

TimesLedger captures 13 journalism awards

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QGuide Page 27



Worker falls from Throgs Neck Bridge

BY REBECCA HENELY

John Massas, a 35-year-old painting subcontractor, still had not been found Tuesday night after falling from the Throgs Neck Bridge into the Long Island Sound Friday.

Massas was working on the bridge Friday on a platform below the roadway when he fell off into the water, authorities said.

Members of the NYPD, FDNY and U.S. Coast Guard, among others, searched for the worker throughout Friday morning. At 12:30 p.m., the Metropolitan Transportation Authority said in a statement that finding Massas was now considered a recovery mission, meaning that he was thought to be dead.

"MTA Bridges and Tunnels extends its condolences to the worker's family, friends and co-workers," the agency said.

Continued on Page 16

Weprin gets city to grill food carts

ALL ABOUT AIM



Jermaine Sylva of Oakland Gardens learns techniques from NYC Parks Ranger Gabriela Padewska during an archery training session in Alley Pond Park. **See coverage on Pages 5, 38.**

Photo by Christina Santucci

Hearing planned on vendor influx into NE Queens

BY PHIL CORSO

City Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) has zoned in on what he called a recent phenomenon, urging the Council's Consumer Affairs Committee to see what's cooking on the streets of eastern Queens.

The appearance of food carts along Bell Boulevard, Hillside and Springfield avenues as well as Union Turnpike has left Weprin asking the city to investigate and potentially regulate concerns, including health and safety issues, unfair competition and unsightliness.

The councilman said the city would hold hearings later this spring to discuss these issues with local vendors and the community to resolve how to regulate

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Save our Beacon: CB 11

Board passes resolution to rescue Bayside program from cuts

BY PHIL CORSO

A guest appearance by City Comptroller John Liu and a community powwow in support of Bayside's Beacon program led the discussions at Monday night's Community Board 11 meeting.

The former Flushing councilman fielded questions from a packed room of community members and concentrated mostly on saving the city money and his efforts to mediate Bayside's overcrowded schools.

"My office is consistently focused on doing what I was elected to do," Liu said. "We've focused on the need to reduce the number of consultants on the city's payroll."

With an eye toward saving money, Liu reported a total of \$660 million saved for taxpayers through his office's efforts to take advantage of historically low interest rates and refinancing the city's debt.

In a Q&A session, Liu was asked if he planned on running for re-election as comptroller if he decided not to run for mayor.

"I have not made clear exactly what I'll do in next year's election," Liu said.

Alluding to media coverage of the recent arrest of his campaign's finance manager on charges of fraud, Liu told the meeting not to believe everything they read.

He added that negative press he has received



City Comptroller John Liu (c.) visits Community Board 11 Chairman Jerry Iannece (l.) and board members in Bayside to check in and talk about finances. Photo by Phil Corso

relied greatly on unnamed sources and should not be trusted.

"The quotes attributed to me [in city newspapers] are completely fabricated," he said.

Disapproval over the potential elimination of the after-school Beacon program operated by Little Neck's Samuel Field Y, at MS 158 was evident from the petition signing at the front entrance of the school, at 46-35 Oceania St., all the way to the meeting's conclusion more than an hour later.

Four of the eight public speakers used their time to show their support for the Bayside Beacon program, which could be one of seven citywide programs to close this summer.

Community activist Mandingo Tshaka said he was appalled to hear about the program's removal from the city budget to satisfy Mayor Michael Bloomberg's \$2.1 million in proposed reductions.

"This program needs to be here," Tshaka said.

Similar messages were delivered by several other public speakers, including Kim D'Angelo, MS 158's Parent-Teacher Association president.

"No one using this program can afford alternative child care," D'Angelo said. "It's an investment in our children and our families."

D'Angelo said there would be a rally outside MS 158 April 24 at 6 p.m. to protest the cuts.

In response, CB 11

voted unanimously to pass a resolution in full support of the Beacon program, noting that it added to the performance of Bayside's schools and was an integral part of the community.

"This community board knows the value of the Beacon program and we're here to support you," CB 11 Chairman Jerry Iannece said.

Iannece also announced there would be a new overlook built near Old Oak Pond in Douglaston to honor the late Joe Hellmann, who died at the age of 70 in 2010 and was an active member of the community. Iannece said it was a compromise, adding the board originally intended

Continued on Page 16

Halloran honors hard-hat heroes

BY PHIL CORSO

Several Good Samaritans were formally thanked and praised last week when City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone) presented proclamations to three Consolidated Edison workers for rescuing an Auburndale crime victim last January.

Con Ed's John Kane, Michael Santeramo and John McDonnell received recognition at a small ceremony in City Hall March 28 when Halloran publicly thanked them for their efforts.

"These three heroes showed courage in helping a fellow New Yorker in her time of need," said Halloran. "I thank them for their bravery."

The three mechanics were joined by backhoe operator Anthony Farmighetti Jan. 25 at the corner of 201st Street and 42nd Avenue, where they had worked all day tearing up the street to repair a gas leak when they heard

a woman's scream about 8 p.m.

According to Santeramo, who lives on Long Island, he and Farmighetti were the first to run toward the noise with the others joining behind them.

The workers said they saw a 6-foot black man with a gun assaulting a woman in her 20s while trying to steal her purse.

"We ran right there, you know," said McDonnell in the statement. "You hear something like that happen and you just run right there. You just go right into mode, you want to help somebody."

After chasing the suspect for about 60 feet, the man turned around and pointed his gun at the crew, threatening to shoot before running off. Two workers chased the suspect through a neighborhood yard, Con Ed said, but could not catch him.

No arrests have been reported from the incident.

Santeramo said they *Continued on Page 16*



City Councilman Dan Halloran (third from l.) honors local Consolidated Edison workers for coming to the rescue of a robbery victim in Bayside in January. Photo courtesy Dan Halloran

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Mock GOP debate entertains and informs students

Queensborough's team of Republican candidates fields questions from school journalists

BY PHIL CORSO

There may have been actors, but there wasn't any script. Students posing as GOP hopefuls for the Republican presidential nomination exhibited their skills last Thursday when the Queensborough Community College mock trial team faced off on the issues.

"This is important because it was driven by students. They had an interest in making people more politically engaged," said Diane Call, the college's president. "It's a wonderful experience to see them take the skills necessary for a debate and articulate the different points of view."

Four students acting as Republican GOP presidential contenders — former Gov. Mitt Romney, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum and U.S. Rep. Ron Paul (R-Texas) — fielded questions from classmates posed as distinguished journalists with the goal to portray their respective politi-



Queensborough Community College students and faculty members celebrate the school's GOP mock presidential debate last week.

Photo courtesy Queensborough Community College

cal opinions.

Members of the college, at 222-05 56th Ave. in Bayside, gathered in the Medical Arts building on March 29 to listen and learn.

Outside the mock debate was a voter registration table, inviting any students to file for the 2012 presidential election in November.

Faculty advisers and professors Kelly Ford, Leslie Francis, Ted Rosen and Stephen Hammel guided the college's mock trial

team.

Rosen said it was a win-win kind of event that offered entertainment and education.

"There is significant value to an event such as this," Rosen said. "Realistically portraying people who are currently shaping the national conversation is a powerful tool in helping students appreciate and become involved in an experience of historical importance."

The students embraced their

political roles with passion and authority, speaking with emotion over the issues their characters felt strongly about. Above them was a projected photograph of the candidates they were there to represent.

Shirley Aguilar portrayed Paul and consistently made it a point to suggest ending the country's Federal Reserve System, a notion Paul has become known to push.

Jace Dunn, who acted as Gingrich, made the ex-speaker's popular promise to lower gas prices to below \$3 a gallon early in his talking points.

Anthony Rivera was calm and cool while as Romney, speaking as a candidate ahead in the delegates count, while Gbenga Omotade portrayed Santorum and mentioned the senator's dedication to drilling domestically for petroleum resources.

According to Hammel, there was more benefit out of the debate than simply entertaining an audi-

ence.

"The students became interested. They were enlightened and their research enhanced their views," Hammel said. "They zoned in on issues like spending and taxation, which was the ultimate goal. We wanted them to learn while they prepared."

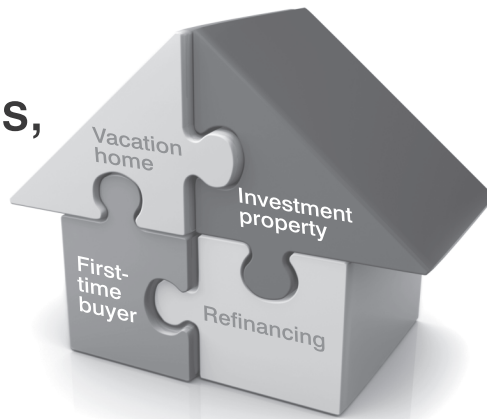
Student Oluwadamisi Atanda introduced the candidates and said the event was organized to spark voter engagement and educate each other on the issues.

"This was not scripted. It's about public speaking and thinking on your feet," Atanda said. "Hopefully, the audience will open their minds, enjoy and educate themselves."

Vice President for Student Affairs Ellen Hartigan echoed Atanda's message.

"This is an excellent opportunity for all of us to learn a little bit more," Hartigan said. "We all have the right to share our points of view."

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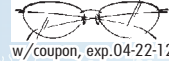
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Queens water rates rising

Homeowners hit with proposed 7% increase, which Liu calls too high

BY PHIL CORSO

It could have been worse, according to the city Department of Environmental Protection.

A proposed 7 percent increase in next fiscal year's water rates could hand homeowners an increase from \$877 per year to \$939 per year for water and sewer bills — or just over an additional \$5 per month, according to the DEP.

"Our proposed 7 percent rate increase is the lowest increase in seven years and shows that DEP is doing everything in our power to try and keep rates in check while still delivering a product that city residents can take pride in every time they turn on the tap," said DEP Commissioner Carter Strickland. "Though any rate increase is difficult in these economic conditions, we are clearly moving in the right direction."

The proposed increase is a 25 percent reduction from the last year's projected increase, which was



City residents may face another water rate hike, according to the city Department of Environmental Protection. Photo illustration

more than 9 percent, the DEP said. According to a release from the DEP, it is the lowest increase in seven years and the third year in a row in which the increase has come down from the previous year's projection.

But the news did not impress city Comptroller John Liu, who said at Mon-

day night's Community Board 11 meeting that any increase was a bad one.

"It's somewhat absurd that it is almost good news this year that it isn't a double-digit rate increase," Liu said. "We had four years of double-digit increases on the water rates and it's shocking that they pitched

it as 'only 7 percent,' which is completely ludicrous."

Liu said he believed there should be a more independent agency managing the city's water rates, and his office was looking into the situation.

"Homeowners are feeling it all over the place," *Continued on Page 46*

Endorsements bestowed in Ackerman seat race

BY JOE ANUTA

The three Democrats facing off in the primary for U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman's (D-Bayside) seat have been racking up endorsements and money ahead of June 26, when one will win the chance to take on the Republican challenger.

Each candidate got the nod from organizations in Queens and beyond, and offered up rough fund-raising estimates ahead of April 15, when their first campaign finance filing will become public.

Comparing the brevity of the primary to a special election, a New York political insider said unions that endorse a candidate have the potential to provide valuable human power to hand out literature, go door-to-door and get out the vote on Election Day.

State Sen. Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows) was the first candidate to get union support, when he snagged the nod from the Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union March 19.

"I've dedicated my career in public life to fighting for the things that matter to working New Yorkers, and it's a great honor to have the backing of RWDSU and organized labor in this race," Lancman said in a statement.

Lancman then gained backing from Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ, the

Working Families Party and former Mayor Ed Koch, who supported Rep. Bob Turner's (R-Middle Village) successful bid for Anthony Weiner's seat in last year's special election against state Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck). According to a spokesman, he had raised about \$200,000 as of Tuesday afternoon.

City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Middle Village) received support of her own when she won the backing of the Uniformed Firefighters Association last Thursday.

"We feel very strongly she is the best candidate to represent Queens in Congress," said Steve Cassidy, president of the association. "And we are very proud to endorse Liz Crowley."

Crowley is the current chairwoman of the Council's Fire and Criminal Justice Committee and was an outspoken critic of the mayor's plan to close 20 firehouses during the 2011 budget dance. Crowley had raised about \$100,000 as of Tuesday afternoon, according to a spokesman.

Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D-Flushing) had already received the endorsement of the Queens Democratic organization March 19, days after Ackerman suddenly announced he would not seek re-election.

But she has since garnered endorsements from Emily's List, a nationwide *Continued on Page 46*

State budget has Cross Bay toll rebate

BY JOE ANUTA

Negotiations over the state budget seemed as mild as this year's winter with Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state Legislature approving a \$132.6 billion, on-time package that addressed a major issue in Queens.

"This is an honest, straightforward budget that puts New York state back on track by closing a multibillion-dollar deficit with no new taxes, fees or gimmicks," Cuomo said in a March 30 statement after the budget was signed two days before the deadline.

Queens leaders praised several aspects of the state



Gov. Andrew Cuomo (c.) has a laugh with state Assembly Majority Leader Sheldon Silver (l.-r.) and state Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos after signing a budget bill in Albany. AP Photo/Mike Groll

budget, including a rebate program designed to reimburse residents of the Rock-

aways who currently must pay tolls on the Cross Bay Bridge.

The bridge is the only span completely within a

borough that charges a toll which, according to state Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (D-Ozone Park) and civic leaders in the Rock-aways, was stifling business growth and gouging residents who commute to work outside the neighborhood.

"The return of this important rebate program is a step in the right direction towards the complete elimination of this inherently unfair tax," Goldfeder said.

The budget itself was heralded by Cuomo as proof that Albany was making a turnaround from its widely perceived dysfunction.

"Fifteen months ago *Continued on Page 46*



City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (l.-r.) and state Assembly members Grace Meng and Rory Lancman have all racked up endorsements from unions and organizations in the Democratic primary for a Queens congressional seat.

City kids shoot arrows in new sport craze

Families gather at Alley Park archery program to learn ins and outs and bows and arrows

BY STEVE MOSCO

The city seems to be preparing its youth for a sequel to “The Hunger Games.”

Archery is on the rise as the popular movie featuring a bow and arrow-toting heroine is igniting an interest in the sport among fans young and old.

And as a way to nurture that interest, the city Parks Department invited area children to take aim at a new hobby.

Families and children 8 and older were welcomed to participate in an archery program at the Alley Park Adventure Course Sunday. Parks views archery as a great way to improve focus and develop patience, as a rushed shot almost never hits its mark.

Trained Rangers demonstrated the safe and proper way to draw a bow and shoot an arrow and

provided tips to the young Katniss Evergreens in the crowd on how to hit the target — or at least get as close as possible.

Sanchez demonstrated the different grips, the correct stance, how to load the bow and subsequently fire an arrow. When he attempted a first-hand demonstration, Sanchez missed the target, to the delight of the children in attendance.

His second shot, though, was true and nailed the target almost dead-center.

“It takes time and patience to fire an arrow,” said Sanchez. “If you think before you shoot, hopefully your arrow will land somewhere near the target.”

Parks is not the only city department extolling the virtues of archery. The city Department of Education green-lighted a program to allow students to learn archery in an attempt



Brian Hsu of Flushing watches as his son Tony, 8, aims a bow and arrow during the event at Alley Pond Park.

Photo by Christina Santucci

to spread Olympic-style archery in public schools, according to Easton Development Sports Foundation.

The DOE is partnering with the California-based sporting foundation, which

will offer the program and equipment for free to any city school that wants to participate. The foundation is offering two programs, one which provides equipment and training and an-

other that provides grants for schools that already have a certified archery instructor.

Caren Sawyer, executive director of Easton, said archery is a great sport to

include in a school's curriculum because it acts as a learning mechanism that kids can apply to other aspects of life.

“Archery helps kids focus, concentrate and learn how to follow directions,” she said. “It also gives kids a good sense of achievement, as they tend to see marked improvements over time.”

Sawyer said the biggest issue is finding places for kids to shoot since archery ranges are not as prevalent as basketball courts. She is hoping the popularity of “Hunger Games” carries enough momentum to expand the sport into schools across the country.

“Since that movie came out, we've had many more hits to our website and it has really gotten people in the industry talking,” she said. “It's a really exciting time.”

