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• WHITESTONE TIMES

Dec. 7-13, 2018

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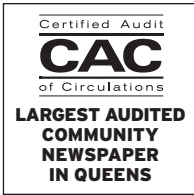


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College Pt. residents plan lawsuit

Hundreds voice their opposition to city's plan to bring homeless shelter to neighborhood

BY JENNA BAGCAL

College Point residents continue to speak out against a proposed homeless shelter in the neighborhood.

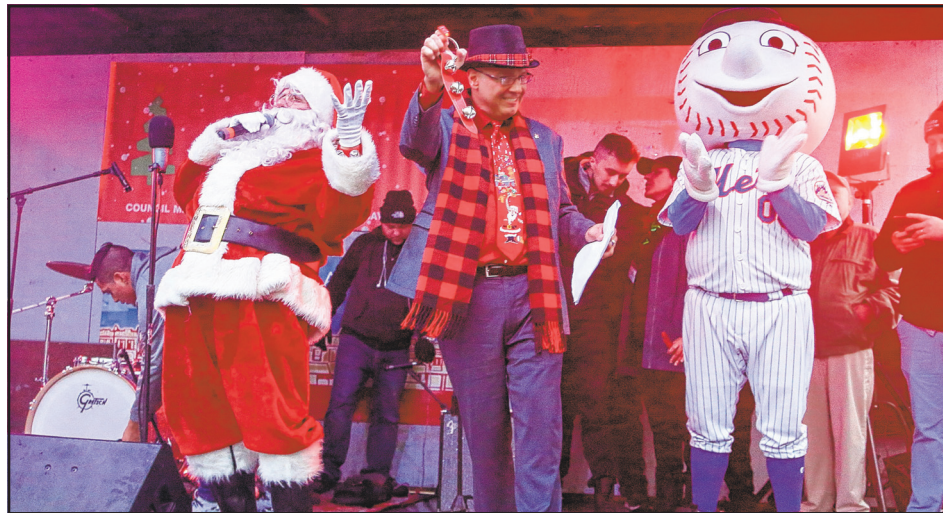
Nearly 200 people filled the room at the Poppenhusen Institute for the Nov. 28 College Point Civic Association and Taxpayers meeting, which required tickets to count the number of attendees; dozens of residents found themselves waiting just outside the doors for the session.

Residents from College Point and neighboring areas including Whitestone, Flushing and Bayside also gathered for a protest Dec. 2 in front of the planned shelter at 127-03 20th Ave.

The rally was co-organized by Dany Chen, founder of the College Point Residents Coalition (CPRC), committee member Jennifer Shannon and area residents Rex Lam, Elizabeth Cuccia and Kathleen Shannon.

At the Nov. 28 meeting, residents expressed anger and fear over the shelter and were joined by City Councilman Paul Vallone to quiz Jackie Bray, the first deputy commissioner for the Department of Homeless Services (DHS), about the plan. Bray shared information regarding the location at 127-03

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION



Bayside celebrates the start of holiday season with the fifth-annual holiday parade along Bell Boulevard. See photos on Page 22.
Photo by Bruce Adler

20th Ave. and fielded the crowd's questions.

According to Bray, the shelter would be a "general population shelter," meaning that residents in the 200 single men's shelter would not be men who are registered sex offenders or have substance abuse and mental health issues.

She said that those allowed to live in the shelter underwent an evaluation process, which

involved assessing each individual to see where they should be placed. Before being placed in a shelter, men come from their intake center in Manhattan and placed in an assessment shelter where they are given a comprehensive background and mental health check.

With regards to safety, Bray said that there would be a "minimum" of 43 security guards and supervisors and at least 133

to 136 cameras on the outside.

But the uproarious crowd — which often burst into loud, disapproving shouts as Bray supplied information about the shelter — could not be convinced that it was right for their community.

"We take care of our own, we don't need to take care of anybody else," yelled one resident from the crowd.

"Put it somewhere else!" yelled another.

Meanwhile, Vallone — who has been vocal with his opposition to the shelter — also spoke at the Dec. 2 rally, claiming that the building's owners were not transparent about their intentions when filing the property permits. The councilman said that the original permits from the Brooklyn-based owners of Liberty One Group, stated that the property was going to be "an office and furniture store."

"They lied to us deliberately," said Vallone. "David Levitan and Steve Werner sold out College Point for \$12 million, \$2,000 per homeless man. This isn't about being about being a good humanitarian, this is about profit. They said it in the New York Times, 'this is good business, this is good profit.' Not here in College Point. We will fight every day every way we can to make sure this shelter does not open."

Shannon urged those in attendance to donate money that would go toward taking legal action against the city.

"College Point, Whitestone, Bayside, whoever wants to get in with us, we are suing New York City. In order to sue New York City, we need money and I assure you the city's not giving it to us. We need donations. We need you," she said.

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Fresh Meadows students join forces

More than 100 PS 220 students help to provide donations to kids in need in South Sudan

BY CARLOTTA MOHAMED

At least 120 students at PS/MS 200 participated in a Walkathon Nov. 28 in their schoolyard to raise funds to provide food supplies for kids in Flint, Mich., and clean water for people in South Sudan.

Every year, students at PS/MS 200, The Magnet School of Global Studies and Leadership — located at 70-10 164th St. in Fresh Meadows — participate in charity events to raise money for a great cause.

This year, Dina Shmuel, an English teacher and charity coordinator, walked with sixth- and seventh-graders who donated money to support the Backpack Program of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, and Water for South Sudan to provide clean, safe water to hundreds and thousands of people.

“We’re accepting donations all day, and we’re also selling water that will go for the drilling wells in South Sudan,” said Shmuel. “Since we’re the Global Studies and Leadership School, I decided to go and study countries outside of here to tie everything in with our novels so they can make a connection.”

Shmuel is hoping to raise as much money as they can to contribute to both organizations. Last year, the students raised \$360 for Water for South Sudan, said Shmuel.

The idea of a walkathon came to mind after her sixth grade class read the novel, “Bud, Not Buddy,” by Christopher Paul Curtis, that describes the travails and adventures of a 10-year-old African-American orphan in Depression-era Michigan.



(From l. to r.) Sixth grade students Nabintou Coulibaly, Jonas Keller, Hugo Arica, sixth grade teacher and charity organizer, Dina Shmuel and Noah C.

Photo by Carlotta Mohamed

Shmuel’s seventh grade class read “A Long Walk to Remember,” by Linda Sue Park, about two Sudanese children, where one fetches water from a pond that is a two hour walk from her home.

According to Shmuel, the students’ donations to The Backpack Program of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, will help provide a backpack full of nutritious and easy-to-prepare food for children to take home on the weekends when school meals are not available.

Shmuel’s students said the novels taught them the

importance of helping others who are less fortunate, being grateful for what they have, and to continue to persevere in pursuing their goals.

“We just take things for granted...like we don’t understand there are so many kids out there that are in so much need of help,” said sixth grader, Tausiyah Miah.

Shmuel said she has also been in contact with an organizer at Water for South Sudan, a non-profit corporation that drills wells to create access to and monitor safe drinking water for

communities located in remote rural areas of South Sudan.

“Here in school we have clean water that we can drink anytime, and they have to walk eight miles a day just to get water that isn’t clean,” said seventh grader, Nabintou Coulibaly. “Us raising money for them could help them get clean water that would actually save someone’s life because a lot of people are dying, and getting really sick because they’re drinking this water.”

Hugo Arica said it’s important for them to help

those in South Sudan, where families lack access to basic necessities.

“People here are complaining about WIFI and not having the latest shoes and latest phones, yet in South Sudan, they don’t even have a teaspoon of water,” said Arica. “A lot of children here are selfish and sometimes even jealous for what they don’t have, and people in South Sudan have very little and are very poor.”

Reach reporter Carlotta Mohamed by e-mail at cmohamed@cnglocal.com or by phone at (718) 260-4526.

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Douglaston Village Winter Festival returns

Second annual event offers ice skating, carnival rides and entertainment on Dec. 15

BY JENNA BAGCAL

Look no further than Douglaston for a day of free winter festivities next week.

The Douglaston Village Winter Festival will be back Dec. 15 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. just in time for the holiday season. The second annual festival will take place at the Douglaston Station Plaza, next to the LIRR station at 235th Street and 41st Avenue.

Visitors can enjoy ice skating at the holiday ice rink, carnival rides, live music and dance performances and other free, family-friendly activities in the village square. Holiday gifts will also be available for purchase from local vendors and fifth-grade student fundraisers.

The event will feature an ugly Christmas sweater contest and awards will be given out to the dogs and their owners with the "worst" sweaters.

City Councilman Paul Valone, state Assemblyman Ed

Braunstein and state Sen.-elect John Liu are slated to be at the festival according to Rebecca Gellos, the new executive director for the Douglaston Local Development Corporation.

The Douglaston LDC is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 2010 by area residents, merchants and stakeholders to "preserve and protect the unique historical and aesthetic qualities of the Douglaston Village commercial district."

This year, the winter festival will be hosted by the Douglaston LDC in cooperation with the Douglaston Village Chamber of Commerce and PS 98. Other participants include the Douglas Manor Environmental Organization, the Douglaston Little Neck Historical Society, Udalls Cove Preservation Committee, Douglaston Garden Club, APEC and local Churches.

For more information on the event, visit doughdc.org or [facebook.com/DouglastonLDC](https://www.facebook.com/DouglastonLDC).



The Douglaston Village Winter Festival is scheduled for Dec. 15.

Courtesy of Douglaston LDC

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Katz enters race for Queens district attorney

BY BILL PARRY



Melinda Katz officially announces her campaign for Queens District Attorney.

Photo by Mark Hallum

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz announced Tuesday she would join the race for District Attorney in 2019.

Katz would be the borough's first-ever woman DA and said she would reshape the office to be a "Partner for Justice" with local communities and leaders.

"I stand before you, a daughter of Queens, ready to begin this journey to bring a new era of justice to our great borough," Katz said. "In recent years, there has been a growing awareness that the office of the District Attorney must first and foremost be a house of justice; a place where all are treated equally and none are denied their fair opportunity. This wonderfully diverse borough should be the center of equity and our system should reflect the great opportunities owed to our families."

Katz told nearly a hundred supporters gathered at McDonald's Park in Forest Hills Dec. 4 that she plans to focus her campaign on making the DA a partner for justice; working for meaningful arrest, bail and sentencing reforms; 'hard on hate' vigorous enforcement of hate crime laws; vigorous prosecution of rape, sexual assault and domestic and gender-based

violence; ending the prosecution of low-level marijuana arrests; treating gun violence as a public health issue; fighting for worksite accountability and worker protections; and protecting elders from abuse.

"Our nation as a whole is re-normalizing the dangerous marginalization of people of color, of immigrants, of the poor," Katz said. "Yet there are powerful movements underway

to combat the regression, and my agenda is part of a commitment to inclusion, equity, fair treatment and justice."

Katz was re-elected as borough president in 2017 but she could leave Borough Hall two years early if she wins. Mayor Bill de Blasio would declare a special election within 45 days to replace her.

District Attorney Richard Brown, 86, has not announced

whether he would run for reelection to the office he has held since 1991. City Councilman Rory Lancman and retired Judge Gregory Lasak announced they would seek the office earlier this year.

"I welcome Borough President Katz to the growing field of career politicians running for District Attorney," Lasak said. "As the only non-politician in this race, I look forward to putting my decades-long record of fighting crime and freeing the innocent up against anyone else's."

Meanwhile, Lancman's campaign to be the next Queens district attorney picked up the endorsement of Merle Hoffman, a pro-choice pioneer and founder of Choices Women's Medical Clinic in Jamaica.

Citing Lancman's long record of fighting for a woman's right to control her own health decisions, Hoffman threw her support behind Lancman after the two worked hard to defend her clinic and its patients from a relentless campaign of intimidation.

