

# Neighbors Helping Neighbors

After the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy, Queens residents are helping each other rebuild

SPECIAL  
12-PAGE WRAP SECTION





Photo by Stefano Giovannini



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

# Lending a hand

A juggernaut of grass-roots action in Brooklyn and Queens proves neighbors can come together during times of need

BY SHAVANA ABRUZZO

Disasters have historically united close-knit communities more than they have destroyed them, and the storm of the century proved no match for the resolve, neighborliness, and charity of New Yorkers — even in these immensely challenging economic times.

Hurricane Sandy annihilated large swaths of Brooklyn and Queens with crippling storm surges and whopping wind gusts that claimed 18 lives — 11 in Queens, seven in Brooklyn — yielded property damage in the millions, and left thousands of people homeless.

Tens of thousands more were incapacitated by widespread power outages that have yet to be restored fully in some areas.

Sandy battered coastal districts and inlands in both boroughs beyond recognition, including Coney Island, Brighton Beach, Manhattan Beach, Sheephead Bay, DUMBO, and Red Hook in Brooklyn, and the Rockaways, Breezy Point, Belle Harbor, Broad Channel, and Flushing in



Photo by Christina Santucci

neighboring Queens.

Many residents ignored the mayor's order to evacuate as the super storm roared up the Atlantic, but a number regretted their decision after the hurricane left behind a path of devastation.

Hundreds of homes burned to the ground as high winds pushed the flames from one block to the next in Breezy Point, while

raging floods and toppling trees brought down power lines in other parts of the borough.

At least eight people lost their lives in the Rockaways, which remained a dark hinterland nearly two weeks after the storm, with residents struggling to keep warm and find food. Elected officials blasted the tardy responses of the Long Island Power Authority and Con-

solidated Edison, prompting Gov. Cuomo to call for an investigation into the utilities' performance.

The fallout was as excruciating.

A Brooklyn couple walking their dog was crushed by a keeling hardwood. A Queens man was killed instantly when a tree crashed into his home. Uprooted students were sent to other schools. Voters were dis-

(Clockwise from top left) Volunteer Carol McDonald does not know where to put all of the clothing that has been collected at the Blue Star Mother's Hall on Seba Avenue in Gerritsen Beach. The group Occupy Sandy transformed the Church of St. Luke and St. Matthew in Clinton Hill into a supply hub for hurricane victims, but they had to clear the pews before Sunday. Whitestone resident Joseph Prisco carries supplies at a drive at Sullivan's in Bayside.

persed to new polling sites. Cars lined up for gasoline in numbers not seen since the oil crisis of the 1970s.

Yet the most alarming question left in Sandy's merciless wake was, "What happens now?"

Gothamites — an inspiring subspecies with a well-documented reputation for conquering cataclysmic events — responded with expected alacrity and attention to civic duty.

Men, women, and children — the ones we see every day walking along our streets, shopping in our stores, and seated next to us on the bus or train — channeled their own losses and despair into assistance and support for others.

The juggernaut of their grassroots action pierced through the darkness like a life-affirming ray of sunshine, and astounded, humbled, and indebted us here at Community Newspaper Group while we prepared this special section of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" during one of the worst crises ever to hit these parts.

The desire of both boroughs' residents to reach out and help was as indiscriminately passionate as Sandy's chaotic path — from civic groups like the Madison Marine-Homecrest Civic Association organizing a Thanksgiving food drive, and Lifebooker donating 100 percent of its proceeds to a



Photo by Steve Mosco

relief fund, to conglomerates like our parent company News Corporation pledging million-dollar donations to help ravaged New Yorkers regain their footing.

Spontaneous goodwill drives by community groups brought relief that the federal government wasn't able to provide.

Residents commandeered trailers to deliver supplies to besieged regions and conducted flashlight vigils to bring their neighbors out of the dark.

Donations also poured into the offices of lawmakers, who fielded a rush of calls from constituents wanting to help.

Civic groups put together dozens of carloads of items for storm victims, and as the pile of goods built up in churches and de facto rescue centers, the call went out for more volunteers to distribute the life-saving essentials — one that was answered in droves.

Junior's Restaurant, airline JetBlue, the Brooklyn Flea, and Rolling Orange Bikes were among the businesses that donated portions of their proceeds to relief or-



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

(Clockwise from top) A chain of volunteers pass boxes of supplies to each other as they set up to help those affected by Hurricane Sandy in Far Rockaway. Rep. Joseph Crowley unloads supplies off a truck with his family at St. Francis De Sales Church in Rockaway. Yoshi Reynolds of Coney Island collects desperately needed perishables from community volunteers Alfred DeSimone and Ismael Torres.

ganizations, while neighborhood groups like the John Malone Community Center in Bergen Beach collected and distributed clothing, blankets, cleaning supplies, toiletries, food, and water.

Dwarf Giraffe Athletic League, based in Whites- tone, motivated its network of families and sponsor-

ship organizations to drive truckloads of supplies to the Rockaways.

Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center opened its doors to patients vacated from local nursing homes, while the Owl's Head Running club coordinated a benefit run to Broad Chan- nel.

Flushing's Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation prepared meals and delivered them to residents in the devastated neighborhoods of Broad Channel and Breezy Point.

The Brooklyn and Queens chambers of com- merce also stepped in to create helpful resource guides



Photo by Christina Santucci

with vital information and phone numbers for Sandy-shattered businesses to contact for help with emergency loans, disaster assistance and insurance assessment.

We hope these pages will provide our faithful readers with a glimpse into the Her- culean endeavors mounted by generous and spirited

fellow New Yorkers, whose efforts to transform tragedy into triumph have been success stories of the most extraordinary kind.

We are also confident that our reports will make you as proud as we are to be part of a city that shows the world how to come together when calamity strikes home.

# Here's how to help in Brooklyn

Want to help neighbors who are suffering following Hurricane Sandy?

There are plenty of ways to get involved in the cleanup and recovery effort here in Brooklyn.

The city needs volunteers in all of its storm shelters. Most don't have phone numbers, so volunteers may need to show up and find out how they can help:

- Park Slope Armory (361 15th St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope).

- NYC College of Technology (300 Jay St. between Tillary and Johnson streets in Downtown).

- Brooklyn Technical High School (29 Ft. Greene Pl. between Dekalb Avenue and Fulton Street in Fort Greene).

- John Jay High School (237 Seventh Ave. between Fourth and Fifth streets in Park Slope).

- IS 136 (4004 Fourth Ave. at 40th Street in Sunset Park).

- PS 249 (18 Marlborough Rd. between Caton and Church avenues in Prospect Park South).

- IS 187, 1171 (65th St. between 11th and 12th avenues in Dyker Heights).

- FDR High School (5800 20th Ave. at 58th Street in Midwood).

A map of city shelter is available at [www.google.org/crisismap/2012-sandy-nyc](http://www.google.org/crisismap/2012-sandy-nyc).

The New York Blood Center is hosting donation drives —



Volunteers with Red Hook Recovery clear ruined possessions out of a Beard Street warehouse.

Photo by Elizabeth Graham

check daily to find locations at [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org).

The Red Hook Initiative is distributing hot meals and supplies to residents of the Red Hook Houses, who remain without power.

To assist those in need, drop off flashlights, batteries, soap, paper towels, and non-perishable food at the group's headquarters (767 Hicks St. between Huntington and W. Ninth streets in Red Hook), or call (718) 858-6782.

The Greenpoint Soup Kitchen (136 Milton St. between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street in Greenpoint) is looking for volunteers and donations.

NYCares is matching volun-

teers with service providers based on participants' skills and location. Potential volunteers should fill out the form at [newyorkcares.org/volunteer/disaster](http://newyorkcares.org/volunteer/disaster).

The Children's Movement for Creative Education is looking for art therapists to visit children in family shelters.

Contact Elana Haviv at (347) 846-0600 or [elana@childrensmovement.org](mailto:elana@childrensmovement.org).

PS 84 Jose de Diego School (250 Berry St. between Grand and S. First streets in Williamsburg) is collecting school supplies, food, and household items for the families of children who attend PS 317 in Far Rockaway. Donations can be made Monday-Friday from 7 am-6 pm.

Congregation Beth Elohim (274 Garfield Pl. at Eighth Avenue in Park Slope) is looking for volunteers and food donation for Red Hook. E-mail [info@cbebk.org](mailto:info@cbebk.org).

The New York City Coalition Against Hunger is looking for both volunteers and donations. See what kind of help they need at [www.facebook.com/NYCCA](http://www.facebook.com/NYCCA).

Occupy Sandy, the storm relief offshoot of Occupy Wall Street, is continuing its recovery efforts across the city.

Check [www.interoccupy.net/occupysandy](http://www.interoccupy.net/occupysandy) to see where they need help the most.

— *Danielle Furfaro*

## Donate items or service to these Queens groups

**Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens**  
(718) 722-6001

Drop off goods at to these food pantry locations:

**St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish**  
1920 New Haven Ave.  
Far Rockaway

**St. Helen's Church**  
157-10 83rd St.  
Howard Beach

**St. Francis DeSales Church**  
129-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd.  
Belle Harbor

**Most needed items:** Toiletries, winter gloves and hats, thermal wear, new socks and underwear. Apparel will not be accepted at this time. Visit [ccbq.org](http://ccbq.org) for more information.

**Queens Chamber of Commerce**

Accepting donations to help small business owners.

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Jackson Heights, NY 11370  
Contributions are tax deductible.  
Disaster assistance resources available at [queenschamber.org](http://queenschamber.org).

Visit [NYCService.org](http://NYCService.org) for volunteer options:

- Volunteer to cleanup Queens parks
- Pitch in on Queens disaster relief projects through New York Cares
- Volunteer at a soup kitchen and food pantry
- Give blood

**St. Virgilius Church**  
Seeking strong, able-bodied men and women to strip watersoaked carpets and damaged furniture.  
16 Noel Rd., Far Rockaway  
Ask for Father Richard Olmyer

**Flushing Town Hall**  
137-35 Northern Blvd.  
Flushing  
Accepting essential toiletries, over-the-counter medicines, batteries, work gloves, cleaning supplies. No clothes.  
Donors will receive two tickets per person to any featured events.

**Local Supply Dropoffs**  
The Queens Borough President's Office has announced that all fire departments, police precincts, Staples stores and Modell's now serve as supply drop points.



People visit a Federal Emergency Management Agency tent in Rockaway Beach. The city opened a one-stop restoration center in Far Rockaway and plans to open another in Breezy Point. Photo by William Thomas

## Here's how to apply for aid, refunds

You don't have to suffer alone.

City, state, and federal agencies as well as utilities are offering assistance to Hurricane Sandy victims who lost homes, suffered property damage, and remain without power as a result of the storm. Here's a sampling of the help you can receive.

- Residents who sustained property damage in Hurricane Sandy can apply for funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

To request federal aid, register at [disasterassistance.gov](http://disasterassistance.gov) or call (800) 621-3362. The agency asks that applicants have their address, insurance information, and Social Security

number ready.

After applying for help, assessors will visit damaged properties and survey the conditions. The agency won't give a timeline for how long residents must wait before receiving funds — it could range from a week to more than a year, officials said.

- The Red Cross is continuing to hand out emergency relief supplies to Hurricane Sandy victims throughout the five boroughs. Volunteers are also acting as a referral service, so victims can be connected to government agencies that can give them the most help. For more information one can call (877) 733-2767 or visit [nyredcross.org](http://nyredcross.org).
- The federal Small Busi-

ness Administration is offering merchants hit hard by Hurricane Sandy low-interest disaster loans of up to \$2 million to repair and replace damaged property and inventory. To apply, you can call (800) 659-2955 or visit [sba.gov](http://sba.gov).

- The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has granted a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures and forbearances on Federal Housing Administration-insured home mortgages — with no paperwork required.

- Con Edison is offering refunds of up to \$450 for food spoiled during power outages that lasted more than 12 hours over a 24-hour period. Visit [coned.com](http://coned.com) to file a claim.

- Although the utility says gas has been fully restored to its Brooklyn and Queens customers, National Grid is continuing with its Emergency Residential Customer Assistance program to assist customers re-establish their natural gas service. For more information, call (718) 643-4050.

- Hurricane Sandy victims are entitled to receive credit for each day they did not have Cablevision's Optimum service as a result of the storm — even when your home had no power. Visit [optimum.net/credit](http://optimum.net/credit) to notify the company of the dates you didn't have service to get the credit added to your account.

— *Danielle Furfaro and Tom Tracy*

# MCU Stands with Our Valued Members

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, many of our members were severely impacted and are in need of emergency assistance.

**MCU's Member Assistance Program** is here to help members access emergency funds to assist them with their immediate recovery needs.

The following emergency credit solutions are available to eligible\* MCU members:

**Replacement Auto Loan** - Call 1-888-4MCU-AUTO if your car was damaged during the storm and you have suffered a total loss.

**Emergency Personal Loan** - Call 1-800-LOAN-MCU to apply for **\$1,500** to help cover emergency expenses. Higher loan amounts are available upon request.

**Emergency Credit Line Increase** - Call 1-800-481-7338 to receive an **instant \$500** credit line increase on your MCU VISA® Card.\*\*

\*Emergency credit solutions are subject to evaluation of individual member creditworthiness.

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## Relief begins to reach hard hit south Queens

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Playing songs for Sandy

QGuide Page 33



## Nobel winner was student at Van Buren HS

BY STEVE MOSCO

People usually assume the worst when the phone rings at 3 a.m., but former Queens resident Alvin Roth had a good feeling about who was calling in the early morning hours of Oct. 15.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences jarred Roth from his slumber that night to award the Stanford University professor the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

"I knew I was in the running for the prize, but I didn't think it was very likely," Roth said in a telephone interview from his home in California. "My friends all claimed to know it was a definite."

The academy cited the Bay-side native for his work in "the theory of stable allocations and the practice of market design." According to the academy, the work "honors work that provided a deeper understanding of how markets work and put that knowledge to use for the practical benefit of humanity."

Roth, who attended Martin Van Buren High School in Queens Village but did not receive a high school diploma because he left high school early, received the prize for work that made for better match-ups among students and the schools they wish to at-

*Continued on Page 17*

# Two Crips guilty in boy's death

Gang members convicted of killing 13-year-old during shoot-out in Cambria Hts.

BY REBECCA HENELY

Shenee Johnson, an anti-gun activist who lost her son to a shooter, said she hoped the conviction of two notorious Crips

street gang members for the 2009 killing of a 13-year-old Jamaica boy would bring his mother, Donna Hood, peace and warn others against pulling the trigger.

"I'm happy for her. I feel like she can get closure," Johnson

said.

Gregory Calas, 21, of 228th Street and 145th Avenue in St. Albans, and Nnonso Ekwegbalu, 19, of 183rd Street and 141st Avenue in Springfield Gardens, who are both Crips, were found guilty of

killing Kevin Miller Jr. after a six-week trial presided over by Queens Supreme Court Justice Gregory Lasak, the DA said.

Hood said she was relieved at the verdict. The case was difficult  
*Continued on Page 17*

## HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE



Maj. Sharon S. Lindsey (l.-r.), Staff Sgt. Bob Clement and Lt. Blossom Ferguson attend a special service followed by a reception in honor of Veterans Day. The event was organized by the Greater Allen AME Cathedral of New York's Military Veterans Committee in Jamaica.

Photo by Nat Valentine

# LIJ helps own Sandy victims

North Shore raises \$2.3M to aid employees dislocated by hurricane

BY PHIL CORSO

After Hurricane Sandy devastated communities and families in the New York area, caregivers throughout the region have had to step up their efforts to help storm victims in need of food, shelter and medical care.

And to return that favor, management at North Shore-LIJ Health System in Manhasset, L.I., announced a major donation for a relief fund to benefit its employees' families also affected by the superstorm. The roughly \$2.3 million raised will go to help hundreds of employees — including many who come from the battered Rockaways in Queens.

"Considering how so many North Shore-LIJ employees care for their patients during their critical hours of need, we're proud to step up and take care of our colleagues when they need it most," said Michael Dowling, president and chief executive officer of North Shore-LIJ. "Even after Hurricane Sandy left death and destruction in her wake, there are untold stories of North Shore-LIJ caregivers who continued to come to work, despite losing their homes and most of their possessions to flooding and fires."

Within about 48 hours of Sandy hitting land in the metropolitan area, a spokeswoman for North Shore-LIJ said the 16-hos-



Michael Dowling, president and chief executive officer of North Shore-LIJ, announced a relief fund for employees affected by Hurricane Sandy.

pital health system placed more than 60 families in temporary housing. North Shore-LIJ employees have already contributed more than 1,000 vacation hours — totaling 137 business days — to affected employees who will need to miss work as they piece their lives back together.

Donna Marsden, a unit receptionist at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park, was forced to evacuate her Rockaway apartment as Hurricane Sandy approached. By the time the storm had departed, Marsden's apartment had sustained serious flood damage and a major gas leak, forcing her and her family to stay with relatives in Pennsylvania.

While she was thank-

ful to be safe and sound with her family, she was not able to recover most of her belongings and one of her family's cars was destroyed, a spokeswoman for North Shore-LIJ said. Marsden and her family were then moved into temporary housing at North Shore-LIJ in Glen Cove, L.I., to help her regain some sense of normalcy.

Marsden's story was similar to many others, the hospital said, including Roody Antoine's from Far Rockaway. Antoine's home was destroyed in the storm and he was left with nowhere to go until North Shore-LIJ reached out to provide temporary shelter.

"This is a very, very special place to work for," Antoine said.

Of the roughly \$2.3 million pledged thus far for relief efforts coming out of North Shore-LIJ, more than \$2 million had come from a fund-raising event held last week in Manhattan, the health system said.

CEO Dowling said the money would be completely dedicated to helping caregivers rebuild their lives.

"Their extraordinary self-sacrifice, dedication and commitment are truly inspiring," Dowling said. "Equally inspiring is the outpouring of support from North Shore-LIJ employees for their struggling workers. I extend my deepest appreciation to all of our employees who have generously donated money and time off to their colleagues in need."

# Sky bus driver guilty of SE Queens deaths

BY JOE ANUTA

A Flushing driver who fell asleep at the wheel of a tour bus in Virginia was found guilty last Thursday of causing the deaths of four passengers.

Kin Yu Cheung faces up to 40 years behind bars at his Jan. 23 sentencing after he nodded off while transporting nearly 60 passengers aboard a Sky Express Bus Co. bus in May 2011, according to Caroline County District Court, which is located near Richmond, Va.

The bus, bound for Chinatown in Manhattan, veered off to the right-hand shoulder of I-95 near Richmond, Va., and overturned, killing four people and injuring a host of others.

Caroline County Circuit Judge Joseph Ellis told Cheung that his conduct was "so gross and wanton" that he had no choice but to find Cheung guilty, according to the Charlotte Observer. Each of the four counts of involuntary manslaughter, which correspond to

the four people killed, carries a maximum charge of 10 years in prison.

Two out of the four passengers who died were from southeast Queens. Karen Blyden-Decastro, 46, of Cambria Heights, and Josefa Torres, 78, of Jamaica, both perished in the crash.

Many of the remaining passengers were taken to area hospitals and treated for various injuries.

Sky Express Bus Co. was initially shut down by the federal government after the crash, but the company continued to sell tickets anyway, according to a U.S. Department of Transportation official. The company was eventually stopped by a cease-and-desist order, the department said.

A report released last year by the National Transportation Safety Board showed that discount buses, also known as curbside carriers, run by companies like Sky Express Bus Co. to and from hubs including Chinatown in Manhattan and Flushing in Queens,

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Kin Yiu Cheung (l.) stands with his lawyer Murray Janus after Cheung was arraigned in 2011. AP Photo/Michael Felberbaum

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# Queens College green project has new meaning after Sandy

## Small contribution to relieve burden on sewer system is piece of larger plan to fight flooding

BY JOE ANUTA

The record storm surge of Hurricane Sandy not only devastated portions of Queens, but also started a discussion about how vulnerable the city is to the forces of Mother Nature.

Flooding has always been a problem in certain portions of the borough. While Gov. Andrew Cuomo has floated the idea of storm surge barriers, dam-like contraptions that would prevent record sea heights from inundating certain low-lying areas, a Queens institution last month unveiled an example of how the Bloomberg administration plans to keep other flood-prone areas of the borough dry.

In flood-prone portions of Queens, the problem is

the city's antiquated sewer system, which cannot handle the rush of stormwater during prolonged or heavy rains.

But instead of spending money on trying to repair the mammoth network, Bloomberg decided on a policy shift that funnels money into keeping water out of the system in the first place.

