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Sept. 20-26, 2012

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Glen Oaks voters sent to three polling sites

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Jewish singles set to meet in group for second year

BY PHIL CORSO

One year ago, Little Neck Jewish Center member Warren Shapiro worked with his synagogue to launch a monthly singles night with hopes that he and his congregation companions could find their bashert, or special someone.

Now, as the group gears up to launch Year 2, Shapiro has a girlfriend to call his own.

"We had a wine and cheese event, and she was sitting by herself. So I started talking to her," Shapiro said of Ilana Baumgarten, his girlfriend of six months. "We hit it off and now I'm hoping we can see the same outcome for somebody else."

This fall, the Little Neck Jewish Center, at 49-10 Little Neck Pkwy., will kick off its second year of Friday night Simcha Singles events full of various ways to bring singles from Long Island, Queens and even Manhattan.

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Rozic wins Democratic primary



Nily Rozic (l.) thanks supporters during her victory party as she is surrounded by her father Isaac (second from l.) and mother Hildal "Yael" Rozic (r.).

Photo by Christina Santucci

Bayside Hills Civic says voter apathy led to Iannece loss

BY PHIL CORSO

In the wake of Nily Rozic's Democratic primary for the state Assembly, her opponent's hometown civic in Bayside Hills has looked inward to ask why it was not celebrating Jerry Iannece's victory.

In the Sept. 13 primary election Fresh Meadows' Rozic bested Iannece with 56 percent of the vote, according to the unofficial results, determining who would go on to face Conservative William Garifal Jr. and Republican Abe Fuchs in November's election. The winner will take the 25th Assembly District seat currently held by Assemblyman Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows).

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A CNG Publication • Vol. 22, No. 38

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Poll changes disrupt voting

Glen Oaks Villagers sent to three separate sites to cast ballots

BY PHIL CORSO

While voters throughout the borough took to the polls last week in the state primary elections, residents in the Glen Oaks Village co-op reported some confusion after the city Board of Elections changed their polling locations.

For as long as they could remember, residents of the village had always voted at PS 186 in Belle-rose, according to Glen Oaks Village President Bob Friedrich.

But because of polling site changes, voters were split into three separate sites, causing confusion on Primary Day.

Because of redistricting throughout the borough, several elected officials have reported phone calls from residents unaware of their new voting locations. The confusion hit a breaking point when the BOE sent out the wrong polling sites to residents in some districts, including that of City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Middle Village).

This time around, villagers were spread out over three polling locations: PS 186, PS 115 and North Shore Towers. The contrast was highlighted drastically in one specific corner, Friedrich said, where Langston Avenue and 260th Street intersect. Each side of the street voted in three different locations after years of casting their bal-



Aristotle Delacruz exits the voting booth in Glen Oaks in a previous election as poll worker Douglas Goonewardena looks on.

lots in the same spot.

"This is insanity by the Board of Elections," said Friedrich, who reached out to elected officials, including Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) and state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside). "The three voting locations create enormous confusion as neighbors who had walked to the voting booths together in the past will now be going to separate locations."

On Primary Day, there were some voters turned away at polls because they were unsure of where to vote, poll operators said. A similar issue spread

throughout the city, stirring controversy and backlash from city Public Advocate Bill de Blasio.

In a letter sent to the BOE last month, de Blasio called on the group to address issues in which voters were given incorrect poll site information and to better prepare for Election Day.

"It is deeply worrying that the Board of Elections was unable to execute a primary election smoothly, considering that only a handful of the races were closely contested and voters were few in number," de Blasio said, referring to a

dismal voter turnout in the Sept. 13 primaries. "With November's presidential election looming, much more must be done immediately to prevent widespread confusion that could disenfranchise thousands of New Yorkers."

And even if voters were correct in where they traveled to vote, Friedrich said the Board of Elections failed to consider how different facilities could accommodate the new foot and car traffic at different polling sites.

Friedrich said he was in talks with Bob Ricken,

Children's orchestra set for Oakland Gds.

BY PHIL CORSO

Young northeast Queens orchestra enthusiasts were given a hefty tune-up when one lawmaker provided them with a \$10,000 boost to their program.

City Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) provided the InterSchool Orchestra of New York with a \$10,000 grant, the school announced this week, making way for an enhanced musical experience for the borough's youngest players.

"I am so pleased to bring the ISO to eastern Queens," Weprin said. "Participating in the ISO is a wonderful opportunity for some of our most talented young musicians."

The InterSchool Orchestra of New York brings players between ages 6 and 19 together for a skillful music-making experience in a kid-friendly atmosphere. Its groups throughout the

city include seven orchestras and symphonic bands ranging in ability from beginners to advanced students.

Noted bass player and music teacher Joseph Seifers will conduct the new orchestra for entry-level students at PS 203, at 53-11 Springfield Blvd. in Oakland Gardens, the school said.

In addition, the orchestra will rehearse at PS 115Q, at 80-51 261st St. in Glen Oaks, with support and participation coming from Assistant Principal Kathleen Sciortino and Principal James Ambrose.

ISO Executive Director Waddy Thompson said the school received the grant for its upcoming 2012-13 programs, with rehearsals beginning Sept. 20.

"This extraordinary support makes it possible for InterSchool Orchestras to serve many more children," Thompson said. "We

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The InterSchool Orchestra of New York is opening a group in north-east Queens, courtesy of a \$10,000 grant from City Councilman Mark Weprin.

Photo courtesy Adam Hume

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Bayside man uses melody to move minds in classroom

Retired teacher says music writing technique enhances student performance while in school

BY PHIL CORSO

What initially started as a method to bring rowdy students into a calmer learning environment for one former city teacher has blossomed into an entirely different approach to self-reflection and writing.

Writer, blogger and retired teacher Jeffrey Pflaum said his students would often come back from their lunch breaks distracted and hyperactive. To settle them down, Pflaum, who lives in Bayside, said he started playing them Billy Joel cassette tapes for a few minutes before getting back into his lessons.

From there, the practice evolved.

"The students found it was good for them in a soothing kind of way," Pflaum said of his findings while teach-

ing at PS 16 in Brooklyn. "It got them into a mellow mood so they could tackle the challenges of the day."

That was when Pflaum started experimenting and developing an original form of writing in the classroom known as music writing, which uses music of different types to enhance students' abilities to reflect and visualize while writing and learning.

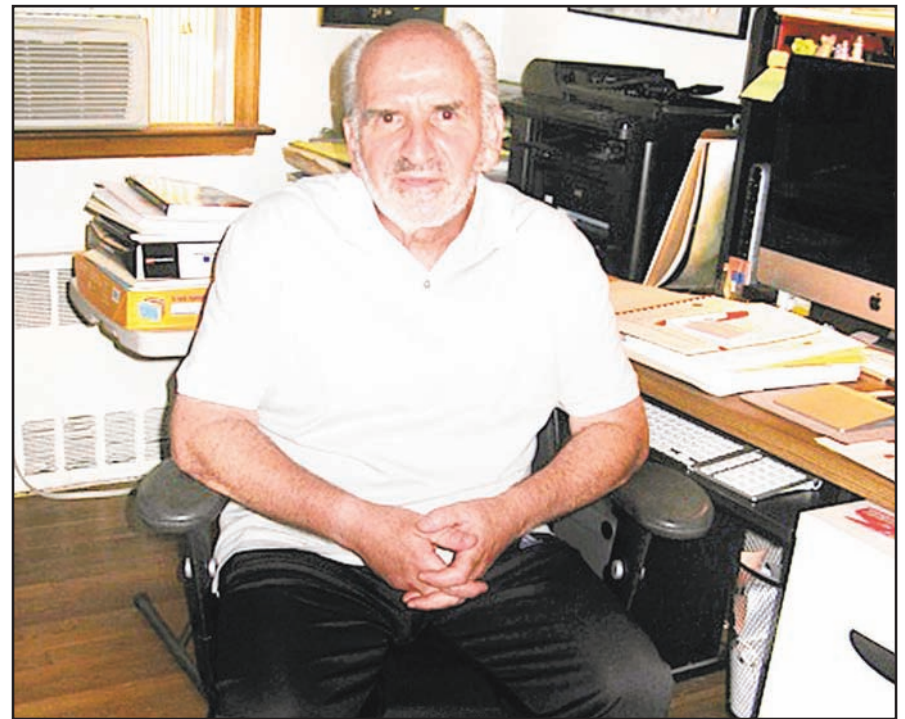
Pflaum said he began asking his students to make their own tapes, to which they would listen at times in the classroom with their heads down while they relaxed and reflected. By giving the students time to think and relax before writing and learning, Pflaum said his students became more self-aware and capable of achieving higher reading comprehension.

"It builds emotional intelligence skills, while at the same time develops academic skills for learning and learning how to learn," Pflaum said. "This extremely successful program with inner-city kids started in the '70s and continued through 2002, when I retired."

Over time, Pflaum said he worked to draw up an entire curriculum with a goal of developing students' minds into focused and creative self-understanding.

By exposing students to music while giving them time to reflect on themselves and each other, Pflaum said students' learning and classroom behavior will change for the better. Through his years of teaching, he said he saw tangible results in students who became more motivated to read and write be-

Continued on Page 22



Bayside's Jeffrey Pflaum speaks from experience when considering how music could affect student growth in the classroom.
Photo courtesy Jeffrey Pflaum

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Muslims in Queens denounce film fracas

Borough's Islam followers say violence hurts cause while Ridgewood Coptic leader decries killings

BY STEVE MOSCO

After American freedom of speech clashed with Islamic tradition and honor in Egypt, Queens residents with ties to the Middle East condemned the violence as tempers continued to flare in Muslim communities across the globe.

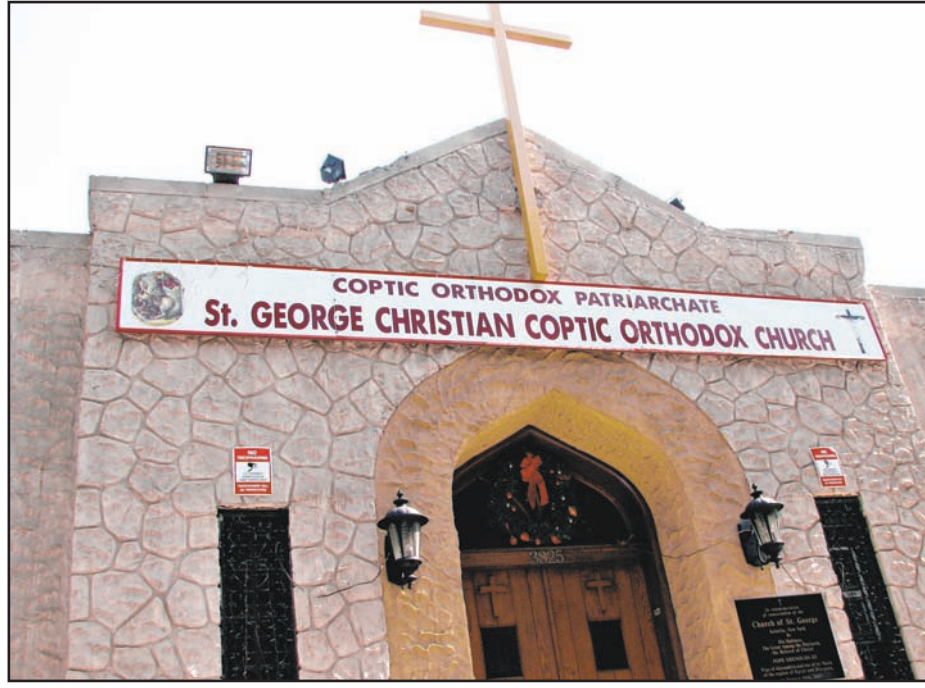
A low-budget film produced by Nakoula Basseley Nakoula, a Coptic Christian originally from Egypt and now living in California, sparked outrage by depicting the Muslim Prophet Muhammad as a fraud, philanderer and child molester. Any depictions of the prophet are strictly forbidden, according to Islamic teachings.

At St. Mary & St. Antonios Coptic Orthodox Church in Ridgewood, the Rev. Mina Kamel Yanni decried the violent attacks in other countries, but also said he is sensitive to offen-

sive images of any religious figures.

"We, too, are offended by the movie and any portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad, but rioting is not the answer," said Yanni, whose followers are Egyptian Christians. "We do not wish anyone to resort to violence as our church rejects all violence. It is hard for the West to understand their outrage, but they are profoundly offended by any image of their prophet. And that must be respected here in America."

After the video was circulated on YouTube, protests and demonstrations followed, some erupting in violence in close to 20 countries since last week when the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three embassy staff members were killed Sept. 11 in Benghazi, the North African nation's second largest city. There has been widespread anger at



Coptic churches in Queens welcome Christian Egyptians and condemn the attacks overseas.

Photo by Steve Mosco

the U.S. government for not suppressing the offensive video, which was made in the private sector and legal

under the nation's freedom of speech doctrine.

Muslims in Queens were uniformly against

the insulting claims made in the film, but some also said the violent reactions around the world only

serve to hurt the followers of Islam.

"Any image of our prophet draws an intense and negative reaction, but not always a violent one," said Daniyal Fayad, of Long Island City. "I think reactions are justified. If they are peaceful, they can be powerful and make a strong point. The violent reactions, though, I think work against us and do more harm than good."

Aamir Amin, also of Long Island City, said the violence being seen around the world is the work of the "fringes of the Muslim community."

"I don't think it represents the way the majority of Muslims would react," he said. "But at the same time, people of Western religions don't understand the deep connection we have to our religion. I'm not saying they don't love their reli-

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MTA ponders eliminating discount on MetroCards to pay for its budget

BY PHILIP NEWMAN

MTA Chairman Joseph Lhota, in relentless search for money for his cash-strapped agency, suggests it might be time to abolish the discount on pay-per-ride MetroCards.

Because of the 7 percent discount on multiple-ride fares, the basic cost of \$2.25 ends up with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority collecting only \$1.63, Lhota told a Crain's New York-sponsored breakfast last week.

"Do we need a discount that deep?" Lhota asked. "I think we need to have a really big public discussion about the fare price and the discounting that goes on."

Even if the discount were eliminated, the MTA's serious money problem would not go away but it would of great help, Lhota said.

Straphangers will find out much more next month from MTA officials on other suggestions to help the agency scrape by starting in March 2013.

The MTA board will vote on its new budget in December. The MTA will hold public hearings in each of the five boroughs in November, a legal requirement before raises in fares and tolls.

The MTA has been walking a tightrope of financial peril for years and new fiscal threats keeping

popping up. For instance, costs of health care and pensions of the MTA's tens of thousands of employees keep rising and many employees are working without union contracts, including those in the Transport Workers Union, who operate and maintain buses and subways.

The TWU has rejected the MTA's appeal for a no-pay-raise contract.

One of the most dire threats was a Nassau County judge's ruling that the payroll tax in support of the MTA was unconstitutional.

The tax, covering the 12 counties served by the MTA, was passed in *Continued on Page 56*

Packed meeting questions Flushing Meadows plans

BY JOE ANUTA

Several multimillion- and multibillion-dollar projects are proposed for Flushing Meadows Corona Park, but a coalition of Queens organizations contends the combined side effects on the community and the total loss of parkland have not adequately been taken into account.

Hundreds of people gathered at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, at 104-11 37th Ave., in Corona Monday night to hear a presentation about the proposed redevelopment of Willets Point, the proposed expansion of the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center and a proposed Major



Leandra Requena (c.) holds up signs protesting development at Flushing Meadows Corona Park along with some young helpers.

Photo by Joe Anuta

League Soccer stadium, all of which would entail some construction on parkland and increase traffic to and from the park.

The consortium, which calls itself the Fairness Coalition of Queens, was

formed in response to what the organizers characterized as a lack of outreach on behalf of the developers proposing the projects.

"Any one of these plans is bad, in my opinion" *Continued on Page 56*

Agents bust workers in JFK booze scam

BY STEVE MOSCO

A mini-booze bottle scam netted big bucks and free drinks for airport employees accused in a \$750,000 criminal caper that raised serious questions about security at John F. Kennedy international Airport, according to the Queens district attorney.

Authorities busted 18 workers — 13 of them from Queens — at JFK last week after a five-month investigation found they allegedly smuggled thousands of liquor bottles off airplanes and into their personal vehicles.

Queens DA Richard Brown and Port Authority of NY & NJ Inspector General Robert E. Van Etten announced Sept. 12 that a total of 18 airport employees were arrested and charged in connection with the widespread theft during an investigation dubbed “Operation Last Call.”

“The defendants are alleged to have pilfered over the past five months more than three-quarters of a million dollars worth of mini bottles of liquor and duty-free merchandise from Kennedy Airport for subsequent sale in the local underground economy,” said Brown. “Employee pilferage is a significant problem for many companies, not just at the airports but throughout the entire metropolitan area. In the

last analysis, however, it is the consuming public that bears the burden of thefts such as those that are alleged to have occurred in this case.”

A total of 15 current and former truck drivers employed by Sky Chef, the food and beverage subsidiary for American Airlines, and three security guards employed by FJC Security Services Inc. and SCIS Security Corp. allegedly pilfered more than 100,000 mini bottles, as well as duty-free items such as larger liquor bottles, perfume and cartons of cigarettes — with an overall estimated retail value of more than \$750,000, said the district attorney.

According to the investigation, Sky Chef drivers removed the unsold mini liquor bottles from planes and either transported them to their personal vehicles in the employee parking lot or sold the stolen booze to co-workers on the loading docks. Investigators also alleged that security guards at the airport were given bottles in return for ignoring the heist.

Brown said he was extremely disturbed that airport security guards could be influenced in such a way in a post-9/11 world.

“Perhaps more troubling is that airport security personnel entrusted with guarding against theft and

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The faces of 18 suspected smugglers stand among liquor, cigarettes and other items officials believe were lifted from John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Photo by Steve Mosco

Queens pols blast soda ban

Halloran, Avella rebut controversial rule following its passage

BY KAREN FRANTZ

After the city Board of Health last Thursday passed the so-called soda ban, which would limit the size of sugary drinks in many venues to 16 ounces, City Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone) and state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) decried the controversial rule as the mayor was lauding its passage.

Halloran, who has been a vocal opponent of the ban, called the decision “arbitrary and capricious” and pointed out a number of its loopholes.

“We still have choices. We can take our snack business away from the corner mom-and-pop deli to supermarkets and franchise convenience stores,” he said. “We can miss more of the movie or more of the game to wait [in line] a second time. We can buy a second 12-ounce can rather than a single 20-ounce bottle. That’s 120 percent of the soda, but the mayor has his own math.”

State Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) said that while



New York City Health Commissioner Thomas Farley addresses a news conference about the soda-ban at New York’s City Hall in May.

AP Photo/Richard Drew

he agreed something must be done to address the city’s growing obesity problem, he thinks the rule goes too far.

“There are surely other ways to curb obesity rates in this city that do not involve infringing on an individual’s personal choice,” he said.

Today the mayor is saying you can’t have a big soda. What’s next?

He said Mayor Michael Bloomberg should be more focused on more pressing issues such as school budgets and affordable housing.

“As residents receive

less and less city services, they need initiatives that will produce real, tangible results, not gimmicks like the soda ban,” Avella said.