"With Donald Trump reshaping the judiciary and using his executive authority to restrict choice, putting Roe v. Wade at risk and emboldening anti-choice zealots like never before, I'm strongly support-

ing Rory Lancman to be out next district attorney," Hoffman said. "Rory is not only politically pro-choice, but has demonstrated time and again his willingness to support and defend the thousands of women a year who access reproductive health services, including abortions, at my clinic in Jamaica, Queens."

Hoffman established the Flushing Women's Medical Center, one of the first ambulatory abortion centers in the nation in 1971, shortly after New York State legalized abortion and two years before the historic Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. She later moved her clinic to Jamaica and renamed it Choices Women's Medical Center which is one of the largest and most comprehensive women's health center in the country, serving over 40,000 women each year.

"As District Attorney, I will work hand in hand with Merle and other women leaders to ensure that no Queens woman is put in legal jeopardy for her reproductive choices, or intimidated and harassed in surrendering her right to obtain a safe abortion," Lancman said.

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

DOT gets over \$2M to repave SW Queens roads

BY NAEISHA ROSE

Standing with Department of Transportation officials at the foot of the Woodhaven Boulevard overpass above Atlantic Avenue on Friday, City Councilman Eric Ulrich announced that he's providing \$2.125 million in city funds toward repaving streets around his district.

The Nov. 30 announcement was held at the corner of 91st Avenue and the Woodhaven Boulevard southbound service road, which was repaved two weeks ago, according to Ulrich.

"This particular overpass... it's the main artery that runs through our community," he said. "No matter where you live or work at some point you have to use Woodhaven Boulevard."

Next spring, Ulrich said, the DOT will conduct more

street repaving across other neighborhoods in his district, including Richmond Hill, Ozone Park, Howard Beach and the Rockaways.

"Going into the spring people will see a lot more milling and paving," said Ulrich. "We are going to resurface and repave 10 lane miles in just my district alone."

The Woodhaven Boulevard overpass was riddled with potholes, according to Nicole Garcia, Queens Commissioner for the DOT.

"In general, there is the routine wear and tear, but sometimes there are utility cuts that are necessary... however, utility cut after utility cut opens the road and that can lead to cracks," said Garcia. "We have a great response time to issues, but this took some more time because it's a bridge and we have to get the Roadways Division and the



Representatives of the city's Department of Transportation received more than \$2 million from Councilman Eric Ulrich (second to the right) for street repaving projects in his district.

Photo by Naeisha Rose

Bridges Division to work out an engineered plan to make sure that when the machines work over it we don't put undue stress on it."

In a rush hour spot survey conducted in the course of one

day during the peak hours at the bridge, the DOT discovered that from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. 2,224 cars went northbound and from 4:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. 1,724 drivers used it. There were 1,327 going southbound in the

morning and 1,724 in the evening during the same hours.

The funds will help the DOT surpass its goals in improving roads within parts of the three community districts within the councilman's jurisdiction.

"With this over two million dollars, we are able to go above and beyond what we have for this coming fiscal year," Garcia said.

Ulrich acknowledged that some constituents might become a bit frustrated as the repaving projects are underway.

"They will be inconvenienced temporarily, but they will be happy with the final product," said Ulrich. "We want people to have a good quality of life and be safe when they are driving."

Reach reporter Naeisha Rose by e-mail at nrose@cnglocal.com or by phone at (718) 260-4573.

Officials break ground on Vietnam Veterans Memorial



Officials break ground on the Queens Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the first boroughwide memorial to honor Queens residents who were either killed in action while serving in the Vietnam War, or served in the war and are listed as "Missing in Action."

Photos courtesy of Katz's office

BY MARK HALLUM

Many Vietnam War veterans returned home to cries of protest — something that Manfred Edenhofer, president of the Queens chapter of the Vietnam Veterans Association, believes does not do justice to the individuals who served either voluntarily or through the draft.

"I didn't know why we were over there, but we were over there, so let's do our job," Edenhofer said. "I knew I was going to Vietnam, didn't know if I was coming back. I lost my closest friend over there ... We didn't want applause. We just didn't want to be called baby killers. It was a strange war, maybe we shouldn't have been over there, but we were."

But the new Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Elmhurst Park — for which ground was broken on Nov. 29 — seeks to set a different tone for remembering a generation of men and women who feel that served their country like any other soldier in any other conflict, but have been forgotten.

Supporters gave credit to the chapter's late president, Pat Toro, for his work pushing for the memorial. He died in 2014 from cancer related to the chemical Agent Orange, which was used during the Vietnam War, in which Toro served. His dying wish was to see the memorial completed, after spending years advocating for it.

He didn't live to see Thursday's groundbreaking ceremony, but retired servicemen from Queens neighborhoods including Bayside and Wood-



Michael O'Kane (r.) with a rendering of the memorial.

haven took part in the event.

Up to 370 Queens residents were killed in the conflict and the memorial will remember those soldiers along with veterans such as Toro who died of illness related to the war.

Borough President Melinda Katz allocated \$2.5 million to building the memorial which she and Edenhofer did not believe would ever be completed as it was 15 years in the making.

According to Edenhofer, with the majority of Vietnam veterans in Queens being above the age of 70, there was concern many of them would not live long enough to see the groundbreaking.

"Ultimately this is going to be something good, there are a lot of monuments around Queens County, but this is going to be the only one that's going to have all the names," Paul Schottenhamel, the adjutant for Queens County American Legion, said.

Schottenhamel was an Army infantryman in Vietnam awarded a Purple Heart for wounds he endured in Cambodia.

Katz was joined by state Sen. Joseph Addabbo, state Assemblyman Brian Barnell and City Councilman Robert Holden, among others, at the groundbreaking ceremony.

Woodside is known to have the highest number of losses in Vietnam by zip code, according to Michael O'Kane, the former president of Queens chapter the VVA.

"In 2008, Pat Toro had an idea. It became his dream to build a monument to the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the mountains, rice patties, river, skies and waters of Vietnam," O'Kane said. "I visited [Toro] in the hospital several times, I was there the night before he passed. One of the last things he said to me was in regard to this memorial. 'Get it done' he said. This

was literally his dying wish."

The city Department of Parks and Recreation is slated to have the project completed by the Fall of 2019.

"We are elated to celebrate the start of construction on this memorial, which is the product of years of collaboration between Parks, Borough President Katz, and local veterans," Queens Parks Commissioner Dorothy Lewandowski said. "The result is a thoughtful design that pays tribute to our borough's heroes, and provides a physical space for contemplation and community gathering."

Although veterans groups advocated for a combat cross, the design of a helmet atop a rifle, the Parks Department design will feature a wall and gardens instead.

Edenhofer pointed out that while there are World War I and World War II monuments in Queens, the only sites paying homage to Vietnam deaths in the borough are neighborhood-based, such as Doughboy Plaza in Woodside.

"We [Vietnam veterans] are all in our 70s, there might be one or two in his 60s and a couple so old we don't even want to talk about it. But when we're gone there's no more draft," Edenhofer, who volunteered to serve in the Marines, said. "People don't have to worry about getting drafted, so they forget about it. They see a blurb in the newspaper about sergeant so-and-so died in Afghanistan today, oh where's the sale pages. It doesn't mean anything because they don't have to worry about it happening to them."

"We were pretty much the forgotten guys," Edenhofer concluded.

Pomonok Houses residents receive free lead testing

BY CARLOTTA MOHAMED

State Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal, in partnership with Kamin Health, offered free lead testing last week to residents of the Pomonok Houses at his Flushing district office.

Rosenthal along with the Pomonok Residents Association and local elected officials are aiming to raise awareness around the public health crisis that has disproportionately affected NYCHA residents. Since 2010, more than 1,000 children have tested positive for elevated lead levels in their blood, the New York Daily News reported. Following an extended investigation involving cover-ups and improper apartment inspections, the city has begun efforts to inspect 140,000 apartments for potential exposure to hazardous lead paint.

Rosenthal worked in conjunction with U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Flushing), state Sen. Toby Stavisky (D-Flushing), and City Councilman Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows) to offer the free lead testing service to constituents on



State Assemblyman Daniel Rosenthal with members of the Pomonok Residents Association Board.
Courtesy of Rosenthal's office

Nov. 27. More than a dozen residents participated in the event, including elderly constituents and young children at Rosenthal's office located at 159-06 71st Ave.

"It is a shame that our families have become victims to improper management and care by the city," said Rosenthal. "By offering free lead testing, we take the first steps towards

ensuring that our children receive the medical attention they need. We will continue working together so that all residents of Pomonok have a safe and humane place to call home."

Tamika Williams, president of the Pomonok Residents Association, said that given NYCHA's current lead paint scandal, residents, parents, and concerned community leaders see the importance in having the screening in their community.

Meng urged Pomonok residents living in apartments to take advantage of the free testing.

"Health and safety must always be the top priority for those residing in NYCHA complexes and this free screening will provide Pomonok residents with answers about whether or not they've been exposed to lead," said Meng.

Kamin Health, founded by Queens residents, will continue to offer free walk-in lead testing at Union Medical Urgent Care located at 186-06 Union Tpke in Fresh Meadows.

"Kamin Health recognizes this difficult situation and sympathizes with our fellow neighbors," said Yaakov Landau, managing director. "We stand ready and willing to help in any way we can."

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New York Pops hand out shirts to LIC, Forest Hills schools



The New York Pops "Teaching Artist" Kevin Winebold facilitated a distribution of dress shirts donated by UNTUCKit to students in a choral music program at PS171 in Astoria.

Photos courtesy of The New York Pops

PS 171, PS 303 receive new outfits as part of PopsEd program

BY CASSIDY KLEIN

More than 600 students in kindergarten through fifth grade in Long Island City and Forest Hills will receive an UNTUCKit shirts this holiday season as part of The New York Pops' PopsEd program.

Two schools — PS 171 in Long Island City and PS 303 in Forest Hills — are participating "PopsEd" schools. PopsEd is a music education program run by The New York Pops, a professional symphonic orchestra.

PopsEd uses tools like composition, lyric writing, performance and mentorship to

foster learning and creativity. PopsEd runs a choral music program for approximately 400 students from kindergarten through fourth grade at PS 171. It also hosts a musical theater program at PS 303 in Forest Hills, where nearly 200 students from kindergarten through fifth grade receive weekly instruction.

PopsEd "Teaching Artist" Kevin Winebold facilitated the Nov. 29 distribution of UNTUCKit dress shirts to PS171 students. The PS303 distribution was scheduled to take place Dec. 4.

UNTUCKit shirts are but-

ton-down dress shirts that are meant to be worn untucked. They can be found at untuckit.com.



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106TH PRECINCT



Photo via Shutterstock

Firebug confesses to S. Ozone Park car fires: DA

SOUTH OZONE PARK — A South Ozone Park man faces up to eight years behind bars after pleading guilty Nov. 28 to torching nine cars parked around the neighborhood.

Evan Person, 29, of Linden Boulevard entered guilty pleas to third-degree arson charges before Queens Supreme Court Judge John Zoll, who scheduled a sentencing hearing for Dec. 13.

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown said that Person went on his fiery rampage on three different dates in December 2017 and in February of this year.

"He damaged these vehicles and knowingly endangered the lives of his fellow neighbors and firefighters, who responded to the scene of these fires," Brown said in a statement. "He will now be sent to prison as punishment for his crimes."

According to the charges, Person

torched five vehicles parked at five different locations near 116th Avenue in South Ozone Park on the morning of Dec. 15, 2017. Firefighters quickly responded to and doused the fires that damaged a 2006 Nissan, a 1998 Mercedes Benz, a 2000 Ford Excursion, a 2009 Nissan and a 2014 Mercedes Benz.

Prosecutors said that Person struck again just after midnight Feb. 6 of this year, setting fire to three more vehicles parked in the area of 124th Street. The damaged vehicles included a 1998 Honda Civic, a 2003 Mitsubishi, and a 2008 Kia.