Over the next two decades, the city Department of Environmental Protection is set to spend \$5.5 billion to ensure that the vast network of pipes, drains and treatment plants operate within their means. Currently during heavy rains, the system becomes so overburdened it ejects a mixture of sewage and stormwater into areas like Flushing Bay and also backs up onto city streets and sometimes into resi-



State Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Carter Strickland aims a hose at a new piece of green infrastructure on the Queens College campus. Photo by Joe Anuta

dents' homes.

Instead of spending that money on system upgrades, nearly half of DEP's investment will go toward what is known as green infrastructure.

"It's more expensive to retrofit the system," said DEP Commissioner Carter Strickland last month at Queens College. "The ultimate goal is to find the most cost-effective solution ... but also to make waterways cleaner and more enjoyable."

With the help of a nearly \$400,000 grant from DEP, the college built what appears to be a brick courtyard, but in actuality behaves more like a large sieve. Between the bricks is a permeable rock subsurface where water is absorbed and naturally released into the ground instead of rushing into the

sewer system.

At the unveiling ceremony, Strickland stood on a hill above the plaza wielding what appeared to be a small fire hose and unleashed a torrent of water toward a throng of on-lookers.

But instead of wetting the crowd's shoes, the water was completely absorbed into the seemingly impermeable surface — a sight Queens College President James Muyskens likened to magic.

Green infrastructure projects, like the college's three rain gardens, are part of an initiative started by Mayor Michael Bloomberg in 2002, when the city began to turn away from the daunting task of expanding capacity throughout the 7,000 miles of pipes that carry water around the city and to treatment plants.

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# Demos get shaky Senate win

## Party appears to have majority but control of house not clear

BY REBECCA HENELY

State Senate Democrats in Queens were confident they had won control of the upper house and had an opportunity to advance their agenda, but a Queens College professor said a majority may not equal unity.

The Democrats have seemingly emerged victorious in five races across the state will determine the outcome of the makeup of the Senate for the next two years. In Queens, Sen. Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach) kept his seat against a strong challenge from City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park). State Assemblyman George Latimer (D-Mamaroneck) beat Republican Bob Cohen for retiring Sen. Suzi Oppenheimer's (D-Mamaroneck) seat. Democrat Ted O'Brien also defeated Assemblyman Sean Hanna (R-Mendon) for retiring Sen. James Alesi's (R-Perinton) position.

Democrat Terry Gipson also seemed likely to unseat Sen. Stephen Saland (R-Poughkeepsie) and



State Sens. Joseph Addabbo (l.) and Malcolm Smith shake hands in the Rockaways. Addabbo's race to keep his seat against challenger City Councilman Eric Ulrich was one of five said to give the Democrats a majority in the Senate.

Photo by Christina Santucci

Democrat Cecilia Tkaczyk appeared to win over Assemblyman George Amadore (R-Rotterdam) in a bid for a new 63rd District seat drawn around Albany, but the margins were so small that absentee ballots were still being counted as of Tuesday evening.

Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria), chairman of

the Democratic State Senate Campaign Committee, said he felt sure the Democrats had won the upper house. He said the 33-30 majority would give Democrats opportunities to pass legislation to increase minimum wage, institute campaign finance reform, strengthen gun control laws and protect women's rights.

"Now we have an opportunity as the majority party to show the people what we can do," Gianaris said.

Phil Ragusa, leader of the Queens Republican Party, did not respond to requests for comment.

But Michael Krasner, political science professor

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# Qns pols say GOP alienated Latinos

BY REBECCA HENELY

ate's ire.

After President Barack Obama received record support from the Hispanic population during his reelection last week, Queens' Hispanic legislators said it was the Republican Party's hard-line stance against immigration reform that lost challenger Mitt Romney the vote.

"This is not the party that shares our ideals," said state Assemblyman Francisco Moya (D-Jackson Heights).

A former Massachusetts governor, Romney picked up 27 percent of the Hispanic electorate's vote, according to exit polls, a marked decrease from when fellow Republican nominee U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) won 31 percent in 2008 and former President George W. Bush captured 44 percent in 2004.

Moya said Romney's suggestion in a January debate that undocumented immigrants should engage in "self-deportation" — i.e., allowing business owners access to data to check if a potential employee is undocumented, thereby encouraging non-citizens not to find work in America and to go back to their country of origin — earned him the Hispanic elector-

Strong anti-immigration laws in the Republican-majority states of Arizona and Texas, the Republican Party's recent rejection of the DREAM Act to allow young undocumented immigrants a path to permanent residency and the vilification of undocumented immigrants also lost the GOP the Hispanic population's vote, Moya said.

State Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst) said while there is a conservative and religious strain to the Hispanic population, he said much of the younger Latino population is becoming more politically engaged in their communities, setting up families in the states rather than making some money and returning to their countries of origin. As a result, many of them are voting Democratic.

"When you talk about the conservative Latinos, you're talking about the older Latinos," he said.

Peralta predicted that the voting bloc would create influences closer to home in the future. In the last primary elections in Queens, Latinos made up 20 percent of the vote and he predicted they would have a major effect on the 2013 mayoral race, together with Asian-American and

*Continued on Page 7*

# Gay councilmen hail LGBT victories

BY REBECCA HENELY

Queens' two openly gay city councilmen said they were buoyed by the general election last week when three states voted in favor of same-sex marriage and many LGBT politicians won higher office across the country.

"It was a fantastic night for the LGBT movement, one that I found personally motivating and reinvigorating," said Councilman Daniel Dromm (D-Jackson Heights).

Both Dromm and Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer (D-Sunnyside) said they were happy three states — Maine, Maryland and Washington — passed voter referendums approving marriage equality and that several gay and lesbian candidates won seats in Congress, including current U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), who will become the first openly gay sena-



Openly gay City Councilmen Daniel Dromm (l.) and Jimmy Van Bramer (second from l.), seen here after marriage equality was passed in New York state, hailed three other states voting to make same-sex marriage legal in the 2012 elections. Van Bramer is hugging his now-husband Dan Hendrick.

tor.

Baldwin beat out former Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson, who tried to paint her as an ideologue with

a weak defense record, for the seat of outgoing U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl (D-Wis.). Baldwin claimed Thompson used his health care company to secure a contract to treat 9/11 responders but never delivered the care.

Van Bramer and Dromm said the elections were an indicator that national public opinion on LGBT rights is changing.

"I think some of these things I thought would happen I never thought they would happen this quickly," Van Bramer said. "I think what has been really dramatic is the pace at which equality is kind of marching at this point for the LGBT community and I think that's breathtaking."

Dromm said he did not believe civil rights such as marriage should be put to a popular vote, but he said the decisions in the three states

*Continued on Page 41*



Michelle Gonzalez, with her Yorkie Chiquita, voted for President Barack Obama in Ozone Park. Obama received a record high percentage of the Hispanic vote across the country.

Photo by Christina Santucci

# Howard Beach fights storm's aftermath

5

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Residents believe city should have ordered evacuation before water rushed into their homes

BY STEVE MOSCO

While celebrities and elected officials display some post-Hurricane Sandy goodwill in hard-hit places like Far Rockaway and Staten Island, residents in a small Queens community are gutting their basements and wondering where to go from here.

Howard Beach was classified as Zone B before the storm unleashed its fury, so there was no mandatory evacuation order given. As such, many people living on the side streets adjacent to Cross Bay Boulevard stayed to weather the storm and were left unprepared for much of the destruction to come.

Walter and Josephine Nowich were in their home on 92nd Street when they noticed water rushing up the street. They grabbed

what they could and headed to a friend's house in Lindenwood.

"It felt like a matter of seconds before cars were floating down the street," said Walter Nowich, whose finished basement was completely flooded.

The couple has lived in the house for 27 years and said if they had been alerted to the potential for flooding, they would have moved many of their valuables and important documents to the second floor.

"My beautiful basement is ruined," said Josephine Nowich about the space that once featured couches, a bar and exercise equipment. "We could have saved so much, but we were never told how bad it would get here."

The Nowiches are not sure if they will refinish the basement, but they are



Walter and Josephine Nowich stand in their Howard Beach basement, which was flooded during Hurricane Sandy.  
Photo by Christina Santucci

sure of one thing: the kindness and strength of their community.

"The block really came together to support each other," Walter said. "Life just has to get back to basics. We're lucky to be alive."

Stories like that of the Nowiches' repeat throughout Howard Beach with families pouring over per-

sonal items once stored in the basement that are now soggy and ruined at curbside.

A 78-year-old man, who would only give his name as Ed, lost his treasure, a 1937 Packard luxury automobile. He also lost a pool table from the late 1800s, as well as power tools dating back to the 1950s.

"There isn't much

worth saving," he said. "I've lived here since 1957 and it's all gone. I lost my life in a moment."

A moment was all Jeanne Reskallah had to get out of harm's way. The 63-year-old resident on 90th Street watched as her son Giovanni, 23, was pulled from flood waters by rescuers after he left the house. Reskallah, who believes

Howard Beach should have been under a mandatory evacuation order, said the current was too strong for her son to make it back, so she sought refuge with her daughter-in-law in her bedroom.

Reskallah's basement was also ruined, along with a treasure trove of collectibles the widow had amassed through the years. She lost paintings, Bugs Bunny stills, coins, Olympic merchandise and much more, but she knows from experience that it is family that matters most.

"I don't suffer for material things. I miss my husband the most," said Reskallah, whose husband Adel died from cancer seven years ago. "You can buy new stuff, but you can't bring back someone you love so much."

Appreciation for life and a renewed perspec-

*Continued on Page 41*

## Communities search for answers as utilities work to restore power

BY RICH BOCKMANN

An elected official incorrectly said on the radio that the Long Island Power Authority told her it would take seven weeks to restore power to the Rockaways. A resident on the peninsula claimed the NYPD was turning back out-of-state power workers.

In neighborhoods left without electricity in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, rumors often fill the void left by the absence of reliable information, and the waiting for answers can often be just as agonizing as the wait for the lights to come on.

"We're upset, and we're upset because we

don't have answers," state Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (D-Ozone Park) said last Thursday in Belle Harbor, where he and other officials pointed the finger at executives at LIPA, Con Edison and the city and state governments for leaving communities in the dark. "We want to know what's going on. We want to know what's happening. We want to know when is our power going to be coming back on and the problem is that we're not getting the answers we need."

The days following Sandy have not been the first time the city's public utilities have been criticized for their handling of a crisis, though the super-

storm has presented some unique challenges.

Last year, about 25,000 Con Ed customers in Queens lost electricity when Hurricane Irene's high winds brought down trees and power lines in the borough. Con Ed said Sandy caused five times the damage that Irene did, and by Tuesday night it had restored power to more than 130,000 customers affected by the storm. Unlike Irene, however, Sandy brought massive flooding to parts of coastal Queens, and for those flood-damaged homes the timeline for turning the lights back on extends beyond the utilities getting their infrastructure

*Continued on Page 41*

## Ulrich, Goldfeder castigate Red Cross response to Sandy

BY KAREN FRANTZ

The American Red Cross has come under fire by frustrated storm victims and elected officials in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, with many charging the organization's relief effort in southern Queens started far too late and has not been nearly strong enough.

"I've seen just a lethargic, slow response from the Red Cross," City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) said. "Embarrassingly minimal."

Ulrich said he has been on the ground in some of the harder hit regions of Queens daily since the day before the storm and that the organization was



A Red Cross van drops off supplies at Beach 113th Street.  
Photo by Christina Santucci

nowhere to be found in the first few days after the hurricane. He also said his experience trying to work with the Red Cross to bring a mobile Tide Laundromat truck to Queens has been frustrating, with Tide and Mayor Michael Bloomberg's office saying the relief organization should ask Tide to respond, but the Red Cross telling Ulrich that was not

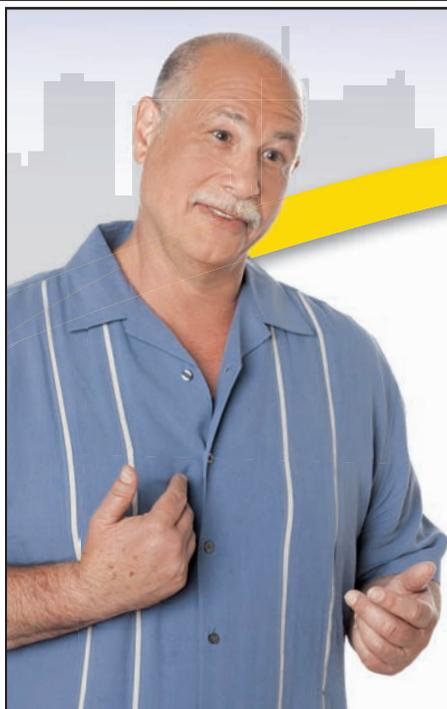
the case. Ulrich said he is still waiting for an answer from the Red Cross.

On Sunday, he took to Twitter to express his anger, writing, "Maybe instead of running TV ads asking for money, American Red Cross should be helping my constituents. I wouldn't give them a dime."

A spokesman for the Red Cross, Michael Devulpillieres, acknowledged criticism of the organization's response to Sandy.

"We always wish that we could get there quicker and we understand that people are frustrated and people had difficulty finding us early on," he said.

*Continued on Page 41*



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# City pledges \$500M for hurricane repairs

BY KAREN FRANTZ

The City Council authorized \$500 million in emergency spending Tuesday to make repairs to public schools and hospitals damaged by Hurricane Sandy, coming on top of \$134 million already approved by the city for the recovery effort and emergency services.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, announcing the plan at a news conference in Howard Beach Monday, said the needed repairs are critical.

"We're committed to doing everything we can to get public school buildings damaged by Sandy reopened as soon as possible and also make urgent hurricane-related repairs to public hospitals," he said.

The City Council unanimously approved Bloomberg's plan Tuesday.

The plan allocates \$200 million to the city Department of Education and \$300 million to the city Health & Hospitals Corp. and will be added to capital funds in the current fiscal year. The money will go to structural restorations, new electrical systems, new boilers and other repairs.

Bloomberg said that to his knowledge the city has never before made such an emergency spending provision because of a natural disaster, and the total cost of replacing and repairing damaged city infrastruc-

ture may be billions of dollars.

"We won't know the full cost for some time," he said. "But we're taking this step now because our public schools and public hospitals have immediate needs."

Bloomberg made the remarks alongside Council Speaker Christine Quinn (D-Manhattan), city Comptroller John Liu and Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) at PS 207 Rockwood Park. PS 207 is one of 23 school buildings closed for repairs, and Bloomberg said overall 26,000 students and their teachers had to resume classes at facilities elsewhere because of the damage.

"It's an enormous number of students," he said.

In addition, three public hospitals require extensive repairs, including the Coler-Goldwater Specialty Hospital and Nursing Facility on Roosevelt Island, Bellevue Hospital Center in Manhattan and Coney Island Hospital in Brooklyn.

The mayor unveiled his plan the same day it was revealed Gov. Andrew Cuomo is planning to ask the federal government for \$30 billion in disaster aid to help rebuild after Sandy.

Bloomberg said he hopes the federal government will reimburse the city or pay outright for the costs of needed repairs, but the city cannot wait to address the damage.



Mayor Michael Bloomberg announces new emergency capital spending with City Comptroller John Liu.

Photo courtesy Bloomberg

# Daughter visits 587 crash site

Francisca Diaz makes annual Rockaway Park trek to remember mother

BY CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

Every Nov. 12, Francisca Diaz travels to Queens to remember her mother, who was one of 265 people killed when Flight 587 crashed into Rockaway in 2001 shortly after taking off from John F. Kennedy International Airport for the Dominican Republic.

This year was no different.

At about 9:30 a.m. Monday, she visited a memorial in Rockaway Park at Beach 116th Street to place a flower close to the engraving of her mother's name, Petronia Hierro.

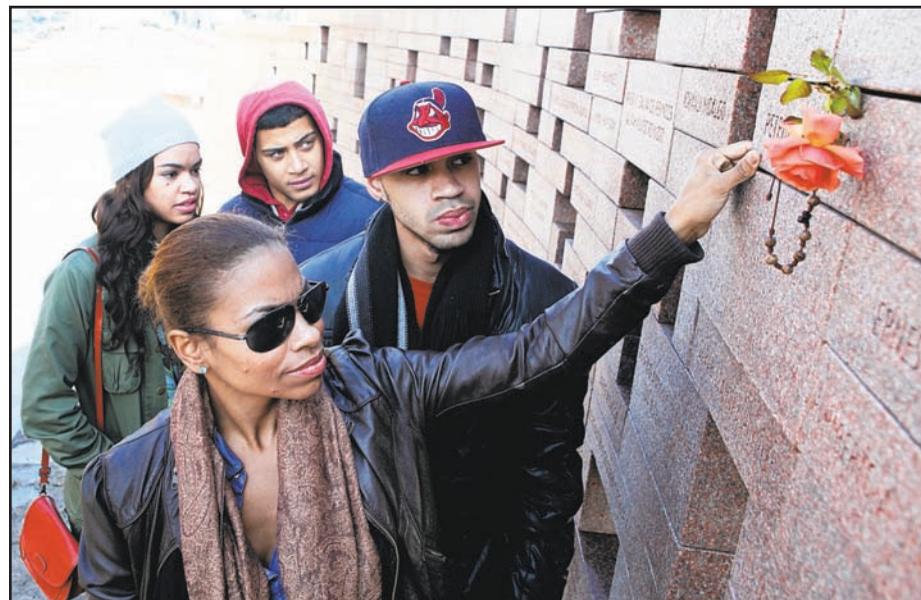
"We dedicate this day to remembering her," Diaz said.

At the time of the American Airlines crash, Diaz's mother had been traveling alone to visit one of her 12 children in Santo Domingo, who had been badly hurt in a car accident.

"It was hard for him to accept. He was blaming himself for Mommy — for my mom's death," Diaz said.

Since 2006, a memorial ceremony has been held at the Rockaway Park site, which is now surrounded by piles of sand, debris and buildings battered by Hurricane Sandy. On the south side, the boardwalk is split in several places and pieces are missing.

To commemorate the 11th anniversary this year, a service attended by Mayor Michael Bloomberg took place at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in the Bronx. But several families — in-



Francisca Diaz (front) stands beside her mother's name on the Flight 587 memorial in Rockaway Park. She is surrounded by (l.-r.) her sister Orquidia Capellan, brother Omar Capellan and nephew Raymond Collado.

Photo by Christina Santucci

cluding Diaz's clan — instead opted to go to Queens, where they took photos of loved ones' names and walked to the water's edge. Afterward, some planned to head over to Beach 131st Street in Belle Harbor, the actual crash site.

"I'm surprised no one is here today," Diaz said.

Diaz said she had been unsure about this year's memorial plans in the days leading up to the anniversary. She had received an invitation for an event in Queens a while back before the storm struck.

"After Sandy, they never let us know they were going to cancel it," she said.

Several blocks away at the crash site on Beach 131st Street a single candle and a memorial card for Michelle Mills had been placed in front of a tree on

the corner.

In the neighboring streets, the effects of the storm were visible. Several homes had been torched by fire during the hurricane and piles of debris were collected along the curb.

Ray Sullivan, who lives a block away, witnessed both the Flight 587 crash and the deluge and blazes brought on by Sandy.

Eleven years ago, he had been watching Regis Philbin on TV when he heard a plane overhead.

"I thought it was a Concord it was so loud. And then we heard an explosion," he said.

Sullivan got dressed, went outside and tried to direct traffic.

"They were doing what they could to put out the fire, but it was impossible," he said.

Of those killed, 260 were aboard the American Airlines plane and another five were on the ground.

Late last month fire once again torched parts of Belle Harbor.

"There were embers coming over towards my house. We were just watching. There was nothing we could do because the water was 6, 8 feet outside," Sullivan said of a blaze on 131st Street, half a block down from the crash site.

After that fire burned out, the wind shifted, and another one began burning on Beach 130th Street, torching the popular Harbor Light Pub on Rockaway Beach Boulevard and more homes.

"For myself, I lost two cars and my basement, but other people had it much worse," he said.

## Hispanic vote

Continued from Page 4

black voters.

"It's going to become very difficult for any may-

oral candidate to win without it," Peralta said of the minority vote.

Moya also said New York Democrats would con-

tinue to push New York's version of the DREAM Act, which would make education accessible to all students, and the DREAM Fund, which allows undocumented students to apply for financial aid.

