

**Guide to 2014 primaries
for Congress in Queens**

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After mistrial
Smith can focus
on Senate race

BY SARINA TRANGLE

Northeast Queens leaders are expected to be drawn into the trial of former Bayside City Councilman Dan Halloran after it resumes from a weeklong recess June 25.

Judge Kenneth Karas opted to push along the Republican's trial in White Plains federal court despite declaring a mistrial in the corruption case of his co-defendants, state Sen. Malcolm Smith (D-Hollis) and ex-Queens GOP Vice Chairman Vincent Tabone.

The trio are charged with participating in an elaborate scheme masterminded by Smith to allegedly bribe his way onto the GOP line in the 2013 mayoral elections, prosecutors contend.

Smith is accused of steering \$500,000 in state funding to a pseudo real estate project in exchange for its recipients agreeing to finance his alleged bribes.

Halloran, a Republican, allegedly helped broker Smith's deals with GOP leaders and accepted kickbacks, prosecutors said.

And Tabone is charged with pocketing a \$25,000 bribe to help Smith secure the Republican line.

The judge's mistrial decision Tuesday ended days of legal

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Elmhurst slams homeless shelter

City plan draws a thousand angry protesters to former Pan American Hotel

BY BILL PARRY

More than a thousand protesters rallied in front of the Pan American Hotel Tuesday, calling on the city to reconsider housing homeless families in their com-

munity.

The city Department of Homeless Services moved 21 families into the shelter run by Samaritan Village June 6 without giving proper notice, according to City Councilman Daniel Dromm

(D-Jackson Heights).

At the start of the rally Tuesday, Dromm said the number of families had risen to 41, including several dozen children.

"We already have our fair share of shelters," Dromm said.

"Metro Motel is just two blocks away and it has not been run in exemplary fashion."

He warned that the situation would strain the resources of the community, especially

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THREE-TWO-ONE



Soccer fans Ingrid Baigorria (l.), Maria Vargas (front) and Mike Torres (behind Vargas) count down the final seconds of the United States' soccer team's victory over Ghana in the World Cup. The United States is scheduled to play next on Sunday.
Photo by Christina Santucci

LIC Summit makes debut

Biz leaders, city officials brainstorm on area's potential at forum

BY BILL PARRY

The first LIC Summit drew nearly 400 people to an all-day event, presented by the LIC Partnership, Tuesday at the Museum of the Moving Image.

Attendees paid as much as \$300 to listen to a half dozen different panel discussions with city officials and business leaders about Long Island City's explosive growth and transformation.

Among the topics were LIC's burgeoning television and film industry, the arts and culture scene and the area's future as a tech hub. The biggest crowds gravitated to panels on real estate issues, both residential and commercial.

With 7,500 residential units completed since 2007 with another 12,700 planned or already under construction, the question of rental or condo was explored by developers and brokers.

Justin Elghanayan, president of Rockrose Development Corp., is in the process of remaking the Court Square district with thousand of rental units.

"People get invested in LIC, and I think what's happening is we're actually gestating a huge condo market," he said. "I think the next wave is going to be very high demand for condos."

Eric Benaim, co-founder of Modern Spaces, explained that as families grow, space becomes an is-



Thought Leaders like Carl Weisbrod (l.), the director of City Planning, lead discussions at the LIC Summit.

Photo by Bill Parry

sue.

"There's a lack of larger apartments in the neighborhood," he said. "As families grow, there's little inventory of three- and four-bedroom apartments, so they are forced to move to the suburbs. Condos would fill a need."

A separate panel discussing commercial and industrial real estate addressed the need for more space.

"Demand is actually still great for commercial space in Long Island City," Real Deal publisher Amir Korangy said, "from industrial uses to space for creative sector companies."

That issue was explored deeply by the LIC Summit's Keynote Panel. City Planning Director Carl Weisbrod said Long Island City has to go vertical.

"Historically, manufacturing had to be very horizontal and it's one of the reasons New York City lost so many manufacturing jobs over the past 70 years," he said. "Technology has changed where now you can go vertical for industrial use, allowing businesses to expand. I believe we are beginning to look at that."

Jonathan Bowles, executive director of the Center for an Urban Future, discussed the needs of tech start-up companies.

"We're not going to grow the tech district without proper planning," he said.

Bowles then discussed the possibilities of the area around the F train stop on 21st Street.

"We must make conversions at the old loft

buildings there to attract the tech crowd. It's the only stop on the F line that connects with Roosevelt Island," he said, referring to the Cornell NYC Tech campus now being built there.

Weisbrod agreed, saying, "That's a corridor that really cries out for upgrading, whether it's for industrial expansion, whether it's technology, whether it's residential or ideally conceivably for all. That's to me the real exciting challenge of Long Island City, which is ow do we manage to create a new topology that engages all of these great needs of the city?"

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

St. Albans opposes five-story building

BY JUAN SOTO

The clock is ticking.

Neighbors in St. Albans are gearing up to launch an attack against plans to build a five-story affordable housing dwelling in two empty lots on Farmers Boulevard between 118th and 119th avenues.

Some residents of the area said the developer, the St. Albans Presbyterian Church, is seeking zoning variances to erect a 67 one- and two-bedroom unit structure.

"Southeast Queens is already overdeveloped with projects that don't fit the neighborhoods they are in," Karen Plummer, president of the St. Albans Civic Improvement Association, said. "There is going to be an influx of people, and when that happens, where are the kids going to go to school?"

Plummer said the

nearby PS 36 "is already overcrowded" as well as PS 15 and IS 59.

The area is characterized by having one- or two-story homes and local stores along Farmers Boulevard. The tallest building in two empty lots on Farmers Boulevard between 118th and 119th avenues is three-stories like the school. The church needs variances, especially, for the building's height, to construct the structure. The neighborhood is zoned for low-residential developments.

"The structure is not compatible with the neighborhood," said Sharon Johnson, a longtime resident of the neighborhood and member of the civic association.

She added that if the five-story building becomes a reality, the area will increase its population by at least 200 people.

"Neighbors here have cars, where are we going to park?" asked Johnson.

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The church plans to construct the five-story building in this empty lot.

Photo courtesy Sharon Johnson

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Council vows to bring back Peter F. Vallone Scholarship

Queens delegation ranks restoring funding for program as top budget priority for 2015 fiscal year

BY KELSEY DURHAM

City Councilman Paul Vallone (D-Bayside) has launched an initiative aimed at restoring the Peter F. Vallone Academic Scholarship in honor of his father that was cut from the Council's funding in 2011.

The merit-based program was established in 1998 and each year gave tens of thousands of city high school graduates scholarship money to continue their education, regardless of ethnicity or immigration status, so long as they maintained a B average.

The \$6 million program was cut by former Council Speaker Christine Quinn prior to the start of the 2012 fiscal year, many believe in retribution after former Astoria Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. objected to the renaming of

the Ed Koch Bridge.

After meetings and hearings throughout the past few weeks, Queens lawmakers in the Council voted last week to make restoring the scholarship their top priority.

"There is no better time to resurrect the Vallone Scholarship Fund," said City Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens), who serves as chairman of the Queens delegation. "It is an effective program that encourages CUNY students to do well in school and rewards those who succeed."

At a hearing held June 12, several speakers testified in support of bringing back the Vallone Scholarship, including Peter Vallone Sr. and five members of CUNY's administrative personnel, who all requested that the Council consid-



City Councilman Paul Vallone is spearheading an initiative to bring back the Peter F. Vallone Academic Scholarship, founded in honor of his father.
Photo by William Alariste/NYC Council

er restoring funding for the initiative.

"Approximately 15,000 students took advantage of the scholarship every year," Peter Vallone Sr. said in his testimony, which pointed out that "\$11 million set aside in 1998 with tuition then at \$3,200 amounted

to almost one-half the tuition."

The senior Vallone, who had been speaker of the Council, added, "I always believed that public education should be free from pre-school through college and available to all. This scholarship was a

major first step in that direction, and I ask that no matter by what name you call it, please restore it because it simply is the right thing to do."

A form submitted by Paul Vallone's office requests \$5 million for the 2015 fiscal year, if the scholarship is to be restored, and refers to the program as "New York City's Dream Act."

A spokesman for Vallone's Bayside office said that for the time being the Council is still attempting to restore the scholarship under Peter F. Vallone Sr.'s name, but there is a possibility it would be changed to attribute it to the Council as a whole rather than one person.

Although Vallone is still pushing for it to continue being named in honor of his father, he said he

would be fine with a name change, if his colleagues in Council requested it.

As of this week, the councilman's office was waiting to hear how the Brooklyn delegation of the Council ranked the scholarship restoration among its priorities, but Vallone said he was confident it would be placed high up on their list as well.

"As support continues to grow, we are taking a critical first step to bringing back a program that will bring financial relief to thousands of students and parents who struggle to afford the ever-rising cost of higher education," Paul Vallone said.

Reach reporter Kelsey Durham at 718-260-4573 or by e-mail at kdurham@cn-glocal.com.

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PACs play into primary

Attorney challenging Velazquez criticizes her campaign's finances

BY SARINA TRANGLE

Jeffrey Kurzon has couched his bid to swipe the Democratic Party's backing from U.S. Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-Brooklyn) in the June 24 primary by portraying the incumbent as an eager beneficiary of PACs bankrolled by firms in the financial sector.

But Kurzon, a Brooklyn attorney, has also benefited from such support.

Donations from those in the financial industry and lawyers who represent them crept into the Kurzon campaign coffers as he eyed the 7th Congressional District, which stretches from Sunset Park in Brooklyn through the southeastern tip of Manhattan and over to Maspeth, Woodhaven and Ridgewood..

Of the \$615,190 Velazquez had reported raising to the Federal Election Commission through Wednesday, \$288,250, or 47 percent, comes from PACs and other candidates' campaign committees.

A TimesLedger News-papers analysis of the PACs' participants shows close to 10 percent of the congress-woman's war chest came from organizations spear-headed by banks, credit unions and insurance-related financing institutions.

PACs are able to surpass contribution limits imposed on individuals by pooling together their money and donating it to campaigns to support or oppose political candidates and legislation. Some such organizations are administered by corporations, labor unions and trade associations and can only solicit funds from members of the sponsoring group.

Velazquez, a Red Hook resident who is the ranking member of the House Small



Brooklyn attorney Jeffrey Kurzon and U.S. Rep. Nydia Velazquez seek to win the Democratic Party's backing in the June 24 primary.

Business Committee and senior member of the Financial Services Committee, did not respond to requests for comment on her finances or campaign.

A review of the \$88,357 Kurzon's reported fund-raising to the FEC showed 23 percent of the itemized contributions his campaign collected came from people who described themselves as employed in the financial industry or lawyers whose LinkedIn ac-

The FEC does not require candidates to itemize or include details about contributors for donations of \$200 or less.

One of Kurzon's contributors summarized his legal career by noting that he had successfully sought the dismissal of complaints against a private equity fund and shepherded financial institutions through investigations by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, U.S. Department of Justice and New York attorney general's office.

Kurzon said he used to work at Sidley Austin LLP,

a global law firm offering an array of legal services, and that many friends he met at the firm had contributed to his campaign. He contended that accepting money from individual bankers or financial lawyers was not comparable to taking those from their industries' PACs, saying the average bank employee had most New Yorkers' interest in mind.

"The incumbent's job as someone on the House Financial Services Committee is to regulate the banks, and that's a direct conflict of interest," he said, noting that he was troubled by the number of bank employees he called soliciting donations who said they needed to speak with their companies' compliance team and never got back to him. "Banks are collectively using their financial might to pursue a political agenda and then telling their employees who they can and cannot contribute to."

Kurzon's campaign filings show he has spent \$86,834 ahead of the primary, mostly on consultants and rent. His team has paid to advertise Kurzon on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter,

spent \$1,000 sponsoring an Organizing New York conference and laid out \$1,850 for a broker fee.

Velazquez appears to have invested significantly less in publicizing the primary. Her campaign directed about \$230,550, or 42 percent, of the \$554,671 it reported spending to the FEC to other political organizations.

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee benefited most from this, receiving \$197,500. Her committee also transferred \$6,000 to the state Working Families Party committee, \$1,000 to the Democratic Organization of Queens, \$2,300 to City Councilman Antonio Reynoso's (D-Brooklyn) campaign and \$1,000 to the Ridgewood Democratic Club.

She did dip into her operating expenses to pay \$5,000 to sponsor an event held by the National Puerto Rican Day Parade, rent space for a fund-raising event from the National Association of Realtors for \$300 and book a room for \$863 in a Puerto Rico hotel, FEC records show.

"To spend corporate campaign cash on luxury hotels in Puerto Rico seems out of touch," Kurzon said.

Marthone challenges Meeks in SE Queens

BY JUAN SOTO

U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-Jamaica) is seeking a ninth term in office, but a Queens accountant is trying to prevent that from happening.

Meeks will face Joseph Marthone in the June 24 Democratic primary for the 5th Congressional District that covers southeast Queens and parts of Nassau County.

It will mark the second time Marthone has challenged the congressman for his seat in the House.. In 2012, Meeks won with approximately 70 percent of the vote in a four-way Democratic primary.

Marthone believes he can beat Meeks this time around. He compared the primary race to a modern version of the biblical David and Goliath, and pointed out what happened to U.S. Rep. R Eric Cantor, the House Republican majority leader from Virginia who lost his primary this month in a stunning surprise to a little-known Tea Party candidate.

"Meeks has lost touch with his district, just as Cantor did with his," claimed Marthone. "That is why," the congressional candidate added, "the district needs new leadership to represent them."

But the congressman

has a different view, saying it is up to voters to decide if they want change or not.

"All I can say is that the people will make that decision," Meeks said. "And I keep on asking for their support because it is a privilege and a pleasure to represent them in Congress."

But Marthone said that challenging the congressman "is necessary." He added that voters "always welcome the opportunity to have a choice when they go to the polls."

The challenger is telling the electorate that "if they don't like the direction things are heading to, they deserve better and have the opportunity to vote for change."

To make sure his name was on the ballot June 24, Marthone's campaign submitted 800 pages of signed petitions to the city Board of Elections, an unusually large number. He said Meeks' campaign presented 257 pages with signatures.

The Democratic candidate claimed Meeks failed his constituents in issues ranging from education and affordable housing to health care.

"He is going in the wrong direction," said Marthone.

But the congressman

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U.S. Gregory Meeks (l.), and congressional candidate Joseph Marthone.

MORE COVERAGE
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Stop our dad's deportation: Elmhurst family

Lawyer says U.S. Sen. Gillibrand looking into Wadud Mohammed's case with immigration officials

BY JUAN SOTO

An Elmhurst teenager is asking the federal authorities to release her father, who is facing deportation, from a detention center in Hudson County, N.J.

The teen, Noora Ferdoucy, holding a sign that read "I want my dad back," said the Bangladeshi family "cannot move forward without my father."

She hopes the U.S. government will grant her father, Wadud Mohammed, 54, a humanitarian parole so the family can be reunited.

Mohammed has lived in the United States since 1994, but was detained in January because of an exclusion order from 1995, said Naresh Gehi, the family's attorney.

Mohammed's wife and daughter are U.S. citizens.

"If he gets deported, he won't be coming back to the U.S.," the lawyer said. "The

family won't see him here ever again."

He hopes the government "takes a humanitarian approach in this case. I would like to see this family united."

Gehi pointed out that the family and the community have reached out to U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's (D-N.Y.) office requesting her support. "The senator is helping the family out, and we deeply appreciated it," the lawyer said.

Gehi said the authorities "have the power to grant a stay of removal and allow the family to be united."

The Jackson Heights Jewish Center held a gathering Monday to support the family.

"We are pleading for mercy for Mohammed, and for his daughter and wife," said Mohammad Rashid, an immigrants rights activist from Jackson Heights. "Why should we punish the



Lawyer Naresh Gehi with Ferdoucy Akhter (l.) and Noora Ferdoucy (r.), and Jackson Heights community activists, gather at a rally to support Wadud Mohammed.

Photo by Juan Soto

daughter and the wife and destroy this American family?"

Rashid added that the family has received the support of U.S. Rep. Grace

Meng (D-Flushing).

"She has expressed concern about this family," Rashid said.

Ferdoucy, a seventh-grade student, said that

since her father was taken into custody, she cannot concentrate on her schoolwork.

"I don't want to go to school anymore," the teen

said. "I think all the time about my father, and how he always helped me with my homework."

She asked President Barack Obama at a news conference held at the Jewish Center "to show mercy and send my dad back home."

Ferdoucy said her father had a small business and paid his taxes since arriving in the United States.

"Forgive my dad," implored Ferdoucy. "Each day is a very difficult day for us without him."

Mohammed's wife, Ferdoucy Akhter, said that ever since the arrest of her husband back in January "I have been suffering." She hopes the authorities take a close look at her husband's case "so he can be with his family."

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cnlglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

Forest Hills Stadium books rappers Drake and Lil Wayne

BY SARINA TRANGLE

Rap stars Drake and Lil Wayne have nearly quadrupled admission rates charged at the Forest Hills Stadium.

The West Side Tennis Club, which owns the century-old stadium, hired Madison House Presents to organize concerts at the venue last summer in an effort to help finance the historic structure's preservation.

Madison House Presents announced last week that Aubrey "Drake" Graham, a Canadian hip-hop musician, and Lil Wayne, a New Orleans artist who founded the rap record label Young Money, would

perform at the stadium Aug. 19. Tickets are selling for \$69 to \$400 on the venue's website.

Admission to the stadium's other shows went for more modest prices. Entrance to the folk group Zac Brown Band's concert this Saturday ranges from \$79.50 to \$104.50, according to the venue's website.

Tickets for the Aug. 9 performance by indie bands Modest Mouse and Brand New went for \$47.50 to \$59.50.

And Madison House Presents charged \$74 for entrance to the English rock band Mumford and Son's show last summer, which The West Side Tennis Club described as a trial.

Madison House Presents did not return requests for comment.

The concert booking company previously said it issued refunds for the Mumford and Sons concert because attendees complained the venue was oversold and too crowded.

At a meeting with the surrounding community last month, Madison House Presents said it would sell 3,000 to 4,000 fewer tickets this season.

The company also committed to using an assigned seating system to prevent throngs of fans from crowding the streets near the stadium.

Besides traffic, neigh-

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SE Queens program turns bottles into scholarships

BY JUAN SOTO

Growing up as a kid in Jamaica in the 1980s, chemistry professor Kwesi Amoa collected cans and plastic bottles to buy clothes for the next school year.

It was his father, Amoa explained, who "initiated the spark" for making some money and cleaning up the environment. His dad, a retired bus driver, also collected cans to supplement the family's income, he said.

Decades later, the faculty member at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn is resurrecting the idea but with a different goal.

Amoa wants to raise funds through a can and



Promoters of the original scholarship program during the Recycle for Education kick off at Roy Wilkins Park in St. Albans.

Photo courtesy William Scarborough

bottle collection initiative to support a scholarship program for southeast Queens C-average senior high school students.

"As a college professor,

I constantly see good students not having enough money to pay for their college education," Amoa said. "Recycling is a great way

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Father's Day vigil honors slain South Jamaica man

BY CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

Instead of finishing up their wedding plans, Vanessa McKinley had to organize a funeral for her fiancé after he was fatally shot inside a Springfield Gardens lounge over the weekend.

"Never in a million years did I think I would be burying him and we would be leaving each other this way," McKinley said of 35-year-old Timothy Tripp.

Tripp, a doting South Jamaica dad, was slain in an early morning shooting Saturday at Edge Bar and Lounge, at 125-22 Merrick Blvd., police and relatives said.

McKinley said a memorial service for Tripp would be held Thursday from 5-7 p.m. at Maranatha Baptist Church, at 112-42 Springfield Blvd., followed by a funeral at 7 p.m. at the same location.