Person went on his third and final arson spree Feb. 16, burning a 2004 Buick parked in front of a home on 109th Avenue near 124th Street, according to prosecutors. Law enforcement sources said the vehicle was damaged beyond recognition.

—Robert Pozarycki

111TH PRECINCT

Bandit steals over \$10K from Bayside eatery

BAYSIDE — Police were looking for a burglar who allegedly broke into a Bayside cafe and stole thousands of dollars in cash.

According to police, at 4 a.m. on Nov. 23, an unknown man broke into the Oasis Cafe — located at 196-30 Northern Blvd. — through the basement door. Once inside, the suspect took \$300 from the cash register, police said.

The crook proceeded to kick in the office door and then took \$10,000 from the safe, according to authorities. The suspect then fled the scene through a rear door.

This is not the first time in recent history that the Oasis Cafe fell victim to

burglars. In August 2016, police arrested a man who reportedly broke into the establishment through an open rear door and stole \$26,000 in cash and \$4,000 in checks from an unsecured safe.

Anyone with information in regard to the Nov. 23 burglary is asked to call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477) or for Spanish, 1-888-57-PISTA (74782). The public can also submit their tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers website, on Twitter @NYPDTips or by texting their tips to 274637 (CRIMES) then enter TIP577. All calls and messages are kept confidential.

—Emily Davenport

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For M. Truschinger of Bayside, exceptional treatment for Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) began with a colonoscopy. "I have been seeing Dr. Brodsky for the last year for my Irritable Bowel Syndrome and he has been extremely helpful." The practice helped

her to make important diet and lifestyle changes, supplemented with occasional medication. She says, "I am now

ing medications authorized by insurance companies. "I am so glad I came to Dr. Palmadessa," says Ms. Rasouly.

Colonoscopy Screening: No Butts about it

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Join the movement to save lives through colorectal cancer screening. Prevention and early detection are key to reducing the number of lives claimed each year by this highly preventable disease. During a colonoscopy, the gastroenterologists at Palmadessa & Brodsky can find and remove precancerous growths known as polyps.

Everyone should be screened beginning at age 50, or 40 if they are at risk or have a family history of colorectal cancer. Call us at (718) 461-0163 to schedule a screening.

100% better and able to perform better in my work as well as feel better in my leisure activities. Dr. Brodsky is very knowledgeable and compassionate."

Karima Rasouly and others appreciate the front desk staff who make them feel comfortable and help with hav-

"He was very thorough and compassionate. Prior to my procedure, the staff made me feel much more relaxed. I am completely satisfied with Dr. Palmadessa."

Whether patients require screening for colon cancer or treatment for Hepatitis C, these are available from car-

ing physicians who also are on staff at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset and New York Presbyterian Hospital in Queens.

After living with Hepatitis C for 10 years, Michael Kolimsky of Maspeth finally wanted to receive treatment. "After he took a thorough history and performed a comprehensive physical examination, he ordered specific laboratory tests and a sonogram of my liver. He prescribed a single pill for 12 weeks, which cured my hepatitis c completely! He is truly an expert in liver diseases," he says.

Receiving a diagnosis can be overwhelming, but it can be a relief for a patient to fi-

nally understand the cause of their symptoms. The time immediately following a diagnosis is particularly important. "Dr Palmadessa spent a lot of time explaining everything in great detail. He made me feel very comfortable," says Zita Heja.

Affiliated with Queens Endoscopy ASC, a state-of-the-art endoscopy center, Palmadessa and Brodsky Gastroenterology is known for expert medical care that is delivered with compassion. With access to the most advanced treatments and screenings, patients in Queens and the surrounding area don't have to avoid getting help for their GI problems any longer.

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Queens County Women's Bar Association presents Faith O'Neal Scholarship Awards



1. (From l. to r.) Hon. Bernice Siegal, Louise Derevlany, Soma Syed, Faith O'Neal Scholarship recipient Christina Das, Borough President Melinda Katz, Faith O'Neal Scholarship recipient Liran Messinger, Queens County Woman's Bar Association President Adrienne D. Williams, and Hon. Marguerite Grays at Judiciary Night. **2.** Hon. Bernice Siegal, Hon. Paul G. Feinman – the Judiciary Night Honoree – and Queens County Woman's Bar Association President Adrienne D. Williams. **3.** The Faith O'Neal Scholarship awardees show off their certificates.

Courtesy of Queens County Women's Bar Association



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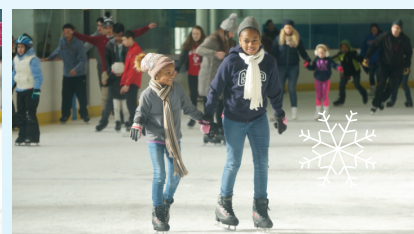
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Simotas urges Cuomo to sign rape kit bill

BY BILL PARRY

State Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas is calling on Gov. Andrew Cuomo to sign her Sexual Assault Survivor Bill of Rights legislation after the state's attorney general reached settlements with seven New York City hospitals that illegally billed at least 200 rape survivors for forensic rape examinations.

Under the terms of the agreements, the hospitals will implement written policies to ensure that sexual assault survivors do not receive bills for their rape examinations, provide full restitution to any improperly billed sexual assault survivors, and pay costs.

"I am shocked and horrified by the illegal practice of billing rape survivors for forensic rape examinations, that Attorney General Barbara Underwood exposed last week," Simotas said. "One of the most disturbing aspects of this is that a new law might have

prevented this travesty but it has been waiting for the governor's signature for six months, after passing the Assembly and Senate in June 2018. Until the governor signs it, the law will not take effect."

"This languishing legislation, that I sponsored in the Assembly, would give sexual assault survivors a copy of a Bill of Rights and it would clearly tell them that the forensic examination is free, as well as HIV post-exposure therapies and emergency contraception," Simotas added.

The Sexual Assault Survivor Bill of Rights would also disclose: the right to consult with a representative from a rape crisis or victim assistance organization before a physical exam or law enforcement interview and the right to have a representative accompany them through the exam and interview.

The right contact information for the law enforcement entity with jurisdic-

tion over the crime and the right to receive updates on the status of their rape kit and whether a DA profile was developed and a DNA match identified. A prosecutorial agency would be able to delay release of this information prior to the arrest of a suspect.

"No rape survivor should be re-traumatized by bureaucracy, ill-treatment, thoughtlessness or lack of transparency in the health care or criminal justice systems," Simotas said. "In 2016 the governor signed legislation that I sponsored to mandate the speedy processing of rape kits and end the backlog."

"I urge to governor to now sign the Sexual Assault Survivor Bill of Rights so that our state continues to protect and advance the rights of sexual assault survivors," she added.

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



State Assemblywoman Aravella Simotas wants the governor to sign her Sexual Assault Victim Bill of Rights legislation after seven area hospitals billed victims for their rape kits. Courtesy of Simotas' office

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Annie Kendzierski
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Schools have a mission and core values that are instilled in their students. The Mary Louis Academy's (TMLA) students are encouraged to become responsible, compassionate citizens who embrace opportunities to respond to the needs of others. This month's Student of Distinction has embraced TMLA's mission wholeheartedly.

Annie Kendzierski joined TMLA during the middle of freshman year yet acclimated and became a valued member of the TMLA family immediately. She has continued from her first day through the present to challenge herself academically while extending a helping hand and courtesy to others. Instructors and staff members alike wax poetic about her humanity and kindness of spirit.

English teacher Joseph Brennan is a strong supporter of Annie's good works. He enthuses, "Her intelligence, reading skills, and writing talent are all manifest with a quick glance at her record. It is the beautiful soul underneath those numbers though that is the true measure of this woman. She is one of the most generous, warm, giving souls it has ever been my pleasure to teach. Annie is a guiding light for so many of the young women here. She effortlessly models what it means to be a decent human being. The school was blessed the day she arrived, and this world will be blessed by her being in it."

Indeed, one of Annie's favorite quotes is, "You get more by giving than receiving." Guidance Counselor Jennifer Moore-Scally reflects that this quote is evident through Annie's actions. "At a mere sixteen years



old, she traveled to Cairo, Egypt to volunteer at an orphanage with underprivileged children. Since then she has spent her summer vacations on mission trips to Jamaica and Belize."

"It was close to midnight when we landed in Cairo," explains Annie. "Upon entering the orphanage, a mother placed her young child into my arms. She was a resident of an orphanage. The introduction, in Arabic, was somewhat decipherable to my foreign ears as I caught the young girl's name above the noise of the other children, eager to see Americans with green eyes and blonde hair. She attempted to stuff a pink dog-shaped balloon into her mouth to feel the sensation of the latex bursting between her cheeks. I lifted her up slightly above face level and watched as this young girl's once stoic expression turned into a smile. The smile grew across her cheeks, crinkling the corners of her eyes, and unadulterated joy radiated throughout her countenance."

The orphanage is located minutes from Manshiat Naser, a city in Cairo

more commonly known as 'garbage city,' a name acquired from the heaping landfill piles that tower over the two-story homes. "Without a formal sanitation system and means of running water, inadequacies swarm the town's infrastructure," Annie remembers.

"Within the dimly lit facility, rooms hold up to six children, yet a maximum of three cots will be found in each. Along with the beds is either a cabinet or a table for the children's belongings, but no storage for clothing or toys, both of which we saw none of. The communal bathroom was lined with dust and residue. There were no signs of running water."

A little over 6,000 miles away, in Kingston, Jamaica, Annie found a similar situation. Surrounded by miles of greenery and jungle-like terrain, is a halfway house that houses dozens of youth. Annie observed, "The children are taken in by 'aunties,' women who devote their lives to helping these children. This halfway house is smaller than the orphanage in Cairo, having only one floor rather than

three. It has assets such as running water and plumbing, but the shortage of beds remains a constant for the children. In both cases, the establishments' conditions reflect the environment the children inhabit."

These volunteer opportunities abroad affected Annie sincerely. According to Moore-Scally, "Annie has been humbled by these invaluable experiences and attributes them to her deepened appreciation for her education."

Annie aspires to be an urban planner in cities such as these to ascertain all care facilities – not only orphanages and halfway house but all – are given as much care as they provide to the people they take in. Her chief goal is ensuring all foundations meant to provide stability are placed in areas that have adequate resources.

Looking ahead Annie dreams of improving the quality of care facilities. As she says, "It was these children, the ones without their own bed and running water that changed my life. I intend to return the favor." We are confident she will.



Annie Kendzierski



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Bronx men charged in Astoria robbery: DA

BY ZACH GEWELB

Two suspects who were allegedly part of a four-man team that attempted to rob an Astoria bodega and then shot the store owner's brother as he tried to pursue them face multiple charges, according to the Queens District Attorney's office.

Bronx residents Hannibal Ali, 55, and Luis Zayas, 25, were arraigned in Queens Criminal Court last week for arraignment on charges of robbery, criminal possession of a weapon and other crimes.

On Nov. 17 at approximately 8:20 p.m., Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown said, Ali and two unidentified suspects who wore masks and authentic-looking police shields around their necks walked into Bonoful Grocery on 36th Avenue in Astoria.

According to the charges, one of the masked men grabbed a bag with cash from behind the store's counter. Additionally, the individual opened the cash register and took the cash from inside.

The three men then exited the store and rushed toward a red van that was waiting outside, with Zayas allegedly behind the wheel, prosecutors noted.

The 18-year-old brother of the store's owner who was inside the bodega at the time of the robbery chased after the men as they fled to the van, according to the complaint.

The teen was then shot in the left leg and the van left the scene.

The Daily News reported that the wounded man was taken to Elmhurst Hospital and was in stable condition.

"A young man quashed down any fear to pursue the gun-toting robbers into the night. For that, he is a hero," Brown said. "The 18-year-old was shot in the leg and will thankfully survive the injury. Two of the four suspects have now been apprehended and will answer for this brazen robbery. This kind of violence and thievery is unacceptable and will not be tolerated."