The soda rule is a first-of-its-kind measure that will limit the size of sugary drinks in any establishment

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Mayor praises LaGuardia program dads

BY REBECCA HENELY

Mayor Michael Bloomberg spoke at LaGuardia Community College last week to the graduating class of the CUNY Fatherhood Academy, a five-month program aimed at teaching dads ages 18 to 24 good parenting and putting them on the track to getting a GED or enrolling in college.

“Our Fatherhood Academy is something we’re very proud of,” Bloomberg said.

The academy is sponsored by the mayor’s Young Men’s Initiative, the goal of which is to improve prospects for black and

Latino men in the city, and the Open Society Foundations, a grant organization headed by investor George Soros. Bloomberg went to the City University of New York with the idea for the program and LaGuardia volunteered to run it.

“We really have experience in youth, working with young people and getting them into college,” said CUNY Fatherhood Director Beth Lord on why LaGuardia volunteered.

She said the program has been funded for at least three years and is expected to graduate 200 students. The first class at LaGuardia, which graduated Sept. 12, included 22 students.



Edwin Maldonado is greeted by his daughter, Lauryn Maldonado, at the end of graduation for the first CUNY Fatherhood Academy at LaGuardia Community College.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

Through the program 12 of them became permanently employed, four of them took and passed the GED exam and six of them enrolled as freshmen at LaGuardia.

In his colloquial and occasionally salty speech to the young men at commencement, Bloomberg shared some stories of his struggles as a parent and in the workforce. He said while his problems did not compare to the dark times some of the young men in the academy have faced — like being shot or serving time in prison — he urged them to be there for their families and told them they

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Legacy of fiery Flushing activist lives on in annual award

Community members who advocate for senior citizens to receive distinction in honor of Rose Kryzak

BY JOE ANUTA

The late Flushing fire-brand Rose Kryzak was a tireless advocate for senior citizens in New York, possessing enough pluck even in her twilight years to travel to Albany to admonish a sitting governor, and in November three women are set to receive an award in her honor for carrying on the tradition.

Kryzak lived in Flushing House, at 38-20 Bowne St., a housing complex tailored to senior citizens, until she died at 99 about a dozen years ago.

But while the complex is populated by elderly residents, it is a far cry from assisted living, according to Robert Salant, communications director at Flushing House.

"Her apartment here was like a lobbying office

filled with papers and telephones," he said. "We are very proud of her legacy and keep it alive each year."

This year the Rose Kryzak Senior Leadership Award will be given to Estela Divino, Mary Sheehan-Lohne and Carol O'Dette at a Nov. 8 ceremony.

Divino was selected for her work in helping seniors who have been denied benefits try to regain them, according to Salant. She has been the director of social services at the Regal Heights Rehabilitation & Health Care Center in Jackson Heights, where she heads the social work department and provides a wide range of care to the borough's seniors, since 2000.

Sheehan-Lohne's résumé might have appealed to Kryzak, since the 12-year director of social services



at the Cliffside Rehabilitation & Health Care Center in College Point has a history of agitating for a good cause.

In the 1980s, she wrote letters, petitioned, organized demonstrations at the state Department of Health and lobbied lawmakers for health care reform, according to Salant.

"We honor people who are doing similar things," Salant said. "They also lobby, they also secure funding for their programs. All of them truly carry on the tradition of Rose Kryzak."

O'Dette has been director of social work services at Ozanam Hall of Queens Nursing Home in Bayside since 2007 and was selected due to her long history of

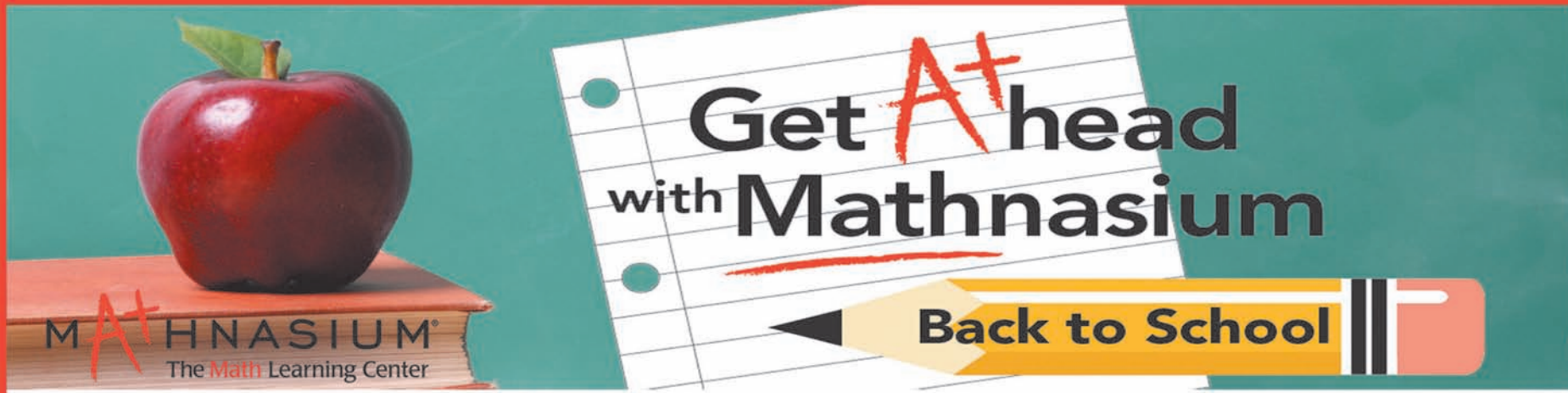
spearheading initiatives beneficial to seniors at numerous facilities where she has worked.

O'Dette participated in Flushing's first meeting of the Grey Panthers, an organization dedicated to protecting civil rights, especially of seniors. At one facility she set standards of practice for HIV patients, led the efforts to establish a hospice and started an ethics committee.

The efforts from women like the three honorees is essential for the aging residents of the state, according to Salant, who oftentimes do not have the energy to do it themselves, although there was one notable exception.

Estela Divino (clockwise from top left), Mary Sheehan-Lohne and Carol O'dette will be honored at a Nov. 8 ceremony featuring a performance by singer Daniel Rodriguez.

Photos courtesy United Adult Ministries



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107th cops nab man wanted by FBI in NY bank robberies

BY KAREN FRANTZ

Police in Queens arrested a man known as the "Snub-Nose Bandit" last week, who is suspected of robbing several banks and other businesses in New York and was wanted by the FBI, according to authorities.

Harry Pacheco, 36, was picked up by police from the 107th Precinct in Fresh Meadows early on the morning of Sept. 12 after a 911 call was placed alerting cops to suspicious activity around Ray Bari Pizzeria, at 176-61 Union Tnpk. in Hillcrest, police said.

A police spokesman and the Queens district attorney said Pacheco was arrested on charges of attempted burglary after cops discovered he was in possession of bolt cutters, two screwdrivers and a

wrench. Pacheco was also accused of possessing burglar's tools, according to the criminal complaint filed by the DA.

Police also found damage to the rear door of the pizzeria's building, where Pacheco allegedly was trying to break in — the door frame was bent and the door casing was popped open, the complaint said. Police also said they brought in a 36-year-old woman suspected of being an accomplice in the break-in, Michele Perlin, who was sitting in a jeep parked near the pizzeria, according to the court papers.

A source said that the connection was made between Pacheco and the Snub-Nose Bandit when a police officer recognized him from an FBI wanted photo.

Pacheco was arraigned Sept. 13 on the attempted burglary charge in Queens Court and his next court appearance is Oct. 18, according to the DA. It could not be determined when or whether Pacheco would be transferred to federal court.

The Snub-Nose Bandit was wanted for at least eight armed robberies in New York starting in September of last year, many of them taking place in Queens, according to the FBI website. They include the robbery of a 7-Eleven at 107-24 Corona Ave. in Corona, a Chase Bank at 205-19 Hillside Ave. in Hollis and a Sovereign Bank at 75-15 31st Ave. in East Elmhurst.

The website says shots were fired in three of the robberies, and an FBI press release described him as armed and dangerous.

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— Deborah DeGregorio

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POLICE Blotter

Cops seek man who robbed Chase Bank

BRIARWOOD — The NYPD was asking for the public's help in identifying a man wanted in connection with a Chase Bank robbery last week.

According to police, the suspect walked into the Chase Bank, at 138-02 Queens Blvd., around 9 a.m. Sept. 14 and passed a demand note to the teller, making off with an undetermined amount of cash.

The suspect is described as a black male in his early 30s, standing 5 feet 10 inches tall with a slim build and clean shaven. He was last seen wearing a white T-shirt, dark pants, a black backpack and a black baseball cap, police said.

Images from a surveillance camera at the scene show the suspect carrying handfuls of cash as he walked out to the bank



Police released surveillance images of a suspect wanted in connection to a bank robbery in Briarwood.
Images courtesy NYPD

and fled in an unknown direction, police said.

Cops search for man who stole from Walgreens



Authorities described a suspect, who allegedly stole 16 boxes of Diabetic test strips from a pharmacy in Flushing, as about 5-foot-11 and 180 pounds.
Images courtesy NYPD

FLUSHING — The NYPD was asking for the public's assistance in locating a man wanted in connection with stealing Diabetic test strips from a Walgreens Pharmacy.

Police said the suspect entered the pharmacy, at 44-15 Kissena Blvd., around 3:30 p.m. Sept. 11 and stole 16 boxes of test strips.

He is described as a black male standing 5-foot-11 tall and weighing 180 pounds, said police, and was last seen wearing a red T-shirt, black pants and glasses.

FBI says hijack threat at JFK was a hoax

JAMAICA — Authorities at John F. Kennedy International Airport said a false bomb threat called in on three planes Monday was a hoax.

Two American Airlines planes and one Finnair plane were held and searched around 3 p.m. as FBI agents and Port Authority police searched the planes in response to an anonymous call of hijackers

on the planes.

According to the Breaking News Network, one of the American Airlines flights had four air marshals on board and nothing had happened on board.

Similar threats were called in at other airports, according to BNN.

The planes were cleared and the threat declared a hoax.

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Ulrich wins handily after anti-gay mailer

BY KAREN FRANTZ

Voter Karen King said she was already planning on coming out to the polls last Thursday to vote for City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park), who won the Republican nomination for state Senate in the 15th District.

After she saw a mailer from his opponent, Juan Reyes, that bashed Ulrich for being gay-friendly, however, she said she had extra motivation to get out to vote.

"This has got to be one of the dirtiest local campaigns I have ever seen," she said. "A lot of hitting below the belt, which in a local election is ridiculous."

The mailer was sent out in the days leading up to the primary and it criticized Ulrich for dining with a gay Democratic city councilman and hiring gay staff members. It sparked a last-hour media controversy and prompted former Mayor Rudy Giuliani to endorse Ulrich over Reyes, even though Reyes used to work for his administration.

Ulrich's campaign said Monday, however, that he was likely to have prevailed easily over Reyes anyway.

"I think he would have won regardless of those mailers, but they had such a nasty tone and they were

filled with a lot of lies and distortion ... that I think it definitely energized people to go out and vote for Eric," said Jessica Proud, Ulrich's campaign spokeswoman.

According to unofficial city Board of Elections results, Ulrich won with 70 percent of the vote and Reyes garnered 30 percent.

Ulrich also won the Independence Party primary, with 84 percent of the vote vs. 16 percent for his opponent Joseph Tiraco, according to unofficial city data.

Proud said she heard from some poll sites that they were turning away a number of registered Democrats who came to the polls to vote for Ulrich because of the mailers. Democrats are not permitted to vote in Republican primaries.

Gerry O'Brien, the spokesman for Reyes' campaign, said the mailers "certainly didn't help the campaign," but said he doubted it had a large impact because they would have arrived in voters' mailboxes only a few days before the election.

He also said the online media attention was less likely to reach older individuals, who do not surf the Web as much but tend to make up a large percentage of voters. He said robo-calls from Giuliani endorsing Ulrich probably had more

Continued on Page 30

Sanders defeats Sen. Huntley

Councilman captures 57% of vote in Dem primary for Albany seat



Councilman James Sanders Jr. (r.) celebrates his victory with (l-r) Peter Pouchon, Larry Love and Donovan Richards.

Photo by Christina Santucci

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Fresh off his Democratic Party primary victory last week, City Councilman James Sanders (D-Laurelton) is planning on getting right down to business in Rochdale Village, his opponent's home turf.

When Sanders claimed victory last week over embattled incumbent state Sen. Shirley Huntley (D-Jamaica), he said his first order of business would be setting up community meetings to gauge constituent concerns, and earlier this week he said he was planning on holding the first of those meetings in Rochdale Village, the neighborhood Huntley calls home and thought to be one of her political strongholds.

"It's the most dense part of the community," Sanders explained Tuesday. "We'd like to introduce ourselves and hear from our neighbors what they

want us to tackle."

According to the city Board of Elections' preliminary results, Sanders pulled in about 57 percent of the votes in the 10th Senate District, with Huntley grabbing approximately 40 percent. Gian Jones, a Far Rockaway resident, received about 3 percent.

Sanders said he believed that in order to win the primary he needed to capture 30 percent of the votes in Rochdale and estimated the final number would be somewhere between 40 percent and 45 percent.

"We were not surprised by the outpouring from Rochdale and other communities," he said.

Sanders snagged the prized endorsement of the Rev. Floyd Flake and his campaign got a boost about two weeks before the primary, when the state attorney general charged Huntley with tampering with an investigation into two people with close ties to

the senator who ran a non-profit that allegedly made off with \$33,000 worth of taxpayer dollars.

"We were on the verge of winning before the arrest," Sanders said "but it would have been a much smaller margin. Let's be clear about that."

Other areas Sanders said he thought he did well in include Far Rockaway and Rosedale — neighborhoods in his Council district that were added to the 10th Senate District when the lines were redrawn earlier this year — and South Ozone Park and Richmond Hill, where Sanders heavily courted voters in the South Asian community.

Harbachan Singh, president of the Sikh American Friendship Foundation, said Sanders campaigned hard in the various South Asian communities, whereas Huntley's presence was either "minimal or not at all."

Sanders opened his campaign office and held

his victory party in Richmond Hill, a neighborhood that had previously been split between two Senate districts.

"That's why it's so important for us to have it here. We could do this a lot of places, some places closer to home," he said.

Sanders said he would like to plan more constituent meetings in Richmond Hill, Springfield Gardens, Rosedale and South Jamaica as well as in South Ozone Park and the Rockaways, neighborhoods in which he would like to open satellite offices when he heads to Albany.

As for the main district office, he said his mind is pretty much made up.

"If I had it my way I would put it in Rochdale," he said. "Again, it's the most dense part of the community and fits kind of in the middle based on the new district."



City Councilman Eric Ulrich (r.) addresses the crowd during his victory party at Roma View.

Photo by Nat Valentine

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Tuesday, 9/11	FSF at Citi Field.....	7:00 to 10:30
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Friday, 9/14	Shabbat Evening Service	8:00 p.m.
	High Holy Day Melodies at Oneg	
Sunday, 9/16	Children's Hebrew Class	9:30 a.m.
	Family Education.....	10:30 a.m.
	Rosh Hashanah Eve Service.....	8:00 p.m.
Monday, 9/17	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service.....	10:00 a.m.
	Rosh Hashanah Children's Service	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 9/18	Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day Service	10:30 a.m.
Sunday, 9/23	Children's Hebrew Class	9:30 a.m.
	Religious School.....	10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 9/25	Yom Kippur Evening Service	8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 9/26	Yom Kippur Services	10:00 a.m.
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Sunday, 9/30	Sukkah Raising Party	12:00 p.m.

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Sun., Sept. 16	Rosh Hashanah Evening Service.....	8:00 p.m.
Mon., Sept. 17	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service.....	10:00 a.m.
	Rosh Hashanah Children's Service	1:00 p.m.
Tues., Sept. 18	2nd Day R.H. Informal Service	10:30 a.m.
Tues., Sept. 25	Kol Nidre Service	8:00 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 26	Yom Kippur Morning Service	10:00 a.m.
	Children's Service.....	1:00 p.m.
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	N'ilah Service.....	5:00 p.m.

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Moya event helps immigrants gain access to gov't resources



Assemblywoman Grace Meng, Make the Road New York Co-executive Director Deborah Axt and Assemblyman Francisco Moya chat at the Immigrants Connect event. Photo by Rich Bockmann

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Confusion and fear often deter immigrants, regardless of whether they are here legally or undocumented, from receiving services from government agencies they have every right to and the state Assembly is making a push to change that.

"Just because someone is undocumented doesn't mean they don't have rights," said Assemblyman Francisco Moya (D-Jackson Heights), who hosted his second annual Immigrants Connect event Saturday at Make the Road New York.

Moya, who sits on the Assembly's Small Business and Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry committees, is the author of

the Assembly's Dream fund bill, which would provide financial assistance to the children of immigrants for higher education.

He also sponsored a bill that would allow anyone with a taxpayer ID number to open a state family tuition account, designed to help immigrant families save for college.

The event was part of a statewide effort by Assembly members and the state Department of Labor to provide resources to those who may not even think to seek them out.

"In immigrant communities, you see a lot of problems that exist because of abuse," Moya said. "This gives them the opportunity to talk to the right agency."

Representatives from offices such as the National

Labor Relations Board and the state Department of Health were on hand to give out literature, answer questions and provide resources to an essential segment of the state's workforce.

Throughout the state, nearly 30 percent of small businesses are owned by immigrants, according to Labor. In the city, immigrants make up more than one-third of the population and almost one-half of its workforce.

Make the Road New York is a nonprofit with offices in Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Long Island that advocates for immigrants' rights. Its latest victory came earlier this month when workers at the Hi-Tek Carwash and Lube in East Elmhurst voted to join the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union.

Deborah Axt, the nonprofit's co-executive director, said one of the biggest fights in Queens is to help undocumented workers collect unpaid wages.

"Newly arrived immigrants do have a lot more rights than they realize or exercise," she said.

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

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EDITORIALS

DOWN AND DIRTY IN QUEENS

We aren't surprised to see the Obama-Romney race for the White House get dirty, but we weren't expecting to see mudslinging in the race to represent northeast Queens in the state Senate.

From the start, John Messer, an Oakland Gardens lawyer, was an underdog. Even though he had challenged Sen. Toby Stavisky back in 2010, he lacked name recognition. Stavisky, on the other hand, is a familiar figure after six terms in office.

Messer tried to win the uphill race by taking the low road with tactics that overshadowed discussion of the positions taken by the two candidates.

In the early days of the campaign, Messer bypassed a city agency and went to the Queens Supreme Court to charge that Stavisky obtained fraudulent signatures to get on the ballot.

A Democratic Senate candidate needs 1,000 signatures from registered party members in the district to get onto the ballot. Stavisky had 7,000 signatures collected by 130 individuals assigned by the Queens Democratic Party, which backed Stavisky.