On Father's Day, loved ones gathered at the place where he died to light candles and release balloons in Tripp's memory.

"He was very big on Father's Day because he was a father not only one day but he was a father every day," McKinley said of Tripp and his 11-year-old daughter, Tameia.

Authorities said they responded to the shooting just after 2:30 a.m. Saturday, and Tripp, who had been shot in the head and torso, was pronounced dead at the scene.

"He just went out to have a drink," McKinley, 41, said, explaining that Tripp had headed out around 11:30 p.m. and asked her to set aside his dinner for when he got home.

"He said, 'Babe, I'll be back. I'm going to come back and eat my food.' And he never came back," she said.

Early Saturday McKinley said she received a call informing her that there had been an altercation in the nightclub and her



Timothy Tripp is pictured with his fiancée, Vanessa McKinley.

Photo courtesy Vanessa McKinley

fiancé had been wounded. When she went over to the lounge, Tripp's body was inside as police performed their investigation.

A spokesman for the NYPD said Wednesday they had arrested James Walker, a 31-year-old St. Albans man, and charged him with carrying a loaded 40-caliber Sig Sauer handgun, but authorities believed the shooter was still on the loose.

McKinley said she was hopeful that Tripp's killer would be caught.

"They took away my friend, my heart, my partner," she said, breaking down into tears.

Tripp had opened The Men's Room, a clothing shop on Baisley Boulevard, with McKinley about three years ago and worked as a foreman with ironworkers through Local 46. He also volunteered as a football coach at Jamaica High School and with the Jamaica Bulldogs youth football league, loved ones said.

McKinley said she and Tripp started dating about eight years ago and were hoping to wed in 2015.

"We were still trying to figure out a date for next year," she said.

Tripp's father, Thomas Tripp, described his son as a good guy and a family man.

"I can't understand what happened. I can't understand why someone killed my son," Thomas Tripp said.

And McKinley said her fiancé acted as a parent to both his daughter and her 21-year-old son.

"He was a great father. He loved his daughter to death," McKinley said.

On Saturday afternoon, Tripp had planned to attend his daughter Tameia's annual dance recital, and she only found out afterward that her father had been killed.

"She went to her recital. She had a great performance. She didn't know anything, but she got a little sad because she didn't hear his voice cheering," McKinley said. "She didn't find out until later on that evening that her father was not coming back because he was shot."

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POLICE Blotter

Springfield Gdns dispute leaves 1 dead: NYPD

SPRINGFIELD GARDENS - Police were investigating a multiple stabbing that left one man dead and another man in custody, authorities said.

The incident occurred Wednesday at 146-15 179th St. around 6.38 p.m. in Springfield Gardens, the NYPD said. According to the police, the suspect stabbed a 46-year-old woman and the man who died in the torso before stabbing himself in the leg.

The victims were taken to Jamaica Hospital, where the 25-year-old man was pronounced dead. Police said the other victim was listed in stable condition at the medical center.

The suspect was also taken to Jamaica Hospital, where he was in stable condition, the NYPD said.

The police did not immediately release the identities of the victims pending family notifications.

The investigation was ongoing and the charges against the alleged attacker were pending as of Wednesday night.



Police investigate a fatal stabbing on 179th Street in Springfield Gardens. Authorities say a 25-year-old man was killed. Photo by Richard York

Three stab LeFrak City man, 21: Cops

LEFRAK CITY — A 21-year-old LeFrak City man was stabbed to death behind his residence around 10 p.m. Tuesday, the NYPD said.

Andrew Ramirez was chased by three suspects and stabbed several times in the torso behind his 57th Avenue residence, according to authorities.

When police arrived, they discovered the victim unconscious and unresponsive.

EMS transported Ramirez to North Shore Forest Hills Hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Police said there are no arrests and the investigation is ongoing.

Police arrest suspected Glendale narcotics dealer

GLENDALE — Police announced Tuesday afternoon they had caught a suspected narcotics dealer who had injured a detective while breaking away from officers in Glendale Monday evening, the NYPD said.

The 104th Precinct said Bryan McMennamin, of Glendale, was apprehended in Manhattan. Police said charges were pending.

The NYPD spent hours scouring for McMennamin after he eluded officers who were trying to arrest him on charges of selling narcotics, police said.

He allegedly struck a detective with a car near Cooper Avenue and 59th Street in Glendale at 7 p.m. and took off.

The detective's right leg was injured, but he was in stable condition, according to the NYPD.

Police said the car was found near Myrtle Avenue and Decatur Street.



Bryan McMennamin is escorted to the 104th Precinct in Ridgewood after he was taken into custody by authorities. Photo by Ellis Kaplan

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Goldfeder shares plan to stabilize property

BY SARINA TRANGLE

Standing before a Neponsit doorway plastered with government health notices and a boarded-up window, state Assemblyman Phillip Goldfeder (D-Rockaway Beach) outlined last week a three-pronged approach to combating the abandonment of properties damaged during Superstorm Sandy.

Goldfeder's vision involves passing state legislation that would charge banks with maintaining properties on which they have not received mortgage payments for at least three months. He also called for the city to fast track a bill authorizing government agencies to enter abandoned homes to secure the structures and remove mold and toxins.

The final element of his proposal would create a registry of unoccupied homes so the Police Department can check that the buildings do not attract squatters or illicit activity.

The assemblyman waved a list of roughly 60 properties he said were left vacant after Hurricane Sandy swept through the Rockaway Peninsula, Howard Beach and South Ozone Park in October 2012.

But he honed in on a two-story home, at 145-08 Neponsit Ave., where Goldfeder said HSBC has again victimized those battered

by Sandy.

"Every one of these families you see around me, all got destroyed, all got damaged, all lost generations of memories. Yet they picked themselves back up," Goldfeder said. "Yet banks like HSBC and so many others ... have abandoned their responsibility to the community."

He handed out an environmental analysis showing that mold festering in the home has led to elevated levels of fungal spores in a neighboring home.

Joyce Zoller, a cancer survivor who lives beside the house, said the containments had irritated her eyes and belabored her breathing.

"I am forced to leave my home," Zoller said of her upcoming move.

"It's very overwhelming for me to deal with this every day," she said, breaking into tears.

Another neighbor, Sherry Calamia, said her family just finished rebuilding from Sandy, but her asthma continued to require daily steroid medication and her children also suffered from health problems.

Danny Ruscillo Jr., president of the 100th Precinct Community Council, displayed bottles of the antibiotic Levaquin and the steroid prednisone, which he said were a common pre-

Continued on Page 54



State Assemblyman Phillip Goldfeder discusses his plan to prevent the abandonment of properties damaged during Hurricane Sandy. Photo by Sarina Trangle



Thousands of New Yorkers lost their homes during the housing crisis.

Photo AP/Paul Sakuma

Foreclosures rise in boro

State Assembly votes to renew law that saved thousands of homes

BY JUAN SOTO

It was just last year that Abdul was about to lose his one-family Ozone Park property to the bank.

A 60-year-old bus driver, Abdul bought the house back in 1998 and had been paying his monthly mortgage regularly until 2010. That year, his wife had a terrible traffic accident and the family fell behind on the bank payments.

Two incomes became one, and the family had trouble paying its bills.

Fortunately, Abdul, with the help of Queens Legal Services, was able to save his house under a 2009 law that requires banks to have mandatory conferences with homeowners to work out settlements in a courtroom.

"The bank gave me a really hard time," said the homeowner, who asked that his last name not be published. "I thought I was going to lose my house."

According to the New York Unified Court System, 91,522 of these settlement conferences took place in New York City between October 2012 and October

2013.

Of those, just 10,346 ended in foreclosure.

On June 11, the state Assembly voted 56-1 to renew the law, which has

behind on their mortgage payments and are in danger of foreclosure. Of that number, the report pointed out, 9,360 are in minority neighborhoods.

Foreclosures take a toll on entire neighborhoods and can destroy otherwise safe, beautiful areas.

State Sen. Jeff Klein

saved the homes of thousands of New Yorkers. The current version of the law is set to expire in 2015.

The bill to expand these groundbreaking protections for another five-year period was introduced by state Sen. Jeff Klein (D-Bronx) and state Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein (D-Brooklyn).

"Foreclosures take a toll on entire neighborhoods and can destroy otherwise safe, beautiful areas," said Klein.

According to a report released by the Assembly, a total of 10,060 Queens homeowners are falling

"The crisis is not over," Franklin Romeo, director of the Homeowner and Consumer Rights Project of Queens Legal Services, told TimesLedger Newspapers. Romeo said southeast Queens, particularly Jamaica, South Jamaica and St. Albans, were vulnerable along with similar pockets in Flushing, East Elmhurst and Corona.

Southeast Queens was the epicenter of the foreclosure earthquake in the city following the market collapse in 2008 and one of the biggest areas affected by the housing crisis in the whole country.

"This year we are experiencing a slight increase of foreclosures compared to last year," Romeo said.

His organization provides free legal services to individuals facing pre-closure proceedings.

The passage of the bill extending the court mandatory settlement conferences was also applauded by the state coalition New Yorkers for Responsible Lending. The group, like the Assembly, urged Gov. Andrew Cuomo to sign the bill.

"The mandatory settlement process has been a model nationally," the coalition said in a statement, pointing out that before the 2009 law, more than 90 percent of foreclosure cases ended in judgments against the homeowners.

Abdul hopes the same protections that saved him from losing his home will continue to support Queens neighborhoods.

"I was able to negotiate a loan modification in these settlement conferences," he said. "Without the help of Queens Legal Services and the settlement conferences, I wouldn't have my home today."

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Sunnyside patriotism paraded in annual march for the kids

BY BILL PARRY

Sunnyside takes its Flag Day Parade seriously.

More than 1,000 people took part in the 45th annual march down Greenpoint Avenue Saturday, and while there are several Flag Day observations around the borough, Sunnyside is believed to be the only neighborhood with a parade.

"We're the only ones in the whole city, can you believe that?" civic leader Don McCallion asked.

The march, organized by the Kiwanis Club, has become a signature event in Sunnyside, drawing dozens of community groups and hundreds of local school students. The Sunnyside Drum Corps, the Armagh Pipe Band and the Aviation High School Color Guard and Drum Line performed.

"It's a wonderful turnout by the community every year," Community Board 2 Chairman Joe Conley said. "We believe in celebrating our nation's flag and its meaning."

The march was followed by speeches from elected leaders and a moment of silence for fallen veterans at Sabba Park.

McCallion said he was disappointed earlier in the week when he asked a youngster if he was coming to the Flag Day Parade.

"He asked, 'What flag?'" McCallion recalled. "What a shame. We teach



An honor guard stands at attention during a moment of silence in Sunnyside's Sabba Park.
Photo by Bill Parry

this symbol of democracy to the youth so they don't have to ask, 'What flag?'"

Flag Day is a national observance that has been held every year since 1916. The idea was originally proposed in 1885 as a way to inspire students.

A significant portion of the parade was made up of area schoolchildren from PS 199 and IS 125.

Principal Anthony Inzerillo led his contingent of hundreds of students from 199 with cheers from a bullhorn.

"Who are we?"

"PS 199."

"Who do we love?"

"America," the students shouted in reply.

"We teach patriotism as part of the curriculum at PS 199," Inzerillo said. "We have children from over 35 countries and we teach them to love the flag, to honor and respect the flag and the thing is the students want to learn. There

is a reason so many people come to the United States: they want to be American."

Participation in the parade is just one more part of the lesson.

"We even teach the students how to sing patriotic songs," Inzerillo said. "And if that upsets some people, we'll sing them even louder."

PS 199 won the trophy for Largest Marching Group for the fourth year in a row, but this year it was a tie for the first time. PS 199 and IS 125 had an equal number of students participate.

"We never had a tie before," Sunnyside Drum Corp Director Tony Lana said. "We had to scramble to find another trophy for them."

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

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FREEZE THE RENTS

The Rent Guidelines Board may make history next week when it could impose the first rent freeze in the city's history under the mayor's prodding for more affordable housing.

At stake are nearly 1 million rent-regulated apartments across the city and 144,000 stabilized Queens units. As these apartments become deregulated, the middle class faces a shortage of affordable places to live while low-income working families are often forced to choose between food on the table and paying the landlord.

The statistics are sobering. Mayor de Blasio's recent report on housing in New York found that the city had lost more than 152,000 rent-stabilized apartments between 1994 and 2012 as rents on remaining units marched upward.

City Comptroller Scott Stringer told a hearing by the rent board this week that 86 percent of the tenants who live in rent-regulated units in the city earn less than \$100,000 a year. He also pointed out that the average stabilized rent shot up by more than 43 percent from 2002-11.

Despite the jawing in some quarters — often by people who haven't been lucky enough to snag one of these urban treasures — that rent regulation distorts the market, the reality is we are in dire need of affordable housing to retain the workforce that makes the city run.

There is a good argument to be made that lifting all regulations would allow rents to settle at a more equitable level across the board, but market rates probably would still be out of reach for far too many New Yorkers.

The foreign money pouring into the glitzy new condos in Manhattan underscores the tale of two cities hizzoner has described. Closer to home, Long Island City is luring some well-heeled buyers for its condos.

Where does the third-generation family of four in Queens fit into this picture or the immigrant family who has six members living in a one-bedroom?

Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito testified before the board that rent stabilization plays a critical role in maintaining racial and economic diversity in the city.

"Over 60 percent of rent-stabilized tenants are people of color and their median income is almost a third lower than tenants in market-rate apartments," she said.

The mayor has appointed six of the nine members of the rent board, which votes Monday on a 0 to 3 percent increase for a one-year lease and between 0.5 and 4.5 percent for a two-year lease.

We urge them to do the right thing and give renters a reprieve. We back Stringer and Mark-Viverito in calling for a freeze.



OTHER VOICES

Pols should come to agreement on library

We have been reading and hearing about various reports and allegations concerning the Queens Public Library system leadership over the past several months.

Some of these assertions are quite serious and shocking. Although no one has been brought up on formal charges at this point, it seems apparent to me and others that more transparency and accountability is needed at this agency.

State Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) is sponsoring legislation that will do just that (S.7015). He has incorporated the ideas of Borough President Melinda Katz as well as additional proposals of his own to ensure that the system will not come under a cloud of suspicion again in the future.

His legislation will also apply to the Brooklyn and New York public library systems.

I have read that Sen.

Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria) and state Assemblyman Jeffrion Aubry (D-Corona) have proposed legislation as well regarding the system.

Apparently, their legislation does not go as far as it should in mandating change and reform in our library system as Avella's proposal does.

With little time left to this legislative session, it is necessary for all involved to come to an agreement that should include open-

ing up the library system's financial books for an audit by city Comptroller Scott Stringer.

The agreement should also put in place other measures of oversight and transparency regarding the library's board of trustees and the CEO who oversees this agency's operations.

*Henry Euler
Bayside*

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Boro needs relief from planes

What was U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) thinking? Residents of Bayside, Little Neck, Douglaston and Auburndale have for two years been living under the terrible noise of the new take-off route out of LaGuardia Airport called the tnnis climb.

Planes fly low and often create noise that precludes outdoor conversations and even open windows. Moreover, the expectation is that our homes will lose value permanently, unless we get relief. A writer in this newspaper, quoting a real estate journal, recently estimated the loss of property value at between 15 percent and 30 percent, adding to tens of billions of dollars.

After all, who will want to buy an expensive house under a noisy take-off route? We all came here looking for a quality, quiet community. How did

this happen? On Feb. 6, 2012, Congress enacted the Republican-sponsored, so-called FAA Modernization and Reform Act.

It did so with Schumer's support and vote. All of our local Congress members and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) voted against the bill, as did the majority of Democrats in Congress. That act authorized appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration in the usual manner.

But it also exempted new area navigation and navigation procedures — collectively: NextGen — from environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, as had been done in the past. FAAMRA states that in the sole determination of the FAA administrator, any efficiency in aircraft operations “shall be presumed to have no significant affect [sic] on the quality of the

human environment.”

This is so despite the fact that, in many cases, the new procedures have affected numerous communities like ours that have never before been overflowed or never overflowed in the same quantity and at such low altitudes. Newly affected populations, like us, were thereby deprived of an avenue of redress in the courts through NEPA, on which they have come to depend for generations.

As I understand, the FAA will need a new reauthorization in 2015 so it can continue to operate. That legislation may be our last chance to amend the act so as to give our communities the relief we need.

Schumer can help make that happen. We need to hear from him.

*Melvyn Meer
Bayside*

Support smoke-free housing

On June 9, Community Board 7 passed a resolution that originated in the CB 7 Health Committee that encouraged owners and landlords of new, multi-family housing to create smoke-free housing units and to establish a smoke-free environment in the developments wherever possible.

This resolution is not a statement suggesting that people who smoke cannot live in these new apartments, but similar to other existing restrictions where the indoor air is shared with others, where smoking is not acceptable in

those premises.

I proposed this resolution to the committee after CB 2 in Staten Island took a similar step several months ago. I commend those who supported the resolution at the full board meeting and to those who thought the resolution did not go far enough in making the public health statement that every city resident has the right to breathe smoke-free air where they reside.

Smoke-free multiple housing is the way of the future and is becoming commonplace in other parts of the country. This transition is occurring because

of the recognition that non-smokers are involuntarily exposed to secondhand smoke, a recognized Class A carcinogen responsible for nearly 50,000 annual deaths.

I encourage other residents in New York City apartments to speak to their landlords, community boards and elected officials and let them know you have a right to breathe smoke-free air where you reside.

*Phil Konigsberg
Bay Terrace*

Let veterans use Fort Totten

In a recent issue, letters probed the Community Board 7 and Willets Point giveaway to big business. Of course, CB 7 heads are getting something out of the Willets Point deal, as they got from the Fort Totten gift to the FDNY, and as the Bay Terrace Mall permits on size.

They even disregard term limits and the ringleaders have been in control for 20 years. You want proof? Look at Main

Street-Flushing: Every inch is filled with hotels and 20-story, million-dollar apartments instead of public housing for the lower-middle class and veterans.

Someday sit and watch what goes in and out of Fort Totten. It is not U.S. Army veterans. The homeless veterans should be living at abandoned Fort Totten, which should not be a haven for a firefighter school and or fireboat storage center.

How can an Army base not be used by our veterans but become a giant firefighter resort with a pool and recreation center? We see what goes on in and out of the Army base and it is not Army veterans.

Something is rotten in the state of Denmark, which has seven letters. A clue?

*Sy and Sheila Rosenthal
Clearview Gardens*

City must fix light on 200th St.

The street light in front of my home on 200th Street has been out since February. I called 311 at the time prior to my departure for the winter and was told that it had already been reported.

When I returned May 16, the light was still out. Another call to 311 directed me to call Con Ed with a work order number I had been provided as well as something called a stop tag

number.

I have made several more attempts to have this safety hazard corrected, the latest being June 14.

It is like reinventing the wheel each time, with a courteous voice on the other end asking the same details regarding the location of the light, the cross streets, etc.

This may not be the proper forum in reaching you to help my neighbors

and myself in getting the light restored, but short of contacting City Councilman Paul Vallone (D-Bayside) or state Assemblyman Ed Braunstein (D-Bayside), I am reaching out to you for suggestions on how to get this issue resolved.

It is taking surrealistically long for a resolution to come to pass.

*Kenn Agata
Bayside*

Don't blame Obama for Iraq mess

What is occurring in Iraq today could have been and was foretold prior to and at the beginning of the American invasion.

Not only were the reasons used to justify the invasion flawed, but the understanding of the nature of the sectarian and tribal divides, which are centuries old, are not going to vanish simply by having the U.S. wish them away.

Disbanding Iraq's army and police by the Bush administration was foolish, as it removed a

stabilizing force. The fired and enraged troops, many who held membership in the Baath Party simply to guarantee employment, became the basis of the fighters who are conquering Iraq today.

