

## Council passes reforms of old nuisance laws

BY PATRICK DONACHIE

The New York City Council voted to significantly reform the city's Nuisance Abatement Law Wednesday, amending legislation that enabled the city to shut down residences and commercial establishments deemed "nuisances."

"It's become obvious that the city is too loose with the nuisance abatement law in some cases, locking people out of their homes before being found guilty and doing warrantless searches," Councilman Donovan Richards (D-Arverne) said. "The NYPD can also act too slowly, which can lead to businesses or residences being shut down months after the matter has been resolved."

The Nuisance Abatement Law was passed in 1977 by the Council as a tool for the NYPD to combat prostitution and unsavory establishments in Times Square, and has since been expanded to include locations where drugs are alleged to be sold or alcohol allegedly sold to minors. According to the Council, these practices suffered from lax oversight and have disproportionately affected communities of color.

The Council said the NYPD  
*Continued on Page 40*

# ICE raids spread fear in boro

## Van Bramer speaks of immigrant scam pulled in Woodside

BY BILL PARRY

Deportation raids across the country by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents have caused high anxiety up and down Roosevelt Avenue despite only one arrest in Elmhurst. Unfounded rumors of checkpoints and sweeps have fueled the fears in Queens' immigrant communities and state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman issued an urgent fraud alert about ICE scams Wednesday after an incident in Woodside Monday afternoon.

"It is unconscionable for scam artists to prey on heightened fear in our immigrant communities by pretending to be ICE officers and demanding that families pay up in order to avoid deportation," Schneiderman said. "I urge communities to protect themselves by learning about these potential scams — and contacting my office if they suspect fraud."

The alert was issued after City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer (D-Sunnyside) held a rally with city officials and immigrant organizations Tuesday at 65th Street and Roosevelt Avenue where a Hispanic man was approached by four individuals

*Continued on Page 40*



In New York, Martires Molvan-Figueuro, 54, awaits a charter flight that will take him back to the Dominican Republic, where he is wanted on murder charges. His arrest was part of a controversial series of immigration raids that netted more than 40 people in the five boroughs.

Photo courtesy of ICE / Michael Johnson

A CNG Publication Vol. 5 No. 7

52 total pages

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# Hotel used as shelter

Ozone Park Comfort Inn has housed 50 families

BY GINA MARTINEZ

Area lawmakers and community members were shocked to learn that an Ozone Park hotel has been used as a homeless shelter for months without any notification from the city.

Around 50 homeless families have been housed in the Comfort Inn at 137-30 Redding St. since October. The hotel is one block away from Robert H. Goddard Junior High School 202.

The Department of Homeless Services confirmed that the city had placed homeless families at the hotel.

"We are currently using some rooms in this location to shelter homeless families with children who would otherwise be turned out onto the street," said agency spokeswoman Lauren Gray. "We are using hotels as a bridge to shelter homeless New Yorkers while we work to increase shelter capacity citywide."

In a joint statement, City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park), state Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-Rockaway Park) and state Sen. Joe Addabbo Jr. (D-Howard Beach) scolded the mayor's office for not notifying the community.

"Mayor de Blasio's failed policy of housing homeless families in hotels is simply unacceptable," they said. "These types of shelters are not cost-effective and do not offer any real services that actually help homeless families get back on their feet. To add insult to injury, the administration did not notify any of the elected officials in the area that 50 families are being housed at the Comfort



The city never informed Ozone Park lawmakers or the community that it was housing homeless families in the Comfort Inn above.

Google Earth

Inn in Ozone Park. We will work closely with the 106th Precinct to protect the quality of life for all those who live in the vicinity of the hotel."

Queens has been the epicenter of the homeless shelter controversy, beginning back in October when word got out that the city planned to house 220 families in a Maspeth Holiday Inn Express without consulting residents. Several town hall meetings drew overflow crowds and residents protested through the night, even going so far as to picket outside the Brooklyn home of Department of Homeless Services Commissioner Steven Banks.

In November, Ozone Park residents had a rowdy town hall meeting where residents protested a proposed 100-32 Atlantic Ave. transitional home 250 feet away from the

High School for Construction, Trades, Engineering and Architecture. Attendees argued that the quality of life in the neighborhood would drop and the homeless threatened the safety of the students.

There have been some reports of drug use and garbage around the hotel in Ozone Park, but Maria Lopez lives a block away from the Comfort Inn and said she has not noticed any disruptions.

"I always pass by and everything is quiet and nice," she said. "I haven't noticed anything. It's a quiet neighborhood. If there are homeless people living there, it doesn't bother me at all."

Reach Gina Martinez by e-mail at [gmartinez@cnglocal.com](mailto:gmartinez@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4566.

# Students advocate for less tobacco use

BY PATRICK DONACHIE

A number of student advocates from southeast Queens traveled to Albany last week to encourage legislators to do more to discourage smoking among New York City residents, particularly teenagers.

Hakim Evans, a student at the Preparatory Academy for Writers in Jamaica and a member of Reality Check Queens, said student groups from throughout the state met with their respective representatives Feb. 7.

"I think it's something I give my time to because in New York City it's very easy to be affected by tobacco users," Evans said about his activism. "I think a lot of people are affected and don't realize it."

Evans and the rest of his group met with state Assemblywomen Alicia Hyndman (D-Springfield Gardens) and Vivian Cook (D-Jamaica), as well as representatives for numerous other lawmakers.

Reality Check is the student engagement arm of NYC Smoke-Free, which aims to inform representatives on how to continue to drive down tobacco use among communities.

Though tobacco use has decreased, higher rates of smoking continue to persist among individuals with less than a high school education, with an income less than \$25,000 per year and with individuals with mental health issues, according to Vanessa Yvon, the Queens student engagement coordinator for NYC Smoke-Free.

"Although we have made great strides in fight-

ing against the tobacco epidemic, more work needs to be done within our local communities to reduce smoking rates and tobacco-related issues that have plagued our disparate populations," she said.

Evans said he hoped there was a way to limit the number of tobacco outlets in the community.

In Jamaica, he said, almost every corner has a deli, with each store supplying tobacco, making it easy for community members and teenagers to find tobacco.

He said "tobacco proliferation" could have dire health consequences for individuals in the neighborhood, including increased rates of asthma and bronchitis from secondhand smoke.

Evans said he saw a positive response from the legislators they spoke to, and the group was looking forward to partnering with the American Cancer Society to focus on the fight against Big Tobacco during the annual "Kick Butts Day," which will be in March.

He also hoped elected officials would push for more students in their district to become politically engaged.

"I would love for everyone to advocate for any cause they have, which would help with self-esteem issues," he said. "A lot of teens or young adults go through that."

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# Vaughn College ranked No. 1 in upward mobility

## Flushing-based aviation school helps poor students achieve economic success

BY GINA MARTINEZ

A Flushing-based aviation college topped the list of colleges across the country that help move students from poverty to prosperity.

A new study from the Equality of Opportunity called "Mobility Report Cards: The role of Colleges in Intergenerational Mobility" studied economic development among students in over 2,000 colleges across the country. Vaughn College in Flushing ranked No. 1 in upward mobility for students.

The college specializes in aviation and engineering and offers associate and bachelor's degrees in Aviation, Management, Engineering and Engineering Technology. Vaughn also offers a master's degree in Airport Management.

The school is located directly across LaGuardia Airport and has many industry connections, according to Maureen Kiggins, director of public affairs at Vaughn College. Kiggins said

most students who graduate go into management or maintenance at the different airports in the area, including JFK and Newark.

The school credits a lot of its success to its student faculty ratio which is 14-to-1. Much of the faculty is made up of experts in their fields or are still currently working, which Kiggins said helps the school stay current and keep up with specific industry needs and deliver what students need to be employable.

The study was conducted by using millions of parental financial aid and tax filing records to track students from nearly every college in the country who were born between 1980 and 1991. The study then compared the students' incomes after leaving college to how much their parents earned when the children started college.

According to the study, the median family income of a student from Vaughn College is \$31,600, and 8.9 percent of students come from the top 20



Vaughn College was ranked number one in upward mobility in a new study.  
Courtesy of Vaughn College

percent. About 16 percent of students at Vaughn College came from a poor family but became a rich adult. The median income for a former Vaughn College student at age 34 is \$53,000, according to the study.

The study was conducted by using millions of parental financial aid and tax filing records to track students from nearly every college in the country who were born between 1980 and

1991. The study then compared the students' incomes after leaving college to how much their parents earned when the children started college.

Kiggins said the school's top ranking reflects its mission for students.

"It's very exciting because that ranking plays to our vision," she said. "We have always taken many students from diverse backgrounds and who

come from lower-income homes and raised them to a higher level. When the study came out and we were No 1, it just reinforced our mission, which is to make a transformational experience for our students."

The college is proud to be able to help transform students' lives.

"This was an independent study so we didn't know it was going on," Kiggins said. "We're thrilled to be ranked as high as we were. I really do think we were successful because it's a small institution and everyone is really focused on students. We don't just affect the student's life, we affect the entire family when they succeed later in life after graduation."

Vaughn College was not the only Queens-based college to make the list, Queens College and six other CUNY schools made the top 20 for colleges that help move poor students flourish economically, according to the study.

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# Avella calls for roundtable facilitator

Bayside lawmaker angling to resolve airplane noise issue in northeast Queens

BY MARK HALLUM

State Sen. Tony Avella (D-Bayside) has called on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to hire a permanent roundtable facilitator to resolve the issue of airplane noise over northeast Queens following the agency's announcement it would have someone temporarily fill the position.

A facilitator would oversee the day-to-day operations of the roundtable, manage meetings and carry out decisions made by the group.

Avella told a news conference at his offices last Friday that a December meeting was postponed because the facilitator appointed for that meeting was deemed unacceptable on account of possible conflicts of interest.

Avella described the delay in appointing a facilitator a "stall tactic" to avoid providing the roundtable with leadership needed to create compromise on the issue of airplane noise.

"Here we are several years



State Sen. Tony Avella and advocates for reducing airplane noise voiced disapproval for Port Authority's delay in appointing a full-time roundtable facilitator.

Photo by Mark Hallum

later. We still don't have by-laws," Avella said. "This person happens to be a former employee of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey... Also, he is currently a

lobbyist."

Queens Quiet Skies President Janet McEneaney was not at the conference, but delivered a written statement through the organization and

Community Board 11 member Henry Euler.

"In April 2015, Queens Quiet Skies proposed to the Port Authority that they hire a consultant for 6 months to

work as a roundtable facilitator to help us create a real roundtable," McEneaney said. "We proposed someone with 25 years of experience as the roundtable facilitator at San Francisco. Since then, he has worked around the country to create roundtables in areas where groups did not get along. He was willing to take on the challenge. The Port Authority had no interest."

Avella said on Feb. 15 he would be boycotting the roundtable meeting scheduled for that night calling it a farce without a proper facilitator in place.

"The Port Authority is attempting to cripple this Roundtable with their refusal to hire a full-time facilitator that would help the Roundtable run as efficiently as possible. I cannot support or respect any decisions that may come from this meeting as they are a clear attempt by the Port Authority to undermine the community's wishes," Avella said.

A Freedom of Information  
*Continued on Page 32*

## De Blasio's State of the City focuses on affordability crisis

BY BILL PARRY

From the start of his State of the City address at Harlem's Apollo Theater Monday, Mayor Bill de Blasio promised it would not include the "bells and whistles" of years past, with expensive project proposals such as developing the Sunnyside Yards or building a street car connecting Queens with Brooklyn. Instead the mayor concentrated on the city's affordable housing crisis.

"This affordability crisis threatens who we are, threatens the very soul of this city," de Blasio said. "I say to any New Yorker who is struggling to pay the bills, anyone fighting to stay in their own neighborhood, anyone who is just starting their retirement and are



Mayor Bill de Blasio finishes off his State of the City address with a rousing salute to the heroes: police officers, firefighters and sanitation workers who acted heroically this past year.

Courtesy Mayor's office not sure if they are going to have enough to keep going, I say again, very simply, this is your city, and we are here for you."

The mayor said he was proud to have the biggest affordable housing plan in the history of the city, but said job creation "will be the new front line in the battle to keep New York City affordable." He said from 1990 to 2014 the average rent in New York City increased 22 percent, while real wages went up only one percent.

"That's why people are struggling," de Blasio said. "And we have to respond to that kind of profound crisis with even stronger solutions. We have to drive up incomes, and that means actually helping people get the kinds of jobs that allow you to afford to live in New York City."

The mayor announced a new effort to create 100,000  
*Continued on Page 32*

## High school grad rates increase in borough

BY PATRICK DONACHIE

High school graduation rates in Queens increased and dropout rates declined during the past school year, matching citywide trends, according to city statistics, but state authorities cited worsening trends for English Language Learners in the city.

The Queens graduation rate increased from 73.3 to 75.5 percent — beating the citywide rate of 72.6 percent, which was an all-time high — while the dropout rate dropped 0.2 percent, from 7.9 percent to 7.7, out of a total cohort of 19,398 students.

"Our record-high graduation and the record-low dropout rates are a testament to the hard work of our students, their families, and our educators," said Schools

Chancellor Carmen Fariña. "Our focus has always been on the work going on in every classroom, and that's where it's going to stay."

Hispanic and black students in the city both saw a graduation rate increase of more than 2.5 percent, and across all demographics the dropout rate either decreased or stayed the same. The city also announced a 4.8 percent increase in graduation rates in the city's 31 Renewal high schools, up to 59.3 percent. However, critics caution that graduation rates do not necessarily indicate college readiness for students.

New York State also released high school graduation rates Feb. 10, announcing a rise in the statewide graduation rate to 79.4 percent for its 2016 graduating  
*Continued on Page 32*



# Peralta tossed out of Democratic club

## State senator heavily criticized for joining Independent Democratic Conference

BY BILL PARRY

State Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst) has withstood a firestorm of criticism for more than four weeks since he announced he was joining the Independent Democratic Conference last month. His defection from the Senate's mainline Democrats led to chants of "traitor" during a town hall meeting in Jackson Heights that drew hundreds and last week U.S. Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-Jackson Heights), the chairman of the Queens Democratic Party, said he was disappointed in Peralta's "decision to undermine our party and empower the Republican caucus."

In explaining his decision to hold the town hall meeting, Peralta was critical of the Democratic leadership in the Senate, saying, "I wanted to let my constituents know about the failures of the minority Democratic Conference, a conference I left because I disagree with their objectives of bad mouthing and cannibalizing other Democrats that did not agree with them."



State Sen. Michael Gianaris (l) is extremely disappointed in state Sen. Jose Peralta's defection to the Independent Democratic Conference.

Peralta also said the leadership lacked a legislative plan and did not have a strategy to regain the majority. State Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria), the deputy Democratic Con-

ference leader, fired back this week.

"I am extremely disappointed in Senator Peralta's decision to partner with the Senate Republican, who are New York's

biggest supporters of President Trump and his backward agenda," Gianaris said. "Now is the time for Democrats to stick together and unite in resistance to the Trump agenda that is en-

Photo by Bill Parry

dangering our nation's values."

Peralta was also tossed out of his own Democratic club. Twenty-six board members of the New Visions Democratic Club, which represents Jackson Heights, Elmhurst and Corona, voted unanimously to oust Peralta.

"The New Visions Democratic Club has taken the position that state Sen. Jose Peralta should return to the Democratic Conference immediately," President Shekar Krishnan said. "We will welcome him back into the club when he does."

The 400-plus members of the New Visions Democratic Club were flummoxed by Peralta's defection because at a Jan. 14 meeting, Peralta was highly critical of the IDC.

"It was quite surprising when he announced he would join because just weeks before he railed against the IDC," board member Rhoda Dunn said. "It wasn't positive, let's put it that way."

Another board member, Victoria Steinberg, said his de-

*Continued on Page 40*

## Shia LeBeouf knocks MOMI for closing anti-Trump exhibit

BY GINA MARTINEZ

Actor Shia LaBeouf tweeted his disapproval after the Museum of the Moving Image closed the his anti-Trump exhibit. LaBeouf shared an image last Friday that said "The museum abandoned us" with the hashtag #hewillnot divideus.

MOMI announced the same day its decision to shut down the "He Will Not Divide Us" art project after the museum deemed it a public safety hazard because of violent threats and multiple arrests.

The art project was started by actor and activist Shia LaBeouf and two collaborators last month. It was a 24-hour live stream that began the day of Trump's inauguration and was set to run for the next four years — or as long as Trump was president. LaBeouf invited



Museum of Moving Image decided to shut down the "He Will Not Divide Us" video art project after deeming it a safety hazard.

people to repeat the phrase "He will not divide us" into a camera to protest Trump's presidency. The exhibit attracted individuals who identified themselves as neo-Nazis and white supremacists on camera and wanted to disrupt the project.

LaBeouf himself was ar-

rested Jan. 26 and charged with misdemeanor assault after an altercation with another man. It was not known what provoked the altercation.

The museum said the atmosphere deteriorated after LaBeouf's arrest at the site of

*Continued on Page 32*

## DA Brown pushes for familial DNA searches

BY PATRICK DONACHIE

Queens District Attorney Richard Brown and elected officials pushed for the state Commission on Forensic Science's DNA Subcommittee to consider authorizing the use of familial DNA searches to help find suspects in unsolved cases during a hearing last Friday.

Brown said he was inspired to advocate for the practice after the murder of Karina Vetrano, a Howard Beach woman who was killed while jogging on Aug. 2, 2016 in Spring Creek Park. The investigation failed to uncover a suspect for months, even after trying to match DNA in databases to DNA recovered at the scene.

On Feb. 4, police announced they arrested Chanel Lewis, 20, for Vetrano's murder. Police said Lewis voluntarily offered a DNA sample that matched

the DNA evidence police had previously found.

In addition to Brown, state Assemblywoman Stacy Pheffer Amato (D-Howard Beach), Vetrano's family, and others supported the procedure, which allows authorities to search DNA databases for potential relatives who match a recovered DNA sample. Brown said he was grateful for the NYPD's diligent work in apprehending a suspect.

"But there are countless other horrible cold cases that remain unsolved," Brown said. "Those victims and families continue to suffer and to live in fear and the public remains at risk of the perpetrators striking again. That isn't right."

Brown cited several instances in California where he said the practice had helped capture suspects, but organiza-

*Continued on Page 32*



# Jamaica students attend NASA STEM class

BY PATRICK DONACHIE

Students in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics program at Merrick Academy Charter School in Jamaica are embarking on a weeks-long program of hands-on science workshops at York College, an event made in concert with the National Aeronautic and Space Administration's Minority University Research and Education Project.

"It's a program in which the goal is to increase interest in students in the sciences in the community," said Michelle Harrison, Merrick Academy's STEM teacher. "So they're targeting schools in the community underrepresented, and minority students. The programs are designed to increase students' interest in STEM by using technology and hands-on projects."

About 25 students from Merrick are attending the program at York College, one of nine NASA STEM education sites throughout the country. The program's goal is to increase

the number of underserved students who are interested in NASA specific STEM careers, and to offer guidance to parents on how to facilitate their children's interest in STEM education and professions. Harrison said the NASA program at York helps to unlock potential in STEM students.

"Some of the activities they have planned for them, since they involve real-life challenges, these are things they are able to see and they visualize what they're learning, so they're able to put them into action in a real situation," she said.

The first lesson involved a look at solar power, and students started learning how to build solar cars, according to Harrison. She said other activities planned for the two-month program included robotics, chemistry experiments, liquid nitrogen ice cream making and flight simulations.

Anna Bassoo had a son in the second grade at Merrick Academy who was attending the program who also attended the previous year. She said the



Some of the students at Merrick Academy Charter School who will be attending the NASA STEM program at York College on Saturdays for the next two months.

