMAA'EEL ALI. His present name is RA-SHEED ISMAA'EEL MOHAMMED. His present address is 190-13 Vanderveer St., Queens Village, NY 11428. His place of birth New York, NY. His date of birth January 23, 2000.

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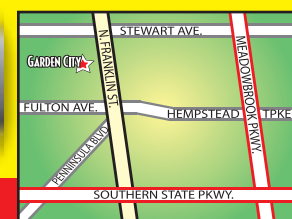
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