Bloomberg hears plea for help on Flushing senior center tour

BY REBECCA HENELY

An 89-year-old Queens woman begged Mayor Michael Bloomberg to help bring her son back from the Dominican Republic to the United States during a news conference Tuesday at the Selfhelp Ben Rosenthal Senior Center in Flushing.

Norma Alvarez, a Flushing resident, said she had no money to help her son, Gregory Roman Alvarez, who came to the United States when he was 10 but was deported in the 1990s. She said both she and her son were poor, but she wanted to see her son back in the States before she dies.

“He's a resident, legal,” she said, “but they deport him because he was in a group — not selling — of people taking drugs.”

Bloomberg said it was a federal issue, but directed her to a staff member for help.

The mayor had come to the senior center, at 45-25 Kissena Blvd., to announce that it had become one of the city's first eight Innovative Senior Centers. These centers



Mayor Michael Bloomberg (c.) spoke about the Innovative Senior Centers program at the Selfhelp Ben Rosenthal Senior Center with Selfhelp Community Services CEO Stuart Kaplan (l.) and city DFTA Commissioner Lillian Barrios-Paoli.

Photo by Nykeema Williams

have special programming and new technology geared toward better meeting the needs of the communities they serve.

“Seniors today are very different,” Bloomberg said. “They are much more mobile. They are much more interested in the

Continued on Page 46

Trayvon Martin march draws hundreds in boro

BY STEVE MOSCO

A community marched through a soggy chill in southeast Queens calling for justice in the Trayvon Martin case Saturday.

Protesters numbered in the hundreds as elected officials and furious residents stood in solidarity with the black Florida teen who was killed by a man claiming self-defense.

The man, George Zimmerman, has not been charged.

“It's painful to see every attempt being made to deny justice,” said City Councilman James Sanders Jr. (D-Laurelton). “You see this case and it seems that there are two systems



Hermia Walton who was watching the protest march along Linden Boulevard created a makeshift sign and later joined in the march.

Photo by Ken Maldonado

of justice and that can't be. If there is going to be one America, there has to be one system of justice. And that system has to be fair to everyone.”

Sanders was one of many elected officials and

community leaders to join the march, which stretched four blocks and gained supporters as it traversed Linden Boulevard in Cambria Heights on its way to St. Albans Park on Merrick

Continued on Page 46

Stop & Shop gives Passover gift to Queens pantry

BY STEVE MOSCO

Passover celebrates liberation from slavery — and a food pantry at the Queens Jewish Community Council liberates the impoverished from hunger.

The QJCC, at 119-45 Union TnPk. in Forest Hills, received an emergency donation of 1,000 pounds

of food to its Kosher Food Pantry from Stop & Shop, the supermarket chain. The organization welcomed elected officials and Stop & Shop representatives last week to celebrate the donation and to highlight the plight of many Jewish families.

“No family in our city should ever not be able to

celebrate a holiday because they can’t afford the appropriate provisions,” said City Council Speaker Christine Quinn (D-Manhattan) at a news conference March 27. “This donation from Stop & Shop of 1,000 pounds of kosher Passover food will ensure that many families in Queens will be able to join together and celebrate.”

The grocery store chain’s donation helped the organization stock its shelves at the most crucial time of the year. Included in the donations were matzoh, grape juice, gefilte fish, tuna, apple sauce and many other kosher products.

According to the QJCC, an estimated 20 percent of the city’s Jewish

families — 300,000 households — live in impoverished conditions, while the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty says that 23 percent of Jewish children who reside in the city live at or under the poverty level.

In February, the QJCC Kosher Food Pantry provided food to 1,560 Queens residents — an increase of 68 percent from February 2009.

In 2011, QJCC distributed 3,525 Passover packages, a 20 percent increase from the 2,950 packages donated in 2010. The demand is expected to be even more significant this year as the city’s unemployment rate stands at 9.6 percent.

“The realities of this economy have had a devastating impact upon many New Yorkers who suddenly find themselves unable to provide basic necessities for their families,” said Warren Hecht, president of the QJCC. “The requests for assistance from members


of the Jewish community as Passover approaches has been overwhelming.”

Quinn said she looks forward to the day when these types of food pantries are no longer needed — when nobody in the city goes hungry.

“Someday we’re going to have this press conference and we’re going to celebrate the fact that we don’t need more shopping carts of food because we would have ended hunger, not just in the Jewish community, but in every community in our city,” she said.

City Councilwoman Karen Koslowitz (D-Forest Hills) told the attendees that even when the economy fully recovers, it is important to remember that there will always be families struggling to put food on the table.

“Stop & Shop’s generosity is a great example of the spirit of giving,” she said. “It’s what you call a mitzvah.”



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City Council Speaker Christine Quinn (at podium) announces emergency donations of kosher food for Passover to the Queens Jewish Community Council Kosher Food Pantry. Photo by Nykeema Williams

Special traffic advisory

Two of three lanes on the Queens-to-Manhattan ramp of the Robert F. Kennedy-Triborough Bridge will be closed to traffic beginning 10 a.m. Thursday through 5 a.m. Friday while roadway repairs are completed.

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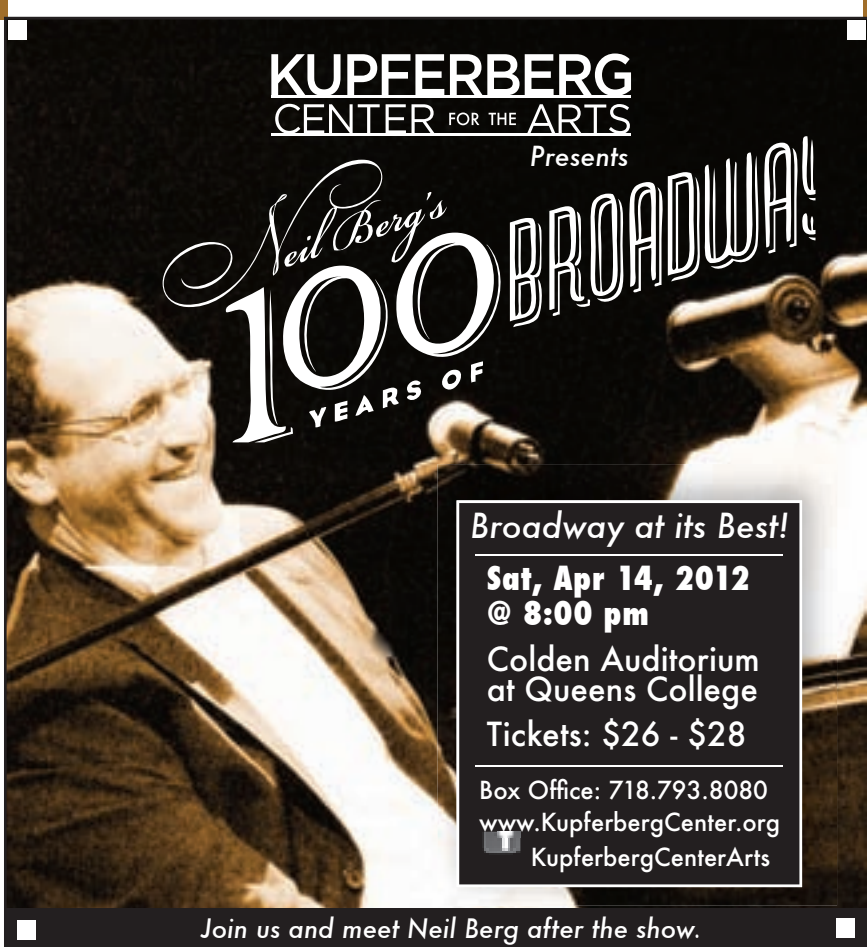
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POLICE Blotter

City Correction officer resisted arrest: Police

ASTORIA — An off-duty city Department of Correction officer was arrested Friday and charged with menacing, criminal possession of a weapon and resisting arrest, police said.
Cops say Ernesto Santos, 31, got into

an argument with a bouncer outside Don Coqui, a nightclub near 28th Road in Astoria, shortly before 1:30 a.m.
Santos pulled a gun and threatened the bouncer, police said.

Cops on the lookout for missing boro man, 77

OZONE PARK — The NYPD was seeking the public's assistance in locating Victor Torres, 77, of 95-03 76th St. in Ozone Park.
Torres was last seen inside his residence March 27, police said. He is described as 5-foot-7 and 150 pounds with brown eyes and gray hair, police said. He was wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt, blue jeans, a blue baseball cap and white sneakers, police



Victor Torres was last seen in Ozone Park on March 27.
Photo courtesy NYPD

said.
He is in good physical condition but poor mental health, police said.
Anyone with information about this missing person is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477). The public can also submit tips by logging on to nypdcrimestoppers.com or by texting CRIMES (274637) then enter TIP577. All calls are strictly confidential.

Police arrest suspect in Ridgewood rape case

RIDGEWOOD — An off-duty school safety agent was arrested on charges that he raped his ex-girlfriend inside her Brooklyn apartment Monday, police said.
The city Police Department says Tommy Johnson, 28, is also charged with criminal weapons possession, menacing and as-

sault, police said.
Police said the incident happened early Monday morning and the suspect currently lives with his mother in Ridgewood, where he was arrested.
He is currently awaiting arraignment, police said.

Police catch suspect in five boro bank robberies

JAMAICA — A Brooklyn man was arrested and charged with five bank robberies throughout the borough, according to the NYPD.
Sidney Williams, 43, of 727 Knickerbocker Ave., faces five counts of robbery in the incidents that took place between Feb. 3 and March 15, police said.



The NYPD released these images of a suspect in several bank robberies in Queens.
Images courtesy NYPD

Four of the five banks robbed were Chase Bank locations in Rego Park, Sunnyside, Forest Hills and Maspeth, and the other one was a Capital One Bank in Jamaica.
Police said each of the robberies followed a simi-

lar pattern. The suspect went into the bank, waited to speak with a teller and then handed over a note demanding money, according to the NYPD.
In three of the five robberies, the suspect made

away with an undisclosed amount of money, police said.
In two of the robberies, the suspect did not receive any cash, according to the NYPD.

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Census Bureau will not adjust Queens miscount

BY REBECCA HENELEY

Despite the hopes of Queens and Brooklyn, the U.S. Census Bureau rejected a request from Mayor Michael Bloomberg to modify the 2010 census counts for the city to reflect the undercounted population.

“It is very upsetting,” said state Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas (D-Astoria). “Anybody who has spent any time in western Queens and Queens, but western Queens in particular, for the last two years, let’s say, knows that this is a community that has been growing.”

The mayor had sent the challenge to Census Bureau Director Dr. Robert Groves Aug. 9, saying the office that counted Astoria and Jackson Heights had an unusually high number of housing vacancies given the growth in the area.

The 2010 census said Queens’ population grew by 0.1 percent, with 2,228,379 residents in 2000 and 2,230,722 residents in 2010, while Astoria and Jackson Heights’ population fell by 5 percent.

“I just don’t believe that. I really don’t believe that,” said state Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst), who cited the overpopulated schools in his district, which covers East Elmhurst, Jackson Heights, Corona and Elmhurst.

Bloomberg also said there were discrepancies in the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bay Ridge and

Bensonhurst. New York state lost two congressional seats and is due to get a reduction in federal dollars as a result of the count.

In its response letter to Bloomberg, Arnold Jackson of the bureau said its Count Question Resolution program can only correct the count when jurisdictional boundaries are incorrect, when living quarters and their populations are put in the wrong governmental unit — like the wrong county or state — or when living quarters are cut out of the census due to a processing problem.

Jackson said the only errors found involved the placement of some housing units on one census block somewhere in the city. This correction did not affect the change in the count.

The Department of City Planning commended the bureau in a statement for working with the city, but was disappointed that there were no real ways to change the count.

“City Planning’s demographers and technical specialists will continue to engage with their counterparts at the Census Bureau to examine what occurred and to improve census procedures for the future to ensure that New York is more accurately counted in the 2020 census,” the department said.

Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria) was less charitable about the results.

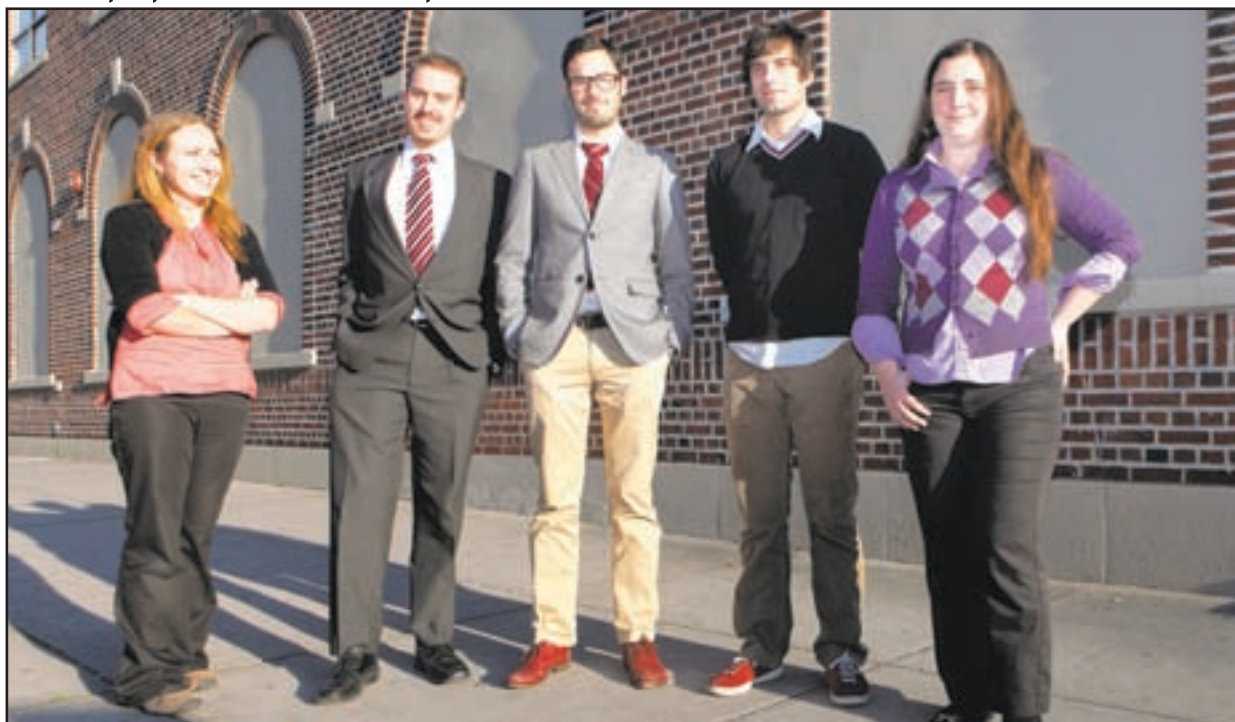
“It’s not surprising
Continued on Page 46



After a challenge to the U.S. Census Bureau’s low count of Queens was rejected, elected officials said they hoped for the bureau to partner with more community organizations in 2020.

TimesLedger wins awards

Newspaper receives 13 prizes for editorial excellence in state contest



TimesLedger staff (l.-r.) Christina Santucci, Colin DeVries, Joe Anuta, Rich Bockmann and Rebecca Henely received awards in this year’s New York Press Association Better Newspaper Contest. Photo by Joseph Gargiulo

BY PHIL CORSO

TimesLedger Newspapers took home honors from the New York Press Association last weekend with a total of 13 journalism awards, which recognized one reporter as the Rookie of the Year in the state and cited an ambitious yearlong project on unsolved murders in southeast Queens.

TimesLedger, which covers the diverse neighborhoods of Queens with seven weekly editions, won three first-place awards, five second-place awards, four third-place awards and one honorable mention for editorial excellence.

Newspapers from throughout the state gathered last weekend for NYPA’s 2011 Better Newspaper Contest in upstate Saratoga Springs. The annual contest included 158 newspapers, which submitted 2,437 entries for awards in 60 categories, with 443 awards presented throughout the weekend. Entries were judged by members of the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association at the end of January.

Reporter Joe Anuta, who covers Flushing and Whitestone, won first place for Rookie Reporter of the Year. Anuta joined TimesLedger in November 2010 after spending two months as an intern for a weekly newspaper in Brooklyn.

“I was very pleased when I received the news,” Anuta said. “It’s a nice recognition of the many hours I logged covering Queens last year, a testament to the hard work of my editors and colleagues who helped me along the way and inspiration to keep scouring the borough for good stories.”