Ali was arraigned Nov. 29 before Queens Criminal Court Judge Toni Cimino, who set bail at \$100,000. Zayas was arraigned Nov. 27 before Judge Cimino, who set bail for \$25,000 bond or \$10,000 cash.

Both were charged with first- and second-degree robbery and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon in two separate complaints. Judge Cimino ordered both defendants to return to court Dec. 12. If convicted, the defendants face up to 25 years in prison.

The investigation into the robbery and shooting is ongoing, and additional charges are likely, according to Brown.

Reach reporter Zach Gewelb by e-mail at zgewelb@cnglocal.com or by phone at (718) 260-4539.

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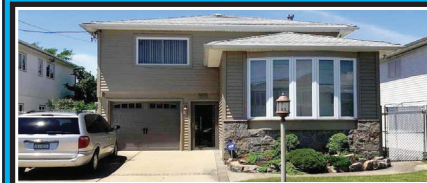
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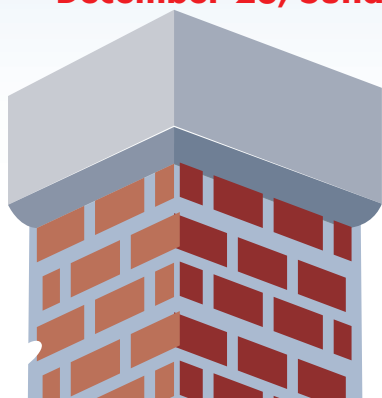
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ACS to train workers at Jamaica location

BY NAEISHA ROSE

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) unveiled its plan for its first-ever simulation training sites in Harlem and Jamaica for child welfare workers last week, according to the city agency.

The state-of-the-art training facility in Queens will open at 92-31 Union Hall St. in 2019, according to ACS in a Nov. 26 announcement. The site in Manhattan will also open the same year.

The purpose of the simulation is to help caseworkers better detect cases of abuse with flexible training for large numbers of its staff in intimate and practical ways, according to the ACS, which investigates 60,000 reports annually of neglect or abuse across New York City.

"Our Child Protective Specialists are the first responders for New York City's children when they may be in danger, and they need the same state-of-the-art training experiences that other first responders have access to," said ACS Commissioner David A. Hansell. "Our new simulation centers will give future child welfare workers a realistic sense of what it's like to conduct home visits during investigations, interview parents and children, and testify in court."

The training simulation at Union Hall Street will include mock apartments, a mock courtroom, a mock detention center and mock interview room using actors and retired city family court judges, according to CPS. Further exercises will align welfare workers with first responders like police officers and firefighters.

Training for frontline CPS workers has expanded from 41 days to five months either on the field or at the James Satterwhite Academy, and there are more than 2,000 welfare workers on the field that have been trained with upgraded technology including high-speed safe tablets and "Safe Measures" software, which can automatically identify and flag high-risk cases that need additional review by managerial staff, according to ACS.

"An in-depth analysis was conducted to determine location based on accessibility and proximity to transportation," said an ACS spokeswoman. "There is a large borough office in Union Hall and the Satterwhite Academy is already there, so this was an opportunity to expand."

The James Satterwhite Academy is where CPS workers get some of their training and going forward they will receive two months of training at Union Hall and three months of training on the field, according to ACS.

Since last year newly hired CPS



The Administration for Children's Services will add a training site to Jamaica in 2019.

Courtesy of NYC Administration for Children's Services

workers have participated in training at the NYPD Police Academy to help strengthen investigative skills, according to the agency.

The Union Hall and Harlem sites, which will be on 125th Street in Manhattan, will accommodate training of over 11,000 staff members combined, both training centers will hold simulations simultaneously and will be able to train up to 250 people at one time, according to the agency.

The sets for the simulation will be mobile to meet different needs and will be used by child protective specialists, juvenile justice youth development specialists, foster care case planners, prevention staff and their supervisors, according to ACS.

ACS has also re-launched its quality improvement process, created a new Quality Assurance Unit for high-risk families, hired more than 600 new specialists, and have included ZipCars "local motion technology" so that specialists can respond even faster to reports of neglect under Hansell's sweeping reforms.

New improvements also include a Heightened Oversight Protocol on reports involving physical or sexual abuse of children under three, and increased collaboration with the Department of Education, the Department of Homeless Services and other city agencies.

"Robust and realistic training is critical for ensuring that children across New York City are safe, which is why we've expanded training over the last year and why we're building these new sites," said Hansell.

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Christ the King Community Kicks off 2018 Christmas Season with Tree Lighting Ceremony

Christ the King Community kicked off the 2018 Christmas Season at our **Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony**. More than 300 people within the community joined in the festivities. Santa was on hand for pictures and families enjoyed an indoor Winter Wonderland filled with games, activities, bouncy castles, warm cookies and hot chocolate.

CK's Musical Theater Group was also on hand, singing Christmas carols, along with performances by the CK Drum Band and the CK Kids Dance Team. Fun was had by all!



Above Left: CK Musical Theatre Group,

Below Left: CK Drum Corps

Above Right: Santa taking pictures with families.

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

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

Lunar New Year parking bill approved by City Council

BY CARLOTTA MOHAMED

Flushing City Councilman Peter Koo's bill to suspend alternate side parking on Lunar New Year's Eve — one of the most important cultural days of the year for Asian-Americans — was unanimously approved by the City Council.

The bill, Intro 497-A, was approved by City Council members Nov. 28 and adds the Lunar New Year's Eve to the city's existing list of special religious and cultural holidays in which alternate side parking rules are suspended throughout the five boroughs.

Koo introduced the bill to City Council earlier this year in February.

"Suspending alternate side parking on Lunar New Year's Eve is a simple way for the city of New York to respect this important cultural holiday by allowing more communities to share in the great patchwork of cultures, values, traditions that make up New York City," said Koo.

According to Koo, Lunar New Year's Eve is a time when Asians from all over the world travel home, often across countries and continents, to be with their loved ones. In New York, it's an intense travel time when families reunite, eat at restaurants, and prepare to celebrate the holiday.

"Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays for [the] Asian community," said City Council Speaker Corey Johnson. "The Council wants to make sure Asian families honor their



Photo by Josef Pinlac

culture without worrying about cars being towed. And I look forward to participating in some of the celebrations."

Manhattan Councilwoman Margaret Chin said she's thrilled that the City Council has decided to respect the important of the day by suspending alternate side parking.

"The gesture may seem simple, but it will greatly improve everyone's experience throughout the Lunar New Year's Eve. I want to extend a special congratulations to Council Member Koo for successfully shepherding the legislation that made this possible through the council," said Chin.

Reach reporter Carlotta Mohamed by e-mail at cmohamed@cnglocal.com or by phone at (718) 260-4526.

New hoops court opens at Queensbridge South Park

BY ALEJANDRA O'CONNELL-DOMENECH

Queensbridge South Park in Long Island City now has a new basketball court and playground for residents of all ages to enjoy.

City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer, Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Queensbridge Tenant Association President April Simpson and members of the Queensbridge community participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony Dec. 3 for the new additions.

The court and playground were jointly funded by the councilman and borough president, which cost a total of \$306,100.

"I am proud to have helped fund the newly renovated basketball court and play area at Queensbridge South. These essential gathering spaces will allow

children and families of Queensbridge to come together, build community, and play outdoors," Van Bramer said. "I love this community and I am committed to improving the grounds and overall quality of life here in every way I can."

"For the countless kids of all ages living in the area, these new recreation areas will not only serve as places to play, but also as community hubs for relationship building and healthy living," Katz said. "By investing in upgrades for our parks, we are investing in a better future for our children across the borough."

The Queensbridge South renovations are part of a nearly \$1.5 million project funded by Van Bramer and Katz to revamp and restore outdoor gathering spaces and play areas throughout the grounds of Queensbridge Houses North and South.

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Bayside kicks off holiday season with annual parade



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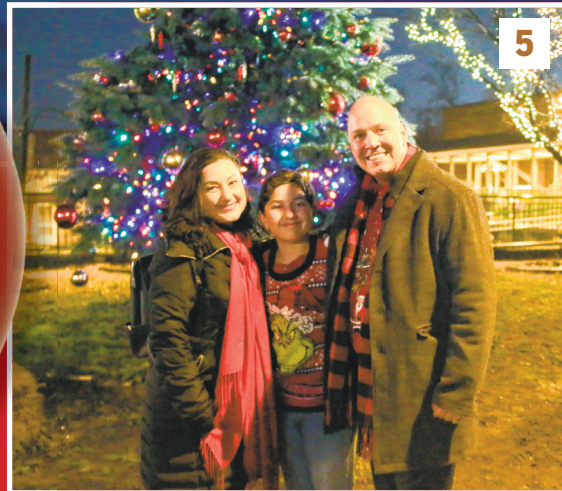


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1. Bayside celebrated the start of the holiday season with its fifth-annual holiday parade. 2. Kids rock out on the stage outside the Bayside Long Island Rail Road station. 3. PS 41, the Crocheron School, takes the stage. 4. Mr. Met takes a seat on Santa's lap. 5. City Councilman Paul Vallone gets into the holiday spirit. Photo by Bruce Adler



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The World's Fare returns to Citi Field

BY MARK HALLUM

The World's Fare is coming back to Citi Field next spring and figures to attract thousands of local foodies eager to try bites from across the globe.

Tickets are now available for the May 18-19 festival, to be held at Citi Field. Inspired by the 1964-65 World's Fair, the World's Fare gives attendees access to food, drink, music and entertainment for allotted times and is curated by leading chefs, food journalists, bloggers and social media influencers.

"It was a massive success last year with over 10,000 people attending. The foundation of the event is around food and drink," said Josh Schneps, one of the organizers of the event. "This year we are going to be adding new experiences and family-friendly activities for kids."

The World's Fare will feature up to 100 different vendors celebrating equality and diversity in the food industry plus more than 50 global craft beers and international cocktail bars as well.



Photo by Corazon Aguirre

"The whole intention of the event is to embrace the diversity of New York City and Queens in particular as it is most diverse of all the boroughs," Schneps said. "Everybody has a shared love of food and drink so it's a great way

for people to come together through that."

A taste of some of the returning vendors for this year are Empanada Papa, Arepa Lady, Dua Diva, Nacho Libre, Knot Of This World, Baba's Pierogie, In Patella, Home

Frite, D'Abruzzo, Danny Macaroons and Vaccaro's Bakery.

Ticket prices are currently at their lowest point, but will rise as the date gets closer.

General admission tickets are on sale for \$19; \$49 passes will give you general admission

access along with a free mug to taste 12 different kinds of beer plus one specialty cocktail.

General admission prices will jump to \$29 in January, \$39 in March and \$45 in April. General admission including beer tastings and a specialty cocktail prices will move to \$55 in January, \$59 in March, and \$69 in April. Children's tickets will change from \$5 to \$10 in January.

VIP tickets cost \$199 and offer VIP lounge access with unlimited select beer tastings, a free souvenir mug and two specialty cocktails and an additional 16 tastings from the beer garden. This price will not change, however, and tickets do not include food.

The World's Fare will occupy the Citi Field parking lot, and is accessible by the nearby 7 train at the Mets-Willets Point station. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit worldsfare.nyc.

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

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SHELTER DILEMMA

With College Point residents fighting the city over its plan to bring a homeless shelter to the neighborhood — even threatening a lawsuit — something must be done to ease the tension.

The situation has escalated to the point where the College Point Residents Coalition is asking for residents to give money that will be used in a lawsuit against the city.

“College Point, Whitestone, Bayside, whoever wants to get in with us, we are suing New York City. In order to sue New York City, we need money and I assure you the city’s not giving it to us. We need donations. We need you,” said committee member Jennifer Shannon.