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

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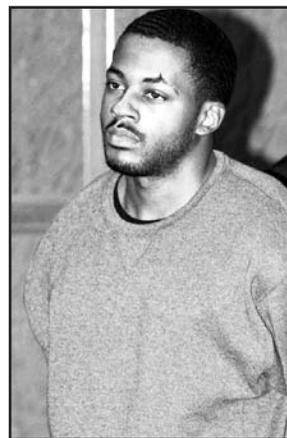
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# POLICE Blotter

## Pair charged in Jamaica murder: DA



Shytique Kelly appears in Queens County Supreme Court where he is indicted on murder charges. Photo by Ellis Kaplan

JAMAICA — An Arverne man and his alleged Rosedale accomplice will be tried on murder charges after a Queens grand jury indicted them Tuesday on charges of killing a witness who had testified in an earlier robbery case, according to District Attorney Richard Brown.

Shytique Kelly, of 440 Beach 58th St., was arrested May 30 for allegedly gunning down 21-year-old Tyshen Coakley three days earlier at the intersection of 110th Avenue and 160th Street, Brown said. Coakley had testified against

Kelly earlier, and Brown said Kelly had previously made a third-party threat to kill Coakley.

Kelly was charged with murder, attempted murder, criminal possession of a weapon, contempt and tampering with a witness, according to the DA.

Jasmine Guillebeau, of 148-03 Huxley St., was charged with murder, criminal facilitation and hindering prosecution for allegedly driving Kelly to kill Coakley, Brown said.

The next court date is scheduled for Jan. 29.

## All-hands fire breaks out in Broad Channel

BROAD CHANNEL — A fire broke out in storm-ravaged Broad Channel Sunday, according to the FDNY.

Firefighters said the all-hands blaze started at a private house at around 4 p.m.

No injuries were reported and the investigation is ongoing.



Firefighters respond to a blaze on Cross Bay Boulevard in Broad Channel Sunday. Photo by William Thomas

## NYPD searching for man in Jax Hts sexual assault



Police are looking for a suspect who sexually abused a 12-year-old girl in Jackson Heights. Image courtesy NYPD

JACKSON HEIGHTS — Police were asking for the public's help in identifying an individual wanted in connection with a sexual abuse in Jackson Heights Nov. 6.

Police released a video of the suspect, who allegedly approached a 12-year-old girl from behind and sexually abused her.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic man, age 20-30, with acne scarring on his face.

He was last seen wearing sunglasses, a black and white patterned hat, black-hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans.

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# Revelers celebrate festival of lights in Rich Hill

BY STEVE MOSCO

Bright decorations adorned in a myriad of colors and lights lit up the dusk as revelers gathered to celebrate Diwali in Richmond Hill Saturday.

The festival of lights is observed by Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and others in South Asia. The five-day festival is centered on the new moon and is observed by lighting diyas — simple oil lamps — to signify the victory of good over evil in the individual.

Presented by the Divya Jyoti Association and the Arya Spiritual Center, the celebration kicked off at the Arya Spiritual Center grounds, at 104-20 133rd St.

“Every year people come out and decorate in honor of the Goddess Lakshmi. We only have two major holidays in the Hindu religion. We’re looking to make Diwali a major community event, and it has been growing. We’re very excited about it,” said Lakshme Singh, one of the founding members of the Arya’s festivities.

Diwali celebrations span a

five-day period, each day being assigned a special significance as ordained by Hindu doctrine. The first day of Diwali, known as “Dhan-trayodashi,” is a day during which one gives thanks for all spiritual and material wealth in one’s life.

Jamaica resident Meera Singh said Diwali always reminds her of her native Trinidad, where she was born, raised and spent many years celebrating this festival of lights.

“I grew up into the religion,” said Singh, who spent the holiday in Richmond Hill for the first time. “In Trinidad at this time of year, we have a big celebration for the festival of lights, and I wanted to see if it was as big here as it is there.”

The party did not reach the heights of previous years, however, as the annual motorcade had to be canceled because there were not enough police officers to block off Liberty Avenue. Many members of the NYPD have been engaged in hurricane relief efforts in Queens and other parts of



the city.

But the stationary nature of this year’s celebration did not dampen the spirits of those who attended since they felt even more motivation to have fun and appreciate their neighbors, especially in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Lolita Maharaj, of Richmond Hill, said the parade helps bring the community together, especially youngsters, and is exactly what the community needs as neighboring areas continue to rebuild.

“It’s tradition,” she said. “It’s not just one celebration this year. It comes every year and no storm can stop it. We really cherish it and will always celebrate it.”

Reach reporter Steve Mosco by e-mail at [smosco@cnglocal.com](mailto:smosco@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4546.

Dancers from the Natraj Center for Performing Arts take the stage for the Diwali celebration in Richmond Hill.

Photo by Christina Santucci

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# LIPA Is ACCOUNTABLE

As we near Thanksgiving, we are grateful for the work done by first responders and volunteers helping Queens families survive Hurricane Sandy. Nevertheless, it is taking too long to get power back in parts of Queens.

The power companies dropped the ball, especially the Long Island Power Authority, which is responsible for the Rockaways. More than two weeks after Sandy hit, the lights should be on in every home, but they are not.

The problem was management, not the crews, which worked around the clock.

Residents say they often see LIPA and Con Ed trucks parked on the sides roads waiting for direction. The LIPA crews are managed by an outdated 25-year-old mainframe computer.

LIPA was warned of its shortcomings in a 2006 report and again last year after Hurricane Irene, but the new management system wasn't ready when Sandy hit.

In a news conference last week, Gov. Andrew Cuomo called the utilities virtual monopolies run by nameless and faceless bureaucrats.

"We're going to have to look at a ground-up redesign," he said.

When the crisis is over, Albany must hold the state-owned utilities accountable.

## VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

The relief effort in Queens in the wake of Sandy has been impressive. Waves of volunteers have taken part in the massive relief effort, but an organizer told TimesLedger Newspapers that more needs to be done.

"The No. 1 need is for volunteers," said Alison Thompson, an organizer at Belle Harbor's St. Francis De Sales Church.

There are the elderly who did not obey the mandatory evacuation order. They cannot travel far to get food, medical supplies and assistance. Without the help of volunteers, they might not have survived.

Every day trucks come bringing water and food, toilet paper and other supplies, but more volunteers are needed to make certain supplies get into the hands of those who need them.

In the Rockaways and communities throughout Queens and the metropolitan area, ordinary citizens have stepped up to the plate and filled in the gaps where government has fallen short.

They have demonstrated the triumph of the human spirit.



## OTHER VOICES

# Romney would have privatized Sandy relief

Hurricane Sandy, "the perfect storm," showed President Barack Obama to be the perfect president to handle it. Before the first breeze trumpeting the imminent arrival of Sandy ruffled our hair, our president was making arrangements for the emergency relief of those who would be the possible victims.

And when the fear became a reality, he was ready and implemented all necessary government

measures and visited the troubled scenes — and this time spent at the critical tail end of the presidential race. Ask Republican New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. This was no Hurricane Katrina scenario.

Imagine Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney in that position. During the June 13, 2011, Republican presidential debate, he answered honestly that federal disaster relief was "immoral." He said he would have the private sec-

tor handle it.

Disaster for profit. Why not? That greed-oriented mentality would advocate for prisoners for profit by privatizing jails, human well-being for profit by privatizing health care, communication for profit by privatizing the U.S. Postal Service, education for profit by privatizing public schools, U.S. disaster response for profit by privatizing Federal Emergency Management Agency-type activities, etc.

The privatizing for profit by him and his privateers goes on. Romney's Bain Capital is the poster boy for these buccaneers. It is their piracy modus operandi: attack, capture, destroy and plunder.

The concept would be laughable if it was not so lamentable.

Nicholas Zizelis  
Bayside

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# Council members should be ashamed over soda law

*An open letter to the City Council:*

I had written to my city councilman, Dan Halloran (R-Whitestone), about my family's experience at the AMC Bay Terrace movie theater that was doing a trial run of the law which is to go into effect next March.

I thought it only fair to address each of you with respect to Mayor Michael Bloomberg's revision of the city health law to prohibit the sale of larger-than-16-ounce sweetened sodas. Although my granduncle, Mario J. Cariello, was the Queens borough president from 1963-69, I have never thought it necessary to write to a public official until now.

I need to know from each of you how you could sit by while a tyrannical mayor promulgated a law

that restricts the most basic of the personal freedoms of your constituents: their personal diet. I can no longer go on like my apathetic, sleepwalking fellow citizens who I see reading about the soda ban in the local papers and plodding on like everything is okay.

Everything is not okay. Our founding fathers fought for the freedoms your chamber watched get taken away from the citizens of New York City at the suggestion of a mayor and the rubber stamp of eight members of the city Department of Health. All of this was done without any semblance of a democratic process. In so doing, they restricted my ability, as a 5-foot-7, 165-pound person, to purchase a large Coke Classic to share with my family.

The same Department

of Health allows me to purchase a 32-ounce Diet Coke or Coke Zero, which contains aspartame and phenylalanine. Nothing about this law is okay. Although the local newspapers jokingly ran portrayals of Bloomberg as a nanny, this is not a joking matter, and the restriction of a citizen's rights should never be trivialized.

I can assure you that neither King George III nor Napoleon restricted the diets of their citizenry. No government on Earth has the authority to infringe on that aspect of an individual's sovereignty, the right to choose what and how much they eat, for any reason.

You, as a Council member, not only represent me but yourselves in that chamber. What kind of individual elected to legislative office would sit by and

watch an attack on what it means to be American: the basic freedom to choose what and how much we eat? I can understand that Bloomberg is a wealthy and influential citizen whose power has a broad sweep, but to sell out what we were taught in third-grade history about our basic freedoms is unfathomable.

I sat by while your chamber allowed Bloomberg to hijack a third term by overturning a citizen referendum restricting mayoral term limits to two, only to watch each of you go against the will of the citizens and afford him that third term. I can no longer remain silent.

You would be shortsighted to dismiss this letter as the ramblings of some lunatic as opposed to the outraged father of two children who need to grow

up in a world where the government will both respect and protect their individual sovereignty and inalienable right to enjoy the most basic of freedoms: the right to choose what and how much they eat.

Let me get this straight: Our soldiers are fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan while the mayor is telling us what and how much food we can put into our bodies? This is embarrassing to your legislative body.

If what Bloomberg did was legal and not contrary to our City Charter, then I need to know from each of you what you are going to do to amend the Charter and repeal this repugnant law to protect the rights of my fellow citizens from anything like this again.

If one of you disagrees with the words and sentiments expressed in this

letter, I challenge you, individually or collectively, to a debate on this issue in a public forum of your choosing. If you agree, I need to know what you, as my representative body, are going to do to address this wanton intrusion of government run amok.

This letter has been sent to each member of the Council with my own funds and, if I do not hear a response, I will make it my mission to awaken the Patrick Henry in each of those citizens you think is sleepwalking and you will wind up on the wrong side of history.

*William J. Cariello III  
Flushing*

## Storm shows New Yorkers' soft side

As New Yorkers, our day-to-day lives are full of honking cars, bumps on the sidewalk and a litany of curse words. It's enough to make someone jaded. Every so often, something happens that wakes us out of our mundane routines. It shakes us to the core, threatens the fabric of our city, but we always emerge from it stronger.

On the Friday before the storm I, like most New Yorkers, thought Sandy would resemble Irene — a lot of panic for some gusts and a few inches of water. But after the storm hit and we saw the news reports (not on television, we lost power) it was heartbreaking to see the devastation

and destruction. Howard Beach, Broad Channel and the Rockaways all saw damage beyond our comprehension. As I write this, none of these neighborhoods have power. It has been 12 days.

While the storm may have damaged property and destroyed basements, it could not break our resolve. The amount of support I have seen for those affected by the storm has been overwhelming. Within 48 hours of the Sandy leaving, my office was flooded with donations from Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, along with people from Connecticut, New Jersey and other states calling to volunteer. We ran food, clothes, blankets and batteries — anything you could think of — to those

affected. People came to my office with no car and no supplies, just looking to help out any way they could. I'd like to offer my thanks to everyone who pitched in. Locally, I'd personally like to thank the Glendale Civilian Observation Patrol, the Glendale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, the Glendale Kiwanis Club, the Legacy Center, the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association, Zum Stammtisch Restaurant, the Teamsters, the Brooklyn Kitchen and all the other organizations that did their part. These organizations brought supplies and transportation vehicles to aid those that were affected. Additionally, hundreds of individuals stepped up to help those in

need.

While we are still focusing on immediate needs of power and heat, we should take an important lesson from this storm: we are all family. Even if someone is honking at you in rush hour traffic, know that the person shouting curses is your brother or sister. Know that this person will come to your aid whenever you need it, and they know you would do the same. We are tested time and time again, and New Yorkers never fail.

*Assemblyman  
Michael Miller  
Woodhaven*

## MTA fare increases not helping economy

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has announced that fares are going to increase on all mass transit lines, bridges, tunnels and commuter railroads by next year.

This is outrageous. The public has enough to worry about due to the bad economy, and now another unnecessary and unfair burden is going to be placed upon them. Perhaps MTA executives should volunteer to take a substantial cut in their overbloomed and uncalled-for salaries.

The commuters of this

city are fed up with these constant fare increases. The service does not improve with each one, but seems to worsen. People are going to have to shell out more money just to commute back and forth from work, which is not fair.

Why can't the state and federal governments help out the MTA? Where did all of that stimulus money President Barack Obama made available four years ago disappear to?

*John Amato  
Fresh Meadows*

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be typed or neatly handwritten, and those longer than 300 words may be edited for brevity and clarity. All letters must include the writer's name and phone number for verification. Names may be withheld from publication if requested, but anonymously sent letters will not be printed. Letters must be received by Thursday noon to appear in the next week's paper. All letters become the property of Queens Publishing Corporation and may be republished in any format.

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# Hurricane Sandy provided boon to Obama during election



**William Lewis**  
Political Action

Here in New York and other areas, the election process took a heavy toll on the results. This year, more than in the past, the concept of early voting, absentee ballots, affidavit ballots and late registration played a major role in casting ballots.

Every 10 years in New York, election district lines are changed for the state Assembly and state Senate and Congress. Some registered voters, upon arriving

at polling sites to vote, had to spend time finding the correct voting district.

We add to this the confusion caused by changing some polling sites due to the problems following Hurricane Sandy. The new voting methods seem to be going back to the era before voting machines came into place. The sweeping changes in how we vote does not necessarily mean an improvement in voting procedures.

This year in most places we had a heavy turnout of people voting, especially since a presidential race was involved. All of these elements led to long lines and more time in participating in the election.

As we look at a map of how voting trends de-

veloped throughout our country, it seems more than ever we were divided geographically by region into two voting blocks, with Democratic President Barack Obama sweeping the heavily populated, industrialized northeastern part of the United States. He also added the West Coast to his total, especially with California taking the lead in that area.

As for Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, he captured the southern and midwestern part of the country. In the case of the South, it was solid with every state favoring Romney except Florida.

Now with the national election over, the question remains: Can these two regions work together for the

common good or will there be serious differences in the direction of government policy?

During the 1950s, it was considered by many that the two major political parties were similar in formulating national policy and dealing with political and social issues. Today, the two major parties have totally different views in how to best govern the country. That is expected to be a major concern during the next four years of Obama's second term.

In the Republican Party, it seems it had a stronger candidate for president this year in Romney than four years ago, but circumstances weighed against him. He was facing an incumbent who is a powerful

public speaker. Obama was able to put his opponent on the defensive as he ran a well-organized campaign.

Hurricane Sandy changed the focus of the campaign during the final week before Election Day. It helped to project Obama as an effective national leader. In the final week of the campaign, it was difficult to maintain attention on the issues with most of the media dealing with the hurricane and its aftermath. It was a hard-fought campaign with the future of our county at stake.

Obama, like Romney, had some difficult situations to deal with, such as his less-than-effective performance in the first debate, but he was able to make a strong comeback

shortly after that.

Romney was not able to make such a speedy comeback, especially after making some verbal gaffes during speeches. Early voting should not be encouraged, since the circumstances may be different after early voting occurred and the person who voted early may want to change his or her vote.

In Queens, the all important Senate race between incumbent Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach) and City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) has ended with Addabbo the winner with 56 percent of the vote. Addabbo will begin his third term in office in January.

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# Raccoon books short stay in Baisley Park Library

BY ALICIA TAYLOR-DOMVILLE

After hurricane Sandy's devastating effects, volunteers at the Queens Library in Baisley Park got a furry and uplifting surprise.

As volunteers cleaned up last Thursday after the storm, they discovered a raccoon taking shelter in the library's atrium.

The children who frequently visit the library affectionately named the raccoon "Mr. Rocky Books." They also made him a temporary home, fed him and read to him through the glass window of the atrium. The atrium is a glass "donut hole," with a small garden in the middle of the library building. Only staff had access to the raccoon to feed him and refill his water.

The staff was happy to house him, but by the following week Mr. Rocky Books had left his temporary crash pad for the wild environs of southeast Queens.

"After Sandy's effects, Mr. Rocky Books was a pleasant sight for everyone, especially the kids,"



Queens library officials say a raccoon made itself a home in the atrium of the Baisley Park branch.

Photo courtesy Queens Library

said Joanne King, director of communications for Queens Library.

Baisley Park Library did not sustain any damage from Sandy's strong winds or water, but there are seven branches still without power. They will reopen as soon as power is restored. The Arverne and Peninsula branches both experienced about 4 feet of floodwater and require major construction that will begin as soon as possible. The Seaside, Broad Channel and Howard Beach branches had some flooding and need repairs to their floors and replacement of some damaged material.

Mobile libraries are operating in the Rockaways, offering services such as health care, Federal Emergency Management Agency information and Red Cross training to those in need.

For more information on services, visit [queenslibrary.org/sandy](http://queenslibrary.org/sandy).

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# Nobel

Continued from Page 1

tend and between kidney donors and recipients. Roth is credited with implementing concrete uses for the matchmaking theories of UCLA professor Lloyd Shapley, with whom the economist will share the \$1.2 million prize.

"It is really nice to be recognized for my work and win this award," said Roth, who grew up near Alley Pond but left Queens in 1971. "The work that led to the award was one eureka moment among a thousand frustrations."

Roth, the McCaw Senior Visiting Professor of Economics at Stanford and a Stanford alumnus who will become a full faculty member at the start of 2013, is a pioneer in the field of game theory and experi-

mental economics and in their application to the design of new economic institutions.

Stanford University Provost John Etchemendy, who described Roth's recent arrival at Stanford as "fortuitous," praised the economist as not only "an extraordinary researcher and teacher, admired worldwide by other economists," but also "a heck of a nice human being."

Roth said the prize has sparked an interest in economics on Stanford's campus and his students are listening more closely during his lectures.

"I'm sure my lectures are a lot more interesting now. Also, I'm probably funnier and more handsome, too," joked Roth. "But I think they'll get over it pretty quickly. The students in my class are already heavily into market design and the Nobel Prize

will make little difference to them."

One noticeable change in his life, Roth observed, is the media attention that has infiltrated his once academically tranquil life. The professor said he has been bounced around the globe and has made appearances on Swedish television.

And even though he appreciates the attention garnered for his chosen profession, he is anxiously anticipating a life without pre-dawn phone calls.

"I am looking forward to bringing my media career to a gentle end," he said. "And I have no plans to retire — we're just hitting our stride in market design."

Reach reporter Steve Mosco by e-mail at [smosco@cnglocal.com](mailto:smosco@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4546.



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# Miller

Continued from Page 1

to bring to trial, as many of the youths involved in the incident were afraid to come forward and put their lives in jeopardy.

"I feel like, rightfully, justice was served," she said.

Calas and Ekwegbalu had been involved in a physical fight with the Bloods Oct. 2, 2009 outside Campus Magnet HS in Cambria Heights, at around 3:15 p.m., the DA said. Calas had fired his .380-caliber, semi-automatic revolver and Ekwegbalu had fired another gun at three unarmed Blood members he had been fighting as they tried to run away in front of a car wash at Linden and Springfield boulevards, the DA said.

One of their bullets ended up striking Kevin, who had been walking to a nearby McDonald's, in the head and killing him instantly, the DA said. Another bullet hit 17-year-old Pedro Garcia in the left leg, the DA said. Garcia, who was working at the car wash, was treated at

a Queens hospital, the DA said.

"The defendants in this case cut short the life of an innocent 13-year-old student and wounded a second teen who was working at a car wash by engaging in reckless — and ultimately fatal — gun violence," Queens District Attorney Richard Brown said in a statement. "The streets of Queens County must not be turned into deadly battlegrounds for these rival gangs."