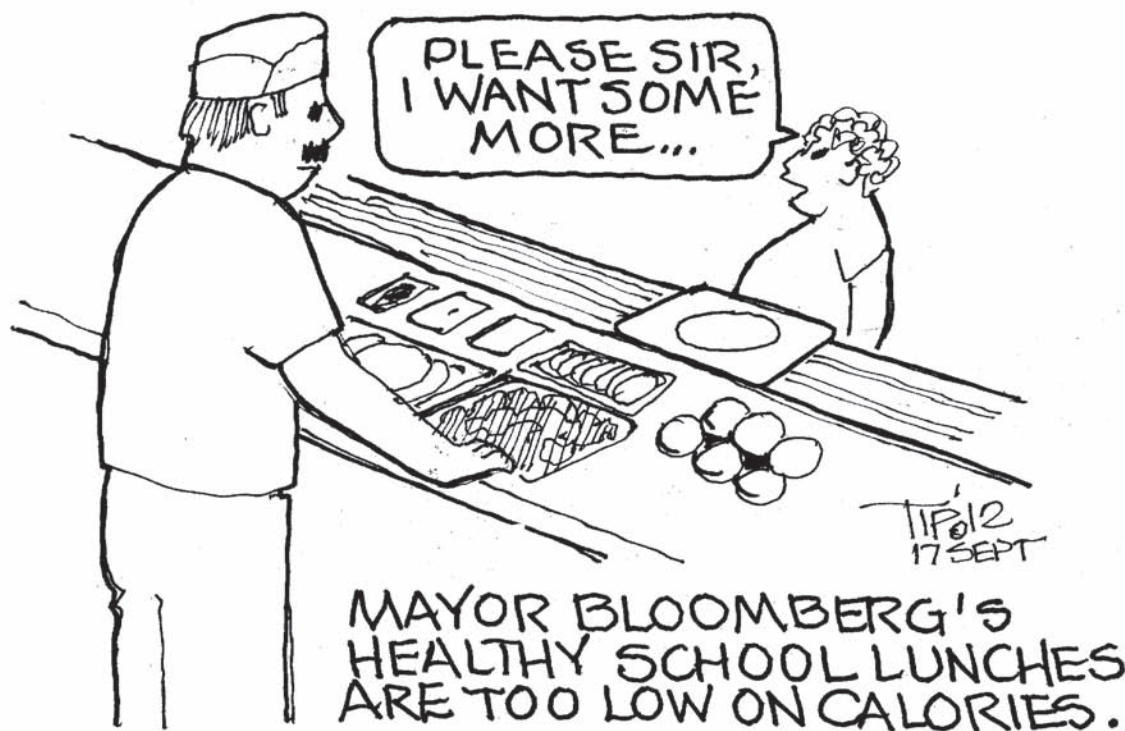
As the rhetoric from both camps grew uglier, Messer insisted it was not a grudge match between him and Stavisky but was being fought on the issues. Then he went on to say he was determined to take down a political family who had been in power for 46 years, a reference to Stavisky and her late husband, who represented the district before her.

Stavisky had her own mud to throw. She criticized Messer for his ties to former Republican City Councilman Dennis Gallagher, who was convicted of sexual assault. She said Messer "deals with criminals," referring to the consulting firm hired by Messer and associated with Gallagher.

Messer's mud didn't stick: Stavisky won easily.

In the 25th state Assembly District primary, Nily Rozic defeated her Democratic Party-backed opponent Jerry Iannece. Rozic used a picture of herself with Assemblywoman Grace Meng in fliers even though Meng had endorsed Iannece. It appeared to be a calculated move in a district that includes Bayside and has a large number of Asian voters.

Rozic, a former chief of staff for Assemblyman Brian Kavanagh, was practically unknown in Queens. It's possible this misleading picture made the difference in that race.



OTHER VOICES

BOE needs to provide ballots in Bengali

An open letter to the city Board of Elections:

I am writing to express my concern that the Board of Elections will not have Bengali-language ballots available for the general election Nov 6.

As you know, the U.S. Census Bureau has determined that the BOE is legally obligated to provide

alternate ballots and interpreters for Bengali-speaking voters under the Federal Voting Rights Act. It is important that the Bengali-speaking community be provided with language assistance so they can effectively participate in our democratic process.

The fact that the city will not be able to comply

with this federal mandate when other jurisdictions across the country have is unconscionable.

Queens is home to a growing population of South Asians, many of whom will now face unnecessary challenges at the voting booth because of the BOE's inability to ensure this mandate is implement-

ed in time for Election Day.

I urge you to develop a plan of action to ensure these language-assistance requirements are met in a timely fashion.

*Daniel Dromm
City Councilman
Immigration Committee
Chairman
(D-Jackson Heights)*

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Big businesses must pay their fair share in taxes

An open letter to President Barack Obama:

It is probably pointless to write and mail this letter to you, since you will probably never receive or read it, but I felt compelled to nonetheless.

My name is Lisa Carrieri-Veneziano and I work in the pharmacy at the Waldbaum's supermarket in College Point. I am a divorced, single parent of three teenagers — aged 13, 14 and 18 — and my widowed, 85-year-old mother lives with us. I am a white-collar professional in the medical field and I work full-time.

I have been struggling with many issues in the last three years. Medical and prescription coverage is a problem. I never realized that we had a dollar cap until we hit it three years ago. The cap is \$8,000 per year for my family and it would be worse if I was married. My children have secondary coverage with their father, but it never pays anything — not even to reimburse my co-pays!

Last year I spent \$20,000 out of my pocket to buy medications. Maybe that is not much for some people, but it was huge for

me. I could have used that money for other things, like paying my mortgage. Thank God I live close to work, but still, gas is around \$4 per gallon.

The cost of heating oil is also outrageous as well as Consolidated Edison. We have had the air conditioner running since May, but at 75 degrees. I cannot turn it off because my mother has pulmonary problems and uses oxygen.

My children all went to private school, which was a huge sacrifice. Public schools are overcrowded, understaffed and danger-

ous, but free? I am in a union and after about a year of negotiations we had to sign a contract or have no job. The outcome was I lost one week's paid vacation and half of paid personal days, got a five-year pay freeze and have to work the first hour of every week for minimum wage.

What an insult to the pharmacy professionals everywhere. It is disgraceful, but what is a pharmacist to do with no jobs available? Now pharmacists also have to worry about losing their lives while performing their duties because of oxy-

contin and hydrocodone addicts. I want to work behind bullet-proof windows.

I have said for years that the drug manufacturers need to be hit. They are making huge bucks, but not pharmacists or pharmacies. You would laugh at the mark-ups, if there are any.

If for just one day everyone would not buy any medications, stores, hospitals, nursing homes, the drug manufacturers, etc., would be crying.

In my situation, I am thinking twice about spending a boatload of money for higher education, but

for what? No jobs, respect or money. Higher-income people need to be taxed and pay their taxes, not given tax breaks and loopholes. Newspapers, TV and the Internet are full of nobodies making and wasting millions of dollars.

I do not know what the answer is, but there just seems to be more and more problems.

*Lisa Carrieri-Veneziano
College Point*

Reader sorry to see Capitol bank close

The Capitol One Bank, at 164th Street and 69th Avenue in Fresh Meadows, will be closing its doors for good Oct. 6.

This bank has been in this location for more than 35 years, as Reliance Federal, then North Fork and finally Capitol One. There are so many people who have banked at this location, since it is right across the street from the Electchester apartment complex.

Many of these people are elderly or disabled and now will have to go to the Capitol One branch at Parsons Boulevard and Jewel Avenue, the other Fresh Meadows branch on 188th Street or the branch in Kew Gardens.

This is going to cause a lot of unnecessary physical stress for a lot of those people. There is no logical reason for this branch to be closed. The staff at this branch has been wonderful. They are courteous and professional and it is unfair they are going to lose their jobs. At the least, Capitol One should guarantee them positions in other branches.

We are going to be sorry to see this branch close and we wish all of its employees the best. We hope all of them will find positions within a relatively short period of time.

*John Amato
Fresh Meadows*



REMEMBERING 9/11

City Councilman Daniel Dromm, the Muslim merchants of the 37th Road Diversity Plaza in Jackson Heights and Social Uplift Knowledge and Hope Initiatives NY held a candlelight vigil for those killed on 9/11. In a show of solidarity, businesses owners dimmed their lights and placed flowers along the plaza. Dromm (c.) is joined by (l. to r.) SUKHI President Shazia Kausar, SUKHI member Fatima Baryab and SUKHI founder Agha Saleh.

Photo courtesy Daniel Dromm

CORRECTION

An article in the Aug. 30-Sept. 5 edition of TimesLedger Newspapers, about campaign contributions in a Flushing state Assembly seat race, should have said Cottage Consulting is run by Jay Golub.

Queens sickle cell advocates lobby for a cure

BY RICH BOCKMANN

About one in every 500 African Americans is born with sickle cell disease and advocates for a cure said those who suffer from the condition face stigmas due to a lack of understanding.

"It's amazing how few people know about it, even in this country," said Dr. Barbara Barnett, an internist at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park. "There has not been a lot of funding for the disease. I think it's definitely because of the population it affects."

Sickle cells, the doctor explained, developed in African areas as the body's natural defense against malaria. Normal red blood cells are shaped like a disk with a recess, but sickled red blood cells are crescent shaped, which not only inhibits malaria but also prevents the cells from delivering as much oxygen to the

body as they should.

Those afflicted with the disease describe suffering from excruciating, unpredictable pain.

Erica Bell, 29, was diagnosed with the disease when she was 2 months old.

"There are a lot of things you can't do," Bell said Sunday at a rally for sickle cell awareness in Roy Wilkins Park. "But I am hopeful. I'm grateful for every day."

Bell's experiences with the disease were similar to those shared by others at the park during an event organized by the Queens Sickle Cell Advocacy Network. Stories about experiencing debilitating pain, stays in the hospital for blood transfusions and reliance on strong narcotics to ease their suffering were told again and again, as were affirmations that those who have the disease never take a single day for granted.



Erica Bell of Jamaica speaks about her diagnosis with sickle cell when she was two months old.

Photo by Christina Santucci

Life expectancy now for someone with sickle cell disease is in the 50s, but many who were diagnosed 10, 20 or 30 years ago were told they would not make it past childhood.

Gloria Rochester, the founder of the network, did not know anything about sickle cell disease in 1973 when her 18-month-old daughter was diagnosed, let alone that both she and

her husband carried the trait.

"I had to learn, to educate myself. In the '70s there were very few resources," she said. "I went to the library and I spoke

with other parents about how to cope."

Rochester said she had to teach herself how to deal with a child in extreme pain, how to help her daughter through school and find a job and how to fight a negative stigma attached to African Americans who rely on strong narcotics in their daily lives.

Rochester's daughter is now 38 with three children of her own, and she has benefited from the knowledge her mother has gained and continues to pass on to the community.

"I had to tell her, 'Don't marry someone with sickle cell.' You want to break the cycle of sickle cell. The most important thing is to know your status," she said.

QSCAN hosts a parent support group on the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in its Queens Village office, at 207-08 Hollis Ave. For more information, call 718-712-0873.



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St. Elizabeth kids learn biz skills in competition



Project Empower Executive Director Dante DiCicco helps St. Elizabeth students flesh out their business plans at the kick-off of state competition last Thursday. Photo by Karen Frantz

BY KAREN FRANTZ

A chocolate product is in the works for an anticipated new company headed by world-renowned Chef Timothy Maguire, and the visionaries in charge of developing and marketing the treat may come as a surprise.

No, they are not the latest hotshots fresh out of business school,, but middle-school-age children from Queens.

More than 100 students aged of 11 to 13 gathered at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Academy, at 94-01 85th St. in Ozone Park, last Thursday for the kick-off of a state competition in which children from across New York will develop a new chocolate flavor, come up with slogans and logos, determine target markets and consider celebrity endorsers.

"Today the students actually get to be in a real business environment," said Nisha Parikh, associate executive director of Project Empower, the non-profit that holds the business competitions and was first launched in 2011.

She and the organization's executive director, Dante DiCicco, said the competition puts the students in a role that fosters leadership and helps them learn valuable skills they will need in their future careers.

"We're teaching them concepts that aren't typically learned until well after middle school," DiCicco said.

The St. Elizabeth students will present their ideas to a panel of judges in four weeks and the winning team will compete for their school at the state level, where other schools from the state will also be represented.

The final competition will be held at Standard & Poor's, the financial services firm, in Manhattan Feb. 8. The judge's panel will include not only Maguire, but also leading business tycoons.

Students appeared excited about the project at the kick-off event, getting particularly heated up when samples of Maguire's chocolate were passed around and they were asked to think about which

celebrity endorser might be a good choice for a chocolate product.

"Justin Bieber," called out one student, referring to the immensely popular teenage pop singer. The suggestion was met with a buzz in the auditorium.

After explaining the Project Empower process, DiCicco and Parikh divided the children into groups and helped the students as they were developing ideas.

St. Elizabeth's Principal William Ferguson said the students loved participating in the competition and it helps them think outside the somewhat constricted world of school.

"The opportunity has been great," he said.

Past Project Empower competitions have included launching a new flavor of Vitamin Water and a new shoe model for Nike.

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Casino brings boxing to Queens this week



Boxing promoters Kevin O'Sullivan (l.) and Jim Foley (r.) flank fighters Angel Garcia, Frank Galarza, Rafael Vazquez and Elton Dharry.
Photo by Steve Mosco

BY STEVE MOSCO

Resorts World Casino will take a swing at the fights when it hosts a championship night of boxing on the casino grounds in South Ozone Park Saturday.

Featuring some fighters from Queens, the evening boasts nine bouts. In the main event, popular light heavyweight Joe Smith Jr. will take on Yasin Rashid. In the much-anticipated co-feature, it will be a contest between undefeated junior middleweights as Frank Galarza and Alantez Fox battle for the state title. The show will also feature appearances from undefeated super bantamweight Juan Dominguez and undefeated super featherweight Rafael Vazquez.

Vazquez, who lives in Howard Beach with his wife and four children, said boxing so close to home gives him an extra shot of adrenaline.

"I could take a cab to get here," said Vazquez. "When I grow old, I can tell my kids that I fought here and was a part of history."

This night of fights will make history as the first boxing matches ever held in a New York casino. The fighters see this as an opportunity to make a mark — not only for themselves, but also for the sport of boxing at large.

"The fight will be a

stepping stone for me in my career. It will make me, not break me because I never break," said Frank Galarza, of Brooklyn. "It's also great for the sport. We feel really proud to be the first class of boxers to fight here."

Another fighter, Elton Dharry, who lives minutes away in Richmond Hill, said he was most proud to be representing his Guyanese community.

"It's a big deal for the people in the community, especially the young kids," he said. "I want to make a mark in this sport and give them a positive example to look up to."

With a fight card featuring both novice boxers and elite pugilists, the evening is expected to attract both sports fans and curious casino gamers alike. The matches will take place in the Central Park

event space on the top floor — a 70,000-square-foot level with a capacity of 6,500 people.

"Resorts World is a destination for hundreds of thousands of visitors every month and our guests come for more than just gaming — we also offer the best in other forms of entertainment, including music, sports and the arts," said President Michael Speller. "We are now offering large-scale concerts and even more events to provide the best possible mix of entertainment experiences for our guests. New Yorkers can now stay here at home for gaming, boxing and music all in one place."

The fights start at 8 p.m. with doors opening at 7 p.m. For tickets, go to newlegendboxing.com or call 718-487-4474 or 718-765-1860.

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Rozic

Continued from Page 1

Lancman, who chose not to publicly endorse any candidate in the race, said he would not seek reelection in the Assembly after losing a Democratic primary for Congress in June to Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D-Flushing).

The newly drawn 25th Assembly District lines run from Flushing to Douglaston and include most of Bayside Hills.

Rozic pulled in a total of 2,245 votes while Iannece brought in 1,749, according to unofficial results from the city Board of Elections.

Iannece, 53, who was backed by the Queens Democratic Party, also received a key endorsement from the Bayside Hills Civic Association, a group he once led as president. It was the first time in the group's history that it had endorsed a candidate for political office.

In a letter addressed to the residents of Bayside Hills, BHCA Vice President Armando Cortino asked his neighbors, "Where were you?"

"Because of non-participation at the polls, you lost Jerry as your

voice," Cortino said. "Due to dwindling membership and non-participation, very soon you may lose your civic association, too. I repeat, the strength of any organization, or association, is its members and their ability to stick together."

On Primary Night, Iannece walked into his party of supporters at C.J. Sullivan's in Bayside with a somber look on his face. After embarking on a political campaign he said he was reluctant to take on again, the Community Board 11 chairman bowed out of the political sphere as he addressed the crowd.

"Politics is just not in the cards for me," Iannece told a room full of supporters. "I guess my time has come and gone."

Iannece had already run for the City Council in 2009, when he was defeated in the Democratic primary and ultimately lost his bid for the seat currently held by Councilman Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone). Before throwing his hat into the 25th Assembly District race, he said it was the overwhelming support he received that brought him to run for public office again.

Aside from the Queens Democratic Party, Iannece received endorsements from Meng, U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-Bayside) and

Council Speaker Christine Quinn (D-Manhattan).

Meanwhile, in Jamaica Estates, Rozic's party anxiously awaited their winning candidate for her victory address. Rozic, 27, entered the Sly Fox Inn to booming cheers, hugs and wide-eyed smiles.

"Tonight, we were able to celebrate for so many reasons," Rozic said at her victory party in the company of supporters, friends and family. "I hope I make you prouder with every passing day."

As she looks ahead to the November general election, the former chief of staff for Assemblyman Brian Kavanaugh (D-Manhattan) said she planned on stressing the most important issues to voters throughout the district, including campaign finance reform, job creation and improving access to vital services, especially for women and seniors.

According to campaign finance documents, Rozic trailed Iannece's fund-raising numbers by less than \$1,000, with \$97,323 raised compared to her opponent's \$98,103.

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

Singles

Continued from Page 1

tan together.

Rabbi Gordon Yaffe helped facilitate the first year's events and said he was hoping to see the program grow as it continued into its sophomore season.

"We wanted to recognize a large constituency in the community, which we felt wasn't being provided with a comfortable place to experience Judaism," Yaffe said. "Here, singles can come together in a Jewish atmosphere with the goal of giving people the opportunity to find that special person."

Last year's Simcha Singles events included relationship discussions, Israeli Independence Day celebrations, trivia nights and social discussions. Shapiro said he was working to bring similar programming to the synagogue this year with some new additions.

Shapiro said he would continue to work with the synagogue and its members to provide the most rewarding programming for the singles, with the ultimate goal of building connections. He had

already helped run a singles group years ago in Great Neck, L.I., he said, but saw Little Neck as a more energized venture because of the engaging programming opportunities provided by the Little Neck Jewish Center.

"It's worth a try," Shapiro said. "We didn't have a home for Jewish singles before we started doing these."

Simcha Singles has collected a database of more than 60 singles throughout the metropolitan area, Yaffe said, and will continue to grow as long as there is a need for its services.

"We want to help to make this a priority on the synagogue agenda," Yaffe said. "It is a chance to connect with the Jewish traditions. That's what makes this unique, because these are not simply social programs."

The Little Neck Jewish center is a conservative, egalitarian synagogue serving members throughout northeast Queens and western Nassau County.

Those interested in more information on Simcha Singles may contact Shapiro by e-mail at simchasingles@gmail.com or visit the group's website at simchasingles.net.

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Music

Continued from Page 3

cause of the skills derived from his program through thinking, feeling, visualizing, sensing, experiencing, creating and communicating through their writing.

"The more kids who are with you and concentrating, the better the les-

son is going to be," Pflaum said. "It develops an atmosphere for real learning. It is one group mind with more clarity and the kids have the right minds to develop better relationships with each other."