Photo courtesy of Michelle Harrison

effect the NASA weekend classes had on him was pronounced. In the previous year, he learned about the galaxy and how humans could create a settlement

on another planet.

"He had a tent set up in the living room, trying to figure out what would survive," she said. "He looked forward

to going every Saturday. He was so engaged in what he was taught that even when there was something on the news he'd learned about, he would quickly make that connection."

Thalia Wilson-Palmer, whose daughter Gianna is enrolled in the program, said the workshops were revelatory and had sparked renewed interest in her daughter about a new approach to learning.

"When she signed up for it, she was so skeptical. Now, she's happy, she's enjoying it," she said. "It's really nice because she's learning more, and understanding the concepts she learned in school more clearly."

Gianna personally gave the program high marks.

"I love it," she said. "I'm definitely thinking differently about science."

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# Big Apple Circus set to return this fall

BY GINA MARTINEZ

Big Apple Circus has been saved and will continue its mission of helping disabled children.

The circus was bought at a bankruptcy auction Feb. 7 for \$1.3 million by Big Top Works, an affiliate of the Florida-based investment firm Compass Partners LLC, and will

"Our choice was based on Compass Partners offering the highest bid and making a compelling case to revive the circus performances consistent with the original Big Apple Circus mission and values: serving family audiences in New York City and on tour, sensitive to accessibility and to differently abled audiences," Big Apple said in a statement.

The circus, which has been an annual visitor to Cunningham Park in Fresh Meadows, is set to return this fall for the 2017-18 season and will announce the details of its upcoming season in the spring.

The circus initially ran into financial trouble in 2008 following the national recession. The circus relied on Wall Street as a benefactor, providing up to \$1 million a year in funds for annual corporate entertainment, which helped to keep the circus going. Events like Hurricane Sandy, the Boston Marathon bombing and the Atlanta ice storm in 2014 kept people from attending shows, which reduced ticket sales and enlarged Big Apple's deficit.

Last summer Big Apple turned to an online campaign to raise some money with donations ranging up to \$50,000, and the Big Apple principals also hoped that an emergency fund-raiser would get the attention of big donors. To their

surprise, no one stepped up. Big Apple raised only \$900,000, far short of its \$2 million goal, which would have allowed the circus to continue staging its shows in New York City.

After having to cancel its 2016-2017 season, the Big Apple Circus filed for bankruptcy in November.

The organization decided to file under Chapter 11 for protection from its creditors. At the time the circus said it intended to continue operating some of its community programs, which would be transferred to other non-profit organizations and sell some of its assets. The circus hoped to restart the one-ring show with new financial support or through the sale of the circus to an interested buyer. The organization listed \$8.3 million in debts and \$3.8 million in liabilities in its bankruptcy filing.

The beloved non-profit circus focuses its efforts on helping young children through entertainment since 1977 with performances in Cunningham Park and Lincoln Center in Manhattan.

Big Apple was founded by jugglers Paul Binder and Michael Christensen, who brought their act from England to the United States. They started the non-profit as a mission to entertain and improve the lives of millions. Throughout the years Big Apple performances presented acrobats, clowns and animal acts that featured dogs and horses instead of the wild tigers and elephants found in most circuses, including Ringling Brothers, which recently announced it would close in May.

Reach Gina Martinez by e-mail at [gmartinez@cnglocal.com](mailto:gmartinez@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4566.



The Big Apple Circus has been bought out of bankruptcy and will return in the fall.

Courtesy of Big Apple Circus

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# QEDC offers special, 10-hour, two-session OSHA training course in Jamaica starting on Feb. 25

Learn to avoid worksite safety and health hazards

With a special eye on those working in the construction industry, the Queens Economic Development Corporation is currently recruiting students for a 10-hour, two-class OSHA training course at the Greater Jamaica Development Corporation's Harvest Room at 90-40 160th Street in Jamaica over the last weekend of February.

The first session will take place on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 8:30 am to 1 pm. The second one will happen on Sunday, Feb. 26, from 8:30 am to 4 pm. (Each class has a one-hour lunch break.) The potential net cost is \$30 per person. Participants must pay \$150 at the beginning, but those who successfully complete the course will receive a \$120 reimbursement, thanks to Artemis Construction's generous sponsorship.

Only 30 seats are available, and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. To sign up, click here <http://conta.cc/2kbyfr7> or surf to QEDC's website, [www.queensny.org](http://www.queensny.org).

Led by a qualified, experienced instructor, the training deals with recognition, avoidance, abatement, and prevention of safety and health hazards in workplaces, including an introduction to OSHA and the OSH Act (aka the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, which implemented safety and health programs at work-sites.). Attendees will also learn about personal protective equipment, electrical precaution, and how to develop an emergency action plan.

Completing this training course can improve an individual's employment prospects and pave the way to advancement within a company. Plus, implementing OSHA training norms into a construction business can reduce costs and accidents. Finally, providing a safe work environment attracts potential employees.

*QEDC's mission is to create and retain jobs through programming that grows neighborhoods, assists small businesses, and promotes tourism and business development. Since 1977, QEDC has worked with scores of neighborhoods to revitalize commercial districts by creating business organizations and establishing business improvement districts. Entrepreneurs are assisted in the preparation of business plans through individual counseling, classes and workshops. The Queens Tourism Council, a subsidiary of QEDC, promotes cultural, recreational and retail opportunities within the borough. Its website is [www.itsinqueens.com](http://www.itsinqueens.com).*

# City program boosts small indy businesses

BY BILL PARRY

The city wants to put your neighborhood business on the map — literally.

The Department of Small Business Services has launched "NYC Love Your Local," a new grassroots approach to celebrate and promote small businesses throughout the five boroughs. The program encourages New Yorkers to share their favorite independent, non-franchise businesses, which will be added to an interactive map that is now available online.

"Independent, small businesses are the backbone of our neighborhoods, and the 'NYC Love Your Local' initiative recognizes and supports their vital role in the fabric of New York City," said Department of Small Business Services Commissioner Gregg Bishop. "New York City is full of unique neighborhoods that are given character by local merchants and entrepreneurs. New Yorkers should share their favorite neighborhood business and be sure to share their love."

The interactive map is now available online at [nyc.gov/loveyourlocal](http://nyc.gov/loveyourlocal). Shared businesses may also apply for a share of \$1.8 million in grant funding and expert advice to help them better meet competitive pressures from the big chains.

"Providing opportunities for New York City's small businesses to grow and thrive is pivotal for creating jobs and a stable economy," said City Councilwoman Julissa Ferreras-Copeland (D-East Elmhurst). "The 'NYC Love Your Local' initiative is a creative way

to engage consumers to show support for local shops, all while helping these businesses access capital, improve their operations, and gain recognition."

The Queens Chamber of Commerce endorsed the city's new small business promotion.

"As the most diverse county in the U.S. and the largest geographic borough in New York City, Queens and our small businesses will be served by this unique initiative," said Queens Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Thomas Grech. "Queens has nearly 47,000 business entities spread across 14 City Council districts, so this project will truly spread the love across the borough."

The Department of Small Business Services has launched a \$400,000 advertising campaign to promote the "NYC Love Your Local" campaign and encourage New Yorkers to shop locally. The ads will be running in subway cars, LinkNYC terminals, on radio stations, and in other print and digital forms around the city.

"The 'NYC Love Your Local' initiative is a great way to spread the word and shine a light on our small businesses here on Steinway Street," said Steinway Astoria Partnership Executive Director Marie Torniali. "These businesses help Astoria thrive and are an integral part of what makes Astoria great."

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at [bparry@cnglocal.com](mailto:bparry@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4538.



Neighborhood small businesses are promoted in a new city program called the NYC Love Your Local initiative.

Photo by Christina Santucci



# Gotti pleads guilty to drug charges: DA

BY MARK HALLUM

John Gotti, 23, the grandson and namesake of famous crime boss John Gotti, pleaded guilty to selling oxycodone last week and was expected to be sentenced to eight years, the Queens district attorney said.

Gotti was charged in Queens Criminal Court in August with possession, criminal selling of a controlled substance and money laundering, a series of operations spearheaded by the late mobster's grandson, DA Richard Brown said.

"Today's guilty plea sends a message to all drug dealers that we will not tolerate the illegal drug trafficking that is destroying our young people and our communities. Do not expect any leniency because you are illegally trafficking prescription medications — rather than cocaine or heroin," Brown said Feb. 5. "It cannot be stressed enough that these medications are addictive and dangerous and when abused, they destroy the lives of those who use them."

Seven defendants in total were arrested for alleged involvement in the illegal sale of not only oxycodone, but Xanax, in the neighborhoods of Howard Beach and Ozone Part, the DA said.

Law enforcement officials said the investigation employed techniques such as surveillance, undercover buy operations, warranted wire-tapping and a listening device placed in Gotti's Infinity G35 sedan.

Authorities overheard a conversation in which Gotti outlined an extensive and profitable underground trade in pharmaceutical drugs. Gotti admitted to selling more than 4,200 pills a month, averaging about \$100,000 in sales in that period of time. The pills cost \$21 to \$30 each, according to Brown.

He kept trafficking records and \$200,000 stored at an associate's house in case he was arrested, the DA said.

Gotti estimated that his oxycodone trafficking business generated about \$1.6 million annually.

"As the use of prescription drugs in this country has dramatically increased over the last 20 years, so has their misuse — killing far more people

in the United States each year than illegal opioids. According to the Centers for Disease Control, deaths from prescription opioids have more than quadrupled since 1999 and 91 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose. Oxycodone, in particular, is extremely potent and has a high potential for abuse and death."

Cops were said to have purchased \$46,080 worth of oxycodone from Gotti during 11 undercover buy operations between April 22, 2016, and July 28, 2016, 10 of which were recorded on both video and audio.

Gotti was stopped by cops on June 30 in Howard Beach for having windows tinted well below the legal level. It was discovered that Gotti's driver's licence had expired and a search of the vehicle yielded a Gucci bag with over 200 oxycodone pills, a bottle of testosterone for body building, and an assortment of Xanax, methadone pills and marijuana, according to prosecutors. Brown said \$5,600 in cash was also found in the vehicle along with \$2,271 in cash from Gotti's pants pocket. of the money seized, \$7,000 was traced back to that used by police in the undercover buy operations.

In August, a search of Gotti's home at 160-11 85th St. found \$52,000 in cash and 480 pills, the DA said.

Gotti will be sentenced March 2 and is expected to serve eight years in prison and five years' post-release supervision. He is currently being held with a \$2 million bail.

Reach reporter Mark Hallum by e-mail at [mhallum@cn-glocal.com](mailto:mhallum@cn-glocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4564.



John Gotti, grandson of the late Mafia don, has agreed to plead guilty to drug charges in exchange for an eight-year sentence. Photo by Ellis Kaplan

# Cuomo cuts MTA funds

Governor skimps on public transportation by \$65 million

BY MARK HALLUM

Transit advocates rallied in Albany Monday for Gov. Andrew Cuomo to restore \$65 million in funds promised to the MTA as the state agency struggles to address widespread delays and overcrowding. According to Riders Alliance, the budget must still be negotiated with the state Senate and Assembly, which have the power to demand the funds be invested in transportation.

In 2011, Cuomo peeled back the Payroll Mobility Tax, which helps fund the MTA, but promised to replace those funds every year, Riders Alliance said.

For six years, Cuomo's office kept with its commitment to replace the MTA funds each year by contributing between \$307 million and \$311 million every year. This year, however, Cuomo proposed to only reimburse the MTA with \$244 million, a 21 percent reduction from last year's \$309 million, which will leave a \$65 million gap.

State Assemblywoman Nily Rozic (D-Fresh Meadows) stood with the Riders Alliance to call for the state government to make up the \$65 million difference.

"Longer wait times, overcrowding, and fare hikes have stranded transit riders all too often. If the MTA underinvests in its infrastructure and standard upkeep of the system, straphangers will feel it most. Now is not the time for the state budget to drive its transit system and economic driver off the rails," Rozic said.

Riders Alliance Executive Director John Raskin said the reduction in funds threatens to make an already declining public transportation system worse.

"As subway delays rise and crowds get worse, now is not the time to yank promised funding away from transit riders," Raskin said. "Riding transit is more popular than ever, but we haven't invested in a subway system that can handle everyone who is trying to use it. Depriving the MTA of much-needed funds is pennywise and pound-foolish, because the entire regional economy depends on an effective and reliable MTA."

Meanwhile, at City Hall Monday, the Riders Alliance held another rally with the Fair



Gov. Cuomo's proposal to cut \$65 million from the MTA budget is being greeted with angry opposition by transit advocates and lawmakers.

Courtesy of MTA/Marc A. Hermann

Fares coalition to call on Mayor Bill de Blasio to fund half-priced MetroCards for low-income New Yorkers during budget negotiations.

City Council members Rory Lancman (D-Hillcrest), Elizabeth Crowley (D-Maspeth), Barry Grodenchik (D-Oakland Gardens), Peter Koo (D-Flushing) and Karen Koslowitz (D-Forest Hills) offered statements in support of the Fair Fares.

"Millions of New Yorkers rely on mass transit every day to get to where they need to go — whether it is to travel to work, attend school, or see their doctor," Lancman said. "Too many low-income New Yorkers, however, struggle to afford the cost of a MetroCard, leaving them with the difficult choice of scaling back basic necessities or forgoing travel. We can and we must do better to break down travel barriers people experience across our city."

The topic of subway fares

has been in the public arena in recent months. According to State Sen. Michael Gianaris (D-Astoria), commuters have been through enough as it is..

"New Yorkers are already frustrated with the lack of good public transportation options, fare increases, and unreliable service," Gianaris said. "A cut in MTA funding would make this situation even worse for our city's subway and bus riders. The proposed budget must be improved and appropriate funds must be provided in order make needed improvements."

With many in the city feeling the sting of transit costs and talks of fares being bumped up to \$3 a swipe, the MTA board announced Jan. 25 it would keep the basic fare at \$2.75.

Reach reporter Mark Hallum by e-mail at [mhallum@cn-glocal.com](mailto:mhallum@cn-glocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4564.



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

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# POLICE Blotter



Police are searching for two suspects in connection with an assault in Flushing.

Photo Courtesy NYPD

## Cops search for two Flushing assault suspects

FLUSHING — Police were searching for two suspects wanted in connection with an assault in Flushing.

According to police, on Jan. 22 at 1:50 p.m. inside the Main Street No. 7 Train station, a 43-year-old male was standing in line at the booth waiting to add money to his MetroCard. Police said the victim stepped off the line to check the balance using the self-service swipe balance checking device mounted on the outside of the booth. When the victim attempted to get back in line, he and the two suspects got into an argument, police said.

The suspects pushed the victim toward the station stairs and assaulted him, rendering him unconscious, police said. The suspects then fled the subway station, according to police.

The victim suffered lacerations to his face and was taken to New York Presbyterian Queens.

Police described the suspects as Hispanic males, one in his 20s, the other in his 40s.

Anyone with information in regards to this incident is asked to call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477)

## Police seek man wanted for public lewdness

JAMAICA — The NYPD was seeking a man who performed an act of public lewdness and was asking for the public's help in locating him.

On Jan. 25 at 8 p.m., police said a man on a southbound 'F' train at the Jamaica/179th Street Station masturbated over his pants in front of a 26-year-old female victim. After the act, the man in question left the train at the 169th Street

station. Police described the suspect as a Hispanic male, about 50 years of age. He is about 5-feet-8, 175 pounds and has a mustache, according to the NYPD. Police said he was last seen wearing beige pants, black footwear and was wearing a black jacket over a green sweatshirt. Police also released a cellphone video of the suspect in question.

## NYPD looking for grand larceny suspects

JAMAICA — Police were looking for two men wanted for grand larceny after a chain was stolen from the victim's neck.

On Feb. 5 at 4:20 a.m., police said a man was riding a Queens-bound 'E' train when a man approached the 23-year-old victim from behind as the train doors opened at the Jamaica/Van Wyck stop.

The man grabbed a chain hanging from the victim's neck, and the chain as well as an angel pendant fell onto the victim's chest. Another man then ap-

proached the victim and removed both pieces, which police said were valued at \$300. The second man exited the train and the subway station while the first suspect fled in an unknown direction.

Police described the second suspect as a black man with a beard who was wearing glasses and a beanie cap at the time of the incident.

A video police released shows the second suspect exiting the subway station.





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There are exciting new programs being offered for Summer 2017. Cultural Fusion tours cultural neighborhoods in NYC, Queens and Brooklyn. Marine Exploration explores the marine environment with naturalists at the Waterfront Center in Oyster Bay. Nature Discovery is the perfect camp for active kids who enjoy the great outdoors. Activities may include hiking, fishing, archery, crabbing, camping/survival skills, zip-lining, & other adventures. Cross Country will teach the proper form and conditioning to maximize your ability for this exciting sport.

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# MAKE A BOLD CAREER CHOICE



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# RENTERS' REPRIEVE

It's tough to be poor in Queens and the city seems to be taking note.

Mayor Bill de Blasio has set aside \$93 million to provide free legal advice and representation to low-income tenants facing eviction, a major source of homelessness in the five boroughs. As housing prices rise across the city, some renters are finding themselves on the streets after unscrupulous landlords force them out of their homes.

Still other poor tenants cannot afford to pay their full rent after a family member loses a job or the monthly bill climbs, leaving a gap that can be a quick passport to the nearest shelter. State Sen. Andrew Hevesi from Forest Hills has proposed a single subsidy for low-income New Yorkers struggling to cover the rent, a solution that would cost \$11,224 a year - far less than housing a family of four in a converted hotel or a shelter for \$38,500. His measure has gained widespread support from city lawmakers.

With nearly half of New Yorkers living in near poverty and one in nine Queens residents classified as hungry, every penny saved counts.

The minimum wage rose to \$9.70 an hour Dec. 31 - the first of several staggered increases - but some restaurants and smaller businesses have closed because their profit margins were too small to sustain the modest hike for low-income employees.

Housing and food are the biggest challenges for New Yorkers with the typical city household spending two-thirds of income on rent, according to a research survey by StreetEasy.

Under the de Blasio plan, City Hall will supply lawyers free of charge to New Yorkers with household incomes for a family of four below \$50,000 in a move that is expected to serve 400,000 residents every year.

The city said evictions had dropped 24 percent since the de Blasio administration expanded legal aid for tenants two years ago in a \$62 million-a-year pilot program. In 2013, only 1 percent of tenants facing eviction in the notoriously dysfunctional Housing Court had a lawyer, officials said, but that number had jumped to 27 percent in 2016.

Another potential break for the working poor is coming from the Riders Alliance, a transit advocacy group, which has been pushing for half-price MetroCards to help about 800,000 disadvantaged New Yorkers. The MTA has said it cannot afford to underwrite the discounted fares.

De Blasio said he would examine the plan, but city officials want Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who controls the MTA, to help fund the fare relief - an unlikely scenario given the frayed relationship between the two most powerful New York leaders.



## OTHER VOICES

# St. John's should honor Gov. Carey

It was heralded as New York's worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, and a St. John's University graduate had the opportunity to change it for the better. The St. John's graduate was Hugh Carey, who was elected governor of New York in 1974.

Carey inherited a New York City, which was \$5 billion in debt, and state agencies, municipalities, and school districts which were on the brink of insolvency. In 1975, the newly elected governor would warn New Yorkers "that the days of wine and roses are over."

In his tenure as governor, which lasted for two terms between 1975-1982, Carey made the necessary and difficult decisions to get New York back on

track.

Matt Schudel of The New York Times wrote on Carey's death in 2011 that "Mr. Carey maneuvered the state through a series of tough choices that led to increased taxes, reduced government services and lower state and city budgets, but he managed to keep the city and state afloat."