Anuta was also part of another first-place honor for Best In-Depth Coverage, joining Photo Editor Christina Santucci and TimesLedger reporters Ivan Pereira and Howard Koplowitz for “Shots in the Dark,” a series on the unseen victims of violence on the streets of Queens.

Santucci and former Managing Editor Ian MacFarland captured first place for Best Multimedia Coverage for “Shots in the Dark,” which combined

an interactive map of the crime scenes with audio slide shows, comments from readers, dramatic photographs and traditional newspaper reporting.

Santucci received third-place honors in the Photographer of the Year category, an award she received first place for in last year’s contest.

The Jamaica Times won second place in the Best Editorial Page category. Second-place honors also went to the Astoria Times for Photographic Excellence, showcasing images from Tropical Storm Irene and the celebration of gay marriage.

Santucci’s work was also noted in second-place awards given to the Astoria Times for the Best Art Photo and the Best Picture Story to the Flushing Times.

“These awards reflect the hard work and the talent of a dedicated staff,” said Roz Liston, the chain’s editor. “Every member of the newsroom contributed to these awards.”

The Jamaica Times received second place in the Best Education Cover-

age category for work by Pereira and Koplowitz. The two joined TimesLedger reporters Rebecca Henely and Rich Bockmann to win third place for the Best Crime Coverage Award for their work covering stories for the Forest Hills Ledger.

The newspaper received a third-place award for Best Special Section, produced by Managing Editor Colin DeVries, which recognized the fall 2011 Guide to Queens, a borough guide published twice a year. The Queens sales staff and production department were part of the project.

The company also received third-place kudos for having the Best Special Section — Advertising for its Queens 200 supplement.

Honorable mention was awarded to Anuta and his work in the Forest Hills Ledger for Best News Story on a series of failed attempts by a man to row across the Atlantic Ocean.

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

YELLING THE LOUDEST

At a protest outside the office of U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman, demonstrators said they were angry about the congressman's support for the federal mandate that all insurance plans cover the cost of birth control.

Engaging in the hyperbole that has clouded this debate since Day 1, Ray Mooney, of Flushing, said, "A line has been drawn in the sand. What we have seen is the U.S. government say to the Catholic Church, 'We don't care.'"

The protesters have done their best to portray the administration as an enemy of the First Amendment.

Not to be outdone, the other side has portrayed the opposition as assaulting the rights of women.

Neither is true, nor is it true that the ban on contraception is a "deeply held Catholic belief." In fact, most Catholic women don't care what the priests and bishops say about contraception.

It is just as untrue to say that the handful of people standing outside Ackerman's office don't care about the health of women.

HOMETOWN HERO

For weeks the eyes of Flushing were fixed on a young Korean-American man who made it to the top nine on "American Idol."

Heejun Han was not only the talk of New York City's Korean community, but also became a sensation in South Korea.

His sincerity and quirky sense of humor won the hearts of millions of viewers and at least one judge: Jennifer Lopez.

Early on in the competition Han said he wouldn't mind if he was eliminated if he go to hug Lopez. That, he said, is the "dream of every Asian boy."

After getting cut from the show, Han said, "[Lopez] came up to me, with the teary eyes, and said, 'I was convincing them to save you, but I lost.'"

Han, who teaches disabled children in Flushing, said he loves music and would like to make a career out of singing.

But he added that he "started off this competition to help my kids out."

Like his parents and people, we're certain the children he works with are proud of him.

Han will perform this summer with the other top 10 finalists.



OTHER VOICES

Make CUNY credit transfers easier

The issue of ease of transferring credits within the City University of New York has long been a vexing problem for faculty and students, especially for community colleges, such as LaGuardia or Queensborough, to senior colleges, such as York or Queens.

The CUNY central administration is taking the radical step of dealing with that problem by imposing a common general education set of courses for all the

CUNY colleges. By eliminating the individuality of the college curriculum from place to place, the thinking goes that it should be easy to transfer.

But the Law of Unintended Consequences has appeared. To shoehorn all the different desired disciplines into the 30-credit Pathways Proposal, the specific requirement of a laboratory-based science course has disappeared.

Non-laboratory science courses fail to meet the na-

tionwide norm for general education science courses. Thus, by making it easier to transfer credits within CUNY, the Pathways Proposal makes it nearly impossible to transfer those credits anywhere else, such as State University of New York colleges.

CUNY is still a relative bargain for getting a quality education for a low price. If that quality disappears, it does not matter how little you pay.

If your readers are wor-

ried about the perception of dumbing down the CUNY curriculum, please contact CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein at chancellor@mail.cuny.edu or Board of Trustees Chairman Benno Schmidt at bschmidt@cae.org to ask them to rethink where Pathways is to take CUNY and its students.

*Dr. David H. Speidel
Queens College Professor
Emeritus
Forest Hills*

TIMESLEDGER Newspapers

ASTORIA TIMES ■ BAYSIDE TIMES
FLUSHING TIMES ■ FOREST HILLS LEDGER
FRESH MEADOWS TIMES
JACKSON HEIGHTS TIMES ■ JAMAICA TIMES
LAURELTON TIMES ■ LITTLE NECK LEDGER
QUEENS VILLAGE TIMES ■ RIDGEWOOD LEDGER
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Boro Board must deny Willets Point to developers

An open letter to Queens Borough Board members:

The board is responsible for evaluating developer firms' responses to the city Economic Development Corp.'s request for proposals pertaining to Phase 1 of the proposed Willets Point development and for approving or disapproving a choice of developer, as well as the disposition of Willets Point property to a chosen developer.

Your role in this process is important, because during 2008 the City Council, which ordinarily would have vetted the qualifications of the proposed developer firm and its proposal, ceded its authority to do so with the understanding that the QBB would have the final say in this matter.

The deadline for developer firms to submit responses to the Phase 1 RFP was Sept. 9. Since that time, there has been no public information concerning the status of the evaluations of the RFP responses by any of the entities which the public was told during 2008 would be involved.

When deciding whether or not to approve any Willets Point Phase 1 de-

veloper, we submit that the board is obligated to consider the following:

1. The ability of any RFP respondent firm to finance and implement Phase 1 of the proposed Willets Point development. Recent financial difficulties surrounding developer firms, alleged to have submitted proposals pertaining to Phase 1 of the proposed Willets Point development, underscore the need for the QBB to vet the financial capabilities of any developer considered for the Phase 1 site. As part of this due diligence, the board should also subject the EDC to a rigorous review of the costs of remediating and developing this site.

2. RFP respondent firms' financing of apparently unlawful lobbying by former Borough President Claire Shulman's local development corporation to influence approval of the proposed Willets Point development. The issue of the alleged unlawful lobbying by Shulman's LDC is crucial because it is part of an ongoing investigation by the state attorney general's office. Developer firms that financed the LDC's alleged unlawful lobbying are also

proposing to become the developer of the project that was the subject of that lobbying.

During 2008, then-Deputy Mayor Robert Lieber could not rule out the possibility that developer firms that financed the LDC's lobbying would be prohibited from participating in the Willets Point RFP. No firm that possibly could be implicated in an unlawful lobbying scheme should be considered an acceptable RFP respondent.

3. The city has quietly reneged on its commitment to include a living wage provision in the RFP. The mandatory inclusion of an agreed living wage provision within the RFP text was the linchpin of labor unions' support for the proposed Willets Point development and unions' encouragement of Council approval in 2008, but that living wage provision is not in the RFP. We urge the QBB to reject the EDC's attempt to circumvent the agreed living wage provision.

4. The proposed Phase 1 fails to accomplish the contiguous remediation of the entire 62-acre Willets Point site, which was said

during 2008 to be essential, and involves no new access ramps to and from the Van Wyck Expressway. City officials repeatedly said during the public review that partial remediation and development of the Willets Point site could not occur and was impractical.

Indeed, remediation of the entire site was purportedly so essential that Marshall specified, as a condition of her approval, that "the entire development plan must proceed comprehensively and must not be phased." Similarly, the Community Board 7 Land Use Committee chairman testified to the City Planning Commission that "the site must be remediated as one complete site. It has to be completely assembled, completely taken over and completely remediated as one site."

But the proposed Phase 1 would remediate only 12.5 acres of the entire site, leaving nearly 50 unremediated acres purportedly with the potential to recontaminate the remediated property. Phase 1 also has no provision for new Van Wyck Expressway access ramps and the city admits that the adverse traffic impacts of

Phase 1 without the ramps may be as severe as those of the entire development with ramps.

The proposed Phase 1 is not a "lesser included" project encompassed by the Council's 2008 approval. Rather, it is a new project which would deliver all the adverse effects but few of the purported benefits of the original proposed project. The liability/benefit ratio of Phase 1 is removed from that of the original proposed project. To the extent that the board's evaluation is intended to be a final safeguard against inappropriate development, it is incumbent upon the QBB to not grant any approval pertaining to Phase 1.

We also wish to ensure that you are aware that Barry Grodenchik, now employed at Queens Borough Hall as deputy borough president, is the former lobbyist employee of The Parkside Group, which lobbied in favor of the proposed Willets Point development on behalf of Shulman's LDC and its developer members.

To the best of our knowledge, Grodenchik has neither recused himself from involvement with the

board's evaluation of prospective Phase 1 developers and Willets Point property disposition, nor sought any conflict-of-interest ruling — although we believe Grodenchik should have done so.

Finally, the city is attempting to exercise eminent domain to forcibly acquire privately owned property to facilitate the proposed Phase 1. Forty-four states other than New York have enacted their own legislation to prohibit or curtail the use of eminent domain for such purposes.

Thus, the proposed Phase 1 project that requires the approval of the board not only fails to realize benefits that were intended by the Council, but relies upon eminent domain abuse that violates basic constitutional rights and is contrary to public sentiment throughout this country.

Nothing obligates you to go along with this, and we ask that you refrain from doing so.

*Gerald Antonacci
Willets Point United
Queens*

United States has surplus of oil at disposal Country needs change

Those with the "drill, baby, drill" mentality are either ignorant to the fact that we do not need more oil or are being manipulated and used as shills by the big oil conglomerates in order to increase their unprecedented profits.

Our country has a surplus of oil. Oil demand in our country is the lowest it has been in the last 10 years. In fact, since 1908 the United States has been exporting oil to countries

such as Brazil, Mexico and Chile. Prior to that, we had consumed all the gas we produced plus imported gas. We presently have more drill sites, are drilling more than ever and are producing greater quantities of oil than we have in the last 10 years.

Production is up, consumption is down and our oil surplus grows, as does our export of it. Despite these facts, drill-aholics claim we need to drill for more oil to make us less

dependent on foreign oil." More than mere nonsense, it is a lie. Unfortunately, by repeating non-stop the misleading mantra "Obama is responsible for the high cost of gas," it has duped much of our population for votes.

All this begs the question: Why are we lamenting the need to import foreign oil upon which we are "dependent" when we have more than enough produced in our own country to satisfy our own needs?

Add to this, the disgusting fraud perpetrated on our country by the profit-motivated Wall Street traders, and financial speculators. They purposely manipulate the price of oil to keep it high. Our enemy is not overseas, but within.

The ultimate solution: Think green.

*Nicholas Zizelis
Bayside*

As 2012 moves along, there has been an improvement, ever so slight, in the unemployment figure.

It currently stands at 8.3 percent, which is a slight drop from last year, but there are still more than 3 million Americans still out of work, and that figure is actually larger because many unemployed people have simply stopped looking for work.

Our country needs to have significant improve-

ment in its economy, along with more jobs for the unemployed and a reduction in prices on everything from food to fuel and health care, credit card and mortgage rates.

The American people will have their voices heard at the voting booth this November. It is time for big changes and they must happen soon.

*John Amato
Fresh Meadows*

Race for Ackerman seat brings out four contenders so far



Dee Richard
in
Dishing with Dee

This is the week that was and what a week it was indeed. On Monday, **Dan Halloran** announced his candidacy for **Gary Ackerman's** congressional seat in Flushing's Bowne Park.

Considering the announcement was scheduled for 5 p.m. while most people were still working, he had an impressive turnout. Among his supporters were **Rick Lazio, Tom Long, Phil Ragusa, Frank Padavan** and **George Maragos**. The list would be too long to mention everyone.

Good luck, Dan!

The other candidates in the race are Democrats **Grace Meng, Rory Lancman**, and **Elizabeth Crowley**. One of our sources swears he has heard that both Lancman and Crowley will be dropping out of the race in the next few weeks, making a tighter race of Meng vs. Halloran.

If that's true, now is the time to place your bets on who wins in that scenario. Lots of strange things are happening on our political horizons. Lots of luck to the candidates!

Last Thursday evening, there was a 50th birthday party for **Joe Crowley** at the Grand Hyatt Hotel at Grand Central Station. It was a high-powered affair. Some of the superstars were Mayor **Michael Bloomberg**; former

Gov. **Mario Cuomo**; **Peter Sr.**, **Peter Jr.** and **Perry Vallone**; **Tom DiNapoli**; **Bill Thompson**; **Kathleen Rice**; and Gary Ackerman, among others. It was a large turnout to show support and well wishes to Joe.

Here's one rumor you can put to rest. The rumor I am referring to is that Ackerman wasn't going to run again because he wasn't feeling well. Last Thursday night, he looked great and displayed his usual witty persona. At least that was his status at Crowley's party.

Everyone who is, who was and who wants to be were out in full regalia to wish the birthday boy a happy birthday — big time! Republicans and Conservatives, do not be offended, but in my humble opinion the Democrats sure do

know how to throw a party.

After Joe's party, it was back home to Beechurst to pack and drive the approximate 200 miles to Saratoga Springs to attend one of our annual rituals: the New York Press Association's 2012 Spring Convention. We arrived at the Gideon Putnam Hotel at 3:30 a.m. Breakfast was at 8 and the first session was at 9.

The Friday luncheon speaker was **Alex Jones**, a host and executive editor of PBS's "Media Matters." His subject was "Why Newspapers Matter." He proved to be a fascinating man with a great sense of humor, and it was a pleasure to have the opportunity to listen to him and learn from his great wealth of experiences.

At the seminar last year, the instructors said that due to state-of-the-art

technology, we in our profession would find it easier if we acquired an iPad and an iPhone. It would make life so simple, it would be a breeze to get our jobs done.

Taking the instructors seriously, I bought myself an iPhone 4-S and an iPad 2 for Christmas. One of this year's courses was "Mobile 101: Let's Get Started." I thought, "That's great, I'll finally get the maximum benefit from my new acquisitions."

Wrong. They may have been instructing in Sanskrit. It was so over my head and out of my league it was much too techie for me. If I had had an electrical engineering degree, it would have helped. Obviously, my background knowledge was not at that level. I was much happier not knowing how much I didn't know.

Apparently, there is so much to learn they even have a special vocabulary to go with that particular learning process. Maybe I should stick to pure, unadulterated gossip. Speaking of which, on Saturday afternoon, while driving down Saratoga Springs' Main Street, there was a black SUV in front of me. I took a photo of the sign in the SUV's rear window.

It said, "Do Big Corporations Own our Congressmen?" Looks like politics present the same problems all over.

I wrote this column April 1, my birthday, so happy birthday to me. I wonder who the April Fool's joke was really on?

Long to face Gillibrand in race for U.S. Senate seat



William Lewis
in
Political Action

We will be having an active U.S. Senate race this year in New York state. The seat in question is held by Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), who was appointed to that office by former Gov. David Patterson in 2009. She took the place of Hillary Clinton, who became U.S. secretary of state.

The state Republican and state Conservative parties recently held their conventions for the purpose of designating a candidate to run against Gillibrand. At both conventions, there were three candidates seeking endorsements.

They were George

Maragos, the Nassau County comptroller; U.S. Rep. Robert Turner (D-Middle Village), whose congressional district was eliminated in the redistricting process; and attorney Wendy Long, who has worked for conservative causes, including forming the Judicial Crisis Network to work on securing Senate confirmation of federal judges who observe judicial restraint.

The Republican convention gave their highest vote totals to Long, who achieved almost half of the votes cast. Both Maragos and Turner received barely more than 25 percent of the votes, which was enough for them to qualify to wage a Republican primary against Long.

At the Conservative Party convention, held a few days after the Republican convention, Long received 91 percent of the delegate votes. The other two candi-

dates, Maragos and Turner, received 9 percent between them. The convention then voted to make Long's vote unanimous. Therefore, she received the designation of the state Conservative Party with support from 100 percent of the delegates.