The coalition’s anger regarding the situation stems from its belief that the city has lied about the shelter and doesn’t have the neighborhood residents’ best interest at heart.

The coalition appears to have the support of City Councilman Paul Vallone, who attended the Dec. 2 protest and has been vocal with his opposition to the shelter, claiming that the building’s owners were not transparent about their intentions when filing the property permits.

The councilman said that the original permits from the Brooklyn-based owners of Liberty One Group, stated that the property was going to be “an office and furniture store” and that the owners “lied to us deliberately.”

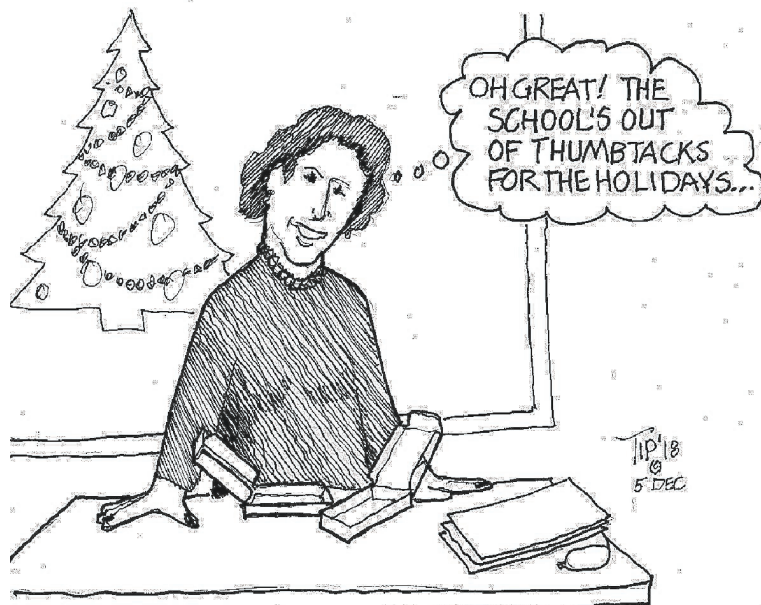
Vallone also attended the College Point Civic Association and Taxpayers meeting Nov. 28 that saw nearly 200 people fill the room, with several others forced to wait outside.

Residents who are clearly passionate about the issue had the opportunity to speak with Jackie Bray, the first deputy commissioner for the Department of Homeless Services, who said the shelter would be a “general population shelter,” meaning that residents in the 200 single men’s shelter would not be men who are registered sex offenders or have substance abuse and mental health issues.

Those allowed to live in the shelter underwent an evaluation process, which involved assessing each individual to see where they should be placed, according to Bray. Before being placed in a shelter, men come from their intake center in Manhattan and placed in an assessment shelter where they are given a comprehensive background and mental health check, she said.

But the crowd could not be convinced that it was right for their community and the situation continues to escalate.

There is an upcoming town hall meeting concerning the shelter to be held at PS 29, scheduled for Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. It is vital to attend this meeting and try to diffuse the tension that seems destined to grow.



OTHER VOICES

Fix the Flushing Main Street station

An open letter to the MTA:

I have never visited a place that has a broken or inactive escalator as frequently as the Flushing Main Street station.

It would seem that a station that serves so many New Yorkers would not be in such a bad state of repair.

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Are your escalator repair-people incompetent? Or are they working with a tiny budget that does not allow them to make the necessary repairs? Because it seems like those are the only two options. I would suggest taking care of it.

People in Flushing deserve better service. There are a lot of us and we pay taxes and we are regular customers of the MTA and it’s not right to have the Flushing Main Street station in such a bad state constantly.

The Flushing community already has to deal with congested streets due to everybody in north-

east Queens and many people in Long Island utilizing the Main Street subway station by way of buses that clog our traffic and make our streets less safe and less clean.

The least you could do is make our life a little easier by keeping the escalators in tip top shape. I mean come on. We put a man on the moon. We can make the escalator work without breaking down every other week.

Thank you and I hope you have a beautiful week.

Robert Reynolds
Flushing

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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.

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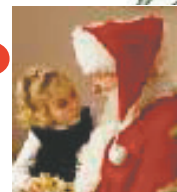
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A festive photograph of two women sitting in a red sleigh. The sleigh is overflowing with Christmas gifts, including a large gift wrapped in red mesh, a red and black plaid gift, and several smaller wrapped packages. The woman on the left has dark hair and wears a white knit hat with a pom-pom and a colorful scarf. The woman on the right has blonde hair and wears a red knit hat and a grey coat with a red scarf. Both are looking upwards with joyful expressions. The background is a blurred city street at night with warm lights and snow falling. The title 'holiday GUIDE 2018' is overlaid on the top half of the image.

holiday GUIDE 2018



Developmental toys and educational games for kids make for popular gifts.

Select educational presents for tykes

When shopping for holiday gifts for children, shoppers can easily be overwhelmed by the many toys, electronics, apparel, and other items available for kids. Those who may not be up-to-date on the latest trends may even find shopping for kids a bit like solving a difficult puzzle.

Some shoppers may want to get kids the flashiest toy, but others may prefer gifts that are both fun and mentally stimulating. Developmental toys and educational games for kids make for popular gifts. Toy and game manufacturers continue to develop products that integrate logic, reasoning, language stimulation, and motor skill development. Shoppers looking for fun, educational toys and games for the kids on their shopping lists have a host of items to choose from:

Building blocks: Blocks that enable children to design and construct are popular among youngsters of various ages. Blocks come in many different forms, from early education wooden blocks that fill nursery floors

to the more intricate, interlocking building sets that are coveted by older children.

Stem toys: Some of the latest trends in children's toys veer away from regular video games and apps and cater to the rising interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. Early introduction to these fields can result in skills that can pay dividends later in life, considering students who have an emphasis on Stem knowledge are highly coveted among employers. Toys may include robot-building kits, toys that help young learners test the boundaries of physics, apps that help kids learn computer programming, and even scientific experiment kits that illustrate cause and effect.

Sensory toys: Young children can benefit from toys that stimulate the senses. Items to consider include water toys, sands (including the newer kinetic varieties), playdoughs, musical instruments, and bubbles. Even food-related toys, such as those that encourage baking or cooking, will appeal to

various senses and can help kids learn valuable skills.

Imaginative play toys: Imaginative play is an effective way to stimulate creative thinking and may help children become better learners. The Creativity Institute, specializing in toys for creative play, says playing is important to children and the way they practice growing up. According to an article by Dr. Scott Kaufman that appeared in *Psychology Today*, "Systematic research has increasingly demonstrated a series of clear benefits of children's engagement in pretend games from the ages of about 2 and a half through ages 6 or 7." Dress-up toys, puppets, dolls, action figures, and toys that mimic real-life activities are all examples of products that promote imaginative play.

Educational toys can be included on holiday gifting lists. Not only will they encourage children to play and have fun, but they'll serve as building blocks to a lifetime of learning as well.

How to uncork bubbly safely

Special occasions like birthdays, holidays, and of course, New Year's Eve, are often enhanced by the inclusion of sparkling beverages. Sipping a chilled glass of bubbly can make everything feel more festive and indulgent. However, those bottles of champagne, cava, or Prosecco can pack quite a punch — and not just because of their alcohol content.



By properly chilling sparkling wine, the cork release can be controlled and less dangerous.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology says each year hundreds of people suffer serious, potentially blinding eye injuries from sparkling wine corks. Town and Country magazine reports that the pressure behind a cork is around 90 psi, which is three times the pressure of most car tires. The Academy says champagne corks can fly out of the bottle at speeds upwards of 50 miles per hour. Sometimes that rocket-powered launch can elicit laughs, while other times it can be downright dangerous.

It is important to emphasize safety when uncorking favorite vintages. Expert sommeliers advise following some key techniques so that guests are not ducking for cover the next time a bottle of bubbly is uncorked:

Ensure the bottle is chilled. Sparkling wine should be properly chilled to around 45 F. Should the beverage not be cold enough, the pressure inside the bottle will cause the cork to be released fast and can cause an overly foamy, geyser-like situation.

Remove the wrapping. Champagne and other sparkling products are sealed with foil and a wire cage to keep the cork seated. Remove these first, being careful to hold the cork down in case it spontaneously pops.

Have a towel handy. Drape a dish towel or cloth napkin over the top of the bottle. This muffles the pop and can absorb any spillage.

Twist the bottle. Hold the bottle at a 45-degree angle facing away from yourself and anyone in the vicinity. Keep pressure around the cork while twisting the bottle. If you twist the cork, it could break inside the bottle. Continue to twist until the bottle starts to loosen from the cork and spins freely. Then you can slowly pull the cork away from the bottle.

Keep downward pressure. If you can feel the pressure starting to force the cork out, push against the cork to control its release. By managing the release, you can avoid a sharp "pop" and instead have only a mild hiss of pressure as the carbonation escapes.

Double-pour the bubbly. Only half-fill the glasses to allow the foam to subside. Then fill to desired level.

A recipe for the Festival of Lights

The celebration of Hanukkah has a deep history. Upon conquering Syria, Egypt, and Palestine, Alexander the Great allowed residents of these lands to observe their own religions. However, more than 100 years later, Antiochus IV, a less tolerant successor, began to oppress the Jewish people under his control, desecrating their temples and ordering the massacre of many Jews. This treatment eventually sparked a revolt led by Mattathias the Hasmonean and his son, Judah Maccabee. The revolt was successful, and the temple was rededicated. But at the time of rededication, oil needed to light the menorah was very low, roughly enough to keep the menorah lit for just one night. However, the oil stunningly lasted for eight days. An eight-day festival was then declared to celebrate, and that festival is now known as Hanukkah, often referred to as the "Festival of Lights."

To celebrate the holiday, many Jewish people cook potato latkes. Try the following recipe for your Festival of Lights celebration:

Potato latkes

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 pounds russet potatoes, peeled
- 1/4 cup finely chopped shallots
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten



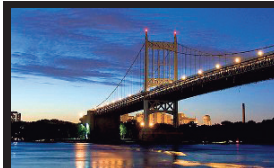
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Vegetable oil for frying

DIRECTIONS:

In a food processor, grate the potatoes. Line a sieve with cheesecloth and transfer the potatoes to the sieve. Set the sieve over a bowl and twist the cheesecloth into a pouch, squeezing out some moisture. Let the mixture drain for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, pour off liquid from the bowl but leave the white potato starch.

To that starch add shallots, eggs, flour, salt, and freshly ground pepper. Return drained potatoes to this mixture and toss to combine.

When you are ready to eat, in a large skillet heat 1/4 inch of oil over medium-high heat until hot. Drop heaping tablespoonfuls of potato mixture and cook for 3 to 4 minutes a side; latkes should be golden and crisp on both sides. Eat right away or keep warm in oven. Serve with applesauce, sour cream or cottage cheese mixed with sour cream.



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Tips to make a kid's first holiday special

A baby's life is filled with milestones. First smiles, first steps, and first words are just a few of the moments parents will treasure.

A baby's first holiday season is another special time to cherish. Shoppers seeking gifts to make a baby's first holiday special have many clever, cute, and functional items to choose from. Several of these gifts can become keepsakes to be tucked into memory boxes for growing kids to look at later in life:

Christmas pajamas. What better way to await for the arrival of Christmas than in a pair of snuggly pajamas? Send pajamas ahead of Christmas Day so that new parents will have plenty of adorable photo opportunities as their baby boy or girl tears open the gifts. Stores stock several different fun and festive prints, or look into pajamas that can be personalized.

Photo print package. Photography packages can involve the entire expanding family and will catalog special moments in time. Purchase studio or on-location time with a private photographer, or use one of the popular photography chains found in malls and department stores.

Personalized framed print. Commemorate the first holiday season with your child by getting a print made with his or her name and age. Leave a space on the print so that the child's parents can customize it even further with their son or daughter's footprints. Include a matted frame and child-safe ink or paint to complete the gift.