Fallujah particularly took American lives and was the scene of carnage. Mosul required the blood of our troops. The war took our young and pillaged our economy with the current events recalling the last helicopter leaving Vietnam.

What is occurring is the division of Iraq, and it

will not be stopped by any power the West has, including bombing. It is strange that the vice president, when he was a U.S. senator, proposed dividing Iraq into three self-governing regions: Sunni, Shia and Kurd.

Regardless of the voices on the right who believe the world must bend to American military might, the people of Iraq appear to be deciding their future.

*Edward Horn
Baldwin, L.I.*

LETTERS POLICY

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Catsimatidis advocates for a new World's Fair



William Lewis
Political Action

One of the main advocates of a new World's Fair is John Catsimatidis, a longtime, successful, New York City businessman. He has a radio talk show on 970 AM every Sunday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. involving politics and current events.

Catsimatidis points out that the means of travel were improved especially during the second World's Fair in the city. There were improvements made in subways, highways and bridges and most other forms of public transportation.

He believes the fairs

present a vision of what the future can be like. He would like to see a future fair concentrate on technology. It could bring into focus the possible achievements of the free enterprise system.

Catsimatidis indicated that a new World's Fair would bring many thousands of jobs to the city in addition to helping the retail sales operation increase the amount of business in stores, restaurants and places of entertainment.

It will be a long time before a new World's Fair can be put into operation, however. Estimates run as high as 10 years from now. Catsimatidis has been in touch with the governor's staff about setting up a committee to study the possibility of a future World's Fair.

Catsimatidis points

to when in his youth he attended the second World's Fair, in 1964-65, and how impressed he was at the time. He believes this kind of exhibit will have a positive effect on society at large.

Various European and Far Eastern countries would be sending exhibits to publicize their nations. The fair would attract millions of people from the United States and foreign lands.

It would be a huge project, but it could bring a positive result. It would need a lot of work and tremendous effort during the next 10 years, but it could be done with people like Catsimatidis helping lead the project.

Whenever there are tasks to be accomplished, the city has always risen to the occasion in the past and it can do so this time.

A World's Fair will be a shining example of what a better world we would have with an improved life for many people.

Hopefully, a spirit of optimism will prevail. Most recent surveys show that a high majority of New York citizens would favor a new World's Fair.

There are some New Yorkers who would oppose a World's Fair, citing loss of park space, increased traveling and financial problems that existed during the first two fairs.

A project of this magnitude is not going to be easy to put together. One thing that is true is all city residents can and will work together for the common good. That should be the case this time.

If there is some strong difference of opinion expressed by some who are inclined to oppose the fair,

it can be said we can disagree without being disagreeable.

After all is said and done, there are always going to be problems in putting together this type of project, but the increased welfare of our society is the future goal of us all.

Regarding local political races, the Democratic primary election in the 11th state Senate District, between Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) and challenger former city Comptroller John Liu, is attracting a lot of attention.

In recent years there has been no such primary as this one, from the standpoint of the Queens Democratic Party running a candidate against an incumbent Democratic Senate office holder.

Four years ago, Avella was the successful Democratic candidate of the year

with strong support from the Queens Democratic Party and the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee, besides strong support from labor unions, especially the teachers union.

Recently, the Democratic county executive committee voted unanimously to endorse Liu. The reason for this was Avella joining the Independent Democratic Conference, which works closely with Republicans in the Senate.

This means the Democratic Party for the most part will cut off all support to Avella and give all its financial and operational support to Liu.

This will be a political campaign long remembered.

Charters must accept problem students like public schools



Bob Harris
The Civic Scene

Regretfully, many schools are considered failures due to conditions beyond the control of teachers and administrators.

Some schools are in neighborhoods so dysfunctional with gangs, drugs, crime and broken families, that many students cannot function in school. The teachers and principals are blamed for the failure.

To add to the problem, along come charter schools, which keep or push out the problem children, which makes them look better. If the charter schools do not

provide facilities for the special needs children or the English as a Second Language children, their parents send them to the public schools.

Recently, some charters are starting to say they have children with individualized education programs, which means they have certain learning problems and need special help. They do not say whether the children have severe learning problems and cannot do well on tests or only have some slight problems and will not pull down the tests scores in their charter.

It seems likely that the children with IEPs only have minor learning problems in these schools because these schools are designed to make money for the owners, who sometimes receive large salaries.

The owners do not want to spend too much money on extra services.

Business people are investing in charter schools because of the large amount of money they make. Why are hedge funds investing in these schools? When these schools hold a conference, they carefully screen who can attend. Do people contribute money to these schools and then get nice contracts for services and goods the schools buy?

Then, there are allegations that some of these schools have harsh disciplinary practices which would be illegal in a public school. Sure they have good control, but using what type of disciplinary practices? Why aren't they audited by the city comptroller?

Some public schools receive students who were

in juvenile prisons. Some of these youngsters have so many academic and emotional problems that they cannot function in regular schools and pull these schools down by having low test scores. They wander the halls and disrupt classes, if they go to class.

They are too young for special, over-age schools and unless they do something illegal they stay and disrupt their schools and give them a bad reputation. Our schools are not designed to handle these problem children. The charters keep or force them out.

While records should be kept, many teachers and other staff members say there is too much paperwork, which takes up too much of their time. There should be committees of all concerned who should

be able to eliminate much of the paperwork. Are the computer systems set up to record things effective and usable? Is there too much stress on the teachers and their supervisors?

GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK: Justice continues to be done in the CityTime corruption case.

Three of the contractors who stole money from the CityTime project, which was supposed to modernize payroll records so workers could not pad their final years of work and then retire on high pensions, were just sent to prison for 20 years.

A \$63 million project skyrocketed to \$700 million. Five other defendants have pleaded guilty and have agreed to give back more than \$500 million.

Justice is done, but it

takes too long for a case to go to trial. Justice should be quicker.

BAD NEWS OF THE WEEK: Jamaica High School is closing this month.

For three years the city Department of Education has been closing it one grade a year. The last graduating class will now leave.

My wife Edna graduated from Jamaica High, as did my two daughters. I was president of the Parent-Teacher Association in the late 1980s.

Four schools have been set up to take its place, one of which was a part of Jamaica HS. At one time Jamaica had the most Westinghouse Science Winners for a non-specialized school.

Terrible what the DOE has done!

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munication leading to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree is offered with concentrations in broadcasting and journalism. Students interested in Broadcasting participate by creating their own radio show on our FCC campus radio station. Those interested in Journalism write for the school newspaper; The Record or the college yearbook.

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Find out why Five Towns College is the right choice for you! Attend our June 25 Information Session. For more information visit ftc.edu today!

With her counselor, Gaitri made a plan to cut expenses in order to have money in her account for unexpected emergencies.

Read Gaitri's story on NYCDCA:

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Paws & Pints makes hit with yuppies and their puppies

Organizers now plan to use proceeds from monthly events to raise money for disabled veterans

BY BILL PARRY

The first Paws & Pints event at Hunters Point South Park in Long Island City was so successful the organizers have decided to make it a monthly event.

More than 100 people took to the newly opened event space at LIC Landing by Coffeed, to enjoy some adult beverages and the sunset at the waterfront space while their four-legged friends enjoyed an obstacle course and a swimming pool.

While the event was free and open to the public, it served as a fund-raiser for the Texas-based Patriot Paws, an organization that provides service dogs to disabled veterans at no charge. A portion of the proceeds from the food and drink sold by LIC Landing by Coffeed went to the charity.



Dozens of dogs converge at LIC Landing by Coffeed during the first of many Paws & Pints events. Photo by Bill Parry

"I am very happy with the turnout. Everyone had fun and we raised over \$500 on our first try," organizer Rick Hall said. "It's so cool that we're staying open an extra hour and we've decided to do this once a month, too."

Hall, a U.S. Army vet-

eran who works at the Beer Closet in Astoria, added that he is meeting later in the week with members of the Hunters Point Conservancy to arrange the next date.

"I wish we could do this every week the reactions have been so won-



Edible Queens magazine publisher Jay Soysal with his dog Mick at the event space at LIC Landing by Coffeed. Photo by Bill Parry

derful," Conservancy Vice President Mark Christie said.

It was one of the first public events held at the spot since LIC Landing by Coffeed opened last month.

Owner Frank Raffaele said. "The response was great, it had a very cool

vibe, we have this event space and the idea is to use it as often as possible."

The 2,000-square-foot concrete space is built right on the waterfront with stunning views of the Manhattan skyline. It is administered by Raffaele and his Coffeed partners as part of

their vending deal with the city.

LIC Landing by Coffeed will strike a balance between renting out the space for private functions like weddings and parties and community-centric uses like concerts and other social events like Paws and Pints.

"I'm looking at the Bryant Park model, get them into the park for a cool reason like movie nights and they'll come back for other events," Raffaele said. "This park is such a gem and it's just a year old. You'd be surprised how many people outside of Center Boulevard even know of it. Anytime people come into the park it's a financial benefit for us."

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

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Ken Subraj, executive vice president of Zara Realty Holding Corporation, author Gaiutra Bahadur and Barbara Lemoine, director of the Natraj Center for the Performing Arts, are among the night's honorees. Photo courtesy Tony Tone-Double 00 Photography

Rich Hill group honors Indo-Caribbean backers

BY PREM CALVIN PRESHAD

The Richmond Hill-based community organization Indo-Caribbean Alliance held its second annual fund-raising gala June 7 at the Venetian Terrace on 114th Street.

The event honored individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution to the Indo-Caribbean community in Queens.

The theme for the event was "An Empire State of Mind," and vocalist Ashton Ramdehal did a rendition of Jay-Z and Alicia Keys' "Empire State of Mind."

Notable attendees included Nisha Agarwal, commissioner of immigrant affairs. In addition, champion boxer Elton Dharry, the reigning Miss Guyana World and world-famous vocalist Terry Gajraj made special appearances.

City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) and U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Flushing) sent citations for the honorees.

"As the largest South Asian group in NYC, and with Guyanese as the second largest foreign-born group in Queens, we're

increasingly influencing the political, economic and social culture of this great city," said Richard David, ICA executive director.

The Queens Village-based Natraj Center for the Performing Arts was honored for 25 years of providing a space for the expression of Indian dance, drama and music. Members of the center performed a dance at the event in honor of their co-founder and honoree, Barbara Lemoine.

"Aunty" Barbara currently serves as director of the Natraj Center, which holds regular classes in Indian dance.

"Our honorees represent the accomplishments and impact the Indo-Caribbean community has made here in New York," David said.

Honoree Gaiutra Bahadur received the inaugural Icon Award for authoring the acclaimed "Coolie Woman: The Odyssey of Indenture," a book that melds research and narratives of Indo-Caribbean women, including the author's great-grandmother, as they journeyed from Calcutta to the Caribbean.

The book has received

international recognition, including the Orwell Prize, Britain's highest award for political writing.

The Business Leadership Award was awarded to brothers George Subraj, Ken Subraj and Jay Sobhraj, of Zara Realty Corp. Ken Subraj, senior vice president of Zara, accepted the award on behalf of the collective honorees.

"Clean, Safe, Comfortable and Affordable" has been the motto of Zara Realty Corp. since its founding by George Subraj in the 1980s, and since then the group has expanded to over 30 apartment complexes in the city. The brothers are known for their charitable contributions in both Guyana and in New York, most notably in 2008 when they sponsored a team of doctors from Walter Reed Army Medical Center to perform the first kidney transplant in Guyana.

"These are exciting times for our community. Our gala is a fund-raising event to support ICA in its programs, services and advocacy to meet the needs of this growing population," David concluded.

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Two boro brothers head to soap box racing nationals

East Elmhurst siblings beat out rivals in annual event at Flushing Meadows that thrills city youth

BY BILL PARRY

A pair of brothers from East Elmhurst will represent New York City at the National All-American Race in Akron, Ohio, in July after capturing both divisions at the annual Flushing Meadow Soap Box Derby Saturday.

Myles Warner, 15, won the Superstock Division while his 7-year-old brother Zander, who was racing for the first time, took the checkered flag in the Stock Division.

Myles and Zander are among eight Warner brothers from 104th Street.

The derby, held every year since 1986, features fiberglass cars assembled by boys and girls ages 7 to 17 with the help of their parents.

The cars can reach speeds of 30 mph depending



Two drivers get ready for one of the heats during Saturday's Flushing Meadows Soap Box Derby. Photo by Bill Parry

on the slope of the hill they are racing on. The NYPD closed off a block-long portion of 23rd Avenue at 94th Street in East Elmhurst for the five hours of racing in numerous heats by 30 rac-

ers.

Each car is sponsored by a community group, church or elected official. GNB Auto Repair, at 85-05 Astoria Blvd. sponsored Myles' soap box racer.



The NYPD closes off a block-long section of 23rd Avenue at 94th Street so the 30 kids could race all day. Photo by Bill Parry

"We've been doing it for a few years now," manager Guiseppe Bargellino said. "We're really happy for Myles and his family, they're good people."

The First Baptist

Church of East Elmhurst sponsored Zander's car. "It's always exciting to help the young people in the community," Rev. Patrick Henry Young said. "It's such a great event every

year. It gives the children a chance to show off their skill and their character and that's the greatest reward you can get."

The Soap Box Derby is also a fun event for the residents of the neighborhood. Along both sides of the road were family and friends of the soap box racers in picnic chairs and blankets. There was barbecue from several grills and a DJ blasted music all afternoon.

"It was a real nice event," FMSBD Director Henry Foster said. "We have as much fun as the kids and the community really supports us and has a good time, too."

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

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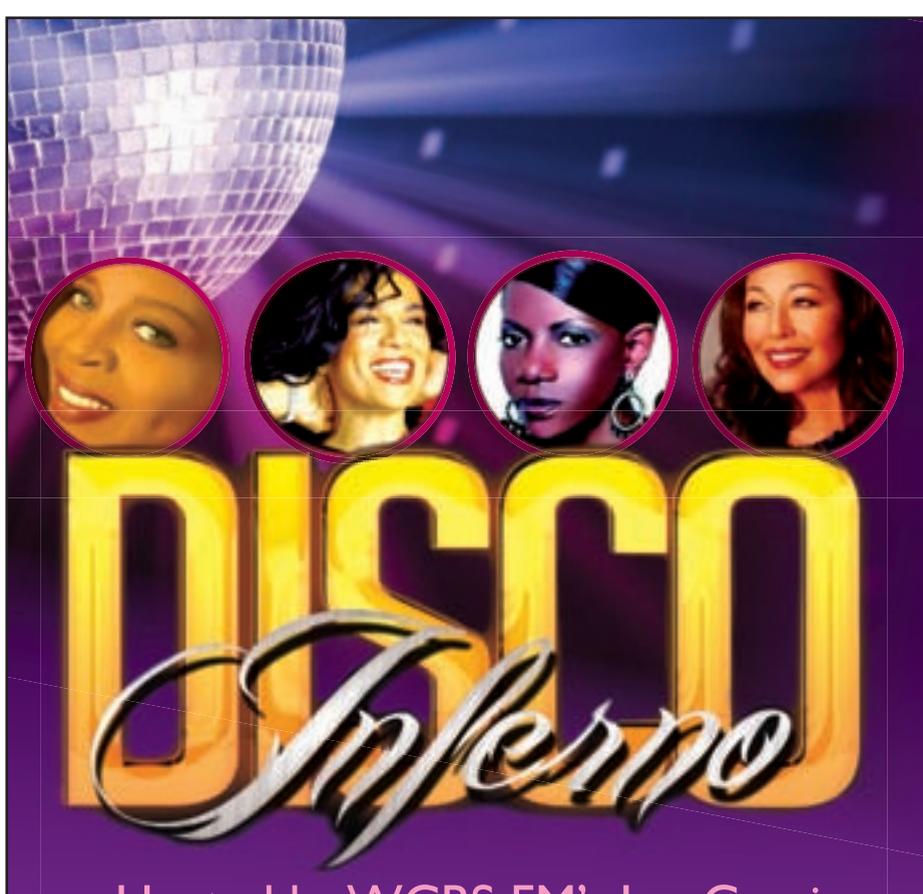
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Rock Fest set to return

BY GABRIELLE PRUSAK

The Forest Park Rock Fest is returning June 28, thanks to the success of last year's performance.

The bands performing this year are different from last year, but they are accomplished musicians from the area.

Co-founder and band member of The Boom Section, Paul Wunsch said they are providing a "wonderful free event in the neighborhood."

The bands that will be playing are Small Craft Warning, Voodoo Dancer, Missing Maddox and Boom Section.

"The bands this year have a bit of a better following," said Wunsch.

Last year, the festival had 150 to 200 people in attendance and organizers are hoping to have the same



Kathy Lotufo and Jeanette Samuels dance during an event at the Forest Park Bandshell, which is slated to host Forest Park Rock Fest.

if not more of a turnout. Each band will have about 45 minutes to perform. The performances will be in the Forest Park Band Shell and will start at 1 p.m. and conclude at 5 p.m.

"We just want everyone coming out and having a good time," said Wunsch. "It's a very family-friendly [event]."

The idea for the event came from Boom Section's drummer, who wanted to put together something that spoke to friends and family members who are also in bands.

With that idea they were able to come up with this event and put on a performance that people in the area will enjoy.

Protesters want Bryant principal gone

BY BILL PARRY

The principal at William Cullen Bryant High School has come under fire in Long Island City.

More than 200 students, parents and teachers called for the ouster of Namita Dwarka during a rally at the school Monday.

Some students charge that Dwarka neglects special-needs students, altered the school's grading standards to increase graduation rates and that she

eliminated some math and science programs.

Supporters of the principal counter that Dwarka increased the number of AP and art classes for next year and provides a well-rounded physical education programs.

One said the group of students taking part in the rally was small, representing less than 2 percent of the student body.

City Department of Education spokeswoman Marge Feinberg would not

address the allegations, but did say, "We take these complaints seriously and will continue to work with our school community."

Dwarka, a graduate of Bryant High School, was appointed principal after the DOE identified Bryant as a low-performing school in 2011.

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

Avella's water bill passes Senate

The state Senate passed Sen. Tony Avella's (D-Bayside) bill to eliminate minimum water charges Monday.

"The state Senate took a vote against an unjust fee which has placed a burden on the most vulnerable residents in the city of New York," Avella said. "This charge was never intended to serve as a revenue-generating

measure that it is today. The premise, at the time, was to encourage people to conserve water and only pay for the amount that they use."

Avella criticized the minimum charge as unfair to seniors, people who live alone and those who do not use much water.

The bill now has to pass through the state Assembly,

where Assemblyman David Weprin (D-Fresh Meadows) is serving as sponsor.

Avella also served as co-sponsor on a bill that passed the upper chamber Monday which would cap annual water rate hikes the city Water Board can impose at 5 percent.

— Alex Robinson

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Suspect in mosque attack arraigned two years later

BY JUAN SOTO

A Queens Village man was arraigned last week in Queens Supreme Court, accused of throwing a Molotov cocktail at a Jamaica mosque more than two years ago during an arson spree that included an attack on a house used as a Hindu temple.

According to a spokeswoman for the Queens district attorney's office, Ray Lengend, 43, was charged with arson as a hate crime, arson and attempted arson, among several other criminal counts.

Lengend, of Guyanese descent, is accused of hurling a homemade firebomb at the Imam Al-Khoei Islamic Center, on the Wan Wyck Expressway, on New Year's Day 2012 because of his hatred for Muslims,

Arabs and Hindus, said DA Richard Brown at the time of his indictment in March 2012.

The Al-Khoei Islamic Center is the largest Shiite mosque in New York.

"Particularly troubling is the fact that the defendant is alleged to have been motivated by hate in at least two instances where he is alleged to have struck at a Muslim house of worship and attempted to strike at a second location, which is a Hindu house of worship," said DA Brown at the time.