Pflaum worked as an inner-city elementary school teacher in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Williamsburg, Brooklyn, for 34

years, teaching creative writing, language, social studies, physical education and special education.

He is currently writing a chapter for a pioneering textbook about mindfulness programs in the United States titled "Mindfulness for Youth: From the Classroom to the Clinic," to be published by Guilford in 2013.



Young performers hone their skills working with the InterSchool Orchestra of New York.

Photo courtesy Adam Hume

Ballot

Continued from Page 2

president of North Shore Towers, who was "blindsided" by the polling changes.

"Since North Shore Towers is a gated community with three large apartment buildings, they were

unsure how they would be able to accommodate the voters from Glen Oaks Village and the private homes of Royal Ranch descending with cars on their co-op," Friedrich said. "Did anyone at the BOE ever think about parking issues at North Shore Towers or the gated entry that will create

gridlock for voters and residents?"

Polling places across Queens were shifted after the borough faced redistricting, but some were moved because of a lack of handicapped-accessible sites.

Burmese Nobel laureate coming to Queens

FLUSHING — Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of Burma's democracy movement, will speak to an invited audience at Queens College on Saturday, September 22, at 9 a.m.

It will mark her first visit to America

since her release from house arrest in her home country. Suu Kyi will take questions from Queens College students after speaking, and there will also be musical performances and readings before Suu Kyi addresses the local Burmese community.

Weprin

Continued from Page 2

are especially excited to open up ISO's programs to a new community of children in eastern Queens under the direction of such a talented conductor."

The Queens East orchestra will be joining ISO's three other orches-

tras for musicians aged 6 to 10 from throughout the city, all of whom are just beginning their lives as performers, the school said.

More than 300 students rehearse through the school each week from September to May for various performances in concert halls, schools and community meetings. The school, founded in 1972, exists to

provide performance opportunities to students typically unable to pay tuition, with more than half of its young performers receiving some degree of financial assistance.

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

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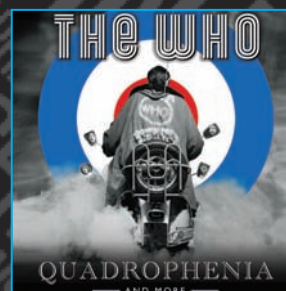
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Police question off-duty cop stabbing in South Jamaica

BY RICH BOCKMANN

The NYPD's internal-affairs investigators were looking into whether or not an off-duty officer stabbed himself last week when he claimed he was attacked during a home invasion at his place in South Jamaica last week, according to police and the New York Post.

Swarms of police responded to Rishi Gobin's residence near the corner of 170th Street and Liberty Avenue the afternoon of Sept. 12 after the four-year department veteran placed a 911 call claiming he had been attacked during a home invasion, police said.

Gobin, who is assigned to the 42nd Precinct in the Bronx, was taken to Jamaica Hospital, where he was treated for a stab wound to his torso that had not

hit any vital organs, police said. For hours uniformed police officers and detectives scoured the neighborhood searching for clues as a police helicopter buzzed by overhead.

Neighbors said Gobin lived in the home with his wife and children and, as rumors of the alleged attack spread, they said they were surprised to hear something like that would happen.

"I spoke to him every now and then. He seemed to be a nice guy," said Walter Smith, 54, who added that his children play with Gobin's children, but that he only knew the man in passing. "I'm shocked to hear about that."

Investigators, however, could not get a clear account of the alleged attack from Gobin. Police Com-

missioner Ray Kelly visited Gobin in the hospital, but said he could not speak to the officer who was heavily sedated.

A representative for the NYPD later said the department's internal affairs bureau had opened an investigation into the incident.

The New York Post, citing unnamed sources, reported that video surveillance obtained from the scene did not show anyone fleeing Gobin's home and that his wounds were consistent with self-inflicted injury.

The NYPD said the investigation was ongoing.

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

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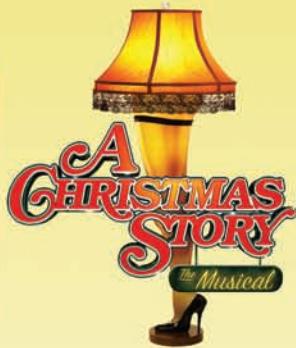
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Crowley thanks EMTs for Glendale flood feat

BY STEVE MOSCO

The City Council honored two Fire Department EMTs last week who put their training into practice when they saved three individuals from drowning during an August flashflood in Glendale.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Middle Village) welcomed the EMTs, Jimmy Guailacela and Marilyn Arroyo, to the Council in Manhattan, where they were recognized for heroism in the face of danger.

"Jimmy Guailacela and Marilyn Arroyo displayed the bravery and selflessness that embodies all of our city's first responders," said Crowley. "I'm proud to recognize their hard work keeping our community safe, especially this week when we remember Sept. 11 and the sacrifice made by so many."

Sister Claudia Bradshaw, Mary Lawrence and Joseph Lawrence were on their way to lunch when a sudden downpour created a flash flood at the Cooper Avenue underpass. According to the councilwoman, the car was quickly covered by 7 feet of water when the EMTs jumped in and pulled all three to safety.

Though heroic to everyone else, the two EMTs said they were merely do-



Heroic EMTs Marilyn Arroyo (l.) and Jimmy Guailacela (r.) receive honors at the City Council.
Photo by William Alatraste

ing their jobs.

"Being an EMT is definitely a calling and I love what I do," said Arroyo. "I'm so thankful we were close enough to make it in time to help and do our jobs."

Guailacela agreed and said being an EMT has changed his life in profound ways.

"It has helped me grow as an individual, which has taught me to provide better care for my patients not only physically, but emotionally too," he said. "I'm proud to be an EMT."

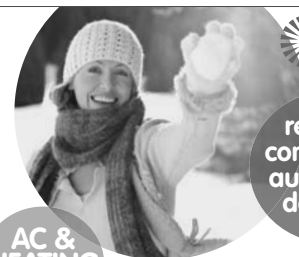
Uniformed EMS Officers President Vincent Variale, Uniformed EMTs and Paramedics President Izzy Miranda as well as Bradshaw, Mary and Joseph Lawrence and other Council members joined the Glendale heroes at the ceremony.

"The quick thinking and profound bravery of Jimmy Guailacela and Marilyn Arroyo prevented a tragedy, and their heroics are evidence that New York City has the greatest EMTs in the world," said Councilman Peter F. Vallone Jr (D-Astoria). "If I am ever in a life or death situation, I will be sure to have them both on speed dial."

The heavy storm, which caused the first of two major flooding incidents in Glendale this summer, showed that the sewer infrastructure in the area is inadequate, Crowley said. The councilwoman recently met with the city Department of Environmental Protection and called for an investigation and infrastructure improvements to Glendale and the surrounding area.

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Boro groups offer theater, crafts for children in Sept.

BY ALICIA TAYLOR-DOMVILLE

For the month of September in Queens, there will be theatrical events that cater to all ages. Celebrating honorable films and gearing up kids to go back to school, these affairs will get many people out of their houses on Saturday evenings.

The Friends of the Library program will host Sept. 29 its semi-annual "Fun Day." This day will include a flea market, crafts for kids and reading in the garden.

The Friends of the Library program was created to support the library, sponsor programs to benefit the community and work with library staff.

"We are trying to make the library the culture center of the community," said Tom Dowd, president of the

Friends of Ridgewood Library.

All proceeds collected from Fun Day will be used to purchase new material for the Queens Library at Ridgewood, at 20-12 Madison St.

To start the school year, The Little Secret Theatre in Long Island City will present its annual season of live children's musicals. Beginning Sept. 8, the feature presentations will include "Pirate Pete's Parrot" by Richard Mazada and "Dotty Dot," based on the books by Ashley Laverly and Travis Kendrick.

The series will run until Dec. 22, alternating between both shows every Saturday.

"Pirate Pete's Parrot" follows a Pirate in search of his unique bird that prefers pancakes as opposed to bird seeds. As Pirate Pete be-

gins his journey, he decides to pick up buried treasure, and along the way Pete encounters many obstacles filled with singing sword fights and audience participation.

"Dotty Dot" is the story of a bossy little girl on an average day. On this particular day, Dotty is reprimanded by her mother for being too bossy and Dotty must learn the true meaning of friendship.

The shows have live actors that engages an audience of all ages. The theater sits 60 people and the musicals on average brings in 40 to 50 people weekly.

"The shows are so comical that the parents can't help but laugh at the jokes themselves," said Alyssa Van Gorder, a representative for The Secret Theatre.



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Racist graffiti in Flushing prompts outcry from pols

BY JOE ANUTA

Lawmakers denounced racist graffiti left on a Flushing storefront that will house the future Mitchell-Linden branch of the Queens Public Library as well as a van parked nearby belonging to a Chinese newspaper and offered a cash reward to try and help find the perpetrator.

"This kind of disgusting display of bigotry has no place in our community," said state Sen. Toby Ann Stavisky (D-Whitestone). "I hope and have confidence that the NYPD and the attorney general's office will investigate this hate crime, arrest the perpetrators and bring them to justice."

The graffiti, consisting of a racial slur directed at Asian Americans, was

written in white paint on the building at 31-32 Union Street.

The epithet was discovered Sunday afternoon and reported to police Monday, when it was also cleaned.

"It is truly frightening to see this kind of racial intolerance in our community of Queens," said state Assemblywoman Grace Meng (D-Flushing). "Queens holds one of the most diverse communities in the country and this kind of behavior should not be tolerated."

The same slur was also written on a van belonging to the World Journal, a national Chinese-language newspaper in the country with offices in Whitestone.

"It is a shame that in this day and age, when New York City is flooded with

diversity, people still hold on to negative feelings towards people who are different," City Councilman Peter Koo (D-Flushing) said. "We must come together to make the city a safe place for everybody and to abolish the outdated racist sentiments that some of our city's residents still hold onto."

The trio of lawmakers are offering \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the crime.

Anyone with information can contact the 109th Precinct.

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

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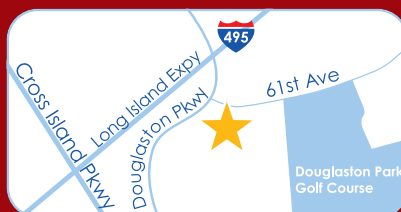
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Speed bump wreaks havoc in Ozone Park



Visible scrapes in the newly paved road where cars have bottomed out are visible just a beyond a speed bump that is not yet lined with white paint.

Photo by Karen Frantz

BY KAREN FRANTZ

it or something."

A speed bump that was recently put in on 93rd Street between 97th and 101st avenues, right by Elizabeth Blackwell Junior High School in Ozone Park, is causing some consternation among residents who live nearby.

Although there are signs on the side of the road clearly cautioning drivers about the bump, the bump itself does not have the painted white stripes that visually separate it from the rest of the road. The bump is also the exact color of the surrounding road, meaning it blends in and is difficult to see.

Residents say the lack of any visual separation means that drivers sail down the road, unaware of the bump until it is too late, when they go flying over it.

"It's dangerous," said Mel Chor, who lives across from the school on 93rd Street. "They need to paint

He said since the bump was put in a few weeks ago, he has frequently heard loud bangs while in his apartment as vehicles hurtle over it and bottom out. He pointed to visible scrapes on the newly paved road about a foot or two after the bump, where the undersides of cars have repeatedly scraped the ground.

He also said that around 7 p.m. last Thursday he went outside to find a car on fire under the hood after going too quickly over the bump.

"You could see the smoke," he said.

He said luckily a trailer truck was passing by and came to the aid of the driver with a fire extinguisher.

"I'm hesitant to park here," he said, pointing at the side of the road near the bump.

He and other residents said the speed bump was put in after the city repaved

the entire street. Before the repaving, there was also a speed bump there, but that one had visually separated, painted white lines.

Another resident who lives nearby, Frank Lantigua, said most people who know the road know to slow down.

The chief of staff of City Councilman Eric Ulrich's (R-Ozone Park) office, Rudy S. Giuliani, the second cousin of former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, said he was aware of the speed bump, which is a couple blocks away from the office.

"I know about it. I've hit it," he said.

He said the city Department of Transportation repainted the rest of the street, but for some reason all they skipped was the speed bump.

A representative with the DOT said it is currently scheduling the street markings to be installed soon.

Calls to the school were not returned.

Mailer

Continued from Page 9

of an impact.

An apology for the mailers was posted on Reyes' campaign website over the weekend.

"Clearly, what our campaign intended to say

in one of our final mailings was not what people heard, and for that the Reyes campaign is deeply sorry," the post said. "The campaign's only goal for that mailing [was] to expose the hypocrisy of flip-flopping, but in the final days of the campaign we rushed a piece to press and should have given our candidate time to

scrutinize it."

Ulrich will now face off against Sen. Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach) in the general election this November. Addabbo has held the 15th District seat since 2008, when he beat the 10-term Republican Sen. Serphin Maltese.

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Pre-owned cars can be a smart financial bet

Many people look to the used-car lots when shopping for vehicles. The allure of a lower price is what drives some consumers to purchase a pre-owned car or truck. Considering many of the used vehicles available are only a few years old, this can be a smart decision.

With the widespread availability of leases, many pre-owned vehicles are lease turn-ins that are only a few years old and in relatively good condition. And because leases limit the amount of mileage that can be put on the vehicle in a given year, chances are a lot of those pre-owned vehicles are also low in mileage.

Used-car pricing almost always will be lower than a vehicle off the lot. This is a big draw to many consumers looking to save money on a vehicle. New cars depreciate as soon as they are driven away from the dealership, so even a vehicle that is only a few months old will cost less than it did brand new.

Buying a pre-owned car at a dealership also may come with a warranty. In order to liquidate their stock of used vehicles, oftentimes dealerships will certify the vehicles are in good condition and offer war-



The next key you turn could be to a reliable pre-owned vehicle.

ties that cover many of the same items one would find with a new vehicle. Certified vehicles can be a safer investment, primarily because the service history and the condition of the car is verifiable. Buying from a private owner may be a riskier purchase.

That doesn't mean that buying a used car from a private owner should be avoided at all costs. Many private sellers are honest individuals and will offer proof documenting the vehicle's maintenance history. There are also car history reports that can be obtained using the VIN number on the vehicle to check to see if it was in any major accidents or had other kinds of damage.

Buying used is also a green investment. While a brand-new hybrid may certainly save on fuel use, the energy needed to produce that new hybrid can be considerable. Purchasing a used car means less demand for a new one to be made.

Another advantage to used vehicles is that insurance premiums may be lower. That's because new cars usually require comprehensive insurance coverage, when a used vehicle may only require the basics.

People looking to save money on a vehicle should consider pre-owned cars as viable options for their next vehicle.

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Selecting a teen driver's first car

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among U.S. teenagers, accounting for more than one in three deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The good news is that, with a sturdy car and some well-ingrained safety lessons, many of these crashes are largely preventable.

Parents of teens are reticent to have their children join the millions of drivers on the nation's roadways. A teen driver can test one's nerves. Once a teenager receives his license, the family will have to reassess its automotive needs or risk fighting over the family car somewhat regularly.

There are certain practices that should be commonplace, even if a teenager is anxious to simply run to the nearest dealership and pick out a car.

One of the first things a parent may think to do is to surround her child in the biggest, bulkiest vehicle possible. If there were an army tank available, parents might consider it. But large trucks and sports utility vehicles have a tendency to rollover. Plus,



Once teenagers get their licenses, it's time to assess the vehicle needs of the family.

a teenager may think that a bigger vehicle means invincibility.

Industry experts agree that there are some tips parents can follow when selecting a teen's first car.

- Shop for pre-owned vehicles. Most families are already feeling the heat of overtaxed budgets. Another car payment could be unaffordable.

Plus, insurance premiums for

a teenage driver could be very expensive, especially if that teen is driving a brand-new car. Shop for a car that is a few years old. Not only will it have plenty of miles still left in it, but also, if an ac-

cident occurs, the repairs likely won't be as expensive as they would if a new car gets dinged up.

- Seek out sedans. Sure, they may not be the ultra-cool sports car or the behemoth sports utility vehicle, but sedans are large enough to effectively protect a driver in an accident and will have plenty of room to carpool friends to movies, sports games and such.

- Make kids bear some of the financial burden. Parents should make their children financially responsible for the car in one way or another. Whether they contribute a few dollars to the monthly bill or are responsible for oil changes and fuel costs, having a financial investment may encourage kids to be more careful with the vehicle.

- Teach defensive driving. A vehicle is only as safe as its driver. Consider defensive-driving courses in addition to the regular driving courses and exams the teen has taken. It will help him learn even more about being safe on the road. Of course, experience through road miles is another way to gain expertise.

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You can take charge of your car buying experience if you do your homework first.

How to save money on a new car purchase

Buying a new car is one of the more expensive purchases a consumer can make. Aside from a home or paying for college, perhaps no purchase requires a bigger financial commitment than a new car.

While purchasing a new car can be intimidating, there are ways buyers can take control of the car-buying process and save money as a result.

- Shop online. Much of the fear associated with buying a new car can be traced to the dealership. Consumers fear being taken advantage of by aggressive salespeople who work on commissions and are motivated by selling the car for the highest price possible. However, shopping online removes that fear and has made it easier for consumers to save when purchasing a new car. Unlike traditional automobile salespeople, Internet department sales staff often earn their bonuses on how many cars they sell, and not how much they sell each car for, which motivates them to get consumers the best price. Shopping online also removes the hassle of visiting the dealership and the often awkward

and uncomfortable back and forth of the negotiating process on the dealer's turf.

- Get preapproved for a loan. Another way to save is to shop around for the best financing deal before shopping for a car. Many people seek preapproval for a loan before shopping for a home, and the same can be done when buying a car. Shopping around enables you to get the best deal, which isn't always the one you'll find should you rely on the dealership to arrange for the financing.

- Negotiate everything. One of the more agitating things about buying a new car is the seemingly endless list of add-on fees that suddenly appear after the buyer and dealer have agreed on a vehicle price. Dealerships often want buyers to think such fees are non-negotiable, but that isn't actually true. Even if the contract has already been drawn up and includes the fees, until you have signed on the dotted line, those fees are negotiable.

- Shop in a buyer's market. Near the end of the year is typically the best time to buy a current model vehicle. Between August and October is a great time to find a

deal, as dealerships are looking to move inventory to make room for next year's models.

Some consumers, however, find it difficult to shop for a car at the end of the year, as the costs associated with the holidays make it tough to afford a new car. If that's the case, consider shopping for a vehicle at the end of the month, when salespeople and dealers might be motivated to sell cars to meet a monthly quota.

- Shop around your current vehicle. If you have a trade-in, don't simply assume you'll get the most money for it via a trade-in. You might earn more money selling it privately, or you can shop the vehicle around to several dealerships as a straight sale. Getting the best price for the vehicle, whether that's through trading it in or selling it privately, can lessen the financial blow of buying a new car.

Buying a car no longer has to be an intimidating process where the consumer is fearful of getting fleeced. Nowadays, there are a variety of ways the consumer can take control of the process and make out financially.

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Suffolk land deal angers train track neighbors

39

NE

BY STEVE MOSCO

A land deal approved by the Suffolk County Legislature expanding a railyard on Long Island will bring terrible repercussions for the people of Queens, elected officials, civic groups and residents of the borough said.