The late Mayor Koch would also credit Carey with rescuing New York City, "He saved the city and the state in 1975," Koch told The Times in 1982. "If the city had gone down, the state would have been two days behind. He did it by bringing together the best minds and making everyone work together."

A World War II Veteran who received his bachelor's degree

and law degree from St. John's in 1942 and 1951, Carey is not memorialized on campus. I call on the St. John's University president to allocate \$35,000 for a bust of Hugh Carey and an art piece to be displayed on campus.

Governor Carey was someone who brought all New Yorkers together, was admired both by Democrats and Republicans and shared the values of St. John's University as a devout Catholic, and the father of 14 children. It is time for St. John's University to honor Gov. Carey.

*Adam Sackowitz is a graduate student at St. John's University studying history and a member of the College Republicans.*

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# City Council must protect our water, air

*An open letter to the New York City Council:*

This Council has done much to protect New York City's water and air quality, public health, and our civil rights. We need that commitment more than ever as we face the pending confirmation of an EPA administrator openly hostile to environmental regulations and a Congress that has already introduced legislation that would nullify climate change mitigation poli-

cies, would prevent the EPA from regulating greenhouse gases, and would prohibit the collection of data on race and demographics—key tools for civil rights advocates. In this atmosphere, we need city government to safeguard all New Yorkers' rights to breathe clean air irrespective of where they live, what their income is, and what color their skin is.

One step the Council can take to protect our communities from the environmental at-

tacks coming from Washington is passing Intro 495a of 2014. This legislation would cap the amount of trash that can be sent to any one community, addressing a longstanding environmental justice issue responsible for perpetuating unhealthy air quality in our city's most overburdened communities.

As you know, the city's 2006 Solid Waste Management Plan specifically calls on the Council to pass legislation to reduce the excessive amounts of garbage

trucked in and out of a few historically burdened communities of color.

After years of delays to the plan and extended negotiations over this legislation, we believe the current version of the capacity reduction bill, Intro 495a, represents a modest but meaningful step toward environmental justice and a greener solid waste management system for New York City.

We look forward to seeing

Intro 495a pass, along with other local laws that put the health and well-being of New York City's most vulnerable and overburdened communities first, even as our federal government turns its back.

The time is now to stand up and continue to be strong advocates for environmental justice in your communities. Your efforts are appreciated.

*Teamsters Joint Council 16  
New York*

## Transit projects require big bucks

When it comes to public transportation, "Katz delivers 'State of Borough' address" (TimesLedger/Feb. 3) made for some great sound bites but provided little substance.

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz failed to provide any specific information on how the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and city Department of Transportation will come up with funding to implement any of the following transportation projects advocated by many other Queens elected officials, constituents and transit advocates.

The list includes but is not limited to the following projects or proposals. Just where does Katz stand on these ideas? All 14 members of the Queens Council delegation are supporting the Commuter Rail Fare Equalization Proposal.

This would allow city residents to pay the same \$2.75 fare on the Long Island Rail Road or Metro North Rail Road as riding the NYC Transit Subway and provide a free transfer to the NYC subway.

How will New York City provide the MTA with \$200 million to cover the cost? Another \$200 million is needed to provide 1/2 fare Metro Cards for several hundred thousand poor residents earning less

than \$26,000 per year.

The LaGuardia Airport Train to the Plane base line budget of \$450 million will require up to an additional \$550 million in the years to come. The final cost may be closer to \$1 billion.

Some Queens residents will be looking for \$100 million toward the \$400 million Woodhaven Boulevard Select Bus Service. These dollars may be necessary if NYCDOT is unable to secure \$100 million in U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration New Starts funding.

Others will continue to lobby for \$100 million to construct light rail between Jamaica and Long Island City on the old Lower Montauk LIRR branch; restoration of LIRR service on the old Rockaway LIRR branch at \$1 billion; Triboro X Subway Express (new subway line connecting the Bronx, Queens and Brooklyn for \$2 billion); Main Street Flushing Intermodal Bus Terminal \$100 million; re-opening the Woodhaven Boulevard, Atlantic Branch LIRR Station \$40 million; and the Brooklyn-Queens Waterfront Street Car Connector at a cost of \$2.5 billion.

This would connect various neighborhoods along the waterfront from Sunset Park,

Brooklyn, to Astoria, Queens.

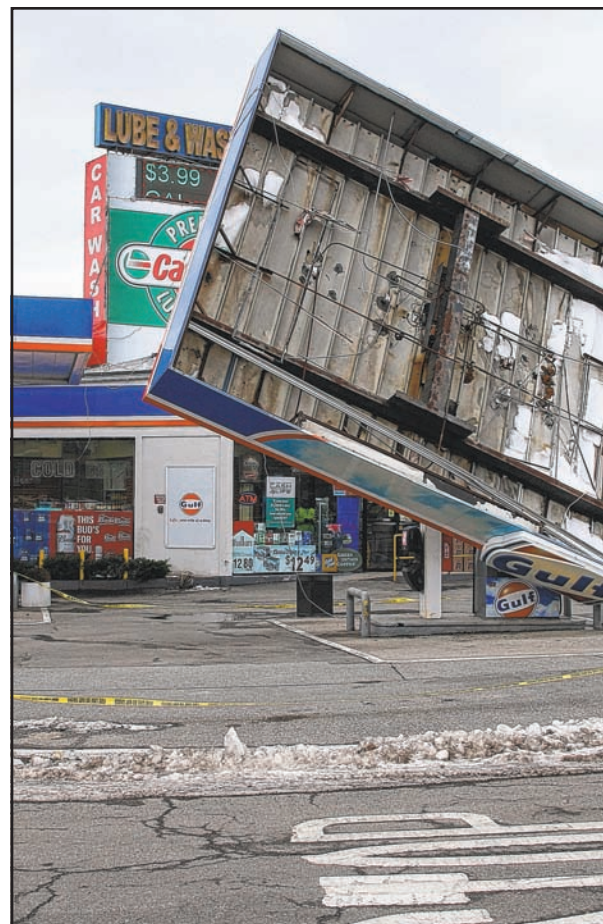
Many neighborhoods are looking for the introduction of either Select Bus Service (SBS); Bus Rapid Transit (BRT); limited stop bus to Subway or Express Bus Service to Manhattan. There is still the need to bring many of the 78 Queens subway and 21 LIRR stations back up to a state of good repair. Don't forget the need for additional subway and LIRR stations to become fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act by construction of elevators.

Where does Katz think the MTA will find the cash for all these projects? The Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration and state may be possible funding sources for some of these projects. Clearly the city will have to contribute some significant funding if many of these projects will ever see the light of day.

*Larry Penner  
Great Neck*

*(Larry Penner is a transportation historian and advocate who previously worked 31 years for the US Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration Region 2 NY Office)*

## HEADS UP!



Winds gusting up to 60 mph toppled the canopy over the gas pumps at the always-busy Gulf station on Horace Harding Boulevard in Fresh Meadows last week. No one was hurt and no cars were damaged in the incident.

Photo by Ellis Kaplan

### Contact the newsroom:

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



# Could terror tips come from citizen spies?



Lenore  
Skenazy  
Rhymes  
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If you see something, say something.

That campaign, launched in New York after 9/11 and rolled out nationally in 2010, suggests that anyone and anything we see could be out to get us, so our job is to immediately alert the authorities.

What a wonderful way to turn kind, caring citizens into paranoid busybodies who don't even actually help each other. All they do is call 911 and smile smugly.

"People are submitting thousands and thousands of tips a day," says Joshua Reeves, author of "Citizen Spies: The Long Rise of America's Surveillance Society" (NYU Press). He has examined these tips, including

gems like, "Someone is standing next to a water fountain, checking their wristwatch." And "I saw a suspicious person watching her daughter on the playground." As a result of being asked to err on the side of extreme caution, says Reeves, "there's this sort of extended paranoia throughout the culture that everything is a potential signifier of terrorism or crime."

Consider this sign I saw on New Jersey Transit last week. It began with the usual, "If you see something, say something," but added, "If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't."

Ah, but what if you have been primed by years of going through airport security, being forced to ditch your 4 fluid ounces of Head & Shoulders in case it is a bomb? At some point, our common sense gets corrupted and even the most innocent items and activities don't "feel right" anymore. And so we turn to the authorities.

In turn, the authorities

just keep getting more ... authority. You see something like this happening at schools, with kids being told to report any possible bullying to the adults in charge and on college campuses, where the same goes for students encountering the slights known as "micro-aggressions." Of course, no one wants real harassment going unchecked. But our young people are being taught that they are not competent enough to examine or solve interpersonal problems on their own.

To Reeves (and now me), this is the one-two punch of the problem: Not just that we overreact to innocent "triggers," but that we are told to outsource the solution.

Two examples: On the subway, there are signs that say (I'm quoting from memory): "If you see a sick passenger, do not attempt to help them yourself. Alert an MTA employee or the police."

So we're not supposed to exercise basic compassion? Only the authorities are qual-

ified to help another human?

Example No. 2: We have also been told to dial 911 if we see a child waiting in a car. This makes us believe that a few minutes' car wait is automatically dangerous, even though most of us remember waiting in the car when we were kids. But once again, our common sense has been curdled by constant warnings of the worst-case scenario — in this case, the rare deaths of kids forgotten in cars for hours. So now if we're not seeing terrorists, we're seeing terrible parents.

But here's the thing. When parents tell me about coming out of Walgreen's only to find someone dialing 911 and screaming at them for "abandoning" their child, the screamers don't seem to recognize that they were watching the child. They could make sure no kidnapping occurred. (An extremely unlikely crime anyway.) They could hang out a few minutes, making sure the parents returned, and then say something like, "Hi!

Just watching to make sure you got back soon. Your kid is so cute. Have a great day."

That is what good Samaritans do. Opening a Child Protective Services investigation on a mom who dashed in to get some Tylenol is what good Samaritans do not do. Yet today's Samaritans are asked to spy on their neighbors and turn them in.

Usually, this will not happen. But if we want to create the kind of place we'd like to live, a place where onlookers wave to kids and help them cross the street, we have to dial back the culture of dialing up the cops.

Asking citizens to assume the worst at all times is making us paranoid. But asking us to involve the authorities is even creepier: It is making us forget how normal and nice it is to be kind.

*Lenore Skenazy is a keynote speaker, author of the book and blog Free-Range Kids, and a contributor at Reason.com.*

## Remembering former Mets champion Mookie Wilson

### QUEENS LINE

... the timeline of Queens

#### The Greater Astoria Historical Society

*In conjunction with the Greater Astoria Historical Society, the TimesLedger newspaper presents noteworthy events in the borough's history*

Former New York Met William Hayward "Mookie" Wilson was born Feb. 9, 1956 and raised in Bamberg, S.C.

The speedy, switch-hitting outfielder is best remembered for hitting the ground ball that rolled through Bill Buckner's legs and helped propel the Mets to victory over the Boston Red Sox in the 1986 World Series.

Wilson is one of 12 siblings, and two of his brothers played minor league ball. His nephew and stepson, Preston Wilson, played Major League baseball for 10 seasons.

After starring as a pitcher on the local high school team, Mookie Wilson went on to play college ball for both Spartanburg Methodist College and the University of South Carolina in the mid-1970s.

While playing for the Gamecocks under former Yankee great Bobby Richardson, Wilson was drafted by the LA Dodgers in 1976 but did not sign, instead opting for the Mets, who selected him in the second round of the 1977 draft.

South Carolina played in the College World Series that year, and the future Mets great was selected to the All-Tournament team as an outfielder.

The South Carolina native played four seasons in the Mets' farm system, steal-

ing 160 bases and slugging 184 RBIs before getting the call to the big leagues from manager Joe Torre in 1980.

The speedy center fielder soon earned a reputation as a clutch hitter and a fleet-footed base stealer, bringing the perennial cellar-dwelling Mets back to respectability in the National League East in his second season.

The following year, the swift outfielder stole 58 bases, setting a team season record, and became the all-time stolen base leader at the time for the Amazins in 1984.

Although hampered somewhat by shoulder and eye injuries in 1985 and 1986, Wilson's respectable fielding from left and centerfield combined with a .289 batting average, 25 stolen bases and 45 RBIs helped the Mets breeze to a first place finish in the NL East in 1986.

It was his performance in the sixth game of the World Series that year, however, that remains etched in the memories of baseball fans 30 years later.

Down 5-4 in the tenth inning with "CONGRATULATIONS BOSTON RED SOX 1986 WORLD CHAMPIONS" gracing the Shea Stadium scoreboard, Mookie Wilson hit a slow rolling ground ball, which rolled through first baseman Bill Buckner's legs. The Mets won game 6 and became World Champions in game 7 two days later.

After the infamous "Buckner play," Wilson played two more seasons in New York, with the Mets losing to the LA Dodgers in the 1988 National League Championship Series. He was traded to the Toronto Blue Jays in 1989 and retired after the 1991 season. Even slowed by age, the 34-year old Wilson still managed to steal 23 bases with Toronto in 1990.

Following retirement from the game he loved, Mookie Wilson kept busy. He served as the Mets first base coach from 1996-2002, and managed farm teams for the organization, including the Brooklyn Cyclones.

He currently resides in Lakewood Township, N.J., and frequently makes public appearances with Bill Buckner.

Looking back on the hit that defined his career in the eyes of so many, Mookie Wilson reflected: "I underestimated the power of sports in people's minds, and what it means in people's lives. I didn't appreciate that part of it. Yeah, we won, but I didn't appreciate the significance of that particular game, that particular series -- what it meant to both cities."

#### Notable Quote

*"Character on a team is important, but you got to have the horses to win!"*

*Compiled by Dan McDonald, Greater Astoria Historical Society. For further information, contact the Society at 718-278-0700 or visit our website at [www.astorialic.org](http://www.astorialic.org).*



# Drama surrounds Knicks owner Dolan



Tom Allon  
■  
*Mayoral  
Spin Cycle*

I have had a long-running aversion to people who were born on third base and thought they hit a triple.

You know what I'm talking about: The sons and daughters of the wealthy (or as I like to refer to them: "The Lucky Sperm Club") who think that their inherited wealth is an accomplishment, but who lack the smarts and judgment of self-made people.

Who could this be, you ask? Well, today I am averting our gaze from the slow-motion car crash emanating from our new leaders in D.C. (although we can find a basket full of these people there, too).

Instead, let's focus on the new Public Enemy No. 1 in New York

City: Knicks owner Jim Dolan.

Sports franchise owners have been in the news a lot recently: Bob Kraft (New England Patriots) recently dined with the president and Japanese Prime Minister at Mar-a-Lago (White House South) a week after his team dramatically captured its fifth Super Bowl in the last two decades.

Over the weekend, Mike Ilich, the well-liked owner of the Detroit Tigers and Detroit Red Wings, died after an impressive run as the leader of two small market teams that have been overachievers.

And from America's most Purple State comes word that the little-respected Florida Marlins owner Jeff Loria is about to sell his team for a whopping profit to Trump's in-laws, the Kushners.

But here in New York City, what was once the Mecca for basketball has turned into the laughingstock of hoops because of one man: Jim Dolan of the New York Knicks.

Our basketball team is not only among the worst in the country — and has been for many, many years — the Knicks have become a trash heap of dysfunction and bad drama due to the wealthy scion of Cablevision riches.

The latest incident involves a once beloved Knick from a much better era — Charles Oakley — who was dragged from his seat at the Garden by security guards and then defamed by Dolan.

This ugly episode could be dismissed as an isolated spectacle if it didn't fit in with the pattern of Dolan's embarrassing tenure as owner. Since he took over the Knicks at the turn of the century, it has been the second worst team in the NBA and a generation of New Yorkers has been robbed of the joy of rooting for a respectable hometown team.

This wouldn't hurt so much if I didn't remember the electricity of going to Madison Square Garden in the 1970s to see Frazier, Monroe, Reed, DeBusschere,

Bradley — players who made the whole city light up with pride and excitement.

Or the 1990s when the Garden was rocked by Riley's bombers — Ewing, Oakley, Johnson, Starks and their teammates who were always in the playoff mix but usually thwarted by the gliding superstar Michael Jordan or the big man from Houston, Hakeem Olajuwon.

There has been nothing remotely comparable since Dolan took over the team and it is his bumbling, misguided interference in personnel moves that has doomed the club.

And now comes the classless thuggery and defamation of Oakley, a dedicated team member for a decade in its last era of glory.

Why would star players like LeBron or Durant or Westbrook ever want to play in New York when the owner has the grace of a third-world dictator? How long will my kids have to wait to see a local basketball team make an exciting playoff run into May?

Alas, there is little hope as

long as the privileged son of a wealthy family, who himself has never created anything of real value, is in charge of the team's destiny.

There really should be a way that cities can force sports owners to sell so that this treasured resource can thrive once again.

Here is the only thing that might work: How about a strike by all ticket holders? No one should go to games or spend any more money on the Knicks until Dolan sells the team.

It would be great if all those season-ticket holders who are being ripped off realized that the power of the pocketbook is the only way to create real change.

The resistance at Madison Square Garden should begin right now.

*Tom Allon, president of City & State NY, was a Republican and Liberal Party-backed mayoral candidate in 2013 before he left to return to the private sector. Reach him at tallon@cityandstateny.com.*



## Municipal Credit Union expands membership field to include St. John's University students

Credit Union now able to serve 20,000+ students on four campuses

Municipal Credit Union (MCU) has expanded its membership field to include students of St. John's University (NY). The membership expansion was announced jointly by MCU Board Chair James Durrah and St. John's University President Conrado (Bobby) Gempesaw, Ph.D. and Student Government President Chiara Miuccio during a special on-court presentation at the St. John's men's basketball game at Madison Square Garden on February 11. The charter expansion, which was approved by the New York State's Department of Financial Services and which amended MCU's charter immediately, gives MCU the ability to serve the more than 20,000 current students at St. John's four campuses in New York.

With the addition of students as a membership



group, MCU is now able to serve everyone in the St. John's system. The credit union was already the official credit union of St. John's University Athletics, as well as the University's

faculty and staff. St. John's University students are the second major college/university student group to be entered into MCU's eligible fields of membership; students of the City University

of New York (CUNY) were added as an MCU field of membership in 2014.

"We are pleased to welcome St. John's students into MCU's membership," said Durrah. "The addition

of St. John's students to our field of membership is part of our continued extension to serve public and private colleges throughout the five boroughs, as well as an extension of our growing relationship with St. John's University. MCU has been serving the employees of St. John's for many years, and recently partnered with the university to become the official credit union of SJU Athletics, so the ability to offer our products and services to St. John's students was a key step for us in our partnership. We encourage all St. John's students to look at MCU as a low-cost financial alternative to banks and other lending institutions. We are confident that MCU can help them grow into financially responsible and successful young adults and future leaders of our communities."



# What is the right age for braces?

Dental braces have been used for decades to correct various alignment and spacing issues in the teeth. Braces can be crucial to the future of one's oral health and prevent serious issues down the line.

Roughly 25 percent of the people in North America who get braces are adults. But braces still are geared toward young people and getting them on the road to straight and properly aligned teeth early on.

Braces correct a number of problems, including re-aligning the jaw and alleviating overcrowding of teeth. Crooked teeth can trap food and debris between them, making it harder to floss and brush. Wearing braces also corrects the bite. If teeth or jaws are not aligned correctly, it can lead to difficulty chewing food or create jaw muscle pain. Braces also may boost self-confidence because they can remedy



Parents should speak to a dentist or make an appointment with an orthodontist to evaluate their children's treatment needs.

appearance issues that may prove embarrassing.

Parents eager to get their children on the road to straighter teeth may wonder when is the right time to get their kids braces. Many kids are getting braces earlier and earlier, but when to get braces typically depends on the child and the shape of his

or her teeth.