Kevin, who like Garcia had no involvement in youth gangs, was a hard-working student and a member of many community groups.

After the death of her son, Hood started the KLM Jr. Foundation to improve the lives of youths in the community and award scholarships.

Calas and Ekwegbalu shared the same trial, but their cases were both considered by separate juries, which found each of them guilty, the DA said.

Calas' jury found him guilty of first-degree manslaughter, second-degree attempted murder, two counts of assault and two counts of criminal possession of a weapon, the DA

said. Ekwegbalu's jury convicted him of first-degree manslaughter, two counts of assault and one count of criminal possession of a weapon, the DA said.

Calas and Ekwegbalu both face 50 years in prison at their sentencing, which will be held Jan. 9.

Johnson, whose son Kendrick Ali Morrow was fatally shot at a block party in 2010, said she hoped the conviction of Calas and Ekwegbalu would discourage other young men from picking up guns. She also said witnesses unwilling to speak up is common, which makes convictions more difficult.

"I understand the fear because who's going to protect them?" Johnson said. "On the other hand, do the right thing."

Hood said she has asked to speak at Calas and Ekwegbalu's sentencing. She said she does not seek sympathy or even an apology from her son's killers, but she wants them to have long sentences and to realize the impact of their crimes.

"I just want to be able to state how I feel," Hood said.

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# Slip and fall at Hammels kills vet in wake of Sandy

BY CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

Albert McSwain and his daughter had only wanted to get some air after the hurricane, she said.

But after the pair encountered a pitch-black stairwell slick with water, McSwain's daughter, Allison McSwain-Lockett, headed back for a flashlight so they could better navigate their way outside from the fourth floor in the Hammels Houses following Sandy.

"When I came back, he had slipped," she said. "I wasn't gone a split second."

McSwain-Lockett said she ran to alert emergency responders, who then carried out McSwain from between the third and fourth floors on a stretcher. His daughter said the 77-year-old's spinal cord had been severed in the fall and his head had hit the concrete.

After several days of treatment, McSwain, a U.S. Army veteran who had worked for 23 years as a custodian at the city Police Academy, died at Jamaica Hospital. He was the 11th person in Queens whose death is attributed to the storm and his death brought the city's total to 43, police said.

His family complained that the New York City Housing Authority, which oversees the Hammels Houses in central Rockaway, had not properly secured the stairwells. NYCHA declined to comment.



Allison McSwain-Lockett holds a photo of her father Albert McSwain, who died after falling in the stairwell of the Hammels Houses.

Photo by Christina Santucci

"When you have a water condition, I don't care what you are doing, you are supposed to put out cones," McSwain-Lockett said. "They could have barricaded these doors and said, 'Stay in here. Don't go outside.'"

Relatives described McSwain as healthy, sturdy and having a big appetite for life. His daughter recalled buying him a cake for his birthday last month, and McSwain left her the bakery box string on top of the TV to indicate he had finished the whole treat himself.

McSwain-Lockett said she had moved back in with her father after she was displaced from her home in Jamaica following Tropical Storm Irene and she praised his generosity.

"I've brought total strangers here to his door, and said, 'I need some help.' He helped them," she recalled.

A father of five, grandfather of 13 and great-grandfather of 10, McSwain was originally from Alabama and moved to New York after serving in the Korean War. He beat throat cancer in 1989, his daughter said.

A service was scheduled for Thursday between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. at Deliverance Baptist Church, at 227-11 Linden Blvd. in Cambria Heights, with a funeral to follow at the same location between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Relatives said Monday that they had waited to tell McSwain's 2-year-old great-granddaughter, Shayla Johnson, of his death. When she would ask for McSwain after his fall, family members would have her call his phone, so she could listen to his voicemail.

"Every afternoon, because she lives around the corner, she calls him and says, 'Grandpa, are you all right?'" McSwain-Lockett said.

## Driver

*Continued from Page 2*

are seven times more likely to be involved in an accident than those managed by a traditional bus operator.

The report cited driver fatigue as an ongoing concern for bargain carriers.

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Cheung was not the only accident involving curbside carriers in recent years nor was it the most deadly.

In March 2011, three separate bus crashes raised eyebrows at DOT.

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wheel, according to investigators.

Then two days later, a Forest Hills man was killed in New Jersey after he crashed the tour bus he was driving from Chinatown to Pennsylvania.

Later in March, 23 people on board a bus operated by a Flushing company were injured in a crash in New Hampshire.

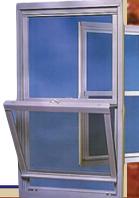
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# Storm victims get relief at Howard Beach church

BY STEVE MOSCO

As Howard Beach residents cleaned up after unwelcome guest Hurricane Sandy, they were comforted by the relief efforts of one church right in their own backyard.

St. Helen's Roman Catholic School, at 83-09 157th Ave., became the community's go-to relief center offering displaced and distressed storm victims food, clothing, supplies and a place to recharge their phones and souls.

"A lot of these people still have no heat and no lights. This is a place where they can come and get a hot meal and take anything they might need," said Sandy Pepitone, director of religious education. "And they can come from all neighborhoods and from all faiths."

The relief center was the brainchild of Monsignor Alfred Lo Pinto and



Youngsters (l.-r.) Liana Kerrigan and twins Taylor and Ashley Zaramatidis man a table stocked with shampoo and deodorant for hurricane victims.  
Photo by Christina Santucci

Donna Crockett, a parishioner and retired police officer. Donations have arrived from good-hearted residents, the Red Cross

and the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the form of water, garbage bags, bathroom items and much more, but the most

appreciated feature at St. Helen's was, undoubtedly, the hot food.

"Have you had the chili?" asked one care re-

ipient, who chose not to be named. "I feel like I've been cold and wet for a month. This hot food warmed me from the inside out."

St. Helen's School, which teaches pre-kindergarten to eighth-grade, sustained flooding damage in the cafeteria but will reopen this week to its usual inhabitants: children.

But Pepitone said the relief center would remain as long as there is a need for it in the community and as long as there are residents willing to donate their time to provide aid.

"Seeing the people help really renews your faith in humankind," she said. "Sometimes we get so isolated in our own worlds — to see people here helping is really heartwarming."

Mother-and-son volunteer team Bernadette Coyoy and Jason Sanchez, who sustained little dam-

age at their house in Lindenwood, felt it was their duty to pitch in and lend a hand to those who were far less fortunate.

"We felt guilty because we had no problems, we never even lost electricity," said Coyoy, who welcomed neighbors and her son's friends into the house for warmth and electricity. "We heard so many stories of people in real pain, we had to help."

Coyoy's son said he felt bad for friends and neighbors who suffered greatly during the storm and was quick to let his friends enjoy time in front of the television while the power was out.

"Anything they needed they could come over and get," he said. "And we are here at St. Helen's because there are so many people who still need our help. We have so much, it is only right to share and to help."

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# Sanitation first on scene after Sandy hits Queens

BY KAREN FRANTZ

Although many residents and elected officials in ravaged regions of the borough have expressed frustration with some aspects of the city response to Hurricane Sandy, they have heaped praise on at least one agency for its quick response to the storm: the city Sanitation Department.

“Those guys are the unsung heroes,” said a staff member for state Sen. Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach) at his water-damaged district office in Howard Beach, saying Sanitation workers have been out in force since the storm.

Sanitation crews were working 24 hours a day in the aftermath of Sandy, with shifts spanning 12 hours and have cut back on regular trash collection in parts of the city to focus on cleaning up the storm-ravaged areas. A week after the storm, crews had already picked up more than 55,000 tons of refuse and debris citywide.

Some people in southern Queens said they saw crews clearing the streets days before they saw a Con Edison truck working to restore power or a city effort to provide food and other emergency supplies.

“No one was here but Sanitation,” Naomi Seitz, a Broad Channel resident,



Sanitation workers collect debris from the streets in Broad Channel.  
 Photo by Karen Frantz

said about the city response in the first few days after the storm.

The clean-up effort does not only entail clearing debris left in Sandy's wake, such as downed tree branches and scattered trash, but it also requires removing destroyed furniture and other possessions that have been discarded on the curb outside people's homes.

In places like Broad Channel, where numerous houses were flooded by water that reached many feet high, piles of debris and refuse sometimes were as tall or taller than a person after the storm.

Rudy S. Giuliani, a spokesman for City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park), said a week after the hurricane Sanitation crews in Broad Channel were nearly done with

a first round of removing debris and had cleared the streets almost to the toll on Cross Bay Boulevard.

“Cross Bay [had] a disaster with debris,” he said, pointing out that the boulevard had been backed up with traffic because there had “literally been an army of sanitation trucks” cleaning the streets.

The clean-up undertaking was more unusual in some neighborhoods. In Belle Harbor, the department had to remove sand that had blanketed the neighborhood.

“Sand [was] down there like a blizzard,” said Giuliani. “They had to plow it like snow.”

Mayor Michael Bloomberg lauded sanitation workers on their efforts Nov. 6 at the Edgemere Queens East 14 Garage in the Rockaways.

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# Occupy Sandy spearheads Rockaway med center

23

JT

BY KAREN FRANTZ

A team of grassroots organizers and volunteer doctors, nurses and social workers have pooled efforts to provide much-needed medical care in the Rockaways since Hurricane Sandy devastated the region, setting up a makeshift medical center along one of the main strips and canvassing homes to assess people's needs.

The center is organized by Occupy Sandy, a coordinated relief effort loosely associated with Occupy Wall Street that also has several volunteer and donation centers set up in hard-hit neighborhoods, such as Broad Channel in Queens and Red Hook, Brighton Beach and Coney Island in Brooklyn.

The Rockaway medical center is located in a gutted building at Rockaway Beach Boulevard and Beach 113th Street, across the street from an Occupy Sandy aid center and a block of burned down houses. Organizers have called it the Yana Medical Center, "Yana" being the name of the community center that houses



Occupy Sandy organizer Sofia Gallisa (second from l.) briefs volunteers on the day's activities outside the Yana Community Center in the Rockaways.

Photo by Karen Frantz

the aid site across the street and now standing as shorthand for "you are never alone."

A doctor volunteering at the center, David Ores — or Dr. Dave as he is known by organizers and patients — said efforts to treat residents can keep some of them out of emergency rooms, freeing up resources for others. He pointed to providing medicine to

patients with asthma and diabetes as an example.

"It's a minor thing, but it prevents a big mess," he said.

He spent his second day volunteering at the center Friday, seeing patients and writing non-narcotic drug prescriptions for people who needed them. He said he was prescribing supplies for up to one month and once he first

sees a patient at the center, he is able to write prescriptions over the phone.

Donning a leather biker jacket, he gave a short lesson to volunteers on how to spot a diabetic patient who may be in immediate need of medical care based on their regular insulin dosage.

"Believe whatever they say," he told them, saying it would be rare to come across a diabetic patient who was unsure about his or her dose.

Meanwhile, another Occupy Sandy organizer, Sofia Gallisa, said Friday the group was sending nurses and other volunteers to go door-to-door to figure out where medical care was needed.

She said a number of residents who need medical assistance live in high rises and public housing that were without working elevators or water, in some cases, and they may not be able to get out to see a doctor.

"We find there are a lot of people who haven't been able to leave their apartments, especially seniors," she said.

Gallisa said she was frustrated with what she said was a lack of government response centered on medical needs in the area and said to her knowledge Occupy Sandy was one of the first groups in the Rockaways knocking on doors to offer help.

She made her remarks the same day city Department of Health medical teams started going from apartment to apartment in high-rise buildings in the

## SUPERSTORM SANDY

Rockaways and Coney Island, an effort announced by Mayor Michael Bloomberg the previous day on Thursday.

A spokeswoman with the Mayor's Office, Samantha Levine, said 11,403 doors were knocked on in the Rockaways and Coney Island within the first two days of the effort and found that those people who required help most just needed food and water. She said only 16 people were taken out of their homes for medical treatment, but those people were not severely ill and needed treatment for diabetes, asthma and anxiety.

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# City plan helps speed home repairs post-storm

BY KAREN FRANTZ

The city is assessing damage to houses and apartments in the wake of Hurricane Sandy and has started a program to help owners quickly make needed repairs, such as fixes to electrical systems that will help restore power.

The Rapid Repairs program, announced by Mayor Michael Bloomberg last week, allows homeowners to sign up with a Federal Emergency Management Agency ID number to be matched with inspectors, electricians, plumbers and other tradespeople contracted by the city to make fast repairs to damaged buildings.

"We have an awful lot of houses to get to. It is going to take some time, but we're trying to do this as fast as ever been done before," Bloomberg said at a news conference Tuesday.

The program is a shortcut to the regular FEMA process for repairs in which homeowners must arrange for their own repair work.

Bloomberg said the program should particularly help homeowners whose power cannot



A red placard hangs on the window of a beachfront home in Belle Harbor.

Photo by Christina Santucci

be turned back on even though utility companies have restored electricity to their street because their electrical wiring might have been compromised by floodwater. He said the majority of people now without power need to have

repairs made before their electricity can be restored.

Meanwhile, the city Department of Buildings is also assessing damage to houses and apartments and is using color-coded stickers to let residents know if

their homes are safe to re-enter or if they need repairs.

"This is part of the department's rapid assessment process to conduct as many initial inspections as quickly as possible and provide New Yorkers with information on the status of their buildings," said a spokeswoman with the department, Ryan FitzGibbon in an e-mail.

FitzGibbon said 58,000 buildings had been inspected citywide as of last week. Areas in Queens included Arverne, Bayswater, Belle Harbor, Breezy Point, Rockaway Point, Broad Channel, Edgemere, Far Rockaway, Hamilton Beach, Hunter's Point, Meadowmere, Neponsit, Rockaway Beach, Rockaway Park, Roxbury and Seaside.

The placards are coded green, yellow or red, with the following meanings:

- Green means there is no apparent structural damage to a building and it is safe to enter, but it may still be flooded or other hazardous conditions may still exist.

- Yellow means the building

is damaged, although the type of damage could range from a compromised electrical system to a localized structural problem that makes part of the building unsafe. Buildings with a yellow placard may have entry limitations listed on the placard, along with the type of damage sustained.

- Red means the building is seriously damaged and unsafe to enter.

Nearly 90 percent of all buildings that have been inspected have been tagged with green placards, with 9.5 percent tagged with yellow cards and 1.5 percent tagged with red placards, FitzGibbon said.

Bloomberg said houses with green stickers will be among the first inspected and repaired by Rapid Response teams because many would need minimal work before power, heat or water could be restored.

"And then we'll work our ways up the chain," he said.

Reach reporter Karen Frantz by e-mail at [kfrantz@cnglobal.com](mailto:kfrantz@cnglobal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4538.

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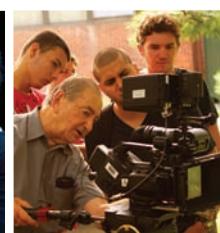
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# One-stop center opens in Far Rock

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Mayor Michael Bloomberg was in Far Rockaway Tuesday, where the city was opening one of seven one-stop centers to help those communities most affected by Superstorm Sandy.

"We are taking our ongoing relief efforts an important step further by setting up one-stop city offices that make it simpler and more convenient for New Yorkers to get the help they need," Bloomberg said outside the center, at 10-01 Beach 20th St. "The restoration centers will be an invaluable resource for the New Yorkers most impacted by the storm and for the communities hit hardest."

The mayor said the city had opened four centers and planned to open three more, including one in Breezy Point, later in the week.

The centers house the NYC Restore initiative, which brings together assets from the city, state and federal governments as well as from nonprofit groups all under one roof.

Visitors can find information on how to receive food stamps, apply for temporary housing and get access to financial assistance such as loans for small businesses.

Linda Gibbs, the deputy mayor of health and human services, said the centers would be "nimble" and add services the com-



Mayor Michael Bloomberg (r.) shakes hands with workers in Far Rockaway as he announces plans to launch NYC Restore.

munities requested.

The centers will also be one of the gateways for homeowners to participate in NYC Rapid Repairs, the program designed to help the areas hardest hit by flooding get their power back on as quickly as possible.

"This program is especially crucial for homeowners who can't turn the power back on before repairs are made," Bloomberg said.

Even after the Long Island Power Authority and Con Edison repair their equipment and infrastructure, the utilities cannot turn power back on to a building until it has been certified as safe to do so by

a licensed electrician.

Bloomberg said he estimated there were about 20,000 homes throughout the city in need of such work, and the Rapid Repairs program would concentrate the efforts of qualified contractors in particular neighborhoods.

Homeowners can either visit their local restoration center, visit nyc.gov or call 311 to first schedule a free consultation to assess necessary repairs, Bloomberg said.

The centers can also help homeowners get a Federal Emergency Management Agency number so they can apply for federal

reimbursement for any repairs they choose to make.

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

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# Ferry fills void between Rockaways and city

BY PHILIP NEWMAN AND  
CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

Rockaway residents have a new way to get to and from Manhattan after a ferry launched Monday from Beach Channel Drive and Beach 108th Street and some commuters took advantage of the new service operated by Seastreak to get to work and school on its inaugural day.

Legal secretary Lorraine Hornung had been staying with her loved ones since Hurricane Sandy struck and had been to work near Wall Street only one day after she drove from her mother's home in Howard Beach to the Rockaway Boulevard subway station in Ozone Park last week.

"We have been staying on friends' floors and couches and moving around," the Rockaway resident said as she waited with about a



A ferry operated by Seastreak leaves Rockaway en route to Manhattan Monday morning.

Photo by Christina Santucci

dozen other people to board the final ride of the morning to Manhattan.

The ferry service stops at Pier 11 in Lower Manhattan and at 34th Street and runs five boats each morning, starting at 5:45 a.m. The final ferry of the night leaves from Wall Street at 7:50 p.m. Each ride costs \$2, and there are free transfers between Wall Street and

34th Street in Manhattan.

Baruch accounting student Cylon Jackson said he had missed a couple of classes since Sandy, but made it to school each day by staying with a friend in Springfield Gardens and commuting to the city.

"If I'm in Far Rockaway until now, I wouldn't have been able to get to school on time," said Jack-

son, explaining that the first floor of his home and most of the possessions on that level were destroyed.

As the boat pulled into a temporary landing, passengers crowded around the entrance and took photos of the approaching craft.

When asked if she planned to use the service daily to get to work, Hornung said, "We'll see. To-

day is the first try."

Other than the ferry, commuters must rely on cars and buses to get into and out of the Rockaway Peninsula.

Howard Beach will be the end of the line on the A-train for months as the Metropolitan Transportation Authority works to restore full service on the line. The agency did not say how long

repairs would take other than "several months."

The A train normally runs between Mott Street in Far Rockaway and 207th Street in Manhattan, but now stretches between Howard Beach-John F. Kennedy International Airport and Ozone Park-Lefferts Boulevard to Inwood.

The agency said the A and S line tracks, electrical substations, signals, switches and third rail power components also suf-

fered extensive flooding and saltwater corrosion during the tidal surge. A 2 1/2-mile stretch of track includes areas where the track bed was washed away, leaving tracks hanging in mid-air and perimeter safety fences severely damaged.

"All must be rebuilt or repaired after first removing up to 3 feet of assorted marine debris," the MTA said. "Planning

and conducting reconstruction will be delayed by the challenges of accessing the worksite by water and winter weather."

In the mean time, free shuttle buses are running 24 hours a day between Far Rockaway-Mott Avenue and Howard Beach-JFK, where riders can connect with A trains. The Q22, Q35, Q52, Q53 and Q113 buses are other alternatives.

Visit [mta.info](http://mta.info) for schedules.

**SUPERSTORM  
SANDY**

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# Gas stations need extra power source: Weprin



Cars wait in line on 21st Street in Long Island City for gas after Hurricane Sandy disrupted the supply

BY PHIL CORSO

Fuel remained in high demand more than two weeks after Hurricane Sandy swept her way through Queens as gas stations worked to restore electricity and provide relief to residents who had waited in long lines before the city imposed gas rationing.

In an effort to prevent another gasoline crisis derived from stations losing power, state Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Little Neck) teamed up with another legislator to propose a bill requiring gas stations to have backup power sources.

"It just makes common sense to be proactive and prepared for these increasingly destructive storms," Weprin said. "It isn't good for anyone to be unprepared, but especially our gas stations because of our reliance on gasoline."

Weprin said long lines outside borough gas stations were not so much because of a shortage in fuel, but instead because of a shortage in options for drivers. The lawmaker joined with state Sen. David Carlucci (D-Nanuet) to draft legislation that would require gas stations to stock up to prevent long-term power outages in any

future storms or disasters. "If we can find a way to prepare for a disaster, we should do it," Weprin said. "I will do my part in Albany to see this bill becomes law long before another Hurricane Sandy."