Keepsake ornament. Some families embrace the tradition of adding a new ornament to their Christmas trees each year. Purchase an ornament for the new baby with the year so he or she can

join in the tradition.

Crochet or knit blanket. Crafty individuals can make a blanket that the newest addition to the family can enjoy during the chilly days of winter. These blankets often become treasured keepsakes that may be passed down throughout the family or kept tucked away for kids so they can give them to their own children once they start their own families.

Rocking horse. Babies don't wait long before they start to run around and climb. A classic rocking horse makes for a fun baby gift, and rocking horses come in many different styles. If you are the family carpenter, you can even purchase some unfinished wood from a craft store and then make this into a homemade gift your favorite little guy or gal will always cherish.

Piggy bank. Foster good saving habits by gifting a per-



Thoughtful gifts can make a newborn child's first holiday season one of joy.

sonalized piggy bank. Get kids off on the right foot by depositing a few dollars into the bank before giving the gift.

A new baby brings many

changes and fun experiences. Gift-givers can make a baby's first holiday season one filled with joy and whimsy with creative gift ideas.

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Look for this logo when buying your car.

Forest Hills medicinal pot shop offers more affordable products

BY MARK HALLUM

A Forest Hills dispensary is offering a \$25 deal on their in-house cannabis vape pens, tinctures and tablets as part of the campaign “Live Green, Save Green” to help patients afford high quality medical marijuana products.

Curaleaf, located at 107-18 70th Rd., said the cannabis vape pens sell for around \$70 throughout the rest of New York state and reassured the quality of the lab-tested cannabis oil in their slim vape pens.

“Curaleaf understands that New York patients require more affordable pricing on the medical cannabis treatment they need to manage their pain and live more comfortably,” Curaleaf President Michelle Bodner said. “We are proud to offer a variety of new options in the coming weeks and months that provide that affordability while also providing greater quality with natural, PEG-free ingredients

and our new cannabis grown by and for New Yorkers.”

According to a press release, the tinctures, pens and tablets come with varying levels of THC, the main psychoactive chemical in marijuana, or CBD, another component of marijuana which is FDA approved to treat pediatric epilepsy.

“Curaleaf New York believes in providing the best options for New York’s patients,” Bodner concluded. “We are committed to researching and pursuing new ways for patients to benefit from cannabis, from continually improving products already on the market to working with the State to approve of selling ground flower.”

The campaign runs throughout December with more products becoming available later on, according to Curaleaf.

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



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Queens to receive additional Citi Bike services

BY ALEJANDRA O'CONNELL-DOMENECH

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced last week that New Yorkers will soon see a dramatic expansion in Citi Bike across the city. The number of new bikes and biking docs to come to Queens has yet to be determined.

"New York City is one of the world's great biking cities — and it's about to get even better," de Blasio said in a Nov. 29 press release. "This expansion means tens of thousands more New Yorkers are going to have a fast and inexpensive way to get around their city. It also means much more reliable service for all the riders who already use Citi Bike."

The mayor reached an agreement with Lyft that allows the ride sharing company to acquire Motivate, Citi Bike's parent company and the nation's largest bike sharing program.

The company will then invest \$100 million to strengthen the bike shar-



City Councilmen Michael Gianaris (l.) and Jimmy Van Bramer riding Citi Bikes.

Photo by Bill Parry

ing system which includes doubling Citi Bike's service area by 35 square miles and tripling the number of available bikes from its current 40,000 in the next five years.

Both pedal-assist bicy-

cles and regular bikes will be a part of the expansion.

By the end of February, Lyft plans on restoring the existing Citi Bike system to its required fleet level of 12,000 bikes.

As part of the agreement,

the city also retains its right to continue work on the ongoing three-borough dockless bike pilot program and to implement more dockless bike share services outside of the expanded Citi Bike service area.

This growth will turn Citi Bike into one of the largest bike share systems on the planet, de Blasio said. Lyft will continue Citi Bike's efforts towards transportation equality and pledges to invest more in the \$5 monthly bike share memberships available to NYCHA residents and SNAP recipients.

Where exactly the new bikes and bike docs will be decided in the coming months, according to the release. Expansion will be accompanied by community and elected official outreach. Citi Bike already operates in Astoria and Long Island City.

"I look forward to CitiBike's continued growth into more western Queens neighborhoods and beyond," state Senator Michael Gianaris said.

The improvement and expansion of Citi Bike will continue to be privately funded without any government subsidies, according to de Blasio.

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present address are Whitestone, NY. My place of birth is QUEENS, NY. The month and year of my birth are November 1995.

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF QUEENS

-----x
Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as trustee for Hilldale Trust, Plaintiff,
-against-
Herbert Anderson III as heir to the Estate of Herbert Anderson who was Heir to the Estate of Margaret B. Anderson, Tamisha Jones aka Tamisha R. Anderson as heir to the Estate of Herbert Anderson who was Heir to the Estate of Margaret B. Anderson, Ethel J. Anderson as heir to the Estate of Herbert

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Anderson who was Heir to the Estate of Margaret B. Anderson and Margaret B. Anderson's heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors in interest, and generally all persons having or claiming, under, by or through said defendant, who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, Lanaird Granger as heir to the Estate of Beatrice Harris, Grandeur who was Heir to the Estate of Margaret B. Anderson, Laraine E. Brown as Heir to the Estate of Beatrice Harris, Beatrice Baker as Heir to the Estate of Beatrice Harris and Beatrice Harris' heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors

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in interest, and generally all persons having or claiming, under, by or through said defendant, who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, New York City Transit Adjudication Bureau, New York City Environmental Control Board, New York City Parking Violations Bureau, New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, United States of America-Internal Revenue Service, Mt. Sinai Elmhurst Faculty Practice, Criminal Court of the City of New York, Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Midland Funding LLC, Brooklyn Union Gas, Defendants.
-----x
Index No.: 702829/2018
Filed 11/30/2018
S U P P L E M E N T A L
SUMMONS
Plaintiff designates Queens County as the place of trial.

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Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgaged premises is situated.
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; or within sixty (60) days if it is the United States of America. 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

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THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$27,000.00 and interest, recorded in the office of the clerk of the County of Queens on May 29, 2003 in CRFN 2003000147134, covering premises known as 12019 Springfield Blvd, Cambria Heights, NY 11411. 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.
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Speak to an attorney or go

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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: Bay Shore, New York
November 27, 2018
Frenkel, Lambert, Weiss, Weisman & Gordon, LLP
BY: Linda P. Manfredi
Attorneys for Plaintiff
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Signing up for a class and working out with friends are great ways to make exercise more enjoyable.

Make working out more enjoyable

Sedentary lifestyles can be dangerous to human health. Numerous studies have linked sedentary lifestyles to various diseases, including type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. But in spite of those connections, sedentary lifestyles are on the rise.

According to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, both men and women are engaging in physical activity a lot less frequently than in years past. The survey, which examined data between 1988 and 2010, found that women who reported not engaging in physical activity rose from 19 percent to 52 percent, while figures for men rose from 11 percent to 43 percent.

Many people find physical activity unenjoyable, which may make it difficult for them to include exercise

in their daily routines. The following are some approaches those living sedentary lifestyles can take to make physical activity more enjoyable.

Find activities you like. Physical activity is not limited to working out in a gym. Many adults find gyms great and motivational places to get in shape, while others are bored by strength-training or intimidated by gyms. Finding a physical activity you enjoy increases the chances that you will make exercise a part of your daily routine. Yoga, walking, and cycling are just a few of the many physical activities that can help you live a less sedentary life.

Get a workout buddy. Another way to make exercise more enjoyable is to enlist a friend to workout with you. Friends can supply motivation on those days when you don't feel like working out while also making

workouts more enjoyable by sharing a few laughs as you lift weights, walk around the neighborhood, or engage in whatever physical activity you do together.

Set specific goals. Exercise also becomes more enjoyable when you establish specific goals that give you something tangible to work toward. You are more likely to enjoy what you're doing if you reach your goals along the way than if you don't set any goals and simply go through the motions. You also can reward yourself for reaching certain goals, which will undoubtedly make your efforts more enjoyable.

Involve other interests in your exercise routine. If exercise truly bores you, find ways to incorporate your other interests into your workout routine. Rather than spending 30 to 60 minutes simply running on

a treadmill, take your tablet along with you and stream your favorite television shows. If possible, catch up on reading while you ride the exercise bike. Combining your workout routine with other passions can make your exercise routines more enjoyable, making you more likely to commit to them on a regular basis.

Sign up for classes. Gyms are more than just weight rooms and cardio machines. Many gyms now offer classes like Zumba, kickboxing, and yoga, which can make exercise more communal and fun. If the weight room isn't your thing, find a gym that offers classes you're likely to embrace.

Exercise need not be dull, and men and women looking to be less sedentary can look for ways to make working out more fun in an effort to reach their fitness goals.

Getting fit the smart way

Exercise is an important component of a healthy lifestyle. Many people establish bold fitness goals with a mind toward getting in shape. It's tempting to jump right in, especially when friends or relatives reach their own fitness goals. However, inactive men and women risk injury when diving right in and not taking a gradual approach to fitness and weight loss regimens. To reap the most rewards from exercise, take the proper precautions and follow these guidelines:

Speak with your doctor before beginning an exercise regimen. Get medical clearance before you begin a new exercise regimen, especially if you have any preexisting medical conditions. Your doctor may suggest certain modifications that can reduce strain on certain parts of the body or advise you on the most effective activities for people with your condition. It's also wise to inform doctors of fitness

plans and goals so they can help track your progress.

Don't eat heavy meals before exercising. A light, healthy snack gives you a little fuel without affecting your ability to exercise. After eating, the body diverts blood flow to the gastrointestinal tract to aid with digestion. Exercising while this blood flow is centralized in the gastrointestinal tract may cause muscle cramps or generalized weakness. Nutrition experts at the University of California, Los Angeles, say that people who exercise strenuously on a full stomach also may experience reflux, hiccups, nausea, and vomiting.

Warm up. Stretches, light movements, and range of motion exercises can improve flexibility and prepare the body for more to come. If muscles aren't fully stretched and warm, injuries like strains and tendon tears may occur. Take the time to warm up; otherwise, you may find yourself on the sidelines.

Wear the appropriate equipment. Invest in quality athletic shoes and other equipment made for the activity you will be performing. The right equipment can help prevent injury. Athletic shoes that fail to provide adequate support can increase your risk of injury. Good shoes do not have to cost a fortune, as there are plenty of brands that will work quite well. If you need suggestions, discuss your exercise regimen and goals with a podiatrist or orthopedist. You also may need equipment specific to a given activity. For example, wrist supports and quality gloves are essential for kickboxing classes.

Take weather into consideration. Ice, snow, rain, and wind can make jogging or other outdoor activities more challenging, if not dangerous. Always exercise caution when your workout regimen involves exercising outdoors. Stay indoors if you see thunder and lightning.



Staying motivated and avoiding injuries can help people get in shape and maintain healthy lifestyles for years to come.

Stay hydrated. The Better Health Channel of the Victoria State Government says a person can lose around one and a half liters of fluid for every hour of exercise. Drink water before, during, and after each exercise session. If you need water while exercising, take small sips.

Be aware of your body. Take notice of how you feel. If something doesn't feel just right, then stop immediately, rest, or seek medical attention.

Pace yourself and take the time to rest. Don't try to do everything all at once. Slowly build up your durability and stamina by gradually increasing the intensity of your workouts. Give yourself time to recover between workouts as well.

Exercise is a key part of a healthy lifestyle. Remember to do so safely and effectively.