The American Association of Orthodontics recommends that children see an orthodontist for an evaluation by age 7. The best time for braces will be when the orthodontist and parents collectively decide it's time to correct the misalignment of a child's teeth.

Some orthodontists prefer a two-stage approach to orthodontic treatment. They may use a dental appliance or a preliminary amount of braces to begin moving the teeth while a child still has most of his primary teeth. The second stage begins when all the permanent teeth are in. The thought is to shorten the overall duration of treatment.

Other orthodontists follow the traditional approach of putting on braces once all the primary teeth have fallen out. This occurs between ages 9 and 14. This is often a less expensive approach because braces need only be applied and removed once.

A number of studies have shown that, for common problems alleviated with orthodontic work, youngsters are better off waiting until all of their permanent teeth have come in. Antonio Secchi, a pro-

fessor of orthodontics at the University of Pennsylvania, notes that if parents choose to treat crooked teeth too early, the child may need another phase of intervention a few years down the road.

Some problems, like crossbites, overbites, or severe overcrowding, warrant early intervention. Scheduling an orthodontic visit early on means children can get the care they need when they need it. The orthodontist will be able to monitor how teeth are growing in and map out the best treatment plan for all.

Braces can help fix an imperfect smile and alleviate oral health concerns. Parents should speak to a dentist or make an appointment with an orthodontist to evaluate their children's treatment needs.

Severity of overcrowding as well as bite issues will dictate when a child should get braces.

## Help kids feel comfortable at their dental visits

Routine dental examinations and cleanings are an important component of oral healthcare for both children and adults. However, many children do not visit the dentist until well after the time recommended by medical and dental professionals. Parents may be unaware of the dental health timeline, or they could be reluctant to bring their children for fear of how their kids will behave — especially if parents are harboring their own apprehensions about the dentist.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that a child go to the dentist by age 1, or within six months of the eruption of his or her first tooth. Yet, according to a survey commissioned by Delta Dental Plans, the average age of a child's first dental visit is 2.6 years.

Parents worried about how their kids will respond to the dentist can take the following steps to acclimate kids to dental visits to make them more



Parents can help children be more comfortable with going to the dentist.

comfortable during their appointments:

**Be a positive role model.** Children frequently learn by example. If they see their parents being diligent about dental care, they're more likely to embrace proper oral hygiene. Bring children to your own dental appointments so they understand the process

and become familiar with the type of equipment used.

**Stick to the first-tooth milestone.** Take your child to the dentist on or about when his or her first tooth erupts. Early dental visits will get kids used to going to the dentist and prevent minor problems that may lead to more complex dental issues.

**Read books about the dentist and role play.** Information can allay kids' fears about the dentist. Read books together about dental visits and act out possible scenarios with your kids. Give kids toy dental health tools and have them practice exams on you and vice-versa.

**Be supportive and in-**

**still trust.** Avoid telling your child that everything will be okay. If a procedure is needed, this could affect his or her trust in you and make the dental office an even greater source of anxiety. Simply be supportive and offer a hand to squeeze or a hug if your child needs you.

**Consider using your dentist.** Some parents like to take their children to a pediatric dentist, but it may not always be necessary. Many family practices cater to patients of all ages, and the familiarity of the office may help make children feel more comfortable. Speak with your dentist about the ages they see.

**Steer clear of negative words.** Dr. Michael J. Hanna, a national spokesperson for the Academy, suggests using positive phrases like "clean, strong, healthy teeth" to make the visit seem fun and positive rather than scary and alarming. Let the office staff come up with its own words to describe processes that won't seem too frightening.





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# Cuomo backs Assembly to block plastic bag law

BY MARK HALLUM

Advocates for the elimination of plastic bags spoke out Tuesday against a moratorium signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo overriding the City Council's law that would impose a fee on each bag used. Cuomo called the measure "deeply flawed" and got behind a motion by the state Assembly to block similar legislation until 2018.

The law would have had merchants charge five cents per bag for each transaction, a fee retailers would be free to pocket. The law passed the City Council in May by a 28-20 vote.

The New York League of Conservation Voters said concerns about the law were fair, but that the moratorium wrongfully delays any action on plastic bags.

"While there are no doubt institutional political issues at play, and while New York City's law is an earnest attempt at a real solution, it is also undeniable that the city's bill is deeply flawed," Cuomo said. "Most objectionable is that the law was drafted so that merchants keep

the five cent fee as profit, instead of the money being used to solve the problem of plastic bags' environmental impact – essentially amounting to a \$100 million per year windfall to merchants."

He went on to say, "There are two possible rationales for New York City's bill providing the fee to profit the merchants: political expediency or legal impossibility. If the Council needed the political support of the merchants to pass the bill, a \$100 million price was too high a cost to pay; if the city was not empowered to allow a fee to go to a government entity as it exceeds their legal authority, then that necessitates state action. In either case, the windfall profit to private entities is unjustifiable and unnecessary."

Cuomo acknowledged the environmental implications of allowing unabated plastic bag use to continue by citing city Dept. of Sanitation estimates that it collects 1,700 tons of plastic bags per week, costing \$12.5 million in annual disposal costs. About 23 billion bags are used statewide each week.

The Assembly passed the



New York City's bag tax law passed the City Council, but was overridden by state officials including Cuomo, who called the legislation "deeply flawed."  
Photo by Richard Drew / AP

moratorium with 165 members in favor of blocking the law, and 32 in favor of letting it stand.

"Though we appreciate his obvious concern for the issue, there is now a law on the books that overturns the principle of home rule and leaves us no near-term solution to the very

real problem of plastic bag waste," NYLCV President Marcia Bystryn said in a statement Tuesday.

A Feb. 7 release from the league called on Cuomo to veto the Assembly's moratorium saying it impeded the city's ability to get a grip on plastic bag waste

and sets a "dangerous precedent" of state overreach on local policy.

But although the bag law was passed at the city level, not all elected officials were satisfied with the legislation.

Councilman Barry Grodenchik (D-Oakland Gardens) welcomed Cuomo's decision to support the Assembly moratorium, calling it a regressive tax which would be an unnecessary working families and seniors.

"The five cents collected per bag would not benefit the city or the environment, but instead go directly into merchants' pockets. It is unfortunate that the state government had to get involved, but it was necessary," Grodenchik said. "I will continue to fight to permanently block this tax. Surely there are better ways of achieving our shared goal of responsible environmental stewardship."

Reach reporter Mark Hallum by e-mail at [mhallum@cn-glocal.com](mailto:mhallum@cn-glocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4564.



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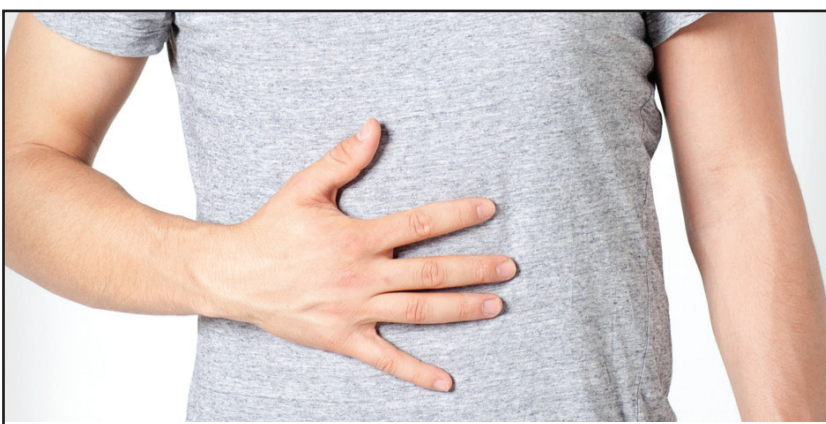
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# Dutch Kills woman killed by family dog



A 160-pound mastiff, like this one, fatally mauled its Dutch Kills owner and injured her autistic son.  
Photo by Pleple2000

**BY BILL PARRY**

A dog which was scheduled to be euthanized Wednesday killed its Dutch Kills owner early Monday morning.

Louise Hermida, 75, was fatally mauled by her 160-pound English mastiff in the basement of her home on 27th Street. Police from the 114th Precinct, responding to a 911 call around 1 a.m., discovered Hermida unconscious and unresponsive in her 27th Street home with trauma to her upper torso, according to the NYPD.

EMS transported the woman to Weill Cornell Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead, police said. Hermida's 39-year-old autistic son was also injured in the attack with trauma to his lower left leg, according to police, who did not identify him. He was taken to Weill Cornell Medical Center in stable condition.

Hermida's neighbor, David Lopez, told WCBS Radio "the family had already intended to put the dog down because it had killed a neighbors' dog two weeks ago."

The dog was taken to Animal Care Centers of New York City, where the English mastiff was originally adopted.

"We can confirm that the dog was adopted from ACC almost six years ago and was about 1 years old at the time," ACC spokeswoman Katy Hansen said. "He is currently at our Manhattan Care Center. We cannot comment further because of the legal nature of this case."

The New York City Medical Examiner will determine the cause of Hermida's death and the investigation was ongoing, according to the NYPD.

Reach reporter Bill Parry by e-mail at [bparry@cnglocal.com](mailto:bparry@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4538.



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# Picture perfect Winter Art Show



State Sen. Tony Avella, who was an exhibitor last year, says he didn't have time to submit his abstract artwork to the show this year – but he did come to the opening last week to see the Bayside Historical Society's 16th Annual Winter Art Show. Photo by Michael Shain



One of the judges of this year's show, art professor Neill Slaughter (c), spoke with the show's artists after the awards were announced. Photo by Michael Shain



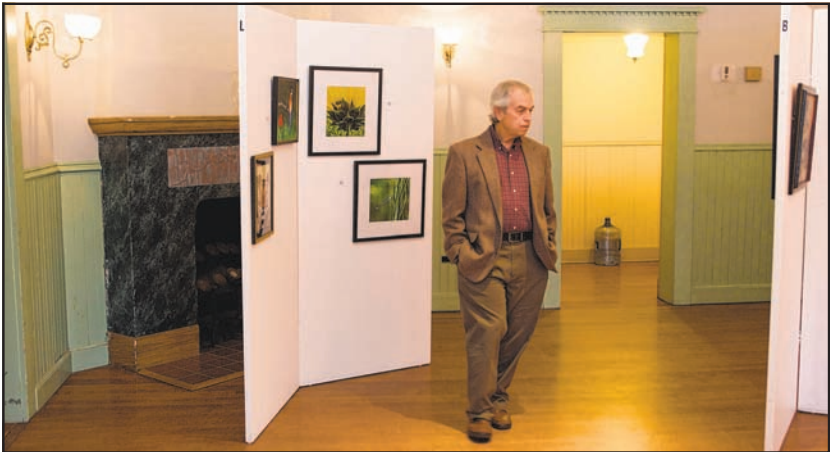
Eddie Abrahms of Flushing (l), winner of the best abstract prize, greets a friend who came to lend his support. Photo by Michael Shain



Alberta Allocca's still life, "Seeing Pears," is an exercise in Cezanne-like style. She won the prize for best representational painting. Photo by Michael Shain



This was the second year Aranka Zsigmond of Rego Park submitted her abstract painting she calls "Germ's." Photo by Michael Shain



Longtime BHS trustee Henry Euler gets a solo tour of the gallery before the doors open to the public at the society's landmark building in Ft. Totten. Photo by Michael Shain



Bad weather did not stop the crowd from attending the opening of the show and the announcement of winners. Photo by Michael Shain





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# Immigrants spur New York state economy: Study

Foreign-born workers make major contributions to nation's well-being, analysis finds

BY KOURTNEY WEBB

The United States is home to 61 million immigrants and New York is among the top three states profiting from their contributions, according to the Center for Immigration Studies analysis. While most of America's issues with immigration rest on cultural insensitivity, the effects of immigration on the overall economy is a positive one.

With President Trump's immigration-policy reform actions likely to affect state economies, the personal-finance website WalletHub conducted an in-depth analysis of 2017's economic impact of immigration by state. WalletHub ranked all 50 states and the District of Columbia whose economies benefit the most and least from immigration.

The findings were based on highest percentage of jobs generated by immigrant-owned businesses, highest



After a swearing-in ceremony earlier this month, Anj Austria (l) holds up her citizenship papers as she and a friend pose for pictures outside the federal courthouse in Brooklyn.

Photo by Mark Lennihan/AP

median household income born STEM workers, percent- highest percent of Fortune  
of foreign-born population, age of foreign-born adults 500 companies founded by im-  
highest percent of foreign- with a bachelor's degree, migrants or their children,

highest percent of jobs created, percentage of jobs created by presence of international students, and highest economic contribution of international students per capita.

The data collected from the analysis concluded that California, New Jersey and New York are the three states that receive the most advantage from immigrants in their state's economy. Mississippi, Kentucky, and South Dakota have least benefitted from immigration. This is because immigrants are more likely to move in order to find jobs. According to a report by the University of California, Berkeley, immigration as a consequence has served to smooth out local booms and busts. By moving away from declining regions and into booming areas, immigrants help stabilize the economy and reduce the "mismatch" between local demand for labor and its supply. Immi-

*Continued on Page 40*

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# Borough Beat

COMPILED BY MICHAEL SHAIN



Two of our NCOs Cuervo & Quinn and one of our Law Enforcement Explorers helped residents dig out of College Point!

NCO is NYPD's shorthand for Neighborhood Coordination Officer, the unit that assigns the same familiar faces every day in an area so residents can get to know their cops better. The 109th Precinct tweeted these photos from last week's storm to show how it's working.

Twitter



In Albany, Assemblywoman Nily Rozic joins a press conference that urges Gov. Cuomo to reverse his decision to cut \$65 million from the state's contribution to the MTA. **See Page 7 for more coverage.**

Courtesy of Assemblywoman Rozic



Congratulations are in order for Flushing High School's wrestling team, which clinched the district championship last week.

Twitter



The desk sergeant at Bayside's 111th Pct tweeted his thanks to a thoughtful bunch of neighbors who delivered a hot dinner to the cops in the stationhouse during last week's snow storm.

Twitter



After being stalled for many years, the \$9.4 million renovation of the Kew Garden Hills Library is underway. (l-r) Queens Library President and CEO Dennis Walcott (l) and Borough President Melinda Katz (r) are briefed on the project last week.

Courtesy of the Borough President



Council Member Daniel Dromm (c) feeds a lion a red envelope with a small amount of money inside – a Chinese tradition at New Year's to ask the gods for good luck – at the 7th annual Lunar New Year Celebration in Elmhurst.

Courtesy of Council Member Dromm



# TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

## Using mobile phones

Leading the list of the top distractions behind the wheel are mobile phones. Phones now do more than just place calls, and drivers often cannot pull away from their phones, even when driving. According to the California Department of Motor Vehicles, studies have shown that driving performance is lowered and the level of distraction is higher for drivers who are heavily engaged in cell

phone conversations. The use of a hands-free device does not lower distraction levels. The percentage of vehicle crashes and near-crashes attributed to dialing is nearly identical to the number associated with talking or listening.

## Daydreaming

Many people will admit to daydreaming behind the wheel or looking at a person or object outside of the car for too long. Per-

haps they're checking out a house in a new neighborhood or thought they saw someone they knew on the street corner. It can be easy to veer into the direction your eyes are focused, causing an accident. In addition to trying to stay focused on the road, some drivers prefer the help of lane departure warning systems.

## Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

chewing gum at the same time may want to avoid eating while driving. The majority of foods require a person's hands to be taken off of the wheel and their eyes to be diverted from the road. Reaching in the back seat to share some French fries with the kids is also distracting.

Try to eat meals before getting in the car. For those who must snack while en route, take a moment to pull over at

a rest area and spend 10 minutes snacking there before resuming the trip.

## Reading

Glancing at an advertisement, updating a Facebook status or reading a book are all activities that should be avoided when driving. Even pouring over a traffic map or consulting the digital display of a GPS system can be distracting.

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# Fashion Week: The kids are all right



Fashion designer Tyann William, who has been creating kids clothes since she was 13, is a mentor for Jamaica's Strike a Pose modeling agency. Photo by Naeisha Rose



Walking in a kids fashion show during New York Fashion Week is a life-changing experience. Photo by Naeisha Rose



The trend for kids fashion this season is a genderless style, say the writers. Photo by Naeisha Rose

# Employees protest religious discrimination

BY PATRICK DONACHIE

Employees for a Kennedy Airport contractor at accused of religious discrimination called on the airport's management Wednesday to ensure that harassment of Muslim employees is not tolerated.

The group of employees, accompanied by representatives from the Airport Workers Organizing Committee and Imam Aiyub Abdul Baki of the Islamic Leadership Council in Manhattan, delivered letters to the manager of the airport's Terminal 4, as well as representatives from Emirates Airlines and Etihad Airlines. The letters contended that supervisors at Pax Assist, Inc., an Arverne-based contractor servicing 32 airlines and employing more than 250 workers, allegedly harassed Muslim employees over a public radio address system.

New York City's Human Rights Commission charged the company with alleged acts of discrimination last month,



Muslim employees of a contractor that service Terminal 4 at JFK are charging they have been harrassed by their bosses. Photo by Michael Shain

saying supervisors refused to let Muslim employees schedule their breaks to properly end their religious fasts. Supervisors also allegedly broadcast over a radio system: "We don't care about Ramadan," and "we'll give you a break on our time, not your time."

The letters delivered Wednesday also requested an opportunity for the aggrieved Pax Assist employees to meet with representatives from the airlines and Terminal 4 management.

"The NYC Human Rights Law recognizes the legal rights of employees of every faith to request and receive reasonable accommodation

for religious observances so long as those accommodations do not cause an undue hardship on the employer," the letters read.

Members of SEIU 32BJ heard about the allegations against Pax Assist from affected employees and informed the city's Human Rights Commission, according to the letters. The Pax Assist employees designated a member of the union as their representative in communications with the airlines and Terminal 4 management.

The HRC has the authority to fine employers up to \$250,000 in civil penalties if the commission uncovers "willful and malicious violations of the law," and can award compensatory damages to victims.

Pax Assist did not respond to calls for comment.

Reach reporter Patrick Donachie by e-mail at [pdonachie@cnglocal.com](mailto:pdonachie@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4573.





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# Grad rates

Continued from Page 4

marked an increase of 12 percentage points from 10 years earlier, according to the state. However, the data revealed a decline in the graduation rate for current English Language Learners, while students who transferred out of ELL classes saw an increase.

“While the state’s overall graduation rate went up slightly, we must find more effective ways to address the achievement gaps that continue to impact far too many of our children — particularly those students for whom English is not their first language,” Board of Regents Chancellor Betty A. Rosa said.

In describing the ELL graduation and dropout rates, the state Education Department pinned the negative trends on New York City, attributing the statewide decline in ELL graduation to a 9.3 percent drop in city rates. The state also attributed an increase in ELL dropout rates to the city’s performance, noting that the ELL dropout rate increased by 5.4 percent in the five boroughs.

De Blasio and Fariña both



The de Blasio administration reported increased graduation rates for the 2016 high school class. Photo by Christina Santucci

said the city was on track to ensure that 80 percent of city students would graduate on time, and two-thirds of graduates would be college-ready, by 2026. City Councilman Daniel Dromm (D-Jackson Heights), the chair of the Council’s Education Committee, attributed the gains to investment by the administration.

“Because we have em-

braced progressive approaches to education, such as community schooling and restorative justice practices, thousands of students are now on the path to success,” he said.

Reach reporter Patrick Donachie by e-mail at [pdonachie@cnglocal.com](mailto:pdonachie@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4573.

# MOMI

Continued from Page 5

the exhibit and ultimately led to the decision to shut down the installation.