It should be mentioned that back in 2007, Long became a member of then-Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's Advisory Committee on the Constitution and the Courts. She served in that capacity during Romney's first run for the presidency.

At the time, Romney said the following about Long: "Throughout her distinguished legal career, Wendy Long has been an important conservative voice on family and legal issues. With her experience, Long's counsel will be invaluable in my campaign for our nation's highest office. I am greatly honored

to have her serve on my campaign."

In a brief interview with Long after the party conventions, she shared some of her views regarding the campaign. As for the support expressed for her at the conventions, she indicated she was pleased and overwhelmed. She also said she was determined to make herself worthy of the trust she had been shown.

She believes that two of the most important issues facing the electorate this year are the size and scope of the federal government and the economic issues of jobs and deficit spending.

When asked if elected what would be the first piece of legislation she would introduce, she answered, "Repeal Obamacare."

As for what would be the main differences in how she would conduct her duties in office, as com-

pared to Gillibrand, she said she would be more responsible and accountable to the people.

Turning to the federal courts, she has worked to get federal judges appointed who interpret the U.S. Constitution, not inject their own political philosophy when giving their opinions.

Long believes she will be able to raise the necessary funds to be competitive during the campaign.

Queens Conservative Party Chairman Thomas Long, who is not related to Wendy Long, has indicated some of his views on her candidacy. He believes she has considerable experience in politics and government. He also pointed out that she is a grassroots candidate with a long history of political involvement.

If Wendy Long wins the Republican primary and faces Gillibrand in the

fall election, it should be an interesting race and bring a lot of media attention.

Regarding congressional races, the recently redrawn 6th Congressional District seems to have taken center stage with a Democratic Party primary in the works to determine who will be the nominee. So far, three candidates have emerged to succeed Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-Bayside), who is retiring. The three are City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Middle Village), state Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D-Flushing) and state Assemblyman Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows).

The winner of the Democratic primary will face Councilman Daniel Halloran (R-Whitestone) in the fall election. Up to this point, Halloran has no primary opponents.

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New Yorkers don't trust teacher grading: Poll

BY PHIL CORSO

City teachers might be as anxious as their students to make the grade now that public school teacher evaluations are public, but one retired Bayside teacher said making the report cards available online was an unfair and unnecessary measure.

"You can't throw teachers under the bus," said Michael Feiner, president of the Bayside Hills Civic Association and a former city teacher for nearly 35 years. "They're too important. They teach our population and it's very shameful to do this."

Earlier this year, the city Department of Education released the controversial teacher data reports, which were collected over the last three school years and gave a numeric grade to nearly 18,000 fourth-through-eighth-grade



A sign referring to teacher ratings is hung along a parade route in Rockaway last month, echoing the message of one former Bayside teacher.

Photo by Christina Santucci

teachers.

Though these reports were originally intended to be internally circulated to measure how teachers

helped students and identify strengths and weaknesses, the DOE was required by law to release the evaluations after several media

outlets sued to have them made public in 2010.

According to a poll released by Quinnipiac University, 46 percent of New

York City voters said teacher evaluations were flawed in some way, while 20 percent said they trusted the results. More than half of the parents of public school students also said the evaluations were inaccurate.

"Those teacher evaluation rankings are suspect, voters think," said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. "But whatever their opinion of the validity of the numbers, voters would reward high scorers."

The scores should also translate into more money in the teachers' wallets, the study said. According to the results, 54 percent of city voters said teachers with higher grades should get more money, while 55 percent of voters said low-scoring teachers should not be fired for their marks.

Feiner said grades could be easily misunder-

stood and tarnish the reputations of teachers in the city.

"It's unhealthy for this city's teachers to be embarrassed, disappointed, let down and mistreated like that," he said.

As a former teacher who started in the 26th School District in northeast Queens, Feiner said that after reading the grades that were released earlier this year, he empathized with the feelings of many of his former colleagues.

"I felt so terrible that I started giving hugs to principals and teachers," Feiner said. "I know some people say I shouldn't get involved anymore. But it still hits me."

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

Iannece announces Assembly run for Lancman's seat

BY PHIL CORSO

Community Board 11 Chairman Jerry Iannece announced Tuesday he was setting up an exploratory committee to run for the state Assembly seat currently held by Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows), who already has launched his own campaign for Congress.

Iannece was the first to officially announce a run for the seat. Lancman had no immediate comment.

In a statement, Iannece said he made the decision to run partly because of the support he received from community leaders.

"I am flattered and humbled by the sheer volume of calls from local elected officials, civic and community leaders and activists who have all urged me to run for the 25th Assembly seat," Iannece said.

Frank Skala, president of the East Bayside Homeowners Association, said he was surprised to hear about Iannece's Assembly run.

"He's always been looking to do something in the political field," Skala said. "Jerry could do a good job and he has the confidence to do the job. I wish him success."

In 2009, Kevin Kim defeated Iannece in the Democratic primary for City Council in the district now represented by Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone). He said he was looking forward to the possibility of representing his community as an assemblyman.

The longtime northeast Queens civic leader left hints that this might be the last of his four terms serving as chairman of CB 11 after being re-elected last



Community Board 11 Chairman Jerry Iannece says he plans to run for Assemblyman Rory Lancman's seat.

month. He said choosing to run for the 25th Assembly District was the perfect fit.

"It takes in over 90 percent of Bayside Hills, where I have lived for over 20 years," Iannece said. "It is where my kids grew up and went to school, where I served as a Little League coach and where I got my start as a civic leader."

The 25th Assembly District also covers Fresh Meadows, parts of Flushing and Richmond Hill.

"I have lived and actively volunteered and worked in virtually every part of this district for well over two decades," Iannece said. "The record shows that I have dedicated my life to the betterment of this community."

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

Young avian enthusiasts celebrated

BY PHIL CORSO

The Alley Pond Environmental Center in Douglaston welcomed more than 100 local young bird enthusiasts last weekend when District 26 students from kindergarten through sixth-grade attended the 33rd annual Arline Thomas Urban Bird Literary and Arts Contest Awards Ceremony.

Volunteers for Wildlife treated children to a live bird presentation Saturday while bank representatives helped distribute certificates and prizes to winners in the literary and art and craft categories.

City Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) presented awards to children who showed extraordinary talent and an in-depth understanding of urban birds.

"I thank APEC for promoting understanding of the environment in Queens," Weprin said. "It is important to pass this appreciation on to future generations."

Principals, teachers, students and their families were also there to celebrate at the center, at 228-06 Northern Blvd. Selected winners read their literary pieces to the crowd.

Arline Thomas, the event's



City Councilman Mark Weprin (l.) presents awards at the 33rd Annual Arline Thomas Urban Bird Literary and Arts Contest ceremony at Alley Pond Environmental Center.

Photo courtesy Mark Weprin

namesake, was a Queens native who dedicated her life to caring for sick and injured urban birds before her death in 1989.

"Her house overflowed with ducks, larks, sparrows, owls and blue birds," said Karen Pierro, an educator at APEC. "She ultimately became a licensed member of the National Audubon Society's bird-saving corps

and published a number of books."

The children's work will be on display at APEC for the next year, Pierro said.

The winners for the Best in Show category were sixth-grader Tara Jackson for literary, sixth-grader Kristine Ang for art and fourth-grader Melaine Guardado for craft.

Weprin puts support behind Alice's Law

BY PHIL CORSO

State Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) took to the steps of City Hall last weekend to continue pushing a law to make staged car accidents a stand-alone crime.

Joined by former Assistant Brooklyn District Attorney and New Yorkers Stand Against Insurance Fraud spokesman David Schwartz, Weprin warned New Yorkers that the number of staged car accidents in the state has dramatically increased due to loopholes in insurance laws, according to a statement.

Almost nine years after 71-year-old Alice Ross was killed in the pre-meditated crash, Weprin called on the state Legislature to pass Alice's Law to save taxpayer dollars.

"Criminals in our state are intentionally causing accidents and targeting innocent New Yorkers to make money, and we must do something to protect citizens against it," Weprin said. "These crimes are endangering the lives of New Yorkers and driving up the auto insurance rates of New Yorkers already struggling with skyrocketing gas prices."

Weprin said it was estimated that auto insurance fraud has cost New York drivers more than \$1 billion in higher insurance rates over the past five years.

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

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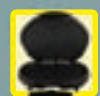
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Painter John Massas has been missing since he fell from the Throgs Neck Bridge Friday.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

Throgs Neck

Continued from Page 1

MTA said Massas, who was employed with subcontractor Nuco Painting Corp., of Islandia, L.I., had been working in the middle of the bridge's span, which runs from Bay Terrace to Throgs Neck, Bronx, before he slipped off the platform after 8 a.m.

Nuco declined to give a comment. The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Home Local 806, which Massas belonged to, also did not respond to a request for comment.

The Coast Guard said Friday it sent out two boat crews from Kings Point, L.I., and a helicopter crew

from Atlantic City, N.J.

The FDNY was on the scene from about 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., when it closed down its operations, a spokesman said.

The MTA said Massas was working on part of a \$25 million, two-year rehabilitation of the bridge's structural steel. The contractor on the project was Elsol Contracting & Construction, which has multiple locations throughout Queens, the MTA said.

Massas lived in the Bronx with his wife and three children, the New York Post reported.

Carmen Gonzalez, Massas' mother-in-law, told the newspaper Massas

loved his job.

"He was a very good husband, a good father," she told the Post. "He was saving money for their children's college. He didn't want his children to be like him, painting."

The agency said all workers are required to wear safety harnesses, and the circumstances as to why Massas fell were under investigation by Bridges and Tunnels' Health and Safety Division, the U.S. Occupation Safety and Health Administration, the city Office of Emergency Management and the NYPD.

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

Con Ed

Continued from Page 2

immediately called the police and stayed with the victim until the authorities arrived. They returned to work after police had cleared the scene.

"She was very grateful that we helped her out and

she was very thankful that we stopped the altercation," Kane said in a statement.

Con Ed spokesman Alfonso Quiroz said in January that he was working with Borough President Helen Marshall's office to have the men's acts recognized.

Three months later, they were decorated as heroes when Halloran pre-

sented them with proclamations at City Hall.

"Mr. Kane, Mr. McDonnell and Mr. Santeramo epitomize what it means to be a New Yorker," Halloran said.

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

Franco's new retail plans seal the lips of city agency

BY JOE ANUTA

The owner of the White House restaurant recently filed paperwork to build a series of retail stores and offices instead of a catering hall in Whitestone, but the city temporarily pulled the permits off a public database following a TimesLedger Newspapers inquiry.

In March 2012, Joe Franco, former owner of the defunct Caffe on the Green, resubmitted certain portions of his catering hall permit that was disappeared last summer, documents from the city Department of Buildings showed.

One of the new documents described a two-story building that would house an unknown number of offices and retail stores with parking for 32 cars in the rear.

A July 2011 version of the same form showed that Franco sought to build a two-story catering and banquet hall capable of holding more than 700 people.

Franco and his architect Christopher Papas declined to comment on the change in plans.

Last Thursday, this newspaper told a Buildings spokeswoman that several documents in the original permit had been resubmitted in March. The spokeswoman refused to answer repeated calls placed to her office over the next three days as to whether the swap was standard practice, which it may very well be. On Tuesday morning, the entire permit was temporarily pulled from the department's website without explanation. It was not clear whether the docu-

ment substitution and sudden disappearance of the permit were related.

The permit appears to be under review again by Buildings, according to its website.

In addition, more specific permits to work on the building's structure and interior have already been granted, according to city documents.

The process of subdividing work is common in the development world, according to a member of the Queens chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

"Structural plans, for instance, can be filed under a separate documents. They

change from the city for the project.

"We lost the battle, but we won the war," said Kim Cody, president of the Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association, who said he learned of the change in plans after attending a meeting with City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone) last month.

Cody had originally expressed fears that the catering hall would be too big for the neighborhood and was joined by neighbors, civics and state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) in denouncing the development.

But the plan enjoyed support from others in the



Joe Franco filed documents to build retail and office spaces in place of the White House restaurant, but the plans temporarily disappeared from the city's database.

don't have to be approved at the same time," said Willy Zambrano, architect and treasurer of the chapter.

In many cases, this allows work on foundations or other essential elements of the building to begin while the rest of the plans for a building go through the approval process.

News of Franco's decision to scrap the catering hall was a welcome development for some civic leaders, who were outraged after he received a zoning

community in addition to Halloran. Devon O'Connor, of the Welcome to Whitestone civic, and Jack Friedman, of the Queens Chamber of Commerce and Whitestone residents submitted letters to support the zoning change.

Community Board 7, along with Borough President Helen Marshall, approved the zoning change prior to the Department of City Planning.

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Food carts setting up shop throughout Bayside have City Councilman Mark Weprin considering new regulations. Photo by Phil Corso

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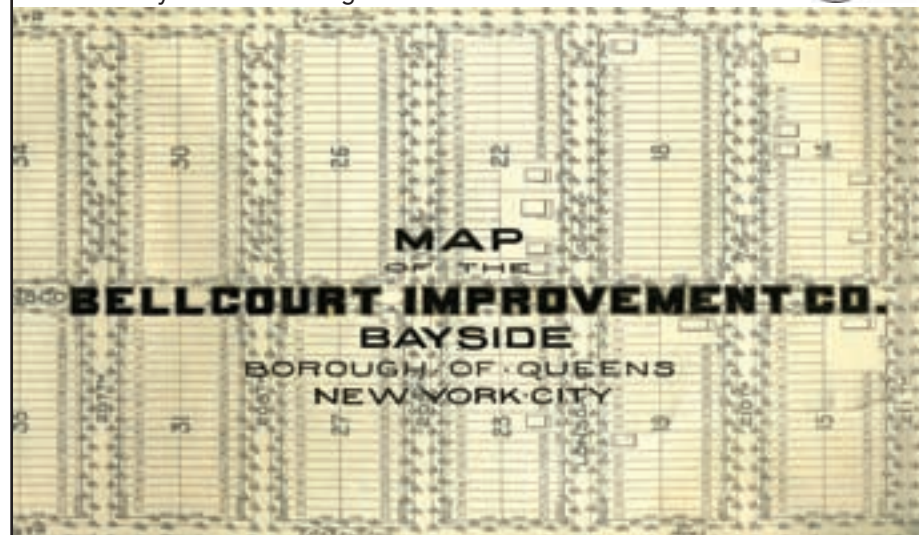
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This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council and New York City Council Members Daniel J. Halloran, and Mark S. Weprin.



Carts

Continued from Page 1

food vendors.

“There are a lot of questions out there,” Weprin said. “We should have a hearing because these things have become much more prevalent.”

The plan to bring the discussion into the Council was surprising news to John Amanatidis, whose mobile grilled food cart has resided near the intersection of Northern and Bell boulevards for close to 15 years, the vendor said.

“We’re not bothering anyone,” Amanatidis said. “We’re finished by 7 p.m., well before dinner, so we don’t interfere.”

A major concern in the debate, Weprin said, surrounded the topic of unfair competition posed by vendors parking their carts in new spots. Weprin said local merchants have expressed concern that these mobile food units have left them at a disadvantage.

But according to Sean Basinski, a spokesman for the Urban Justice Center’s Street Vendor Project, the accusation is not grounded in any facts or evidence.

Basinski said there

was plenty of research to show that food vendors actually helped local brick-and-mortars.

“It’s perhaps an understandable concern, but a naive impression which simply is not born out by the research,” Basinski said. “Whoever is complaining is simply wrong.”

According to a report provided by the Street Vendor Project, goods sold on the sidewalk were typically different from the higher-end items sold in stores, complementing the array of products. The report pointed to a “synergistic relationship” between the vendors and their local counterparts, adding that street vendors can draw the foot traffic necessary to boost sales in surrounding shops.

Possible solutions, Weprin said, included limiting where vendors can do business or imposing regulations on how far away from other food stores they might operate.

“There are places where they serve a great purpose,” Weprin said. “There are school campuses and parts of the city where people live and die with those food carts. But parking in front of a store with the same product could be unfair.”

A worker who only wished to be identified as John mans the halal food cart near the intersection of Northern and Bell boulevards and said he went where the business was.

“If people come here, then I’m here. I can go anywhere by law,” he said. “I’m legal. What I’m doing is legal. Business is business. Welcome to America.”