After throwing the Molotov cocktail at the religious building, he drove away to Elmont, L.I., where he allegedly, according to the complaint, threw another Molotov cocktail at a relative's house. The homemade bomb did not

explode.

Lengend was charged with carrying out other attacks using Frappuccino coffee glass bottles filled with gasoline, said Brown, including the Hindu center on 170th Street.

He was arrested days after the 2012 attacks, but it was not until last week that he was found fit to stand trial. He was treated at a maximum security mental hospital.

The suspect was busted by detectives of the 103rd Precinct in Jamaica as he was getting into a stolen car, authorities said at the time of his arrest. The vehicle was linked, police said, to another attack at a Hillside Avenue bodega.

He is suspected of carrying out this attack before hurling the Molotov

Continued on Page 54

Laurelton gets new playgrounds to delight of students at PS 132

BY JUAN SOTO

Kids in Laurelton have two new parks where they can now play just in time for summer and Rockaway is also getting its own new playground.

Cambria Heights' Laurelton West Playground, which officially opened June 11, underwent a major reconstruction that cost \$1.5 million, while the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new nearby playground at PS 132 took place just a few days before.

"No longer will students [at PS 132] have to look at an empty lot every day," said City Councilman Donovan Richards (D-Laurelton).

The construction of the new park, at 132-15 218th St., which includes a basketball court, a garden am-



Elected officials and kids inaugurate the new Laurelton West Playground.
Photo courtesy Parks Department

phitheater and new jungle gyms, cost \$1 million and was funded by the Council as part of a \$2.5 million allocation for school improvements.

State Sen. James Sanders (D-South Ozone Park), a former councilman, was also key in making the new park a reality.

"Finally justice is being done," the lawmaker

said. "This is a great community that takes pride in its youth."

Not far from the new PS 132 park, kids are also delighted with their new car-themed playground. The reconstruction of the Laurelton West infrastructure was funded by a \$1.5 million allocation by Borough President Melinda

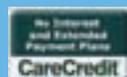
Continued on Page 50



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Meeks wants to lure drug firms to Jamaica

BY JUAN SOTO

U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-Jamaica) is in talks with the pharmaceutical industry to attract new companies to the downtown Jamaica area, using the state's 10-year tax-free program for new businesses known as the STAR-UP NY initiative.

The idea came up during a roundtable discussion at York College Monday, with input from U.S. Trade representative Michael Froman and the college's president, Marcia Keizs.

Meeks said combining a Start-UP NY zone in Jamaica with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's regional office at Liberty Avenue could be very beneficial.

"There is a strong need to dialogue with pharmaceutical groups so they can create good jobs here," Meeks said.

He added that "we must build upon the fact that the Food and Drug Administration is in Jamaica, and that can attract pharmaceutical companies because of the proximity to the FDA building."

The congressman said there are 5 or 6 acres of land around York College that can be used to build state-of-the-art facilities.

"The U.S. Trade representative came up with this idea," he said.

The efforts, added

Meeks, should not be limited to American pharmaceutical companies.

"We must engage in dialogues with outside companies as well," he said. "This kind of industry is complementary to what we already have in the area."

Froman visited Queens to tour the facilities at John F. Kennedy International Airport that are the center of the efforts to fight illegal trafficking in wildlife.

"The high demand for wildlife products is having a devastating impact, with iconic species like elephants and rhinos facing the risk of significant decline or even extinction," said U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell in a statement.

Meeks pointed out the importance of JFK Airport to the country and the city's economy.

"The airport is important for exporting products made in America while supporting local jobs and the local economy," the congressman said.

Froman and Meeks got a firsthand look at the work being done at JFK. The congressman said the tour highlighted "the work at the airport to combat illegal wildlife trafficking and intercept the pirating of intellectual property."

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cn-glocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.



U.S. Trade representative Michael Froman (second from l.) attends a discussion at York College about getting pharmaceutical companies to come to Jamaica. Photo courtesy Gregory Meeks

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Greater Woodhaven honors Velazquez, officer at dinner-dance

Congresswoman named Woman of the Year while 102nd commander receives Award of Distinction

BY DEBBIE COHEN

The Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. recently held its 35th anniversary dinner-dance at The Woodhaven Manor in Woodhaven honoring six people of distinction, which included U.S. Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-Brooklyn) as Woman of the Year; Mathew Xenakis, president of the Woodhaven Business Improvement District, as Man of the Year; and Deputy Inspector Henry Sautner, commanding officer of the 102nd Precinct, for Award of Distinction.

George Smith, owner of Lifetime Vending Amusements, received an Honorary Woodhavenite Award, while Awards of Appreciation went to state Sen. Joseph Addabbo Jr. (D-Howard Beach) and state Assemblyman Mike Miller

(D-Woodhaven).

Evelyn Cruz, congressional liaison for Velazquez, accepted her plaques, flowers and citations from GWDC, Addabbo and other elected officials because she was not able to make an appearance due to preparation for the Puerto Rican Day parade.

"The congresswoman thanks everyone for their support, including the wonderful GWDC," Cruz said.

Maria Thomson, executive director of the GWDC, along with Stephen Esposito, presented the awards to the honorees.

"Velazquez was born in Puerto Rico, was one of nine children and was the first in her family to receive a college degree," Thomson said. "She was the first Latino to serve on the New York City Council and is a fighter for econom-



GWDC President Stephen Esposito (l.) and GWDC Executive Director Maria Thomson (r.) present state Sen. Joseph Addabbo Jr. with an award plaque for his dedication to the community.

Photo by Debbie Cohen

ic development and quality education."

Sautner had Danielle Raia, executive officer of the 102nd, accept his award in his absence. Thomson

said he was honored because of his sincere appreciation and dedication to the community.

Thomson also said Smith gave of himself whenever he had the chance.

"Smith was honored for his charitable spirit and for always giving back to the community," Thomson said. "Miller and Addabbo received their awards because of their public service to the community and working to improve quality of life."

The event concluded with Esposito thanking Xenakis for his dedication to the Woodhaven business strip and for serving Woodhaven as a business owner of Park Place Florist since 1987.

Before people left, prizes and a 50/50 cash prize were raffled off.

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Soap Box Derby

Young racers took part in the annual Flushing Meadow Soap Box Derby Saturday. (Clockwise from top l.) Laurelton resident Colby Barnave, 10, gets some help from his father, Craig; Kathy Taylor assists Tai Govantes, 12, with the mechanics of racing; Isiah Walker of Long Island City carries a pair of wheels; Chris Belcher, 12, uses a drill to ready his vehicle; Sanaa Clements, 9, decorates her car with stickers; and children speed down 23rd Avenue during one of the heats. Photos by Bill Parry and Christina Santucci





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HUFFINGTON POST EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ARIANNA HUFFINGTON HOLDS BOOK SIGNING IN ASTORIA *Photos by Walter Karling*



1 Arianna Huffington, (l.) founder of Huffington Post news website, greets attendees at her book signing at Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York's Stathakeio Center in Astoria. Huffington was in Queens to promote her work, "Thrive."



2 Arianna Huffington signs the federation's guest book using her original last name, "Stassinopoulou," while Federation President Elias Tsekerides, Federation General Secretary Petros Galatoulas and Dr. Sam Chekwas look on.



3 Dr. Sam Chekwas, (l.-r.) past president of the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York; Anastasio Menessis; author Arianna Huffington; and current federation President Elias Tsekerides gather on the organization's steps on 29th Street.

LESBIAN AND GAY DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF QUEENS CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY AT PRIDE PARTY *Ken Maldonado*



4 Gary Gilbert (l.) smiles alongside Gary Williams at the Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of Queens' 20th anniversary Pride Party.



5 The group's organizers and supporters applaud as Public Advocate Letitia James (r.) presents the club with a proclamation.



6 Councilwoman Karen Koslowitz is among attendees at the festivities in Pride Bar on Austin Street in Forest Hills.

WOODHAVEN RESIDENTS' BLOCK ASSOCIATION MARKS FLAG DAY WITH BBQ FOR VETERANS *Photos by Ken Maldonado*



7 Jimmy Fusco prepares a hamburger for Assemblyman Mike Miller.



8 Nelson Ramos, 4, and his sister Lynelle Ramos, 4, ride scooters outside the American Legion Post 118 in Woodhaven during the cookout celebrating Flag Day.



9 Veterans from the American Legion Post 118 in Woodhaven get together for a photo during an event at the Legion's headquarters, at 89-02 91st St., during the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association's community barbecue.

VERDI'S IN WHITESTONE HOSTS COUNCILMAN PAUL VALLONE'S BIRTHDAY FÊTE *Photos courtesy Paul Vallone*



10 Councilman Paul Vallone (second l.) celebrates his birthday with a cake and (l.-r.) son Charlie, wife Anna-Marie and daughter Catena.



11 Queens Borough President Melinda Katz (l.) and Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito join Councilman Paul Vallone at the gathering.



12 Councilman Paul Vallone addresses more than 200 people gathered for the festivities at Verdi's in Whitestone. The event raised over \$25,000, organizers said.



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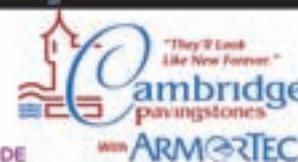
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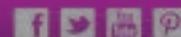
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proprietor of Divorce.com, some of the divorces offered require travel to the court, while some can be done without any travel or court appearance. Some require both parties to sign the court petition for divorce, while others can be achieved with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

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

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2000	Honda Civic, 130k	544413	\$2,995	2010	Toyota Camry, 34k	1013	\$8,995	2012	Nissan Altima, 32k	1079	\$11,500
2003	Honda Accord, 91k	72885	\$3,995	2008	Hummer H3, 97k	3802	\$9,500	2012	Chevy Traverse, 50k	1260	\$12,888
2008	Hyundai Accent, 16k	1087201	\$5,995	2011	Ford Escape XLT, 25k	74493	\$9,995	2012	Volkswagen Passat, 22k	4362	\$13,995
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2011	Honda Odyssey, 35k	036772	\$13,995	2012	Nissan Maxima, 20k	3788	\$18,995
2014	Nissan Versa, 9k	3309	\$13,995	2010	Infiniti G37, 28k	70898	\$18,995
2008	BMW 528xi, 34k	1008	\$13,995	2011	Acura MDX, 48k	1321	\$23,459
2009	Infiniti G37, 52k	83017	\$14,888	2011	Infiniti FX-35, 39k	1054	\$24,995
2012	Dodge Charger, 8k	1030	\$15,995	2010	Lexus LS 460, 39k	82704	\$31,995
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Studio Square site is sold but beer garden will stay

BY BILL PARRY

Studio Square has been a big hit with soccer fans who have filled the 30,000-square-foot cobblestone beer garden to watch World Cup games on a giant 10-by-16-foot HD video screen every day this week.

"It's a spectacular place to watch the games," soccer fanatic Eoghan Mcparland said. "I've never seen so many people from so many different nations in one spot, it really is amazing."

City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer (D-Sunnyside) marveled at the crowd after attending Studio Square Monday evening.

"I watched the USA beat Ghana at Studio Square and it was just magical with thousands of

people there," he said.

Crowds will get larger as the tournament progresses and the games increase in importance, according to Studio Square Marketing Director Peter Mason.

Mason's attention has been diverted away from the crowds by the sale of the popular event space, at 35-37 36th St. in Long Island City. The six-story former warehouse has been sold to Emmes Asset Management for \$30 million by Studio Square's corporate owner, S Hospitality Group.

While there will be changes, the 5-year-old beer garden will not be one of them.

"We negotiated a long-term deal for the garden," Studio Square marketing chief Peter Mason said. "We'll maintain the garden

intact with no operational changes. This is not going to be what happened at Rebar where suddenly it was shuttered. I want to make that clear."

The changes will come to the private event spaces inside the warehouse itself. Emmes Asset Management forged the deal to benefit one of its pension fund clients and will start taking over the upper floors after Studio Square fulfills all of its contracts for social and corporate events in July 2015.

These spaces include 10,000 square feet of event space and private terraces that are used for weddings, bar mitzvahs and corporate parties.

"Emmes will change it over to a collaborative workspace for tech startup

Continued on Page 50

Parks Dept. planning to revamp old Mary Whelan playground

BY SARINA TRANGLE

A re-blossoming is afoot at Mary Whelan.

The city Parks Department released plans to revamp the Forest Park playground near Forest Park Drive and Park Lane South in Woodhaven with \$1.18 million, most of which was discretionary funding earmarked by City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Glendale).

The project calls for reconstructing the pre-school and pre-teen play areas as well as the spray shower. Greenery would be planted to separate equipment for 5- to 12-year-olds, a swing area for kindergarten-age children and a teen area.

A Parks slideshow depicts large boulders resting along the edge of geyser-style water fountains.



Renderings map out how a revamped Mary Whelan Playground may look. Rendering courtesy city Parks Department

The revamp will also make the park accessible to the physically disabled and greener. The slide show notes vegetation is expected to increase by 150 percent, with the tree canopy growing 200 percent.

Crowley has directed \$1 million in city funding to the project over the past two fiscal years, according

to her spokesman, Javier Lacayo.

Lacayo said the councilwoman and neighbors have longed to see the playground spruced up since it was last renovated in about 1991.

"It's a project that has been a long time coming in the community," he said.

Continued on Page 50

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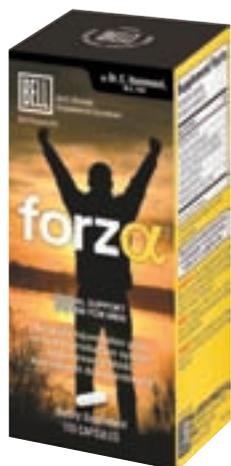
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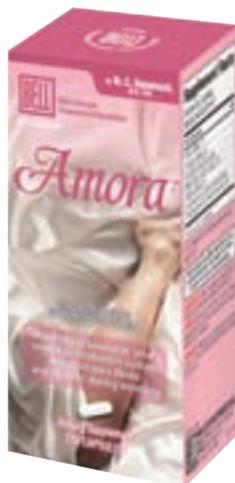


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- **I'm truly amazed and relieved.** After just 2 weeks of drinking the Bell Ezee Flow Tea I no longer have to get up during the night. I'm enjoying a normal sex life. This product is so incredible. I enjoy drinking the tea. I hope that a lot of men with a pride issue give this a shot. It's difficult to express how delighted I am. *Clarence A. Rehrig, 58, Allentown, PA. **

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- **I wish I had found this tea sooner!** A family member told me that she used the Bell Tea for Women #4b with positive results. What a wonderful product. It also worked for me. *Australia P. Rodriguez, Rego Park, NY.*
- **Plan to keep taking it as long as I live!** One of the clerks in my local health food store recommended the Bladder Control Tea #4b. I was very skeptical. What a surprise it worked! 5 days after starting the tea I noticed a major improvement and it is continually getting better each day. I plan keep taking it for as long as I live. Thank you!* *Frances Baird, 87, Venice, FL.*
- **Exercises didn't help!** After drinking the Bell Tea for Women #4b my life is far less stressful especially when I am at work. Thanks for such an amazing product! *Marilyn Sallows, 53, Fort McMurray, AB*
- **Tea represents truth in advertising!** Being a skeptic, I ordered this Bladder Control Tea for Women as a more or less last resort, after trying everything else in the last 5 years. It worked better than I hoped for. Thank you for this great product, and above all, for truth in advertising. *Marina Rosa, 57, Las Vegas, NV**

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Cornell starts demolition work on Roosevelt Island

BY ALEX ROBINSON

Work on Cornell University's new Roosevelt Island tech campus is under way.

Officials in charge of the development came to Queens Monday to update the Borough Board on the complex's progress.

Cornell University and Israel's Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa won a bid to build a new tech school on the 12-acre site in 2011.

Workers have started demolishing the Coler Goldwater Specialty Hospital & Nursing Facility to make room for the first phase of the new campus, which is scheduled to be finished in summer 2017. The school is expected to open that fall.

Andrew Winters, who is leading the develop-

ment, said the site's demolition crew has removed all the debris via barge as was agreed on during the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure to cut down on truck traffic going through Queens.

"[That] translates into over 950 truck trips that have been eliminated from the streets of Roosevelt Island and Queens," Winters said.

The campus will include an academic building, a residential building for students and faculty, a hotel, 7 acres of open space and a co-location building, which will have some academic space in addition to a section leased to tech-related businesses.

"Part of the idea of this campus is to bring together the academic world and the business world," Winters

said.

Borough Board members commended the project, but some took issue with the height of the residential building, which will have around 350 apartments.

City Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley (D-Middle Village) said the 285-foot tower will block Queens' view of the Ed Koch-Queensboro Bridge, which connects Astoria to Roosevelt Island.

"I love the idea of the project and I know that you need to put residential space in it," she said. "I just don't know if that large tower is fair to the people in Queens."

Winters said the tower is shorter than the bridge and is under the 320-foot maximum zoning regulations.

Drive-through Starbucks plus gym planned at former Goldfingers club

BY SARINA TRANGLE

Starbucks may be brewing up a second serving for a shuttered Rego Park strip joint.

Chris Okada, a developer who helped broker Atlas Projects' 100-year-lease, at 92-77 Queens Blvd. in Rego Park, said he expected Starbucks and Retro Fitness to become tenants of a roughly 20,000 square-foot commercial complex currently under construction.

Okada added that he believed the coffee chain would occupy a space with a drive-through facility.

In 2013, Okada helped Atlas Projects ink a 49-year lease with an optional extension of 49 years for \$40 million, according to Okada and property records.

The company floated the idea of construct-



A rendering shows a three-tenant retail complex in the works in Rego Park. Photo courtesy Winick Realty Group LLC brochure

ing a roughly 150-story residential tower on the 20,604-square-foot lot near the intersection of 62nd Avenue and Queens Boulevard in Rego Park this December.

The property, once home to the notorious Goldfingers strip club that neighbors railed against, is adjacent to the Rego Center

Mall and near the Queens residential tower on the Queens Center and Queens Place malls.

Plans filed with the city Department of Buildings show developers razed the structure and are in the process of building a two-story retail building.

Robert Heicklen, a broker with Winick Retail
Continued on Page 50



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Christ the King High School Installs Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Father Frank Spacek, Chaplain at Christ the King High School (Class of '88 Alumni), installed six new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at the End of Year School Mass. Each of the six had completed the Liturgy Workshop sponsored by the Brooklyn Diocese at Bishop Ford on Saturday, April 26 and were approved by their pastors as suitable candidates.

The Eucharistic Ministers will distribute Holy Communion at all the School Masses and be eligible to serve in their home parishes according to the need and discretion of their pastors.



Pictured: Installed Eucharistic Ministers: Aaron Arana, Edison Cahuana, Meagan Fontanez, Juan Obregon, Elizabeth Quagliariello and Frankelly Rosado, along with Principal Peter Mannarino, CK Chaplain Fr. Frank Spacek, and Campus Minister Sister Elizabeth Graham, CSJ.

About Christ the King Regional High School

Christ the King Regional High School is a private, co-educational Catholic High School with a 4-year college preparatory curriculum. Located in Middle Village, Queens, Christ the King Regional High School draws students from all areas. The school is accredited by The Board of Regents of the State of New York and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Christ the King's current enrollment is approximately 900 students. The faculty numbers 45.

Christ the King High School is governed by its Board of Trustees: Serphin R. Maltese, Chairman; Thomas V. Ognibene, Vice Chairman; Robert A. Normandia, Vice Chairman; Bernard G. Helldorfer, Counsel/Trustee; Anthony Como, Esq., Treasurer; Brenda Evans, Trustee; Dolores St. Louis, Trustee; Peter J. Mannarino, Principal; Michael W. Michel, President; Arthur Spanarkel, Financial Advisor; and Veronica Cokley, Executive Assistant.

More information is available <http://www.ckny.org/>.

Find Christ the King on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CKCampus.