The bill, Weprin said, was modeled after another that passed in Florida nearly five years ago, which required gas stations and wholesalers to have a generator capable of supplying at least 72 hours of power in the event of an emergency. In both bills, Weprin said

## SUPERSTORM SANDY

stations would be required to have the generator source power available for use no later than one day after a major disaster.

As motorists scrambled for fuel and spent hours on line, Mayor Michael Bloomberg put gas rationing into effect Friday at 6 a.m.

The supply of gasoline throughout the city has become an ongoing issue since Hurricane Sandy and the following nor'easter brought winds, rainfall and snow to the borough beginning Oct. 29.

City Comptroller John Liu urged lawmakers last week to work to expedite the supplying of fuel

throughout the city.

"The gas crisis is well beyond being a mere inconvenience," Liu said. "People depend on gasoline to go to work, run their businesses and to provide care for children and the elderly. The shortage has become a serious economic and public safety issue."

Liu said the long lines that formed outside gas stations have put a drain on city residents, estimating the problem cost about \$100 million in wasted time that could have been devoted to more productive work.

To prevent another crisis in which long lines form outside gas stations in the city, Weprin's bill would require that gas stations within a half mile of an interstate highway or state/federally designated evacuation route must maintain operations at all of its fuel pumps using an alternative power source, the assemblyman said.

According to Weprin, another storm like Sandy could potentially damage the city's ports and make resupplying fuel sources much more difficult when it is needed the most.

"We all need to be able to function as quickly as possible after a storm strikes," Weprin said. "This is very serious."

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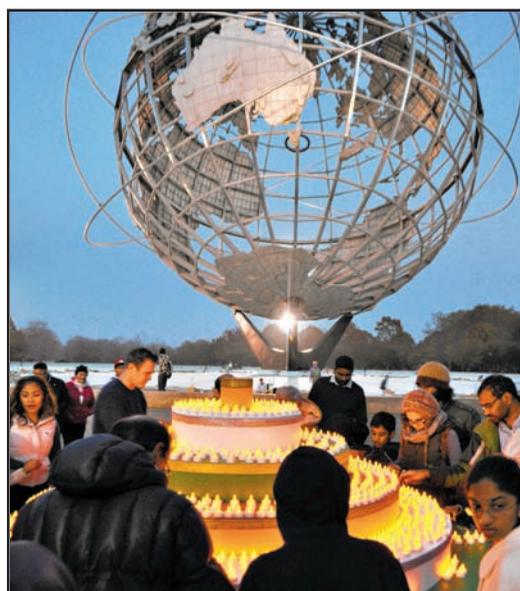
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## Festival of Lights

Hindus celebrated Diwali at a cultural show in Richmond Hill and festivities in Flushing. (Clockwise from top l.) Kim Ross (l.) and Jojo Tulshi represent the Divya Jyoti Association; Crystal Harripersad (c.) and fellow members of the Ayra Dance Academy take the stage on 133th Street; Karena Moes, 8, has her face painted with a unicorn; N.S. Kumar from the P.V. Amman Temple of North America in Flushing gets ready to perform; dozens of people set up 3,000 candles during a Diwali event in Flushing Meadows Corona Park; dancers demonstrate their choreography at the Queens Museum; and (l.-r.) Keshu Shivecharan, Natasha Rambrich and Jessica Munsamy, all dressed to represent Hindu deities, wave from the back of a stationary pick-up truck, decorated with holiday lights in Richmond Hill.

Photos by Caroll Alvarado and Christina Santucci



# Avella wants PA to regulate noise at LGA, JFK

29

JT

TIMES LEDGER, NOV. 15-21, 2012  
TIMESLEDGER.COM

BY PHIL CORSO

After a summer in which residents throughout northeast Queens raised their voices over growing airplane noise, one state senator has introduced legislation that would put more power in the hands — and ears — of the people.

A bill introduced by state Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) would require the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to routinely conduct noise and land use compatibility surveys, as outlined under federal aviation regulations, and also host public hearings to oversee aircraft noise complaints.

“My office continues to hear from homeowners who are irate at this abrupt increase in air traffic over their homes, which is causing an intolerable amount of noise pollution,”



A plane flies over Flushing Bay en route to LaGuardia Airport, where a change in flight patterns has raised the noise level in northeast Queens.

Photo by Christina Santucci

Avella said. “Frankly, this is unfathomable that the PANYNJ, which controls three of the busiest airports in the world in one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world, has not conducted a study assessing the impact of aircraft noise in residential areas.”

According to Avella, the Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration started testing new approach and departure paths for the major metropolitan airports throughout the Northeast under what the FAA calls the NextGen Program. The increase in the number of flights, Avella said, has created a lot of noise in the community from more air traffic flying overhead.

In Bayside, a group had joined forces with neighbors in both Queens and Nassau counties to form a unified voice against what they said was an increasingly intolerable rise in aircraft noise flying over their homes. Janet McEneaney, a member of Community Board 11, helped lead a charge in northeast Queens

to push back against the FAA.

“We just want to know why we have this noise and all these vapor trails,” McEneaney said. “People want to know what’s happening. There has not been enough information put out to the communities.”

Earlier this summer, Avella joined with several northeast Queens leaders to press the FAA for answers. State Assemblyman Ed Braunstein (D-Bayside) said there has not been enough communication between the agency and the communities affected by more airliner noise.

“We can’t tolerate this,” Braunstein said. “They tried their tests and they didn’t work. Now tell us when it is going to stop.”

Avella said FAA regulations provide a mechanism allowing the agency to consider aircraft noise and

how it affects communities, which has been implemented at major airports outside New York and New Jersey. The senator called on the FAA to pay closer attention to the metropolitan area and to heed the calls from both lawmakers and citizens in the northeast to remain part of the discussions.

“While I understand new flight patterns may need to be instituted, they need to be properly evaluated to determine the impact on the quality of life for residents,” Avella said. “I introduced this legislation to give these residents a voice in a decision-making process that will have such a profound effect on their daily lives.”

Reach reporter Phil Corso by e-mail at [pcorso@cnglocal.com](mailto:pcorso@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4573.



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# MLS survey finds Queens wants soccer stadium

BY JOE ANUTA

Major League Soccer released a survey last week showing that seven out of 10 Queens residents support building a new 25,000-capacity stadium in Queens.

The survey questioned a representative sample of 650 registered Queens voters, including a special focus on areas near the proposed site at Flushing Meadows Corona Park, which made up 150 of the respondents.

"There is tremendous support for building a new pro soccer stadium in Queens. The seven in 10 who are in favor of the project are from across the demographic spectrum, with strong support from the borough's large soccer fan base," the survey stated.

The survey was compiled by Global Strategy Group, a national public relations company registered

as a lobbyist for MLS, according to a city database.

It paints broad support for a project that has grown more contentious as community groups in neighborhoods like Corona, Flushing and Willets Point rally to put the brakes on development in the borough's largest greenspace. An over-arching group called the Fairness Coalition, comprised of individual nonprofits, has led the charge to keep large projects out of the park.

MLS would like the stadium to be built on what is known as Industry Pond, a non-working watery relic from the 1964 World's Fair that is situated at the end of a promenade extending roughly northeast from the Unisphere.

The plan has the support of state Assemblyman Francisco Moya (D-Jackson Heights) and state Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst),



A diagram shows where the footprint of the proposed stadium would go in Flushing Meadows Corona Park should Major League Soccer get its wish. Rendering courtesy Major League Soccer

but according to Hilary Klein, lead organizer for Make the Road New York, a member of the Fairness Coalition, that land is heavily used for recreation, and

regardless of whether the pond is functioning, it is still open space that should not be taken away for a stadium.

In addition, she said, the project should not be considered without taking into account other developments slated for Flushing Meadows.

The city Economic Development Corp. is trying to redevelop nearby Willets Point which includes a 1 million-square-foot shopping mall that will technically be built on parkland that is now a parking lot, and the United States Tennis Association is proposing to expand its borders by less than an acre.

Klein is skeptical the survey is a true representation of how the project is perceived.

"I don't necessarily think it represents community opinion as a barometer," Klein said.

MLS released a number of the 35 or so survey questions it said were relevant to TimesLedger Newspapers.

In response to one question, about 60 percent of those consulted said that they had not heard of the project before, while 37 percent were familiar with it.

In a later question, the survey asked: "As you may know, the exact plan for the Major League Soccer stadium is to build it in Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Queens. Having heard this, do you support or oppose the plan to build a Major League Soccer stadium in Queens?"

The margin of support was about the same for this, with 67 percent of the respondents approving.

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

## Divorce Caribbean Style

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

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

According to Alan Alford,

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

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

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

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# Business

## Barber sets up shop on Bell Boulevard

J&J Barbershop creates environment where men can have place to get a shave and call home

BY JOE ANUTA

A new barbershop on Bell Boulevard aims to keep the men in and around Bayside looking sharp.

J&J Barbershop, at 38-33 Bell Blvd., opened about three months ago and offers a place where men can stop in to get a trim and a shave and to talk shop.

"A barbershop is just for men," said owner Garry Kalontarov. "It's about giving a good hair cut and also making the customer feel like they are at home."

Kalontarov has the cutting part down pat. He has been in the business for 11 years and already has a loyal following in the area.

"I have the guys who come in once a week, some that come in every two weeks," he said.

And in a business where hair can be trimmed down to the millimeter, there is little room for mistakes.

Kalontarov performs



Reynold Lewis (l.) goes under the knife as barber Garry Kalontarov plies his straight razor to the Bayside resident's beard.

Photo by Joe Anuta

fades and shape-ups, sometimes blending longer locks on top down to the scalp

around the ears.

It took a lot of practice in his formative days, ac-

cording to the Forest Hills native, but this barber has a steady hand.

On a recent Thursday, Kalontarov was wielding the most recognizable tool of his trade, the straight razor, as he trimmed the beard of Reynold Lewis.

The Bayside resident wanted his beard trimmed and the edges sharpened, which Kalontarov performed with a discerning eye for symmetry. But J&J Barbershop also gives customers a free hot shave with every haircut, a storied tradition in the field that certainly beats doing it yourself at home.

"You get the hot towel, it's relaxing," Kalontarov said.

And according to Kalontarov's brother-in-law, who was hanging out at the shop sporting a J&J Barbershop T-shirt, the hair-cutting venue is more than just a place for grooming.

"It's like a bar," said Danny Chico. "They want to talk to somebody so they come in."

Barbershops double

as debate clubs, where men come to discuss sports or politics, Chico said.

Kalontarov also had television installed in front of every seat to make his patrons comfortable.

A personable atmosphere and cutting hair well are the main drivers of business, according to Kalontarov, who is not alone in opening a hair grooming center.

Barbershops and hair salons around the nation are thriving, according to a CNN report, which suggested the industry is extremely resilient to recessions, since people always need to get their hair cut, and the job cannot be outsourced.

Between 2007 and 2009, the number of barbershops across the country grew by 18.6 percent, according to CNN.

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

### BUSINESS CALENDAR

**Disaster Relief for Small Business Forum** – Federal resources are available to help rebuild your business or home. Find out eligibility for up to \$2 million of financial assistance loans. Congressman Gregory Meeks and Assemblyman William Scarborough are hosting the event.

**When:** Nov. 16, 9 am-noon  
**Where:** Resorts World Casino, Central Park Banquet Hall, 110-00 Rockaway Blvd, Jamaica  
**Contact:** Congressman Meeks, (718) 725-6000; Assemblyman Scarborough, (718) 723-5412

**Powerful You! Women's Network** – A new Queens chapter of the national organization that

empowers and supports women in their business, personal and spiritual lives.

**When:** Third Tuesday each month, noon to 2 pm  
**Cost:** Members and first-time attendees \$30, nonmembers \$40; includes lunch  
**Where:** Giardino, 44-37 Douglaston Pkwy., Douglaston  
**Contact:** Gayle Naftaly, [gnaftaly@accessoffice.net](mailto:gnaftaly@accessoffice.net), (718) 217-0009  
**Website:** [powerfullyou.com](http://powerfullyou.com)

**Power Networking Group** – Led by Harvey G. Beringer  
**When:** Every Wednesday, 7 am  
**Cost:** \$10 for breakfast  
**Where:** Jackson Hole Diner, 35-01 Bell Blvd., Bayside

**Contact:** Harvey G. Beringer at [HGBCPA@aol.com](mailto:HGBCPA@aol.com) or (718) 423-0427

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

**Contact:** Martin Koos (516) 488-8877, Ext. 15

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

**Relief for Rockaways and Long Beach** – Restaurants in Kew Gardens and Bayside are pitching in to help victims of Hurricane Sandy. Half of proceeds raised during dinner until 9 pm will go toward relief efforts. Live music and guest bartenders will be featured.  
**When:** Nov. 16, 5-9 pm  
**Cost:** \$45 per person, includes open bar and buffet  
**Where:** Bourbon Street Cafe, 40-12 Bell Blvd, Bayside, and Austin's Steak and Ale House, 82-70 Austin St., Kew Gardens.  
**Contact:** Bourbon Street, (718) 224-2200; Austin's, (718) 849-3939

**Flea Market** – With Polish bake sale.

**When:** Nov. 18, 9 am  
**Where:** St. Josaphat's Roman Catholic Church, 34-32 210th St., Bayside  
**Contact:** (718) 229-1663

**Sticky Fingers and Snapshots Fundraiser for Hurricane Sandy** – Comedy event featuring a bake sale, baby and toddler photo sessions, a coat drive for New York Cares and a full bar including 14 beers on tap. All proceeds from bake sale, photo sessions and half of drink purchases go to New York Cares Hurricane Relief fund.  
**When:** Nov. 18, 11 am-1 pm  
**Where:** Laughing Devil Comedy Club, 47-38 Vernon Blvd, Long Island City  
**Contact:** (347) 913-3845

# Q GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

## Don't stop *believing*

Songwriter and actress Lori Martini, whose work is featured on television and used by New York sports teams, has been doing her part to help victims of Hurricane Sandy

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

When epic superstorm Sandy wreaked havoc on many communities here, folks barely knew what hit them. With the upcoming election the primary topic of conversation, nobody imagined that in a New York minute a 1,000-mile wide hybrid would change the very fabric of their lives — decimating almost everything in its path.

Nor did it seem possible that rising waters could actually flood Manhattan's streets and the Battery Tunnel — like a scene from an apocalyptic movie.

Many of Sandy's hardest-hit live in Queens' coastal areas: The Rockaways, Breezy Point, Broad Channel and Howard Beach looked like WWII photos of destruction, taken after the Germans' Blitzkrieg. Water, fire and wind obliterated and swept away homes and property; lives were shattered in Sandy's wake.

In Middle Village, songwriter and actor Lori Martini was glued to her TV and the images unfolding were difficult to swallow. Her area suffered little damage and she had heat, electricity and food in the fridge while so many fellow New Yorkers were struggling to survive. The writer of the 2011 hit single "Believe" felt compelled to do something, so she volunteered.

"We went to state Sen. Joe Addabbo's office in Howard Beach to drop off donations. There were tons of volunteers organizing everything," Martini said. Tables were setup with toiletries, hygiene products, diapers, clothing and other necessities.

"I helped bring the donations, including tons of pizza and other food items to the office, so they could get distributed to Howard Beach, Broad Channel and Rockaway victims."

Despite the gas shortage,

*Continued on Page 37*

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 Theater Calendar 38  
 Crossword Puzzle 38

Lori Martini wrote a single titled "Believe" for her favorite sports team: Queens' own New York Mets. Now she's shifting her efforts to helping victims of Hurricane Sandy. Photo courtesy Lori Martini

# Musings on Queens theater mark 103 iterations



Ronald B. Hellman

*The Play's The Thing*

Hard to believe that a numbers-and-dates guy like me would fail to take notice of my hundredth Play's the Thing column in August, but miss it I did. Blame it on election stress. Now recovered and optimistic, I write my 103rd, not counting the special Leap Year piece in February.

So what of it, you say? Well, I know I have some devoted readers — at least some people tell me that they have seen my picture in the paper — and they may want to be reminded

of some of the people and things I've written about since that first column in June 2007.

The paper has a new-and-improved website, and it's easy to follow. So go to [www.TimesLedger.com](http://www.TimesLedger.com), click on my column, and you'll see all of them going back to October 2011. As to the prior ones, here's some idea of what you may have missed:

Lots of boldface names have made their appearance here, some with a line or two and some in a full-column profile. Among the latter is a roster of actors and/or directors with Queens connections. One such is **Don Curran** — I just saw him and his wife Joan working the box office at the **Douglaston Community Theatre's** produc-

tion of "The Dixie Swim Club." Then there's **John Ferry** and **Monte Sternfeld**, both of whom have migrated to Florida. Still here and thriving are **Bob Combé** and **Annie Wolf** of the **Phoenix Players** — if you have enough gas in the car you can still catch their production of **Shakespeare's** "The Winter's Tale" this weekend.

Other notables include **Frank DiSpigno**, **Laura Wallace-Rhodes**, **Kevin Schwab**, **Martin Alvin**, **Malini Singh McDonald**, **Nan Asher**, **Michael Wolf**, **Maryellen Pierce** and **Carol Carota**. Playwright **Fred Rohan Vargas**, lighting designer **Rob Cangemi**, **Astoria Performing Arts Center's** Executive Director **Taryn Sacramone**, **Thalia Spanish Theater's** leader

**Angel Gil Orrios** and perennial audience members **Richard & Millie Gudon-sky** are also on the list.

If you're thinking why don't you see your name in my column, and why am I not writing about your theater company, send me an email and let's talk about it. Truth be told, my constant goal is the promotion of local theater and the great pleasure of theatergoing. So once again I make my plea for your input. I've been involved in Queens theater for more than 40 years, but there's much that I don't know about.

Attracting an audience has been another major theme. The conventional wisdom is that not as many people show up as they used to, even with the advantage of a low-price ticket and a

convenient neighborhood venue.

I have suggested a few potential remedies. One would be reviving the **Queens Theater Network**, an umbrella organization that would unite the various groups in mutual publicity, scheduling and resource sharing. Another is the choice of material.

Instead of sticking with the same old-stay old, select contemporary and relevant plays and musicals to bring in a younger and more diverse audience. Still another is non-traditional casting — putting a non-white or minority person in a role that perhaps the playwright did not have in mind.

I have written about the audition process and what it takes to get up on stage. I have followed a

production from start to finish, being partial to my own **Outrageous Fortune Company** — hey, it's my column. And I've discussed the necessity of getting the "rights" to a play, securing funding not just out of your own pocket, the hazards of smoking and other fire on stage, and the Astor Place riots of 1849 ignited by the dueling Macbeths.

When my editor wasn't looking, I would slip in some political and non-theater comments. So I leave you with this from the 1960s civil rights movement, following the recent voting by 120 million Americans: "We ain't where we're going, but we sure ain't where we were."

Contact Ron Hellman at [RBH24@Columbia.edu](mailto:RBH24@Columbia.edu).