“The installation had become a flash point for violence and was disrupted from its original intent,” MOMI said in a statement. “Over the course of the installation, there have been dozens of threats of violence and numerous arrests, such that police felt compelled to be stationed outside the installation 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”

The museum, located in Astoria at 36-01 at 35th Ave., said it put a priority on the safety of visitors and community members.

“We are proud to have launched this engaging and thought-provoking digital art installation, which was experienced by millions of on-line viewers worldwide,” the museum said. “Until public safety concerns overrode the intent of the installation, ‘He Will Not Divide Us’ generated an important conversation allowing interaction among people from many backgrounds and with different viewpoints. However, ending our engage-

ment with the installation is the most prudent path forward to restore public safety to the museum, its visitors, staff, and the community.”

City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer (D-Sunnyside) sided with the museum’s decision. The councilman recently led a rally denouncing the influx of white supremacist disrupting the exhibit. He said over the last few weeks constituents who lived near the exhibit have complained that they felt unsafe. Officers from the 114th Precinct reported dozens of threats and made multiple arrests at the installation as well, Van Bramer said.

“Needless to say, I was also shocked and outraged by the hateful symbols and rhetoric used by far too many at the exhibit,” Van Bramer said in a statement. “I witnessed racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, sexism and unabashedly pro-Nazi symbols and remarks on this live feed. I’m proud to have led a rally at the site to denounce such hatred.”

Reach Gina Martinez by e-mail at [gmartinez@cnglocal.com](mailto:gmartinez@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4566.

# DNA

Continued from Page 5

tions like the Legal Aid Society and the New York Civil Liberties Union expressed caution about the practice. The Legal Aid Society argued familial searching could put family members of suspects not involved with crime in the cross hairs of a DNA search.

“Because the database disproportionately holds the genetic profiles of people of color, the suspects generated will be

disproportionately people of color,” Legal Aid’s public comment said. “Therefore, when there are false positives, when the family members of convicted offenders are wrongly targeted, those innocent targets of police action will be disproportionately people of color.”

Brown said regulations could be put in place to satisfy the concerns of civil rights advocates.

“In my judgment, familial DNA searching represents sound public policy,” Brown said. “Prudent, appropriate, limited safeguards can be put

in place to ensure that familial searching is used thoughtfully - not indiscriminately - and that information generated by these searches is handled with sensitivity.”

If the subcommittee makes a recommendation on familial DNA searching, it must be sent to the commission for action as well, according to the commission’s website.

Reach reporter Patrick Donachie by e-mail at [pdonachie@cnglocal.com](mailto:pdonachie@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4573.

# Roundtable

Continued from Page 4

request made by Queens Quiet Skies to the Port Authority found in September that flight patterns of commercial jets making the climb above northeast Queens during departures from LaGuardia Airport have increased and account for about 15 percent of the all traffic to and from the international hub.

Avella and Vice President of Queens Quiet Skies Brian

Will presented the findings about runway usage data for LaGuardia Airport, which Will extrapolated himself.

“Northeast Queens in 2002 had 57,000 departures over it. By 2016, we are on pace for 100,000 departures. That’s nearly a doubling of the departures over this neighborhood,” Will said, referring specifically to Jackson Heights and Woodside, which have seen a seven-fold increase in fly-overs within that period of time. “This is just staggering for me and we’re getting it straight from

the Port Authority.”

The data from Port Authority points out that northeast Queens is affected by traffic from runway 13 of LaGuardia Airport. Two main departures routes, the TNNIS Climb and the Whitestone Climb, bring high levels of noise to the borough. Northeast Queens climbs accounted for just under half the departures from LaGuardia in 2014.

Reach reporter Mark Hallum by e-mail at [mhallum@cnglocal.com](mailto:mhallum@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4564.

# State of City

Continued from Page 4

jobs that pay at least \$50,000 a year over the next decade, including 40,000 in the next four years. In addition, de Blasio said he would expand a program that provides lawyers to low-income New Yorkers facing eviction.

He did not go into any detail on the homeless crisis that topped a record 60,000 this summer. “That will come in the coming days,” de Blasio said, drawing a thumbs-down from City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park), who is said to be mulling a run for mayor in November.

“As expected, Mayor de Blasio gave himself a glowing review in his State of the City address on Monday,” he said. “However, he conveniently forgot to mention the homeless epidemic, and the administration’s failure to protect vulnerable children in ACS custody. At a time when New Yorkers are more and more concerned with the future of our city, we deserve real solutions to the problems

we face — not political grandstanding.”

The mayor also briefly mentioned Sandy recovery efforts and investment in infrastructure before finishing with a warning about the Trump administration, which is trying, among other things, to cut off federal funding from sanctuary cities such as New York that refuse to assist the feds with deporting undocumented immigrants.

“We do not know what the future of our economy will be. We sure don’t know what’s going to happen in Washington, D.C.,” de Blasio said. “And we, as New Yorkers, we’ve become even more important in this moment of history. This place becomes more important because of who we are and what we stand for. We need to get it right, my friends. We need to stay a beacon of hope. We need to show people what a society that respects all looks like. And keep the dream of so many of our forbearers alive for all to see. We need to remember this country is ours. It belongs to all of us. And this is our city.”



# Q GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING



## THE WORLD ON SCREEN

Queens World Film Festival brings global perspectives to the borough

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

More than 130 daring and provocative new films from 25 countries — all in one festival. Where else can you get that but right here in the World's Borough? That's what's on tap for the 7th Annual Queens World Film Festival at Astoria's Museum of the Moving Image March 14-19.

"These films examine love, loss, immigration, mental health — and some take on these themes in progressive, ground-breaking style. These films promise to move and entertain our audiences," said QWFF's Artistic Director Don Cato.

From whimsical and avant-garde, to dreamy and tender, to edgy and subversive, it won't be hard to find an indie film that captures your attention and your heart.

Some cutting, real-life works may be tough to watch,

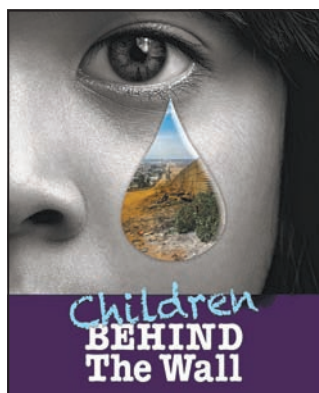
but you'll walk away having learned and experienced something unforgettable. Four thought-provoking films depict the undocumented immigrant experience and four others tackle challenging mental health conditions.

Fright fans who can't get enough of "The Walking Dead" TV series will probably get a kick from the creepy collection of thrillers and chillers heading to MOMI during fest week.

And on a softer note, you can choose from six artistic and beautifully-made LGBT films, as well as a touching and heart-breaking animation about brotherly love.

And the red-carpet Opening Night celebration at MOMI on March 14 promises lots of excitement and glitz.

QWFF's Executive Director Katha Cato described the role of filmmakers as an unblinking eye with a mission to cap-



"Children Behind the Wall" by Jackson Heights filmmaker and HBO producer Marisol González shows the struggles children and young adults face with drug addiction in Tijuana, Mexico.

Courtesy of Marisol González

ture the reality of the world around us.

"Make art. Reflect what you see. Do not blink. Do not look away," she said. "Tell the truth, not as you see it, but as

it is. Remember history, reflect the present and remind us that the future is our responsibility."

It all kicks off at 7:00 p.m., with a VIP reception a chance to rub elbows with the filmmakers and the festival's 2017 honoree, legendary filmmaker and Queens native Julie Dash, as well as other special guests. The program starts at 8:00 p.m., and Ms. Dash, whose work has been described as majestic and intimate, assertive and nuanced, will receive the 2017 Spirit of Queens Award for her outstanding contribution to cinema.

A Long Island City native, Dash paved the way for African-American female filmmakers. Her 1991 classic, "Daughter of the Dust" — the first American feature film by an African-American woman ever to receive a general theatrical release — will be presented on March 15 at MOMI,

followed by a Q&A with the honoree. You can also catch her acclaimed short, "Illusions," with another block of films to be screened at MOMI on March 18.

There were 23 films from Queens at the festival this year, and several artists were eager to discuss the diverse messages and inspirations of their contributions.

**"Children Behind the Wall" (52 min.)**

"Many people ask me, why am I doing this documentary? Why am I so passionate about this topic?" said Jackson Heights filmmaker and HBO producer Marisol González. "The fact is that I didn't know the real reason until a couple of years ago."

Her moving work shines a harsh light on the struggles children and young adults face with drug addiction in Tijuana.

*Continued on Page 6*



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# THEATER CALENDAR



**Cabaret** – Cabaret returns to New York City in an intimate, immersive production which will bring audiences inside the musical like never before. Girls, boys, and booze; there will be something for everyone. But careful, you never know who might start leading the band, or where the club (and country) might go. Minimum age is 13.

**When:** Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 19 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.;

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

**Cost:** \$20

**Contact:** (347) 978-5367

**Website:** www.secrettheatre.com

**Princess Particular** – Princess Particular is off her rocker, all she can think about is her latest scheme to become a star ballerina. Her Mom and Dad, King Loadsadough and Queen Patience, want her to put her focus on her Princess duties. Luckily, her four

maids and the Chancellor and Lady in Waiting are on hand to help make her dream come true!

**When:** Feb. 11 at 2:30 p.m.

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

**Cost:** \$10 for children, \$15 for adults; \$40 family four-pack

**Contact:** (347) 978-5367

**Website:** www.secrettheatre.com

### Anna Azrielli - Mirror

**Furor** – Performed by a dancer (Eleanor Smith), an actor (Massimiliano Balduzzi), a child (Ezra Azrieli Holzman) and a choreographer (Anna Azrieli), Mirror Furor unfolds as a feedback loop of repeated actions in which duets are ruined then reconstituted into dissolving solos, odd trios and finally, the four. Mutating from rawness to confidence, Mirror Furor attempts to forge connections between the action and its own

reflections, which echo, reverberate and amplify through sustained repetition.

**When:** Feb. 22-25 at 8 p.m.

**Where:** Chocolate Factory Theater, 5-49 49th Ave., Long Island City

**Cost:** \$20

**Contact:** (718) 482-7069

**Website:** www.chocolatefactorytheater.org

**Pirate Pete's Parrot** – The play revolves around Pirate Pete, a lovable rogue on a mission to find his beloved runaway parrot, Polly. Armed with an endearing crew of misfits, Pete embarks on a journey complete with songs, sword fights, and plenty of audience interaction.

**When:** Feb. 25 at 2:30 p.m.

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

**Cost:** \$10 for children, \$15 for adults; \$40 family four-pack

**Contact:** (347) 978-5367

**Website:** www.secrettheatre.com

## sudoku

### Answers in Sports

Easy #11

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

Hard #12

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

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

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

Week 19



# Poetic license

New 'funsical' show combines various verses to promote poetry

BY MERLE EXIT

Actor, writer, director, and former English teacher Mark Lord has a new original show to share.

"Don't Judge a Play by Its Title: A Funsical," will debut Feb. 23-26 at St. Gregory's Theatre Group at the Oak Room in Bellrose.

"It is neither a revue, nor a traditional play with a plot," Lord said. "It is probably its own genre. We're calling it a 'funsical,' which aptly describes it."

The show is about poetry, according to Lord, who drew on a wide variety of verse as source material.

"It is a musical that traces the role that poetry plays in our lives from childhood through old age," he said, "consisting of several dozen pieces of poetry — some quite lengthy, some a few lines — ranging from nursery rhymes,

to Shakespeare, to love sonnets, bawdy limericks and some heart-wrenching narratives about the difficulties we all face."

By bringing together poetry from across genres and a wide range of authors, Lord hopes to encourage his audience to engage with poetry and related to it better.

"My goal in this show is to be equally entertaining and informative, and we hope to have audiences leave the theater with a greater enjoyment and understanding of the wide world of poetry," he said. "The poems in the show include works by the likes of William Shakespeare, Maya Angelou, James Weldon Johnson and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, comic pieces by Shel Silverstein and Ogden Nash, slightly bawdy limericks, and several that speak to different aspects of today's society."



Members of St. Gregory's Theatre Group rehearse for Mark Lord's new show "Don't Judge a Play By Its Title." Photo by Barry Feterman

Lord's "funsical" had its origins in his earlier career as a teacher looking for ways to engage his often-disinterested students with literature.

"The seed for the show was planted many years ago when I was still working as a high school English teacher," Lord said. "Not all students like poetry, and I thought that there must be a way to make poetry more engaging. I put together a dramatic presentation that featured a combination of poetry and music. We performed it in school and the students loved it. Ever since, I wanted to expand the piece by mounting it for a wider audience."

Lord wrote original lyrics for the show's opening/closing number, which were set to music by his collaborator, Joe Ferrante. He said about 65 percent of the show is spoken word, while the rest is made up of about a dozen musical numbers, all of which have to do with poetry.

"Some are based on actual poems, some are from musicals adapted from Shakespeare, and so on," Lord said. "From Seuss to Shakespeare, naughty limericks to expressions of love, there is something for everyone in this production."

That cast is as eclectic as Lord's source material, with

each of the two dozen multi-cultural and multi-generational actors taking on multiple characters depending on the poem they are performing. Some of the performers are seasoned veterans and local favorites, while others are relative newcomers to the Queens theatre circuit.

**What:** "Don't Judge A Play By Its Title"

**Where:** St. Gregory's Theatre Group, at the Oak Room, 242-20 88th Avenue, Bellrose

**When:** Feb. 23, 24, 25, 8pm; Feb. 26, 2pm

**Tickets and information:** 718-989-2451 [www.sgtg.org](http://www.sgtg.org)



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## THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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### FILM

**The Last Waltz** – Often  
hailed as the best concert film  
ever made, The Last Waltz  
documents The Band's final  
performance on Thanksgiving  
Day, 1976.

**When:** Friday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.,  
Saturday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Museum of the Moving  
Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria

**Cost:** \$15

**Contact:** (718) 784-0077

**Website:** [www.movingimage.us/](http://www.movingimage.us/)

**I Am Jim Henson** – Written by  
Brad Meltzer and illustrated by  
Chris Eliopoulos, it is the latest  
entry in the children's book  
series Ordinary People Change  
the World. Eliopoulos will  
discuss the book and conduct

a drawing demonstration. The  
program includes video clips  
and a screening of the rarely  
seen 1990 television special  
"The Muppets Celebrate Jim  
Henson."

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 18 at  
1 p.m.

**Where:** Museum of the  
Moving Image, 36-01 35th  
Ave., Astoria

**Cost:** \$15

**Contact:** (718) 784-0077

**Website:** [www.movingimage.us/](http://www.movingimage.us/)

**Martin Scorsese Presents  
the Blues: Feels Like Going  
Home** – In the first episode  
of the seven-part series he

*Continued on Page 6*

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers  
Feb. 17-23, 2017

By Ed Canty

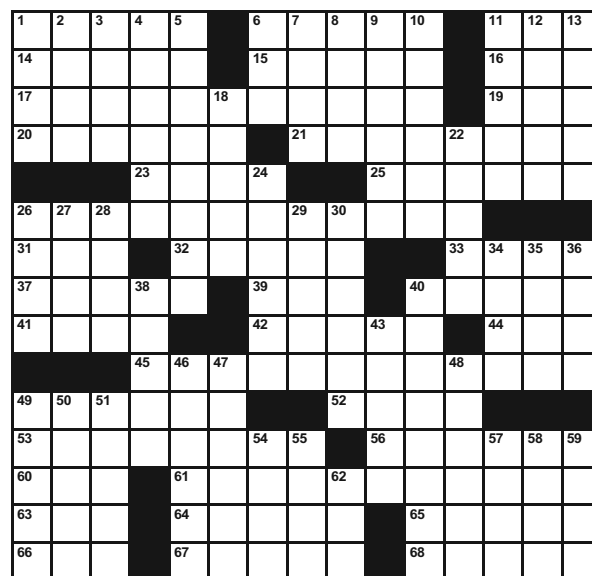
### Don't Get Angry

LAST  
WEEK'S  
ANSWERS

VACATION SPOTS  
FAIR CROAK EMUS  
ACQUAINTANCE MIKE  
NAPAVALLEY EASE  
SISTERLY BARMAN  
TREY CORGI  
UPCAST PLACED BOS  
NORTH BOURGENT  
CLAN ACRED HAIR  
AIR SNOTS DACC  
POLECATS SAYHEY  
EAST STARS  
BISTRO STAYEDAT  
ANTE NEWORLEANS  
ICON DRAKE DICK  
LAND ARMED SLYS

#### Across

1. Displayed
6. Express
11. Sleep acronym
14. Part of a TV  
transmission
15. Circa
16. Eggs
17. Embroidery  
technique
19. To now
20. Stickball venue
21. Join
23. Thin strip
25. End of a threat
26. Fireman's  
badge shape
31. College flora  
at Yale
32. Fissile rock
33. Little one
37. School  
semester, e.g.
39. \_\_\_\_ Diego
40. Fuss
41. Branch  
headquarters?
42. First name in  
perfume
44. Beetle juice?
45. Give the third  
degree
49. Vehicle with  
caterpillar treads
52. Carnival  
attraction
53. Noted Italian  
violinist



56. Country on the  
Baltic
60. Jar part
61. Type of betrayal
63. \_\_\_\_ Maria
64. Port of ancient  
Rome
65. Elias and  
Gordie
66. Gymnast's goal
67. Not well-  
groomed
68. City near  
Düsseldorf

#### Down

1. Pouches
2. In pain
3. Fragrance
4. Most prudent
5. Sans schnozzle
6. Port vessel
7. Passing notice
8. Tad
9. Bird of the hour
10. Anesthetic  
choices
11. Shade of blue
12. Civil rights  
leader Medgar
13. Photo finish
18. Put away
22. Pasta topper
24. Ribs
26. Paw
27. Swear
28. Stringed  
instrument
29. Kind of warfare
30. One paying a  
flat fee
34. Cartoon bear

35. Top Tatar
36. Relaxation
38. Muhammad's  
birthplace
40. Big pain
43. Deposed  
leader's limbo
46. Like coin flips
47. Of no use
48. Urban railways
49. Water balloon  
sound
50. Innocent
51. Author Nash
54. Daft
55. Nile wader
57. Wedding words
58. Understanding  
words
59. PGA part
62. Set down

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Continued from Page 1

na, Mexico, and for González, 44, the issue is personal.

"As is the case with the youngsters you will see in this film, someone close to me, one of my relatives, was hooked on drugs and unfortunately didn't make it. This is something that is really hard for me to talk about. I guess in a way, my need to want to help these kids stems from the fact that I wasn't able to save my cousin."

Her film shows that drug trafficking and addiction are a problem on both sides of the border, and she said that the current climate of divisiveness is not the solution.

"My message is that we need to be compassionate with each other," said González. "We need to build bridges not walls and work together to put an end to drug addiction and drug trafficking."

In 2011, the Dominican documentarian received the "Proclamation Award" from state Sen. José Peralta, for her "outstanding service to the Latino community."

*Sunday, March 19, 5:15 p.m./ MOMI – Zukor Theatre*

**"A Long Time For Lovers"** (77 min.)

The film follows eight friends ignoring the people who love them, while desperately chasing after people who do not. Once night falls, the rush to say how they feel be-

comes clear: Perhaps this really is the last night on earth.

"I first started writing LTFV with the intention of making light, and to some degree, a joke out of people who take relationships so seriously... As if it's the end of the world," said director and Astoria resident David McElfresh, 36. This is his second feature.

"With that in mind, I thought, why not just go ahead and make it the end of the world, and truly create a joke out of the situation. In the end, the film probably comes across more serious than a farce. However, I'd like to think people can see the absurdity in there somewhere."