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

D) Categories are:

- 1) Middle School 2) High School 3) College

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Bayside NY 11361.**

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718-260-4522

QCA block party to fund high school art program

BY GABRIELLE PRUSAK

In honor of the new Kaufman movie lot, Queens Council on the Arts will be hosting Saturday another block to support the High School to Art School portfolio program.

During the block party, which will be held from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Kaufman Astoria Studios, people who attend will pay \$35 to help fund the HS2AS program and will also have the chance to see some of the best films from Queens film festivals within the last year.

Different restaurants from Queens, such as Bareburger, Snowdonia, Ovelia and William Hallet, will be serving food throughout the event. There will also be breweries such as SingleCut Beersmiths and Rockaway Brewing Co. present at the block party as well.

One portion of the block party will be a screening of different types of films ranging from animation to fiction, with a documentaries from different Queens film festivals. The films range from three minutes to about 20 minutes.

Two of the films being presented are from students at the Frank Sinatra School of Arts. The school was invited to present works from the students to the block party so they had their own film festival. The best films from that film festival were chosen.

Another activity that will be going on during the event will be a literary slam hosted by Audrey Dimola, a Western Queens poet. The literary slam will be a spoken-word poetry presentation from poets throughout Queens.

"There will also be a 10-by-10 interactive installation that you walk into to take selfies," said QCA Development Manager Jackie DeDios. "It's a vintage photo booth that will encour-



Dancers perform at a previous Queens Council on the Arts Block Party. Photo courtesy Queens Council on the Arts



The High School to Art School program aims help high school juniors and seniors develop their art portfolios. Photo courtesy Queens Council on the Arts

age people to take selfies."

Throughout the event, there will be live bands from Make Music New York playing at the entrance and DJ Locke will be deejaying inside the event.

HS2AS was originally a program from MoMA PS1 but was later brought over to Queens Council on the Arts. The program itself has been around for more than a decade. It was designed to help juniors and seniors in high school develop a portfolio for art school or college.

"They create their own artistic style and voice through paintings, mixed media, sculptures [etc.], that they can show to a [col-

lege] admission representative," said DeDios.

The program runs from the fall until the summer and consists of five-hour classes Monday through Thursday at Queens Council on the Arts, going to museums and putting their art together.

"We are trying to help the students in the program go to the college of their dream, so we have a lot of talented students who really need the support," DeDios said "Come to the block party to help support that scholarship."

The block party is at the Kaufman lot at 34-12 36th Street in Astoria.



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Flushing Town Hall show honors Queens diversity with spotlight on LGBTQ-immigrant communities

BY MERLE EXIT

With Pride Month winding down, Flushing Town Hall has decided to celebrate the borough's diversity with a special concert honoring Queens' LGBTQ and immigrant communities.

The show, "LGBTQ Immigrant Voices," includes perfor-

mances by singers, actors, dancers and musicians, who call Queens home and who have ties to both the city's gay and lesbian scene and its immigrant population.

"Our hope is that highlighting the works of several LGBTQ immigrant performers will help to overcome the challenges that many face and break barriers

IF YOU GO

LGBTQ Immigrant Voices

When: Saturday, June 21, at 7 pm
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

Cost: \$15/adults, \$10/members and students

Contact: (718) 463-7700

Website: www.flushingtownhall.org

through a collective cultural experience," Ellen Kodaek, executive and artistic director of Flushing Town Hall, said.

Mahina Movement, a trio of musicians based in New York, but originally from Peru, Ireland and Tonga, will headline Saturday's show with a concert.

The trio, Gabriella Callender, Lorena Ambrosio and Vaimoana Lita Makakaufaki Niumeitolu,

describe their music as a fusion of rhythm and blues, soul and folk. Mahina Movement, which comes from the Tongan world for moon and the Spanish word for imagine, formed in 2000.

"Actually, Vaimoana was the one who brought the group together looking to bring voices of women of color together," Callender said.

Continued on Page 45

Trio Mahina Movement, Gabriella Callender (l. to r.), Lorena Ambrosio and Vaimoana Lita Makakaufaki Niumeitolu, headline Saturday's LGBTQ Immigrant Voices concert at Flushing Town Hall.

Photo courtesy Flushing Town Hall

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- Pasta w/Broccoli, Garlic & Oil

- Chicken Parmigiana
- Chicken Francaise
- Chicken Marsala
- Chicken Pizzaiola
- Veal Cutlet Parmigiana
- Penne Vodka
- Tortellini Alfredo

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\$15.95 per person

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

CHOICE B
\$25.95

Any 3 Choices From A Any 2 Choices From B

- Chicken Pizzaiola
- Chicken Francaise
- Chicken Marsala
- Veal Cutlet Parmigiana
- Veal Marsala
- Tortellini Alfredo
- Penne Vodka

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THEATER CALENDAR

PRODUCTIONS

"12 Angry Men" – Theatre Time Productions presents the classic court room drama.

When: June 21 to June 29, Friday and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 3 pm

Where: Colonial Church of Bayside, 54-02 217th St.

Cost: \$17/adults, \$15/seniors and children 13 and younger

Contact: (347) 358-8102

Website: www.theatretime.org

"We Women Do It Better!/ Nosotras Hacemos Mejor!"

– This one-woman comedy focuses on a sexy, funny and adult workshop about professional growth as taught by an attractive psychologist. Performed in English by Kathy Tejada and in Spanish by Soledad Lopez.

When: Through June 29, Friday at 8 pm and Saturday at 3 pm in English, Saturday at 8 pm and Sunday at 4 pm in Spanish.

Where: Thalia Spanish

"A Revue for You: From Stage to Screen" – The First String Players celebrate the music of Broadway and the movies.

When: Friday, July 11, at 8 pm; Saturday, July 12, at 8 pm and Sunday, July 13, at 2 pm

Where: Our Lady of Mercy, 70-01 Kessel St., Forest Hills

Cost: \$10

Contact: (718) 268-6143

Website: www.firststringplayers.org

TRIAL BY JURY

Cast members of "12 Angry Men" rehearse a scene for the upcoming performances of the Theatre Time Productions presentation. The show opens Saturday at the Colonial Church of Bayside, and runs for the next couple of weekends. For tickets and more information, visit www.theatretime.org.

Photo courtesy Theatre Time Productions



sudoku

Answers in Sports

Very Easy #1

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

Medium #1

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

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

Tips at www.sudoku.com
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Flux Factory's new exhibit brightens the evening

'Nightlight' brings solar-powered illuminating installations to Long Island City Community Gardens

BY GABRIELLE PRUSAK

The Long Island City Community Gardens on 49th Avenue have been attracting residents after dark lately to a new interactive light installation.

Flux Factory, LIC's artist incubation laboratory, created "Nightlight" as a completely solar-powered, garden-spanning piece developed by artists, builders, computer programmers and even hackers.

Among the sights throughout the greenery are photographs of people climbing that are projected onto the walls of neighboring buildings, which create an illusion with lights. There are also places within the garden where people can sit down and trigger a light to flicker on or even create a movable light show nearby.

"Every time you sit in a spot, something falls from a tree or lights will go on," Carnia Kaufman, co-organizer of the exhibit, said. "Lots of things need to be



One of the attendees at "Nightlight's" opening party stands in front of Morgan Street's installation. Photo courtesy Flux Factory

triggered, but there are a lot of interactive things you can do."

Kaufman said the idea for

an event was to create a public space where artists could engage with an audience while showing off

their works.

According to co-organizer Alex Nathanson, "finding a space was the biggest" challenge they faced.

"It took a couple of months walking around the neighborhood and talking to people in the Long Island City community," he said.

One of Flux Factory's goals for the project was to find a location that people would not normally use at night. That way, organizers said, residents would discover the art installation and step inside someplace unexpected.

Another issue that occurred was trying to figure out how to power the artists' pieces in an environmentally friendly way.

"The entire show is solar powered," said Nathanson.

The Flux Factory was able to fund this event by grants from the city Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the Andy Warhol

IF YOU GO

"Nightlight"

When: Through June 28, nightly beginning at dusk
Where: Long Island City Community Gardens, 49th Avenue between Vernon Boulevard and 5th Street, Long Island City
Cost; Free
Contact: (347) 669-1406
Website: www.fluxfactory.org

Foundation for Visual Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state Legislature.

This show will continue until June 28 with a closing performance by artist Merche Blasco.

During the time the event is going on, people within the area will be able to access Wi-Fi and post photos and comments about the function.

"It will be open every evening after sunset," said Kaufman.



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**Emily Asher's
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July 19th

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Photo by Jack Bradley

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

For the most up-to-date listing of events happening
in Queens, check TimesLedger's website at
www.timesledger.com/sections/calendar

EVENTS

Summer Solstice Festival – A family event to welcome summer on the longest day of the year. Make ice cream the old-fashioned way, create sun-inspired art and play historic games.
When: Saturday, June 21, from noon - 4 pm

Where: King Manor Museum, Rufus King Park, 90-04 161st St., Jamaica

Cost: Free

Contact: (718) 206-0545

Website: www.kingmanor.org

Summer Solstice Celebration – Welcome the arrival of summer with art workshops, picnics and a solstice ritual performed by

Urban Shaman Mama Donna.
When: Saturday, June 21, from 5 pm - dusk
Where: Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City
Cost: Free
Contact: (718) 956-1819
Website: www.socratessculpturepark.org

Festival de las Flores and Summer Solstice Celebration – The Colombian tradition of creating large medallions from flowers comes to the QBG. Music and dance performances will also take place.

When: Sunday, June 22, from 11 am - 6 pm

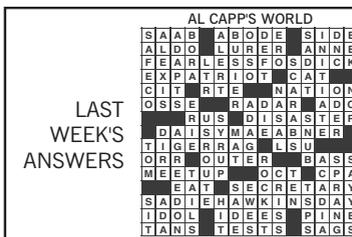
Continued on Page 45

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers
June 20-26, 2014

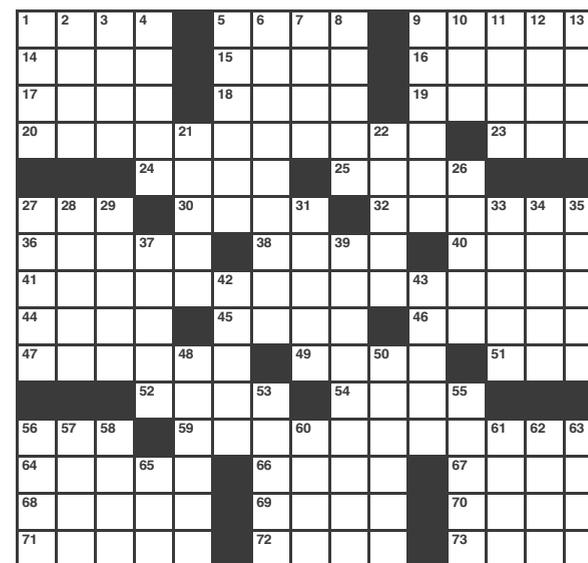
By Ed Canty

The Big Apple



Across

1. Remain unsettled
5. 20% of MCCLV
9. Atkins diet no-nos
14. Pack away
15. Muddy up
16. Ready for anything
17. "No problem"
18. "The ___ Love" (Al Jolson tune)
19. Craze
20. Busy area of Manhattan
23. It precedes "the land of the free"
24. Hindu Mr.
25. Scuttlebutt
27. GI's cureall pill
30. Stains
32. Marchers' beliefs
36. Vaughan of jazz
38. 15-ball cluster
40. Numero uno
41. Big Apple tourist attraction
44. NASA subj.
45. Calculus calculation
46. The Little Mermaid
47. Batik artist's skill
49. E.P.A. concern
51. Doctor's charge
52. Glow
54. Something often twisted apart
56. "60 Minutes" aier
59. Big Apple landmark
64. Monopoly purchase
66. Like a good loser?
67. Civil War's Robt. ___
68. Battery terminal
69. It helps you get a leg up
70. Great review
71. Pop choice
72. Fringe
73. PGA part



Down

1. Attention-getter
2. Case for tweezers and such
3. Standard
4. Hardly Mr. Cool
5. Singing Bing
6. Vanquisher
7. In ___ of (replacing)
8. Trojan War epic
9. Cell phone feature
10. Miss. neighbor
11. Attorney General Janet
12. French cheese
13. Christmas tree topper
21. Hindu holy man
22. Talk show host Lake
26. Potato, e.g.
27. Syrian president
28. Easy mark
29. Orange container
31. Hotel amenities
33. Printing flourish
34. First name in perfume
35. Newspaper section
37. Skylit lobbies
39. A loud and persistent noise
42. Tidal bore
43. Bread boiled and baked
48. Cores
50. Creamsicle color
53. Cavern, in poetry
55. Met offering
56. Crack from dryness
57. Shade of white
58. VCR button
60. Impact sound
61. "Poor me!"
62. Tach units
63. Sharp
65. Asner and Begley

By GFR Associates ••• Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

Older residents keep their SPARC going

Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide works to spur the over-60 crowd's creative juices

BY MERLE EXIT

SPARC, Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide, marries members of the creative set with older residents in community arts projects across the five boroughs.

Last week, participants at the Jewish Association Serving the Aging's Rockaway Park Senior Center had the chance to brush up on their Shakespeare with SPARC artist Lenny Leibowitz.

"I've been working with an amazingly talented, brave and adventurous group of seniors on the world of acting," Leibowitz said. "What is being presented is an informal share discovery in front of people that uses some of the corporate principles over the course of study on how to act."

The presentation involved eight of the members: Selma Kleinman, Rose Brief, Linda Green, Jeffrey Sobel, Geoffrey Siegel, Howard Gorlitz, Ruby Ford and Phyllis Tatz.

"I have trouble walking," said Phyllis Tatz. "With this class I don't feel like I'm old and handicapped."

The finale of the presentation had Kleinman performing a monologue.

"SPARC Artist Lenny Leibowitz and participating seniors presented an hourlong theatrical adventure that represented a sampling of the work since January, from playing an intention, to improvisation, to readings from 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Hamlet,'" Daniel Arnow, who runs the SPARC program for the Queens Council on the Arts, said.



SPARC artist Lenny Leibowitz puts some of his students through acting exercises at the JASA Rockaway Park Senior Center.

Photo by Merle Exit

For a few hours each week, Leibowitz worked with the seniors at the center on a different principle

of acting.

"If you can act Shakespeare, you can act anything," Leibowitz said.

"His work is a great means to transcend your limits. It's as good, challenging and full-blooded as anything gets. Being that it was a course of study from when they were in school, it reverts back to their childhood. It would be a misconception or false assumption to think that it was over their head."

Leibowitz first interviewed with Fay Schwimmer, director of the senior center, to determine whether he was a good fit psychically, artistically and personality-wise but also whether his offerings in the world of drama was a good fit for these seniors' desires.

"JASA Rockaway Park seniors never cease to amaze me," Schwimmer said. "This program keeps them socializing with each other, brought them out

of their shyness and gives them the chance to utilize both their brains and body."

SPARC is a community arts engagement program that places artists-in-residence at senior centers across the five boroughs of New York City to provide arts programs for older adults. Grants were given by Queens Council on the Arts for this borough project through the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and Department of Aging.

This year the program placed 51 artists in 50 senior centers in all five boroughs. Residency projects have ranged from oral history projects, choral music, and dance to creative writing, painting and more.

For more information on SPARC programs, visit www.nyc.gov/nyculture.

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Afghanistan's age of conflict caught in photos

BY GABRIELLE PRUSAK

Visitors to Queensborough Community College's art gallery will soon be able to get an up-close look at the destruction and devastation that the last quarter of a century has brought to Afghanistan.

Through Sept. 10, about 100 of photographer Robert Nickelsberg's works from his book, "Afghanistan: A Distant War," will be on display.

"It's important for people to see this exhibit, particularly because it documents the period prior to 9/11," said Nickelsberg, who pointed out that those were the years that followed the Soviet Union's withdrawal from Afghanistan when the Marxist regime it supported fell in 1989. "9/11 didn't just happen with a flip of a switch and I watched it evolve. We've forgotten the past since 9/11."

President Barack Obama's recent announcement about the gradual withdrawal of all U.S. soldiers stationed in Afghanistan provided Nickelsberg with the



In this photo from May 1988, an Afghan soldier hands a flag to a departing Soviet soldier in Kabul during the first day of the Russian Army's withdrawal from the country.

Photo courtesy Robert Nickelsberg

inspiration to organize the QCC show.

"I hope it [the exhibit] inspires them [students] to go back and study the history of the region prior to 9/11," he said.

The show includes about 100

color photographs captured during Nickelsberg's visits to the war-torn country, particularly the suffering that everyday Afghans have experienced.

"This work provides a cross-over between departments and

disciplines, the importance of history and the importance of taking stock, of keeping a record," said Nickelsberg.

Nickelsberg spent 25 years in South Asia and started documenting Afghanistan in 1988

IF YOU GO

Afghanistan: A Distant War

When: Through Sept. 10

Where: Queensborough Community College Art Gallery, 222-05 56th Ave., Oakland Gardens

Contact: (718) 631-6396

when he joined a group of Mujahedeen crossing the border from Pakistan during the war with the Soviet Union.

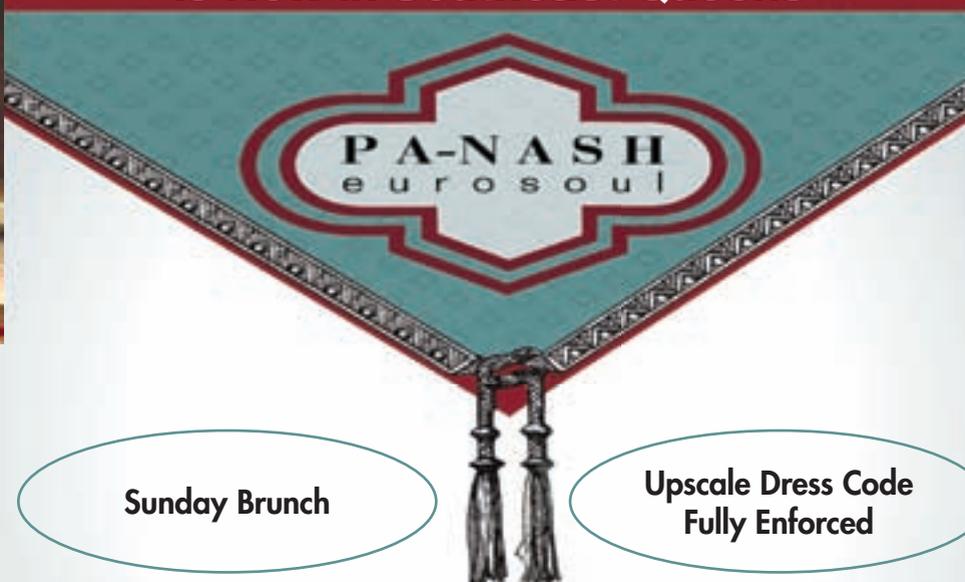
He has worked as a Time Magazine contract photographer for about 30 years, which is one of the many publications that presented his work.

Nickelsberg went through many tough times during when he was shooting photos in Afghanistan. From intense heat to intense cold and not being able to receive information or find film-processing locations, it was a struggle for him.

"I hope everyone in the region can come and see it," said Nickelsberg. "We forgot what happened prior to 9/11 and we shouldn't do that."



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www.panashnyc.com



Continued from Page 39

Although Callender serves as the group's musical director and writes most of the songs, Ambrosio and Numeitolu also contribute to the play lists.

The second part of the evening's bill features five performers, all from Queens, who were selected as part of an open call this past spring.

Jackson Heights resident Brad Bradley is an accomplished Broadway actor who has appeared in "Spamalot," "Steel Pier" and "Billy Elliott" among other New York and touring shows. He will perform a set from his gay-themed one-man show "B Squared."