Other concerns that Weprin said residents have brought to the councilman’s attention are the issues of unhealthy conditions and unsightliness, affecting the image of Bayside’s community and quality of life.

It is something Basinski said might stem from an inherent fear of vendors. He said all food vendors were subject to inspection by the city Health Department and were no different than local shops in judging cleanliness on a case-by-case basis.

“I don’t think it holds water to say on a generalized basis that residents are concerned about health issues,” Basinski said. “To have these concerns in a vacuum sounds like simple anti-vendor warfare.”

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

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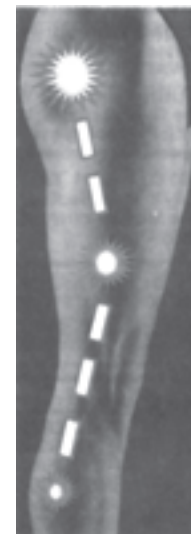
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Lancman active in fight against idling trains

BY STEVE MOSCO

State Assemblyman Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows) is ratcheting up his charge for Congress — and he's starting at the local level.

The candidate for the 6th Congressional District stood with residents of Glendale and Middle Village on

an overpass overlooking the Fresh Pond freight rail lines, along with the backyards of adjacent homes.

If elected, Lancman intends to enact legislation aimed at protecting the community affected by the environmental problems created by railroad companies that let their trains idle on the tracks outside

the rail station.

"For far too long, residents of this area have had to put up with the noise, the smell and the lack of security resulting from rail companies ignoring the community's concerns and performing railroad yard activities outside the railroad yard," said Lanc-



man at the gathering Monday. "This legislation would not only put an end to these disturbances by ensuring railroad yard activities actually take place in the railroad yard, but would also give the residents of this community input into the yard's operation."

The Neighborhood Rail Improvement Act would specifically prohibit rail companies from performing yard activities on tracks located in residential neighborhoods. These activities include repairs, maintenance, collection, storage and transfer of materials. The legislation would also create a nine-member Regional Community Advisory Board for railroad yards, comprised of residents appointed by the elected officials representing the area.

One of the residents directly affected by the use of these tracks is Anthony Pedalino, who said there can be as many as five cars idling for more than an hour. And when a train is inoperable, the operators leave it on the tracks instead of pulling it into the railyard.

"The smell is absolutely intolerable. If you're sitting in your yard and the trains come in, you immediately go inside to get away from the noise and the smell," he said. "I have my air conditioning running at full blast the entire sum-

mer just to try to drown out the noise."

Pedalino said the arrogance and attitude of the railway operators stinks just as much as the trains.

"The government needs to stand up for the residents," he said. "This neighborhood is going to be [no more] because people are getting fed up and leaving."

The Fresh Pond Rail Yard in Glendale is operated by New York & Atlantic Railroad, which did not return calls requesting comment.

Lancman, whose run for Congress was recently endorsed by former Mayor Ed Koch, blamed the spike in freight activity at the Fresh Pond Transfer Station on an increased demand for rail traffic to dispose of trash.

The smell, Lancman said, permeates through the neighborhood.

"The rail companies have plenty of representatives in Congress to stand up for them," he said. "When I get to Washington, I'm going to stand up for the people in this community."

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State Assemblyman Rory Lancman (r.) said that if elected to Congress, he will introduce legislation aimed at cleaning up railroad operations in Middle Village. Photo by Steve Mosco

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Court Square stop reopens for No. 7 riders after rehab

BY REBECCA HENELY

Straphangers coming from and going to Long Island City were relieved and happy after the MTA reopened the No. 7 train platform of the Court Square subway stop Monday.

"I'm really happy," said a Bedford Stuyvesant straphanger who gave her name as Rachel. "It was kind of a pain getting off at 21st [Street, a G train stop,] and walking over."

The Court Square station, at 45th Avenue and 23rd Street, had already undergone a major renovation in 2011 that combined three stations and allowed for access between the underground E, G and M trains and the elevated No. 7 train. Despite this, the elevated section was closed again Jan. 21.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority said during the closure the agency rehabilitated the station's platforms, outfitting them with new expansion joints, which absorb the expansion or contraction of the concrete due to weather conditions; tactile warning tiles, the bumps on the ground that alert riders they are standing



Straphangers quickly took advantage of the Court Square station's No. 7 train platforms opening earlier this week. Photo by Rebecca Henely

too close to the platform's edge; and track drains.

The agency also put up 510 feet of a new platform wall, spruced up the mezzanine, put in new sides along the stairways and did other improvements. The final renovations for the platform will make it accessible to people with disabilities.

"With full rehabilitation work nearly complete, the fast-growing area of Long Island City will have a refurbished and updated complex that will be fully accessible," NYC Transit President Thomas Prendergast said in a statement.

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Salvation may be on horizon as Peninsula plans to shutter

BY RICH BOCKMANN

As Peninsula Hospital made final arrangements to shutter its doors, a possible savior for the embattled Far Rockaway facility was touching down on the other end of Queens.

A representative at Peninsula said Tuesday the hospital's clinics would remain open and the emergency room would be accepting walk-in patients until Friday.

As the Rockaway's 100,000 residents braced for what many characterized as a health-care crisis, the president of a Chicago-based group with intentions of taking over and rehabilitating the hospital was landing at LaGuardia Airport.

Dr. Seth Guterman, of the People's Choice Hospital group, said if he could convince Peninsula's court-appointed bankruptcy trustee, Lori Lapin Jones, to re-evaluate her decision to close the facility, his organization could have it up and running within a matter of weeks.

"I'm confident that we could have it reopened in eight weeks, and assuming we get through all the due diligence of the bankruptcy court, from the moment



A representative from a Chicago-based hospital group is drumming up support to save Peninsula Hospital as the Far Rockaway facility plans to close its doors Friday.

we take over we could open the lab in six months with all the latest technology and be completely paperless," he said.

Peninsula filed for bankruptcy protection last year after it had accumulated \$13 million in debt. In February, the state Department of Health shut down the hospital's lab after an inspection noted 66 "serious deficiencies."

In early March, a judge appointed Jones as the hospital's bankruptcy trustee, and last week she filed bankruptcy documents noting it would take months to get the lab back up to snuff.

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Q GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

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Turkish nomads decorated their mobile lives with colorful rugs and tapestries and intricate homewares.

Photo by Brita Helgesen

Discover an Interwoven World

BY ALEX PALMER

Visitors to Flushing Town Hall will find they have stepped into a nomadic Turkish village. Simulated living spaces of nomadic tents complete with handwoven Turkish carpets and home furnishings are a highlight of the exhibit “Interwoven Worlds: Exploring Domestic and Nomadic Life in Turkey,” running through April 29.

Curated by Alexander Bauer, assistant professor of anthropology at Queens College, and Amy H. Winter, director and curator of the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, the exhibition showcases textiles from the museum’s permanent collection as well as traditional objects found in Turkish living spaces.

Central to Turkish homes, whether nomadic or settled, are textiles and, in particular, carpets, as reflected in this exhibition. The pieces on view are tapestry-

A new Queens College exhibit displays the contrasts and similarities of domestic and nomadic life in Turkey

woven rugs called kilims, embroidered flat-weave rugs (cicims), a pair of antique prayer rugs and woven or embroidered items such as saddlebags and bedding. It also includes ancient ceramics, glass and metalwork.

“We tried to reconstruct something that would give visitors a sense of how these people lived and their aesthetic sense and traditions,” said Winter.

The most eye-catching part of the show is the reconstructed dwellings where visitors can actually step inside and see the rugs and objects as they would be in a traditional home.

This includes a yurt, a wood-framed tent used by Turkish tribal cultures and nomadic tribes because of its light weight

and easy portability. There is also an Ottoman-style interior that shows design elements like wood paneling and partitioned windows as well as wall hangings and carpets. The structures create a bold impression in the center of the exhibition, and are intended to both educate and entertain. As Winter emphasized, “kids will love it.”

She added that the priority of the show was to represent the range of cultures and tribes, rather than trying to be archeologically authentic and pure. It reflects the range of pieces held in Godwin-Ternbach’s collection and also includes an area showing the cross-fertilization of other cultures and empires, including the Byzantine.

“It’s similar in a lot of tribal cultures the way they built and designed or decorated inside the tent,” said Winter. “But the things that they use in each tribe has its own unique pattern and designs.”

In addition to the pieces themselves, the exhibit includes a digital display that allows viewers to browse interior and exterior images of what an Ottoman house would have looked like. Sound recordings, photographs and texts have also been incorporated.

Winter explained that her expertise is in the history of art and archeological study, having done quite a bit of work in ancient art and tribal ethnographics. This includes two other recent shows she has curated specifically on textiles.

The exhibit is part of Queens College’s project “Year of Turkey: Exploring Past, Present, Future” that began in September and runs through June. It

Continued on Page 32

QC student introduces German novel to English readers

BY TATYANA SOUTHERLAND



ANNE POSTEN

Getting published is no easy feat: It can take months, years even. So it came as a huge surprise to Queens College graduate student Anne Posten when she was told that her English translation of German writer Tankred Dorst's "Der Schöne Ort" ("This Beautiful Place") was being published by Hang Loose Press, a year before even completing her master's of fine arts at the college.

"I couldn't believe it," said 25-year-old Posten. Since first reading the novella in a German literature course as an undergraduate at Oberlin College, where she majored in German, she fell in love with it. "The style was unusual, unlike anything I read before," said Posten. "I wanted to share it with my friends and I couldn't because it was in German so I became motivated to translate it to English so that I could share it with them."

Posten began working on the translation for the book her senior year at Oberlin College in Ohio.

After graduating from Oberlin, Posten enrolled in Queens College for its graduate program in translation. Posten said she sought out the program because it was one of only two or three in the country that taught translation as a writing program. The other programs focused on translation theory or comparative literature. She received encouragement from some of the program's faculty.

"It was (Queens College pro-

fessor) Kimko Hahm's idea to collaborate with Hang Loose; she pushed for this to happen," said Posten, who cited three professors as being particularly helpful. "Susan Bernofsky and Roger Sedarat have been really important to me."

Posten's translation is the first translation of a novel published by Queens College, so it is a first not only for Posten but for the school as well. "I think it's a wonderful thing the college is doing," she said.

Upon hearing that her translation of "Der Schöne Ort" was being published, Posten's former professor, Thomas Wild, who happened to be a friend of the book's author, Tankred Dorst, got Posten in touch with Dorst. Dorst ended up cutting a trip in Moscow short so that he could meet with Posten in Germany and the two discussed the short novel over coffee.

"Der Schöne Ort" is a collection of several intersecting short stories with three main story lines. One of the stories involves a young girl who travels to Spain because she believes her father is

the king of Spain, another young woman tries to escape her controlling mother and an addled sculptor encounters ailments and many obstacles that hinder him from completing his sculpture, which everyone in his community is convinced he won't finish.

"It's (the novel) about persistence The characters encounter a lot of depressing situations,

but ultimately it's very hopeful," said Posten.

Posten is currently working on another translation for a book by Swiss author Peter Weber and she looks forward to translating other works as well. "I find it really inspiring to be part of the translator community," said Posten.

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONCERTS

Jammin' the Realness – Spoken word and music show will cover everything, from the erotic to the political.

When: April 7, 7 pm

Where: Afrikan Poetry Theatre, 176-03 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica

Contact: (718) 523-3312

Website: www.afrikapoetrytheatre.com

Springtime Concert of Joy –

Punch and cookies to be served.

When: April 14

Where: Poppenhusen Institute, 114-04 14th Rd., College Point

Contact: 718-358-0067

Queens Symphony Orchestra

Arts and Music Festival – This first festival will partner with area museums, performing arts centers, dance companies and others. The theme is 1001 Voices – Discover the Immigrant Experience in Queens.

When: April 14, 7 pm

Where: Jamaica Center for the Arts & Learning, 153rd St. and Jamaica Ave., Jamaica

Contact: (718) 658-7400

Website: www.jcal.org

sudoku

Answers in Sports

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

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

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
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Once-banned film on Chinese exploitation showcased

29

NE

BY TATYANA SOUTHERLAND

Michelangelo Antonioni was renowned internationally for his work in cinema, but many of his films have never been distributed in the United States.

The Museum of Moving Image is showing never-before-seen documentaries made by Antonioni early on in his career as part of a homage to the late filmmaker's 100th birthday. A series of events celebrating the Italian director and writer will begin at Queens College on Thursday, April 5, with a professorial symposium. Events will continue Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the museum.

The rare documentary screenings will be taking place from Saturday and Sunday at the museum. "These are films you can't find on DVD anywhere, so it's a great chance to see them," said David Schwartz, chief curator at the Museum of Moving Image in Astoria. "They're really interesting and beautiful films."

One of his more popular

works, "Red Dessert" (Il deserto rosso), will be screened at the museum on April 6 at 7 p.m. "Red Dessert" was Antonioni's first color film.

"Chung Kuo China," possibly the most politically controversial documentary made by the filmmaker, will be shown on both Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m. The four-hour film documents the lives of Chinese workers and farmers in China's cities and villages.

In 1972, Antonioni was invited by the Chinese government to film the documentary, but the film ended up being labeled as anti-Chinese and anti-Communist by the Chinese government and was banned by China for 32 years until the government finally uncensored the documentary in 2008. Although the film is readily available, it is still rarely seen.

"Gente del Po" (People of the Po Valley), a look into the life of fishermen in Porto Tolle on the River Po, and "Seven Reeds, One Suit" (Sette canne, un vestito),



Michelangelo Antonioni on the set of "La Notta" circa 1961. Documentaries features and shorts will be screening at the Museum of the Moving Image on April 7 and 8.

Photo courtesy Museum of the Moving Image

which documents the Rayon and textile-making process in Italy during the height of the Italian fashion industry, are among the short films being shown as part

of the documentary short series Saturday, April 7 at 2 p.m. and Sunday April 8 at 2 p.m.

Antonioni was highly regarded in the film industry for

his unique perspective. "He really emphasized landscape through the physical world. Other filmmakers were very influenced by that," said Schwartz. "He had a very modern sensibility." His work was deeply rooted in post-World War II neorealism, popularized by Italian filmmakers from his time.

Antonioni put emphasis on the use of space and locations in his films.

The museum was able to get hold of the undistributed films through a partnership with Cinecittà in Rome, the studio home of Italian cinema and the Italian Cultural Institute. Queens College's European Languages and Literature department and the college's film studies program will be hosting "The Gaze Elsewhere: A Michelangelo Antonioni Centenary," a symposium on his works featuring a panel of professors from universities around the Northeast on Thursday, April 5, at 12:30 p.m.

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THEATER CALENDAR

In Laws from Tirana – Directed by Ioanna Katsarou. Wealthy couple of central Greece look to find a good, wealthy husband for their daughter Liza, who is studying in London. When Liza brings her boyfriend Alfrent home to visit with his parents, a series of comical incidents begins to unfold as new surprises turn every corner.

When: Through May 6; Fridays and Saturdays, 8 pm; Sundays,

4 pm

Where: Greek Cultural Center, 26-80 30th St., Astoria
Contact: (718) 726-7329; reservations@greekculturalcenter.org
Website: greekculturalcenter.org

Rapunzel in the Library – Contributors to "Rapunzel in the Library," a site-specific installation at the Queens College Art Center, will let their

hair down at a groundbreaking group show. Performance and reception.

When: April 4, 6 pm
Where: Queens College Arts Center, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: 718-997-3770
Website: qc.cuny.edu/Art_Library/artcenter.html

Drama Class – For ages 8-13. Recital in June. Pre-registration and payment required.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers
Apr. 5-11, 2012

By Bill Deasy

Marketplace Mania

Across

1. Eatery
5. Alexander of DC
9. Boxer's brand
13. "One way to skin ___"
14. "Hawaii Five-O" name
15. Like a doornail?
16. Reward
19. Slippery fish
20. Ashes caches
21. UConn's setting
22. "My friend" of 50's TV
23. 30 Rock's Baldwin
24. Dwindle
27. LA Lakers star Lamar
28. ___ -mo replay
31. Discouraging
32. Birthday suit material?
33. Vodka brand
34. Labor unions, e.g.
37. Neil Young protest song
38. "Little piggies"
39. Make arrangements for
40. Literary monogram
41. "We have met the enemy and he ___!" (Pogo)
42. Stone of the cinema
43. "Immediately!" in the OR
44. Diluted
45. "As I was saying..."
48. 50-and-over grp.
49. Arc from Venus?
52. Kevin Pollak's 2000 movie
55. A Carnegie
56. Amherst coll.
57. Air Force One VIP
58. "That's one small ___..."
59. Supper starter?
60. Lane lover?