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Top Photo: Rooftop Atrium Two Bottom Photos: Studio Apartment



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TimesLedger, Dec. 7-13, 2018

Q GUIDE

TO THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

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Spreading cheer with music

Story on page 44



Singers, jazz instrumentalists and dancers of all skill levels are welcome and encouraged to join this participatory, New Orleans-style second line parade featuring rambunctious, soulful songs from producer Roz Nixon's musical "Dedication to Louis Armstrong." Courtesy of Make Music

Make Music New York spreads holiday cheer across the city

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

The Winter Solstice is fast approaching, so once Dec. 21 rolls around you can start looking forward to brighter days ahead and the emergence of spring.

Thanks to the earth's tilt, we get the shortest period of daylight and the longest night of the year and, since many cultures enjoy feasting and celebrations around spiritual and religious traditions on this special day — which symbolizes rebirth and renewal — it's a perfect time for finding renewed optimism here in The World's Borough.

If you and your friends are getting ready to enjoy the solstice — in line with local "rituals" — why not join other New Yorkers who will be rejoicing across the five boroughs? A total of 15 participatory parades produced as part of the annual Make Music Winter celebrations is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 21.

Singers and instrumentalists of all ages and skill levels are welcome to join in the fun when Queens Second Line Swing rocks the borough. You

can meet the parade at Corona Plaza at Roosevelt Avenue and 103rd Street in time for their 12 p.m. departure when they march from the plaza up to their friends at the Louis Armstrong House Museum for the finale that takes place in the garden.

So, how do you take part in the merriment and music-making?

"By bringing a beautiful, uninhibited spirit to our starting location and then by marching, singing, playing or dancing along...with the band," said Second Line Swing producer Roz Nixon, who noted that Make Music New York has been spreading the word through their newsletters and social media channels.

A New Orleans-style parade, the Queens Second Line is anchored by a group of Jazz masters that includes international vocalist Antoinette Montague, Patience Higgins on tenor sax, Frank Lacy on trombone, Kenny Bentley on tuba, Michael C. Lewis on trumpet, Dr. John Mannan on soprano sax, Kevin Raczka on snare and Chauncey Yearwood on bass drum, according

to Nixon, a Cambria Heights resident.

Local music-makers should bring their own instruments out to the parade; lyric sheets will be passed out to the crowds so that it's easy to sing along.

Make Music New York Inc. is New York City's only music festival for the people and by the people.

And it has grown to become this town's largest free outdoor music festival, producing participatory musical performances on the Summer Solstice, June 21 — the longest day of the year — every year since 2007 and the complimentary series of Make Music Winter parades held each Winter Solstice since 2011.

The summer celebrations involve thousands of participating musicians performing from hundreds of outdoor host venues and shared public spaces across all five boroughs. Make Music Winter is more focused and is composed of over a dozen mobile music adventures, according to Make Music New York's Executive Director, James Burke, a proud resident of Astoria-Ditmars.



Make Music Winter, a free, all-day outdoor music-making celebration held each Dec. 21, features 15 participatory musical parades across New York City that bring communities together on the winter solstice.
Courtesy of Make Music

"Last winter marked the first version of Queens Second Line Swing, which marched through Kew Gardens and ended on the steps of Queens Borough Hall. Dozens of music fans were able to take in and take part in the parade, so we are excited to be returning for a second season," Burke said. "In previous years, Winter Solstice processions included 'Decantations,' that were held in Astoria. Composer Ravi

Kittappa led the public in performances of his works created for the sound of sruti boxes (easily playable Indian drone instruments), as well as a variety of other sustaining instruments and electronic devices." Other processions, like 'Kalimbascopes' — featuring performances on thumb pianos — marched along Myrtle Avenue in Ridgewood."

For more information, visit www.MakeMusicNY.org.



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

EVENTS

Craft Night – Upcycle some old materials at this fun craft night. Build little hotels for bugs to spend the winter in at this workshop by GreenThumb. Those interested are asked to RSVP at growtolearn.org/event/bug-hotels-w.
When: Thursday, Dec. 6, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: Material for the Arts, 33-00 Northern Blvd. 3rd Floor, Long Island City
Cost: Free

Poetry Celebration – Interested in celebrating the poetry of fellow Queens residents? Head to The Local NY to meet the six poets and writers featured in the new issue. This event is free and open to the public. Food and drink will be available for purchase.
When: Thursday, Dec. 6, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Where: The Local NY, 13-02 44th Ave., Long Island City
Cost: Free to attend

Festive Holiday Wreaths – Join the Queens Botanical Garden to create festive holiday wreaths and to learn about different types of conifer plants. All materials needed for wreath construction are provided. Register online at the QBG Eventbrite page.
When: Friday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Where: Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing
Cost: \$20; \$18 for members

Feminerdy Book Club – Are you a nerdy feminist who likes to read? Come to the Feminerdy Book Club at the Astoria Bookshop! This month they will be discussing the book "Dragon Prince."
When: Friday, Dec. 7, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Astoria Bookshop, 31-29 31st St., Astoria
Cost: Free

The Rainbow Fish – Come to Flushing Town Hall to enjoy the puppet production of "The Rainbow Fish," based off the award-winning book series. "The Rainbow Fish," originally playing in Nova Scotia, features uplifting and enchanting stories from the children's book series. Tickets can be purchased on the Flushing Town Hall website.
When: Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2:15 p.m.
Where: Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd., Flushing
Cost: \$14; \$10 for members; \$8 for children; free for teens

Annual Dinner Party – Join the Bayside Historical Society to celebrate the holidays at its annual dinner party! There will be cocktails, food, dancing, music, raffles and a 50/50. Reservations are required.
When: Saturday, Dec. 8, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Where: Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing
Cost: \$85; \$75 for members

Bayside Historical Society - Winter Art Show

January 13-27, 2019

Open Call to Artists



Photo: Michael Shain

Bayside Historical Society's Annual Winter Art Show features contemporary Queens artists working in all media.

Registration Now through Saturday, December 29, 2018

BAYSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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THEATER CALENDAR

To The Things Themselves! – "To The Things Themselves!" explores an engagement with the performance moment in and of itself, while also exposing the cultural situated-ness of the performance actions.

When: Dec. 5 - Dec. 15 at 8 p.m.

Where: 5-49 49th Avenue, Long Island City
Cost: \$20

Navidad Flamenca – Celebrate the season with Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana's "Navidad Flamenca." This festive program highlights the rich holiday customs of the

Spanish-speaking world, from Argentina and Mexico to Colombia, Cuba and Puerto Rico. Incorporating live music, dance and traditional songs, the show shines the spotlight on these diverse traditions united by a single language, and reflects the influence of Spanish/Hispanic culture across the Americas.

When: Thursday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 p.m.

Where: Queens Theatre

Cost: \$20-\$42

Contact: (718) 760-0064

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

TimesLedger Newspapers
Dec. 7-13, 2018

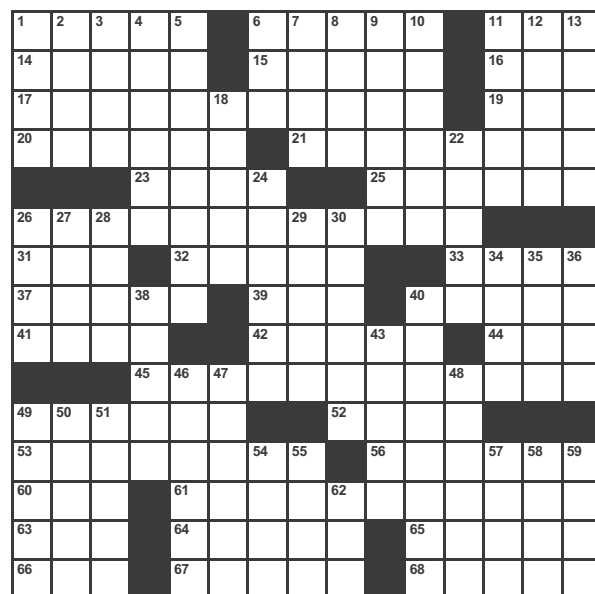
By Ed Canty

Don't Get Angry

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

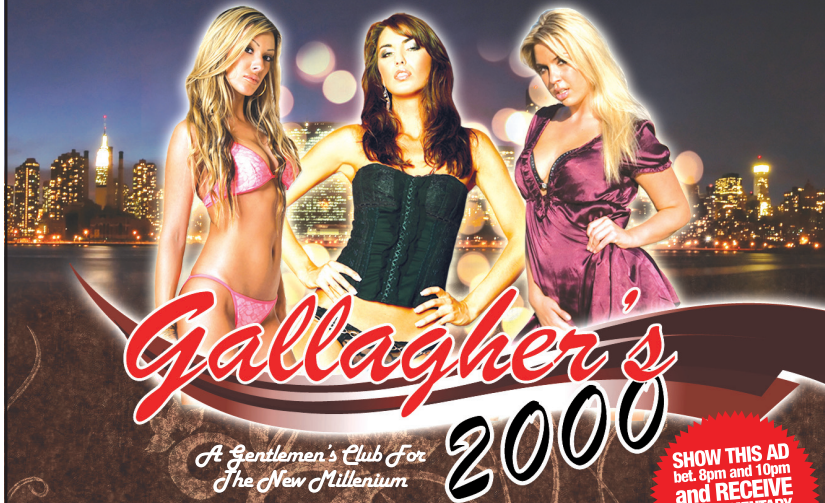
Down

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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Eggplant	Parmigiana
Parmigiana	Francaise or
Sausage & Peppers	Marsala
Broiled Chicken	Veal
Small Meatballs	Parmigiana or Marsala
Linguini, w/ Clam Sauce	Tortellini
Eggplant	Alfredo
	Penne Vodka

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Easy #98

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

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.

Hard #98

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

Tips at www.sudoku.com
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Answers in Sports

Week 22

Come visit LIC Arts Open's Third Annual Fall Salon and Open Studios

BY TAMMY SCILEPPI

What would an artless Queens look like?

Not a pretty picture, most likely. Luckily, the borough has been blessed with plenty of talented and diverse artists eager to share their creations with the public. Many are still calling Long Island City home.

So, go ahead and take time to enjoy their incredible creative offerings this holiday season. If you haven't already, get on over to Long Island City, where you'll discover a cornucopia of creativity by local talent and emerging artists from every borough — everything from painting and photography to sculpture installation and video — displayed in a traditional salon style.

LIC Arts Open's Third Annual Fall Salon and Open Studios welcomes art lovers to meet the artists and take in two amazing exhibitions at the Raw Space and LIC Arts Open Galleries at The Factory LIC — located at 30-30 47th Ave.

LIC Arts Open Executive Director Richard Mazda curated the show, which runs through Jan. 4.

"The salon exhibition is spread between two large galleries in the iconic Factory Building. The current shows feature a large selection of works by 76 artists," Mazda said. "Combined with the artists showing at The Plaxall

Gallery, this year's Fall Salon features over 150 artists, many of whom are showing at least two pieces each."

For the past 25 years, creative Jorge Posada has been making masterpieces from his Long Island City studio and sharing his work with art lovers. You can meet him and view his pieces at The Factory LIC until Jan. 4. He opens his studio to the general public twice a year as part of the LIC Arts Open and also presents exhibitions on a regular basis during the year.

"I am excited about the opportunity to show my artwork with the intention to reach out not only to people in the art world but also the general public. I want to make spectators aware of the presence of art and artists in their community. Also, it is a great opportunity to establish a dialogue about what I want to communicate with my work as an artist," Posada said.

Posada, 64, has shown his work at The Plaxall Gallery in the past and has exhibited his artwork in several galleries and alternative spaces, not only in Queens and New York City, but also in Europe and Latin America. His pieces were also featured in a selection of art shows that included the Queens Public Library (solo show), Queens Theater, Flushing Town Hall, and City Corp. (showcase windows).

Another local artist, Asano Agarie-Gomez, is presenting her unique



Figures made by local artist Karen Dimit are on display now through Jan. 4, as part of LIC Arts Open's 3rd Annual Fall Salon and Open Studios. Photo by Reiko Yanagi

creations, titled "Rock, Paper, Scissor, A Group Exhibition" at The Plaxall Gallery.