Nadia Bourne, a singer, songwriter, musician and activist, attends college at St. John's University. Her parents settled in Queens after emigrating from South America and the West Indies.

She plans on performing her original material about love, life and revolution at Saturday's show.

"It's difficult to classify my music as I have so many genres and try to infuse them into a more folk style of music,"



Astoria playwright Timothy Mathis will participate in Saturday's concert at Flushing Town Hall. Photo courtesy Flushing Town Hall

Bourne said. "I write about my experiences, which focus on being a lesbian."

Singer Londel Collier, who performs as KenJi, was born in South Jamaica and raised in South Carolina. A few years ago, he returned to Queens and settled in Flushing. He describes his songs as being about finding then losing love, and in the process of losing love finding oneself.

Astoria resident Timothy Mathis is an award-winning playwright and composer, who wrote the musical "Sylvia So Far," about the life of Stonewall vet-

eran and transgender pioneer Sylvia Rivera. He is currently working on a new show titled, "Wake Up Call," and he may give the Flushing Town Hall audience a preview.

Finally, Marissa Soo, a 20-year-old Flushing resident, will sing some of her original music, influenced from her family's immigrant background from China, Japan, Russia and Poland.

The concert, sponsored by Flushing Town Hall and Terraza 7 Café, received a grant from City Councilman Daniel Dromm.

"I am proud to be able to fund such a unique and important event that shines light on the LGBT community, immigrants and on our home borough of Queens," Dromm said. "Well done, Flushing Town Hall, Terraza 7 Café and the many talented performers featured in this showcase."

Flushing Town Hall returns the complement to the councilman.

"He, too, recognizes the importance of showcasing the works of LG-BTQ performers and, in particular, those who have emigrated to a borough that celebrates its diversity," Kodadek said.

Cost: \$20/adults, \$15/members, \$10/students

Contact: (718) 463-7700

Website: www.flushingtownhall.org

LGBTQ Immigrant Voices – A LGBTQ-themed concert with headliners Mahina Movement and Queens-based performers and singers.

When: Saturday, June 21, at 7 pm

Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

Cost: \$15/adults, \$10/members and students

Contact: (718) 463-7700

Website: www.flushingtownhall.org

Lawn Concert at Crocheron

Park – The Bayside Historical Society presents the group

Something in Between. Rain date is June 29.

When: Sunday, June 22, at 6 pm

Where: Crocheron Park, 35th Avenue and the Cross Island Parkway, Bayside

Cost: Free

Website: www.nycgovparks.org

Mets Concert Series – This year's Mets concert series kicks off June 14 with a performance by 50 Cent. Concerts take place following that days game, and the show is included in the price of the game ticket.

When: Saturday, July 12 – Huey Lewis and the News; and

Saturday, Aug. 16 – Boyz II Men

Where: Citi Field, 123-01

Roosevelt Ave., Flushing

Cost: \$17 – \$163

Website: newyorkmets.mlb.

Louis Armstrong's Birthday Party Kicks Off Hot Jazz / Cool Garden Summer Concert Series

NYC's summer concert season just got very cool with the Hot Jazz / Cool Garden 2014. Three hot NYC jazz bands will play in Louis's Garden this summer: **Emily Asher's Garden Party** on Friday, July 4th - Louis Armstrong's birthday, **Bria Skonberg Quartet** on Saturday, July 19th and **Gordon Au & the Grand Street Stompers** on Saturday, August 16th. In true party tradition, concerts include complimentary red beans n' rice based on Louis's favorite recipe & sweet tea. And, since Louis always celebrated his birthday on July 4th birthday cake will be served during the Fourth of July concert! Hot Jazz / Cool Garden, now in its 8th year, is a highlight to the Louis Armstrong House Museum's Summer with Satchmo season.

Meet the Bands:

Emily Asher's Garden Party – Friday, July 4th @ 2:00 pm

Led by Asher's tenacious trombone and sweet vocals, this band of All-stars from New York's vibrant early jazz scene draws on a diverse repertoire of American standards and originals. From Louis Armstrong's Enchanting Hot Fives and Duke Ellington's sophisticated melodies to the funky and soulful music of New Orleans brass bands. Garden Party plays regularly in New York, Boston, Pennsylvania, has three West Coast Tours under their belt and was a featured band at The 2013 Super Jazz Ashdod international Jazz Festival in Israel. The Wall Street Journal calls Garden Party "a deliberately prosaic name deviously calculated to describe a very exciting combo" and named their recent EP, "Carnival of Joy" a "superior album." Louis Armstrong biographer, Ricky Riccardi raves that Garden Party is "simply extraordinary hot jazz played by some of the finest young musicians devoted to keeping this music alive today."

Bria Skonberg Quartet – Saturday, July 19th @ 2:00 pm

The Bria Skonberg Quartet is a powerhouse combination of emerging talent in the New York jazz scene. Leader Bria Skonberg is "poised to be one of the most versatile and imposing musicians of her generation" compliments the Wall Street Journal. This year she earned a Jazz Journalists' Association nomination for "Up and Coming Jazz Artist of The Year", is included in Downbeat Magazine's Rising Star Critics' Poll, and was honored a NY Bistro Award for "Outstanding Jazz Artist". Best known for her knowledge of classic jazz and instigative nature, she has created a style rooted in hot jazz, world percus-

sion, soul and modern effects for her new album "Into Your Own" (Random Act Records 2014). Bria brings with her Bassist Sean Cronin, a free spirited musical mastermind, Pianist Dalton Ridenhour who has been a featured artist at ragtime festivals since his early teens and Darrian Douglas on drums who moved to New Orleans in 2008 where he took over the drum chair in the Ellis Marsalis' Quartet for the next four years.

Gordon Au & the Grand Street Stompers - Saturday, Aug. 16th @ 2:00 pm

With one foot stomping in vintage tradition and the other in modern style, the Stompers featuring Gordon Au, trumpet; Matt Koza, clarinet; Jake Handelman, trombone; Nick Russo, banjo/guitar and Rob Adkins, bass delight audiences with everything from Louis Armstrong hits and New Orleans favorites to exciting originals, covers of famous classical themes, and even their own joyous adaptations of Disney, TV, film, and pop music. Their appeal to both young and old – to both swing dancers and sit-down music lovers, has earned them a devoted and diverse following in their hometown of New York City. The Stompers have been featured at the famed Cafe Carlyle, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Pennsylvania Jazz Festival, the DIY Bushwick Music Festival, the New York Hot Jazz Festival; The Salon, Wit's End, Shanghai Mermaid, Bobo's Halloween Masquerade Ball, New Jersey Swing, along with other swanky, cool venues.

Tickets for Hot Jazz /Cool Garden:

Advance tickets for Louis Armstrong House Museum's Hot Jazz / Cool Garden include a complimentary Historic House Tour pass (good for 6 months). Advance single tickets are \$18. A series subscription is available for \$45 and includes reserved VIP seats. Tickets at the door are \$20. Advance tickets can only be purchased online at LouisArmstrongHouse.org. Parking is available in the neighborhood and the museum is accessible by subway via the 7 train.

The Louis Armstrong House Museum is located at 34-56 107th Street in Corona, Queens, New York. The museum is open Tuesday – Friday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday/Sunday from 12:00 noon – 5:00 pm. Travel directions and more at LouisArmstrongHouse.org or 718.478.8274. Thanks to the vision and funding of the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, the Louis Armstrong House Museum welcomes visitors from all over the world, six days per week, 52 weeks per year.

Arts

Continued from Page 42

Where: Queens Botanical

Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing

Cost: \$4/adults, \$3/seniors, \$2/

students and children

Contact: (718) 886-3800

Website: www.queensbotanical.org

MUSIC

Kenny Brawner is Ray Charles

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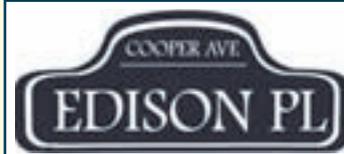
When: Friday, June 20, at 8 pm

Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

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Protest

Continued from Page 1

the already over-crowded schools, while putting pressure on Elmhurst Hospital Center, one of the busiest in the city.

Dromm said the authorities had been less than forthcoming.

“Samaritan Village said this hotel was not under consideration — we feel we were lied to,” he said. “They’re telling us that there will be no single men here, just families, and that there will be no more shelters, but they’ve lied to us before.”

“Samaritan Village is committed to working with the local elected officials and the community to ensure we are a good neighbor,” was the only statement issued by Samaritan Village.

There were so many protesters that the NYPD had to close off the service road to Queens Boulevard for more than an hour during the evening rush hour.

Roe Daraio, president of the Comet Civic Association, organized the rally and was not surprised by the turnout.

“I was actually hoping for an even bigger crowd, but then I always shoot for the moon,” she said.

A member of COMET, which stands for Communities of Maspeth and Elmhurst Together, named Linda said, “These people are coming from Middle Village, Rego Park, Corona, Ridgewood, even Glendale is here.”

Retired NYPD Capt. Joe Concannon made the trip from Whitestone to make his voice heard.

“I used to patrol these streets for six years and what you have here is the city of New York taking



The rally at the Pan American Hotel features many signs written in Chinese and Korean.
Photo by Bill Parry

a problem and making it worse,” he said.

Concannon, who was a Reform Party candidate for Council against Councilman Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) last fall, said, “This hotel should be a profit-maker. Instead the city has made it into a dumping ground.”

DHS spokesman Chris Miller said, “The city of New York remains committed to offering homeless families the compassion and dignity they deserve in their moment of need. As the number of families with children residing in temporary, emergency shelter grows, we must consider all available options to address our capacity needs and meet our legally mandated right to shelter.”

Moving the homeless families into the Pan American Hotel became possible when Mayor Bill de Blasio and city Comptroller Scott Stinger signed off on an emergency decree.

“We have a homeless crisis in the city,” a Stringer spokesman said. “Comptroller Stringer approved an emergency declaration for family shelters across the city so that DHS can house homeless families. The comptroller has not weighed in on the appropriateness of any specific

location, but he believes that communication and adequate community notification are critical parts of this process.”

Dromm said he was notified by DHS as he was leaving his office June 6 and received a fax from Samaritan Village later that evening after families had begun moving into the Pan American Hotel.

He added that he will work with COMET to convene a town hall to keep the pressure on City Hall.

Watching the scene unfold were a group of former longtime employees of the Pan American Hotel who were laid off Jan. 7, prior to the building’s sale.

“This is heartbreaking to see,” Middle Village resident Melinda Cardoza said. “My husband Raymond worked here for 42 years when it was family-run.”

Her daughter Deborah said, “I worked here for 20 years, it was the last union hotel in Queens. They told us it was going to be a hostel and the union was going to get our jobs back, but suddenly they moved in these homeless families. So much for getting our jobs back.”

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

Meeks

Continued from Page 4

said he is delighted to work “seven days a week, 12 to 13 hours a day for his constituents.”

He added that “sup-

porting President [Barack] Obama on the health care act, on education, on immigration reform, is the right direction to take.”

Meeks said he never stops campaigning.

“People come up to me and say that I look like I

am campaigning,” he said. “Well, it’s true because I work hard for the people all the time.”

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

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Business

Sunnyside business owners dig into past

Dan and Tara Glasser's Stray Vintage shop celebrates its eighth anniversary later in the year

BY BILL PARRY

Stray Vintage, the little store at 48-09 Skillman Ave. in Sunnyside Gardens, has become a staple with shoppers looking for classic furniture, refinished jewelry, vintage barware, knick-knacks and vinyl records.

When the owners took over the vacant space in 2006, they were not even sure what kind of store it would be.

"We didn't plan on getting into the vintage business," Dan Glasser said. "We were just wandering around the neighborhood when we discovered the shop. We just fell in love with it and signed the lease before we figured out what we'd do with it."

Dan and his wife Tara were living in upstate New Paltz, where the couple graduated from college.

"Tara got a job in film and was commuting here, that's what drew us to this part of Queens," Glasser said, adding that he had grown up in Breezy Point and still has family living there.

"We always liked to find bargains at flea markets and antique dealers, so we figured out a way to make something work," Tara said.

And they have found that residents share their passion for vintage merchandise.

"We do enough business that we always cover the rent," Dan said. "When we have a good



month, it's a great month."

But it helps that his wife kept working.

"It helps that I have a job

with health benefits, that's the key," Tara said.

The Glassers believe they can do better at publicizing Stray

Skillman Project, an association of businesses, mostly pubs and restaurants. Dan also joined the Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce.

"There's still more that we want to do, but we hope the neighborhood appreciates how amenable we are for getting specific things requested by our customers," Dan said.

They have even furnished some of their regulars' entire apartments in Sunnyside Gardens.

"We depend on our regular customers and we shop with this neighborhood in mind because it is so distinctive," Tara said. "But every now and again some people from Manhattan discover us when they take sightseeing walks about the gardens."

The best find they ever discovered?

"That was a 1958 baby pram in exquisite condition, it was the Cadillac of baby carriages," Dan said.

The strangest thing they ever found?

"That would have been a violet-ray light therapy gadget that heals sore joints," Dan said.

Tara even remembered the customer who bought it.

"We sold it to some guy in Astoria who still has it in his collection of weird things," she said.

Above: Stray Vintage is popular with shoppers who take time to browse through a wide variety of items.

Left: Tara (l-r) and Dan Glasser set up an outdoor display in front of their Skillman Avenue vintage shop.

Photos by Bill Parry

Vintage through social media.

"We have a very active Facebook page and we use Word Press, but we're still working on our website," Dan said.

They have gotten involved in the local business community in recent years, joining the

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Powerful You! Women's Network

— A new Queens chapter of the national organization that empowers and supports women in their business, personal and spiritual lives.

When: Third Tuesday each month, noon to 2 pm

Cost: Members and first-time attendees \$30, nonmembers \$40; includes lunch

Where: Giardino, 44-37 Douglaston Pkwy, Douglaston

Contact: Gayle Naftaly, gnaftaly@accessoffice.net, (718) 217-0009

Website: powerfulyou.com

Power Networking Group — Led by Harvey G. Beringer

When: Every Wednesday, 7 am

Cost: \$10 for breakfast

Where: Jackson Hole Diner, 35-01 Bell Blvd., Bayside

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

BNI T.N.T. (The Networking Titans)

Weekly Meeting — BNI is a business and professional networking organization that allows only one person per

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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

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When: Wednesdays, 7-8:30 am

Where: Fame Diner, 176-19 Union Tnpl., Fresh Meadows

Contact: Lydie Pellissier, (718) 276-8986

Website: bniouterboros.com

The Eastern Queens and Long Island

Networking Group — This unique business networking group discusses today's challenges and helps form alliances. Relationships are built. Facilitator is Gayle Naftaly, rainmaker, entrepreneur, coordinator, leader and organizer with contacts.

When: Second Wednesday of every month

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

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

Contact: Gayle Naftaly, gnaftaly@

accessoffice.net, (866) 391-2780

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How to Network in New York for Free — Fun, interactive and informative workshop. Learn new tools. RSVP.

When: Wednesday, June 25

Where: Tequila Sunrise of Bayside, 34-37 Bell Blvd., Bayside, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact: events@baysideba.com

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GOPers ready for primary

Labate, Lally lock horns in June 24 race to face Dems' Steve Israel

BY KELSEY DURHAM

As congressional candidates Stephen Labate and Grant Lally prepare to face off in a Republican primary next week, each hoping to unseat current U.S. Rep. Steve Israel (D-Melville), the two challengers have each focused their campaigns on similar issues, including the Affordable Care Act, small business and national security.

Labate, a South Ozone Park native who now lives in Deer Park, L.I., is vying with Huntington, L.I. resident Lally to win a spot on the Republican ticket in November. Lally is also running on the Conservative Party ticket in the June 24 primary that will decide who will face Israel in the general election later this year.

Both candidates — running to represent a district that includes parts of Nassau and Suffolk counties along with the Queens neighborhoods of Little Neck, Douglaston, Bay Terrace and Whitestone — identified similar issues as their top priorities starting with repealing Obamacare.

Labate said reversing the passage of the “fundamentally flawed” legislation is his main goal and he believes if the act were to be repealed, some of the other issues he sees in his district would start to fix themselves.

“Obamacare is bringing down the economy because businesses can’t plan two years out,” Labate said. “The majority of folks who have it are in it because they lost what they previously had, because of Obamacare. The reality is that the worst is yet to come because businesses don’t know what the future holds.”

Lally, who prides



Congressional candidates Stephen Labate (l.) and Grant Lally (r.) will face each other in a June 24 primary.

himself on being the only attorney from New York to file briefs and appear before the U.S. Supreme Court in an attempt to take down Obamacare before it was passed, said he would like to see the act repealed in favor of a system that more closely resembles a free-market insurance exchange.

“We need to try and make the market as efficient as possible to create the maximum amount of coverage for the greatest number of people,” Lally said. “The free market is the best vehicle to do that because people will be in a position to competitively purchase health insurance and have the freedom to say ‘no’ or to find something that best meets the needs of their own family.”

By repealing the health care legislation, Labate said one of his other major concerns, the state of small business, would, in turn, begin to improve as a result. He said if he were elected to Congress, he would focus on lowering taxes and making it easier for small businesses to thrive.

“I’m a big free market guy,” said Labate, who has worked as a financial adviser for the past 15 years while also serving as an

active member of the U.S. Army Reserve. “We need to get out of companies’ ways and go back to the principles of the 1980s, where the government wasn’t a big part of the problem in our economy. We need to lower taxes and encourage companies to hire more workers, especially on Long Island, where the middle class is basically extinct right now.”

Lally also described himself as being “pro-small business” and said he believes in the principles of small government with lower taxes and fewer regulations on businesses.

“I’m very much a free market conservative and I’ve represented hundreds of businesses and seen the gauntlet they have to go through to survive, and it’s given me an appreciation for the improvements we need to make in our economy,” Lally said. “We live in a very competitive world and we must take that into account if we want to grow and prosper and be the center of the economic world. We have to be competitive.”

Both candidates also agreed that immigration was a top concern, though the two men had differing views on how to address the issue.

Labate argues that se-

curing the nation’s borders should come first, and coming up with a solution as to how to deal with the illegal immigrants will then be the next priority.

“It’s without reason that we have hundreds of thousands of illegal, undocumented aliens coming into this country, and we just can’t absorb that many people,” said Labate. “We’re the only country on the face of the earth that has a totally open border and we need to secure it. It’s very much a national security issue because we need to know who’s in this country right now.”

Lally said he favors what is known as a “blue card” system in which illegal residents already in the country have the chance to be offered an indefinitely renewable work and residency visa that would allow them to stay in the United States but not be given citizenship ahead of the people who have applied legally and waited for approval.

“That’s the program that previously received the most support from House Republicans,” said Lally, who said he worked on national immigration initiatives under the Bush administration from 2006-07.

Both Labate and Lally live on Long Island, but each candidate said they see the same issues hurting the Queens neighborhoods that are included in the district as they see in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

When voters hit the polls Tuesday, Labate and Lally each hope to come out on top and give Republican voters the best candidate to face Israel in November.

Reach reporter Kelsey Durham at 718-260-4573 or by e-mail at kdurham@cn-glocal.com.

UFT endorses Stavisky for Senate against Jung

BY ALEX ROBINSON

State Sen. Toby Stavisky (D-Flushing) scored a number of teachers’ union endorsements last week in her re-election bid.

The United Federation of Teachers, New York State United Teachers and the Professional Staff Congress endorsed the seven-term senator and former teacher Friday afternoon.

“As a former public school teacher, Toby Stavisky understands and respects the vital work our members do every day on behalf of all New Yorkers,” NYSUT President Karen Magee said at Stavisky’s campaign headquarters.

“Her legislative service is distinguished by strong support for public schools, higher education and labor — a stellar record that earned her an early and enthusiastic endorsement by NYSUT.”