7. A hostel environment?
8. Tries for a Hail Mary
9. Committee type
10. Bad look
11. Tonight host, once
12. 9 to 5, maybe
14. Brown houses
17. 'I found it!'
18. Apple part
22. "Give ___" (try)
23. Some tennis scores
24. Big brother?
25. Doldrums
26. Bald eagle nest
27. Depression migrants
28. Certain Winter Olympian
29. Gambling game
30. "Come on down!" announcer Johnny
32. Animal's schnozz
33. Be stealthy
35. "Get that thing away from me!"
36. Horseshoe-like figure
41. "Was ___ hard on him?"
42. Feudal farmers
43. Drag
44. Belt site
45. Attaches
46. A way to drink whiskey
47. Bulldog's school
48. "___, poor Yorick..."
49. Bygone Italian money
50. An eclipse, to some
51. ___ in Show (2000)
53. Docs' group
54. Hwy.

Quotable Quote

If stock market experts were so expert, they would be buying stock, not selling advice.

... N. Augustine

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For Rent – Written by Ozen Yula, directed by Handan Ozbilgin.
When: April 11-21, 7:30 pm
Where: LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, 30-20 Thomson Ave., Long Island City
Contact: (718) 482-5985
Website: www.laguadiaperformingarts.org

Theater and Dance Children's Workshop – Thalia Spanish Theatre is proud to announce its biligual theatre movement and dance for children workshop taught by Yloy Ybarra, incorporating Flamenco and Mexican folkloric styles. It will accommodate both Spanish and English-speaking children. The age group is from 5-12 years old.
When: Saturdays, April 14 to June 23, 10 am

Where: Thalia Spanish Theatre, 41-17 Greenpoint Ave., Sunnyside
Contact: (718) 729-3880
Website: www.thaliatheatre.org

Viver Brasil – This award-winning dance company takes audiences on an inspiring cultural journey through Brazil, featuring a dazzling program of African Orixás (deities), samba celebrations, the Brazilian martial arts/dance form of Capoeira, and Carnaval. The performance showcases exhilarating Afro-Brazilian traditional and contemporary movement, stunning costumes, and pulsating, non-stop percussion and voice.
When: April 14, 2 pm and 8 pm; April 15, 3 pm
Where: Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Corona
Contact: Box Office 718-760-0064; Administration 718-760-0686
Website: www.queenstheatre.org

100 YEARS OF BROADWAY –

Neil Berg's widely acclaimed 100 Years of Broadway, a musical revue of Broadway's most celebrated shows features a dazzling cast of five Broadway stars accompanied by an all-star New York band is coming to the Colden Auditorium at Queens College's Kupferberg Center for the Arts.
When: April 14, 8 pm
Where: Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 997-5000

MEETINGS

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

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- Pasta w/Broccoli, Garlic & Oil

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- Chicken Francaise
- Chicken Marsala
- Chicken Pizzaiola
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 Sausage & Peppers
 Broiled Chicken
 Small Meatballs
 Linguini, w/Clam Sauce
 Pasta w/Broccoli, Garlic & Oil

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

CHOICE C
\$26.⁹⁵
Sit Down Dinner - 1 of 3 Choices
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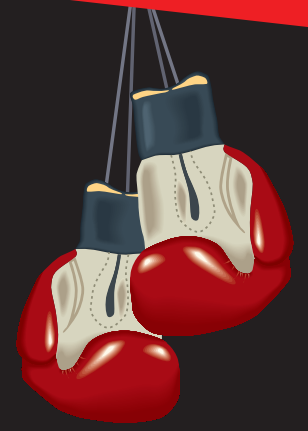
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Interwoven

Continued from Page 27

includes a series of lectures and seminars by scholars, as well as exhibitions, art installations, and music and dance performances, offering a wide range of events and exhibits that touch on the nation's history from antiquity to modern times.

In October, Nobel Prize winning novelist Orhan Pamuk discussed his writing on life in Turkey as well as the challenges

of translating from Turkish to English. On April 18, art historian Walter Denny will discuss the art of Ottoman Istanbul and "Creating a Brand in the Sixteenth Century." In mid-April, LaGuardia Performing Arts Center will present playwright Ozen Yula's "For Rent," a play about the criminal underworld of modern-day Istanbul.

A full calendar of "Year of Turkey" events can be found at www.qc.cuny.edu/academics/global/

yearofturkey.

The partnership with the Flushing Town Hall allows the Godwin-Ternbach to show off its extensive collection as it undergoes a renovation. The Queens College museum will re-open in the fall.

"We are trying to partner with more local art institutions and get more audiences involved," said Winter. "It's a wonderful venue and a way to reach out further to draw in more audiences to the benefit of both of us."



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The Flushing Town Hall exhibit, "Interwoven Worlds," is part of Queens College's year-long project "Year of Turkey," which has featured artwork, performance and design exhibitions since September.

Photo by Brita Helgesen

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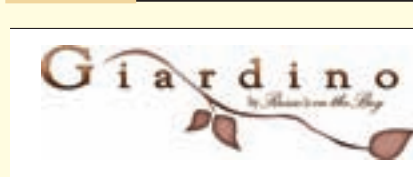
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Fully stocked robbers halted by 105th Precinct's top cops

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Police confiscated a mini arsenal from two suspected burglars who were thwarted in the backyards of Rosedale by the 105th Precinct's February Cops of the Month.

Officers Lisa Walters and Michael Drescher were honored last week at the 105th Precinct Community Council meeting, held for the first time at the precinct's satellite station in Rosedale.

A homeowner called 911 just after 1 a.m. in late February and said he believed two men with masks and firearms had followed him home and were attempting to break in through his back door.

When officers Walters and Drescher arrived, they heard noises coming from the rear of the house and



Officers Michael Drescher and Lisa Walters, of the 105th Precinct, are honored as February Cops of the Month.
Photo by Rich Bockmann

went back to investigate, Deputy Inspector Joseph Courtesis told a standing-room-only crowd.

When the officers poked their heads around back, they frightened the two suspects. One hid in a bush, while the other made his way toward a fence.

"Officer Walters

caught the man in the bushes by surprise and wrestled him to the ground and placed him in cuffs," Courtesis said. "Officer Drescher pursued the other suspect over a fence into another yard. [He] was able to outrun the suspect and after an extensive struggle he was also placed under arrest."

The commanding officer said police confiscated two firearms, one silencer, one stun gun, duct tape and a knife from the suspects.

"These guys meant business," he said. "Thanks to these two officers, these guys are thinking about their actions in prison."

Courtesis said burglaries have been on the rise in the neighborhoods of Laurelton and Rosedale and pointed out that the 105th leads the city in burglary arrests.

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According to Alan Alford,

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

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

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

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Bangladeshi national released from detention and sent home

BY REBECCA HENELY

In need of new spring clothing for her 20-month-old twin daughters, Sunnyside resident Lipiara Begum bought them shirts March 23, saying "Daddy's Little Sunshine." For more than a month her husband had been held in an immigrant detention center and she wanted her girls to be with him again.

Later that day, she got her wish.

After weeks of letter writing and appeals from family, civic leaders and elected officials, Bangladeshi national Mohammad Anwarul Islam was released and sent home. As he spoke about his experience, his twin daughters wearing their new shirts and sitting close by, tears came to his eyes.

"I can't explain it, how much I am happy now," he



Mohammad Anwarul Islam kisses his daughter Afrina Anwar Farah. Photo by Christina Santucci

said.

Islam has lived in America since 1999. His wife is a permanent resident due to take her oath to become a citizen soon and they have three daughters: 5-year-old Afnan and twins Farah and Zarah. He previously worked as a food runner in a Manhattan restaurant for 16 years.

Since he had often worked to help others with immigration issues, he said he never expected to

be threatened with deportation. He left his home country due to political reasons and applied for asylum in 2010, but his appeal was rejected and not followed up properly.

Islam said he had not had any warning, not even a letter, before U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers came to his apartment and took him away Feb. 10 on a final order of deportation.

"I said, my lawyer don't say nothing about this," he said.

After being made to surrender his driver's license and papers at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services office Manhattan's Federal Plaza, Islam was taken to the Essex County Correctional Facility and then to Delaney Hall Detention Facility, both in Newark. For days, he was unable to contact home.

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Archers flock to Alley Pond

The Parks Department held an archery workshop at Alley Pond Park. (Clockwise from top l.) Jermain Sylva aims his bow; an arrow lies in the grass; Racquel Chariah (front) uses all of her strength; a participant puts on an archery glove; Allison Foley-Graham tests her aim; Sandeep Junnarkar gets some help from his daughters Kriti Ram-Junnarkar (l.) and Sulekha Ram-Junnarkar in pulling out arrows that hit the target; Luke Chariah of Bellerose takes aim; Christian Chamberlain of College Point receives pointers from Ranger Marc Sanchez; and Stuart Chariah concentrates.

Photos by Christina Santucci



www.NYParenting.com

The screenshot shows the NYParenting.com website. At the top, the logo "NYParenting" is displayed in a green font, with the tagline "Where every family matters!" below it. Navigation links for Contact, Twitter, Facebook, and Feeds are visible, along with a search bar. The main content area is divided into several sections: "Home" with links to various regional family pages; "Calendar" with a "Submit an event" button and a list of events like "Bounce-nights" and "Life in the 19th Century"; "Directory" with categories for Education, Activities, Dentistry, Parties, and Camps; "The Hub" with a "Calendar: Tomorrow" section; "The Magazines" with a "Directories: Featured" section for "MATHNASIUM"; and "The Map" section. There are also promotional banners for "NEW EXHIBIT: Secrets of Circles" and "MONSTER MASH Halloween Party". A sidebar on the right features a "WIN TICKETS" promotion and a "Sign up for our email newsletter" form. At the bottom, there is a "Popular stories" list and a "We're a Parenthood.com GO LOCAL partner!" logo.

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6 Costa Constantinides, Karen Koslowitz and Edward Horn



7 Peter Vallone Sr., Kathleen Rice and Perry Vallone



8 Gary Ackerman, Mario Cuomo and Anthony Lemma



9 Tom DiNapoli and Walter McCafferty



10 Moustafa El Sheik, guest and Mayor Michael Bloomberg



11 The Callahans: Elizabeth, Charles IV, Charles III and Charles II



12 Protesters David Perkins and Ruth Santana outside the Hyatt



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FOCUS ON HEALTH

EARLY SIGNS OF CANCER



Cancer is a disease so complex that even the most veteran of cancer researchers cannot fully explain the disease. Progress toward the diagnosis and treatment of cancer continues to be made, but there's still no telling if an individual will or won't get this potentially deadly disease.

One of the many things the medical community can say with certainty regarding cancer is that treatment is most effective when the cancer is found early. Melanoma skin cancer, for instance, can be easily removed if it's detected early and has not grown into the skin. In fact, the five-year survival rate, which indicates the percentage of people who live at least five years after diagnosis, for those whose melanoma skin cancer is detected early enough to remove the melanoma is nearly 100 percent. However, if that melanoma has already spread to other parts of the body by the time it's detected, the five-year survival rate is below 20 percent.

While the disparity between survival rates is not as severe for all cancers as it is for melanoma skin cancers, early detection is still imperative when it comes to beating cancer. Part of the reason cancer is not always detected early is that it doesn't always make its presence felt until it has already reached an advanced stage. Pancreatic cancer, for instance, does not usually cause any noticeable symptoms in its early stages. Instead, the first noticeable signs of pancreatic cancer can be back or belly pain. At this point, the cells in the pancreas have grown and begun to press on nearby nerves and organs. At this time the cancer is typically at an advanced stage.

Still, knowing the signs and symptoms of cancer is a great way for people to catch the disease early, when it's most treatable. Though the following signs and

symptoms are not always indicative of cancer, their presence should be enough for adults to consult their physicians.

•**Fatigue:** Extreme tiredness that does not improve even with ample rest could be a sign that cancer is growing. In certain cancers, including leukemia, this happens in the early stages. In addition, some colon or stomach cancers cause blood loss, which can result in fatigue.

•**Pain:** Early on, bone cancers or testicular cancer often manifest themselves through pain. Back pain can be a symptom of ovarian cancer or cancer of the colon or rectum. Unfortunately, when pain is a result of cancer, the cancer has already begun to metastasize.

•**Unexplained weight loss:** One of the first signs of cancer might be the unexplained loss of 10 pounds or more. This is most common with cancers of the pancreas, stomach, esophagus, or lung.

•**Skin changes:** Cancers of the skin and other cancers can cause certain changes in the skin. Jaundice, when the skin and eyes turn a yellowish color, is one such change. The skin can also redden, itch or darken, a condition known as hyperpigmentation. Excessive hair growth on the skin is another skin change that might indicate the presence of cancer.

•**Fever:** A common side effect of cancer, fever most often happens after the cancer has metastasized. Cancers that effect the immune system often cause fever, as the body finds it more difficult to fight infection. In certain blood cancers, including leukemia or lymphoma, fever is an early sign of cancer.

Should any of the aforementioned signs or symptoms appear, you should consult their physicians immediately.

Reduce cancer risk by living healthier, eating smarter

Millions of people have had their lives touched by cancer. Whether dealing with their own diagnosis or that of a loved one, people often wonder what, if anything, they can do or could have done to prevent cancer from becoming a part of their lives.

While cancer risk depends on a host of factors, some of which are beyond an individual's control, there are certain preventative measures people can take to reduce their risk of cancer.

•**Stop smoking.** In the United States, the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention notes that smoking causes 90 percent of lung cancer deaths in men and nearly 80 percent in women. However, within 10 years of quitting, an ex-smoker's risk of dying from lung cancer is cut in half, while the risk for other cancers, including cancers of the mouth, throat, larynx, and cervix, decreases as well.

•**Reduce alcohol consumption.** In a study examining the relationship between cancer and alcohol consumption, researchers working with the World Health

Organization found that daily consumption of roughly less than two fluid ounces of alcohol doubles or triples the risk for mouth, voice box, and throat cancers compared with the risk in non-drinkers. Additional studies have shown a link between alcohol consumption and cancers of the liver and colon. What's more, no fewer than 100 studies have found an increased risk of breast cancer with increasing alcohol intake. Men and women should consult their physicians about what constitutes a healthy consumption of alcohol.

•**Be safe in the sun.** Though a deep tan might look good, individuals must emphasize protecting their skin from the sun. Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the U.S., and exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays plays a significant role in the development of skin cancer. When going out in the sun, apply sunscreen with a minimum sun protection factor of 15; wear loose fitting clothing and a protective hat, as many skin cancers happen on the face and neck; and always wear sunglasses, preferably those

that provide UVA and UVB protection.

•**Maintain a healthy weight.** Being overweight or obese brings forth a host of potentially deadly side effects, not the least of which is increasing a person's risk for cancer. A report from the National Institutes of Health that examined being overweight and obesity in men and women found that carrying excessive weight substantially increases an adult's risk of getting breast, colorectal, endometrial (uterine), and prostate cancers.

Wilms' tumor of the kidney a danger to kids

The word “cancer” is used to refer to a group of more than 100 diseases. Because of that, it can be hard to keep track of all the different types of cancers, and some are inevitably bound to gain more attention or headlines than others.

One type of cancer that does not garner many headlines is Wilms' tumor, the most common form of kidney cancer in children. Roughly 500 new cases of Wilms' tumor are diagnosed in the U.S. each year. It is extremely rare among adults.

Despite its status as the most common form of kidney cancer in children, Wilms' tumor has no known cause. The Canadian Cancer Society notes that 90 percent of Wilms' tumor cases develop sporadically and have no identifiable risk factors. While researchers have yet to link a specific cause to Wilms' tumor, they have

extensively studied the formation of the kidneys in a baby and feel that, when something goes wrong during that formation — including cells not maturing during kidney formation — Wilms' tumor can result. These cells instead stay like fetal cells, which can cluster and still be there after the baby is born. While these fetal cells often mature by the time a child becomes a toddler, sometimes they never mature and begin to grow out of control, resulting in a Wilms' tumor.

The symptoms of Wilms' tumor can mimic other conditions, meaning the presence of any of the following symptoms does not



necessarily mean a child has kidney cancer. Instead, should any of these symptoms appear, parents should take their child to a physician immediately.