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

## YOUR PARTY CATERED AT OUR RESTAURANT

**CHOICE A**  
\$23.<sup>95</sup>

- Any 5 Items
- Stuffed Shells
- Tortellini w/Meat Sauce
- Ravioli
- Baked Ziti
- Eggplant Parmigiana
- Sausage & Peppers
- Broiled Chicken
- Small Meatballs
- Linguini, w/Clam Sauce
- Pasta w/Broccoli, Garlic & Oil

**CHOICE B**  
\$25.<sup>95</sup>

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

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PRIVATE PARTY ROOM

**CHOICE C**  
\$26.<sup>95</sup>

Sit Down Dinner - 1 of 3 Choices  
**VEAL CUTLET**

Marsala, Picatta Parmigiana

**CHICKEN**  
Marsala, Parmigiana  
Francaise

**FISH**  
Filet of Sole  
Broiled, Parmigiana  
Tilapia Oregonata

**PASTA COURSE**

Tomato, Marinara, Vodka

Minimum of 25 People • Above served with either Antipasto, Garden Salad or Caesar Salad, Unlimited Wine, Beer, with Soda, Coffee & Tea (premium wines \$2.50 extra)

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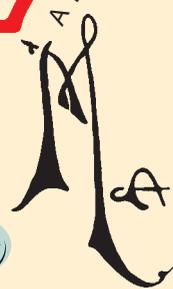
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##### *Stuffed Artichoke Hearts*

Crispy Breadcrumbs, Capers, Gaeta Olives, Parmigiano .....\$11

##### *Calamari*

Alla Anthony w/ Capers, Olives, Peppers .....\$12

Alla Toscana w/ Cherry Peppers .....\$12

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*(choice of one)*

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Shrimp, Pineapple and Avocado Salad  
Bacon Wrapped Sea Scallops

### - SOUP -

Pumpkin Soup

### - SALAD -

Spinach with Grilled Eggplant, Pine Nuts and Feta Cheese

### - VEGETABLE -

*(choice of one)*

Mashed Carrots and Parsnips  
Creamed Spinach

### - POTATOES -

*(choice of one)*

Roasted Fingerling Red Potato  
Candied Yams

### - DESSERT -

*(choice of one)*

Apple Pie • Pumpkin Pie  
Pumpkin Cup Cake with Cream Cheese Icing  
Chocolate Mousse Cake

### - ENTREES -

Roast Vermont Turkey - \$27  
Stuffing, Gravy, and Cranberry Sauce

10 oz. Filet Mignon Oscar - \$38  
Crabmeat and béarnaise sauce

Black Angus Shell Steak - \$34  
with Caramelized Onions and Gorgonzola Cheese

Sautéed Shrimp - \$29  
with Artichoke Hearts, Mushrooms, Roasted Peppers  
with a Lemon White Wine Sauce

Mahi Mahi - \$30  
with a Light Curry Sauce

Crab Stuffed Chicken Breast - \$29

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# Lori Martini

Continued from Page 33

several cars were packed full and transported supplies to shelters.

Martini worked alongside friend and former teacher Frank Kenna, who is now the chief deputy Queens County clerk in Forest Hills, Addabbo, and Edward Wendell, president of the Woodhaven Residents Block Association.

"It was overwhelmingly amazing how everyone came together," she said. "I didn't get a chance to speak with any of the people who had damage - lots of them were cleaning out their homes and throwing stuff onto the street."

Martini says some of her friends lost entire homes in Valley Stream, Lindenhurst and on Staten Island. "They're safe and getting help, but who knows what the long-term effects are. At some point they'll need a home to go to when

they can no longer stay with friends and family. I really hope FEMA does the right thing."

A rabid New York Mets fan, Martini, 39, says she used to play softball on Staten Island every week-end but now, she said, those fields are all destroyed by Sandy.

She wrote "Believe" for her beloved Mets and it became the official 2011 rallying song played when Mets second baseman Justin Turner walked up to bat at Citi Field.

"As any Mets fan knows: 'Ya gotta believe,'" she quipped.

The song was performed live at Citi Field, at the Mets vs. Phillies game on May 27, 2011, as part of a pre-game performance.

"Believe" was recently featured on Fox's NFL pre-game morning show because fans always hold up signs saying "believe." The New York Rangers used it



Songwriter Lori Martini attends a Mets game against the Miami Marlins in Florida.

Photo courtesy Lori Martini

as their promo.

Martini's just-released music video, "I'm Not Perfect," was featured on Lifetime's "Dance Moms Miami."

"I have a song that has been inspiring to so many

young kids," she said, "so I made a music video with the cast and other kids geared towards anti-bullying."

"A lot of my songs are inspired by true events in my life," she said.

Her song "Beautiful"

is the promo trailer for USA Network's "Necessary Roughness" and her "Never Let You Fall" instrumental was featured on NBC's "The Voice" Season 2 Finale.

Martini also wrote, produced and had the

lead role in a four-time award-winning short film, "Caught" — a family drama that parallels softball. It just screened at Manhattan's Anthology Theater, as part of the New York New Filmmakers Festival.

## sudoku

Answers in Sports

Easy #45

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

Hard #45

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

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

Tips at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)  
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# THANKSGIVING MENU

**\$35**  
per person

## APPETIZERS

Eggplant Rollatini  
Fried Calamari

## SALAD

House Salad w/ mixed greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, onions

## ENTREES

Roasted Turkey

*With Apple Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce, Sweet Potatoes, String Beans*

Grilled Rib Eye Steak

*With Rosemary and Mushroom Sauce*

## DESSERT

Apple Pie, Coffee, Tea, Soda



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Whitestone, NY 11357**

## THEATER CALENDAR

**In-laws from Tirana** –  
Written by m. Reppas and T. Papatanasios.  
**When:** Through Dec. 2; Fridays and Saturdays, 8 pm; Sundays, 4 pm  
**Where:** Greek Cultural Center, 26-80 30th St., Astoria  
**Contact:** (718) 726-7329  
**Website:** www.greekculturalcenter.org

**Colombia de Fiesta** – With the Mestizo Dance Co.  
**When:** Through Dec. 9; Fridays and Saturdays, 8 pm; Sundays, 4 pm  
**Where:** Thalia Spanish Theatre, 41-17 Greenpoint Ave., Sunnyside

**Contact:** (718) 729-3880  
**Website:** thaliatheatre.org

**The Winter's Tale** – "The Winter's Tale" is one of Shakespeare's later plays, exploring themes of jealousy, leadership, love and forgiveness. In it, a jealous king (Leontes) nearly topples his own kingdom when he falsely accuses his queen (Hermione) of adultery with his childhood friend (Polixenes). In his foolishness and rage, the king loses his wife, his son and his baby daughter. Years later, in his old friend's Bohemian kingdom, the seeds are planted for reunion, redemption and rebirth.  
**When:** Through Nov. 18; Fridays, 8 pm; Saturdays 3 pm and 10 pm;

Sundays, 3 pm  
**Where:** Poppenhusen Institute, 114-04 14th Rd., College Point  
**Contact:** 718-358-0067

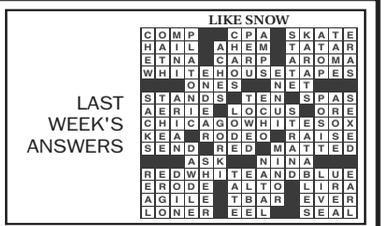
## MEETINGS

**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

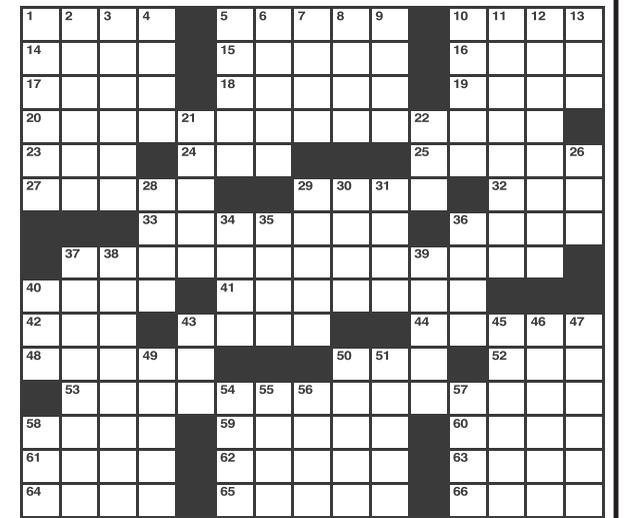
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers  
Nov. 15-21, 2012

**By Ed Canty  
On the Menu**



- Across**
- Rather & others
  - Sing \_\_\_\_
  - Ending with over or cover
  - It comes to mind
  - Indian bread
  - Chops, e.g.
  - Kind of song
  - Critical
  - N.Y.P.D. employee
  - Salad topping
  - "... \_\_\_\_ he drove out of sight"
  - "Acid"
  - Go by car
  - Sealy competitor
  - Philosophy 101 subject
  - Sexually transmitted disease
  - Far out?
  - Contact \_\_\_\_
  - Salad topping
  - Relaxed gait
  - Teeter-totters
  - Snake
  - Chesterfield, e.g.
  - Room extensions
  - Analyze, in a way
  - " \_\_\_\_ we having fun yet?"
  - Carbohydrate ending
  - Goes under 20 A and 37 A
  - Tuscany ta ta
  - "Bolero" composer
  - Persia, now
  - "Darn it!"
  - "La Bohème," e.g.
  - Retained



- Arthur of Wimbledon
  - Unpleasant, as weather
  - Logical start
- Down**
- Sink clutter
  - Annoying computer pop-up
  - Occurring relatively soon
  - Ocean liner?
  - Oldest city in Greece
  - Like tabloid headlines
  - October's stone
  - Actress Campbell
  - Turned Dobbin right
  - Bud
  - "A little longer on the trousers, please"
  - Roping
  - "The Racer's Edge"
  - Mel of animated cartoon fame
  - 911 responder
  - Campers, for short
  - Food sticker
  - "M\*A\*S\*H" setting
  - Home of Iowa State U.
  - Booster grp.?
  - Words from Mr. Moto
  - Alphabet quartet
  - "Schindler's \_\_\_\_"
  - You can count on them
  - Draw near
  - Candied
  - Baby seat?
  - Caribbean, e.g.
  - Barnstormed
  - Breakout
  - Taken care of
  - Barbecue by product
  - Red \_\_\_\_
  - Track event
  - "Pumping \_\_\_\_"
  - Auto parts giant
  - Times to call, in classifieds
  - "Kon- \_\_\_\_"
  - When doubled, a dance

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>ENTREE</b>   | <b>SIDE DISHES</b>                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whole Roast Turkey (15 lb. avg.)  | <input type="checkbox"/> CHOICE OF TWO            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Savory Stuffing & Gravy           | <input type="checkbox"/> Mashed Potatoes          |
| <b>ACCOMPANIMENTS</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/> String Beans Almondine   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 qt. Cranberry-Pineapple Compote | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Potato Pudding     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 qt. Fresh-Cut Cole Slaw         | <input type="checkbox"/> Egg Barley & Mushrooms   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assorted Relish Tray              | <input type="checkbox"/> Kasha Varnishkes         |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Noodle or Potato Pudding |

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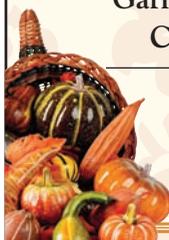
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Roasted Red Potatoes  
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# Power

Continued from Page 5

repaired.

Con Ed said there were about 500 customers in Howard Beach and Broad Channel Tuesday whose power was still turned off because they had not cleared a safety inspection.

On the Rockaway Peninsula, LIPA said it had restored electricity to 9,500 customers by Tuesday and estimated there were about 27,000 who were unable to receive power without repairs.

Many homeowners were surprised when Mayor Michael Bloomberg, during one of his daily updates, said a building first needed to be certified safe by a city-licensed electrician in or-

der for the utilities to turn the power on.

"On Day 10 they first told us that we need electricians to check our panels," Goldfeder said. "Why are they not telling us on Day 1, let alone Days 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9? That's a lot of days. That's a lot of people who are cold and who are hungry and have not gotten the benefit of an answer."

Dan Mundy, president of the Broad Channel Civic Association, said once Con Ed was up and running on the island, residents faced a dearth of qualified electricians, and those they could find were quoting prices up to \$4,000. He said the city could easily alleviate the problem by allowing licensed electricians from other parts of the state to come in and do the work.

Recommendations on

how the utilities — and the body that oversees them — could better handle crises have been made before. Following the 2006 blackout that gripped western Queens, an Assembly investigation recommended, among other things, that Con Ed "communicate with elected officials on a frequent basis throughout the duration of a power outage and establish clear procedures for relaying this information to the general public in a clear and regular fashion."

The report also took to task the state Public Service Commission, which oversees public utilities, for lax oversight.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Con Ed and LIPA could possibly have their licenses revoked, and Tuesday he announced the formation

of a commission — one of whose members is the Rev. Floyd Flake — to investigate the utilities' storm responses.

State Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria), who headed the Assembly's investigation of the blackout, said he could not recall a time when the state ever revoked a utility's license.

"Not that I'm aware of. That's typically not done," he said. "There's a pretty low level of accountability."

Earlier City Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) had asked the Council to hold a series of hearings to assess the responses of both the city and Con Edison. State Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) sent a letter to Cuomo requesting an investigation of public utility companies.

than his predecessor, Gov. David Paterson, which could help him if he wants to keep the Democrats together.

"If he steps into this situation and applies some pressure, the chances of the Democrats holding the majority together are much greater," he said. "If he steps out, I think their chances decline sharply."

At a news conference Friday, Cuomo said the power structure of the state Senate would ultimately be up to the voters.

"I'll work with whoever wins," he said.

Occupy Wall Street, openly grumbled when they were told the Red Cross would be out in force in the area over Veterans Day weekend.

"It takes two weeks to surge for the Red Cross," one woman said.

State Assemblyman Phillip Goldfeder (D-Ozone Park) also blasted the Red Cross for suspending its operations during the nor'easter that swept through the area Nov. 7, causing fierce winds and blanketing the city with snow.

at least some of the leadership, is whether they can hold that majority together," said Krasner.

The split among the Senate Democrats recalls the Four Amigos, a group of renegade Democrats who broke ranks to caucus with the Republicans in 2009 and stymied the state government. Sen. Ruben Diaz (D-Bronx) remains in office, although the others — Hiram Monserrate of East Elmhurst, Pedro Espada of the Bronx, and Carl Kruger of Brooklyn — later resigned or were booted from office. The three former legislators were convicted of unrelated criminal charges.

Doug Forand, of the political consulting firm Red Horse Strategies, which runs campaigns for Democrats, said he believed it would be in the best interest of the IDC and Felder to form an alliance with the Democrats at large since not doing so would hurt them with their constituents who voted for them as Democrats.

"There's too much at stake here," Forand said. "Eventually they're going to have to sell that back in their district."

Krasner said much would depend on Gov. Andrew Cuomo. Krasner said Cuomo has a lot more power, credibility and backing

cles for other affected areas. So far the Red Cross has distributed 200,000 meals and 150,000 bags of emergency supplies in Queens, Devulpillieres said.

But many residents of Howard Beach, Broad Channel and the Rockaways levied sharp criticism against the organization, saying that within the week after the storm they had yet to see a Red Cross truck or that the organization had only just shown up.

On Nov. 5 a Red Cross disaster relief truck sat outside the American Le-

gion post in Broad Channel, which has become the de facto aid center for the island, but residents said it was only the second day the truck had been there and the previous day Red Cross volunteers left before it got dark.

One resident and American Legion organizer said the Red Cross had given them a bag of soup to distribute to residents, but no way to serve or heat it.

In the Rockaways Friday, some volunteers working with Occupy Sandy, a grassroots hurricane relief organization with ties to

# LGBT

Continued from Page 4

proved that voters are willing to vote in favor of same-sex marriage.

"Our opponents used to argue that no state would pass it if it was put up to vote for the people and our opponents can no longer use that line," he said.

New York made same-sex marriage legal through the state Legislature last year.

Van Bramer praised Baldwin as "an amazing woman, incredibly smart person and a great legislator," but Dromm said it was also significant that New York will be sending its first openly gay man to the House of Representatives in Democrat Sean Patrick Maloney, who defeated U.S. Rep. Nan Hayworth (R-Bedford) in a race marked by sharp tongues and accusations of extremism on both sides.

"I could never imagine

there would be an openly gay congressman in Poughkeepsie," Dromm said.

Van Bramer also said the re-election of President Barack Obama was crucial to the cause of LGBT rights after Obama said he supported same-sex marriage.

"It was incredibly, incredibly important that we re-elect him," he said. "I think it is monumental that a president that came out in favor of marriage equality was re-elected."

He emphasized, though, that same-sex marriage is not yet the law of the land and he hoped marriage equality would soon be a reality everywhere.

"We can't have inequality in certain places and equality in others," he said. "The gay and lesbian family in the Deep South is just as worth of protection as the gay and lesbian family in New York."

Both believed, however, that the recent developments represented a major shift across America.

# Aftermath

Continued from Page 5

operative are what most Howard Beach residents are clinging to these days. Joyce Raia, whose house was nearly smashed when a huge tree came crashing down during the storm, said the devastation could have been much worse.

"We still have a roof over our heads," said Raia. "In some places, they lost everything."

Howard Beach residents believe they will bounce back following the storm and the first sign of a rebound came when businesses along the neighborhood's main strip began reopening.

Mark Sweeney, a manager at catering hall Russo's on the Bay, at 162-45 Cross Bay Blvd., said he felt a responsibility to clean up and reopen as quickly as possible.

"People had weddings booked here for years — we had to reopen," said Sweeney, who said the catering hall was fully

operational after 10 days. "We also employ about 400 people who needed to get back to work and get a paycheck."

Russo's on the Bay was just one of the area businesses that donated food to people in the neighborhood as a way of getting the community back on its feet. Other businesses, including La Bella Vita, at 106-09 Rockaway Blvd. in Ozone Park, and Richmond Hill catering hall Villa Russo, at 118-16 101st Ave., also stepped up with donations.

"This is a very strong community," Sweeney said. "We want to see it get back to normal."

Anna, a worker at La Bella Vita who chose not to give her last name, said the restaurant donated prepared food and pizzas three or four times to various charitable groups for storm relief in Howard Beach, the Rockaways and Broad Channel.

"The neighborhoods and communities always support us, so we figured we would return the favor," she said.

# Senate

Continued from Page 4

at Queens College, said the road to cohesiveness may be rocky for the Democrats. The four-member Independent Democratic Conference, led by Sen. Jeffrey Klein (D-Bronx), remains separate and Sen.-elect Simcha Felder (D-Brooklyn) said that while he is a Democrat, he is willing to caucus with either party depending on what he will be able to bring back to his constituents through the alliance.

"Obviously, the question, given their history and the suspect quality of

# Red Cross

Continued from Page 5

He said the Red Cross's efforts were hampered in the first few days after the storm due to unsafe conditions and impassible roads and bridges. But he said the organization is working hard to identify areas that need the most help and send aid volunteers there.

The Red Cross has two mobile kitchens set up at the Aqueduct Racetrack in South Ozone Park and Fort Tilden in the Rockaways and has sent out relief vehi-

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The Christ the King girls' soccer team celebrates its second-straight CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens title. Photo by Joseph Staszewski

## CK girls celebrate second-straight title

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Christ the King's first girls' soccer diocesan title brought a visible outpouring of emotion after the final whistle last season. The Royals' second-straight crown Monday brought with it a more reserved, but deeper satisfaction because of the program's growth and the fact that a different group of players started this time around.

"We do have a lot of talent, but we lost players and we are still doing what we do," CK Coach John Fayad said. "That tells you the program is doing well."

Much of that young talent was on display again in the Royals' 2-0 win over Mary Louis in the CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens Class AA girls' soccer final at the Aviator Sports Complex in Brooklyn. Freshman star Medina Mulic had a goal and an assist and classmate Sarah Nolan added a goal.

"It was as nice as last year," Fayad said.

Mulic's score, a running header in the box to the near pass off a Francesca Giglio free kick, broke some jitters

for CK in the 43rd minute. Mary Louis keeper Claire Loredan made five brilliant first-half saves and one right after the break before the Royals finally broke through to take a 1-0 lead.

"Once we scored one, we knew from the last time we versed them they have less confidence and we build up our confidence," Mulic said.

It was the third time in three meetings with TMLA (9-4-1) that the Royals scored in the opening minutes of the second half. CK (16-0-0) has outscored them 6-0 in the games, thanks to a defense led by Cathy Lume and Destiny Marino. Mary Louis Coach Tom Bruen called Loredan an elite keeper, but knew it would take more than her to quell the Royals after the break.

"I said don't come out flat," he said. "They are going to reorganize. They are going to come out hard and they did."

Christ the King added a second goal in the 52nd minute when Nolan ran on to Mulic through a ball and hammered it home to the

*Continued on Page 45*

## Bonnies give it their all

Even in loss, hurricane victims rise above the fray as a team



Fontbonne's Kristen Sullivan leaps for the ball against Archbishop Molloy.

Photo by Ken Maldonado

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The Fontbonne Hall volleyball team lost its semifinal match, but just playing was more important than winning with 10 players and Coach Linda Strong left homeless after evacuating Breezy Point because of the effects of Hurricane Sandy.

The players decided Monday at the Bay Ridge school that they wanted to play as a way to get back to normal. They took the court to be together with their second family one more time.

"Coming back out and seeing your teammates, playing like we have before, cheering each other up, smiling, laughing, we haven't done that in awhile,"

said junior Casey McDade, whose house burned down. "It's great to come together again."

There were tears in private in the post-game meeting after a 25-15, 25-21, 25-20 loss to Archbishop Molloy in the Brooklyn-Queens Division I semifinals at St. Francis Prep last Thursday night. Strong told her team how proud she was of them for just being out there. They were all happy to be together.

"We wanted to play for each other," junior co-captain Kristen Sullivan said.