More than 230 acres of public land in Yaphank, L.I., was sold to the operators of the Brookhaven Rail Terminal last Thursday immediately after Glendale and Middle Village residents pleaded their case to Suffolk officials.

Residents and elected officials said the expansion of the terminal would greatly increase the number of garbage trains passing through the Fresh Pond Rail Terminal in Glendale, increasing train traffic and hurting clean air quality.

"The expansion of this rail terminal will prove

chaotic and will be a health hazard to the residents of Glendale," said Anthony Pedalino, who lives near the rail lines in Glendale and deals with the noise and odor on a nightly basis. "The people deserve a little protection. Trains sit there spewing out fumes an hour at a time. This is so inhumane, it's revolting."

The \$20 million deal gives the land to Brookhaven Terminal Operations, which said in a statement it has worked with the community before and will participate in an advisory board.

But that is not good enough for the people of Queens, who believe Suffolk County has not taken the borough's well-being into consideration.

State Sen. Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach) said the already bad situation in Glendale will only get worse with the expansion of the rail terminal on Long Island.



Glendale residents fear more stink trains are on the way after a Suffolk County railyard expanded its operation.

sion of the rail terminal on Long Island.

"What we want is for Suffolk County to understand the ramifications this sale will have on the people of Queens," he said. "Somewhere down the line, it will mean additional waste for us and that is not a good thing."

Addabbo commended the public for taking action and heading out to Suffolk to speak to the Legislature. Without them, he said, the measure would have passed easier and quicker if Queens residents had not put up a stink.

Moving forward, Addabbo said he will examine

legal options to see if the deal may possibly violate the Clean Air Act, a law defining the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's responsibility for protecting and improving the nation's air quality. Addabbo said he has already reached out to U.S. Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) and Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.).

"This might mean better utilization of land for them [Suffolk], but for us it could be a horror," he said. "We can't sit back. We have to get to work on this right now."

For Mary Parisen, co-founder of Civics United for Railroad Environmental Solutions, getting to work means pressing Gov. Andrew Cuomo to push for an upgrade to the state's locomotive system.

"Here they are expanding a rail terminal and we're still using locomotives from the 1970s," she

said. "The fact that we have construction and demolition trains and garbage trains coming through our neighborhoods is unacceptable."

State Assemblyman Mike Miller (D-Woodhaven) said improving the locomotives is a step in the right direction, but the daily and nightly disruption of residents' lives needs to be of utmost concern to all officials involved.

"Improving the locomotives would be a great step, but we must find a way to mitigate the disruption of the people who live near those rails," he said. "We can't keep taking in more and more traffic — Fresh Pond Terminal is only so big."

Reach reporter Steve Mosco by e-mail at smosco@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4546.

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FOCUS ON QUEENS

9/11 MEMORIAL IN JUNIPER VALLEY PARK *Photos by Ken Maldonado*

1 Erik and Mark Stalezer look over the list of names of those who died on 9/11.



2 Emma Kelly, 8, holds a candle during a memorial service held at Juniper Valley Park to remember the fall of the Twin Towers.



3 Julian Suarez (c.) lost her father, Police Officer Ramon Suarez, on 9/11.

CONCERNED AFRICAN AMERICANS OF FLUSHING BREAKFAST *Photos by Christina Santucci*

4 (l.-r.) Diane Rankins, Jerry Forte, Miguelina Roman-Acosta, Sandy Contreras and John Rosario attend the luncheon.



5 John Choe (c.) with Pauline Murray (l.) and Al Rankins, president of Concerned African Americans of Flushing. Choe received the 2012 "Community Leadership" Award.



6 John Choe (l.) with Miguelina Roman-Acosta, an activist in Flushing, and Rankins, who was presented with a commendation.

GREATER JAMAICA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE MEETING *Photos by Walter Karling*

7 James Vaccaro, the director of Security & Quality Control of the Jamaica Alliance Security Team, gives an overview of efforts to make the area safer and shopper-friendly.



9 Discussing the 11th Annual Harvest Festival on Oct. 13, are Joseph Newton, Annette Lopez, William Martin, Jonathan Rodriguez and Melissa Evans.



8 103th Precinct Deputy Inspector Charles McEvoy presents an update on crime statistics.

LGBT OBAMA FUND-RAISER IN JACKSON HEIGHTS *Photos by Christina Santucci*

10 Councilman Daniel Dromm speaks about attending the recent Democratic National Convention during the Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of Queens' fund-raiser.



12 Victoria Steinberg, the neighborhood team leader for Jackson Heights, addresses the crowd.



11 Michael Goldman of Hollis Hills signs up to ride a bus to Pennsylvania to campaign for President Barack Obama.

CB 1 votes 25-7 against Newtown Avenue plaza

BY REBECCA HENELY

While the visitors to Community Board 1 heard passionate arguments for and against a proposal to close part of Newtown Avenue near 30th Avenue and 33rd Street to create a plaza, the board voted overwhelmingly against the plan.

The city Department of Transportation had presented two plans for slowing traffic at the intersection, the site of 49 crashes between 2006 and 2010. One of the plans involved installing a 4,700-square-foot pedestrian plaza on Newtown Avenue near the intersection, which would cost \$75,000 but get rid of four or more parking spaces.

An alternate plan would extend the curbs on both sides of Newtown Avenue near 30th Avenue and on the southwest side of the intersection of 30th Avenue and 33rd Street for \$400,000.



Community Board 1 voted not to turn Newtown Avenue near 30th Avenue and 33rd Street into a pedestrian plaza.

After a contentious debate among residents and business owners who filled one of the rooms at Astoria World Manor, at 25-22 Astoria Blvd., CB 1 voted 25-7 against the plaza.

The mere seven votes

for the plaza prompted shouts of "Shameful! Shameful!" from pro-plaza visitors while the 25 votes against received applause from those against it.

"This street closure and loss of parking places

will not only eliminate easy access to the front of our store, but threaten our economic viability," said Tom Anderson, who spoke on behalf of the Key Food supermarket at the intersection.

The decision was a disappointment to residents who had wanted an open space and what the DOT had said would be the plan that would lead to fewer accidents at the complicated five-way crossroads.

"I walk down this intersection every day and I can't tell you how many times I've almost been hit," said resident Alex Barclay.

Residents and business owners had argued that taking away so many parking spots would have an economic impact on the stores in the neighborhood and closing the streets would increase congestion. Some argued that sanitation trucks would not be able to navigate 32nd Street if they could not use Newtown Avenue.

A representative from Mt. Sinai Queens Hospital also worried that the clinic the hospital is planning to open, at 31-19 Newtown Ave., would limit patient

access.

"Our concern at this point is we may not have all the facts," said Brad Beckstrom, of Mt. Sinai.

Others contended the neighborhood already had the resources the plaza offers.

"I've been a resident of Astoria all my life," said Yiannis Strovmbakis, of Alma Bank. "There's plenty of parks people can go to and plenty of cafés."

But advocates argued that sidewalk cafés were not an appropriate resting place for young children.

"It is more important to have a place where children can play than a dangerous intersection where their lives are at risk," said resident Michael Hicks.

Queens DOT Commissioner Maura McCarthy said some members of CB 1 approached her to do the plaza as a pilot project, but otherwise the curbs would be extended.

Divorce Caribbean Style

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

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

According to Alan Alford,

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

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

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

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*Healthgrades 2012 Trends in Women's Health in American Hospitals

GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

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Living, breathing Astoria decor

Astoria resident Liza Fiorentinos has turned her entrepreneurial spirit into an art form with her flowering frames. Photo by Anastassios Mentis

Innovative frame designer brings life to living spaces around the world

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

Everyone needs more green in their lives.

A growing Astoria-based business — Luludi Living Frames — is all about “bringing nature indoors as art and framing it,” said owner and designer Liza Fiorentinos, 51, a Greek American who decided to bid farewell to her corporate life and a profitable career so she could jump-start her new creative venture.

With her studio in the same building where she and husband, Evangelos, live, the artist says it makes it easy to work long hours.

“‘Luludi’ means flower in Greek, and the fun spelling was a friend’s suggestion,” said Fioren-

tinos, whose once-stifled entrepreneurial spirit blossomed and flourished like her amazing living frames.

The Feng Shui connection

According to the Chinese philosophy of Feng Shui, plants symbolize growth and vibrant life, purifying the air while emitting positive energy that contributes to the good flow of chi (energy) in your home — crucial for maintaining health, general well-being and sound relationships.

The correct placement of furniture and use of indoor plants — or green living frames — can turn your personal space into an inviting and serene haven, sprucing up even the dullest, chi-

deprived digs.

As integral elements of Luludi Living Frames, indoor plants and greenery are combined with decorative objects and may be enjoyed as lush wall accents or unique displays. Adding a warm glow to the mix with LED lighting, each colorful creation promises to enhance the ambience in any room.

“Plants are also incredible as good mood boosters — all the while inspiring creativity and awe,” says Fiorentinos.

And each frame is named after a special person: “The Maria frame after my mother; the

Continued on Page 45

'Ella' musical brings jazz spirit back to Queens

BY ARLENE MCKANIC

How many people know that Queens, starting in the 1920s, was once home to a colony of jazz greats? Many of them had sumptuous homes within a few blocks of each other in Addesleigh Park, although Louis Armstrong was famous for living in Corona. Among the denizens of Ad-desleigh Park back then was Ella Fitzgerald, and a new musical about her, called simply "Ella," will premier at the Queens Theatre on Sept. 27.

Ray Cullom, executive director of the Queens Theatre, produced the show about a year ago in New Haven. After success in Los Angeles, Washington D.C. and other places, he is now bringing it to Queens.

"It did unbelievably well," he says. "Tina Fabrique, who plays Ella, is so transcendently good that



Tina Fabrique plays Ella Fitzgerald in Queens Theatre's new musical, "Ella," showing through Oct. 7.
Image courtesy Queens Theatre

the audience thought she was Ella Fitzgerald. It's a great way to bring that American songbook to a new generation of people."

The play, directed by Rob Ruggerio, gives audience members a new insight into Fitzgerald, Cullom says.

"She was a private per-

son, a complex person," he says.

The musical takes place in Nice, France, when Fitzgerald learns that her sister has died. A further complication is that her sister was raising a boy, who did not know that Ella was in fact his mother. All of a sudden, the boy was mother-

less. It was, Cullom says, one of the few times that Ella showed something of her emotions during a concert.

"Also, along the way you learn how no one would give her a chance," Cullom claims, "because she wasn't beautiful. She was a plain girl. But in 1934 she got her chance when the headliners

didn't show up. That's when it started, and it didn't stop till 50 years later."

Cullom first saw Fabrique during a production of "The Women of Brewster Place" at the Arena Stage in Washington D.C. "The thing about her playing Ella is she doesn't sound like Ella, but captures the way Ella interprets a song. She really captures Ella better than someone who tries to sound like her. It's not a revue, not a concert, but a play."

Fabrique is backed by a five-piece band during the two-hour show. The band not only provides music, but the band members play different people. The trumpeter, for example, plays Louis Armstrong at one point. "The players step into the shoes of some jazz greats," Cullom says.

Happily, the musical doesn't just deal with a particular drama in Fitzgerald's life, but goes through

her whole songbook, from "A Tisket, A Tasket," "They Can't Take That Away From Me," and other beloved hits.

"Her career took precedence," Cullom says. "She didn't let anything get in the way, not family, not her husbands, not children. I think if she looked back on it she might be a little melancholy, but I don't think she would have done it any other way."

A pre-show dinner and reception will be held on Sept. 28 with dinner and cocktails at 6 p.m. before the 7:30 p.m. showing. A cast meet-and-greet will follow.

"Ella" will be at the Queens Theatre till Oct. 7.

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Easy #30

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

Hard #30

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

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

Tips at www.sudoku.com
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Continued from Page 43

Aphrodite after my niece and godchild. They come in eight chic colors and at least 20 different shapes.”

Just as Feng Shui directs energy to achieve harmony, the career gal finally found balance in her life doing what she loved best. Working 24/7 to make her dream a reality was energizing. “I had never worked so hard in my life and yet I was never tired,” she says. She launched www.luludi.net on Oct. 18, 2011.

The back story

“I was raised in Africa, thanks to a Greek father who had wanderlust and a Greek mother who obliged. We handcrafted jewelry and hair combs, renting spaces at festivals,” Fiorentinos says.

At 20, she returned to New York to attend college, but got a great job in advertising, working her way up the ranks at different com-

panies, becoming a vice president at 27 and burning out in her early 30s.

At that time, Turner Broadcasting offered her an opportunity to join its CNN office in Paris and she spent 13 wonderful years there. But the frustrated artisan felt her heart was still an entrepreneurial one, so she quit her job and in 2010 moved back to New York to be with her beau and start anew.

“All my life I dreamed of owning my own business,” she says.

She created cardboard frames, filled them with plastic flowers and tea-lights, took photos and sent them to friends — they loved them. She commissioned several prototypes and met people in the flower, interior decorating and design worlds. Luludi Living Frames was born.

“Manufactured in Astoria out of medium-density fiberboard, then painted in a spray booth for a smooth and sleek finish, the colors are very bright and fun, but I do carry the classic black



Luludi Living Frames can be customized to accent any interior space.

Photo by Anastassios Mentis

and whites,” says the artist. The packaging is luxurious, with the frame arriving in a soft flannel bag and tons of lavender tissue paper. “We include a seed-card as our thank you. When planted, the card grows wild flowers. Customers love it and it’s the most memorable gift they have ever received, as it keeps on growing.”

Fiorentinos recently launched a cart at Roosevelt Field Mall in Garden City,

L.I. to jump-start the retail market.

Her fabulous emerald moss purses, with live colorful plants in them are a hit. Joining the lineup are themed glass terrariums, which are mini living worlds whose small size makes them perfect for desks, bedrooms and kitchens. The most popular — horoscope terrariums — have the zodiac stone featured for each month. “It’s

really good Feng Shui to have your zodiac stone in your space,” says Fiorentinos.

Clients also love the crystal terrariums made of citrine, amethyst, moonstone and agate, each with different healing properties.

Children’s frames can be constructed using two lovely hand-painted young people’s books as the living frames, or a kiddie terrar-

ium line with colorful fairies, warriors and sea creatures in the glass — with air plants and pebbles.

“Our new line, soon available at the mall and online, includes glass hearts and tear drop terrariums that come with beautifully hued sands and pebbles, and a variety of air plants and cacti.”

Gift ideas

For Halloween there are orange and black sand terrariums, featuring fun, scary creatures accompanying the plants in glass terrariums.

“For the holidays, we’re premiering our moss balls with holiday decorations, and Christmas balls with plants inside for the tree; even rattan reindeer shapes that hold plants.

“Inspiration is everywhere,” says Fiorentinos. “Ideas pop into my mind like millions of air bubbles, and I get frustrated at not being able to chase every one up.”

Call 1-888-9-luludi or email info@luludi.net.



KC and the Sunshine Band performed on the upper level of Resorts World Casino in Jamaica on Sept. 8, electrifying the crowd with 14 of their hits including “Shake Your Booty,” “I’m Your Boogie Man,” “That’s the Way I Like It,” and, as an encore, “Get Down Tonight.”

Photo by Norm Harris

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KIDS & FAMILY

The Fall Mamas Expo – As Queens becomes one of the fastest-growing hotspots for New York City families, the Museum is pleased to team up with The Mamas Network to present a weekend devoted to parenting resources and family fun. From finding new local classes and schools to learning about the best innovative products and retail stores, parents will receive an exclusive look at the newest resources available to them.
When: Sept. 22 and Sept. 23
Where: Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 777-6888
Website: movingimage.us

Jamaica Bay Sunset Cruise – Enjoy a ranger-led ecology tour of Jamaica Bay. Amazing stories of the military defense of New York, get the latest updates on habitat restoration, and maybe see the fastest animal on the planet! The grand finale: A breathtaking Jamaica Bay sunset. RSVP.
When: September 23, 5:30-7:30 pm
Where: Gateway National Recreation Area, Jacob Riis Landing, State Road and Heinzelman Road, Breezy Point
Contact: (718) 418-4340; colleen_sorbera@nps.gov

EVENTS

Śri Ganesha Chaturthi – Thousands of our worshipers will accompany the chariot and will be joyously dancing to the tunes of music and drums. I hope you can participate in the procession and be a part of this grand celebration.
When: Through Sept. 23
Where: The Hindu Temple Society of North America, NY, 45-57 Bowne St., Flushing
Contact: (718) 460-8484

Devil Science Theater 3K – Cult Films + Alcohol + Comedians = Devil Science Theater 3000, a late night cult film screening where the audience is encouraged to add their own commentary - and a crew of comedians will be on hand to help them along.
When: Thursdays through Sept. 27, 10:30 pm
Where: Laughing Devil Comedy Club, 47-38 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City
Contact: (347) 91-DEVIL
Website: www.laughingdevil.com

Oktoberfest in the Garden – The festival honors the German-American heritage of the Voelker and Orth families who made Flushing their home for three generations.
When: September 29, 5:30 pm
Where: Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing
Contact: (718) 359-6227
Website: www.vomuseum.org

Autumn Moon festival – Celebrate the ancient holiday of bounty, harvest and the fullness of the moon and learn all about the myth of the immortal moon Goddess. Bring picnic blankets and summer chairs; enjoy moon cakes, arts, crafts and activities.
When: September 30, 4-6 pm
Where: Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main Street, Flushing
Contact: (718) 539-5296
Website: www.queensbotanical.org

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

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

GALLERIES & EXHIBITS

Emerging Artist Fellowship Exhibition – Each year, Socrates Sculpture Park selects artists to produce outdoor artworks within the Park. Reflective of our time, these artists are making public sculptures that are subtly mysterious, visually compelling, and, at times, provocative.
When: Through March 31, 2013
Where: Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Astoria

Contact: (718) 956-1819
Website: socratessculpturepark.org

The Legacy: A Retrospective – H.A. Sigg's elegant abstract paintings engage in a mysterious and mystical dialogue between the forces of nature and his inner meditations.
When: Through Oct. 26
Where: Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 997-5000

Godwin-Ternbach Museum Re-opening Exhibit – The Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College will re-open with a special retrospective of nearly 40 paintings and collages by the important Swiss abstract artist H.A. Sigg. This occasion will also mark the unveiling of the museum's new lobby gallery, where rotating displays from its permanent collection will be on view year-round.
When: Through Oct. 26
Where: Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/godwin_ternbach

Trifects (x3)|Curators' Choice – Celebrate the silver anniversary of the art center.
When: Through Oct. 26
Where: Queens College Arts Center, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 997-3770
Website: qc.cuny.edu/Art_Library/artcenter.html

A Disagreeable Object – This exhibition brings together a group of international artists who similarly posit the object in relation to capitalist culture and technology, as well as the gendered oppositions between interior and exterior space.
When: Through Nov. 26
Where: SculptureCenter, 44-19 Purves St., Long Island City
Contact: (718) 361-1750; sculpture-center.org

The Artist Within: The Urge to Create – A diverse collection of art pieces from the Jamaica Estates Association. The exhibit will include sculpture, textile art, painters, photographers and various digital and multi-media art.
When: Through Sept. 30
Where: Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main Street, Flushing
Contact: (718) 539-5296
Website: www.queensbotanical.org

Folly – Socrates Sculpture Park and The Architectural League are pleased to present Folly, a new residency and commission for emerging architects and

designers to produce and exhibit a full-scale project at Socrates Sculpture Park. Socrates, in partnership with the League, established the residency to explore the intersections between architecture and sculpture and the increasing overlaps in references, materials, and fabrication techniques between the two disciplines.
When: Through Oct. 21
Where: Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Astoria
Contact: (718) 956-1819
Website: socratessculpturepark.org

Ada Bobnis: Stages, Mountains, Water – Site-specific installation that transforms the museum's second-floor into a Caribbean landscape. Geometric compositions in hues of blue and green are either painted on the wall or adhered to the glass railing façade in the form of translucent color film. The work is inspired by the Panama Canal, one of the most transformative world events in the 19th century.
When: Through Jan. 6, 2013
Where: Queens Museum of Art, New York City Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Corona
Contact: (718) 592-9700
Website: queensmuseum.org

Caribbean: Crossroads of the World – A first-time collaborating with El Museo del Barrio to highlight over two centuries of rarely seen works from the Haitian Revolution (1804) to the present. The show features some 400 works including painting, sculpture, prints, books, photography, film, video and historic artifacts from Caribbean nations, Europe and the United States.
When: Through Jan. 6, 2013
Where: Queens Museum of Art, New York City Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Corona
Contact: (718) 592-9700
Website: queensmuseum.org

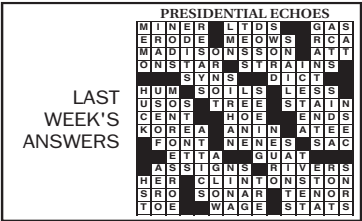
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers

 Sep. 13-19, 2012

By Pete Canty

 Rhyming Phrases



Across

- 1 Type of lift

 4 "1984" setting

 11 Cleopatra biter

 14 Bard's nightfall

 15 Courageous, as an effort

 16 Saturn, for one

 17 Treat to a nice dinner

 19 ____ Maria

 20 Land of leprechauns

 21 Snaky swimmers

 22 Like some columns

 23 Ballerinas

 26 Former First-Lady first name

 27 Take the path of least resistance

- 31 Gun, as an engine

 32 Saudi, e.g.

 33 Pro's counterpart

 34 Get older

 36 Industrial city of Germany

 38 _____ Perignon

 39 Bar order

 40 Race pace

 41 "Thar ____ blows!"