- Painless lump in the abdomen
- Fever
- Blood in the urine
- Diarrhea
- Swelling of the abdomen
- Pain in the abdomen
- High blood pressure
- Changes to digestion, including loss of appetite, upset stomach, nausea, and vomiting
- The appearance of large or distended veins across the abdomen

Because the cause of Wilms' tumor remains a mystery, the risk

factors are difficult to pinpoint. But many of the known risk factors are hereditary. A child may inherit an abnormal gene from a parent, increasing the child's risk of Wilms' tumor, but not necessarily guaranteeing the tumor will develop. In fact, the American Cancer Society notes that only a small number of children with Wilms' tumor have a relative with the same cancer. The American Cancer Society also notes that Wilms' tumor is slightly more common among girls and African Americans, though the reasons for that are unknown.

Wilms' tumor has also been linked to children with certain birth defects. Roughly 10 percent of children with Wilms' tumor have a birth defect, most of which occur in syndromes, or groups of symptoms or problems that are commonly linked to certain

changes in genes. In certain syndromes, part or even all of a gene might be missing, and these missing or abnormal genes can cause Wilms' tumor. Among the birth defects linked to Wilms' tumor are:

- Aniridia:** This is a rare condition in which the iris of the eye, which gives the eye its color and controls the amount of light entering the eye, does not form completely.
- Hemihypertrophy:** An overgrowth syndrome, hemihypertrophy occurs when one side of the body grows larger than the other.
- Hypospadias:** This occurs in males when the urinary opening is not at the tip of the penis but on the underside instead.
- Undescended testicles:** A condition that occurs when one or both testicles do not descend into the scrotum.

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Business

Bayside nursing agency keeps city healthy

Specialty Professional Services helps recruit staff for hospitals throughout metropolitan area

BY PHIL CORSO

They've become known to their clients as "the Bayside company," and at the beginning of their 20th year, nursing agency Specialty Professional Services founder Marianne Hedberg Allyn said they're still kicking.

One step into the group's office, at 218-14 Northern Blvd., is enough to understand how engaging Specialty is, both in and out of the office. Employees work in an open room instead of being separated from each other by offices or cubicles. The setup makes room for the family-like atmosphere that Hedberg Allyn said made their services unique.

"It's very mom-and-pop-like," Hedberg Allyn said. "The culture is very good here, and it isn't a cor-

porate environment."

Specialty Professional Services is a Bayside-based nursing agency that works to staff hospitals in the metropolitan area with high-quality nurses. They recruit nurses through advertising and networking and provide them with work throughout the five boroughs and parts of Connecticut and New Jersey.

When hospitals in the area, particularly Queens, need nurses, Hedberg Allyn said she is the one they call. And her experience in the field means she can speak in a language that her clients understand, Hedberg Allyn said.

Before starting Specialty Professional Services, Hedberg Allyn worked as a staff nurse at Columbia Presbyterian and Bellevue hospitals in Manhattan and also worked for a cur-



Specialty Professional Services Founder Marianne Hedberg Allyn (c.) leads the Bayside nursing agency into its 20th year with much of the same longtime staffers she grew the company with.

Photo by Christina Santucci

rent competitor in staffing.

"I still try to fight for the nurse," Hedberg Allyn said. "I've seen the bad side of this business and I wanted to do it better."

Hedberg Allyn said that aside from being a locally based group, her company's higher standards

that set it apart from competitors, most of which operated out of Manhattan.

Vasken Aznavorian, director of business development, said Specialty provided local nurses with opportunities they would not get at other nursing agencies.

"They work with us because we offer them flexibility," Aznavorian said.

Nurses looking for work apply to Specialty and are subject to a screening process that the company cites as evidence of its higher-standard approach.

Over time, Hedberg Allyn said Specialty's identity has grown into a Bayside-driven staffing agency. She said hospitals would often refer to them as "the Bayside company" while doing business with them.

"The Bayside identity had a life of its own," Hedberg Allyn said. "We're like a Queens employer and give local nurses more options when they're looking for work."

Aznavorian said the company's longtime staffers spoke of the friendly atmosphere that keeps nurses coming back.

Senior Staffing Coordinator Peggy Iacovone lives in Bayside Hills and started with Specialty about 15 years ago. She said it is a job she has enjoyed waking up for each morning.

"They've always been flexible," Iacovone said. "It's a casual environment that helps us find the best quality nurses for hospitals throughout the city."

Hedberg Allyn said her staff worked as one family unit and fostered lengthy tenures with the company.

"I'm blessed to have people with tremendous longevity here," Hedberg Allyn said. "We have staffers with 15-plus years here."

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at pcorso@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4573.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Youth Tech Initiative Program – Increase your employability. Free advanced training in Microsoft Word for anyone ages 16-24. Participants will have the opportunity to take the Microsoft Office Specialist exam at the end of training to become Microsoft Certified.
When: Tuesdays, April 3 to Tuesday, May 22, 6 pm-8 pm
Where: The Daughters of Isis Foundation Office, 148-14 Liberty Ave., Jamaica
Contact: (917) 292-5176; loliver24@verizon.net
Website: luecorp.tripod.com

IMTI Open House – Learn about evening training certification classes in electrical technician, HVAC technician, plumbing technician and electronics systems technician careers, including solar. School tours, financial aid information will be available.

When: April 10, 7 pm; April 17, 7 pm and April 24, 7 pm
Where: Con Edison Learning Center, 43-82 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City

New Order of the Sons of Italy Chapter – Opportunity for business people to network.
When: April 11, 7:30 pm
Where: Msgr. Mahoney Hall, 74th Avenue and Utopia Parkway, Fresh Meadows
Contact: (347) 204-8006

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

Where: Giardino, 44-37 Douglaston Pkwy., Douglaston
Contact: Gayle Naftaly, gnaftaly@accessoffice.net, (718) 217-0009
Website: www.powerfullyou.com

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

BNI T.N.T. (The Networking Titans) Weekly Meeting – BNI is a business and professional networking organization that allows only one person per professional classification or specialty to join a chapter. BNI provides positive, supportive and structured environment to further business through word of mouth marketing.

Contact chapter president Martin Koos to arrange a visit.
When: Thursdays, 7-8:30 am
Where: Clearview Park Golf Course, 202-12 Willets Point Blvd., Bayside
Contact: Martin Koos (516) 488-8877, Ext. 15

BNI Peak Professionals Chapter – BNI is a business and professional networking organization that allows only one person per professional classification or specialty to join a chapter. BNI Provides positive, supportive and structured environment to further business through word of mouth marketing. Contact Lydie Pellissier, chapter president, to arrange a visit.
When: Wednesdays, 7-8:30 am
Where: Fame Diner, 176-19 Union Tnpk., Fresh Meadows
Contact: Lydie Pellissier, (718) 276-8986
Website: www.bniotherboros.com

FUND-RAISERS

Queens County Conservative Party Annual Spring Cocktail Party – This year's keynote speaker will be Wendy Long, Conservative Party candidate and leading Republican Party nominee for U.S. Senate. Our honoree will be Congressman Bob Turner in recognition of his service.
When: April 12, 7:30 pm
Where: Roma View, 160-05 Crossbay Blvd., Howard Beach
Contact: (718) 474-3826

Annual Spring Brunch – SAGE honors John Nagel, its director.
When: April 15, 1 pm
Where: El Coyote Restaurant, 80-18 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights

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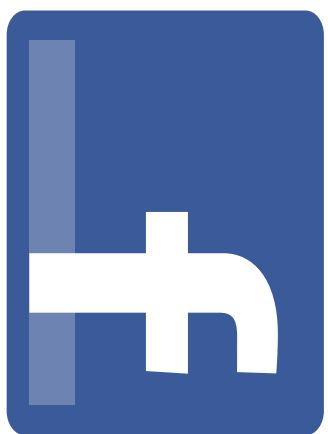


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Water

Continued from Page 4

Liu said. "The water rates are not only being used to support the water's infrastructure. They're going into the city's coffers."

Although Strickland

said the DEP still needed to raise rates to cover expenses, particularly debt services, steps were being taken to curb the rising costs.

"In the past year, the DEP has successfully convinced our regulators to defer or eliminate more than \$5 billion in unfunded

mandates," Strickland said. "We will continue to advocate aggressively to further remove costly burdens that put enormous pressure on our 836,000 customers, specifically when such mandates do not achieve significant health benefits for the public."

Budget

Continued from Page 4

we said to the people of New York state that we were going to bring competence, integrity and fiscal discipline back to Albany and make government perform," Cuomo said in a statement.

The budget will also help fund Metropolitan Transportation Authority capital improvements in the city, which includes the East Side Access project.

East Side Access entails a tunnel running from the Sunnyside Yards in Sunnyside to Grand

Central Terminal, which will serve as the terminus for some Long Island Rail Road trains, giving passengers access to the network of subways stemming from that station. Currently, all LIRR trains run into Penn Station.

Borough lawmakers also applauded funds allocated for the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage program, which subsidizes medication for Queens senior citizens.

"The budget provides \$30.6 million to support the restoration of co-payment assistance that was eliminated on Jan. 1, 2012," said Assemblyman Edward

Braunstein (D-Bayside). "This allows EPIC enrollees to pay no more than \$20 as a co-pay when filling a prescription."

Queens residents of any age will also save money after the budget eliminated the sales tax for any clothing purchases under \$110.

State Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) said the budget process was largely smooth, but he would have also liked to see money allocated from the DREAM Act and to investigate the effects hydrofracking could have upstate.

Trayvon

Continued from Page 5

Boulevard. On their way to the park, parents and children alike wore hoodies as Martin did the day he was killed.

Protesters chanted Martin's name as well as "no justice, no peace" and "an injury to one is an injury to all" as residents cheered from windows and storefronts.

Zimmerman, a 28-year-old neighborhood watchman, shot the 17-year-old Martin, who was wearing a hoodie and carrying a packet of Skittles.

City Councilman Leroy Comrie (D-St. Albans) said the shooter should not have taken the law into his

own hands.

"What happened to Trayvon was that he was assaulted by someone that claimed to be an authority and was using a cloak of authority to murder someone," said Comrie. "We are here today because we want to make sure that we do everything we can to honor our young people, inform them and protect them."

The March for Justice, organized by the Commission on Social Justice and Human Concerns, an African-American Christian organization, drew citizens from across the borough who vented their frustration with the way in which the Martin case has been handled by Florida authorities.

Arlene Phipps, of Far Rockaway, said she would

not know what she would do if she lost her only son, Yaseen Madyun, to a violent act.

"I don't know how I would handle that," she said. "It was a senseless murder and nothing has been done about it. I believe in my heart that everyone out here today is tired and afraid — this is our chance to come together and show as a people that we want this to stop."

Her son said that young people also need to take some responsibility by coming together and showing society that they should not be feared.

"This has to stop. We can't keep living like this," Madyun said. "If you want to make a change, you have to first start in your heart."

been rejected, the priority is on the federal representatives to bring more money back to the city to make up for the federal aid the state will lose.

"We need to provide services for more people with less money," Simotas said.

Looking forward to 2020, the legislators said the Census Bureau should

do more outreach, working with neighborhood leaders and raising awareness in immigrant communities of the importance of being counted in the census.

"The only thing we can hope for now is hope that the process 10 years from now is not so badly mis-handled as this one was," Gianaris said.

Congress

Continued from Page 4

organization promoting women's issues, and from the Italian American Political Action Committee.

"Grace Meng is not just a strong candidate, she's exactly the kind of fierce advocate for women and families that we need in Washington right now," Stephanie Schriock, president of Emily's List, said in a statement.

In Whitestone Monday, Meng thanked the Italian American PAC, comparing the struggle of Asian immigrants in Queens to that of Italian immigrants generations before.

Meng and Crowley have often mentioned women's rights in their public appearances, referring specifically to a discussion about a portion of President Barack Obama's Affordable Health Care Act that would require employers to provide contraception cover-

age. Meng had raised about \$300,000 as of Tuesday afternoon, according to her campaign.

Israel has also come up several times, with Lencman holding several press conferences specifically on issues affecting children born to American parents in Jerusalem.

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

Seniors

Continued from Page 5

world."

In addition to the Flushing center, the other Innovative spot in Queens is SNAP of Eastern Queens, at 80-45 Winchester Blvd. in Bellerose.

As part of the initiative, Selfhelp will be open alternate Sundays, implement a program for managing arthritis, offer wellness coaching and have vegetarian meals available in the kitchen for the Hindu population.

It is also boosting its technological capability not only in health management, but in programs and social activities that visitors to the center can use out of their own homes

through Skype, a program that allows people to observe and communicate through live feeds over the Internet.

Stuart Kaplan, chief executive officer of Selfhelp Community Services, said this technology will allow seniors to take classes without coming to the center.

"We know that old adage that you can learn something new every day," he said. "Well, these seniors are doing it."

The Bellerose center's new features include vegetarian meals, programs designed for the South Asian population, a guest chef program, a coffee club and more mental health and cognitive wellness programs.

Bloomberg said the city needs to keep pace with

the evolving needs of the senior population, which now stands at 1.4 million in the city and is expected to increase by 46 percent throughout the next 25 years.

"As I become older I get more interested in senior programs," the 70-year-old mayor said.

City Department for the Aging Commissioner Lillian Barrios-Paoli said she was grateful for the new initiative.

"If you allow the centers to be more creative and you give them a little more funding, the sky is the limit," she said.

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



WORLD OF CYAN

The Unisphere in Flushing Meadows Corona Park is illuminated with blue light Monday evening to raise awareness about autism as part of the Illuminate the Unisphere for Autism Awareness Project.

Photo by Christina Santucci

Census

Continued from Page 9

that the same group that badly miscounted the numbers in the first place can't find their way to correcting the numbers once it's pointed out to them," he said.

The legislators said now that the challenge has



Team PSAL's Terrence Samuel drives past Brian Bernardi of the CHSAA. Photo by Denis Gostev

Catholics skip game versus Public teams

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

The PSAL all-stars defeated their CHSAA counterparts — well, some of them — and a few other PSAL stars in the first Battle 4 the City.

The showcase, billed by event creator Rickey Rivers as the PSAL against the CHSAA, didn't quite come to fruition as Catholic league officials discouraged their players from competing, but the PSAL's best made the most out of it, cruising to a 110-91 victory at Baruch College in Manhattan.

Pathways standout Jordan Washington took home MVP honors after scoring 22 points and throwing down several impressive dunks, rivals-turned- teammates Thaddeus Hall of Thomas Jefferson and Leroy "Truck" Fludd of Boys & Girls combined for 34 points — 18 from Hall and Isaiah Whitehead chipped in 13.

"We would've liked to

play them at full strength," Whitehead said. "Now they can say we didn't really beat them."

The CHSAA did have five representatives in the game: Kerwin Okoro, Daniel Dingle and Myron Hickman from St. Raymond; Brian Bernardi of Xaverian; and Malik Gill of Mount St. Michael. South Shore's Wayne Martin and Boys & Girls' Rashad Andrews and Joel Angus also played for the CHSAA team.

Whitehead said it wouldn't have mattered who showed up.

"We still would've won," he said. "We know each other well, you can see it from the game — we have chemistry."

For Fludd and Hall, the showcase was their second time in as many days playing together. They teamed up in the Mayor's Cup Friday night, though on Saturday they were victorious. The two spent a lot of the season going head to

Continued on Page 49

Calhouns meet the mayor

Christ the King power siblings sit courtside with hizzoner

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Omar Calhoun lives for the big games. In his Christ the King career, Calhoun has won two CHSAA Class AA inter-sectional titles and a New York State Federation Class AA championship. Last weekend, he was in New Orleans for the All-American Championship Game. And next year, the 6-foot-4 guard will take his game to UConn, which won the national title last year.

Yet last week, Calhoun had butterflies in his stomach inside a basketball arena — and he wasn't even playing.

"I was definitely nervous," the Royals star said. "I didn't know what to expect."

Calhoun and his sister Sierra, Christ the King's girls' basketball star, had front row seats for the Knicks game at Madison Square Garden against the Milwaukee Bucks. Their companion? Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

"He's cool," Calhoun said. "He's really down to earth. He's a great guy to be around."

Two weeks ago, CK Coach and athletic director Joe Arbitello got a call from the mayor's office. Bloomberg had seen a recent magazine article written about the Calhouns and was intrigued — not just by their basketball prowess, but their upbringing by parents Omar Sr. and Samara, who were basketball stars themselves.