The players' courage wasn't lost on their opponents either. It only raised their admiration for them.

"Our hearts go out to

them," Molloy's Emily Rabot said. "I know it's really hard. We give them props for coming out here tonight."

It wasn't the same team that lost to Molloy in five sets in all three regular season meetings. Strong could sense a difference in the team's play, saying they went through the motions and lacked a killer instinct. She said she didn't want to get on them during the contest because she knew what they were going through and how hard it is.

"I didn't want them to feel bad about their performance," the coach said. "I don't think I could have gotten out on the volleyball court and played half as

well as they did."

Even in the darkest moments the players are amazed at the generosity around them. The school has put together drives for essential household items and given them new school supplies. McDade said teachers and students approach her and ask what she needs.

"People are coming up to me and giving me money," she said. "Everyone wants to be such a big help. I feel like people are there for me. I feel like I don't have nothing anymore."

Strong, who recently found an apartment in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, said she and the players have been

*Continued on Page 45*

# Prep girls capture sixth title against tough Molloy

BY CHRIS BARCA

St. Francis Prep capturing its sixth-straight diocesan title further cements its place as one of New York City's most accomplished dynasties. This is a fact senior outside hitter Kelly Flynn has become accustomed to and still enjoys hearing even after her third-straight crown.

"Winning never gets old. We're used to it now," she said. "A lot of us have been

playing together on this team for three years now. We wanted to finish strong in our senior year."

It didn't come as easy as it might have looked. Host and No. 2 Archbishop Molloy pushed the No. 1 Terriers in the first and third sets, but they were able to hold on for a 26-24, 25-17, 25-22 victory in the CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens final Monday night. It was the type of success St. Francis Prep Coach Kevin Colucci

expected from this group from the beginning.

"From the second these girls walked into the high school three or four years ago, I knew they would be something special," he said. "It's been awesome to coach these girls. They deserve this."

From the first serve, it was obvious the Terriers were in championship form. Flynn blasted clutch shot after clutch shot whenever Molloy threatened on

her way to a game-high 14 kills. Her dominance at the net was unmatched by Molloy, but her sheepish recognition of her ability is as striking as her on-court intensity.

"I did all right, I guess," she said in-between giggles. "My job is to put the ball over the net and that's what I did."

Fellow SFP seniors Kendra McCalla and Kiara Pierre also made themselves heard with 22 and 10 assists respectively. Pierre contributed eight kills and three aces also. In addition, Jaclyn LaForgia returned after missing the semifinals against Mary Louis with a head injury and recorded six kills.

"She was dying to get out there and play last time out," Colucci said of LaForgia. "She was sorely missed and it was great to have her back."

While the Terriers (14-0) move on, Molloy (10-4), who suffered all four of their losses at the hands of SFP, was left wondering what could have been. Even though the score sheet showed a loss in straight



St. Francis Prep's Kiara Pierre (c.) and Caroline Gorecki put up a wall of defense during the CHSAA postseason. Photo by Ken Maldonado



Molloy's Erica Byrne serves the ball against St. Francis Prep in the CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens final.

Photo by Ken Maldonado

sets, the Stanners pushed their rival. Jenna Hoffman recorded 14 digs and Lauren Pagan and Emily Rabot combined for seven kills.

Next on the schedule for the Terriers is the state tournament, which will take place at St. Anthony's (L.I.) Saturday at 3 p.m. Colucci will embrace the

present tonight, but quickly turn his focus to the future. His team lost in the Class AA final last season.

"Our focus is now on states," Colucci said. "And this group has a lot of elements needed to be successful."

## Campus Magnet looks to rebuild after playoff defeat

BY MIKE MCAVOY

Campus Magnet head Coach Eric Barnett didn't spend his post-game second-guessing himself or his team after their loss.

Rather, he spent it praising the Lincoln Railsplitters.

The No. 13-seeded Bulldogs fell to the No. 2 Railsplitters 44-14 in the first round of the League Championship Division Playoffs at Lafayette Education Complex Field Saturday afternoon. Lincoln's football field suffered damage from Hurricane Sandy and could not play at the team's school, so the game took place at a neutral site.

"My hat goes off to Lincoln," Barnett said. "Their school is one of the classi-

est programs in the city and that's why they win."

Campus Magnet opened up the game looking like a team capable of pulling the upset. On the first possession of the game, the Bulldogs drove 51 yards on seven plays, jumping out to a 6-0 lead with 8:34 left in the first, after quarterback Blessuan Austin snuck it in from 1 yard out.

On the ensuing kickoff, though, the Bulldogs allowed Lincoln's Antoine Holoman Jr. to return the kick 96 yards for a touchdown and things were all knotted up at 6-6. The Bulldogs, after their initial score, gave up 28 unanswered points to Lincoln (7-2).

With 6:31 left on the clock in the third quarter, Austin found William Callender

I'm trying to catch up to guys like (Lincoln). I hope our program can turn into that.

**Eric Barnett**

Campus Magnet football coach

for a 5-yard strike, cutting the lead to 28-14. But Campus Magnet failed to get any closer.

"The thing I love about football, more than any other sport, is the majesty is in its preparation," Barnett said. "When you play against a program like Lincoln's, you have to be prepared to play."

Although that statement could be construed as Barnett questioning his team's preparation, that's not the case at all.

"Our kids played real hard," Barnett said. "My game plan was superb and I never doubted it."

Barnett cites this loss as running into, as he called it, "the toast of the league." His Campus Magnet squad finishes its year 4-5, and while shaking hands with the opposing team, Barnett saw what he hopes to turn his program into.

"I'm trying to catch up to guys like that," Barnett said of Lincoln. "I hope our program can turn into that."



Scramble: Lincoln quarterback Havon Moore, who ran for two touchdowns, avoids a sack by firing a pass. Photo by Steve Solomonson

# Terriers hang tough in loss against Fordham Prep squad

BY DANIEL MARTIN

It appeared St. Francis Prep boys' soccer had found the equalizer with Fordham Prep up a goal and time slowly growing short. The moment didn't last long.

Prep's Anthony Scarello sent a beautiful cross into the box that appeared to be headed into the back of the net by forward Lawrence Nikaj to tie the score — at least it seemed. The goal was immediately waved off and Nikaj was given a yellow card for a handball in the 64th minute.

"I saw it," said SFP Coach Franco Purificato. "I was hoping they didn't see it."

Fordham Prep would add another goal, sinking defending city champion St. Francis Prep 2-0 in the CHSAA Class AA sectional boys' soccer quarterfinals Sunday afternoon at Belson Stadium. It was just the second time all season the Terriers were shut out. For Fordham Prep, it

**We had opportunities that we didn't finish. They outhustled from the start**

**Franco Purificato**

St. Francis Prep soccer coach

avenged a 6-2 regular season loss, the margin Purificato felt was the worst thing for his team coming into this contest.

"We had opportunities that we didn't finish," he said. "They outhustled from start to finish. Hustle won the game for them."

The negated goal from Nikaj put a halt to the momentum that St. Francis (13-3-0) had found midway through the second half, the end of one final push for a tie.

"[The cross] was a little

out of reach," Nikaj said of the handball. "I tried to go after it with my head, but it just hit off my hand."

Khalil Reid starred for Fordham Prep (13-3-1), scoring both goals for the Rams and almost adding a third, but it clanked off the crossbar in the 45th minute. His goal in the 66th minute sealed the victory for Fordham.

"Reid really played well. They were winning every 50/50 ball and we seemed a little lax," Purificato said. "You can't play lax. We went down 1-0 and were chasing the whole game."

Among the bright spots for the Terriers were Eric Mirkov, who helped set up multiple chances in the box, and Brandon Silva, who spurred opportunities in the offensive third. None of those chances materialized into goals.

"They wanted it more than us and they showed it," said Nikaj. "We all played hard and we had fun, but that is it."

p.m. Thursday back at Aviator. It's another chance for them to prove where the program is.

"It shows that we weren't lucky last year," Lume said. "We are starting to get it together and taking it seriously."

"pure devastation" — just burnt houses and houses collapsed inside of others. It didn't feel like home, but doesn't mean it won't be home again in time.

"My family is very determined to rebuild our house where it was," McDade said. "But it's going to take awhile."

place junior varsity team were also affected, adding to an already difficult situation.

"It's really, really tough on these kids," Strong said. "They are too young to have to experience this. It's horrible."

Many of the players have been back to Breezy Point to what's left of their homes. Sullivan called it

# Aviation boys continue fortuitous postseason

BY ROB ABRUZZESE

Mario Cotumaccio admitted that he didn't think his beaten-down Aviation team could continue its improbable run. The coach's team was tired, having played three games in as many days, and injured after a physical second round contest against Francis Lewis.

His soccer squad, however, continued to surprise him and everyone else.

No. 19-seed Aviation continued its Cinderella run with a 3-2 win over No. 7 Tottenville in PSAL Class A boys' soccer semifinals on Randall's Island Monday. The Flyers will appear in their first 'A' division final 6 p.m. Sunday at a time to be determined. They face top-seeded Martin Luther King Jr., which beat them in the semifinals last season and in 2004.

"Everybody thought we were the underdogs," junior Jonathan Jaramillo said. "We came from under and showed everybody that we can play. Next we're playing in the finals."

It was quite a feat considering the team's condition and seed. Aviation topped No. 3 Francis Lewis in the second round and No. 6 New Dorp in the quarterfinals. The Flyers placed third in Queens A West during the regular season, but came together when it mattered.

"We hooked up in the



John Rojas dribbles the ball up the pitch during the PSAL semifinal against Tottenville. Photo by Rob Abruzzese

playoffs and started playing together," Jaramillo said. "That has given us the spark to help us get this far."

A brawl with host Lewis marred the end of the team's contest last Saturday, leaving players hurt, according to Cotumaccio. Fans rushed the field. It left Aviation depleted. Kevin Muniz and Andres Neira were red carded and missed the next two games. Michael Moreno and Manny Ramones, couldn't play Sunday because of injuries and others played through the pain.

"It was an all-out brawl," Cotumaccio said. "In the 15 years I have been coaching soccer, I've never seen such a fiasco in my life."

The Flyers (12-4-0) made the spirited play of banged-up goalie George Blahakis worth by jumping ahead 1-0 when Jaramillo scored in the 40th minute on a rebound of a Kevin Rodri-

guez shot that bounced off the post. Tottenville (15-3-0) tied it in the 46th minute when Adrian Cosovic scored with an assist from Dardan Nika.

Eight minutes later, Aviation went ahead 2-1 on a header by Ousmane Barry off a Jaramillo pass. Barry and Jaramillo hooked up again to make it 3-1 at the 70th minute. Nika added another goal at the 75th minute to cut the Aviation lead to 3-2, but it was too late at that point.

It hasn't struck midnight yet for Aviation. Cotumaccio is optimistic it won't even against national-ranked MLK and Coach Martin Jacobson.

"With no disrespect, his record speaks for itself, he has an excellent team," Cotumaccio said. "But you know what? He's beaten me four times, I think it's time for me to beat him for a change."

## CK girls

Continued from Page 43

right post to make it 2-0. The Hilltoppers had two quality chances. Eva Scazzero had a hard shot saved midway through the first half and

CK keeper Kristen Drogslersoned Therese Boyle just after Nolan's goal.

The Royals will try to write another chapter in its history-making seasons as it tries to reach its first state final. They face Archdiocesan champion Notre Dame Academy in semifinals 4:30

## Bonnies

Continued from Page 43

living a nomadic existence, moving to a different friend or family member's home. Junior Daisy Trustumm couldn't even make the game because she is living in Connecticut. Eight members of the school's first-

Easy #45											
7	3	6	1	8	5	2	9	4			
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6	2	3	9	5	7	4	8	1			
9	5	8	4	1	3	7	6	2			

Hard #45											
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<p>2010 Suzuki <b>KIZASHI SLS</b> AWD, 4dr, 4cyl, auto, pwr steer/ ABS/wind/locks/htd mirrs/leather seats, A/C, AM/FM/CD, keyless entry, alloys, tilt, cruise, 11,159 mi, Stk#13704.</p> <p><b>\$18,795*</b></p>	<p>2012 Nissan <b>ALTIMA 2.5 S</b> FWD, 4dr, 4cyl, CVT w/ Xtronic, pwr steer/ABS/wind/locks/htd mirrs/seats, A/C, AM/FM/CD, remote keyless entry, tilt, cruise, 31,215 mi, Stk#1462.</p> <p><b>\$16,605*</b></p>	<p>2008 Cadillac <b>ESCALADE ESV</b> AWD, 5dr, 4cyl, auto, pwr steer/ ABS/wind/locks/htd mirrs/sunroof, htd-cld lthr seats, A/C, CD/DVD, rear camera, Ent. System, 59,740 mi, Stk#13390.</p> <p><b>\$33,998*</b></p>	<p>2007 Chevrolet <b>AVALANCHE LTZ 4WD</b> Crew Cab, 4dr, 8cyl, auto, pwr steer/ ABS/wind/locks/ htd mirrs/seats, A/C, AM/FM/CD, StabiliTrak, keyless entry, tilt, cruise, 17" alloys, 83,191 mi, Stk#13786.</p> <p><b>\$19,998*</b></p>	<p>2006 Nissan <b>PATHFINDER S 4WD</b> 4dr, 4cyl, automatic trans, power steering/ ABS/windows/locks/ mirrors, A/C, AM/FM/CD, tilt wheel, cruise, alloy wheels, rem keyless entry, 38,354 mi, Stk#1541.</p> <p><b>\$14,495*</b></p>
<p>2010 Toyota <b>COROLLA 4DR LE</b> FWD, 4dr, 4cyl, automatic trans, power steering/ ABS/windows/ locks/mirrors, A/C, AM/FM/CD, tilt/ telescoping wheel, cruise, 38,733 mi, Stk#13585.</p> <p><b>\$11,798*</b></p>	<p>2010 Nissan <b>MAXIMA 3.5S</b> 4door, 6 cylinder, automatic, pwr steer/ABS/wind/locks/sunroof/lthr seats, A/C, AM/FM Stereo/CD, tilt wheel, cruise control, alloy wheels, 25,047,463 mi, Stk#13772.</p> <p><b>\$19,995*</b></p>	<p>2010 Dodge <b>CHALLENGER R/T</b> 8 cyl Hemi, automatic, pwr steer/ ABS/wind/locks/sunroof/lthr seats, A/C, AM/FM/CD, Navi, tilt, cruise, rear spoiler, 18" alloys, 3,788 mi, Stk#1555.</p> <p><b>\$29,995*</b></p>	<p>2009 Chevrolet <b>TRAVERSE LT</b> AWD, 5door, 6 cyl, auto, pwr steer/ ABS/wind/locks/htd mirrs/seat, A/C, XM Radio/CD, tilt, cruise, alloys, remote keyless entry, rear parking assist. 21,143 mi Stk#13749.</p> <p><b>\$21,998*</b></p>	<p>2010 GMC <b>TERRAIN SLT-1</b> AWD, 5door, 4 cyl, auto, pwr steer/ ABS/wind/locks/htd mirrs/seat, A/C, XM Radio/CD, tilt, cruise, alloys, remote keyless entry, StabiliTrak, 33,330 mi, Stk#1559.</p> <p><b>\$23,998*</b></p>

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The screenshot shows the TimesLedger.com homepage. At the top, it says 'TIMESLedger SERVING QUEENS SINCE 1919'. Below that are navigation links for News, Crime, Sports, Entertainment, Opinion, Politics, Classifieds, Email updates, The Newstand, Contact, and Past Issues. There are social media links for Facebook, Twitter, Vimeo, and YouTube. A featured article titled 'ACTING OUT! Brooklyn's Premier Performing Arts School' is highlighted. Other news items include 'MidVill slams Q38 delays', 'Rich Hill man seeks to clear name in 1996 drive-by killing', and 'Elmhurst shopping center gets earful over workers' wages'. There are also sections for 'EVENTS', 'CLASSIFIEDS', 'Popular stories', and 'Photo galleries'.

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- **COMMUNITY CALENDAR:** Find weekend activities and fun events for the whole family using our daily community calendar listings.

# DEADLINE NOTICE

Due to Thanksgiving, the deadline for Classified ads will be **Monday, November 19** at 5PM for the November 22 issue. To avoid missing deadline, try to place your ads by **Friday, November 16**. Have a safe & enjoyable holiday!



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All employment advertised herein is subject to section 296 of the human rights law, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination because of race, color, creed, national origin, disability, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, or arrest conviction record, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. Title 29, U.S. Code, Chap 630, excludes the Federal Gov't from the age discrimination provisions. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for employment which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that employment offerings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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**DeBlasio Warns Consumers About Classified Ads**  
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 Classified ads are intended to help people by facilitating communication and advertising available services; however, some of the hotlines & service numbers in classifieds actually hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. Any number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee beyond a local call. In some instances, ads initially advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all information & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party."  
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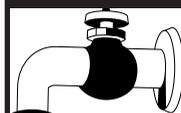
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**NOTICE OF SALE**  
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF MERRILL LYNCH MORTGAGE INVESTORS TRUST 2010-NP1, Plaintiff -against- MD. SAJJAD HOSSAIN, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered AUGUST 14, 2012, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the QUEENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 88-11 SUTPHIN BOULEVARD, JAMAICA, NY IN COURTROOM 25 on the 7TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012 at 11:00 A.M. premises known as 16144 86TH AVENUE, JAMAICA, NY 11432, further described as follows: BLOCK 9775 AND LOT 12 ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improve-

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ments thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the 4th Ward, Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, known and designated on a certain map entitled "Map of property belonging to Jamaica Home Providing Company, Inc., 4th Ward, Borough of Queens, New York City, surveyed November, 1915 by C.E. and City Surveyor, Jamaica, New York and filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Queens, on December 2, 1915, as map No. 3310 as lot No. 2 and being more particularly bounded and described according to said map as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the southeasterly side of Union Park Avenue, distant 129.23 feet southwesterly from the corner formed by the intersection of said southeasterly side of Union Park Avenue, with the westerly side of 162nd

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Street (formerly Union Avenue); RUNNING THENCE southeasterly at right angles to Union Park Avenue along Lots No. 1 and 9 on said map, 44.73 feet; RUNNING THENCE southeasterly parallel with 162nd Street along lot No. 8 on said map and other property, 64 feet; RUNNING THENCE westerly at right angles to 162nd Street, 15.37 feet to lot No. 3 on said map; RUNNING THENCE northwesterly at right angles to Union park Avenue and along Lot No. 3 on said map, 97 feet to the southeasterly side of Union Park Avenue and; RUNNING THENCE northeasterly along said southeasterly side of Union Park Avenue, 40 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING. Approximate amount of lien \$762,723.86 plus interest & costs. Premises will be

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sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index Number 2734/07. VASILIOS C. ANGELOS, ESQ., REFEREE DOONAN, GRAVES & LONGORIA, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 100 Cummings Center Suite 225D Beverly, MA 01915 **NOTICE OF SALE** SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS US Bank National Association, as Trustee of Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust, Asset Backed Pass Through Certificates, Series 2006-AMC1 under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement dated as of September 1, 2006, without recourse, Plaintiff, against Gilberto Rosa, et al., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 12/20/2007 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the

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Queens County Supreme Court, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York, in Courtroom #25 on 12/07/2012 at 11:00AM, premises known as 100-17 87th Avenue, Richmond Hill, NY 11418 All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 9286, LOT: 28. Approximate amount of judgment \$501,640.71 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 07-15649. David S. Dikman, Esq., Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON, LLP Attorney for Plaintiff, 20 West Main St, Bayshore, NY 11706 Dated: October 16, 2012 994064 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29/2012

**NOTICE OF SALE** SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS, FLUSHING SAVINGS BANK, FSB, Plaintiff, vs. COLMAR REALTY, LLC, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on September 19, 2011, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Courthouse, Courtroom 25, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY on December 14, 2012 at 11:00 a.m., premises known as 41-17 48th Street, Sunnyside, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, Block 00135 and Lot 0021. Approximate amount of judgment is \$944,123.69 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 34715/09.

Nicole L. Bruszewski, Esq., Referee Eric Berliner, Esq., 80 Cuttermill Road, Suite 411, Great Neck, New York 11021, Attorney for Plaintiff

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS** JOY H. MACK f/k/a JOY DINKO, Plaintiff, against SUSAN IGWEGBE, ONEWEST BANK, THE BANK OF NEW YORK, as Collateral Agent and Custodian, DENISE WATERS, DOUGLAS WATERS, SEYNA DINKO, CATALINA FERNANDEZ and ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD and JOHN DOE 1-10, the names of the last defendants being fictitious, the true names being unknown to plaintiff, the parties intended being tenants or persons in possession of the premises, Defendants. Index No. 12993/12, Date Purchased: 06/20/2012 Plaintiff designates QUEENS COUNTY as

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Place of trial. The basis of venue is location of The Premises. The Premises is located at 187-09 Brinkerhoff Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11433.