*Saturday, March 18, 3:15 p.m./MOMI – Zukor Theatre*

**"Butterfly"** (15 min.)

A young woman learns the rewards that simple acts of kindness can bring when her life crosses paths with an unlikely friend.

"The story is about an artist who befriends a down-on-his-luck man in the park. It has echoes of both scriptures and fairy/folk tales. But the main message of the film is that there is inherent magic in kindness," said Serife Potuk, another up-and-coming Queens filmmaker.

Potuk sees filmmaking as an opportunity to have a positive impact on society.

"Our current culture, and my generation, is prone to listening to video media. I want to create films that have something positive to say," he said.

*Friday, March 17, 7:15 p.m./*



"Excerpts of 4 Little Girls: A Dance Film" presents a work in progress by Queens filmmaker Kerri Edge that uses dance to depict the tragic story of the 1963 church bombing in Birmingham, Ala., that killed four little girls – and to comment on current civil rights struggles

Courtesy of Kerri Edge

*MOMI – Bartos Theatre*

**"Excerpts of 4 Little Girls: A Dance Film"** (14 min.)

Queens filmmaker Kerri Edge presents portions of "a work in progress," created to provoke conversations about the continued fight for civil rights in America. The 1963 church bombing that killed four little girls in Birmingham, Ala., "is the catalyst for the story that compares past and present movements to fight racial discrimination," she said.

"Yesterday's focus was the desegregation of public spaces, while today's fight focuses on police brutality and criminal justice system injustices. America still struggles for racial harmony and equality,"

said Edge.

Using dance as its primary expressive element, while memorializing the girls who tragically lost their lives — Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson and Cynthia Wesley — this moving and provocative film targets diverse family audiences, according to Edge.

*Sunday, March 19, 3 p.m./ MOMI – Zukor*

**"Dillzilla: Titan of Terror"** (19 min.)

This must-see film is a spoof of the 1950's B-movie horror genre.

"It is an ode to the time when film was fun and filled with sincerity, action and over-the-top monsters," said Jackson Heights filmmaker Elizabeth "Pickles" Pasieczny, who writes and directs for Pickleman Productions, specializing in family films.

"Dillzilla" follows the form, but also adds contemplation, consequence, and accountability," she said. "There is no simple 'kill the monster' ending here."

Pickleman, the titular character, gets infected by a mysterious bio-hazard. Now, whenever he gets angry, he grows to monstrous size. In his search for a solution to his predicament, he panics the local populace, accidentally sets fire to the town, collapses a building, and finds himself besieged by the National Guard.

"Silliness and the absurd are missing in film, and Pickleman films are bringing them back," said Pasieczny.

## IF YOU GO

### 7th-Annual Queens World Film Festival

**Where:** Museum of the Moving Image

**36-01 35th Ave., Astoria**

**QWFF 7: Opening Night**

**When:** Tuesday, March 14 at 8 pm - 10 pm

**Screening in the Redstone Theatre at MOMI**

**For tickets visit:**

**http://www.**

**brownpapertickets.com/event/2839256**

She said she loves classic horror movies because they were appropriate for all ages, and provided a welcome escape for the whole family.

"The audience was free to engage the film and enjoy the wild distraction from their everyday life," she said. "I believe that families want those films again. Events that they can all experience together without extreme violence, crudeness or sexuality."

Appropriately, the family-friendly message of "Dillzilla" is one of compassion, empathy, and forgiveness — especially to your own mistakes.

*Sunday, March 19, 4:30 p.m./ MoMI – Redstone*

The festival winners will be announced March 19 at the Astor Room Bamboo Lodge, right next door to MOMI.

For the full schedule, visit [www.queensworldfilmfestival.com](http://www.queensworldfilmfestival.com)

## Arts

Continued from Page 36

produced for PBS, Scorsese pays homage to the Delta blues. Musician Corey Harris travels through Mississippi and on to West Africa, exploring the roots of the music, celebrating the early Delta bluesmen through original performances (including Willie King, Taj Mahal, Otha Turner, and Ali Farka Toure) and rare archival footage (featuring Son House, Muddy Waters, and John Lee Hooker). **When:** Saturday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. **Where:** Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria **Cost:** \$15 **Contact:** (718) 784-0077 **Website:** [www.movingimage.us/](http://www.movingimage.us/)

**Shine A Light** – Perhaps

no concert movie has ever given such a close-up view of a performance than Martin Scorsese's film of The Rolling Stones's 2010 concert at the Beacon Theatre. Using eighteen cameras, that are always in motion, Scorsese takes us behind the scenes and on stage with the venerable band led by the eternally youthful Mick Jagger.

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 18 at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria

**Cost:** \$15

**Contact:** (718) 784-0077

**Website:** [www.movingimage.us/](http://www.movingimage.us/)

**Winnie the Pooh** – This sweet-as-honey adaptation of A.A. Milne's timeless children's book about Christopher Robin and his beloved stuffed animals was made in the classic Disney

tradition of hand-drawn animation.

**When:** Feb. 19-23 at 12:30 p.m.

**Where:** Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria

**Cost:** \$15, \$7 youth (ages 3-17)

**Contact:** (718) 784-0077

**Website:** [www.movingimage.us/](http://www.movingimage.us/)

## EVENTS

**Long Island City Food Tour**

– Treat your taste buds as you eat your way through one of Queens' most historic and vibrant neighborhoods with the Long Island City Food Tour.

**When:** Weekdays starting at 11 a.m.; Weekends starting at 12:30 p.m.

**Where:** Meet in Long Island City (exact location provided with ticket purchase).

**Cost:** \$47.95 for children under 12; \$64.95 for adults

**Contact:** 347-685-4415

**Website:** [www.queensfoodtours.com](http://www.queensfoodtours.com)

**Lunar New Year Puppet Slam**

– Start the Year of the Rooster off right with light. The 2nd NYC Shadow Puppet Slam returns with another brilliant selection of shadow performance by local puppet illuminati. Chinese theatre Works' Kuang-Yu Fong and Stephen Kaplin host an evening of short works ranging across the full spectrum of traditional and cutting edge shadow theater, animation, video and film. For adult audiences only.

**When:** Friday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Flushing Town Hall

**Cost:** \$13, \$10 for members

**Contact:** (718) 463-7700 x222

**Website:** [www.flushingtownhall.org](http://www.flushingtownhall.org)

**Korean Traditional**

**Marching Band –**

Professional musicians and their student performers from the Korean Traditional Marching Band come together to present their Korean folk drumming repertoire followed by an interactive workshop that helps participants understand Korean rhythms and instruments, and explore traditional movements.

**When:** Sunday, Feb. 19 at 5 p.m.

**Where:** Flushing Town Hall

**Cost:** \$5, free for members

**Contact:** (718) 463-7700 x222

**Website:** [www.flushingtownhall.org](http://www.flushingtownhall.org)

**Valentine Victorian**

**Tea** – The Floral Park Woman's Club will hold their annual Valentine Victorian Tea event. We hear guests will enjoy a delightful assortment of tea, sandwiches, tea breads and

scrumptious desserts.

**When:** Feb. 18 at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** St. Elizabeth's Church, 6 Harvard St., Floral Park

**Cost:** \$25 donation

**Contact:** (516) 775-8496

## MUSIC

**Richard Padrón Quartet**

– The Richard Padrón Group is an ensemble based in New York City and founded in 2002 in Miami, Florida. Performers include Dan Martinez (bass), Roman Diaz (percussion), Mauricio Zotarelli (drums) and Richard Padrón (guitar and compositions).

**When:** Friday, Feb. 17 at 10:30 p.m.

**Where:** Terraza 7, 40-19

Gleane St., Elmhurst

**Cost:** \$10, free for children 12 and under

**Contact:** (718) 803-9602

**Website:** [www.terrazza7.com](http://www.terrazza7.com)



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# Nuisance

*Continued from Page 1*

brought 2,609 NAL actions between 2013 and 2015, with a high of 920 actions in one year, though the Council said such actions were drastically reduced in 2016. The 13 bills approved Wednesday are collectively called the Nuisance Abatement Fairness Act. The measure was first introduced in November 2016, with legislators aiming to amend the law while ensuring the NYPD still had the ability to use nuisance abatement if deemed absolutely necessary.

"This package of legislation will reform these laws to eliminate the most Draconian penalties, and limit its application to ensure that innocent people do not lose their homes or businesses, all while still permitting the swift shuttering of illegal houses of prostitution, bodegas that sell K2, and other actual nuisances when appropriate," Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito (D-Manhattan) said in November.

Viverito was one of several co-sponsors for the bill, including Richards, fellow Council members Karen Koslowitz (D-Forest Hills) and Barry Grodenchik (D-Oakland Gardens). The collection of bills was approved by the Committee on Public Safety Tuesday for a full Council vote Wednesday.

The legislation limits the use of *ex parte* orders, which allow the city to go before a judge who can mandate a temporary or permanent closure of a home or business without offering the tenant or homeowner an opportunity to hear the case or defend themselves. And while previously even misdemeanor drug possession constituted a "nuisance" issue, according to the NYPD, with the new reforms, only drug sales and felony posses-



Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito said the nuisance abatement reforms would help the community and NYPD officers clarify when the practice can be used.

sion could lead to a lockout.

Richards said there was previously no statute of limitations on nuisance abatement cases, leading to businesses and residencies remaining closed for months after issues were settled. The NYPD would sometimes check in on a property as much as a year or more after the nuisance complaint — even after the offending tenant had left — leading to undue hardship for the current tenants, according to Richards.

"We need to mandate that the NYPD acts quickly and decisively in these instances to ensure that we are not punishing New Yorkers for another's crime," Richards said in November. Legislation he sponsored would set a four-month statute of limitations in which the NYPD could act on a nuisance complaint.

Other pieces of the legislation would also prohibit

individuals from being permanently excluded from a residence and require lab analysis for all drug-related nuisance cases, among other provisions.

Larry Byrne, the commissioner for legal matters with the NYPD, testified in November that the proposed statute of limitations could be too short to fully resolve a complaint — especially with the other new requirements set out in the reforms.

"We think four months is too short," he told the Council, saying that "as a practical matter, to do all the things these 13 bills are asking to do, it can't be done within four months of the first criminal act and when the court order is obtained."

*Reach reporter Patrick Donachie by e-mail at pdonachie@cnglocal.com or by phone at (718) 260-4573.*

# ICE raids

*Continued from Page 1*

wearing ICE jackets, which Van Bramer said are easily available online. They demanded all of the man's cash "or they'd take him in" and the man gave them \$250.

"This is a sick act by four individuals making a quick buck off immigrant fears," Van Bramer said. "We can't let incidents like this go unchallenged."

The man's wife contacted Van Bramer's office because they were afraid to talk to the NYPD. Make the Road New York lead organizer Antonio Alarcon warned that similar incidents are happening all over Queens, but undocumented immigrants fear speaking with the authorities — a fear Van Bramer said was unfounded.

"New York City is a sanctuary city, so if you contact police, they won't ask about immigration status or report you to authorities," Van Bramer said. "We stand united to keep this community safe. Even the undocumented."

Van Bramer said he has seen false reports on social media of checkpoints on Junction Boulevard that had spread fear to Jackson Heights and Corona.

"These are frightening times, and we need accurate information from ICE on exactly who was arrested for what," Van Bramer said.

The agency did report that 41 foreign nationals were arrested last week in the five boroughs, and that 38 had prior criminal convictions.

"Reports of ICE checkpoints and sweeps are false, dangerous, and irresponsible," the agency said in a statement. "These reports create panic and put communities and law enforcement personnel in unnecessary danger. Any groups falsely reporting such activities are doing a disservice to those they claim to support."

During a Monday press con-

ference, President Donald Trump said he would continue to ramp up deportations and arrests of immigration fugitives and at-large criminal aliens.

"I said we will get the criminals out — the drug lords, the gang members — we're getting them out," Trump said.

Last week ICE arrested 680 people in 11 states during "targeted enforcement operations." State Assemblyman Francisco Moya (D-Jackson Heights) blasted the ICE actions.

"I am outraged and emotionally sickened by the ICE raids that have led to the detainment of immigrants in New York and other U.S. cities. These are exactly the kind of bullish tactics that we have feared the Trump administration would use," Moya said. "The men arrested had families and now their children will be left without a father, just so Trump can claim that he has fulfilled his campaign promise. That these raids were conducted in several sanctuary cities proves they were not simply routine exercises, but rather directives from the Oval Office to crack down on opposition."

Meanwhile, state Sen. Jose Peralta (D-East Elmhurst) said the Independent Democratic Conference has set up an emergency hotline at 1-800-213-6385 to assist anyone that needs help on immigration matters.

"In the era of Trump, our immigrant communities, unfortunately, live now in constant fear. We are talking about New Yorkers who want to be part of the American Dream, just like my parents did when they arrived here," Peralta said. "It is my hope that the president puts an end to these unjust federal raids. We cannot stand idly by while President Trump runs roughshod over our immigrant families and the values that bind us together as New Yorkers."

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

# Peralta

*Continued from Page 5*

fection felt like a betrayal.

"It was a slap in the face," she said. "On Jan. 14 he depicted the IDC as unprincipled, immoral, manipulative and a blight on the state Senate. We had no warning about his decision. He lied to us at the board."

Peralta declined to comment on his ouster from the club, but his communication director, Juan Soto, emailed a statement to TimesLedger Newspapers.

"It's not a surprise that the New Visions Democratic Club, controlled by the Democratic machine, took this action," he said. "Senator Peralta looks forward to a healthy debate now and during his re-election."

The situation became more inflammatory Monday, when state Sen. Jeff Klein (D-Bronx), the leader of the IDC said he thinks some of the criticism of Peralta, a Dominican, and two other new members of the IDC, a Dominican woman and a black man, is racist.

"Senator Klein's statements are flat out wrong and offen-

sive," Krishnan said. "The New Visions Democratic Club is proudly one of the most diverse and progressive clubs in New York City."

Steinberg had a suggestion for Klein.

"I want him to come and look at our membership," she said. "We really reflect our community."

Judging from comments made by several speakers during the town hall meeting, Peralta still enjoys a level of support in his district, where he served in the Assembly from 2002 to 2010, when he was elected to the

Senate. He has been re-elected twice by large margins.

"I personally think that Senator Peralta has been working hard for the good of the community," Corona resident Francisco Solano said. "He has always helped our Hispanic community to overcome obstacles of being a new immigrant in a new country. The quality of work he does for our community helps us grow, and we are thankful for his support."

Corona resident Lester Youngblood protested the injustices of segregation as a young black man in Alabama in the

1960s.

"I was beaten and had to play dead in order not to be killed for my beliefs," he said. "I wholeheartedly believe that Sen. Jose Peralta is an elected official who fights for the rights of the disenfranchised, and for those who do not have a voice. That is why I support him, and I know firsthand that his intention is to support his constituents in every way that he can."

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



# Sports



Danielle Patterson (c) was joined by her parents and TMLA coach JoAnn Arbitello-Pinnock when she was honored as a McDonald's All-American. Community News Group / Laura Amato

## Mary Louis phenom named All-American

BY LAURA AMATO

Danielle Patterson was taking everything in stride – until she noticed the cookies with her face on them.

The Mary Louis Academy basketball star has had a few weeks to take in the idea of being named a McDonald's All-American, but the senior standout admitted she was just a bit overwhelmed during a ceremony honoring her achievements Monday afternoon. After all, it's not every day your picture is on a cookie.

"It has been a lot to take in, but I'm super grateful for it all," said Patterson, who will head to Notre Dame next year. "I'm grateful for the people I get to share it with right now – my teachers, my coaches, my parents and everyone that supports me."

Patterson will play at the All-American game in Chicago March 29, but the ceremony at Mary Louis was a chance for her to celebrate with those closest to her. This moment had been years in the making and Patterson couldn't seem to quite wipe the smile off her face, even after posing for several

dozen photos.

"I never imagined I'd be a McDonald's All-American," Patterson said. "I just played because I loved it and then I think after awhile I realized as I grew and got older, it just became something I was striving for."

Patterson has been shouldering plenty of expectations this season – coming into her senior year facing a handful of questions, namely where she was going to play college hoops, but she's done her best to stay focused. She's well aware of her position in the Hilltoppers program and Patterson has made it her goal to step up as the leader of her team.

It hasn't always been easy, but over the last few weeks, it's become as simple as sinking a jumper from the post. She's pretty good at that.

"I try to do a good job handling it," Patterson said. "I feel like I have to be a leader for my team and I have to be a leader for the people around me. So by showing that I'm getting crazy, it won't

*Continued on Page 41*

## Continuing a legacy

Former 'Dozo star aims to set positive example

BY LAURA AMATO

It still looked the same.

Melvin Robinson used to walk down the hallways at Cardozo and wonder how he was ever going to make it. The former Judges basketball star nearly came up short of his goal, struggling that first semester, but Robinson hit his stride on the hardwood.

He found success with a ball in his hands and eventually success in the classroom followed – it also led him back to 'Dozo Monday afternoon.

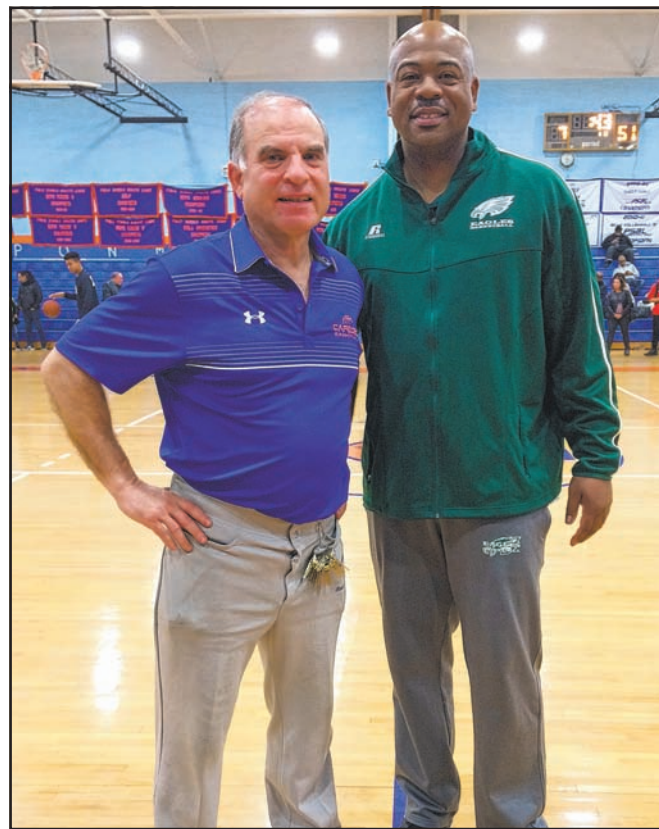
Robinson returned to those same hallways that used to intimidate him and the same gym that helped shape him – not as a player, but as a coach, leading Environmental Studies in a non-league matchup against the Judges.

"My first marking period I almost failed off," said Robinson, who attended ISA prior to coming to Cardozo. "It was a big thing for me to come here to Cardozo and play basketball, everybody was looking forward to it and I didn't want to disappoint. This just opened my eyes."

Robinson found a family at Cardozo, a culture shaped by Judges head coach Ron Naclerio, who took the standout under his wing. It's a relationship that has survived the better part of the last two decades and one that has shaped Robinson as a coach and a person.

"I can never be thankful enough for what he did for me," Robinson said. "Those life skills about being disciplined and respectful and working hard, I learned that here."

Robinson went on to play Division I basketball at Saint Peter's and he didn't struggle



Cardozo coach Ron Naclerio (l) and Environmental Studies coach Melvin Robinson have shared a bond on and off the court for over two decades. Community News Group / Laura Amato

in the classroom again.

"I just never looked back," he said. "I finished [at Cardozo] and graduated with a 90 GPA. I went on to play Division I basketball and I never failed a class in college."