Bloomberg invited the superstar siblings to the



Mayor Michael Bloomberg (l.) talks with Christ the King basketball star Omar Calhoun before the start of an NBA basketball game between the New York Knicks and the Milwaukee Bucks.

AP Photo/Seth Wenig

Garden to get to know them better. Calhoun called it a huge honor, overwhelmed that the mayor knew who he was and wanted to meet him.

"He just talked to me about basketball, what I wanted to study in college — just basic conversation," Calhoun said. "We talked about basketball and life in general."

Calhoun said he's a fan of Amar'e Stoudemire and Carmelo Anthony and

couldn't believe the level of service those who sit in the front row receive. He was somewhat disappointed he didn't get to meet Spike Lee, who wasn't at the game. Bloomberg, Calhoun said, also had some inspirational words.

"Basically he was saying that I should always know what I want to do in life, always try to pursue my dream," Calhoun said.

There has been an incredible level of success in

Calhoun's high school career, this season's quarter-final exit notwithstanding. He's ranked nationally by scouting services and will compete in an All-American game this weekend.

So where does his meeting with Bloomberg rank among the multitude of accomplishments?

"That's definitely high up," Calhoun said. "That the mayor wants to go to a game with me, I didn't expect it at all."

Hun School's Jackie Mullen chooses Arcadia

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

There was an immediate comfort level for Hun School basketball point guard Jackie Mullen on the Arcadia campus.

"It reminded me of Hun," she said. "There were not too many people. There was a small class size. It wouldn't be that hard adjusting."

The Ozone Park native verbally committed to the Division III, Glenside, Pa., school in late March, choosing it over NYIT, Moravian and Juniata. Mullen first saw the school in December and went for an overnight visit over spring break. She was immediately impressed with the school's smaller size and its closeness to home — just two hours.

"I liked the coach," Mullen said. "She was a really cool person [along with] a couple of the girls on the team that I met and

the style of play that Arcadia has is going to be a good fit for me."

Arcadia just hired former Centenary College Coach Lorie Khalil, who has a history of building programs, to turn around its team. The Knights went 3-21 and didn't win a Middle Atlantic Conference game. Mullen feels she can excel in Khalil's up-tempo approach and believes she can vie for a starting job.

"This coach is rebuilding the program from scratch," said Mullen, who wants to study business management. "She is trying to get players who are going to be able to fit into her system."

She was a member of Christ the King's 2010 state Federation Class AA title team, transferred to The Hun School as a junior and did a post-grad year at the Princeton, N.J., institution. She transformed her game there from just a pure shooter into a com-



Hun point guard Jackie Mullen will play at Arcadia University next season.

Photo courtesy The Hun School

plete point guard with the ability to run a team under Coach Bill Holup. She helped lead Hun to a semifinal berth in the MAPL tournament and lost in the state Prep A final. Both defeats were to Blair Academy.

"It's basically like stepping into a college," Mullen said of her time at Hun. "Academically I am more prepared than I was and athletically I got the extra year."

Mullen has worked with famed basketball trainer Jerry Powell and speed and conditioning coach Britton Kelley twice a week. The 3-mile runs in most workouts have improved her overall conditioning and the quickness of her step.

She feels he is prepared to take her first step onto a college campus and contribute.

"[With] the group of people that were there," Mullen said, "I felt more at home."

Molloy dethroned by Fontbonne in shocking defeat

BY CHRISTOPHER BARCA

Archbishop Molloy did not look like the defending CHSAA state champion when it was upset by Fontbonne last week. Returning to softball championship form was the goal coming into last Thursday's contest against Mary Louis, and that's exactly what the Stanners did.

"We were really psyched to come out and play today and we've been working really hard to get back to where we were last season," Molloy star shortstop Maria Palmeri said. "It seems like we're back and we are going to try our hardest to repeat — it's what we want, after all."

Molloy took its first step toward a second straight championship by dismantling Mary Louis 10-0 in five innings via the run rule, at Cunningham Park in Fresh Meadows. Palmeri led the hot-hitting Stanners with three runs batted in on three hits, falling a home run shy of the cycle, while Victoria Gold-

bach excelled on the mound, striking out seven and only surrendering three hits over five innings.

"I just really wanted to win today after losing the other day," Goldbach said. "I think we really got into a groove all around and it was contagious."

"Tori was really good today, she was on her game," Palmeri added. "I think we can expect games like this from her a lot going forward."

Goldbach dominated the Mary Louis lineup from top to bottom right from the first pitch. She didn't allow a base runner through the first three innings and only allowed two runners to reach second base the entire game. Using an effective mix of her fast ball and change-up, she had Mary Louis off balance all afternoon, something Molloy Coach Maureen Rosenbaum was elated to see.

"She came out really confident and strong, she used all of her pitches very well, too," Rosenbaum said. "It was a good challenge



Archbishop Molloy's Victoria Goldbach tossed a three-hitter against Mary Louis.

Photo by Denis Gostev

for her, and going forward I would like to see double-digit strikeout games from her."

By the end of the fourth inning, the Molloy offense had already wrapped up its first win of the season, as it plated seven runs, bringing up 11 hitters to the plate in total. Three walks issued by Mary Louis pitcher Nicole Hubert loaded the bases for leadoff hitter Theresa Conway, who smashed a single that got by right fielder Gabby Malave, leading to three runners crossing the plate.

A Palmeri RBI triple followed by a run-scoring sacrifice fly from Taylor Moss and an RBI double from Fallon McCarthy put the game well out of reach and showed that the surprising loss to Fontbonne was an aberration instead of a trend.

"We got everything together today, offensively and defensively," Rosenbaum said. "Winning big like this will hopefully get us in motion and gives us confidence moving for-

ward."

Mary Louis, on the other hand, has suffered two tough losses to begin its season, with the first being a 4-2 loss to St. Francis Prep in nine innings March 27. Despite the less-than-ideal start to the 2012 campaign, Coach Ginny Peiser isn't worried going forward.

"Goldbach kept us off balance all day, and it's another tough loss mentally, but I definitely think we can bounce back," she said. "We're stuck in neutral right now, but we always believe we can end up on top at the end of the season."

Meanwhile, Molloy is looking to put its season into fifth gear, and Goldbach is hoping that the dominant victory is just the first of many.

"It's better to lose in March than in May, so hopefully we got our tough loss out of the way early already," she said. "If everyone does their job like they did today, I think we can repeat."

Volleyball program big at small Astoria school

BY MARC RAIMONDI

The little-team-that-could storyline is over.

Academy of American Studies might be a tiny school, but it has grown into a boys' volleyball powerhouse after a trip to the PSAL championship match and has some of the best players in the city, many of whom competed on the club level in the offseason.

"We know we're good," Coach Josh Yang said. "We have to grasp that hunger again. I think they feel like they're gonna go back to it. Last year we rode the underdog story and we really were. But now we have, like, superstars on the team. I don't want that to go to their head either."

As good of a season as the Eagles had in 2011, they fell short of their goal: the program's first city title. Yang has hammered that point home early and hopes it's getting through to his players.

"As good as last year was, it could be better," the coach said. "I hope they don't get complacent. I don't want it to be a what-could-

have-been season. All the skills are there."

Indeed, Academy of American Studies is arguably the favorite to win it all this year. The Eagles return the most dynamic outside hitter in New York City, junior Michal Kasza, and 6-foot-6 junior Conrad Zajkowski will move into the middle this year from the right side.

The talent doesn't end there, either. Kasza's sophomore brother Piotr is the team's second-year starting setter and has gained polish. Ricky Myint was an all-city caliber libero last year, but has moved over — for the time being — to the other outside hitter spot. Yang said he could return to libero if he isn't completely pleased with the team's defense.

All four of those players competed over the winter with the new AllStarr boys club team. None of them, though, have the experience of being a leader. That was the job of graduated senior Nino Hot in 2011. Michal Kasza and Myint are quiet by nature.

"We had so much to

prove last year," Yang said. "Nino was such a good leader. This year we're searching for leadership and just little things at the beginning of the season. Every year is a new year. We have to go through the beginning. Last year was special for us just because of the team camaraderie."

Academy of American Studies will also be looking to junior Denis Begzic to take over the opposite role. As good as the Eagles were last year, and have a chance to be this season, Myint is still the only regular senior on the roster.

The future is bright at the small Long Island City school, but Yang is only worried about the present. Because of the size of Academy of American Studies and the team's new high profile, his players, he said, have taken on celebrity personas among classmates. He doesn't want that to affect the goal: a city title.

"It's at a different level," Yang said. "I think they kind of understand that. I hope they understand how good they are and not take it for granted."



Academy of American Studies Coach Josh Yang is hoping last year's high-profile season doesn't get to his players' heads. Photo by Denis Gostev

Colleges still sweet on Lewis following post-season benching

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Isaiah Lewis' benching hasn't scared off college coaches.

The talented junior basketball guard said he has heard from several schools since Christ the King's season ended prematurely with him on the bench in the CHSAA Class AA intersectional quarterfinals, and he cut his list down to five Monday. Lewis lists Georgia Tech, Louisville, Kansas, Memphis and Florida State, he said.

The 6-foot-3 junior won't set up visits until sometime in June or July, he said, and will "most likely" be playing AAU again



Christ the King's Isaiah Lewis has narrowed his college list down to Georgia Tech, Louisville, Kansas, Memphis and Florida State.

Photo by Denis Gostev

with Albany City Rocks, he said.

Lewis was benched for the city playoffs by Christ

the King Coach Joe Arbittello for what he termed "a coach's decision" that had nothing to do with grades. Lewis accepted the benching well, saying it was a "valuable lesson." At the time, Lewis said it had to do with him getting "over-emotional" on the floor and not playing as a point guard should.

As for college, Lewis was close to picking a school back in late December, but opted to open up his recruiting and wait.

"I don't want to rush into a bad situation," he said then. "I'm going to take my time with it. If I'm committed to a school, I want to be committed to that school."

Catholics

Continued from Page 47

head — Boys High and Jefferson met four times, including the PSAL Class AA finals — and talking trash through the media to one another.

"We laughed with each other about it," Hall said. "We did it to promote the games. He's fun to play with. All you have to do is lob the ball up and he'll go and get it."

Fludd wins dunk contest, Okoro 3-point shootout: Fludd's one-handed dunk over a rack of balls won him the slam

dunk contest over South Shore's Shamiel Sheppard and Wayne Martin and Stanley Cespedes of Satellite Academy.

Kerwin Okoro won the 3-point shootout with a score of 10, besting Bernardi, Boys High's Courtney Solomon and Thomas Jefferson's Jaquan "Son Son" Lynch.

Boys High's Killings stars in underclassmen game: Boys & Girls freshman Jamie Killings put up game-highs of 30 points and 10 rebounds to lead the blue team to an 82-58 win in the underclassmen

game. Lincoln's Kwame Morton led the white team with 16 points and Thomas Jefferson's Patrick "Stink" Brown had 14.

Along with fellow talented freshman Marvin Prochet, Killings spent most of his freshmen year on the bench watching his older teammates win a program-record third straight city title and first New York State Federation Class AA crown.

"We got a chance to practice and play with the varsity, so we know what to do next year," he said. "It helped get me stronger and learn how to play on the varsity level."

Bayside Bulldogs open baseball season strong

The Bayside Bulldogs 13U team started their season Sunday in convincing fashion with a double-header sweep of the Long Island Rebels in National Junior Baseball League play.

Rocco Odell and Nick Watts led the way with three hits and three RBIs each on the day while Christian Cardenas

reached base six times.

Jonathon Lowe was the winning pitcher in Game 1, allowing one unearned run in the 6-3 victory.

In Game 2, Chris Athens captured the win throwing five innings of shutout ball followed by strong relief efforts by both Vincent Montalbano and John Yianalis.

In their second year of existence, the Bulldogs, coached by John Smith and John Zucchi, look to follow their inaugural season championship in the Long Island Baseball Association with similar results in NJBL, solidifying their place as one of the city's elite travel baseball organizations.

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- C)** Please make sure that the student's bio and a recent photo are included with the nomination.

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Continued from last week.

• **Sequencing material is important, so notes should be dated and numbered:** If references are made to chapters that correlate to the textbook, jot those down so they can strengthen the notes.

• **Make sure you information has been made clear:** Charles Kettering, an American engineer and inventor, said, "There is a great difference between knowing a thing and understanding it." When jotting down notes, a student who discovers that something seems unclear can ask for clarification or make a point to research that component further.

• **Stay organized:** Students should consider writing notes on one side of the page so that they can each be laid out side-by-side. Looseleaf paper works well, or notes can be typed and printed out.

• **Abbreviate:** Students should develop their own method of abbreviations and symbols to cut down on the amount of writing needed. Notes needn't be in full sentences; phrases are equally effective.

• **Know what notes to take:** If a professor writes something on a chalkboard, puts text up on a projector or repeats something several times, it should definitely be written down. There is a good chance that information will be on the test.

• **Work with a team:** Students may want to review note-taking strategies with one another. Maybe there is a successful method employed by one student that he or she can share with classmates.

• **Wash, rinse, repeat:** Rewriting or typing notes helps ingrain the information in the brain more than simply rereading it.

Note-taking is an important skill many students should make the effort to learn. Improved test scores can lead to a higher grade point average. This, in turn, can help with success in school and beyond.

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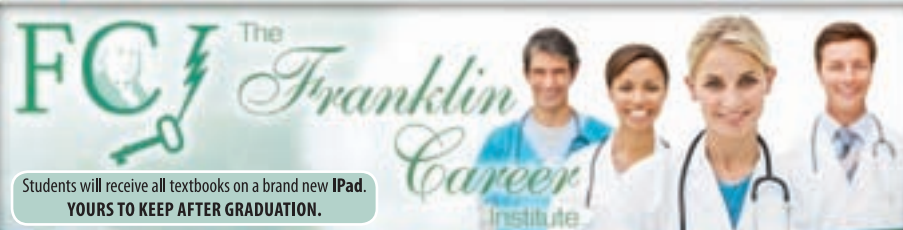
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147-04 240TH STREET LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/6/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 147-04 240th St., Rosedale, NY 11422. General Purposes.

ANTONIS LLC, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/19/2012. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Maria Spentzouris, 34-20 31 Street, Astoria, NY 11106. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

FAST BOX, LLC App. for Auth. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 2/24/2012. LLC was organized in CA on 4/12/2011. Office in Queens Co. SSNY desig. as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to 2245 Colorado Blvd., #104, Pasadena, CA 91107, Which is also the required office in CA. Cert. of Org. filed with SSCA, 1500 11TH St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

FENESTRA CONSTRUCTION LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/11/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 6017 68th St., Ridgewood, NY 11385. General Purposes.

Name of LLC: Douglass St. Records LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 2/24/12. Office loc.: Queens Co. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o Myles Rodenhouse, 2557 14th St., 2nd Fl., Astoria, NY 11102, regd. agt. upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful act.

NOTICE of Formation of 34-24 Collins Place, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 2/16/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 61-32 171st St., Fresh Meadows, NY 11365. Purpose: any lawful activities.

▶ LEGAL

Notice of Formation of Grand View Sponsor LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/1/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Rey J. Nieto, 10-87 Jackson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of LAST I HEARD HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/28/12. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: c/o Gerard Marrone, 66-85 73rd Pl., 2nd Fl., Middle Village, NY 11379. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: 5 LEAP LIFE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/07/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O WALTER QUINTEROS 99-31 64 AVE. REGO PARK, NY 11374. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: ARTISOUND, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/27/2011. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 44-02 23rd ST, SUITE 414 LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: YONDAR 1, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/01/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 58-32 217th Street, Bay-side, New York 11364. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

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Notice of Formation of NJT Properties, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 1/11/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Michael Lagudis, 45-59 196th Pl., Flushing, NY 11358. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of RO-ZABURANA TAXI LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/27/12. Off. loc.: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 101-03 80th St., 1st Fl., Ozone Park, NY 11416. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Yoke K Low LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/13/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Yoke K Low, 67-22 150th St., Flushing, NY 11367. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Qualification of SECAC Tunnel Co., LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 2/15/12. Office location: Queens County. LLC formed in DE on 2/14/12. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business addr.: c/o Michael A. Capasso, 54-08 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City, NY 11101. DE addr. of LLC: c/o The Corporation Trust Co., 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

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