NYSUT is an umbrella organization for UFT and the Professional Staff Congress, which represents more than 140,000 teachers in New York City.

“As a former high school teacher who has seen city classrooms firsthand, I am honored to have received the endorsement of NYSUT, the UFT and PSC,” Stavisky said. “The future of New York City, and the future of Queens, depends on the education students receive today. I look forward to continuing my work to strengthen schools all across New York.”

Stavisky is facing a

primary challenge from S.J. Jung, a Flushing businessman and activist who is the former president of the MinKwon Center for Community Action. Jung, who has declined to criticize Stavisky, has contended District 16 needs new leadership to pass campaign finance reform, the Dream Act and other progressive pieces of legislation.

The challenger has not sought endorsement from the Independent Democratic Conference, a breakaway group of five Democrats who control the Senate with Republicans, according to a spokesman for Jung’s campaign.

Stavisky’s primary opponent from 2012, John Messer, announced last week he would not jump in this year’s primary for personal and business reasons.

“While I have struggled over this decision to postpone my personal political aspirations, my wife Wing Yee ‘Wendy’ Hui and I are committed to the community,” he said in a statement. “We will continue to serve the community and to support and encourage neighborhood programs and initiatives.”

Messer, an Oakland Gardens attorney currently working on renewable energy projects, ran in primary bids against Stavisky in 2010 and 2012.

The district, more than half Asian, includes parts of Flushing, Oakland Gardens, Elmhurst, Whitestone, Rego Park and Forest Hills.



State Sen. Toby Stavisky (r.) racks up union endorsements in her campaign against challenger S.J. Jung.

Concerts

Continued from Page 5

bors have also complained about noise and encounters with intoxicated concertgoers.

Saturday's show will help break in a new stage. The stadium was also slated to get new seats and have handrails installed and aisles widened before the concerts kick off.

Madison House Presents said it expected to hold six concerts at the stadium this summer. The remaining three performers have not yet been announced.



Hi-hop artist Drake is scheduled to perform at Forest Hills Stadium in August.
Donald Traill/Invision/AP

Rego Park

Continued from Page 34

specialists hired to develop the site, said the incoming three-tenant strip represented an important opportunity in the heart of Rego Park's retail district.

He could not confirm leases were in the works for

Starbucks and Retro Fitness.

But he said Winick is only looking for its third tenant for the building, which is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2015.

The vacancy encompasses about 8,095 square feet of ground floor space with a large all-glass frontage, according to Heicklen.

"There really is just a very large mix of tenants that could do it," Heicklen said.

He said the project would include 48 parking spaces.

Reach reporter Sarina Trangle at 718-260-4546 or by e-mail at strangle@cnglocal.com.

Laurelton

Continued from Page 22

Katz.

"Every community deserves great parks," Queens Parks Commissioner Dorothy Lewandowski said. "And every kid deserves a great playground."

The Laurelton West park is accessible for children of all ages and abili-

ties, Lewandowski pointed out. The playground has road markings along its safety surface, a spray shower in the shape of a street lamp and car-shaped equipment.

The new playground "will let children of all ages and all physical abilities rev up across ramps, past a street lamp-shaped spray shower and over a bridge," added the commissioner.

At Rockaway Beach,

another empty lot was transformed into a state-of-the-art playground.

Located in PS 183 on Beach 79th Street., the new park includes a section dedicated to the historical Rockaway Playland, an amusement park in the area that closed in 1985.

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

Playground

Continued from Page 32

The playground commemorates Mary Whalen, who served as vice chairwoman of Community Board 9, founded the Greater Woodhaven Development Corp. and participated in

several local organizations, according to the Parks Department.

Crowley and Parks solicited feedback on the plans at a meeting last week, but Lacayo said they hope to put the project out to bid by July.

The Parks Department said it anticipates construc-

tion starting next spring and for the work to last about a year.

The city does not plan to install a bathroom at the playground.

Reach reporter Sarina Trangle at 718-260-4546 or by e-mail at strangle@cnglocal.com.

Beer garden

Continued from Page 32

companies," Mason said.

"That's who they're targeting and I think it will actually open up a whole new stream of business for us at Studio Square."

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at bparry@cnglocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4538.

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Beach Channel wins PSAL B final game

BY PATRICK MCCORMACK

Everything Beach Channel had worked for all year appeared ready to fall out of reach in a heart-breaking defeat, but a game-saving throw by centerfielder Antonio Moccia gave senior Kely Aponte a second chance to fulfill the promise he made to his team.

Aponte went on to spark a ninth-inning rally to lead the 10th-seeded Dolphins to a 7-5 victory over No. 5 Bronx Science and earn the school its first PSAL Class B championship at Yankee Stadium June 12. Aponte had two RBIs and pitched six and two thirds innings. He had wanted to do whatever he could to complete the program's four-year rebuilding process.

"It's like a dream come true," Aponte said. "From the beginning of the season, I promised them I was going to take them to the championship, and take it all the way. That's what I did."

None of that would have been possible without Moccia's heroics in the seventh. They came after Bronx Science (17-4) rallied from two runs down to tie the score at 5-5 after a retreating Moccia had a

drive by Bronx Science's Daniel Bonfiglio bounce off his glove.

Wolverine third baseman Alex Grun tested Moccia again with the bases loaded when he lifted a ball to shallow center. But Moccia caught the ball and gunned down Bronx Science's Ben Kravitz at the plate.

"I saw the ball in the air. I got behind it," Moccia said. "I said, 'I have to get this kid out to save the game,' and I just threw it."

Beach Channel Coach John Mangieri has seen big plays all season from Moccia, who also made two diving catches in the championship contest.

"He is a tremendous centerfielder. He has done it all year long, but I was at the top of my step and I was definitely sweating it out," he said.

Beach Channel (17-2) scored two runs in the top of the ninth to secure the win. Aponte, who reached on a throwing error, came home on a bases-loaded walk to Sergio Galdamez, and the go-ahead run and an RBI double by David Polanco put the Dolphins up 7-5.

Sophomore Marvin Hernandez, who relieved Aponte for the final two

Continued on Page 53



Beach Channel players celebrate their victory during the PSAL B Division Baseball Championship. Photo by Robert Cole



Cardozo players give their coach, Ronald Gorecki, an ice bath at the conclusion of the PSAL Class A Division Championship.

Photo by Robert Cole

Judges crowned city champs

Rogers leads Cardozo to victory over Tottenville at Yankee Stadium

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Chants of "MVP" rang out through Yankee Stadium as Cardozo star Keith Rogers stood at the plate with the bases loaded and a chance to win his team a title.

Comfortable in the clutch moment, the senior proved every one of the hundreds of screaming Judges' fans correct at the PSAL Class A baseball final. He lined an RBI single to left field to bring home Noah Cabrera for what proved to be the winning run in the top of the seventh inning.

Rogers, who is the team's quiet leader, stayed calm and didn't overthink the moment, even after making outs in his previous two at-bats.

"I was just happy to be clutch," he said.

His composure and his performance were no different from what he's done throughout the sixth-seeded Judges' unexpected city title run, which culminated in a 3-1 victory over No. 4 Tottenville in the city championship in the Bronx June 12. Rogers, who was 11-0 on the mound this year, allowed just one run on two hits and struck out seven in six innings of work.

"He's the true MVP," fellow senior Jun Young Lim said.

Rogers, along with plenty of help from his teammates, powered the Judges to their first crown since 1988. They did so by beating No. 3 Telecommunications in the quarterfinals and coming back from a game down to best No. 2

George Washington in the semifinals. The title comes in the same year the school's basketball team won a city championship.

"Now I'm speechless and the feeling is unreal," senior centerfielder Chris Campbell said. "Our whole team worked hard for this. We said at the beginning of the year we were going to fight. We came through as the underdogs."

Cardozo (21-2) added an insurance run after Rogers' big hit, thanks to a throwing error by Tottenville catcher James Wise, to make it 3-1. Lim relieved Rogers for the bottom of the frame and didn't mess around. He struck out the side to end the game, then threw his glove high in the air in celebration.

"It's the best moment of my life," he said.

The Judges set a good tone early on in the game. Campbell delivered an RBI double over the head of Joseph Sadallah in right to give his team a 1-0 lead in the first inning. That held up until the sixth as Rogers allowed just three base runners over the first five frames. The Pirates (22-2) evened the score at 1-1 on a bloop single to left by Wise with two outs. Rogers forced a batter to pop up to left to avoid further damage.

The Judges then proceeded to load the bases with no outs against Tottenville starter Thomas Musso. Cardozo's Cabrera, who scored twice, and Jonathan Lane both walked and Robert Garcia got on base on an

Continued on Page 53

Related column
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Molloy falls to Xaverian in CHSAA final

Stanners lose to Clippers 5-3, 6-4 in two games during Catholic championship at St. John's University

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

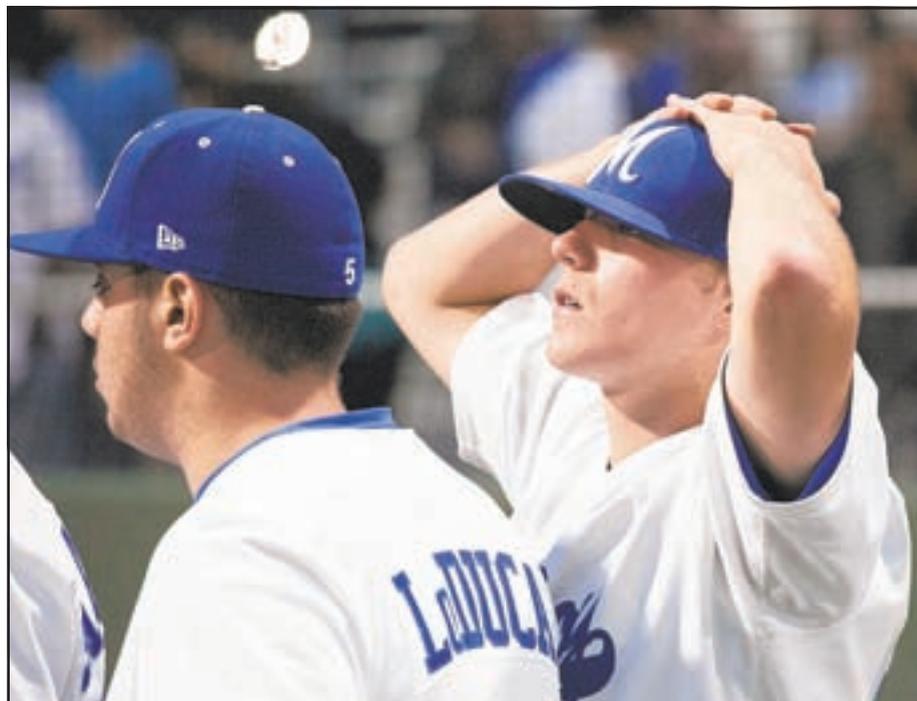
Archbishop Molloy was without the crisp play, clutch hitting and dominant starting pitching last week that the Stanners had brought to the field all season.

The second-seeded Stanners needed just one win to claim the city title, but lost twice to No. 5 Xaverian 5-3 and 6-4 in the finals of the CHSAA Class AA intersectional baseball tournament at St. John's Jack Kaiser Stadium June 11.

Ace Anthony Catinella wasn't as sharp as usual, and a big hit eluded the Stanners late in Game 1. An error-filled fifth inning doomed them in the second contest.

"We definitely didn't play up to what we had all year," third baseman Virgilio Jimenez said.

Despite dropping the



Molloy players react to their loss in the CHSAA championship to Xaverian. Photo by Ken Maldonado

first game, the Stanners were in control of the second through four innings.

Starting pitcher Scott Hannon was cruising and holding onto a 1-0 lead. He

hadn't allowed a hit and struck out six. He walked Xaverian's Brandon Torres

to start the fifth and didn't think anything of it after striking out Nick Meola for the first out.

What followed were three Molloy errors, three Xaverian hits and a sac fly that led to four Clippers runs. A clean frame would have gotten Hannon out of the inning without allowing a run. Xaverian scored twice more in the sixth to take a 6-1 lead.

"We just had one mistake after another and then it just all fell down," Hannon said.

The Stanners (18-5) began to rally in the bottom of the sixth against Xaverian starter Anthony Sigismondi. They got three straight hits from Nick Morici, Liam Slattery and Karl Klesin to make it 6-2 with no outs. An RBI ground out by Chris McGee and sac fly by Jimenez followed. Molloy had to settle for pulling within 6-4

before going down in order in the ninth.

"We didn't take advantage of the opportunities we had, like we have all season," Jimenez said. "That was one of the big differences in the game."

Similar to the second game, Molloy was in control early in the first contest. Klesin doubled and scored on a wild pitch to tie the score at 1-1 in the opening inning. Molloy's Logan Conroy, who had three hits in the game, delivered an RBI single in the second inning, and Dylan Lanigan lifted a sac fly to make it 3-1 Stanners in the second.

Xaverian answered right back against Catinella in the top of the fourth. Chris Nierva blasted a two-run homer to right and Phoenix Hernandez later scored on a pass ball. Xaverian (20-5) grabbed a

Continued on Page 53

City title fitting end to Mangieri's revival of Beach Channel



Joseph Staszewski
Block Shots

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

John Mangieri inherited a baseball program you could picture in one of those feel-good Disney movies. His story seemed to follow a Hollywood script through ups and down before coming to a happy ending at Yankee Stadium June 12.

The Beach Channel baseball team was coming off a five-win season in 2010 that forced the PSAL to drop them to the Class B division when the former Archbishop Molloy star and New York Mets pitch-

ing prospect Mangieri took over as coach. He said his kids were wearing jeans to the field and asking for gloves to try out.

"I said, 'Oh, my God. What did I get myself into?'" Mangieri said.

The task seemed monumental and the effects of Hurricane Sandy last season didn't make it any easier.

But four years later the Dolphins celebrated a 7-5 victory in nine innings over Bronx Science in the PSAL Class B city championship. The victory put Mangieri in a special class in the high school baseball community.

He also won a CHSAA Intersectional baseball title as a player under legendary Coach Jake Curran at Archbishop Molloy in 1994.

"It's pretty special," Mangieri said. "I don't



Pitcher Marvin Hernandez and catcher Joseph Calandra celebrate Beach Channel's victory. Photo by Robert Cole

know how many guys can say they won a city championship as a player on the Catholic side and to win a city championship as a coach on the public school side. It's pretty rewarding."

He achieved the feat by trusting his pedigree, embracing his players and asking for the same professionalism from them that he brought daily to the field. It just took all of

the kids some time to buy in, but senior captain Kely Aponte understood how Mangieri could transform the program.

"He did a lot," Aponte said. "From my first year, he's always been strict. He told the kids what to do. He always had them on point. He's a great coach."

This year's group of just 12 players, made up mostly of freshmen and sophomores, were able to follow their coach's instructions best of all. The results show that. Beach Channel had its best regular season as well, going 14-2. The limited and young roster was never used as a crutch, but became a badge of honor.

"What we kept hearing all year was, 'Oh, you only have 12 guys to coach,'" Mangieri said. "You only have 12 guys, but what I kept telling them was you

only need nine to play and these kids have been fearless from the beginning."

Play them all he did. Mangieri went out of his way to get each of his kids into the title game, despite holding just a two-run lead in the sixth inning. He never second-guessed it even after Bronx Science rallied to send the contest to extra innings.

"I did the right thing," Mangieri said. "I always try to do the right thing for these kids."

It's why they have played so hard for him. Real-life Hollywood endings aren't just written. They are the rewards reaped by those who deserve them.

"When I got there, I don't think [Beach Channel] was known much for baseball," Mangieri said. "I think that's slowly starting to change"

Bayside alums reunite for cancer research fund-raiser

BY PATRICK MCCORMACK

Bayside's softball season may have ended in a heartbreaking loss to Tottenville in the semifinal earlier this month, but the Commodores have learned from Coach Steve Piorkowski that life is about more than wins and losses.

So the Bayside softball community came together Saturday to support Piorkowski. Past and present Commodores raised \$2,342 for the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation by playing its first annual alumni games at the Bayside Athletic Complex. The money was raised through a raffle, a \$5 admission fee

and cash donations.

Piorowski, who was diagnosed with the disease in 2012 and has been fighting to keep it in remission, was thrilled with the success of the event.

"We got kids coming back who graduated in the year 2000 all the way to 2014," Piorkowski said.

The tournament was broken up into three different teams, 2000-04, 2005-09 and 2010-14. The three squads played hour-long games against each other for fun and bragging rights.

Mariel Perez, a 2008 alumnae, enjoyed coming back and interacting with her former teammates.



The Bayside softball alumna get together for a photo with umpires and Coach Steve Piorkowski (front l.) after playing to help raise money for cancer research.

Photo by Patrick McCormack

"It's been really nice seeing everyone years after, still capable of playing because it's for our coach," she said. "It is a really special thing. We are trying to support him."

Unlike her classmate, former star Nicole Marra didn't find returning to the sport after years off as easy,

but came back because of the impact Piorkowski made in her life.

"They say it is like riding a bike, but I don't think so," she said. "I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for him. I wouldn't have graduated high school. He did it all for me. It's given me a lot of skill, leadership and

taught me to take criticism a better way."

Present Bayside players also participated to support their coach. With help from Piorkowski, senior catcher Taylor Moy developed from a freshman into a key player on a semifinal team.

"He took a group of seven or eight freshmen and brought us to the semifinals," she said. "Our game was the best game against Tottenville."

The event highlighted the tight-knit community of Bayside softball players and alums that has flourished because of Piorkowski. And next year's game is already in the works with

the possibility of inviting Cardozo alumni.

The turnout and the day left Piorkowski searching for a way to express what the event meant to him.

"It is a wonderful reciprocal relationship that we have had," Piorkowski said. "They depend on me and I depend on them. The Bayside uniform means so much to the current players, and they will honor the success of the past and try hard to live up to what these young ladies have done. They found out I was sick, and we were going to do this and they came back to play. It's humbling."

PSAL

Continued from Page 51

outs of the seventh, shut Bronx Science down in the two extra frames to secure the nine-inning championship.

It appeared earlier in the game that Beach Channel was about to celebrate after it scored four times in

the fourth inning off Bronx Science starter Glen Price. Two bases-loaded walks, a two-run single by Aponte and a Moccia sac fly gave the Dolphins a 5-3 lead in the sixth.

The road to the title certainly hasn't been an easy one for Beach Channel. The Dolphins were knocked out in the first round of the playoffs during the last three seasons and

struggled after Hurricane Sandy ravaged the Rockaway Peninsula, where the school is located and many of the players live, in 2012. Beach Channel was also doubted because of the size of the team roster. It was hard for even Dolphins players to imagine winning the city title.

"I dreamed of it," Moccia said. "And it happened."

Molloy

Continued from Page 52

4-3 lead it would not relinquish after Molloy failed to score with the bases loaded in the fifth and sixth innings.

"We get a single — that's two to four runs possibly," Stanners Coach Brad Lyons said. "We didn't get it done."

His team still put together a stellar season, despite not securing the championship to cap it off. Molloy lost three Division I players who framed last year's squad, but this tight-knit senior group put the Stanners a win away from what would have been its first crown since 2002.

"I didn't even think

we would make it this far either," Hannon said. "We came together, played well, and we had great team chemistry. That's what helped us win a lot of games."



Molloy pitcher Anthony Catinella prepares to release the ball in the Stanners' first game.

Photo by Ken Maldonado

Lanigan helps CHSAA to Mayor's Cup win: Molloy's Dylan Lanigan was happy to aid his team in earning bragging rights over the PSAL with a 4-3 victory at the senior all-star game at the College of Staten Island Saturday.

Being credited for the winning RBI would have just been a bonus. The second baseman lifted a single to right in the top of the ninth, but CHSAA and Xavierian

Coach Frank Del George cautiously stopped Reynaldo Guillen at third base. He eventually scored when the relay throw got past the catcher.