In a statement on her website, she writes: "Although people often hide their dark side, it is not separate from the public persona, they are mutually influential and part of the whole. My work expresses the darkness within people which usually remains hidden. Everyone keeps aspects of their personality and experience concealed, I bring these areas to light and ask the

viewer to examine those aspects within themselves based upon my personal understanding of human existence."

"Art is a powerful tool that allows me to express the totality of my being. By allowing the viewer to glimpse hidden aspects of my personality, I ask them to release their own into the conversation, to hear it," the artist added. "It is only by integrating all aspects of the self that we can begin to understand and truly express it."



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Holy Cross hoops drops season opener

Knights' fourth quarter comeback falls short against Iona Prep in closely contested contest

BY ROBERT COLE

The Holy Cross Knights opened their 2018-2019 CHSAA basketball campaign at home with a tough 56-53 loss to Iona Prep in a game that was decided at the last second.

Playing under first-year varsity coach Ray Cullinan, the Knights showed grit and toughness as they continued to fight from behind, giving themselves a chance to tie the game on a last-second shot by Elijah Perry.

"In the first half we played well, defensively we did a great job in the first half," Cullinan said. "They stretched the lead in the third quarter, but in the fourth quarter, we were aggressive and we kept going, which is what you always want to see."

You never want to see your team rollover and die, instead you want them to get back up and see what you can do, which is what we did, so I was happy about that," he added.

Holy Cross started the game off strong, scoring the first five points of the contest on a basket by Sean Flynn and a three-pointer by Perry. But Iona Prep went on their own five-point run to tie the score at 5-5.

Both teams were cold from the field during the first quarter, but the Knights ral-

lied and finished the stanza with a three-point basket at the buzzer by Shemar Franklin, which gave them an 11-6 heading into the second quarter.

The Gaels' offense was heating up in the second period, going on a 10-0 run to grab a 16-13 advantage. Their lead increased to 21-13, but Holy Cross fought back, cutting the deficit to 23-21 heading into halftime.

Tyler Chapman, who lead the Knights offense with 17 points, opened the third quarter with a three-point basket to give the Knights a 24-23 lead. The teams would battle back and forth and with the score tied at 29-29, Iona Prep, led by four three-pointers from Will Rubin, went on a 17-9 run to close the quarter, taking the 46-38 lead into the final frame.

The defenses were front and center in the fourth, as both teams exchanged turnovers and baskets on four consecutive possessions with Iona Prep holding onto the lead at 50-42.

The Gaels' lead grew to 56-47 with less than two minutes to go in the game, yet the Knights continued to fight back as their defense increased the pressure, which led to several Iona Prep turnovers that Holy Cross used to pull within three at 56-53 with 29.9 on the clock. Iona Prep missed



Tyler Chapman rises for a layup during Holy Cross' 56-53 loss to Iona Prep. See photos on

crucial free-throws, keeping it a one-possession game.

Holy Cross called a timeout with 2.8 seconds remaining, leaving just enough time on the clock for one more shot.

Coming out of the timeout, the Knights ran a play that allowed Perry to break open for a step back three-pointer, which was blocked by Iona Prep, who secured the 56-53 victory.

"There's no days off, there's no easy ones and we just have to keep grinding, keep working and just focus on everybody doing their job," Cullinan said. "That's the most important thing."

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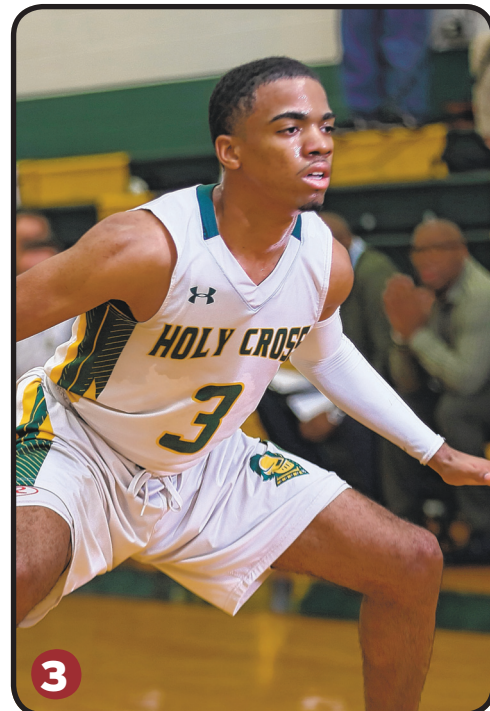
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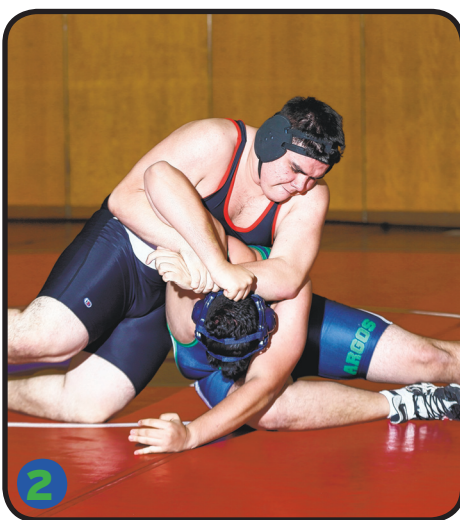
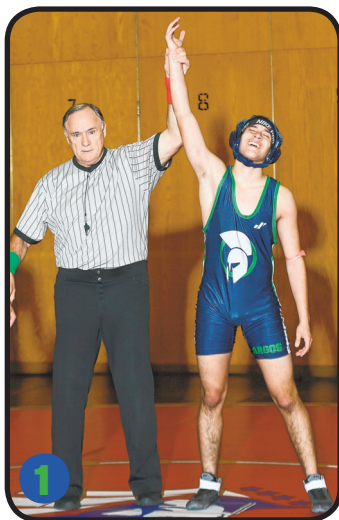
Holy Cross drops opener to Iona Prep



1. Elijah Perry (I.) attempts to create some space during Holy Cross' 56-53 loss to Iona Prep and Holy Cross. **2.** Holy Cross' Jovone Cater dashes up the court. **3.** Shemar Franklin is focused on defense.

Photos by Robert Cole

Maspeth wrestling pins Francis Lewis



1. Tomas Guzman is all smiles after winning a 12-7 decision during the PSAL Region 4 dual meet between Maspeth High School and Francis Lewis High School. Maspeth won the match 62-24. **2.** Francis Lewis' Johnathan Silva pins Maspeth's Yomar Urena. **3.** Francis Lewis' Emmanuel Leal pins Narek Varzhapetyan. **4.** Maspeth's Vail Gutierrez lifts Raymond Lin.

Photos by Robert Cole

ACROSS THE BOROUGH

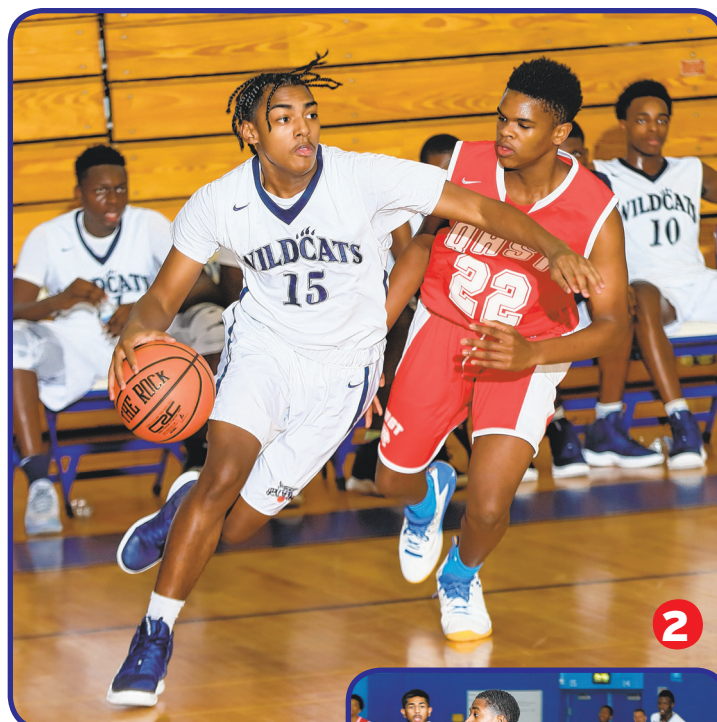
Queens runners compete in Jim McKay Games



1. Rajbir Singh finishes in 16th place in the varsity 300-meter event with a time of 40.36 during the PSAL Jim McKay Games at the New Balance Armory in Manhattan. **2.** Flushing's Jordan Kelly finishes first with a time of 37.67 in the 300-meter dash.

Photos by Robert Cole

John Bowne soars to victory



1. John Bowne's Amare Bonas rises up for a layup during the Wildcats' 68-40 victory over Queens High School of Teaching at John Bowne High School in Flushing. **2.** Major Amor Childs (l.) drives past a defender. **3.** John Bowne's Tyrese Apple heads toward the basket.

Photos by Robert Cole



Mets complete blockbuster, Yankees whiff on Corbin



Zach Gewelb



If Van Wagenen has truly convinced the Wilpons to spend, then signing free agents won't be a problem. But he better be right with the moves he's making. If he's wrong, the franchise will be set back for years to come with onerous contracts and a whittled down farm system.

As for the Yankees, they are falling behind in the arms race after Patrick Corbin, the top free agent starter, agreed to a six-year, \$140 million deal with the Washington Nationals. It was long expected that Corbin, a native of Clay, N.Y., would sign with the Yankees, the team he grew up rooting for.

Reports surfaced Tuesday that the Yankees refused to offer a sixth year to Corbin, which made it an easy decision for the southpaw to sign with Washington, who seemingly offered him the most in terms of years and money.

After acquiring James Paxton earlier this offseason, Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said he wanted to add another starter. Now, the Yankees will have to look elsewhere with Corbin off the market.



The Mets have more moves to make after acquiring Robinson Cano (l.) and Edwin Diaz from the Seattle Mariners. AP Photos

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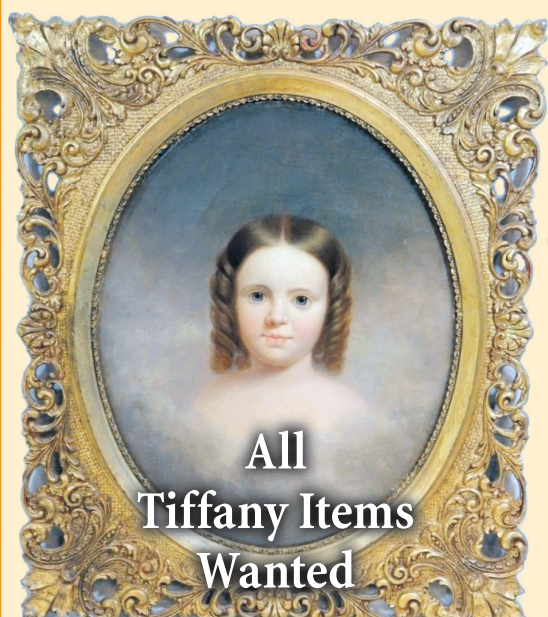
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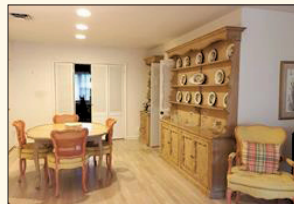
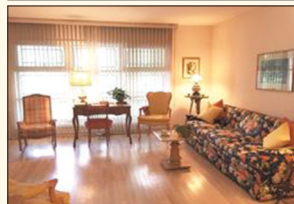
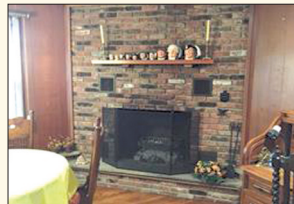
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