**SUMMONS:** To the above named Defendants: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. Dated: Freeport, NY, June 19, 2012. V. ROY CACCIATORE, P.C., V. ROY CACCIATORE, ESQ., Attorney for Plaintiff, 30 South Ocean Avenue, Suite 202, Freeport, New York 11520, (516) 868-1070

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS Defendants.** Index No. 9700/2012 Date of Filing: Plaintiff designates Queens County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon County in which premises are situated. SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Tax Lien Foreclosure Block: 12589; Lot: 41

a/k/a 171-12 140th AVENUE NYCTL 2011-A TRUST and THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON as Collateral Agent and Custodian, Plaintiffs, -against- GEORGE E. BROWN, if living, and if he be dead, his representatives, heirs, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors in interest, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, THE GREATER NEW YORK SAVINGS BANK, MUNICIPAL CREDIT UNION, MBNA AMERICA BANK NA, UM CAPITAL LLC, DIRECT MERCHANTS CREDIT CARD BANK, CAPITAL ONE BANK, CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES, CITY OF NEW YORK PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU, CITY OF NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION & FINANCE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN-

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TERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, "John Doe No. 1" through "John Doe No. 100" inclusive, the names of the last 100 defendants being unknown to plaintiff, it being intended to designate fee owners, tenants or occupants of the tax lien premises and/or persons or parties having or claiming an interest in or a lien upon the subject property, if the aforesaid individual defendants are living, and any or all of said individual defendants be dead, their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, committees, devisees, legatees, and the assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest of them, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by, through, or against the said defendants named as a class, of any right, title, or interest in or lien upon the premises described in the complaint herein, To the above named Defendants: You are hereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. Notice of Nature of Action and Relief Sought The Object of the above entitled action is to foreclose a Tax Lien in the original Tax Lien Principal Balance of \$17,683.68 with interest as described in a certain Tax Lien Certificate dated November 16, 2011 and recorded in the Office of the City Register for the Borough of Queens, County of Queens, on November 23, 2011 in City Register File Number ("CRFN") 2011000408634 upon premises described as follows: ADDRESS: 171-12 140th Avenue BLOCK: 12589 LOT:..... 41 COUNTY: Queens The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Tax Lien described above. Plaintiff designates Queens County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the county where the Property being foreclosed upon is located. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the Plaintiff who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you may lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go

to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and complaint and protect your property. Sending a payment to the Plaintiff will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT

Dated: October 24, 2012 New York, New York THE LAW OFFICE OF THOMAS P. MALONE, PLLC Thomas P. Malone, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs, 60 East 42nd Street, Suite 1540 New York, New York 10165 Ph: (212) 867-0500 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing supplemental summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Court dated October 12, 2012 and filed, along with the supporting papers, in the Office of the Queens County Clerk.

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**LEGAL NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE** SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS UNITED NATIONS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff against TOPE AROSO, MORENIKE AROSO, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated September 13, 2012, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom #25, Jamaica, NY on the 30th day of November, 2012 at 11:00 AM premises situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the corner formed by the intersection of the westerly side of 164th Street with the northerly side of 119th Avenue; being a plot 41 feet by 100 feet by 41 feet by 100 feet. Said premises known as 117-60 164TH STREET, JAMAICA, NY Approximate amount of lien \$ 647,324.08 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index Number 7068/11. BARRY SEIDEL, ESQ., Referee. Weltman & Moskowitz Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. The above sale, originally scheduled for November 2nd, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. has been postponed. The new sale date is November 30th, 2012 at the same time and place. BARRY SEIDEL, ESQ., REFEREE. (\* JAMAICA TI - \*)

**LEGAL NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE** SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS UNITED NATIONS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff against TOPE AROSO, MORENIKE AROSO, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated September 13, 2012, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom #25, Jamaica, NY on the 30th day of November, 2012 at 11:00 AM premises situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the corner formed by the intersection of the westerly side of 164th Street with the northerly side of 119th Avenue; being a plot 41 feet by 100 feet by 41 feet by 100 feet. Said premises known as 117-60 164TH STREET, JAMAICA, NY Approximate amount of lien \$ 647,324.08 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index Number 7068/11. BARRY SEIDEL, ESQ., Referee. Weltman & Moskowitz Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. The above sale, originally scheduled for November 2nd, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. has been postponed. The new sale date is November 30th, 2012 at the same time and place. BARRY SEIDEL, ESQ., REFEREE. (\* JAMAICA TI - \*)

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# Pulling together disaster relief poses challenge

BY JOE ANUTA

The relief effort organized by the government is carried out by a vast network of organizations where well-intentioned neighborhood groups often prove hard to incorporate and sometimes hamper relief efforts.

Disaster relief is a complicated beast, according to John Berglund, who manages disaster relief efforts for The Salvation Army in New York and has experience running operations all over the world.

“Every disaster is different. They are extremely organic, which is part of the challenge,” he said.

In New York City, the mayor’s office and the city Office of Emergency Management take a lead role on how federal aid is used.

In addition, local officials have been helping direct where aid is needed,



A New York Cares volunteer drops off water to a table manned by a member of the National Guard outside the Hammel Houses.

Photo by Christina Santucci

while the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army work closely with all levels of government, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

But the two nonprofits also have another network to draw from.

They currently preside over a coalition known as the New York City Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, which is comprised of organizations with special skills.

For instance, when a shelter in Manhattan’s Chinatown was in need of food, Berglund called on the Taiwan Buddhist Tsu Chi Foundation, whose regional headquarters is in Flushing, to deliver hot meals, one of its specialties.

Conversely, they can call on the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which specializes in warehousing and storage.

But one aspect of relief that can never be properly planned for is the grassroots efforts of other residents.

Some groups will collect clothing or food and either try to distribute it to affected residents themselves or will drop it off at a sorting center, which can sometimes put an extra burden on volunteer workers, especially if the items are not needed.

“In some ways, they are actually hurting the process, and in some cases they could even be delaying the delivery of aid,” said Berglund.

He is aware that most of the donations are well-intentioned, but he would rather have donors give cash to fund the organized effort.

But elected officials like City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) blasted the Red Cross for

its slow response to his district.

And state Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (D-Ozone Park) and U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-Jamaica) complained that the city was not well organized in delivering resources to the coastal neighborhood.

In some cases, outside groups are forming effective chains of their own to pick up the perceived government slack. Occupy Wall Street has set up a distribution system of its own, called Occupy Sandy, using a network of social media and a vast organizing prowess to deliver aid to areas where the city, state and FEMA have been slow to respond.

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

## Far Rockaway residents find help and hope after storm

BY STEVE MOSCO

The hardship rises when the sun goes down in Far Rockaway.

“It gets cold, real cold,” said Latesha Williams, as she dug through rows of donated winter coats in the parking lot of the Thrift Way strip mall, at 20-52 Mott Ave. “The floor feels like ice when the heat’s not working. It gets so cold it’s all you think about.”

Williams’ house in the seaside community was one of many still without power Saturday, when hundreds of residents lined up to browse through all sorts of donated items as young and energetic volunteers guided them through a maze of wares. Powerless in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, residents filled bags with paper towels, cleaning products, bathroom items, baby products, canned

goods, children’s toys and clothes.

The event was organized by Reshma Saujani, the deputy advocate for Special Initiatives at the city public advocate office and executive director of the Fund for Public Advocacy, in conjunction with We Care NYC, a city agency that helps people on public assistance. Donations came from New York Tech Meet-up, I Love My LIFE, Flavorpill, Pencils of Promise and other nonprofit organizations, small businesses and advocates in the city.

“We’ve been spending a lot of time here in Far Rockaway checking on residents,” said Saujani, who handed out sandwiches with singer John Legend. “It’s been close to two weeks since a lot of these people had power — all that time with no heat and no hot food — so we are here to



Singer John Legend (second from l.) hands out sandwiches with City Councilman James Sanders and the Queens Borough Chamber of Commerce executive director in Far Rockaway.

Photo by Steve Mosco

give them what they need.”

Aside from volunteer-donated household items and clothes, food trucks provided hot meals to the storm-weary residents. City Councilman James Sanders

(D-Laurelton), along with U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-Jamaica) and Councilmen Ruben Wills (D-Jamaica) and Leroy Comrie (D-St. Albans), listened to the plight of the people while

dishing donated food.

“Far Rockaway caught hell in the hurricane, but what we gained from this is a new appreciation for being alive,” said Sanders. “And we are seeing the American people pouring their hearts out to our community.”

Those visiting the community also expressed concern for business in Far Rockaway, with Jack Friedman, executive director of the Queens Borough Chamber of Commerce, advocating for business improvement following the storm.

“Some businesses may never reopen following the storm and we might have to think about starting over and supporting the future of the neighborhood,” he said. “We want this to be a viable area for business.”

Sandy’s sting is seen throughout the Far Rockaway neighborhood in

shuttered businesses and debris-cluttered sidewalks. Streetlights on Mott Avenue remained dark as drivers cautiously navigated busy intersections manned by dedicated police officers.

But despite the daily challenges they have grown accustomed to dealing with, residents embraced the opportunity to stock up on supplies, fill their bellies with grub and dance with their neighbors in defiance of Sandy’s shadow.

“This is the best I’ve felt since the storm,” said Devon Ridgley, who went from resident in need to impromptu volunteer. “It’s good to see so many smiling faces under a bright sun and blue sky.”

Reach reporter Steve Mosco by e-mail at [smosco@cnglocal.com](mailto:smosco@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4546.



## Pitching in after Sandy

After Hurricane Sandy, aid came from many fronts to help those hardest hit in Queens. (Clockwise from top) a massive effort was organized at St. Francis De Sales Church in Belle Harbor; Carol Vigorito (l.) and Shannon Pallen sort through supplies at Dwarf Giraffe in Whitestone; Lana Galeno organizes baby items at St. Helen's Church in Howard Beach; Gloria Rivera and her daughter, also named Gloria, carry a container of free fuel from the Fuel Relief Fund in Rockaway; Nicole Sciortino (l.) and Jamie Poisella pile donated clothes outside Sullivan's in Bayside; and debris is collected outside a home in Belle Harbor.

Photos by Christina Santucci





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# Glen Oaks ambulance ferries people to safety

BY CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

The Glen Oaks Volunteer Ambulance Corps came to the rescue of stranded patients during the hurricane and afterward the group felt it was their duty to help out neighborhoods that bore the brunt of Sandy.

"Because we were lucky with not getting hit so hard out here in Glen Oaks and in the neighboring Queens areas, we had to do what was right, and the right thing for us to do was to try to help those we could," said corps community affairs Co-Chair Travis Kessel, who by day is a judicial law student at St. John's University.

As the storm approached the East Coast, a crew was called into action to evacuate patients at the NYU Langone Medical Center in Manhattan, and the following day, an ambulance was sent to Resort Nursing Home in Averne.



Member Mike Kopun points to supplies packed into an ambulance. Photo by Christina Santucci

At NYU, members helped to remove 20 patients, and in Rockaway the team of four people coordinated the transport of dozens of residents.

"They made sure all 171 of those patients, including 22 that were critical who had not had dialysis in about four or five days,

they made sure they got to the right medical facilities," Kessel said of the Averne assignment.

President Kathy Sexton, the corps' president, said the evacuation efforts were performed in addition to the group's regular service with two crews of ambulances stationed at

the headquarters, at 257-02 Union Turnpike, to respond to local calls during the storm.

"A lot of these buildings over here actually lost all of their power the first night of the hurricane," Sexton said of northeast Queens.

In one instance, volunteers carried an elderly man out of a dark apartment building in Glen Oaks, down seven flights of stairs and along the street on a stretcher because the road was blocked on both sides by downed trees.

"We had crews here on duty, round the clock, and in some cases people were sleeping here between shifts – in some cases that was because people didn't have power in their homes," said community affairs Co-Chair Henry Ehrhardt, who serves as a customer service director for the city Sanitation Department. The headquarters has two cots set up on their second

floor and the group boasts a membership of more than 120 people, including about 20 youth members.

In the days following the storm, the group brought donations to Brooklyn, Long Island, West Hamilton Beach and Breezy Point, and the headquarters served as a drop-off site for local organizations, including Our Lady of the Snows parish and PS 94 in Little Neck, which have pooled their efforts to provide clothes, food and toys for storm victims.

On Saturday, two vehicles were sent out to southern neighborhoods in Queens – chocked full of supplies.

"As we are bringing stuff in, there are people leaving with the stuff they need," said Kessel, who coordinated the relief drive. As the relief efforts continue, the group emphasized the different items they are hoping to collect.

"The need for clothing isn't there and we have nowhere to store it," Kessel said. Instead, the corps is asking for cleaning and medical supplies – mops, brooms, garbage bags, bleach and bandages.

"They are running short on a lot of regular stuff like regular old band-aids, but they also don't have enough oxygen tanks. If they are empty, we can transport them, because they are not dangerous to transport empty," he said.

Sexton, who works as a pre-school special education teacher, praised the group's members and the youth squad for pitching in.

"I'm very proud of all of our members who came through," she said. "These are people with families. They have their husbands, their wives, but they came down and they did a great job."

# Woodhaven civic group steps up to help storm victims

BY STEVE MOSCO

When Mother Nature hit Queens with a devastating blow, residents banded together to heal the many wounds.

The Woodhaven Residents' Block Association stepped up to the plate once again for the victims of Hurricane Sandy while continuing to support those who remain in its wake.

The civic group hosted a flashlight vigil Friday and then donated the flashlights to the storm's survivors. The vigil was held at Jamaica Avenue and Forest Parkway at the foot of a large evergreen tree that perished in the storm.

Prior to the flashlight vigil, WRBA spent time collecting clothing for distribution in affected communities.

The Block Association said it was astounded by the tremendous generosity displayed by inhabitants following Hurricane Sandy's destructive path.

"The generosity of Woodhaven and of our friends has been overwhelming," said WRBA President Ed Wendell. "In the face of a disaster that devastated our neighbors, our community stepped up in a huge way to help out those in need. A lot of people are hurting right now, but the community spirit we've seen over the past week leaves no doubt that south Queens will be back better than ever."

Due to donations, the block association raised thousands of dollars as well as 50 carloads of clothes, food, water and other supplies. In addition, volun-



Woodhaven residents joined forces to collect donations for victims of Hurricane Sandy. Courtesy Woodhaven Residents' Block Association

teers contributed numerous hours to sort, pack and transport the donations – which were delivered to Howard Beach, Broad Channel, Breezy Point and other neighborhoods south of Woodhaven that were hit hard by the superstorm.

People from across

Woodhaven contributed to the cause, and donors from far out of state shipped supplies or donated money even though gasoline was in short supply, according to Wendell.

"Residents sprang into action," he said. "Using their remaining gas to

make sure supplies reached those in need."

The WRBA collaborated with an array of organizations and offices to maximize their efforts, including those of the Glendale Civilian Observation Patrol, the West Hamilton Beach Volunteer Fire Department, the Hamilton Beach Civic Association, the Woodhaven Business Improvement District, Queens Tabernacle and the Woodhaven-Richmond Hill Volunteer Ambulance Corps, state Assemblymen Mike Miller (D-Woodhaven) and Phil Goldfeder (D-Ozone Park), state Sen. Joseph Addabbo (D-Howard Beach) and City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Middle Village).

"Hurricane Sandy caused unprecedented damage to thousands of homes throughout the city,

but as always New Yorkers are coming together to help those in need," Crowley said.

Martin Colberg, a WRBA board member, said the block association wanted to help because it considers those affected the most by Sandy's wrath neighbors.

"This was a huge team effort," he said. "Those who are without heat or electricity, those who lost their belongings or their homes – those are our neighbors, and it was wonderful to see how many people in Woodhaven and from all around are doing everything they can to help their neighbors."

Reach reporter Steve Mosco by e-mail at [smosco@cnglocal.com](mailto:smosco@cnglocal.com) or by phone at 718-260-4546.

# Volunteers needed to help clean up Rockaways

BY RICH BOCKMANN

Except for a few generator-powered lights, the Rockaway Peninsula is plunged into darkness at night, but during the daytime's sunlight hours there is plenty of work to be done.

"The No. 1 need is for volunteers," Alison Thompson, an organizer with Third Wave Volunteers said last Thursday at Belle Harbor's St. Francis De Sales Church where a massive relief effort is underway. "If you're not that strong, there's plenty of work to be done organizing in here. If you're able-bodied, we can use you outside cleaning up and going door-to-door."

Throughout the day trucks packed with everything from bottled water to clothing to toilet paper arrive outside the church where they are unloaded into the building's auditorium. Thompson said that while donations have been pouring in from all



Volunteers move supplies at St. Francis De Sales Church.

Photo by Christina Santucci

over, there is a shortage of boots on the ground to get those supplies and, more importantly, in-

formation out.

"Yesterday no one even knew a storm was going to hit," she said

as piles of sand left behind by Superstorm Sandy's surge outside sat topped with snow from last week's nor'easter.

Many elderly residents who stayed behind in their homes after the peninsula was ordered evacuated as Sandy approached cannot travel far to get the food, medical supplies and assistance they need, Thompson said.

Third Wave Volunteers, which organizes the effort at St. Francis, was founded after Thompson went to Indonesia in 2004 to assist in the recovery effort following a 9.3-magnitude earthquake that struck the island nation.

She helped out in Haiti in 2010 after a devastating earthquake leveled parts of the Caribbean island and in Japan following last year's tsunami.

"What's weird is those places were disgustingly hot," she said. "Here it's the opposite. We're starting to get into this cold

weather."

Thompson said she has been getting the word out on the group's Facebook page and hopes those who want to help will heed her call.

"The trick is that there's no subway. But for like \$12 each you can fill up a bus to come out," she said.

On Sunday Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced the suspension of the \$3.25 cash toll on the Cross Bay Veterans Memorial and Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial bridges to the Rockaways.

MTA Chairman Joseph Lhota said the \$1.80 E-ZPass toll would be retroactively credited to customers' accounts.

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

## To the 44,000 Heroes of North Shore-LIJ Health System... A Thank You as Big as Your Hearts

We honor all North Shore-LIJ physicians, nurses, emergency medical service technicians and paramedics, allied health, administrative, and support staff.

Your devotion to keeping patients safe during the worst of Hurricane Sandy is a testament to your commitment, and a reflection of your dedication to the communities we serve. Although many of you were personally affected by the storm, you continued to work and care for others during one of the most devastating hurricanes in decades.

Our gratitude to you is immeasurable. Our pride in you is great. You are what makes North Shore-LIJ one of the best.



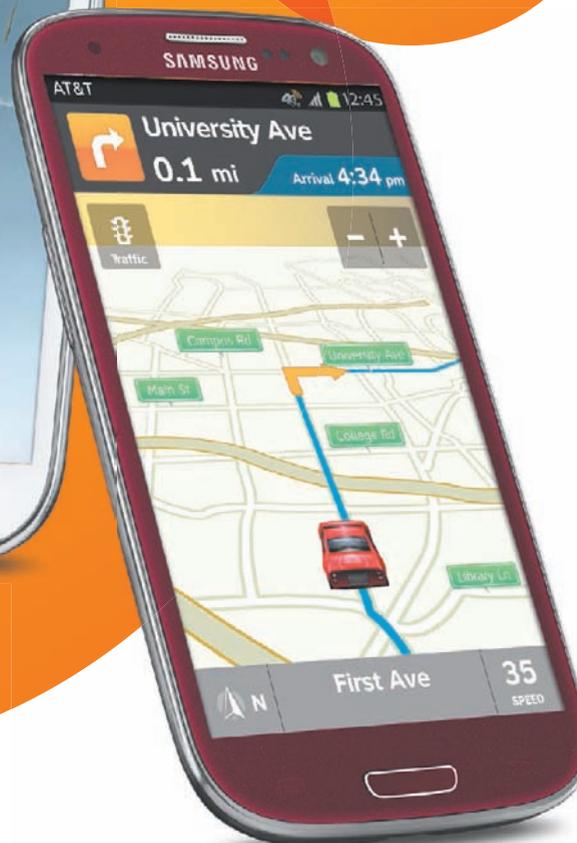
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