 43 Completely relaxed

 47 Clunker of a car

 48 Strike callers

 51 Pizzeria fixture

 52 Guitarist Hendrix

 55 Hindu princess

 56 Type of suit

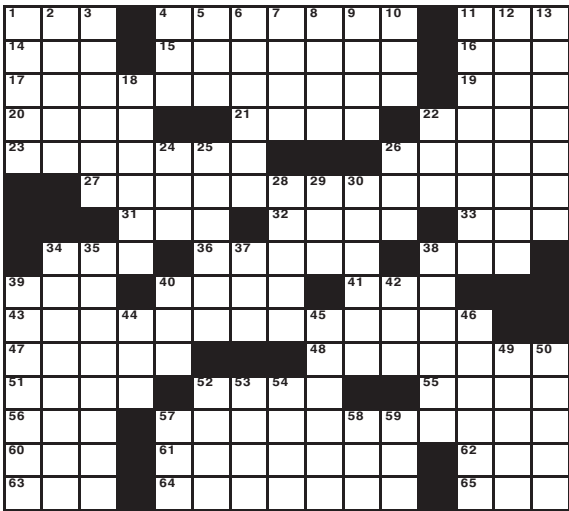
 57 Goal of a tropical vacation

 60 Be mistaken

 61 Hazy, as details

 62 Work unit

 63 Break preceder



- 64 Prepares leftovers, say

 65 ____ judicata

Down

- 1 Put in stitches

 2 Actress Knightley

 3 Cricket division

 4 Lab eggs

 5 Fire

 6 First-born

 7 Campaign worker

 8 Screw alternative

 9 Lodges

 10 Had a meal

 11 Mexico diving locale

 12 "Don't forget about dessert"

 13 Early morning hour

 18 "More!"

 22 Blockhead

 24 Lamb's mother

 25 Long-time Yankee closer

 26 Isr. neighbor

- 28 "____ luego!"

 29 Due follower

 30 Horse-drawn cab

 34 Burn treatment

 35 Math course

 37 "Send help!"

 38 Want

 39 Not against the rules

 40 Bowling pin quantity

 42 Hip-_____

 44 Prince, to a king

 45 Kind of pig

 46 Chalkboard item

 49 Accustom (to)

 50 Performs the National Anthem

 52 Father's Day month

 53 Ruler unit

 54 Odometer unit

 57 Lab's coat?

 58 Body art, slangily

 59 Many mins.

Fall Pilates Program — A series of premier Pilates classes instructed by Robin Budnetz, who was trained by Joseph Pilates himself. The classes are designed to strengthen the core while developing overall flexibility. Beginners sessions, intermediate/advanced and sessions for teachers after school are available. Call to register.

When: Mondays, 12:30 pm and 7 pm, Tuesdays, 7 pm, Thursdays, 10:05 am, 11:10 am and 4:10 pm, through Thursday, Dec. 20
Where: Central Queens YM & YWHA, 67-09 108th St., between 67th Avenue, Forest Hills
Contact: (718) 268-5011 ext. 504
Website: www.centralqueensy.org

FILM

Aliens, Gadgets and Guns: Designing the World of 'Men in Black 3' — Rick Baker, master special effects makeup artist, created the alien creatures for the Men in Black movies. His extraterrestrial creations and objects will be on display. Exclusive footage of Baker creating the creatures will be featured in the exhibit.
When: Through Sept. 23
Where: Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 777-6888
Website: movingimage.us

We Tripped El Hadji Diouf: The Story of a Photoshop Thread — An exploration of a Photoshop alteration that went viral. Footage of Senegalese soccer player El Hadji Diouf tripping during a match was edited by T. Finn, a member of comedy site Something Awful, and quickly took many hilarious forms. Curated by Jason Eppink, assistant curator of digital media.
When: Through Sept. 23
Where: Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 777-6888
Website: movingimage.us

See It Big! — Classic and contemporary films the way they were meant to be seen: on the big screen. Despite the increasing portability and decreasing size of consumer media, the museum remains committed to showing films

in the best available versions, whether it is a pristine digital restoration of "2001: A Space Odyssey" or a rare Technicolor 35mm print of "Vertigo." In the Museum's state-of-the-art theater, audiences are treated to a visually and aurally immersive experience like no other. RSVP.

When: Through Sept. 28
Where: Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 777-6888
Website: movingimage.us

Film After Film: Or, What Became of 21st Century Cinema? — In his new book Film After Film: Or, What Became of 21st Century Cinema? (2012, Verso), critic J. Hoberman suggests that the advent of digital technology has led to the displacement of the medium of film—and the very relationship between movies and reality. In conjunction with the publication of this new collection, Museum of the Moving Image will present Film After Film, an exhibition and screening series inspired by the book.
When: Through Oct. 8
Where: Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 777-6888
Website: movingimage.us

Representing South Asia on Film — A series of screenings and programs.
When: Through April 25, 2013
Where: Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Website: qcpages.qc.cuny.edu/godwin_ternbach

DANCE

Free Line Dance Lessons — Free line dance lessons given by professional dance instructor, Bernardo, every Monday.
When: Mondays, 1 pm
Cost: Free
Where: Pomonok Senior Center, 67-09 Kissena Boulevard, Flushing
Contact: Jennifer Buljan (718) 591-3377

POETRY

Poetry workshop — Budding poets perfect the craft with Bob Trabold and Amanda Konstantine Perlmutter.
When: Mondays, Through Nov. 26, 7:30 pm
Where: Barnes & Noble, 176-60 Union Tpke., Fresh Meadows
Contact: (718) 380-7077
Heritage Sunday — A sacred

experience, invoking the liberating and resurrecting power of Pan African Theology Master Teachers.
When: Sundays
Where: Afrikan Poetry Theatre, 176-03 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica
Contact: (718) 523-3312
Website: afrikanpoetrytheatre.org

Poetry workshop — Budding poets perfect the craft with Bob Trabold and Amanda Konstantine Perlmutter.
When: Mondays, 7:30 pm
Where: Barnes & Noble, 176-60 Union TPKE., Fresh Meadows
Contact: (718) 380-7077

Poetry Group
When: Wednesdays, 1 pm
Where: Queens Community House, 80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Suite 022, Kew Gardens
Contact: (718) 268-5960

Early Poet Special, MAD Hour, Performances, and more — A performance blend of poetry and music for the multi-talented. The microphone will be open to the public. Sign-up is required.
When: Thursdays, 6 pm
Cost: \$10; early poet special before 6:30 p.m. \$8; student \$6
Where: Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, 153 St. and Jamaica Ave., Jamaica
Contact: (718) 658-7400 ext. 152;
Website: jcal.org ormyspace.com/gimmeseries

First Tuesdays — Open to all who have a passion for poetry. Organized by the Jackson Heights Poetry Festival
When: First Tuesdays of the month
Cost: \$5
Where: Terraza Cafe, 40-19 Gleane St., Jackson Heights
Website: jhpfest.org/v2/readings.php

Open Mic Night
When: Last Friday of every other month. Doors open at 9 pm
Where: The Afrikan Poetry Theatre, Inc., 176-03 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica
Cost: \$10
Contact: (718) 523-3312

Poet Society — The Forest Hills senior center presents.
When: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 10:30 am to 11:30 am
Where: 108-25 62nd Drive, Forest Hills
Contact: (718) 699-1010

THEATER CALENDAR

Hot Box — Conceived, directed, choreographed and performed by Chocolate Factory Artistic Director Brian Rogers, the performance will create a violent and chaotic situation with noise, fog, sweat and drinks.
When: Through Sept. 21 8pm
Where: The Chocolate Factory, 5-49 49th Ave.
Cost: \$15
Contact: (718) 482-7069
Website: chocolatefactorytheater.org

Murder at the High School Reunion — A comedy murder mystery dinner show.
When: Sept. 27, 8 pm
Where: Riccardo's, 21-01 24th Ave., Astoria
Contact: (718) 721-7777
Website: www.riccardos.com

Ella — The music of Ella Fitzgerald.
When: Sept. 28, 6 pm
Where: Queens Theatre, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Corona
Contact: Box Office (718) 760-0064; Administration (718)

760-0686
Website: www.queenstheatre.org

Behead the Playwright — When the actors revolt who saves the playwright? Should he be beheaded or should the actors be on trial? What's the verdict and why the revolt? Ticket sales go to the Children's Developmental Center. Call for advance tickets.
When: Sept. 28-29, 8 pm; Sept. 30, 2 pm
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.
Cost: \$15
Contact: (718) 358-3341

Antimatter Collective presents Motherboard — Written by Adam Scott Mazer. Dir. Will Fulton. A post-apocalyptic sci-fi tragicomedy set in 2465, 20 years after a robot uprising was barely quashed. Humans live in an aggressively anti-tehnological society, relegated to scavenging

the wasteland. Into this awakes C-12, a remnant nannybot, who must traverse the desertion in search of purpose in a world without machines.
When: Sept. 28 to Sunday, Oct. 14, Thursdays - Saturdays 8 pm and Sundays 3 pm
Where: The Secret Theatre, 44-02 23rd St., Long Island City
Contact: (718) 392-0722
Website: secrettheatre.com

MEETINGS

North Shore Playwrights Circle Meeting — Formerly known as the Playwrights Circle of Great Neck, this open group features discussion, workshoping and writing exercises for playwrights in Queens and Nassau counties.
When: Every other Wednesday, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Where: Atria, 96 Cutter Mill Road, Great Neck
Contact: Muriel, (718) 225-7382

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--	---	--	--

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

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Officials, QEDC celebrate opening of Corona Plaza

BY REBECCA HENELY

Pedestrian plazas have been the subject of contentious debate in neighborhoods throughout the borough, but Corona has embraced its new public space near the 103rd Street subway station.

Amid visitors sitting at the seats and tables, the Queens Economic Development Corp. thanked its many supporters and advocates last Thursday in Corona Plaza, which became part of the city Department of Transportation's pedestrian plaza program a few weeks ago.

"It's a beautiful space," said Queens DOT Commissioner Maura McCarthy. "I hope everyone can enjoy it for a very long time."

Ricardi Calixte, director of neighborhood economic development of the

QEDC, said the corporation had been interested in turning the parking spaces commonly frequented by trucks into a pedestrian plaza since the DOT announced its program in 2009. While the QEDC was initially not able to manage this due to funding issues, it secured multiple partners and was able to open.

"So far the feedback from the people has been overwhelmingly positive," Calixte said.

One of the principal partners was former Borough President Claire Shulman, now president of the Flushing Willets Point Corona Development Corp. Calixte said Shulman helped connect QEDC with private funding through New York Community Bank and its foundation. The bank has a location within walking distance of

the new open space.

"This plaza should add some beauty and opportunity to the people of this area," Shulman said.

City Councilwoman Julissa Ferreras (D-East Elmhurst) also encouraged the project and provided \$10,000 in funding toward the plaza. She described the plaza before as like "the Wild Wild West." She said this had transformed a place that was once just a parking lot.

"This is really the anchor for us to improve the rest of Roosevelt Avenue," she said.

She said as soon as the plaza was installed, however, people asked her if they were really allowed to sit there.

"Absolutely," she said. "This is yours. This is your space."



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Teams clean Astoria Park shoreline

BY RICH BOCKMANN

You never know what you will find on the shores of Astoria Park.

“We’ve found bullets, passports. One time we found a whole refrigerator,” said Antonio Meloni, who for several years has organized volunteers to tidy up the park on International Coastal Clean-up Day.

Saturday marked the eighth annual clean up of the East River shoreline — a team effort by Green Shores NYC, the Astoria Park Alliance and the Anti-Crime Agency.

“The great thing about it is you get these groups with diverse interests that come and really work together well for a cleaner, safer area,” said Meloni, director of the Anti-Crime Agency.

In past years, the volunteers have filled more than 100 trash bags, which the city Parks Department comes by and picks up. For larger items, such as the abandoned refrigerator or the car bumper found one year, a recycling company is called in to make the haul.

There was a strong wind sweeping along the river Saturday morning, so the group played it safe and did not venture too close to the water, that did not mean the volunteers did not get the full experience.

“There’s plenty to clean, so don’t feel as though you’re being cheated,” Katy Ellman told the 25 or so intrepid volunteers as they carefully climbed a ladder down the seawall to the rocky shore, where they found — among the cans and bottles — a huge



Volunteers climb a ladder down the seawall to clean the shore at Astoria Park.

Photo by Rich Bockmann

piece of Styrofoam that stood taller than some park stewards.

David Ragonetti, a 26-year-old member of Fordham University’s environmental law advocates group, found a perfectly good, unused coconut among the rubbish.

“It’s borderline the most unexpected things down here,” he opined.

Meloni, who also organizes cleanups of Newtown Creek and Bowery Bay, said Astoria Park is unique in that it is one of the few places with access to the shore. He said the annual event was started when parkgoers noticed just how dirty the shore was, pointing out that over the years

recycling has had a positive impact on the environment.

“There used to be tons of glass bottles. You don’t see anywhere near the amount you used to see,” he said.

Before they headed down to the shoreline to perform their community service, the volunteers laid a wreath at the park’s Veterans’ Memorial to honor those who died on 9/11.

“A lot of the people who were killed were performing service,” said Meloni. “It’s a little something we can do to show kids who may not realize what 9/11 means.”

Volunteer ambulance service seeks new members

The Glen Oaks Volunteer Ambulance Corps is looking for members of the Glen Oaks; Floral Park; Bellerose; Oakland Gardens; New Hyde Park, L.I.; and North Shore Towers communities to join its volunteer team.

It will provide the necessary training and participants will have access to opportunities for further training and participation.

If you are over 14 and want to help your

community, please call 718-347-1637 or visit the corps headquarters at 257-02 Union Tnpk. in Floral Park, across from the Glen Oaks Shopping Center.

Members are available after 7 p.m. Sunday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Saturday for inquiries and to provide membership applications.

NOTICE OF DISTRICTING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARINGS FROM OCTOBER 2, 2012 TO OCTOBER 11, 2012

The NYC Districting Commission will hold five public hearings from October 2, 2012 to October 11, 2012. These hearings are open to the public. Individuals wishing to pre-register for speaking time or to submit written testimony in advance may do so by signing up online at <http://www.nyc.gov/districting>. Individuals wishing to speak at any hearing will be provided up to three minutes of speaking time.

BRONX Tuesday, October 2 nd 5:30PM – 9:00PM	Bronx Community College 2155 University Avenue Bronx, NY 10453
MANHATTAN Thursday, October 4 th 5:30PM – 9:00PM	Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture 515 Malcolm X Boulevard New York, NY 10037
STATEN ISLAND Tuesday, October 9 th 5:30PM – 9:00PM	New Dorp High School 465 New Dorp Lane Staten Island, NY 10306
QUEENS Wednesday, October 10 th 5:30PM – 9:00PM	LaGuardia Community College Little Theater 31-10 Thomson Avenue Long Island City, NY 11101
BROOKLYN Thursday, October 11 th 5:30PM – 9:00PM	Medgar Evers College Founders’ Auditorium 1650 Bedford Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11225

Prior to the hearings, you may submit written comments to the NYC Districting Commission by mail to: NYC Districting Commission, Attn: Jonathan Ettricks, 253 Broadway, 7th Fl., NY, NY 10007, or by email to: hearings@districting.nyc.gov on or before 5:00 P.M. on the date of the hearing. Please indicate in your correspondence the date of the hearing for which you are submitting your comments.

NOTE: The hearing locations are accessible to those with physical disabilities. Individuals requesting an interpreter for sign language or any other language at any hearing should contact the NYC Districting Commission at hearings@districting.nyc.gov or by calling 212-442-0256 five days in advance of the hearing, and reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate such requests.

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Sickle Cell walk

The Queens Sickle Cell Advocacy Network held its annual walk in southeast Queens to raise awareness and funds for sickle cell research. (Clockwise from top l.) Vanessa Hobson holds her grandson Tyler Joseph, who was diagnosed with sickle cell at the age of three months; organizers are joined on stage by several participants who suffer from sickle cell; Natalie Bezout (c.) speaks about her experience with the disease, saying that adults are often depicted as drug addicts; Aniyah Dunn peeks out of the bouncy castle; Gloria Rochester, OSCAN founder, organized the walk from York College to Roy Wilkins Park; and Dr. Reginald Hughes from Jamaica Hospital brought his son, Mansour.

Photo by Christina Santucci



McManus 9/11 event remembers the fallen



Dozens of people hold lit candles during a memorial in Astoria Heights for those killed on 9/11.

Photo by Rebecca Henely

BY REBECCA HENELY

Organizers and visitors to the annual 9/11 memorial ceremony at McManus Memorial Park in Astoria Heights last week were heartened that the 150-strong crowd was still present 11 years after the tragedy.

"We're very pleased that the community comes out," said Rosemarie Povetero, president of the United Community Civic Association.

The civic holds the ceremony at the park, at the northwest side of 81st street and the Grand Central Parkway service road, in conjunction with the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. As visitors held candles, the speakers entreated the community to remember the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center that killed thousands and remain vigilant in the face of potential new threats.