"I'm just happy to get the hit, but yeah, you're always upset that you didn't get the RBI," Lanigan said. "It was the right move."

Judges

Continued from Page 51

error. Campbell popped up for the first out, but Rogers came through with the big hit in the big moment.

"This is an incredible athlete, and you'd never know he's even on the team,

that's how quiet he is," Cardozo Coach Ron Gorecki said.

His team, which had freshmen and sophomores playing major roles, made you take notice with what it accomplished on the field on the other hand. As others doubted if Cardozo had enough to beat some of the

city's best programs, the Judges kept winning until there was nothing left to prove.

"No one really expected us to make it this far," Rogers said. "I think it's unreal to be called the underdogs and then finally win a city championship after 26 years."

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

Week 1

Medium #1									
2	3	4	1	5	7	9	8	6	
1	9	5	2	6	8	4	3	7	
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6	4	9	7	3	2	8	1	5	
9	5	7	3	4	1	6	2	8	
4	1	3	8	2	6	5	7	9	
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Trial

Continued from Page 1

wrangling over recorded conversations and text messages in Yiddish. Court documents show defense attorneys claim they discovered midway through the trial that prosecutors had not handed over roughly 1,900 text messages and 1,261 hours of phone calls, about a third of which were in Yiddish, captured on a wiretap of a cooperating witness' phone.

Defense attorneys contended the recordings of Moses Stern, a once-prominent upstate Orthodox Jewish leader who agreed to cooperate with the government after pleading guilty to unspecified charges, may bolster entrapment defenses.

Tabone's attorneys filed a court document arguing prior access to the recordings would have changed their opening statement and defense theory.

Prosecutors noted in court documents that they did not believe the recordings in question were relevant to the case because most pertained to unrelated investigations of more than 30 people, some of which were ongoing.

Halloran's attorney, however, did not seek a mistrial. His case will proceed June 25, according to Herb Hadad, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in White Plains.



State Sen. Malcolm Smith (l.) and former Queens GOP official Vincent Tabone are slated to go on trial again in January after the judge declared a mistrial.

Court documents indicate a second trial threatened to bankrupt Halloran and that the \$1,500 cost of translating a call between Stern and the Jewish leader who introduced him to Halloran had taxed the former councilman.

Hadad said the same jurors will remain on Halloran's trial, which is expected to be briefer now that the ex-legislator is the only defendant.

Prior filings show Queens Republican Party Chairman Phil Ragusa, a Whitestone resident, will likely testify.

Prosecutors noted in a document submitted June 10 that Tabone attempted to silence Ragusa and accused him of witness tampering.

Kim Cody, president of the Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association, also said he expected to be subpoenaed to testify about a tangential plot in which Halloran allegedly schemed to use discretionary city money to bribe his way into receiving cam-

paign donations.

The new trial of Smith and Tabone is slated for January, according to Hadad.

This puts proceedings past the southeast Queens lawmakers' upcoming Democratic primary.

One of his opponents, Deputy Borough President Leroy Comrie, said discussions about the mistrial show Smith cannot function as a legislator.

"It's unfortunate that the business of the people in the 14th Senatorial District are not being served as Mr. Smith has to focus on these allegations," Comrie said in a statement.

Another challenger, Clyde Vanel, said he welcomed the debate he anticipated would emerge after the mistrial.

Smith's campaign did not immediately return a call for comment.

Reach reporter Sarina Trangle at 718-260-4546 or by e-mail at strangle@cn-glocal.com.

be entered into a registry of vacant properties overseen by the state attorney general.

It was unclear whether the legislation would be taken up before the state legislative session concluded June 19.

The assemblyman pointed to notices on the front door of the property and said a pending city bill would give the city Departments of Buildings and Housing jurisdiction to enter into structures where Sandy repairs have gone neglected, complete necessary work and bill the owner.

Finally, Goldfeder

said he was awaiting a response from NYPD Commissioner William Bratton after e-mailing him to suggest he start a registry of abandoned properties and dispatch officers to periodically examine them.

"In Howard Beach, in Ozone Park, we have seen a proliferation of houses that are now being squatted in and becoming a den for criminal activity," he said. "We've got to put an end to it before it starts."

Reach reporter Sarina Trangle at 718-260-4546 or by e-mail at strangle@cn-glocal.com.

St. Albans

Continued from Page 2

"This is a big issue for us."

Neighbors pointed out that Farmers Boulevard "is constantly congested" due, in part, to new businesses, making the current traffic conditions "hazardous to pedestrians."

Community Board 12 approved the project in November by a 19-9 margin with eight abstentions.

The board's approval is non-binding "because it's not up to the community boards" to allow new constructions, said Johnson, who has lived in the neighborhood for more than 50 years.

It is up to the city Board of Standards and Appeals to approve the zoning variances the church needs to build the affordable hous-

ing project.

The public hearing is scheduled for June 24.

The church did not respond to a request for comment.

Elected officials hope the St. Albans Presbyterian Church and the community can reach a compromise.

"I supported the project because of my respect for Rev. [Edward] Davis," said state Assemblyman William Scarborough (D-Jamaica). "But if the community opposes it, they should sit down and work out some sort of agreement," the lawmaker added. "But I do think that the project is too large for the area."

But residents complained that the church "tried to get the project approved without letting us know," said Johnson. "The church tried to bypass the community."

She explained that the residents found out about the proposed construction of the five-story building only at a community board meeting.

"Our community is not for sale," Johnson said. "We are just asking that the building stays within the actual zoning guidelines."

Johnson and several community members will testify at the June 24 hearing. Just days before, on June 21, the association is planning a noon rally to express its opposition to the building.

"We'll be at the hearing voicing our concerns," Johnson said. "If the project is approved, it sets up a precedent. It opens a flood-gate."

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cn-glocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

Scholarship

Continued from Page 5

to financially support a person going to college and help the environment at the same time."

Although the ultimate plan is to raise as much as \$100,000, a more modest goal will be to collect as much as \$7,000 before the end of fiscal year 2014.

The Recycle for Education program, as a redemption center, will get 3.5 cents for every bottle or plastic bottle they turn in under the 1982 New York State Bottle Bill.

People who bring cans and bottles into the Recycle for Education Center, at 200-07 Murdock Ave. in St. Albans, can either get paid 5 cents per can or donate the containers for the program.

Amoa pointed out that New Yorkers threw away more than \$110 million of 5-cent plastic bottles and

cans in the last year, according to the state Department of Taxation and Finance.

"There is an incredible amount ... [of] funding on unclaimed bottles and cans," the chemistry professor said.

State Assemblyman William Scarborough (D-Jamaica) supports the idea because it helps young people and it keeps the environment clean.

"It is a shame that so much money is being unclaimed," said Scarborough. "It is an excellent idea, and we must get the word out about this wonderful program."

Last Saturday, Scarborough, Amoa, community leaders and kids held an event at Roy Wilkins Park to kick off the initiative.

"I want to see this initiative succeed," the assemblyman added.

The promoters for Recycle for Education are close to working out a deal with the rental car compa-

ny Enterprise to have the business collect cans and bottles at its 26 offices in the region.

"We are trying to set up a pickup schedule," the chemistry professor said. "This way he bottles and cans they collect when they clean up their cars will go towards the scholarship program."

The idea of providing tuition assistance for C-average high school seniors evolved, Amoa said, because there are "plenty of funding opportunities" for A and B students.

But the C-average is just a start. Students will have to hit the books harder than in high school.

"The students have to show improvements after every semester in college," he said. "This way hey begin with a C and they end up with an A."

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cn-glocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

Sandy

Continued from Page 9

scription on the peninsula after Sandy led to the so-called "Rockaway cough."

When asked about property upkeep, the bank said in an e-mail that "HSBC is working to resolve the matter."

Goldfeder said the inaction in Neponsit underscored the importance of state legislation requiring remediation work to begin after three months of missed mortgage payments. Under the measure, such properties would also

Bombing

Continued from Page 22

cocktail at the Van Wyck Expressway mosque.

Lengend is also facing federal charges for hate-crime and arson in relation to the firebombings.

He is due back in court in September, the spokeswoman at the DA's office

said.

Reach reporter Juan Soto by e-mail at jsoto@cn-glocal.com or by phone at 718-260-4564.

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF QUEENS

INDEX # 21398/11 FILED: 03/04/2014
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE

Plaintiff designates QUEENS County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgage premise is situated. DB50 2007-1 TRUST, Plaintiff against Unknown heirs at law of Rosa Arboleda, and if they be dead, any and all persons unknown to the plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or generally or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees, all of them whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to the plaintiff; Opteum Financial Services, LLC, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., City of New York Environmental Control Board, The People of the State of New York, and "JOHN DOE #1," through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises being foreclosed herein, Defendant(s)

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: 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 ATTORNEYS FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN 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 PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. 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 serviced with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's attorney 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); The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action, may appear within (60) days of service thereof 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 captioned action is to foreclose on a mortgage to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as nominee for Opteum Financial Services, LLC., which was recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County of QUEENS where the property is located on July 19, 2006, in Liber/Reel/Book/Instrument/CRFN 2006000410665. Said mortgage was then assigned to GMAC Mortgage, LLC. on July 11, 2007 and the Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County of QUEENS where the property is located on August 22, 2007, in Liber/Reel/Book/Instrument/CRFN 2007000435930. Said mortgage was further assigned to HIH No.1, LLC, on November 14, 2008, and recorded in the Queens County Clerk's Office on November 25, 2008, in CRFN 2008000454460. Said mortgage was further assigned to Plaintiff, on December 2, 2010; and the Assignment of Mortgage was recorded in the Clerk's Office where the property is located on January 28, 2011 in CRFN 2011000033783, covering premises known as 167-01 116th Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11434 (Block: 12342 Lot: 147). The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt described above. To the above named Defendants: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Hon. Thomas D. Raffaele, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated February 4, 2014, and filed along with the supporting papers in the office of the Clerk of the County of Queens on March 4, 2014. This is an action to foreclose on a mortgage. ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York. BLOCK: 12342 LOT: 147 said premises known as 167-01 116th Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11434. YOU ARE HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. By reason of the default in the payment of the monthly installment of principal and interest, among other things, as hereinafter set forth, Plaintiff, the holder and owner of the aforementioned note and mortgage, or their agents have elected and hereby accelerate the mortgage and declare the entire mortgage indebtedness immediately due and payable. The following amounts are now due and owing on said mortgage, no part of any of which has been paid although duly demanded: Entire principal Balance in the amount of \$412,000.00 with interest from July 1, 2006 at the rate of 6.500%. UNLESS YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THE DEBT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER YOUR RECEIPT HEREOF THAT THE DEBT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, IS DISPUTED, THE DEBTOR JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU AND A COPY OF SUCH VERIFICATION OR JUDGMENT WILL BE MAILED TO YOU BY THE HEREIN DEBT COLLECTOR. IF APPLICABLE, UPON YOUR WRITTEN REQUEST, WITHIN SAID THIRTY (30) DAY PERIOD, THE HEREIN DEBT COLLECTOR WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE FROM THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT, YOU ARE NOT PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR THE UNDERLYING INDEBTEDNESS OWED TO PLAINTIFF/CREDITOR AND THIS NOTICE/DISCLOSURE IS FOR COMPLIANCE AND INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE New York State requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT You are in danger of losing your home. If you fail to respond to the summons and complaint in this foreclosure action, you may lose your home. Please read the summons and complaint carefully. You should immediately contact an attorney or your local legal aid office to obtain advice on how to protect yourself. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid, there are government agencies, and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by New York state Banking Department at 1-877-Bank-NYS or visit the Department's website at www.banking.state.ny.us FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services. Section 1303 NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving the copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company 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 protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING AN ANSWER WITH THE COURT. SHELDON MAY & ASSOCIATES, Attorneys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 Our File #22384

► LEGAL

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on May 20, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000317-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin

► LEGAL

Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) MARIAN (Middle) ARAINA (Last) PETERSON. My present name is (First) MARIAN (Middle) ARRINA (Last) PETERSON AKA MARIAN TOM-

► LEGAL

LIN AKA MARIAN A PETERSON AKA MARIAN ARINA PETERSON. My present address is 216-29TH 114TH ROAD, Cambria Heights, NY

► LEGAL

11411-. My place of birth is WASHINGTON DC. My date of birth is January 29, 1969.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on May 06, 2014,

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bearing Index Number NC-000213-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Lindlon (Last) Terrell. My present name is (First) Lendon (Last) Terrell AKA Lindlon Terrell, AKA Lendino Terrell. My present address is 88-35 164th Street, Apt #5B, Jamaica, NY 11432-4056. My place of birth is Alabama. My date of birth is March 29, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on June 09, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000355-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) LIAH (Last) RAGHOONANAN. My present name is (First) ARIEL (Last) RAGHOONANAN (infant). My present address is 107-12 178th Street, Jamaica, NY 11433-1440. My place of birth is QUEENS, NY. My date of birth is July 02, 2013

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on June 09, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000371-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Jonny (Middle) Valentino (Last) Shilin. My present name is (First) Jonny (Middle) Valentine (Last) Shilin-Rodriguez (infant). My present address is 65-141 66th St, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365. My place of birth is Queens, NY. My date of birth is October 26, 2013.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on May 20, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000307-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) JUNIOR (Middle) HOGARTH (Last) PIERRE. My present name is (First) JUNIOR (Last) PIERRE. My present address is 11045 174th STREET, Jamaica, NY 11433-. My place of birth is HAITI. My date of birth is June 06, 1964

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on April 28, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000178-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) SHAI DAH (Middle) JAMAILAH (Last)

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SMITH. My present name is (First) SAIDA (Middle) JAMILA (Last) SMITH AKA SHAI DAH SMITH. My present address is 106-28 RUSCOE ST, Jamaica, NY 11433-. My place of birth is QUEENS, NY. My date of birth is October 29, 1980.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on May 21, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000341-14/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) WAYNE (Middle) EUGENE (Last) TEMPLE. My present name is (First) WAYNE (Middle) EUGENE (Last) TEMPLES AKA WAYNE EUGENE TEMPLE, AKA WAYNE E TEMPLE, AKA WAYNE TEMPLE. My present address is 172-24 133RD AVE, Jamaica, NY 11434-. My place of birth is MANHATTAN, NY. My date of birth is July 13, 1959.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on June 04, 2014, bearing Index Number NC-000369-14, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) SHAWN (Last) CARRIE. My present name is (First) SHAWN (Middle) BERNARD (Last) SCHADER AKA SHAWN B SCHRADER. My present address is 190-06 112TH AVE, Saint Albans, NY 11412-. My place of birth is QUEENS, NY. My date of birth is April 04, 1989.

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: QUEENS COUNTY, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUSTEE FOR CSMC TRUST 2011-3, Pltf. vs. JAIME PESANTEZ, et al, Defts. Index #703262/12. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale dated Nov. 1, 2013, I will sell at public auction in Courtroom #25 on July 25, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Queens County General Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY prem. k/a prem. k/a 106-19 95th St., Ozone Park, NY. Said property located on the easterly side of 95th St., formerly Hopkinton Ave. or Chester Ave. distant 150 ft. southerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the easterly side of 95th St. with the southerly side of Liberty Ave., being a plot 82 ft. x 25 ft. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$443,777.29 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. DOMINICK CALDERONI, Referee. COHN & ROTH, Attys. For Pltf., 100 Quentin Roosevelt Blvd., Garden City, NY. #84320

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS HSBC BANK

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USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST SERIES ACE 2006-HE1, Plaintiff, against MANUEL MOLINA, et al., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 2/5/2014 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Courthouse in Courtroom #25, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York on 06/27/2014 at 10:00AM, premises known as 107-61 117TH STREET, Richmond Hill, NY 11419 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 9597, LOT 51. Approximate amount of judgment \$782,258.88 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 1736/08. Dennis S. Cappello, Esq., Referee Gross, Polowy & Orlans, Attorney for Plaintiff, P.O. Box 540, Getzville, NY 14068 Dated: May 12, 2014 1093522

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS EVERBANK, Plaintiff -against- **JOAN C. DAVIDSON A/K/A JOAN DAIVSON, PAUL A. DAVIDSON A/K/A PAUL DAVIDSON, ET AL., Defendant(s)** Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly dated.....MARCH 26, 2014 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction AT QUEENS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 88-11 SUTPHIN BOULEVARD, JAMAICA, NEW YORK, IN COURTROOM #25 on July 18, 2014 at 10:00 AM premises known as 210-30 113TH AVENUE, QUEENS VILLAGE, NY 11429.

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 11132 Lot 27 Approximate amount of lien \$167,832.90 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index # 11-25061 DAVID LOUIS COHEN, ESQ., REFEREE STEIN, WIENER AND ROTH, L.L.P., ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF ONE OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 113 CARLE PLACE, NY 11514 DATED:..... June 13, 2014 FILE #:... FEHM 55709

Queens County. KONDAUR CAPITAL CORPORATION v. JEANNETTE C ALVEAR; HAROLD L CEDENO; if living, or if either or all be dead, their wives, husbands, heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or

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through said HAROLD L. CEDENO, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and the respective husbands, wives, widow or widowers or them, if any, all whose names are unknown to plaintiff; ADVANTAGE ASSETS II, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. as NOMINEE FOR WMC MORTGAGE CORP.; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC. Index No. 27646/2010 Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 19, 2013, Referee Jason Vishnick will sell the premises known as 90-42 Pitkin Avenue, Ozone Park, NY at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse in Room 25 at 88-11 Sutphin Blvd, Jamaica, NY 11435, on July 11, 2014 at 10:00AM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of new York known as Block 11406 , Lot 18, will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment Index #27646/2010. The approximate amount of judgment is \$531,700.52 plus interest and costs. PULVERS, PULVERS & THOMPSON, LLP 110 East 59th St, New York, NY 10022, Attorneys for Plaintiff

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS M&T BANK, Plaintiff against **ESPERANZA ESPINAL, et al Defendant(s).** Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on February 25, 2014. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County General Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Court Room # 25, Jamaica, N.Y. on the 11th day of July, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Said premises known as 223-45 113th Drive, Queens Village, N.Y. 11429. Tax account number: SBL #: 11241-25. Approximate amount of lien \$ 315,027.24 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 10637-10. Jason B. Steinberg, Esq., Referee. McCabe Weisberg & Conway Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street - Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE: Index No. 2088-2014 Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Queens: Estate of Marguerite Guiller, by Administrators, Carole Anne Lesnard and Carmen Chabot Harker, Plaintiffs, against

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Jeffrey Darling, Anthony Burrison, 172 Covert, LLC, Yaron Zarka, Enterprise Title Agency, Inc, Joseph S. DeGaetano, Esq., First American Title Insurance Company, Roshida McLeod, John Doe #1 acting as Pierre Guiller, John Doe #2 acting as Josua Crossland, Khalid Omair Abbasi, Esq, John Doe #3 and John Doe #4, Defendants. **To the above named Defendants John Doe #1 acting as Pierre Guiller, John Doe #2 acting as Josua Crossland: 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 attorneys within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the state, or, within 30 days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner. 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 TO DEFENDANTS John Doe #1 acting as Pierre Guiller, John Doe #2 acting as Josua Crossland - the relief sought in this action is to "quiet title" by obtaining a judicial order voiding deeds of August 1, 2001, and December 11, 2013, that are alleged to be fraudulent that affect the title to possession of and the use or enjoyment of real property located at 114-04 144th Street, Queens, NY 11436, a/k/a Block 11973, Lot 116. This SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS and NOTICE is served by publication pursuant to Order of HON. VALERIE BRATHWAITE NELSON, J.S.C., dated May 19, 2014. SLAVIN & SLAVIN, ESQS. Attorneys for Plaintiff 450 7th Ave, #3300 NY NY 10123-3300 (646) 233-0656**

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