Robinson always knew he wanted coach – inspired, as per usual, by Naclerio – and as soon as the opportunity came to pace the sidelines at Environmental Studies, he jumped at the chance.

Now, he's simply hoping to have the same impact on his players that Naclerio had on him.

"I have to give it back now and that's why I coach," Robinson said. "It's bigger than basketball. We're just trying to

get them on a good path after leaving high school. We want them to be great young men."

Robinson approached Naclerio about the possibility of scheduling a non-league matchup and the Judges longtime coach was quick to help set it up. It turned out to be a bit of a mini-reunion as well with several of Robinson's former teammates sitting in the stands.

"He called me and I know when you're a young coach you want to play some high-profile games," Naclerio said. "So we ended up getting it to work. I said, 'Listen, I know how it was when I first started' and we made it work."

*Continued on Page 41*



# Rowland sets Queens College record

Senior sets program's all-time scoring record, nears top rebounding mark in school history

BY LAURA AMATO

Madison Rowland knows it will all sink in eventually. She'll realize what she's done and what she's accomplished and she'll think of 2,182 and smile. She knows eventually it will feel real, but right now it feels a bit like a basketball-based dream.

The Queens College senior star made Knights history Saturday afternoon, becoming the program's all-time leading scorer with 2,182 career points, surpassing Shalonda Young's previous record of 2,166.

"I feel like when I get older it'll be more like 'Wow!'," said Rowland, who finished with 21 points in her record-breaking game. "But since I'm in the moment, I'm still kind of just focused on the season. It's a huge accomplishment and I'm well aware of that, but there's still games."

Rowland was just six points away from history ahead of the game – the same amount she needed when she crested the 2,000-point mark in January –

and she's the first to admit that she had a few more nerves than normal when she suited up.

"I was overly focused on it," Rowland said. "So I wasn't really playing my normal game because I was too focused on that. I was definitely trying to get the six points so I could just get it out of the way and just focus on the game."

Rowland captured the record early in the third quarter and as soon as she saw the ball go through the hoop, she finally felt like she could take a deep breath. She started playing her brand of basketball again.

"After I scored the six points, I was like, OK, finally that's over with," Rowland said. "I focused on the game and I just started playing like normal. Everything was just normal after that."

Rowland came to Queens College four years ago with one very simple plan – she wanted to play basketball and wanted to play as well as she could.

Now, she's become one of the program's defining players and, with the help of her



Queens College senior star Madison Rowland made program history Saturday afternoon, setting the all-time scoring record.

Queens College Athletics

two sisters, MacKenzie and Merrick, Rowland has helped lift the Knights to a brand-new level of competition.

"I wasn't planning on this at all," Rowland said. "We've always been the underdogs,

up until pretty much this season. So we took that personally and we did all we could to put this school on the map."

As if setting the program's point record isn't

enough, Rowland is closing in on yet another accolade. The senior guard is just nine rebounds away from 1,000 career rebounds, a feat that would make her the first player in program history to reach that number in addition to scoring 2,000 points.

She also – for good measure – recently set the ECC record for in both career points and steals.

Rowland's final season on the college hardwood has been a whirlwind, but it's not over quite yet and if there's one more thing the star wants to accomplish, it's leading her team to on a title run.

In the end, she might care about that more than anything else.

"I think that's why everybody is focused on a championship and making it out of the East because we all know what we're capable of," Rowland said. "I love the atmosphere and the competition, so I really can't wait for the playoffs to start."

## Prep coach Tim Leary honored at final home game

BY LAURA AMATO

Tim Leary didn't always want to be a teacher. He never really planned on being a coach either. More than 40 years after he became both, Leary can't quite imagine anything else.

The longtime St. Francis Prep boys' basketball coach, retiring after 43 years on the sidelines, was honored at the Terriers' final home game of the season Sunday afternoon as former players and students packed the gym to celebrate his unexpected and incredibly successful career.

"I was going to be a cop like everybody else in my family. I had taken the test and I was waiting to get on the job out of school," Leary said. "I just got married out of college and I needed a job, so while I was waiting I took to teaching. And I was like 'this is great.' I'll be on the beach during the summer and I never really looked back after that."

Leary – a 1963 Prep grad – was a star on the hardwood before he started pacing the sidelines. He played both basketball and baseball for the Terriers and went on to compete at Manhattan College, leading the Jaspers to two NIT appearances.

But while Leary found success in his own game, his ability to help an entire generation of Prep stars excel on the



St. Francis Prep boys' basketball coach Tim Leary was honored at the Terriers' game against Holy Cross, celebrating a career that spanned over forty years.

Community News Group / Laura Amato

court has defined his career even more.

"He put as much hard work as he expected out of his players," said three-year starter Kevin Fitzgerald, who went on to play at Boston University. "He really cared about his players, whether he was hard on us or not. He was always behind us and always came us a lot of confidence to play well."

Leary is the winningest coach at St. Francis Prep and leads the CHSAA's active coaches in wins, racking up over 600 victories over the course of his career.

He was inducted into the NYS basketball coaches hall of fame, the Prep hall of fame and CHSAA hall of fame, but the accolades never meant much for Leary. He was – and still is – always focused on his players.

"That's what it's about, to be honest with you," Leary said. "I was excited about how many kids and how many players came back [today]. I'll get a chance to see them all and that was really good."

Leary had been considering retirement for several seasons – already retired from the classroom – but said

he wanted to wait for the right time to walk away from the game.

"I would have given it up sooner for a variety of reasons, but one was my wife was very sick for four years and I was home. So it was something to do and she was pushing me to be here," he said.

Leary's influence on Prep is unquestionable – Sunday's crowd was a testament to that – and it was never just about basketball. It was about life and lessons and being a good person. It was about learning how to exist within a community and make sure you were, always, an asset.

"I played for the man, I've worked on his staff now for close to 15 years," Lynch said. "You see what he does on the court, gives us a great product on the court, but if you know that man off the court, like I do, he's just a tremendous guy."

Leary was quick to point out the Terriers' miscues after falling to Holy Cross Sunday, but while the season hasn't exactly been picture-perfect, he can't bring himself to regret a single moment.

He never quite planned on this path, but now that he's walked it, Leary is nothing but thankful for the journey.



# Former CTK star on the rise at Iona

BY LAURA AMATO

He considers himself a student.

Jon Severe is always learning, always determined to get better and overcome the next obstacle. It's a trait that served the former Christ the King star well in the classroom – graduating from Fordham University in three years – and on the basketball court.

Severe, in the midst of his final season of eligibility, has settled into a leadership role at Iona College this year, but he's still learning. In fact, he's learned more about himself this year than ever before.

"I've just tried to get smarter on the court," Severe said. "Before I was kind of fresh to the game and I'm always trying to learn something new. I've learned to trust my body and started really doing the right things on and off the court."

Severe's basketball education began in Middle Village, leading the Royals to a Federation title as a senior. He was also named a Parade All-American and New York's Mr. Basketball, the state's highest honor.

He wrapped up his career with over 1,100 points.

"Christ the King was always a great program and they always find a way to win," Severe said. "There's just a ton of talent in that team. It really helped shape me as a player."

Severe learned even more at the college level – fine-tuning his game and his offensive presence to become one of the most dominant scorers in Fordham history. He set the Rams' freshman scoring record with a whopping 536 points and, as a junior last season, racked up 10 games with double-digit points.

Severe credits his determination to learn more about the game for helping him on the court. He's worked on his shooting technique for as long as he can remember, but as far as Severe is concerned, there's always room for improvement.

"I think I've improved my shot selection," he said. "It's easier to tell what's a good shot and what's a bad shot now. I'm still trying to be a bit more defensive-minded as a guard though, just trying to get better over all."

Severe graduated from Fordham in three years with a de-



Bushwick native and Iona College standout Jon Severe has a reputation for scoring the ball, something he's worked to achieve at every level of competition.

Iona Athletics

gree in communications, but he still wanted a brand-new challenge and it found it – at Iona.

He's had to work to find a place in the Gaels' starting lineup, but Severe believes he's hit his stride over the last few

weeks. His 11.8 points per game are second on the team in scoring and Severe saw action in all of the team's first 25 games.

He's still learning, but he's also having some fun.

"I thought the team was real-

ly good for my style of play. I've had fun playing here," Severe said. "It's a score-first program and that's my kind of mentality."

Severe has been around the basketball block over the last decade or so and, now that he's at Iona, he's doing his best to impart a few of those lessons on to his teammates. The student, in this case, has become the teacher.

"I've been in just about every situation on a basketball court," Severe said. "So I try to help the freshman out and help out teammates who haven't seen certain things before. I kind of see that as my role."

Severe has one more thing he'd like to learn at Iona – how to win a championship. The Gaels are the favorites to repeat as Metro Athletic champions and Severe is determined for one final basketball test on the national stage.

And he's ready to work for it.

"I've just been trying to come to practice every day and play hard," Severe said. "That's always been my mentality. I want to be consistent, come out and take over."

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# LoVett sparks St. John's against Seton Hall

Redshirt freshman scores 19 points to lead Red Storm to victory in Big East tilt

BY LAURA AMATO

Marcus LoVett doesn't care when he gets into the game. The only thing he's worried about is what he does once he's on the court.

The St. John's redshirt freshman came off the bench Saturday afternoon – for the second straight game – but he set the tone of the Red Storm's Big East hoops matchup against Seton Hall, leading his squad to a 78-70 victory at Madison Square Garden.

LoVett packed his stat sheet, finishing the Big East tilt with a game-high 19 points, six assists and three steals.

"I knew coming into this game that I was going to come off the bench," LoVett said. "I just tried to do the best I could coming off the bench and give that spark for us and it worked out well for us."

The Red Storm's performance was a complete turnaround from the team's first meeting in Newark earlier this year. St. John's hit its stride late in the first half – taking a 37-27 lead into the break – but more importantly, the Storm controlled Seton Hall's big men,



Red Storm guard Marcus LoVett provided a serious spark off the bench for St. John's, racking up a game-high 19 points as the team took down Seton Hall at the Garden.

St. John's Athletics

namely Angel Delgado.

The Pirates' junior – who went for 21 points and 20 rebounds against St. John's Jan. 22 – was held to just 13 points and 10 rebounds and was a non-factor down the stretch as St. John's wrapped up the victory.

"As a team we just boxed him out, we made sure we got to him," forward Tariq Owens said. "Last time we played them, he was a major impact on

the game. So coming into this game he was just a major focus of what we had to do."

LoVett helped St. John's grab some early-game momentum out of the backcourt, joined – as per usual – by fellow guard Shamorie Ponds. The Brooklyn native chipped in 17 points of his own and the duo helped the Red Storm force the Pirates into a whopping 18 turnovers.

St. John's scored 30 points off

turnovers.

"Defensively we stepped up. That was major," LoVett said. "[What] we talked about in practice was just stepping up as the guards and trying to get as many steals and deflections as we could. We knew that was going to get our team going."

It wasn't just the St. John's backcourt which excelled, however – Owens continued his strong play at the Garden with

10 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks. His put-back dunk late in the first half woke up the crowd and effectively set Seton Hall back on its collective toes.

"I thought that one exchange probably changed the whole complexion of the game," Red Storm coach Chris Mullin said. "Statistically it probably showed up more so tonight, but he always has a huge impact."

Seton Hall made it a single-digit game with just over four minutes left to play, but the Pirates could never quite get over the final hump. By the final whistle, St. John's had put players score double figures and collectively shot 90.5 percent from the free throw line and. Most importantly, the Red Storm moved into fifth place in the Big East standings with the victory.

"All along I felt like if we played really tough defense and we play unselfish on the offensive end, I think we can play just about anybody," Mullin said. "We've shown we can be dangerous to our opponents and dangerous to ourselves. We've just got to make sure we're dangerous to opponents more."

## All-American

Continued from Page 44

help them. It's just about staying positive."

The expectations for Patterson are still sky-high, as are her own expectations for the Hilltoppers this season. She's well aware of what this team can do and she's not willing to accept much less than a championship run.

She's an All-American – and a nominee for Gatorade Player of the Year

– but she's also hungry for a title and she's going to keep working until she achieves that as well.

"It's finally paying off," Patterson said. "I'm seeing that now. So I just continue to work, not getting in any way shape or form satisfied."

Patterson has been playing basketball for years, grew up with a ball in her hands and a determination that will serve her well when she gets to Chicago next month, but for all the expectations and the accolades, she's never once

grown tired of the game.

She loves it even more than she did when she was a kid, determined to follow in her heroes footsteps with an All-American jersey draped over her shoulders.

"My mom used to constantly ask how much I love it and when I started I was like 'Eh, it's alright,'" Patterson said. "As I've gotten older, I've realized that so many legends have come out of this game and I want to make my mark and be that for other young girls coming through."

## Robinson

Continued from Page 44

Robinson isn't gunning for Naclerio's win record, but he is anxious to follow in his former coach's footsteps. His players warmup jerseys read "There's only one way, it's the right way," words practically bored in Robinson's head when he played under Naclerio.

The Eagles are playoff-

bound for the first time in program history this season and Robinson is anxious to see what the future will hold, hoping to help his players as much as Naclerio helped him.

"He impacted my life so much," Robinson said. "Some of the seniors they've been here for four years and they're finally making it to the playoffs, so there's a lot of excitement around this. We're looking forward to it."

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: FULBRIDGE MANAGEMENT LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/04/2017. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: SUNNY CHIU 136-20 38TH AVENUE, 12TH FLOOR FLUSHING, NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: GLOBAL LINK BY PAUL NASH LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/09/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: NY KING LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/09/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LEMUEL WIECHELS 2065 24TH ST APT 3B ASTORIA, NY 11105. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

## LEGAL

York (SSNY) on 02/03/2017. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC 144-68 38th Avenue #603 Flushing NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SECOND YONKERS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/31/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: EDWARD M. VARGA III 23-58 33RD ST ASTORIA, NY 11105. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: STITCHIGAN, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/08/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C/O UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: FOREVER ELITE EVENTS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/03/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 13446 232ND STREET LAURELTON, NY 11413. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: CARVE DIGITAL LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/01/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: JERRY CHIN, E.A. 4518 COURT SQUARE STE 400 LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: GENERATION X, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/02/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LEMUEL WIECHELS 2065 24TH ST APT 3B ASTORIA, NY 11105. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

## LEGAL

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SINCERE HOME CARE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/12/2017. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: HEMWATI PANHANI 215-33 JAMAICA AVE QUEENS VILLAGE, NY 11428. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**Notice of Formation of SK East Distributors LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/28/15. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 612 Beach 65th Street, Arvene, NY 11692. Purpose: any lawful activity.

**Notice of Formation of S U S S M A N ARCHITECTURAL PRODUCTS LLC** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/04/17. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: 109-10 180th St., Jamaica, NY 11433. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

**Sanford T1 LLC.** Filed 12/8/16. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: Tracy Li, 144-30 Roosevelt Ave Apt 615, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: General.

**Signature Gold Group, LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/7/16. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 115-34 172nd St., Fl. 2, Jamaica, NY 11434. General Purpose.

**WE 4 FOREVER LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/16/16. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 37-22 73rd Street, Suite 7C, Jackson Heights, NY 11372. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**WONDER REAL ESTATE, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/25/2017. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 147-33 Barclay Avenue, 3/F, Flushing, NY 11355. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

**XIN TONG LLC** Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 12/12/16. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to C/O Xin Hua

## LEGAL

Gan 147-10 Jasmine Ave Flushing, NY 11355. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

## LEGAL

**Law Office of Anastasia Gadayevea, PLLC,** Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/23/16. County: New York. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to The PLLC, 118-35 Queens Blvd., Ste. 400, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Law.

## LEGAL

**NOTICE OF NON DISCRIMINATORY POLICY** WINDSOR PARK NURSING HOME LOCATED AT 212-40 HILLSIDE AVE QUEENS VILLAGE NY 11427 A PARTICIPANT IN THE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PROGRAMS DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE IN ITS POLICIES REGARDING A D M I S S I O N S , EMPLOYMENT OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BECAUSE OF RACE, CREED, COLOR, AGE, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, D I S A B I L I T Y , S P O N S O R S H I P , MARITAL STATUS, CITIZENSHIP OR NATIONAL & ETHNIC ORIGIN OR SOURCE OF PAYMENT. DATE 2/17/17

## LEGAL

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A LICENSE, NUMBER 1298765 FOR WINE, BEER, & LIQUOR HAS BEEN APPLIED FOR BY THE UNDERSIGNED TO SELL AT RETAIL IN A RESTAURANT UNDER THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL LAW AT TAQUERIA KERMES INC., 66 36 FRESH POND ROAD, RIDGEWOOD NY 11385 FOR ON PREMISE C O N S U M P T I O N . TAQUERIA KERMES INC.**

## LEGAL

**Notice is hereby given** that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Queens County on 2-6-17, bearing Index Number NC-001081-16/QU, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 89-17 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York, 11435, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) JAMES (Middle) VINCENT (Last) SHANE. My present name is (First) VINCENT (Last) SHANE AKA JAMES VINCENT SHANE. My present address is 23-34 27th Street, Astoria, NY 11105-3110. My place of birth is QUEENS, NY. My date of birth is November 28, 1988.

## LEGAL

**NOTICE OF SALE** SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST NAZMA B. KHAN, SHAMEENA KHAN, NASEEM B. BEEN AND SHADIA N. FAROOQ, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 09, 2014 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Courthouse in Courtroom # 25 on a Friday at 10:00 A.M. 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York, on March 03, 2017 at 10:00AM, premises known as 76-04 97TH AVENUE, OZONE PARK, NY 11416. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Fourth Ward of the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, BLOCK 9048, LOT 2. Approximate amount of judgment \$398,253.53 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 17891/10. Kerry J. Katsorhis Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221

**SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF QUEENS** DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF THE HOME EQUITY MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED TRUST SERIES INABS 2005-C, HOME EQUITY MORTGAGE LOAN A S S E T - B A C K E D CERTIFICATES, SERIES INABS 2005-C UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED SEPT 1, 2005, Plaintiff against LEON BARNES, YVELLE L. RAY BARNES, HOWARD BARNES, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on November 5, 2015, 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 17 th day of March, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. premises described as follows: 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. Said premises known as 189-25 Mangin Avenue, Saint Albans, N.Y. 11412. (Block: 10438, Lot: 31). Approximate amount of lien \$ 303,879.16 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 14675-12. Angel L. Delvillar, Esq., Referee. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C.

## LEGAL

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street - Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900

## LEGAL

**FILE NO. 2016/4325** SURROGATE'S COURT - QUEENS COUNTY CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent.

TO: The PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF QUEENS COUNTY, the heirs at law, next of kin, and distributees of WINIFRED ANDRAE, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence.

A petition having been duly filed by ANN SAUERWALD POTTER, who is domiciled at # 4 SERENITY PLACE, EAST QUOGUE, NEW YORK.

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Queens County, at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York, on March 23 rd , 2017, at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of WINIFRED ANDRAE, lately domiciled at 66-16 GRAY STREET, MIDDLE VILLAGE, NEW YORK 11379, admitting to probate a Will dated July 9, 2010, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of WINIFRED ANDRAE, deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that Letters Testamentary issue to: ANN SAUERWALD POTTER.

Dated, Attested and Sealed, February 1, 2017. Hon. PETER J. KELLY, Surrogate. Lee J. Coulman, Acting Chief Clerk. THOMAS J. WHITE, ESQ. Attorney for Petitioner 69-34 GRAND AVENUE, P.O. Box 780569 MASPETH, NEW YORK 11378

(Note: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear on you.)