"We are not just saying we won't forget," said City Council Speaker Christine Quinn (D-Manhattan). "We are showing it and proving it."

The Sept. 12 vigil included speeches from government officials and law enforcement and religious leaders as well as relatives of the victims. Jackson Heights resident John Cartier, of the American Brotherhood Motorcycle Club, spoke on behalf of his brother, James Cartier, who died in the South Tower.

Kathleen Santora, whose brother Christopher Santora, of Engine 54/Ladder 4, who at 23 was the youngest firefighter to die in the wake of the attack, said this time of year is always difficult for the families and that it was hard to believe 11 years had gone by.

She spoke of her brother not only as a hero, but as a friend who she misses every day.

"We must not forget the victims are not just victims," Kathleen Santora said. "They're our family."

Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. (D-Astoria) drew a connection between the Sept. 11 attacks and the murder of four Americans in Benghazi, Libya, including U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens, which happened

on the 11th anniversary. He commended the military and law enforcement for their hard work in stopping terrorism.

"They are planning to attack us as we sit here in Queens," Vallone said, "and the only thing that stands between them and us is the NYPD."

Deputy Inspector Stephen Cirabisi, commander of the 114th Precinct, mentioned in his speech those who had died after getting sick cleaning up the pile at Ground Zero.

"There's still so many people who are paying the price of 11 years ago," Cirabisi said.

Others spoke of remembering the Sept. 11 attacks for future generations. State Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas (D-Astoria) said with the birth of her new daughter, Eleni Evangelina Katsanos, in August, it was her responsibility to teach her daughter about what happened and how the country banded together in the wake of it.

"I can't tell you how proud I am to see that this park is always filled," Simotas said.

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Business

Asian fast-food chain opens boro store front

Flushing now home to first Sarku Japan, which sells fresher and healthier fare, outside of a mall

BY KAREN FRANTZ

A new fast-food option is available in Flushing that offers quick, made-to-order food without a lot of the unhealthy trappings usually associated with such fast fare: Sarku Japan.

With menu items such as chicken, beef and shrimp teriyaki — as well as other Japanese staples such as sushi, dumplings and spring rolls — the store's manager, Janet Xie, said customers like the food because it tastes fresh. And she said it also does not hurt that it is a bit better for you than some other fast-food options.

"It's low calorie compared with other fast-food — McDonald's, Wendy's," she said. "And I think more healthy, too."

She said the store receives daily shipments and the food is made fresh every day. What is not used is thrown out or given to employees to take home at the end of the day.

In addition, unlike Chinese fast-food, little of Japanese is deep-fried, she said.

"Here the only thing is the tempura is deep fried," she said. "And others like chicken teriyaki we just put on the grill."

She said the fried rice is also made without meat, unlike the Chinese version, and the vegetables are steamed instead of cooked in oil.

The Japanese fast-food franchise, which boasts it is the largest and most successful Japanese fast-food chain in the United States, has mostly operated in



Customers line up to order lunch at Sarku Japan in Flushing, the first storefront branch of the Japanese fast-food chain in Queens.

Photo by Karen Frantz

food courts since 1987 but expanded to include store fronts in 2008.

The Flushing branch opened Aug. 1, at 133-38 Whitestone Expwy., becoming the first store front

location in Queens and adding to the food court option that already exists in Queens Center. An additional Sarku Japan store front will soon open on Junction Boulevard.

Xie said customers are happy to have the Whitestone Expressway location.

"A lot of the customers, they come and they say it's very convenient for them," she said. "They don't have to go to the mall anymore."

She said she and her husband and brother, who financed the branch and are also managers, have been loyal Sarku Japan customers for years. She said they would go out to eat the food together "all of the time."

"I love this food," she said. "I went to the mall and I have tried this food and then I love it."

She said later when they saw a sticker outside of the food court inviting people to become franchisees, they jumped on the

opportunity.

Customer Willie Mejia, who owns a few autoblast companies in Brooklyn and lives in the Bronx, said he goes out of his way to go to the Sarku Japan branch in Flushing "almost every day."

"It tastes more fresh," he said. "Even though you have to wait a while for them to prepare it, you don't mind waiting because it's so good."

He said he even brings his employees to the store sometimes.

"I try not to eat all day just so I can eat here, the food is that good," he said.

Reach reporter Karen Frantz by e-mail at kfrantz@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Health Reform: What is it and what does it mean for New York? — A series of seminars that will educate small business owners and small business serving groups about different aspects of New York's healthcare and health insurance system, such as coverage options, healthcare reform tax credits, COBRA and coverage transitions.
When: Sept. 20, 3-4:30 pm
Where: Business Outreach Center BOC, 96-11 40th Road, Corona
Contact: (718) 898-8500
Website: www.queenschamber.org

Business Forum Luncheon — How to manage your financial life during turbulent times. RSVP by Sept. 19.
When: Sept. 21, 12 pm
Where: Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing
Contact: (718) 997-5000

2012 Corona Hispanic Small Business Summit: Small Business, Big Ideas — Presented by Corona Community Action Network, QEDC, NYC Small Business Services and U.S. Small Business Administration, economic development professionals and small business owners will discuss Corona's economy and best practices to help Latino entrepreneurs

grow and prosper. Conference includes keynote speakers, workshops, food demonstrations, exhibitors and networking.
When: Sept. 25, 7:45 pm
Where: El Paraiso Tropical Restaurant, 102-11 43rd Ave., Corona

Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise — You will learn how to sell to the government qualifications you need to get certified with the city of New York. Overview of the opportunity the government market offers to small business; What is Minority and Women Business Enterprise certification and how does it help a small business; How to apply and qualify as an MWBE at the New York City and New York state level.
When: Sept. 27, 10 am-noon
Where: Bulova Corporate Center, 75-20 Astoria Blvd., East Elmhurst
Contact: (718) 898-8500
Website: www.queenschamber.org

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

Website: www.bniouterboros.com

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

The Eastern Queens and Long Island Networking Group — This unique business networking group discusses today's challenges and helps form alliances. Relationships are built. Facilitator is Gayle Naftaly, rainmaker, entrepreneur, coordinator, leader and organizer with contacts.
When: Second Wednesday of every month
Cost: \$20, includes food from Marcella's Pizzeria of Glen Oaks. Payment benefits the Ronald McDonald House of L.I.
Where: Ronald McDonald House of Long Island, 267-07 76th Ave., New Hyde Park
Contact: Gayle Naftaly, gnaftaly@accessoffice.net, (866) 391-2780
Website: www.accessoffice.net

FUND-RAISERS

Walk for Women — Center for the Women of New York hosts fourth annual Fort Totten 3K Walkathon. Register on site.
When: Sept. 22, 9 am-1 pm
Cost: \$15, \$25 to receive T-shirt, students walk free
Where: Fort Totten Park, Bayside
Contact: (718) 793-0672
Website: www.cwny.org

Annual Benefit — Honoring Tony Feher and Richard Flood.
When: Sept. 27, 6:30 pm
Where: Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Astoria
Contact: (718) 956-1819
Website: www.socrateessculpturepark.org

Socrates Sculpture Park Annual Benefit — Sunset cocktails, live music, maritime cuisine, and boat rides at Mark di Suvero's riverfront studio in Long Island City. Festive attire.
When: Sept. 27, 6:30 pm
Where: Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Astoria
Contact: (718) 956-1819
Website: www.socrateessculpturepark.org

Queens stars get health lesson along with sports treatment

BY STEVE MOSCO

High school athletes from Queens learned that being a sports star is about more than having a rocket for an arm.

It also involves a healthy lifestyle.

More than 100 youngsters from different sports throughout the city got a taste of the big leagues last month when the Hospital for Special Surgery held extensive medical screenings at its facility, at 535 E. 70th St. in Manhattan. The athletes, from schools like Campus Magnet High School in Cambria Heights, met with a team of doctors who usually work with professional teams, including the New York Giants of the NFL and the New York Mets of professional baseball.

The hospital teamed up with the Public School Athletic League with the aim of ensuring that student athletes in the city's public schools are fit to play before the games begin.

"Meeting a critical need in the community, it gives Hospital for Special Surgery the chance to provide a valuable service," said Dr. James Kinderknecht, a sports medicine physician and medical director of the PSAL Football Clinic at the hospital. "It's a win-win situation."

More than 20 sports medicine doctors and physical therapists participated in the health screening, as they took the students' medical history; performed a thorough physical exam, checking their hearts, lungs and vision; tested strength

and flexibility; assessed their posture and balance; and even measured how far they could jump.

Doctors also checked the young athletes for previous injuries, giving them advice on how to stay safe on the field and avoid future problems. Some students were prescribed exercises, while others were advised on icing, taping and bracing to prevent further injury.

"In addition to giving the students a complete physical, we check them for any core weaknesses and any deficits in strength and flexibility so we can help them perform better on the field and enhance safety," John Cavanaugh clinical supervisor of the Sports Rehabilitation and Performance Center at the Hospital for Special Surgery.

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

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MTA

Continued from Page 4

2009 and pulled the transit agency back from a financial abyss. The MTA has appealed the ruling of State Supreme Court Justice Bruce Cozzens, a move hailed by many officials in the area covered by the tax.

Supporters of the tax say they are confident it will be upheld on appeal.

The transit advocacy agency Straphangers Campaign called for putting tolls on East River bridges as a dedicated source of transit revenue.

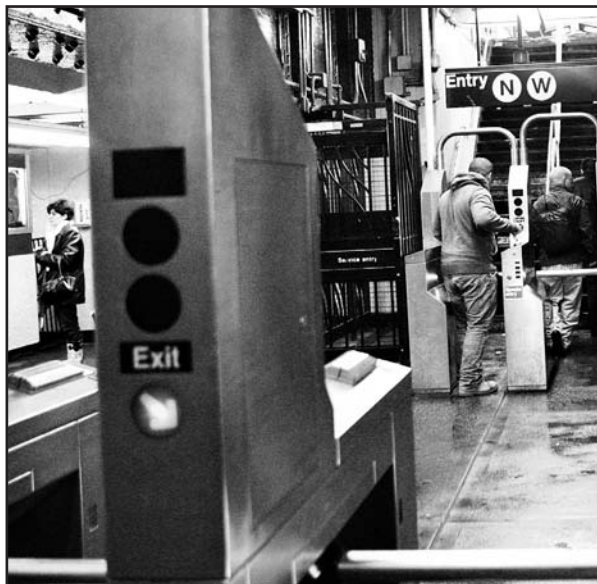
Tolling the bridges has

been suggested for many years but has always met heavy opposition.

Former MTA Chairman Richard Ravitch, had a rescue plan, not needed as it turned out, for the beleaguered transit agency back in 2009 that included tolls on East and Harlem river bridges.

“User fees will come back and back and they will happen,” Ravitch said in a speech at New York University’s Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

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



Discounts on pay-per-ride MetroCards could be reduced or eliminated, according to MTA Chairman Joseph Lhota.

Soda

Continued from Page 5

that requires a city Department of Health grade, including restaurants, movie theaters and sports arenas. It will not apply to alcoholic beverages, fruit juice or milk-based drinks.

Bloomberg has said the ban will help curb the costs of treating obesity-related ailments, which he says is \$4 billion per year.

“NYC’s new sugary drink policy is the single biggest step any government has taken to curb obesity,” the mayor, who proposed the rule, said in

a tweet. “It will help save lives.”

Other supporters such as the Center for Science in the Public Interest have also pointed out that soda and other sugary drinks provide more calories than any other source in the American diet.

The ban will take effect March 12, 2013, but the city will not begin fining vendors who violate the ban until mid-June.

The Board of Health passed the rule in a vote of 8-0, with one member abstaining, one member absent and one vacancy on the board.

JFK

Continued from Page 5

maintaining security at the airport were allegedly involved in the scheme,” said Brown. “If a terrorist wanted to breach airport security, the alleged actions of these defendants gave then a back-door opportunity to do so.”

The security service employing the guards alleg-

edly involved in the scam said the company learned of serious infractions by an employee they inherited from the airport’s previous security contractor after catching him in the act.

“Rather than terminate this individual and launch our own investigation, FJC worked cooperatively with law enforcement to fully investigate this matter,” said a spokesman with FJC Security Services. “The employees arrested

have been terminated.”

The airport workers are variously charged with bribe receiving, receiving a reward for official misconduct, grand larceny and criminal possession of stolen property.

Port Authority Inspector Van Etten said the employees betrayed the trust of the city and the thousands of passengers that pass through the airport every day.

“The defendants ar-

rested in Operation Last Call violated and sold out their position of trust and access to the secure areas of the airport, including access to commercial aviation, all for personal greed,” he said. “More egregious, is the conduct of three security guards employed to secure, protect and report crime at JFK International Airport but who also were involved in selling out their positions of trust to line their pockets.”

Protest

Continued from Page 4

ion,” said Donovan Finn, of the Jackson Heights Green Alliance, who addressed the crowd. “But all of them together are a death blow to Flushing Meadows.”

The city Parks Department website states Flushing Meadows Corona Park is about 1,260 acres, but Finn and the coalition estimated that with all the proposals and additions to the park over the years, including Meadow Lake, roads, stadiums and parking lots, actual usable parkland during construction of these projects would be reduced to 250 acres.

And that would deprive the densely populated communities on either side of the park of a leafy escape in which to relax or engage in recreational activities, according to several neighbors who testified as part of the presentation.

The redevelopment of Willets Point, a collection of auto shops and industrial businesses in what is known as the Iron Triangle, includes the construction of a 1.4-million-square-foot mall to be built in what is now the western parking lot for Citi Field — parkland that is leased to the New York Mets by the city.

The United States Tennis Center is proposing

to renovate one of its stadiums, move another and construct parking garages on the site. The entire project will require 0.76 more acres of parkland to be added to the tennis center.

And over the summer, Major League Soccer began talking with Queens lawmakers about building a 9-acre stadium on the site of some derelict fountains from the 1964 World’s Fair.

“All this council is asking for is that we have a voice in the process,” Finn said.

The coalition distributed pledge cards where those in attendance could sign up to flood 311 with phone calls, hand out informational fliers in the park or even testify at an upcoming hearing about Willets Point.

But state Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst) contended that the proposed soccer stadium enjoys widespread in the community, which would seem to contradict the tone of Monday’s meeting.

“A privately funded soccer stadium to replace a big hole in the ground filled with dirty water is a good deal for soccer fans and the park-goers who would get to enjoy the many upgrades to the park,” he said. “And we can certainly use the construction, game-day and permanent jobs that the stadium would create.”

Dad academy

Continued from Page 5

were a model for future students in the program.

“I don’t expect any of you to fall off the wagon,” Bloomberg said. “You’re not just doing this for yourselves. You’re doing this for your children.”

Jamaica resident Cory Shaw, 22, spoke during the commencement about how

he had wanted to quit the program because he had to go to the 9 a.m. Academy classes after getting out of work overnight at a stockroom at 6 a.m. But Shaw said on the day he did not show up, Program Coordinator Raheem Brooks called him and asked him to come back.

He is now working at

Macy’s and has enrolled in LaGuardia as an industrial design major.

“If it wasn’t for y’all, I wouldn’t be in college,” Shaw said to the staff.

Shaw also read a poem he dedicated to his 2-year-old daughter Nivaya.

Harlem resident James Kimble, 24, said when he was young he was a criminal, marijuana abuser and group home resident, but since he was released from prison he has worked hard

to turn his life around. He is now enrolled in LaGuardia and John Jay colleges, is a part of a small business program for those with criminal histories and is dedicated to helping be a better father to his daughter Serenity, 5.

“It provided me an opportunity I wouldn’t have otherwise,” Kimble said of the program.

at St. John’s University. “Their tendency is to take insults toward their faith on a much more personal level than we can relate to. The freedom of speech laws in this part of the world are incomprehensible.”

But Burnham cautioned not to lump all of the protesters together as fighting for one cause.

most Americans cannot comprehend the devotion to traditional values being expressed by Muslims.

“We here in the West have a different relationship with our faith, one that is more secularized and it is hard to understand the deeper emotions,” said Emily Burnham, a religious studies professor

Muslims

Continued from Page 4

gion or their God, but there is a disconnection. We feel we must defend our God and some of us take that to the furthest extreme.”

An expert in religious studies agreed, saying that



Lekeith Celestain returns punt during game between Mount St. Michael and Holy Cross in the Bronx. Photo by Robert Cole

Holy Cross shocks Mount in final drive

BY MIKE MCAVOY

Lekeith Celestain was in quarterback Michael Loprete's ear throughout the game.

"Whenever you're ready," the Holy Cross senior wide receiver kept telling him.

Loprete decided it was time to take Celestain up on his offer, with the score tied late in the game.

Loprete floated a pass over the middle of the defense in Celestain's direction with nine seconds remaining. He snatched it out of the air and then proceeded to march 31 yards into the end zone to give Holy Cross a thrilling 20-14 win over Mount St. Michael in a CHSFL Class AAA game at Bayside Athletic Field Sunday afternoon.

"Just lay it out there and I'll go and get it for you," Celestain said he told Loprete.

Cross began the drive at their 23-yard line with under a minute left to play. The Knights (2-0, 1-0) could

have chosen to run out the clock and play for overtime, but Coach Tom Pugh had a different idea. Celestain, who also returned an interception 92 yards for a score with 19 seconds left in the first half, was going to be given a chance to make a play.

"We weren't going to kneel and kill the clock," Pugh said. "Not when you have a D-I talent like Celestain, he sees the field and he scores."

They attempted two deep passes to Celestain, who was under-utilized for most of the afternoon, down the left sideline, but both were slightly overthrown. After a 43-yard run by junior Jordan Francklin brought the ball to the Mount 31-yard line, Loprete went back Celestain's way. The touchdown pass vindicated Loprete, who earlier threw an interception that set up Mount's touchdown drive late in the fourth.

"Right now, I can't even tell you how I feel," Loprete

Continued on Page 59

A fallen star remembered

Year after Tayshana "Chicken" Murphy was killed, pains remain

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

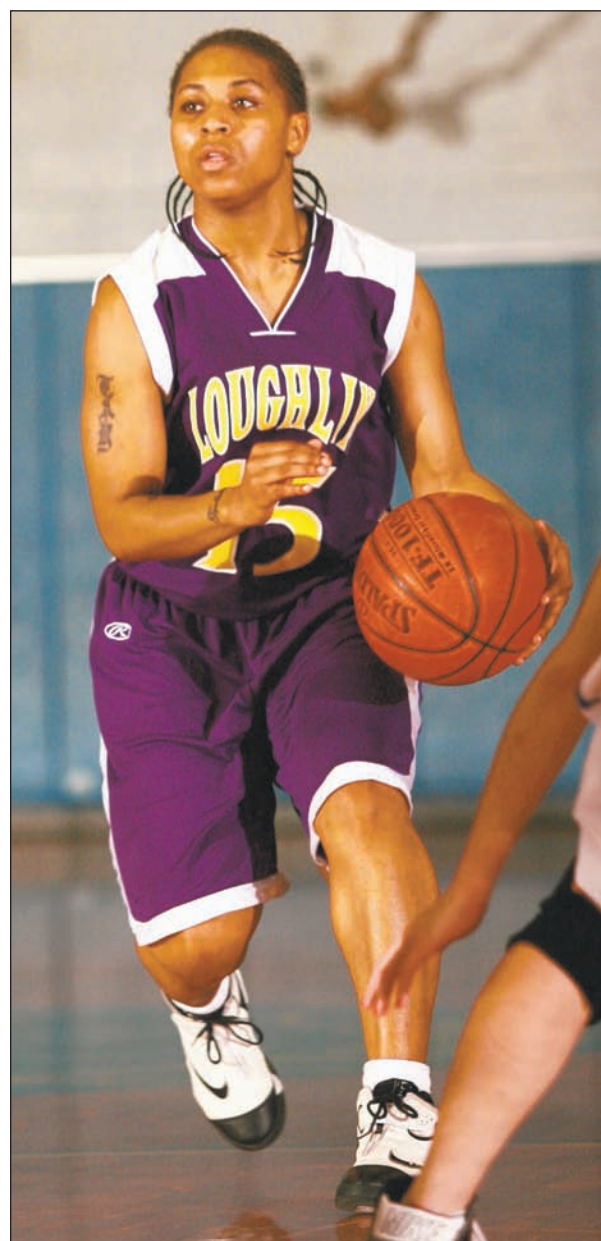
The emotions rushed back to Kasim Alston as he lit a candle on the park court where his goddaughter and former girls' hoops star Tayshana "Chicken" Murphy grew up playing before her death.