## LEGAL

**INDEX NO. 711806/2016** Plaintiff designates QUEENS as the place of trial situs of the real property S U P P L E M E N T A L SUMMONS Mortgaged Premises: 176-20 SAYRES AVENUE JAMAICA, NY 11433 Block: 10293 Lot: 9 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK & COUNTY OF QUEENS

## LEGAL

CIT BANK, N.A, Plaintiff, vs. ORLANDO BOVELL, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL; ANDRE S. BOVELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL; ROBERT BOVELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL; KHALIL A. BOVELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general 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 lien upon, or title to said real property by, through 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 assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, "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 described in the complaint, Defendants.

To the above named Defendants YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney 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) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire



## LEGAL

until (60) days after service of the Summons; 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 caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$544,185.00 and interest, recorded on October 3, 2007, at Document 2007101600691001, of the Public Records of QUEENS County, New York, covering premises known as 176-20 SAYRES AVENUE JAMAICA, NY 11433.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. QUEENS County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

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### NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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 the mortgage company will not stop the 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.

HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE: New York State law 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 of 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

## LEGAL

attorney or legal aid office, 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 the New York State Department of Financial Services' at 1-800-269-0990 or visit the Department's website at <http://www.dfs.ny.gov>. 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.

Dated: December 15, 2016  
RAS BORISKIN, LLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
BY: JADWIGA SZAJNER, ESQ.  
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516-280-7675

INDEX NO. 711806/2016  
Plaintiff designates QUEENS as the place of trial situs of the real property  
S U P P L E M E N T A L  
SUMMONS

Mortgaged Premises: 176-20 SAYRES AVENUE JAMAICA, NY 11433  
Block: 10293 Lot: 9  
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF QUEENS

CIT BANK, N.A.,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.

ORLANDO BOVELL, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL; ANDRE S. BOVELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL; ROBERT BOVELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL; KHALIL A. BOVELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CLAUDETTE BOVELL, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general 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,

## LEGAL

committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through 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 assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, "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 described in the complaint, Defendants.

To the above named Defendants  
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney 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) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until (60) days after service of the Summons; 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 caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$544,185.00 and interest, recorded on October 3, 2007, at Document 2007101600691001, of the Public Records of QUEENS County, New York, covering premises known as 176-20 SAYRES AVENUE JAMAICA, NY 11433.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. QUEENS County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

## LEGAL

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### NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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 the mortgage company will not stop the 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.

HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE: New York State law 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 of 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 office, 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 the New York State Department of Financial Services' at 1-800-269-0990 or visit the Department's website at <http://www.dfs.ny.gov>. 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

## LEGAL

they have completed all such promised services. Dated: December 15, 2016  
RAS BORISKIN, LLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
BY: JADWIGA SZAJNER, ESQ.  
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516-280-7675

### S E C O N D S U P P L E M E N T A L SUMMONS

Index No.: 710120/2016  
Date of Filing: January 20, 2017

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS AMERICAN ADVISORS GROUP, Plaintiff, -against- TERRI SIMMONS AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN TO PRIESTLY L. TAYLOR A/K/A PRIESTLY LEMAUD TAYLOR; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; "JOHN DOE" AND "JANE DOE" 1 THROUGH 50, INTENDING TO BE THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, D I S T R I B U T E S , DEVISEES, GRANTEES, TRUSTEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF THE ESTATE OF PRIESTLY L. TAYLOR A/K/A PRIESTLY LEMAUD TAYLOR WHO WAS BORN IN 1921 AND DIED ON FEBRUARY 23, 2016, A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY OF QUEENS, WHOSE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS WAS 146-08 LAKEWOOD AVENUE, JAMAICA, NY 11435. THEIR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST IF ANY OF THE AFORESAID DEFENDANTS BE DECEASED, THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF THE AFORESAID CLASSES OF PERSON, IF THEY OR ANY OF THEM BE DEAD, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE HUSBANDS, WIVES OR WIDOWS, IF ANY, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES AND PLACES OF RESIDENCE ARE UNKNOWN TO THE PLAINTIFF"; "JOHN DOES" AND "JANE DOES", SAID NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS, PARTIES INTENDED BEING POSSIBLE TENANTS OR OCCUPANTS OF PREMISES, AND CORPORATIONS, OTHER ENTITIES OR PERSONS WHO CLAIM, OR MAY CLAIM, A LIEN AGAINST THE PREMISES, Defendants.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance on

## LEGAL

the Plaintiff's attorney(s) within twenty (20) 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 thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner, 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 YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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 PUT ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Honorable Howard G. Lane, of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, signed on January 9, 2017, and filed with supporting papers in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Queens, State of New York.

The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by PRIESTLY L. TAYLOR A/K/A PRIESTLY LEMAUD TAYLOR, to MORTGAGE E L E C T R O N I C R E G I S T R A T I O N SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR MAVERICK FUNDING CORP. ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS bearing date November 26, 2014 and recorded in CRFN 2015000053546 in the County of Queens on February 17, 2015. Thereafter said mortgage was assigned to AMERICAN ADVISORS GROUP by assignment of mortgage bearing date June 7, 2016 and recorded under CRFN 2016000200427 in the County of Queens on June 14, 2016.

Said premises being known as and by 146-08 LAKEWOOD AVENUE, JAMAICA, NY 11435. Date: December 28, 2016  
Batavia, New York  
Andrea Clattenburg, Esq.

## LEGAL

ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
Batavia Office 26  
Harvester Avenue  
Batavia, NY 14020  
585.815.0288

### Help For Homeowners In Foreclosure

New York State Law requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. Mortgage foreclosure is a complex process. Some people may approach you about "saving" your home. You should be extremely careful about any such promises. The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. There are government agencies, legal aid entities and other non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about foreclosure while you are working with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by the New York State Banking Department at 1-877- BANKNYS (1-877-226-5697) or visit the Department's website at [www.banking.state.ny.us](http://www.banking.state.ny.us). The State does not guarantee the advice of these agencies.

### S U P P L E M E N T A L SUMMONS

Index No.: 706867/2016  
Date of Filing: January 27, 2017

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS FEDERAL NATIONAL M O R T G A G E ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE MAE") A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff, -against- BRENTON TAYLOR AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ELAINE R. TAYLOR-MARTIN A/K/A ELAINE TAYLOR-MARTIN; CORY MARTIN AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ELAINE R. TAYLOR-MARTIN A/K/A ELAINE TAYLOR-MARTIN; ELAINE Y. TAYLOR AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ELAINE R. TAYLOR-MARTIN A/K/A ELAINE TAYLOR-MARTIN; MONIQUE RICHARDSON AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ELAINE R. TAYLOR-MARTIN A/K/A ELAINE TAYLOR-MARTIN; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; "JOHN DOE" AND "JANE DOE" 1 THROUGH 50, INTENDING TO BE THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, D I S T R I B U T E S , DEVISEES, GRANTEES, TRUSTEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF THE ESTATE OF ELAINE R. TAYLOR-MARTIN A/K/A ELAINE TAYLOR-MARTIN WHO WAS BORN IN 1947 AND DIED ON FEBRUARY 1, 2015, A RESIDENT OF THE COUNTY OF QUEENS,



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WHOSE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS WAS 249-45 148TH ROAD, ROSEDALE, NY 11422. THEIR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST IF ANY OF THE AFORESAID DEFENDANTS BE DECEASED, THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF THE AFORESAID CLASSES OF PERSON, IF THEY OR ANY OF THEM BE DEAD, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE HUSBANDS, WIVES OR WIDOWS, IF ANY, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES AND PLACES OF RESIDENCE ARE UNKNOWN TO THE PLAINTIFF; AUTO FACTORS, INC.; CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK; EMPIRE PORTFOLIOS INC.; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY; PALISADES COLLECTION LLC; ST CHARLES HOSPITAL; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; "JOHN DOES" and "JANE DOES" SAID NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS, PARTIES INTENDED BEING POSSIBLE TENANTS OR OCCUPANTS OF PREMISES, AND CORPORATIONS, OTHER ENTITIES OR PERSONS WHO CLAIM, OR MAY CLAIM, A LIEN AGAINST THE PREMISES, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff's attorney(s) within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the State, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner, 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 YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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

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ANSWER WITH THE COURT. YOU ARE HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Honorable Timothy J. Dufficy, J.S.C. of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, signed on January 11, 2017, and filed with supporting papers in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Queens, State of New York. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by ELAINE R. TAYLOR-MARTIN A/K/A ELAINE TAYLOR-MARTIN TO MORTGAGE ELECTION REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR ALLIANCE MORTGAGE BANKING CORP. ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS bearing the date April 5, 2006 and recorded in the County of Queens on April 28, 2006 in CRFN: 2006000238086. Thereafter said mortgage was assigned to JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION by assignment of mortgage dated August 20, 2015 and recorded in the County of Queens on March 23, 2016 in CRFN: 2016000102517. Thereafter said mortgage was assigned to FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION by assignment of mortgage dated August 20, 2015 and recorded under CRFN: 2016000102518 in the County of Queens on March 23, 2016. Said premises being known as and by 249-45 148TH ROAD, ROSEDALE, NY 11422. Date: December 23, 2016 Batavia, New York Andrea Claitenburg, Esq. ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff Batavia Office 26 Harvester Avenue Batavia, NY 14020 585.815.0288 Help For Homeowners In Foreclosure New York State Law requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. Mortgage foreclosure is a complex process. Some people may approach you about "saving" your home. You should be extremely careful about any such promises. The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. There are government agencies, legal aid entities and other non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about foreclosure while you are working with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by the New York State

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Banking Department at 1-877- BANKNYS (1-877-226-5697) or visit the Department's website at www.banking.state.ny.us. The State does not guarantee the advice of these agencies. SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS Index No. 708156/2016 Filed: 01/26/2017 Plaintiff designates Queens County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the Mortgage premises is situated. Bank of America, N.A. Plaintiff, - against - Loreen Williams as administrator and heir to the estate of James Williams, James Williams Jr. a/k/a James Anothty Williams as heir to the estate of James Williams, New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Criminal Court of the City of New York, Newburyport Capital LLC, Commissioner of Social Services of NYC, New York City Environmental Control Board, New York City Parking Violations Bureau, New York City Transit Adjudication Bureau, United States of America - Internal Revenue Service, Queens Supreme Court, Citibank (South Dakota) N.A., U.S. Equities Corp., Empire Portfolios Inc., Main Street Acquisition Corp., LR Credit 22, LLC, Midland Funding LLC, FIA Card Services N.A., People of the State of New York, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S): 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 attorneys for the plaintiff within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). 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 a Mortgage to secure \$533,800.00 and interest, recorded in the Office of the City Register of the City of New York on October 20, 2008, in CRFN 2008000411587, covering premises known as 188-05 Liberty Avenue a/k/a 18805 Liberty Avenue, Saint Albans, NY 11412. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage

## LEGAL

described above. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this Summons and Complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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 Dated: Williamsville, New York By: Stephen J. Wallace, Esq. Frenkel, Lambert, Weiss, Weisman & Gordon, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 53 Gibson Street (Main Office) Bay Shore, New York 11706 (631) 969-3100 Our File No.:01-046310-FOI TO: Newburyport Capital LLC People of the State of New York SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS INDEX NO. 707093/2015 Plaintiff designates QUEENS as the place of trial situs of the real property S U P P L E M E N T A L SUMMONS Mortgaged Premises: 90-33 219TH STREET QUEENS VILLAGE, NY 11428 Block: 10718 Lot: 38 DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR DLSA MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE PASS-T H R O U G H CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-AR1, Plaintiff, vs. RICARDO BLACKWOOD, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSE E. WISDOM, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general 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 lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants,

## LEGAL

executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; MYEISHA EVANS; TYRELL JOHNSON; LASHIMA EVANS; JACQUELINE PIERCE; WADE FLOYD; JOHN ANDERSON; DALIA ANDERSON; SONIA ANDERSON; CHARLES ANDERSON, "JOHN DOE #10" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last three 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, described in the complaint, Defendants. To the above named Defendants YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney 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) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until (60) days after service of the Summons; 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 caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$465,000.00 and interest, recorded on November 15, 2006, in Official Records CRFN 2006000633691, of the Public Records of QUEENS County, New York, covering premises known as 90-33 219TH STREET QUEENS VILLAGE, NY 11428. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. QUEENS County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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

## LEGAL

for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the 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. Dated: December 21, 2016 RAS BORISKIN, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff JAMES P. MURPHY, ESQ. 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106 Westbury, NY 11590 516-280-7675 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS SUMMONS AND NOTICE Index No. 708031/2015 Borough: Queens Block: 12162 Lot: 10 NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN, Plaintiffs, v. DARIN COVINGTON KIRTO A/K/A DARIN COVINGTON KIRTON; The heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors, creditors, successors-in-interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through WILLIAM WAITH, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and all creditors thereof, and the respective wives, or widows of his, if any, all of whose names and addresses are unknown to Plaintiffs; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD The heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors, creditors, successors-in-interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through WILLIAM R. WAITH, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and all creditors thereof, and the respective wives, or widows of his, if any, all of whose names and addresses are unknown to Plaintiffs and "JOHN DOE #2" through "JOHN DOE #100", the names of the last 99 defendants being fictitious, the true names of said defendants being unknown to plaintiff, it being intended to designate fee owners, tenants or occupants of the lien premises and/or persons or parties having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the lien premises, if the aforesaid individual defendants are living, and if any or all of said individual defendants be dead, their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, committees, devisees, legatees, and the assignees, lienors,

creditors and successors in interest of them, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by, through, or against the said defendants named as a class, of any right, title or interest in or lien upon the premises described in the complaint herein, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in the above-entitled foreclosure action, and to serve a copy of your answer on Plaintiff's attorney within thirty (30) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal service within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. Queens County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the subject premises. Dated: May 16, 2016 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an Order of Honorable Salvatore J. Modica, a Justice of the Supreme Court, dated January 25, 2017, and filed with supporting papers in the Queens County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a tax lien covering the property known as 110-41 158th Street, Borough of Queens, New York and identified as Block 12162, Lot 10 (the "Tax Parcel"). The relief sought is the sale of the Tax Parcel at public auction in satisfaction of the tax lien. In case of your failure to appear, judgment may be taken against you in the sum of \$10,878.99, together with interest, costs, disbursements and attorneys fees of this action, and directing the public sale of the Tax Parcel. PHILLIPS LYTLE LLP By: Anthony J. Iacchetta, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs NYCTL 1998-2 Trust and The Bank of New York Mellon as Collateral Agent and Custodian 28 East Main Street Suite 1400 Rochester, New York 14614 (585) 238-2000 aiacchetta@phillipslytle.com SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS SUMMONS AND NOTICE Index No. 708031/2015 Borough: Queens Block: 12162 Lot: 10 NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN, Plaintiffs, v. DARIN COVINGTON KIRTO A/K/A DARIN COVINGTON KIRTON;



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The heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors, creditors, successors-in-interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through WILLIAM WAITH, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and all creditors thereof, and the respective wives, or widows of his, if any, all of whose names and addresses are unknown to Plaintiffs; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD

The heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors, creditors, successors-in-interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through WILLIAM R. WAITH, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and all creditors thereof, and the respective wives, or widows of his, if any, all of whose names and addresses are unknown to Plaintiffs and "JOHN DOE #2" through "JOHN DOE #100", the names of the last 99 defendants being fictitious, the true

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names of said defendants being unknown to plaintiff, it being intended to designate fee owners, tenants or occupants of the lien premises and/or persons or parties having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the lien premises, if the aforesaid individual defendants are living, and if any or all of said individual defendants be dead, their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, committees, devisees, legatees, and the assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest of them, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by, through, or against the said defendants named as a class, of any right, title or interest in or lien upon the premises described in the complaint herein, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in the above-entitled foreclosure action, and to serve a copy of your answer on Plaintiff's attorney within thirty (30) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal service within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant

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in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Queens County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the subject premises. Dated: May 16, 2016 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an Order of Honorable Salvatore J. Modica, a Justice of the Supreme Court, dated January 25, 2017, and filed with supporting papers in the Queens County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a tax lien covering the property known as 110-41 158th Street, Borough of Queens, New York and identified as Block 12162, Lot 10 (the "Tax Parcel"). The relief sought is the sale of the Tax Parcel at public auction in satisfaction of the tax lien. In case of your failure to appear, judgment may be taken against you in the sum of \$10,878.99, together with interest, costs, and disbursements and attorneys fees of this action, and directing the public sale of the Tax Parcel. PHILLIPS LYTLE LLP

## LEGAL

By: Anthony J. Iacchetta, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs NYCTL 1998-2 Trust and The Bank of New York Mellon as Collateral Agent and Custodian 28 East Main Street Suite 1400 Rochester, New York 14614 (585) 238-2000 aiacchetta@phillipslytle.com

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS** Plaintiff designates QUEENS as the place of trial situs of the real property INDEX NO. 705281/2016 BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff, vs. MELISSA JAMES, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSA JAMES; ALEXANDER JAMES, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSA JAMES; MICHAEL DUANE JAMES, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSA JAMES; WILLIAM ERIC MCLEAN, JR., AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSA JAMES; MISTY JAMES, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSA JAMES, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown

## LEGAL

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 lien upon, or title to said real property by, through 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 assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; LOIS MCLEAN; MISTY JAMES, "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, described in the

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complaint, Defendants. To the above named Defendants YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney 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) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until (60) days after service of the Summons; 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 caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$750,000.00 and interest, recorded on June 12, 2009, at Instrument number 2009000178234, of the Public Records of QUEENS County, New York, covering premises known as 100-35 207TH STREET, NY 11429. The relief sought in the within

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action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. QUEENS County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the 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 the mortgage company will not stop the 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. Dated: November 25, 2016 RAS BORISKIN, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff BY: JADWIGA SZAJNER, ESQ. 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106 Westbury, NY 11590 516-280-7675

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**\$0 DOWN**  
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**\$129** (1) (2)  
Per Mo

36 Mos Lease \$3,050 Down or Equivalent Trade Equity  
Stk#N70208, Mod#2546, 4cyl, auto, alloys, Fog Lights, a/c, AM/FM/CD, pwr steer/brks/ winds/lcks. MSRP \$24,929. \$3,179 Due at Signing.

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Per Mo

36 Mos Lease \$2,850 Down or Equivalent Trade Equity  
Stk#N41410, Mod#4432, 4cyl, auto, a/c, AM/FM/CD, pwr steer/ brks/ winds/lcks. MSRP \$27,589. \$3,019 Due at Signing.

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Per Mo

36 Mos Lease \$3,525 Down or Equivalent Trade Equity  
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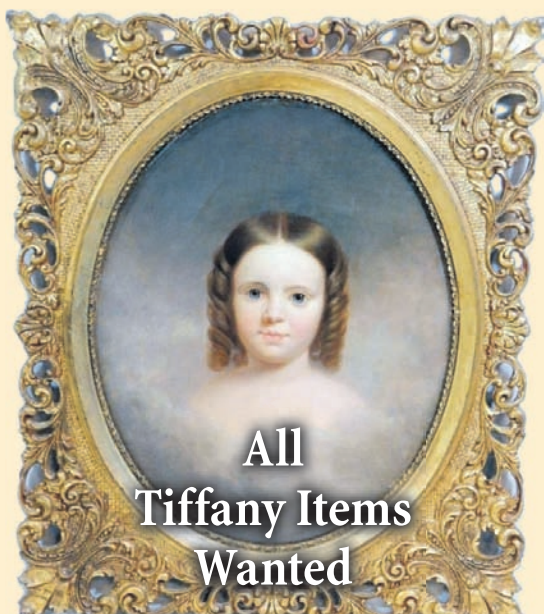
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