"Honestly, it doesn't seem that it's real, even though a year has past," Alston said. "I just don't understand this. I just don't understand why she isn't here."

He and dozens of Murphy's family and friends remembered the former Bishop Loughlin and Murry Bergtraum standout at the Queensbridge Houses Sept. 11 for the one-year anniversary of her death. They placed pictures of Murphy around the court and lit candles before joining in prayer. Murphy's immediate family visited her grave later in the day. The 18-year-old was shot and killed in the hallway of Harlem's Grant Houses in a gang-related incident during the early morning hours a year ago.

"I had a tougher time leading up to that [anniversary]," Alston said. "It brought back some hard times during the day. I just had to toughen up and fight throughout it."

Murphy's death sent shockwaves through the city's girls' basketball community at the time and last week many players posted about her on their Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. She was one of the top-ranked seniors in the country in her class. Before the incident



Tayshana "Chicken" Murphy, once a talented basketball player at Bishop Loughlin and Murry Bergtraum, was shot and killed Sept. 11, 2011. Photo by Kendall Rodriguez

she was getting ready to start her senior season at Bergtraum after recovering from a torn ACL.

Murphy, who had her tuition at Loughlin paid for

by Los Angeles Lakers star Metta World Peace, was a citywide name as a freshman. She transferred to the now-closed St. Michael Academy in the middle of

her sophomore year before heading to Bergtraum, for which she never got to play.

"We never thought we would lose anybody like that," Loughlin senior Imani Tate said. "That's what I thought about. We wanted to celebrate the time that she was with us."

Neither Loughlin nor Bergtraum did anything officially to remember Murphy. Lady Blazers Coach Ed Grezinsky said a number of his players wore the "Chicken" warm-up shirts they used during the season and some hung pictures of Murphy around their necks. She garnered the nickname because of her bowlegs that made her walk like a chicken. Bergtraum dedicated last season's run to a 14th-straight PSAL Class AA city title and state Federation final to Murphy. Loughlin did the same as it went on to win the state Federation Class A crown.

"It's hard to accept that someone with so much life and so much to live for is just gone just like that," Grezinsky said. "It's still kind of hard."

Murphy continued to be remembered in other ways throughout the year. Bergtraum retired her number and Alston and her father Taylonn helped organize a girls' basketball tournament over the summer with games played in Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx. Still, things like that only do so much good for those who knew her.

"It's always there, that emptiness," Taylon Murphy said.

Christ the King takes first loss in football season

BY JOE PANTORNO

Christ the King opened the Tyree Allison era with a lopsided football win over Nazareth last weekend, but an early winning streak for the first-year coach will have to wait. The Royals were routed 43-6 at the hands of Bishop Ford in a Catholic High School Football League Class AA game at John Adams Saturday afternoon.

Senior wide receiver Jordan Fuchs had five receptions for 107 yards in Week 1, but was held to just three catches, his first coming with 6 minutes left in the game, for 49 yards. He felt his number wasn't called as much as he expected. Running back James Coleman, who had 327 yards and seven touchdowns against the Kingsmen, was also shut down.

"I just have to go in and watch some film and see what I can do better," Fuchs said.

Christ the King's defense allowed Ford's junior running back Dante Aiken to rush for 147 yards and



Christ the King's head Coach Tyree Allison and his team huddle after the practice in Juniper Valley Park.

Photo by Denis Gostev

four consecutive touchdowns that immediately put the Royals (1-1, 1-0) in 28-0 hole. The defense was also prone to big plays through the air as Ford senior quarterback Xaviah Mattocks threw for 122 yards on four

completions.

"This game didn't turn out as expected," said Fuchs. "We'll just have to start looking forward to next week."

The offense sputtered. With Fuchs limited, the

running game was non-existent as the offensive line was having a troublesome afternoon. Bishop Ford had three sacks and the countless pressure forced senior quarterback Matthew Gluick to throw two inter-

ceptions.

"The defense played lights out today," Ford Coach Jim Esposito said. "We allowed Fuchs to catch a touchdown pass but we did a spectacular job with him."

I just have to go in and watch some film and see what I can do better.

Jordan Fuchs

Christ the King wide receiver

When the Royals tried to be aggressive, they were burned by the stellar Ford defense. On three occasions they went for it on fourth down and they were shut down on each of them.

"It was extremely frustrating," Fuchs said.

Christ the King scored its only points of the game with 1:20 left in the fourth quarter, when Fuchs started to make an impact. His first reception came via a 30-yard fade down the left sideline, followed by a leaping touchdown catch from 6 yards out.

"It's like a cycle," Fuchs said. "It starts all over again."

LIC soccer players, field need ample time for repair

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Long Island City girls' soccer practices at the school involve avoiding cones, but have nothing to do with the players dribbling through and around them.

"Part of the field where the carpet comes up, it's totally ripped," Bulldogs Coach Mark Skorupski said. "It's coned off and we are not allowed in that area."

The team, which has won the PSAL Queens A-V title the last three seasons, reached its first quarterfinals a year ago and will try to better that without a full home field. They practice on small patches as the

school waits on the old Astroturf field to be officially deemed unplayable so they can begin renovations, according to Skorupski. Until then the Bulldogs will play home games at St. Michael's Playground in Astoria, a five-minute drive from the school.

"Something is missing this season," the coach said. "We always look forward to the home games. Not having it is a huge disappointment."

Their home field isn't the only thing Long Island City is missing this season. It has suffered a rash of injuries in the early season. Skorupski said he has lost more kids in the last three weeks than he did in three previous years. He did not



Long Island City players practice on the field at their school.

Photo by Christina Santucci

think the practice conditions had anything to do with it.

The Bulldogs are play-

ing without four starters because of ankle injuries, including junior midfielder Alison Dowdle and her 23

goals from a year ago. She is expected back this week after hurting herself in a win over Forest Hills last week. Senior Stephanie Escala is on crutches. Stopper Diana Rodriguez is out, and starting goalie Kaitlyn Kripfgan fractured her ankle at tryouts and is lost for the rest of the year.

"I just need them to come back," senior forward Geraldine Huisa said. "This is my last year. I want to do better."

Long Island City has already seen its 23-game league winning streak end 3-2 to Townsend Harris last Thursday and is off to a 3-1 start overall. Huisa was emotional after the loss to the Hawks and Dowdle was fighting back tears as

she felt helpless on the sidelines. A depleted defense watched Townsend Harris star Olivia McFadden tally a hat trick. Long Island City bounced back with a 9-0 win over Thomas Edison.

"If we lose players, we have to all step up," Huisa said. "We can't lose our division this year."

Skorupski said it hurt him to watch his players' outpouring of emotion after the loss. He understands how tough the start of this season has been on them from no home field to all the injuries.

"You have to deal with whatever you got," Skorupski said. "I'm definitely looking forward to next season and a new field."

Continued from Page 57

said. "I felt like I lost us the game, but then to throw that score. All I can say is, Celestain is a freak."

On the previous drive, Mount found themselves on the Holy Cross 37-yard line,

down eight points with seconds ticking off the clock. In four plays, all runs, it found the end zone on an 11-yard line pitch play up the right side to senior running back Jovan Parks. Still needing a two-point conversion to tie, Mount ran the pitch to Parks, who again found the end zone to tie the score at 14-14.

"They couldn't stop it," Parks said.

An extra session wasn't something Celestain and Holy Cross had any desire to see and he made sure of it.

"It shouldn't have gotten to the point that it did," Celestain said. "So I wanted to get it over with."

St. John's fencers meet President Obama

All Team USA members of the 2012 Olympic Games gathered at the White House last week to meet President Barack Obama, including St. John's fencers Daryl Homer and Dagmara Wozniak.

"I'm unbelievably grateful to have met President Obama," Homer said. "This is a

memory I will always cherish."

Homer, 22, placed sixth in men's saber. It was his first Olympic Games. He matched alumnus Keeth Smart's career-best Olympic finish and hit the highest place mark for an American since Peter Westbrook earned a bronze medal in 1984.

St. Francis Prep racks up the yardage in first win

BY DANIEL MARTIN

The belly was a beast. St. Francis Prep returned to its traditional run-first "belly" offense in football this season, shedding the spread set it used the last few years and ran all over Cardinal Hayes. The Terriers ran 55 plays, all but nine of which were on the ground, amassing 339 total yards.

"We were, basically, looking for high tempo and to run it down their throats," running back Justin Guerre said. "It was just toughness, bringing the old St. Francis style, you know."

It was enough to earn a 41-34 win over Cardinal Hayes in a Catholic High School Football League Class AA-A game at Mitchell Field Saturday night. Guerre carried the ball 13 times for 97 yards and scored three touchdowns.

"We wanted to run it until they stopped us," assistant Coach Richie Carroll said.

Legendary Coach Vince O'Connor, in his 59th season as head coach watched from the press box. He fell on the sideline trying to avoid a collision in SFP's season opening loss to Washingtonville in a non-league game last week and is still recovering.

Like O'Connor's club, Cardinal Hayes (1-1, 0-1) centered its offensive game plan around the ground game, leaning heavily on running back Patrick Heumegni, who scored three rushing touchdowns and also had an 89-yard kick return for a score.

"[Heumegni] is a dynamic football player," Cardinal Hayes head Coach C.J. O'Neil said. "He's going to make things happen above what we 'X and O.'"

The game got out to a quick start, with St. Francis Prep (1-1, 1-0) leading 34-28 at halftime. Despite the start, another score did not come for either team until the 11:02 mark of the fourth quarter when St. Francis quarterback John Hurley

hit receiver Joey Troina for a 40-yard touchdown to help put the Terriers up 41-28.

"The defense that we were playing against was so focused on the run game," Carroll said. "So we did a little play action and there [the touchdown] was."

Cardinal Hayes answered back immediately with a long drive that was punctuated by a three-yard touchdown run by Heumegni to pull Hayes to within seven. A quick St. Francis possession gave Cardinal Hayes one final shot to tie the score, but a fourth down tackle for a loss by Terrence Stackpole gave possession back to the Terriers, who were able to run out the clock on an impressive first win.

"We're looking forward to getting better and better," Guerre said. "We didn't score many points in the second half, so we have to work on that, but we just have to keep the high tempo going."



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

Week 38

Hard #30								
3	8	7	6	5	9	2	4	1
6	2	9	7	4	1	3	8	5
5	1	4	3	8	2	9	7	6
1	7	5	4	2	6	8	3	9
9	3	2	8	7	5	1	6	4
8	4	6	1	9	3	5	2	7
7	6	1	5	3	8	4	9	2
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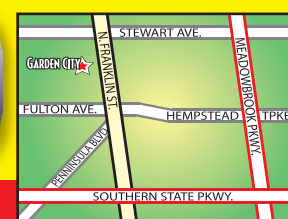


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HUNTER POINT INVESTORS, LLC, a domestic LLC currently known as HUNTERS POINT INVESTORS, LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/25/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Spizz & Cooper, LLP, 114 Old Country Rd., Ste. 644, Mineola, NY 11501. General Purposes.

Name of LLC: K2 Design Solutions LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 8/20/12. 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 Business Filings Inc., 187 Wolf Rd., Ste. 101, Albany, NY 12205, regd. agt. upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful act.

NOTICE OF FORMATION, Dragon House Creative, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/27/2012. Office location: QUEENS. SSNY designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copies of any process served against the LLC to c/o: Dragon House Creative LLC, 4106 50th Street, Ste. 2B Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

Notice of Formation of 136-82/86 ROOSEVELT AVENUE REALTY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/10/12. 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 Richard K. Kim, 455 E. 86th St., NY, NY 10028. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of DUGOUT LLC Arts of Org. filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/27/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: the LLC, 97-51 Drew Street, Ozone Park, NY 11416. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Carter & Silverspine, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with New York Secretary of State on July 18,

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2012. Principal Office Location: Queens County. Secretary of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC at: 6515 Yellowstone Blvd, #6A, Forest Hills, New York 11375. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SAGACITY TEST PREP AND TUTORIAL SERVICES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 7/30/2012. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: Health Discovery Holdings, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/09/2012. 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: Constantin Aliferis, 3002 30th Street, Apt. 402, Astoria, NY 11002. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: Taste Up Foods LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/25/12. 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: Emilio L Vozzolo, 45-09 104th St., Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC) Name: 107-02 REALTY LLC Articles of Organization filed by the Department of State of New York on: 10/27/2011. Office location: County of Queens. Purpose: any and all lawful activities. Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) designated as

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agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 55 Watermill Lane, Suite 200 Great Neck, NY 11021.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: AMSA HOLDINGS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/9/12. 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: The LLC, 853 Nottingham Way, Trenton, NJ 08638. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: MILLENNIUM UROLOGY PLLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 07/27/12. The latest date of dissolution is 12/31/2072. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the PLLC, 75-54 Metropolitan Avenue, Middle Village, New York 11379. Purpose: For the practice of the profession of Medicine.

Notice of formation of Sun's Family Group LLC, a limited liability company. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of NY(SSNY) on 08/02/2012. Office located in Queens County. SSNY had been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served against the LLC to c/o THE LLC, 69-20 226th Street, Oakland Gardens, NY 11364. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of The Jackson House LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 7/2/12. Office location: Queens County. Sec. of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business addr.: 35-16 89th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Tuxedo Leasing LLC. Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 3/15/12. Office lo-

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cation: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 156-21 90th St., Howard Beach, NY 11414. Purpose: any lawful activities.

ONCE UPON A CUPCAKE NYC LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 6/25/12. 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, 49-15 217th St., Bayside, NY 11364. General Purposes.

PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 6/14/11. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Iskryo Aronov, 116-55 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11376. General Purposes.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of professional limited liability company (PLLC). Name: TWO4DESIGN ARCHITECTURE PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/29/12. 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: THE LLC, 7507 64th Pl., Glendale, NY 11385. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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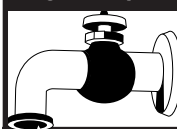
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Auburndale, Kew Gardens Hills, Fresh Meadows

Jamaica Times
Hollis, St. Albans, Cambria Heights, Springfield Gardens, Rosedale, Richmond Hill, Laurelton, Queens Village

Forest Hills Ledger
Kew Gardens, Rego Park, Maspeth, Glendale, Middle Village, Woodhaven, Ozone Park, Howard Beach, Ridgewood

Astoria Times
Long Island City, Woodside, Corona, Sunnyside, Elmhurst, East Elmhurst, Jackson Heights

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MONDAY, OCT. 3, 2011

MIDDLE VILLAGE
MidVill slams Q38 delays
By Joe Anuta
It's the end of the line for Middle Village straphangers who said they have put up with spotty service on the Q38 line for far too long. [Comment.](#)

RICHMOND HILL
Rich Hill man seeks to clear name in 1996 drive-by killing
By Joe Anuta

RICHMOND HILL: The Queens DA agreed last Thursday to look into the 2004 conviction of a Richmond Hill man who is serving 11 years of a life sentence for a 1996 drive-by shooting. [Comment.](#)

ELMHURST
Elmhurst shopping center gets earful over workers' wages
By Rebecca Henely
ELMHURST: Activist groups marched into the administrative offices of Elmhurst's Queens Center Mall last Thursday, dropping off 5,500 signatures demanding the mall give their workers higher wages and provide a community space. [Comment.](#)

LONG ISLAND CITY
Queens Library gala to raise money for resources

EVENTS **CLASSIFIEDS**

Submit an event

HAPPENING TODAY

FAMILY: Knit and crochet
4 pm, Douglaston/Little Neck Public Library, Douglaston, Queens

HAPPENING TOMORROW

FAMILY: Hedgeslings
11:15 am-12:15 pm, Alley Pond Environmental Center, Douglaston, Queens

Find many more upcoming events!

Popular stories

- 1. EAST ELMHURST:** Cemetery marks FDNY slain
- 2. FOREST HILLS:** Art from Science
- 3. TRANSIT:** MTA.info map makes weekend travel easy
- 4. LONG ISLAND CITY:** Flaccid 'Ghosts' brought to life by Secret's stars
- 5. FLUSHING:** Road to the US Open Finals

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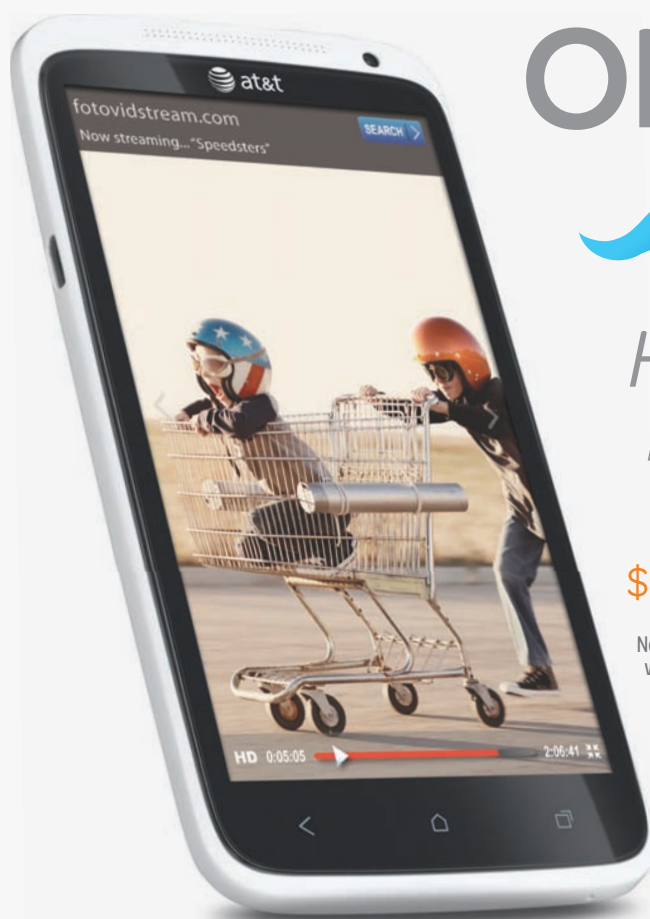
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